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|  | **MINUTES OF****REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING****CITY HALL****MONDAY, APRIL 1, 2024****– 6:00 PM** |  |
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| **PRESENT** | **MAYOR** | **MICHAEL E. SUGGS** |
|  | **COUNCIL** | **JOAN S. GAUSE****LEWIS C. HARDEE, JR.****ANDREA COLEMAN****TONYA F. SYKES** |
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**PUBLIC HEARING-** Prior to the start of the Regular Council Meeting, a Public Hearing was held on Ordinance 02-24- An ordinance to rezone a portion of the property located on Hwy 45 and owned by Hartland Properties. No one signed up to speak. Motion made by Councilman Hardee to adjourn the Public Hearing. Seconded by Councilwoman Coleman. All in favor. The public hearing was adjourned at 5:49PM.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The Regular Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Suggs at 6:00pm on Monday, April 1, 2024.

**INVOCATION:**

The Invocation was given by Councilwoman Gause.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Suggs.

**ROLL CALL:**

The roll was called by City Clerk Graham.

1. **MINUTES:**
2. **REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING—NOVEMBER 6, 2023-** Motion made by Councilman Hardee to approve the minutes on the Regular Council meeting on November 6, 2023. Seconded by Councilwoman Gause. All in favor. Motion passes.
3. **SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING- NOVEMBER 13, 2023-** Motion made by Councilman Hardee to approve the minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on November 13. 2023. Seconded by Councilwoman Sykes. All in favor. Motion passes.
4. **REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING- DECEMBER 4, 2023-** Motion made by Councilwoman Sykes to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting on December 4, 2023. Seconded by Councilman Hardee. All in favor. Motion passes.
5. **COMMUNICATIONS:**
6. **MAYORS’S REPORT-** Mayor Suggs stated that Opening Day for baseball and softball seasons was held last month. He thanked Recreation Director, Woody Hinson, and his staff for a successful day. Mayor Suggs and Administrator Young, along with Santee Cooper and other partners, met with Sandy Davis of the Myrtle Beach Regional Economic Development Corporation. They discussed options to improve traffic at the Loris Commerce Center. Meet the Mayor was attended by more than 50 citizens. The Special City Council Run-Off will be April 9, 2024. The League of Cities Meeting will be April 18, 2024, in North Myrtle Beach.

Samantha Norris stated that the Alice and Wonderland Tea Party was a huge success. She thanked the City of Loris for sponsoring a table. Market in the Yard will be April 6, 2024. The Job Fair will be April 23, 2024. Second graders from Loris Elementary will be visiting the City of Loris on April 24th and 25th.

1. **ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT**

**1.SC DHEC VCC APPLICATION**- Administrator Young stated that he completed the VCC application. DHEC is evaluating the site. They should have a report ready by the end of the month.

**2.CITY BUDGET REPORT- 2024-** Administrator Young stated that he provided the council with a budget report from the new Harris system. The budget meetings will be held in May.

**3.AUDIT FY 2021-2022-** The 2021-2022 audit is complete and has been sent to the council. Marc Wood will be here in April.

**4.** **ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE-DRAFT-** Administrator Young stated that the draft of the amended ordinance has been completed. Horry County was very helpful. Chief Buley would like to expand our current ordinance. We are in partnership with Horry County to assist with sheltering.

1. **DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS-** Reports from Department Heads in Council packet.
2. **CODE ENFORCEMENT**
3. **FIRE**
4. **POLICE**
5. **PUBLIC WORKS**
6. **RECREATION**
7. **BUSINESS**
8. **HEAR FROM BRENDA JOHNSON OF AMIL’S BEGINNINGS**

**RE: ASSISTNACE TO HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS-** Brenda Cookie of Amil’s Beginnings spoke to the Council regarding the homeless population in Loris. She stated that there are currently 91 people that need a place to receive mail. Her organization feeds the homeless every day across the county. The organization needs help to continue providing for the homeless population.

1. **2nd READING- ORDINANCE 01-24- ANNEXATION OF 1.02 ACRES LOCATED ON FOX BAY ROAD. OWNED BY NORMA JEAN FORD AND IDENTIFIED AS [PIN: 177-15-01-0013]-** Motion made by Councilman Hardee to approve the 2nd Reading of Ordinance 01-24. Seconded by Councilwoman Coleman. All in favor. Motion passes.
2. **2nd READING- ORDINANCE 02-24- AN ORDINANCE TO REZONE A PORTION OF THE PROPERTY LOCATED ON HIGHWAY 45. OWNED BY HARTLAND PROPERTIES, LLC AND IDENTIFIED AS PARCEL NO(s): 175-00-0046, 175-00-00-0047 FROM R1.4 TO R1.5-** Mayor Suggs stated that this Ordinance f Rezoning was the subject of the Public Hearing held prior to the Regular Council Meeting. Motion made by Councilman Hardee to approve 2nd Reading of Ordinance 02-24. Seconded by Councilwoman Gause. All in favor. Motion passes.
3. **RES. 01-22, AMENDMENT 9– AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN RESOLUTION-** Mayor Suggs stated that this resolution is an amendment of the original resolution. It outlines all expenditures of the funds. Motion made by Councilman Hardee to approve Resolution 01-22, Amendment 9. Seconded by Councilwoman Sykes. All in favor. Motion passes.
4. **APPOINTMENT OF CITY ATTORNEY-** Motion made by Councilman Hardee to appoint John Zilinsky as the City Attorney. Seconded by Councilwoman Coleman. All in favor. Motion passes.

**PUBLIC AND PRESS COMMENTS-**

1. **Kenya Wright (Bellamy Street)-** Kenya asked the members of the Fire Department to stand. She said that she was here on her personal accord and at the request of members of the community. She recounted the facts of the fire on December 14, 2023. She reviewed the calls that are made over a year in the City of Loris. She quoted statements made by Wendell and Wendee Boyd at the previous Council meeting.
2. **Danielle Wright (Graham Street)-** Ms. Wright continued the thoughts of Kenya Wright. She also quoted Wendell and Wendee Boyd. She said that the home that burned in December was made of old wood and burns fast. The fire started inside the home. She addressed the accusation made by Wendell Boyd that the fire truck was used for personal use.
3. **Todd Harrelson-** Todd Harrelson stated that at the last meeting he asked about some things that were put in place when he was Mayor. He asked for an update on the forensic audit, the police car that needed to be replaced, and the water and sewer spreadsheet. Mayor Suggs stated that the administrator and council are working on all of these.
4. **Wendell Boyd-** Mr. Boyd addressed the previous comments regarding the fire department. HE said that he knows the age of the firemen and what it takes to pull a fire hose. He stated that if the Fire Station was manned, the firefighters would have been there in three minutes. Mr. Boyd stated that he received a Certified Letter from the City of Loris regarding demolition of the property. He felt that the letter was harsh. Mayor Suggs offered his cell phone number to Mr. Boyd to discuss his issues further.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** There was no business for Executive Session.

**ADJOURNMENT:**
Motion made by Councilwoman Gause for adjournment; Seconded by Councilwoman Coleman. All members voted in favor. There being no further business, the Council Meeting was adjourned.

**ATTEST:**

 **BRANDY GRAHAM MICHAEL E. SUGGS**

**CITY CLERK** **MAYOR**

 **LORIS COUNCIL MEMBERS**

 **JOAN S. GAUSE**

 **LEWIS C. HARDEE, JR.**

 **ANDREA L. COLEMAN**

 **CARROLL D. PADGETT, JR.**

 **TONYA SYKES**