

**MINUTES OF
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL BUDGET RETREAT AGENDA- ZOOM
JUNE 10, 2021 – 6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT	MAYOR	TODD M. HARRELSON
	COUNCIL	LEWIS C. HARDEE, JR. CARROLL D. PADGETT, JR. MICHAEL E. SUGGS JOAN GAUSE TERRENCE T. HARDEE
ABSENT		JAN P. VESCOVI

NEWS MEDIA present were Mrs. Jen Boyd Causey, writer for Tabor-Loris Tribune, and Ms. Annie Rigby, writer for The Loris Times.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Harrelson.

INVOCATION:

The invocation was given by Mayor Harrelson.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Harrelson.

ROLL CALL:

The roll was called by Todd K. Massey II

FOIA:

Notice of the meeting with an agenda was publicly posted, published, and forwarded to the media no less than 24 hours prior to adjournment.

BUSINESS:

- A. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 03-21, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY TO REPEAL AND REPLACE ORDINANCE 04-20 HOSPITALITY TAX. Read by Keith Massey II

Councilman Carroll D. Padgett, JR. Made a motion to approve first reading of Ordinance 03-21, a second was given by Councilman Lewis C. Hardee, JR. All were in favor and the motion passes.

- B. Review of the FY 2021-2022 Budget.

Councilman Carroll D. Padgett Jr., stated that he was not sure if the City would be receiving the Covid-19 Fund of \$1.374 million.

Interim Clerk Keith responds, the American Rescue Plan is extremely limited, but they are saying we will receive \$1.3 million split over two years.

Mayor Harrelson, spoke to Charlie Barrimore at the Municipal Association today and he stated that we would get half the money this year after September and the second half next year.

Attorney Kenneth Moss, Councilman Padgett, are you asking that when the Covid-19 money comes in, that we put into a different account/fund?

Interim Clerk Keith Massey stated he would have it as a separate fund such as Water and Sewer Fund, General Fund and AMR Fund. It will have its own line item and not mingling with other line items. This way you can keep up with it better and see where it goes since these funds are restricted.

Attorney Moss if we create a separate fund, we will need to create a new budget for that purpose, to show just the revenue at this point and no projected expenses. Unless you show expenses that are authorized by the Act.

Councilman Michael Suggs, there are a couple line items (expenditures) that I am curious about. Meetings and Training under the Police Dept. page 11 from the notebook, it is budgeted over \$7600.00 for food. Who is eating \$7000 worth of food?

Chief Gary Buley stated that total is for food, travel, and lodging for officers training, traveling, and hotels. I was asked last budget to have it listed separate, now it is all listed together.

Interim Clerk Keith Massey stated, we code it a certain way because we also get some of that reimbursed from the state. We can get clarification and a breakdown of this for Council. There have been adjustments made to line items, resulting in better figures and percentages for you to see as well.

Councilman Padgett, in looking at the Fire Department, is there an anticipation of more fires and expenditures in the upcoming year?

Interim Clerk Keith Massey stated, yes sir! The dept is increasing 30-40 calls per month at rate. We need to look at the fire contract. They are rapidly increasing calls due to people moving in and all the beach traffic coming through our area.

Councilman Lewis C. Hardee, Jr., usually when you are toned out, they tone out the smaller stations, but no one responds. Yet historically, Loris has always been one of the first if not the first station to arrive on the scene.

Interim Clerk Keith Massey stated that he can pull the stats for the County and give them that info. Our stats breakdown shows what kind of call it is, where the call is at, what box it is, and how long it takes to arrive on the scene. It is incredibly detailed and can tell us about the cost in manpower, deisel fuel, doing extractions, verses applying a band aide or ointment. Our main thing at our station hardly ever seen at a full-time station is equipment. Which we have almost any and everything you want. We can go to almost any situation and handle it. If we have a bad wreck with all the beach traffic, we are usually the first on the scene and have the equipment needed from airbags to battery operated jaws of life, so this does need to be looked at.

Attorney Moss, I have recently read a statistic that said there were 1000 people a month moving to Horry County.

Councilman Lewis C. Hardee, JR., I talked to Brandon Harrelson today and he said that the City of Conway was getting ready to break ground on 1800 new homes within the city limits of Conway.

Attorney Moss, from emails this week, the discussion about some of the proposed raises for the police officers, to my understanding they were included in this proposed budget. As I recalled a conversation at the last budget workshop, where we confirmed just because they were in here, they are not going to be implemented until Council reviews and acts further on that. Is that mandatory for passage of the new budget?

Councilman Padgett, we need to discuss this tonight in executive session to know where we are going on this.

Interim Clerk Keith Massey stated he will make the adjustments, changes and get the breakdowns and have all of that for the second reading, from last year to this year for each fund. I will also read it aloud to everyone. I can make all the adjustments, changes, corrections, from tonight and the expenditures, total revenues, and the proposed and have this ready to go in the papers for tomorrow for the 15-day notice per the State Statute.

Councilman Padgett, before you send it to the papers, shouldn't you send it to us in case we have any questions? We have five weeks in June, but need it done quickly to have this done by June 30. Needs to go in the paper by June 16th.

Interim Clerk Keith Massey stated that he will send it to Council tomorrow, providing no questions from anyone I'll in turn send it to the papers to get the 15-day notice started. Upcoming dates to remember are June 30th for a Special Council Meeting for the second reading of the budget and the Public Hearing. I'll need two different agendas, and 30 minutes for each meeting.

Councilman Suggs if we do the budget presentation as we have done in the past, Read the script, where the money comes from and where the money goes. Ten minutes would be all you would need. Open for comment from the Press and Public. If not, comment be done by 6:30.

Attorney Moss let us all remember we have a special council meeting on June 30th and in less than a week later a regular council meeting on July 6th.

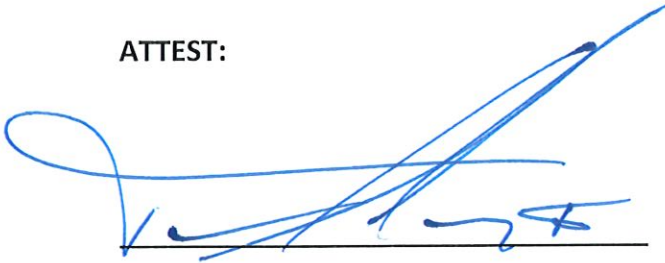
Councilwoman Joan Gause made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel and contractual matters followed by a second from Councilman Terrence T. Hardee, all were in favor to enter executive session.

PUBLIC AND PRESS:

No comment

Councilman Lewis C. Hardee, JR. Made a motion to adjourn the meeting followed by a second by Councilwoman Joan S. Gause. All were in favor to adjourn at 8:12pm.

ATTEST:



Todd K. Massey II

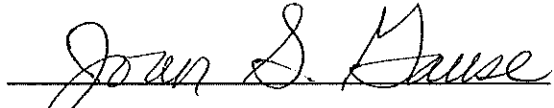
ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF



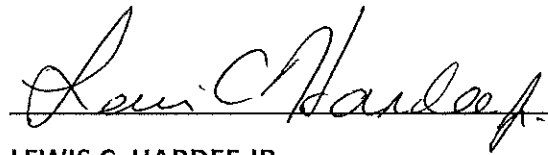
TODD M. HARRELSON

MAYOR

LORIS COUNCIL MEMBERS



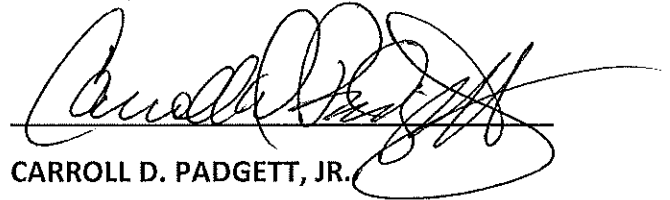
JOAN S. GAUSE



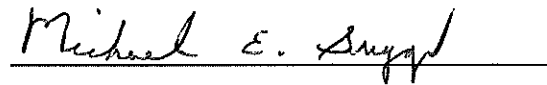
LEWIS C. HARDEE JR.



TERRENCE HARDEE



CARROLL D. PADGETT, JR.



MICHAEL E. SUGGS

Absent

JAN P. VESCOVI