CITY OF DARLINGTON

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE COURTROOM/COUNCIL CHAMBERS LOCATED AT

400 PEARL STREET, DARLINGTON, SC

May 4, 2021 AT 6:30

&

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Present: Mayor Curtis Boyd, Interim City Manager Gloria Pridgen, Councilpersons Elaine Reed, Bryant Gardner, Sheila Baccus, John Milling, Howard Nettles and John Segars. Also present was Mrs. Lisa Rock, City Attorney Kevin Etheridge, Building & Codes Official Sheila Jones, Street and Sanitation Supt. Mr. Alex Gainey, Carla Elvington, Mr. Lee Andrews, Mr. Kinsaul, WPDE News, Bobby Bryant from The News & Press and other visitors.

Mayor Curtis Boyd called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Prayer by Councilman John Milling which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES CITY COUNCIL MEETING AND EXECUTIVE SESSION APRIL 13, 2021

Councilman Bryant Gardner made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2021 Regular City Council Meeting and Executive Session. Councilwoman Elaine Reed seconded the motion. Councilpersons Milling, Segars, Nettles, Baccus and Mayor Boyd all approved the motion.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Councilwoman Elaine Reed made a motion to amend the agenda item number one to add Garbage Bids – Alex Gainey, move RFQ for Ballfields – Mr. Lee Andrews to item #1, move 1st Reading Ordinance 2021-08 Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance item #2. Councilman John Milling seconded the motion. Councilpersons Segars, Baccus, Nettles, Gardner and Mayor Boyd all voted in favor of the motion.

Councilman Elaine Reed made a motion to approve the amended Agenda for Tuesday, May 4, 2021. Councilman John Milling seconded the motion. Councilpersons Baccus, Nettles, Gardner, Segars and Mayor Boyd voted in favor of the motion.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Mrs. Lisa Rock reported:

Darlington Downtown Revitalization Association

Report for Council – May 4, 2021

The DDRA had a great turnout at our **Annual DDRA Golf Tournament on Wednesday**, April 14, at Darlington Country Club with 20 teams participating. The team of Lowe's Tow Bars and the Dairy Bar took first place followed by Darlington County Water & Sewer Authority. Darlington County Economic Development Director Lewis Brown broke the third-place tie in a putt-off between the Economic Development Partnership and Pee Dee Regional Transportation Authority teams. **Thank you to Carolina Bank, Darlington Raceway, Nationwide Insurance, Fitness World Gyms, and MPD Electric for their support that makes this event possible!**

The DDRA will continue our monthly **Member Breakfasts at 8 a.m. on Thursday, May 27, at Taki's Diner, 609 Pearl Street.** These meals are at no charge for members and a small $5 fee towards the meal for all others. The events allow our businesses to build connections and strengthen our local economy.

Mark your calendars for the **Taste of Darlington on Thursday, October 13,** at Darlington Raceway! We plan to make this return to the Taste a BIG one!

In the meantime, **we continue to promote Darlington and its businesses on Social Media and through our News Alert System each week.** Our alerts reach more than 2,700 people! We continually update our Web page, www.BuildUpDarlington.org, where individuals can submit information or sign up to receive these alerts.

DDRA Membership is open to Businesses, Individuals, Civic groups, and churches. Members can give us a **call, 843-992-1561, or send us an email,** info@buildupdarlington.org, and we will feature their news, employee recognitions, sales, new products, special hours, and events with people interested in Darlington as well as TV stations, radio stations, and newspapers through our text and email News Alerts.

GREATER DARLINGTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Ms. Anna Dewitt said that this past month they had a ribbon cutting for one of their newest members Florence Animal Hospital. Our new and returning members for this past month are the Perfect Start Childcare, Brockington Heights Apartment, Darlington County Humane Society, Darlington First Baptist Church. She said the website has now been redone and up and running. They are getting ready to integrate with Growthzone chamber membership which would allow our members to go in and edit their own information and share member to member specials from their business. She Said Freedom Fest is coming up on June 26th from 4:00 PM – 9:00 PM, they will have amusement rides, food and retail vendors, live entertainment and a firework's finale and it will all be held on the square in Darlington.

Councilman Gardner asked what time and date the Freedom Festival was. Mrs. Dewitt said the festival will be June 26th, which is a Saturday, the festival is from 4:00 PM – 8:30 PM the fireworks will start at 9:00 PM and they should be able to be seen from most of Darlington.

CITIZENS WISHING TO APPEAR BEFORE COUNCIL (5 MINUTES PER PERSON)

No one to appear before Council.

Unfinished Business

RFQ for Ballfields – Mr. Lee Andrews

Mr. Andrews said they put out a proposal for request for qualifications and we got twelve different companies that sent in their qualifications. He said as soon as he got the twelve in, he emailed Council all the information. He said it is a really hard decision because there are a bunch of good choices. He said he narrowed it down to four, just because they were the four that stuck out to him and have worked with municipalities our size and been doing ballfields and doing skate parks, trails, golf courses and one of them even threw in a go cart track into the mix. He said we put it out there and got back exactly what we have been wanting which is a diverse group to give us ideas. He said ultimately it is up to Council to make that final decision as far as do you want to short list it,Lee said he can put it out there that we have short listed it which will give you time to explore a shorter list of people that have put their bids in. He asked, are you ready to vote on one company tonight. Mr. Andrews said with the twelve companies we got, he showed samples of the type packets that was sent in. He said it was a lot of information to go through. Councilman Nettles said that one of the packets was about seventy-six pages. Mr. Andrews said that he encourages Council to narrow it down and then he said Ms. Pridgen, we can put it out tomorrow and put out there an addendum that we have short listed, and we will not take anymore proposals He said he will leave that up to Council if you want to make it three, four, five, or six, it is totally up to you. He said we got to make a decision tonight as to whether to short list it. He said we put on the website that there would be a decision made tonight, so we need to make a decision tonight. Councilwoman Reed asked, will you provide us with the four that you choose. Councilman Nettles asked Did anyone else choose or went through the proposals and narrowed them down by chance. Councilwoman Baccus said she did look through them. Councilman Nettles said with his limited knowledge he narrowed it down to three. Councilman Nettles said he did not know how many we were going to do; he does not know if his three match his three. Mr. Andrews said that he can tell you what he narrowed it down to and if you want to add to that or take away from that, that's fine too. He said you may have seen some stuff in there with some people that you have dwelt with in the past as a City that you might not want to have anything to do with anymore for whatever reason or you might say, "no Lee we need to add this one into it and I'm fine with that." He said in no particular order, this is the four that I picked Dan Dodd PLA Fitfields, Keck& Wood, Mozingo & Wallace, LLC Architect and Seamon Whiteside. Councilwoman Reed and Councilman Nettles said two of them was their choice too. Councilman Gardner said, " to short

list it and we'll discuss it at the next budget session. That will give us more time. Councilman Nettles agreed with Councilman Gardner. Mr. Andrews asked if there was anybody that they would like to add to the list. There were some discussions among the Council members about there was a lot of information in the packets. Mr. Andrews said this is a lot of years of experience with whoever we pick they have all done something from ballfields to walking trials to docks. Everybody have done everything that we would want included out there just some have done more than others and that is the only thing that I based my criteria on. Councilman Nettles asked, "So if we agree to short list it, we do not necessarily have to choose the short list tonight?" Mr. Andrews said, that's the way he understands it. He said he will get with Ms. Pridgen in the morning and they will add an addendum to the website that we have short listed it and send out to who we have short listed it to and let them know that they have made the cut and we just had so much information we just could not get through it all in that period of time. Councilman Gardner asked, If we have some that we want to add to the list can we send them to Ms. Pridgen tomorrow? Mr. Andrews suggested that they get the ones they want to add to the list to Ms. Pridgen by lunch time tomorrow, if you do not want to do it tonight so we can get it up and that way it will save Mr. Pridgen some heartache because I'm sure they will be knocking down the door. Councilwoman Reed said, "Let us do that." Councilman Milling said his only concern will be if everybody is adding to this list then we will not be short listing it. Councilman Nettles said we still have narrowed down. Councilwoman Reed said some of our choices may be among the four that he has. Councilman Nettles said that he and Councilwoman Reed had two that match Mr. Andrews. Councilman Nettles asked was everyone ready to short list it now. Councilman Milling said we know what Mr. Andrews has recommended if there are some, we want to add on top of that, are we prepared to state it tonight? Councilman Milling asked do we want to keep expanding the list or if we add to his list do, we want to take off some of the people that he has recommended so that we still end up with four or five? Councilwoman Reed said her recommendation is to take the four that Mr. Andrews has recommended. Mr. Andrews said that the only reason he said that is because you may have gone through it and liked someone better than those four and he is fine with that. Mr. Andrews wanted to be very clear they were in no particular order. Councilman Nettles said, your job is to educate us and help us with the material, and Ido not have a problem doing it that way. Councilman Milling made a motion to accept the recommendations of Mr. Andrews our Recreation Director. Councilman Nettles seconded the motion. Councilpersons Baccus, Reed, Gardner, Segars and Mayor Boyd all voted in favor of the motion. The Mayor said motion carries to submit the four companies that were for RFQ for the ballfields as a short list. Mr. Milling said I have a quick question, Can you refresh my memory. We have hospitality money set aside, and it seems as though there were some restrictions on that. are these funds in connection will this. Mr. Andrews said that the bond needed to be spent by June of this year. We need to take a look at possibly either rolling that back over into it or spending it on something before it is no longer hospitality qualified. What was discussed before was rolling it back into our hospitality fund so to speak and paying it some kind of a way. He said this is kind of above his head and he does not want to give false information, but he knows there is

a way you can roll it back in. Councilman Milling said if Council is in agreement, we can ask Ms. Pridgen to check with our bond Attorney find out what we got to do so we do not end up shooting ourselves in the foot. Councilman Gardner said it is two options one would be to roll it over into the General Fund and the other would be getting it reissued. Councilman Milling said to get the bond Attorney to tell us what we can do.

1ST READING ORDINANCE 2021-08 FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION ORDINANCE - SHEILA JONES

Ms. Jones said she presented it to Council at the last council meeting and nothing has changed, everything stays the same. She said this is just going to be for the first reading for the Floodplain Ordinance change that DNR and SCE&G are requiring. Ms. Jones said I do not know if you looked in your packets but it's just some map dates that are changing, some definitions that are being taken out. Some of the definitions are being changed but they are required by DNR and SCE&G to make those changes and that is all in your packets. Mayor Boyd said we talked about this last week. Councilman Gardner made a motion to approve the First Reading Ordinance 2021-08 Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance. Mr. Nettles seconded the motion. Councilpersons Segars, Baccus, Reed, Milling and Mayor Boyd all voted in favor of the motion.

FIRST READING ORDINANCE 2021-07 VACANT BUILDINGS REGISTRATION PROGRAM MRS. LISA ROCK

Mrs. Rock said as she presented last meeting, we are proposing a Vacant Buildings Registration Program so that the vacant structures will get registered with our Codes Enforcement Office and hopefully get occupied, fixed or sold. We don't believe all the citizens should pay for one person's neglect and some of the comments that I have seen in the paper and on-line have said different things about we are already paying for things and we need to move businesses in but my strategy has been as businesses come to me and say they want to locate and they say where can I locate that I can just move in put up my sign, put my touches on the inside of the building and open. Mrs. Rock said there are very few options for folks. She said Mayor Boyd knows that personally and in his personal business he has bought and cleaned up several businesses and filled them right away. So, this is solving several different problems that we have. One of the other things that folks have mentioned is about getting access into the property for Codes Enforcement and Fire to enter into a vacant building. They have to have permission unless there is imminent obvious danger on the outside, either the those folks, property owners will pay their $400 registration fee or not want to pay $400 fee and want to get the reduce fee and to do that we have to inspect it to make sure it's safe for those neighboring property owners and the rest of the neighborhood because we want to have a safe community for our town and for our residents. Mrs. Rock said that people are still going to be allowed to keep their property, she said we are not trying to take anybody's property, it is just going to be a fee and it's going to be a way for us to catalog what we have available and a way to keep our neighborhood's property values up which will in turn benefit those property

owners. Councilman Milling said one business owner gave him a call their take on the proposed ordinances we sort of got the club when you look at another aspect in the county they were mentioning since part of the drive behind this Ordinance is to make these buildings look better and thus make the community look better, instead of taking all the fees and putting into the general budget can we consider taking a portion of those fees in essence dedicated to them so that we do plan to visual improvements beautification efforts be a part of what we do with these fees. He said the other question that they asked was from a fiscal standpoint were there any incentives that the City could provide in addition to what this contains if you don't fix up is there any incentive package that could be added here that can also not only tell people if you don't make these improvements you will pay heavy, but also give them the opportunity that if you make these improvements we have got some incentive package. He said I know that we had grant money at one point in time where we could help people. Mrs. Rock said that there are three different points to make, the first is in 2016 City Council passed the economic development incentives program and so that includes things, I think along the lines you are talking about. Councilman Milling said I know we gave them some sort of incentive if they were going to make an investment and hire so many people to work. Mrs. Rock said either of the two, now the bigger projects I think what you may be talking about we have a façade grant through DDRA improvement incentive Grant which is up to $1,000 it's not much but sometimes that's all we need is a little help. In 2007 and 2008 the City had a building improvement grant that ran through the Planning Department it's a separate function than this and I think it should probably stay that way. Now, the Building Improvement Grant that the City had, that's up to Council to put money in that line item on the budget and we certainly can do that and at the end of the year see how much fees we collect and say that's how much money you collected in this vacant building program and so you can dedicate that additional funding in the general budget to beautification efforts, sidewalks, lighting or whatever the need might be. She said in talking with other towns and municipalities who have done this, the compliance rate is not great and I do not expect this to be a giant windfall to the City. She said we hope that people will fix the buildings up so they only pay a very minimum fee and then we have places that businesses can move into or residents can move into. We don't want to have to have Ms. Sheila to come up here and have a list of buildings to demolish. She said we prefer that we stop this earlier in the process before it gets to that point. Councilman Milling asked these other programs that are separate programs is there some way to in this ordinance or would it be appropriate to reference those so if somebody is looking at the club, they can also realize that we've got programs out there? Mrs. Rock said they are two completely different things, I don't know if you want to attach them because this Council may say that we want it to go to paving a street, the next Council may say we want to do sidewalks in a particular commercial area or add sidewalks or plant trees in an area. I think it's a lot of ways that you could use this money to improve the business climate. I would hate to pigeonhole it and force you to spend on a particular thing when there are many things that you could use. You can have an extra officer on the street, you know if it ends up in that budget, you know that helps those businesses so I don't know that dedicating the small amount of money that this is going to be if it's 100

properties at $100 apiece, If everybody who you know fixes up their buildings we are talking $10,000 and that's assuming 100 percent compliance. She said $10,000 is not a lot of money to do any of those kinds of projects. Councilman Nettles asked, " So if they are not in compliance what's the enforceability of it?" Mrs. Rock said, It is just like anything else. I mean you can add the fee to their property taxes and all that sort of thing, but we hope it does not get to that stage. Councilwoman Reed said, You mention that in other towns and municipalities that are participating in this is there any kind of feedback as to any success with it or what kind of success it has been? She said the City of Columbia just instituted it in 2019 so it is a little newer and then they got COVID, so it's not really a good example. She said Sumter has been doing it longer for about five years and they have had good success. Some folks in the upstate have done it. She said the whole concept is you are making sure that people are taking care of what they have. They have given us another way to get people to fix up what they have right now all we have is Codes Enforcement can send something if there is something disastrously wrong you know if it needs to be demolish but do we want to wait until every property gets to that point where it's going to be insanely expensive and not feasibly financial for anybody to take over a property. Councilwoman Reed said, well if it is anything like the tour we went on in Sumter it indicated whatever they were doing it really made the City look good. Mrs. Rock said it is a small thing, but a lot of small things add up. Mayor Boyd said his take on it is as a Homeowners Association, there are a lot of Homeowner's Associations that have deteriorated away, and they moved into a home and they want their homes to maintain that value and then the homeowner's association goes away, and nobody enforces anything, nobody collects any money, and the housing development looks rough compared to what they want whatever their expectations were from the beginning. He said the City of Darlington has buildings that have been kidnapped there are buildings sitting beside another building adjacent to it right beside it that you cannot get in and it's been vacant for years the owners won't talk to you, they don't want to sell it, and they sit on it for whatever particular reason. The Fire Marshall and the Codes Department cannot enter that building to see if the building is in good or bad shape. It makes the City look bad because when people come to our town a vacant building it is ok but lots of vacant buildings makes us start looking like a ghost town. We have lots of vacant buildings that have been left abandoned by whomever whether they live off or live close by but then that point they become unsafe also because we cannot get into the building to see if it's going to catch on fire and so and so therefore, we are not allowed to go in so this Ordinance will allow that. This Ordinance is not and for the public and citizens to see that this Ordinance is not that we can buy people out at a cheap rate. We want people to fix their property up so that our town your town the City of Darlington, the beautiful City of Darlington is maintained and is a beautiful City for people to come through. He said we can pass this tonight and it is worthless unless it is enforced. The officers that drive through our town are worthless if they do not enforce and stop people from speeding when they come through our town, but they do their job correctly and so this also needs to be done correctly. Mayor Boyd said we are not here to collect fines and fees on people to make a dollar. If we make $10,000 off that it will buy a few canopies that might help out the downtown part of Darlington but there are most people

that do not want to pay anything extra. He said so you have to do something to try to get their attention and to my understanding is you know the fee is $400 , per say, if you go in there and the building has been vacant for just a month and they are there, I'm sure if they go to the Inspector or whoever is in charge of this and they said I'm getting ready to rent this out and the they are not going to be charged for it. If I'm going to be charged $100 or whatever the fine but the goal behind this is to encourage people to not sit on something and say oh well I've got a gold mine here, I bought it for this amount of dollars and I want to sell it for five times that amount which is one of the things that's happening in our town, and then they sit on it and don't care what it looks like and they just let it sit there, then there is other ones that they just let it sit there and don't even put a for sale sign on It and then there are houses they just let it sit there so again we have got to enforce some law and some ordinance so that our City can grow and be maintained in a proper manner. Mayor Boyd said this is a minimum fee. We are not here to collect $400 so that we can make money. We are not here to force anybody out. We are here to help people. There are grants for DDRA, you can spend a little bit of money, but a lot of people do not want to spend the money but there are people out there that don't do that. There are people out her that do do it and make the buildings look better, but they are people constantly calling wanting to rent buildings but then the buildings are sitting there and continue to sit there and then again it goes on the list and then I go by and fuss at Sheila and ask her can we tear this building down because it looks awful. I do not want to tear buildings down I want them to be repaired. Mayor Boyd said as Mrs. Rock said I purchased two buildings after fifteen years of arguing and fussing with the landowner that lived in North Carolina. He said for fifteen years I rented a building never stepped foot on my property. The building was at the point being torn down, but we are able to finally take the money and get them up and save them and one of them just opened up and it is doing great and so hopefully we will get the other one up real soon also. He said so there again there needs to be something enforced and again this is that we give the Codes Enforcement and Fire Department also the means to get into the buildings to see what's going on so the person that is beside that building invested their whole life and business and time and doesn't have to get caught on fire and our firemen don't have to run down there and a take chance on to get caught on fire and somebody dying so that's my take on it, it's long past due. Councilman Gardner said a few past years ago we had one building catch on fire and took four buildings out on our square so it is a long-time issue and this is my mind it's one way of protecting the future labilities of the city and surrounding buildings. Mayor Boyd said the building that we tore down now is getting ready to become twenty-eight townhouses. He said he stood in that building and fussed about it had never been inspected because was full of tv's up to here, thank goodness for people jumping in and helping us get that building down. There is a lot more buildings as you drive through down South Main Street and you know I would like to reiterate there is a lot more to our town than the City square. I do own a piece of property on the City square, but our city goes all the way out to Walmart and the southside of town, our city goes all the way up to Clanton's Auto Auctions towards our Racetrack down North Main Street down Cashua Street, our City is approximately four-square miles. Mayor Boyd said so if we do collect $10,000, it will not do a

whole lot but again we can use it to do something with it. He said we can make the town look better if we collect these fees. Mayor Boyd said that he agrees with Councilman Milling all the fees should go into some type of bank or a line item to go to our citizens that are open and trying to make their buildings look better. Mayor Boyd said that our town is growing and proud of what we have. He said he is looking forward to making it better. **Councilman Gardner made a motion to approve First Reading on Ordinance 2021-07 Vacant Buildings registration Program. Councilman Nettles seconded the motion. Councilpersons Milling, Baccus, Reed, Segars and Mayor Boyd all voted in favor of the motion.**

GARBAGE BIDS – ALEX GAINEY

Mr. Gainey said they should have in front of you two pieces of paper that has two different spreadsheets on it. He said after our budget work session last week, I was asked to get the numbers for Capital Waste and make sure the proposal that capital waste put on the table that they would honor it and basically what that proposal was whenever we receive bids. We received three different bids, one from Capital, one from Republic and one from Palmetto. Capital and Republic were our two lowest bids, so we need to decide between those two and we started looking at the numbers. He said we went back and talked to Capital and Republic, they actually approached us and both of them came up with something that may help the City. Republic's solution was to basically put it out to do an exclusive contract to be able to pay the City, you know how much we decide and to do that way and they would deal with the Commercial properties themselves. Capital Waste came back and said that they would be willing to honor the current rates that we are paying now for six months so that we do not have to worry about doing a rate increase for at least six months. Mr. Gainey referred to the two spreadsheets, which are included, that he gave to Council at the beginning of the meeting in detail. He said if you look at the spreadsheet that is Capital Waste proposal. He said if you look at the current rates of the top box has current rates and what they are proposing for the first six months which with that we would profit or we would put in our account to be able to use for personnel use or whatever. He said like he has said before in the budget work session they have a lot of man hours that goes into this with the fixed rate report and everything else, so we did not need to do it just to break even. He said we needed to try to get something if we were going to continue to do that we would need to get something out of it to compensate the City for the time that we have to put into it, so what they proposed in honoring our current rates for the first six months, there monthly charge would be seventeen thousand our income is a little over twenty seven thousand, which is a l difference of a little over $10,000 that we would see that we could put towards to what we have to do on our behalf for this contract. He said over a six-month period that is about $61,000.00 then after the first six months then they would go into the rates that they proposed. The rates will be $3.40 per cubic yard for the dumpsters. He said the bottom spreadsheet shows that reflect those rates so at the end of the first year we would to the good of $40,000.00 if we went with Capital Waste. Mr. Gainey refers to the

spreadsheet, he said if you look over at Republic theirs is just based on from day one, they are going to propose $3.35 a cubic yard which is a cheaper rate per cubic yard but with Capital honoring our current rates for the first six months that helps offset the difference so that we are not in the negative in the first year. He said if you look at it at the end of the first year at our current rates if we did not do a rate increase for the first year then we will be in the red $7,000.00 a little over $7,000.00. On top of that Capital Waste their proposal was first six months honor our current rate, second six months go to the rates they proposed in the bid packet, year two would not be a rate increase, year three, four and five would be a two and a half percent rate increase. Councilman Nettles said is it Incrementally or total. Mr. Gainey said it would a two and a half percent across the board each year. He said the first year we the second year we basically will be at $3.40 a cubic yard. Then two and a half percent each year thereafter for the next three years after year two. Republic proposed $3.35 a cubic yard starting year two they would do a three percent rate increase every for the next four years so it would be the five year contract they would go up four different years at three percent so like I told you before if you look at the numbers over the five year period by far Capital Waste is the better way to go with these numbers so I put this together for you for you to look at we do need to make a decision because our contract is up with Republic June 30th so if we decide that we want to enter in a contract with Capital Waste we need to let them know because they have to get boxes, they got to make sure they get everything lined up so they can make a transition and have it done by June 30th. Mayor Boyd said so the rates that you got the first six months they would not go up the rates will stay the same, second six months $40,000 you got we would lose $20,00.00 that is assuming the second six months we don't go up on our rates. Mr. Gainey said if we do not go up on our rates the second six months then we would go in the hole for that six months $20,000.00. Mayor Boyd asked how much they are going up for the second six months across the board, how much percentage wise they are going up Mr. Gainey said the second year they do not go up at all. Mayor Boyd said he was talking about the second six months. Mr. Gainey said the second six months they are going to the rate of $3.40 per cubic yard. Councilman Milling said we did not have a rate change at the end of the first six months we are going in the hole like $40,000.00. Mr. Gainey said no we would be to the good $40,000.00. Councilman Milling said that's not at the end of the first year. Mr. Gainey said the first year not the second year. Mr. Milling said the second year since we are losing $20,000.00 in the second six months, he was just wondering if that translated into $40,000.00 for an entire year. Mr. Gainey said actually he ran the numbers today he did not put that on there and he apologize but it's about $41,000.00 if we did not do a rate increase at all then we would be in the negative the second year. Mr. Gainey said his recommendation would be to go with Capital Waste being is in six months start looking at what we would need to raise the rates up to and do a rate increase incremental. Mayor Boyd said at that point it will be about year basically since we went up on the rates. Mr. Gainey said over a year. He said we need to look at it and figure out how much we will need to go up each year to stay ahead. Mayor Boyd said the issue we had this time nobody likes for the rates to go up, but that issue is that we had this time when we went up because in the past they have not been going up and then so all of sudden

they just threw a frog in the fire and so Council whether I'm here or anybody else is here on out. He said always look at continuously because they are going to continuously go up on us so we are going to have to continue to go up to stay where we are making progress, so again I would propose that we look at it again in six months before the six-month period when they go up and see what we need to do. He said he likes this a lot better It gives us six more months to get prepared because we don't want to go up on anybody. Mr. Gainey said if you look at the rates for instance right now a two yard dump a week is $41.49 is what we are paying but with the new rates that they are proposing that's actually going to go down to $29.44. He said but when you look at the six and eight yards, that's where you really see the jump at. Councilman Milling said that we are somewhat caught in a rock and a hard spot seems like we almost have to accept Capital Waste because Republic puts us in a bigger hole than Capital Waste. Mr. Gainey said one thing that Capital Waste has stressed is that they don't charge overage and that's where we get a lot of our complaints. Republic has been burning us up on overage charges and we pass that on to the customers and that's where we get a lot of complaints. Capital has assured him that they do not charge overage on any of their accounts. We will not have to worry about that so even though we will be going up eventually a lot of our customers that have been seeing overage charges it actually will be cheaper for them in the long run. Mayor Boyd said to make sure they put that in big bold print. Mr. Gainey said we need to make a decision tonight. **Councilman Milling made a motion to approve the contract from Capital Waste. Councilman Segars seconded the motion. Councilpersons Nettles, Baccus, Reed, Gardner and Mayor Boyd voted all in favor of the motion**. Mayor Boyd said to transfer the trash garbage Commercial bids to Capital Waste starting as July 1, 2021.

NEW BUSINESS

BID AWARD FOR CITY VEHICLE ADS

Mrs. Rock said as requested we put out for bid the cost to install and design that will be placed on Sanitation vehicles like the trash truck and the cherry picker and that sort of thing. The two bids that we received one was from Signs Plus Systems of Darlington at $23,000 and the News & Press of Darlington came in at $3,120.00. She said those were the only two bids that she received. Mayor Boyd asked did the News & Press do decals. Mrs. Rock said they do it through Herald Office Supply their parent company. Mayor bid said he is assuming they were bidding on the same specs. Mrs. Rock said yes. He said there is a lot of difference. Councilman Bryant wanted to know the bid for News & Press. Mrs. Rock said $3,120.00. Mr. Nettles asked if they could get both numbers again. Mrs. Rock said $23,000.00 and $3,120.00. Mayor Boyd said let's make sure we are clear on it. Mayor said he is trying to find out L&L law firm says they want to put ad on the side of the pickup truck. We should have a bid from one of these companies saying what that's charge going to be to put the ad on the side of the pickup truck. Mrs. Rock said that is correct. Mayor Boyd said then L&L law firm should then if it's $500 to put a sign on both sides or one side or whichever of the pickup truck L&L law firm should then be charged the $500 to put it on there and x amount of dollars. Let's say another $300 a month for

advertising and the City gets that $300 for the advertising on the side of the truck pickup truck. Mrs. Rock said that is the concept she said this is just to get the company that would actually do the design and installation of the ads. Mayor Boyd said it would not cost the City anything to do it. Mrs. Rock said you would in turn, she would have to come back to Council with a rate sheet based on whichever bid you choose to go with. Mayor Boyd said at no time will this cost the City anything. He said if you go to L&L law firm and they want to put a sign on the side of the truck and that sign cost $500 nobody will go to Ms. Pridgen and say I need $500 to put a sign on the side of a truck you would carry Ms. Pridgen a check for $500 plus x amount of dollars whether they do a one-month contract or a twelve-month agreement. He said then Ms. Pridgen would write a check to whichever company we chose to put it on the truck. Mrs. Rock said that is correct. Mayor Boyd said that is no cost to the City for whichever way you pick for whoever is going to do the work of course we want the person who is going to do the work to where L&L law firm is not being cheated for putting a high dollar and they charge too much to put something on the side of the truck and they don't want to do it we are going to put on their correctly and lower costs as much as we can too. Mrs. Rock said that is to put an eight-foot graphic on the six trucks. Councilwoman Reed said what is this going to cost, so you are saying the City does not have any cost here. Mrs. Rock said let us just say your business wants to advertise on the garbage truck for you know whatever your business is so you would pay the City x amount of dollars we would go to whichever vendor you have selected; you would pay the City the business would pay the City the amount whatever that amount is that we determine, and the City pays the vendor to put the ad on there. Councilwomen Reed said that is the part that she wants to get straight with this because you say there is no cost to the City. Mrs. Rock said there really is no cost because obviously our rate what we will charge the business is going to be more than what the vendor is charging. Councilwoman Reed said I am just saying that this is a responsibility of the City to pay the vendor who actually puts the new signs on there, we pay that. Mrs. Rock said yes. Mayor Boyd said we will not pay it until they pay us. Mrs. Rock said yes. Councilwoman Reed said we are going to decide that between the two bids as to what that fee will be and what we will pay. Councilwoman Reed said she wants to be clear on this that the charge to us from that vendor is $3,120.00 as opposed to the $23,000.00. Mayor Boyd sad what was the different sizes? Mrs. Rock said she just added up the six different trucks, two garbage trucks, recycling truck, street sweeper and cherry picker. Mayor Boyd asked the sizes. Mrs. Rock said eight foot and ten foot. Mrs. Rock said the first bidder included a very high labor cost for installation of $2000.00 or $3,000.00 for each sign. She said the News & Press said the installation was not going to cost extra, they included the installation in there. Mayor Boyd asked what are the sizes of the signs? Mrs. Rock said ten foot by four foot and eight foot by four foot. Mayor Boyd said how many eight by four do you have? Mrs. Rock said four at $480.00 each and then the ten foot by four foot is $600.00. Mayor Boyd asked how many ten foot by four do you have? Mrs. Rock said two. Mayor Boyd said so it is a total of six signs. Mrs. Rock said yes. Mayor Boyd asked was it two signs per truck or one sign per truck. Mrs. Rock said one sign per truck. She said that is what this is based off of. Mayor Boyd asked if we were only going to one side of the truck. Mrs. Rock said we can do both sides,

but this is how much it cost them to whatever they are going to charge us for putting the eight foot or ten-foot whichever sign on the side of the truck. Mayor Boyd asked how much they charge to do an eight by four sign? Mrs. Rock said that the News & Press quoted $480.00 and Signs Plus quoted $600 for the decals but $3,000.00 for the installation. Councilman Nettles said you do not think they are comparing apples to apples. Mayor Boyd said he does not think none of them was comparing apples to apples. Mayor Boyd said most material and for the record I do not own Out of This World Screen Printing but for the record most installers charge $15 a square foot pretty much to install materials but of course if it is up on the side of a truck and they charge a little bit more for supplies. He said an eight by four is thirty-two square feet times $15 is $480.00, that is where the $480.00 comes from the News & Press. He Said the News & Press numbers are correct. The other number I do not know where they are coming from. He said he is not sure if they compared the right apples to apples. Councilman Nettles asked did we solicit any other bids. Mrs. Rock said this is all that she has received. She said she had other calls, but they did not submit any bids. Councilwoman Reed said this is a vast difference and that is all that we are having to do. She said she do not see why we are in this discussion. Councilman Nettles said if they are both on the same schematics and the same criteria, I agree with you, but we just need to make sure. Mayor Boyd said but if the first of the two companies do not do the proper job and we can take it from that company. Councilwoman Reed said you know from $3,000.00 to $23,000.00. Councilman Nettles said but at the end of the day the City does not absorb any of the cost, all the cost is passed on. Mayor Boyd said at the same time though you do not want to go Genesis Healthcare and say I can put you a sign on the side of the truck and that's going to cost you $3,000.00. Councilman Nettles said I will not let you. Mayor Boyd said we do not want somebody to put the sign on and it's all crooked and wrinkle up so we want to make sure we are putting reputable company out there and at the same time the purpose of this bid would be to make sure that we can get it as cheap as we can for the average person to advertise on the side of the truck. Mrs. Rock passed out some samples. Mrs. Rock said even if you do not count Sign's Plus installation, it's still more. Councilman Milling said for the $3,000.00 charge that covers all six of the vehicles for anybody who wants to advertise and installing for anybody who wants to advertise. Mrs. Rock said obviously we may not have all six trucks that will have advertising on them, we may have one truck with advertising on it but depending on the size that will be the charge the $480.00 or the $600.00. Council Milling said if people complain about the work provided by the News & Press can we take it away from them. Mrs. Rock said yes if we are unhappy with the work. Mayor Boyd said at $3,120.00 they are still making money. Mrs. Rock said yes. Councilman Bryant said that he is assuming that you get one contract this is like we are mentioning the eight by four we will charge the News & Press $480.00 let us say another guy in six months wants to put an advertising on that same truck. Mrs. Rock said this will be for each time they change it. Councilwoman Baccus said will that get to put the sign on for one month. Mrs. Rock said those determinations have not been we have not filed that all out yet, we first just had to get a cost. Mayor Boyd said the way it should work is that someone should go to the company and offer them a one-month agreement at X amount of dollars, 12 months agreements at another X

amount of dollars and like the billboard signs if the L&L law firm decides to put on the side of the truck and it cost L&L $480.00 plus whatever the City charges for the sign on the truck. Mayor Boyd went into detail with some examples of how it would work. **Councilman Gardner made a motion to approve the News & Press with the bid award of $3,120.00 for City Vehicle Ads. Councilwoman Reed seconded the motion. Councilpersons Nettles, Milling, Baccus, Segars and Mayor Boyd voted in favor of the motion.**

BID AWARD FOR POND CLEARING AT SPORTS COMPLEX

Mrs. Rock said they also put out for a request for bids on the Sports Complex property there is about a two-acre pond that is accessible easily by car and she can take anyone to it if they would like to see it and it has a great opportunity for fishing and for us to have events out there, especially given the COVID situation and not being able to have indoor events. She said that they discussed clearing the banks of the pond so that you can have a fishing rodeo. DNR does these rodeos and sometimes they will provide the fish to stock the ponds they also have come out there and tested the pond to see what is there. She said that they are going to come back in June, and they are going to map the entire contours of the pond so that we have some idea what the habitat is. Now to do any kind of event we would have to clear the banks because there is woods and brush that have kind of grown up all the way to the edge. We had beautification and recreation folks out there trying to clear it and we just do not have the tools to do that job. Considering how many feet you are talking about and of course it is ball season now so recreation has other tasks to do so we put this out for bids, and we received three bids, we actually had four companies to come out to the site meeting to walk the site and we had three interesting bids. The first bid we received is Industrial Paving of Darlington was for $148,500. The second bid we received was from Arbor Works of Hartsville for $22,000.00. The third bid we received was from Trees R Us out of Florence for $7,500.00. She said she cannot make this stuff up. Councilwoman Reed said all these differences. Councilman Segars asked will they remove the undergrowth brush and the stumps. She said they are going to grind the stumps mulch it in place so that we have some kind of barrier for the weeds too, so we do not have to be constantly cutting it. Councilman Milling said it will eventually be grassed over. She yes it will be eventually grassed over and of course it will be depending on how the sports center complex is design it will kind of effect that. She said in your packet you can find a copy of the map of the pond. We are going to do it is a little over a thousand linear feet we leave this upper portion to supply the habitat for the wildlife and of course any trees that are over 48 inches in diameter we saved as well. She said they are just clearing right about ten feet from the water, enough room to cast. Mayor Boyd said that Trees R Us typically does a lot of your work. Mrs. Rock said Trees R Us typically does a lot of our work, Arbor Works so far have not heard bad things about, I have heard good things about all these companies. **Councilman Gardner made a motion to approve the bid for Trees R Us of Florence for $7500.00 to do clearing around the pond. Councilman Nettles seconded the motion.** Mayor Boyd asked where the funds are coming from Hospitality. Mrs. Rock said this would have to be hospitality. **Councilpersons Milling, Baccus, Reed, Segars and the Mayor voted in favor of the motion.**

BUDGET AMENDMENT TO TRANSFER $361.01 FROM 510-382 TO LINE ITEM 510-383 $664.99BUDGETED (COMPUTERPURCHASEFOR MUNICIPAL COURT CLERK IS $1,026.00)

Ms. Pridgen said the Municipal Court Clerk needed a new computer, but she did not have enough money in her office machines line item, but she did have enough money in furniture and fixtures, and she is requesting that we move $361.01 from that line item to her office machines line item to make a total $1,026.00 so we can pay for that computer. Councilman Milling made a motion to approve the transfer of the $361.01 from line item 510-382 to line item 510-383 so that we will have a total of $1,026.00 for the computer purchase for the Municipal Court Clerk. Councilwoman Reed seconded the motion. Councilpersons Nettles, Baccus, Gardner, Segars and Mayor Boyd all voted in favor of the motion.

ORDINANCE 2021-05 TO AMEND BUSINESS LICENSE PERIOD TO MAY 1ST TO APRIL 30TH

Ms. Pridgen reminded them when Mr. Barrineau came from the Municipal Association talking about standardization of the business licenses ordinance this will change our Business License Period from the calendar year to May 1st to April 30th. Ms. Pridgen said it is currently on the calendar year, but the new year will be May 1st to April 30th. **Councilman Gardner made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-05 to amend Business License period to May 1st to April 30th. Councilman Milling seconded the motion. Councilpersons Nettles, Baccus, Reed, Segars and Mayor Boyd all voted in favor of the motion.**

ORDINANCE 2021-06 TO AMEND CITY CODE OF ORDIANCE, CHAPTER 22, ARTICLE II, SECTION 22-29 (DURATION OF LICENSE)

Ms. Pridgen said this will be to amend the actual Ordinance in our Ordinance Book. **Councilman Gardner made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-06 to Amend City Code of Ordinance, Chapter 22, Article II, Section 22-29 (Duration of License). Councilwoman Reed seconded the motion. Councilpersons Nettles, Milling, Baccus, Segars and Mayor Boyd all voted in favor of the motion.**

LED LIGHTING CONVERSION - MAYOR CURTIS BOYD

Mayor Boyd said that we have spoken about this a little before from Duke Energy about the lights that they put up at the South Main Street out by Food Lion. Most everybody was in agreement with those lights to convert the whole City. It will not happen right this moment.

If we agree on it we have to get in line with the other cities that are doing that. Also a lot of stuff that they have on the shelf now that they are updating is out dated. We are outdated now so we are trying to get everything updated to better LEDs, which would be what you have seen out by Food Lion on 52 By-Pass and South Main Street. The upfront conversion fee was $8,450.00. My understanding when we talked with the auditor the other day was that we would have the money as of this year. Again, I'm not sure if we can earmark that. Mayor Boyd asked Ms. Pridgen can we earmark it. Ms. Pridgen said yes. Mayor Boyd said It maybe a month or maybe six months before Duke Energy actually starts on that and ask for the money upfront to change that, but that will still put all the same things the light going down, she suggested that we look at our light Ordinance for us updating our lights Ordinance also we need to look at that the workshop session later but I was asking to see if you want to go ahead and vote to approve that for this year for them so that we can get in line to update the lighting for the City. Councilman Gardner said, Just to clarify that $8,450.00 will be coming out of the City's fund? Mayor Boyd said, "the City will have to pay that." Mayor Boyd said this has nothing to do with the aboveground underground wiring. This is all the lighting that we have currently, this is not to add additional lighting this is just to update the lighting that they have done. He said he went through there the other day and they have changed a lot of lights that were already out. Upgrade to the new LED lighting will be $8,450.00. Those lights are the same lights that they put out at 52 Bypass and South Main. Counciman Nettles said just to be clear that is all lights everywhere in the City. Mayor Boyd said yes. Councilman Gardner asked would it be at a one-time fee. Mayor Boyd said Yes, a one-time fee. Mayor Boyd said it will give us a savings of $95.42 a month. **Councilman Garland made a motion to approve the LED lighting conversion for Duke Energy at the cost of $8450.00. Councilman Nettles seconded the motion. Councilpersons Milling, Baccus, Reed, Segars and Mayor Boyd voted in favor of the motion.**

Department Head's Reports

No questions on the reports.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Gadner said that we have a couple of job openings that we have advertised right now, he said he was under the impression that they were advertised in the Municipality Association website, he said he went on there the other day and the only thing he could find was the police officer position advertised so I would just like to ask that we advertise all of our job openings on the municipality website and any of the relevant job postings sites that are out there just like we did for our City Manager position. Mr. Rock said that it is up there. Mayor Boyd asked do we typically do it on Indeed and the City's website. Mrs. Rock said City website, Municipality Association website, the water director I believe what you are discussing, she said she put it up there today. She did not have it was not sent to her. She said Indeed website we have an account with them, and we also put the City Manger position on Linkedin. Councilman Gardner asked can we put the Water Department position on Linkedin as well. Mrs. Rock said that we can.

Mayor Curtis Boyd said that the City of Darlington has a lot going on we have some stuff coming in from Senator Malloy that we will be able to discuss further, of course some grants. We have some discussion coming up with the County also with some additional grants. There are some places opening in Darlington. Mayo Boyd said there is a lot going on in Darlington. He said he appreciates everybody's help and support and stay with us and we grow and be strong.

Councilman Nettles made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:50 PM to discuss telephone system/security issue for the City, Lease or Sale of City Property, MASC/Council Interview Process for City Manager, City personnel (The of Darlington may or may not vote after Executive Session). Mr. Milling seconded the motion to go into Executive Session. Councilpersons Reed, Baccus, Gardner, Segars and Mayor Boyd voted in favor of the motion.

BREAK

EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING @ 8:02 PM

Upon motion of Councilman Bryant Gardner, seconded by Howard Nettles, the Executive session ended at 9:17 PM.

Mr. Milling made a motion to approve the appraisal of the City Administrative Building on the corner of Pearl Street done in a way that it will be valued at for a residential piece of property as well as commercial piece of property. Councilman Gardner seconded the motion. Councilpersons Reed, Baccus, Nettles, Segars and Mayor Boyd voted in favor of the motion.

Mayor Boyd said that we have about sixty-seven applicants that will go to the Municipal Association for interview for them to return to us the top ten applicants for us to set up a date for the first interview on May 24th at 3:00 PM. **Councilwoman Reed made a motion to allow the Municipal Association to go through the applicants we have received currently for City Manager's position for the first interview on May 24th at 3:00 P.M. and return top ten applicants back to the City. Councilman Gardner seconded the motion. Councilpersons Nettles, Milling, Baccus, Segars and Mayor Boyd voted in favor of the motion.**

REMINDERS

Tuesday June 1, 2021, at 6:30 PM – Monthly City Council Meeting

ADJOURN

Upon motion of Councilman Howard Nettles, seconded by Councilwoman Elaine Reed, the meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Assistant Clerk & Treasurer

ATTEST:

Mayor

CITY OF DARLINGTON
BUDGET WORK SESSION AT 6:00 PM
&
EXECUTIVE SESSION
HELD IN THE COURTROOM/COUNCIL CHAMBERS LOCATED AT 400 PEARL STREET, DARLINGTON, SC
MAY 13, 2021

Present: Mayor Curtis Boyd, Interim City Manager Gloria Pridgen, Councilpersons Elaine Reed, Sheila Baccus, John Segars, Bryant Gardner, John Milling, and Howard Nettles. Also, present News & Press, Lisa Rock, Freddie Kinsaul, Alex Gainey, and Cheryl DuBose.

Mayor Curtis Boyd called the meeting to order at 6:10 PM.

Prayer led by Mayor Curtis Boyd.

MR. CHARLIE BARRINEAU – MASC (INTERVIEW PROCESS FOR CITY MANAGER VIA ZOOM)

Mr. Barrineau thanked Council for asking the Association to participate with them regarding the City Manager search. He said he do not have to tell you all how important this decision is, likely the most important decision that Council in the City Manager form of government can make. He said what he shared with them through Ms. Pridgen was just some information that she forward to you that he thought may be helpful for them if it is not that is certainly fine. Our professional field the International City County Managers Association published a guide for the interview process, he shared a copy with them. He said that they are some sample questions in that guide. He also shared with them some other questions that have been asked in other communities and He also shared some other information to have knowledge of. He said the Association as you all know had received sixty-seven applications. The association many of times are asked to take a look at applications. He said he wanted to stress that we are not making a recommendation when we look at those, we are simply just giving you another set of eyes and so three City Managers reviewed those applications and gave you an opinion of who we believe met the qualifications that you set out on your job ad. He said now we would encourage you to take a look at all the sixty-seven applications yourself and formulate your own process to see if what we said lines up and if it does not that is fine, but ultimately as you know you all live here and it is your decision to make. Mr. Barrineau asked did they have any questions that they may have from the Association. Councilman Gardner asked him did he give them some guidelines and information. Mr. Barrineau said he attached a handbook that has been put out by the International City County Manager Association, and it gives best practices as far as an administrator search and public administration. Councilman Bryant asked if he could mail it to them. He said he sent it out through Ms. Pridgen. Ms. Pridgen said she sent it out. Councilwoman Reed said that it was too much to read. Mr. Barrineau said it is a lengthy

read. Ms. Pridgen said that she sent it out. Councilman Gardner said that he will check his email. Mayor Boyd said that he got the email.

LED LIGHTING CONVERSION – MAYOR BOYD

Mayor Boyd said that we talked about the LED lighting conversion for the whole City, which will be the lights that were already put in at Food Lion 52 By-Pass Highway. Everybody voted on that the other day. Mindy with Duke Energy asked that everybody sign the letter Ms. Pridgen drew up just for everybody to agree on and to understand that we are out of compliance with lights they will be putting up and the lights they did put up are out of compliance with the Ordinance to go ahead and get in the guidelines and get in their path of getting ready to put the lights up which may be two months to six months or more because they have other cities in line having the same thing done. She just needs the verifications to cover themselves that everybody on Council understands that we need to change our Ordinance and look at that. He said he will have that afterwards and we can do it in Executive Session.

BUDGET PRESENTATION W&S DEPARTMENT

Mr. Kinsaul said everyone knows that we have not had a good year for spending. We have had a few cave ins, but the rate increase is working, the revenue is up, and it is coming up and it is just going to take a while to dig out of the hole we were in, especially when we have a situation such as Broad Street. He said that they are not that many changes to the Budget. He said on page two Water & Sewer 912 Distribution and Maintenance, we are up in the printing and office supplies, line item 210 just because everything has gone up and we are mailing out more receipts because we are working in house and sending things to the customers, postage has gone up as well as computer stuff and everything related to the office. The next change is line item 220 Electricity, Water & Gas, we were budgeted $84,000.00 currently, we are projected to spend $90,000.00. Line item 226, Maintenance and Service Contracts, we are currently at $9,700.00, we are projecting it up to $12,000.00. Line item 241, Uniforms, currently is at $5,000.00 we are projecting $4,000.00. Line item 256, Meters, Parts, & Supplies, we are putting in meters that means we have had some growth that requires some new properties, we up that from $50,000.00 to $65,000.00. Councilwomen Reed said in line item 226 was projected use at $15,000.00 do you think it will be less than what you are already using. Mr. Kinsaul said hopefully because we had some issues with a generator with some major repairs and we are hoping we do not have any repairs not that large anyway. Councilman Nettles said did you just kind of a went in the middle. Mr. Kinsaul said yes, it is always just a guest anyway. He said we hope nothing breaks but it usually dose not work that way so we kind of split the middle with it. He said Meters, Parts & Supplies, if anyone has bought any piping or plumbing supplies it has skyrocketed so we up that from $50,000.00 to $65,000.00 – line item 256. He said a lot of that was they had to put in some new meters in for Georgia pacific as well as apartment complexes and that is a good way to spend money that's growth. Line item 256, pipe Fittings, & Hydrants, we are increasing to $50,000.00, a lot of this is price increasing of plastic and metal parts that are skyrocketing with no delivery guarantees. He said the next change is line item 265,

professional services, we were at $45,000.00, we projected $106,186.09, we are just grabbing a number we up the amount to $50,000.00. Councilman Nettles asked where the $106,186.09 was coming from. He said a lot of it is related to all the grant projects. He explained line item 265 it covers all the lab work required for Water testing and then it is any engineering survey, contract work, professional service work to go to the COG, Davis & Brown, surveying and anything else that we must do related to a grant process. Councilman Gardner asked does it have anything to do with the expansion to Broad Street. Mr. Kinsaul said Broad Street and North Main Bridge GP project required an engineer. He said a lot of it is good because it means growth, it also cost money. Line item 272, Special Contracts, that covers the generator repairs and DHEC testing. He said line item 385 Machines & Equipment we did not spend as much we are going to decrease it to $18,000.00. Line item 399, New Water Meters, was incorporated with line item 256. He said that was all the changes in 912. He said 912 is anything that is related to the water system, complete water system, anything for drinking water comes out of this account. Mayor Boyd asked why the Salaries and Wages was budgeted last year at $385,347.00 now it is down to $313,605.00. Mr. Kinsaul said that we are short of people. Mayor Boyd said we are about $72,000.00 off. Mr. Kinsaul said right now we are about three to four people short. Mayor Boyd asked was he planning on replacing them next year. Mr. Kinsaul said we need to put some money back in. He said he did not project that. Councilman Nettles asked how many people you are talking about. Mr. Kinsaul said we need about three people. Councilman Nettles asked if we could get an educated guess of how much money you would need for that. Mr. Kinsaul said about $150,000.00. Mayor Boyd said we have about Seventy-two thousand. Councilman Nettles asked will they be full time employees. Mr. Kinsaul said yes, we have not been successful with contract short term. Mayor Boyd said it will put us at $463,605.00. Ms. Pridgen asked him would he be using the temp employees because we have $30,000.00 in that line item. Mr. Kinsaul said he would not be using the temp employees because none of them worked out. Mayor Boyd asked where the temp employee line item was. Mr. Kinsaul said line item 105. Councilman Gardner asked if we could cancel that line item. He said yes, we can put that with the salaries because we have not had any success with the temp agency. Mayor Boyd ask if he was going to use all the money in the line item for the telephone. Mr. Kinsaul said that includes all the cell phones and everything. Mayor Boyd said on line item 227 you budgeted last year $108,000.00 but you are only projected to spend $44,172.14. Mr. Kinsaul said that will go up if we have a well down and we had not finished paying the billing so that will increase the spending. The Hampton Street well has been down. The motor pump blew on Hampton Street well. Councilman Nettles asked is there a particular dollar figure that you associate with the well going down or it is something different each time. Mr. Kinsaul said that the $108,000.00 is just a guess. He said we are projecting spending right now $44,172.14 it is probably going up about thirty to forty more if everything is done. Mayor Boyd said why put projected $44,172.14 why not put projected $76,000.00. Councilman Gardner said I thought you said we only have in that line item what we have done to this day versus towards the end. Ms. Pridgen asked Mr. Kinsaul how much he project it to be. He said it will probably go up thirty to forty more with the well. Councilman Nettles said so we are not

going to just do like $80,000.00 versus the $108,000.00. Mr. Kinsaul said we could adjust that. Councilman Gardner said he thought the projected line amount was a as of this day that you pulled it. Ms. Pridgen said it is projected at what they think they will spend through June 30th. She said Mr. Kinsaul has got some more to be added to that so we just can change the projected amount. Councilman Nettles said so we did not incorporate that projected amount that you just said. Ms. Pridgen asked him what he wanted to change the amount to. Mr. Kinsaul said to take it up to seventy-four. Councilman Gardner said that his understanding was they need to add some extra for backup pumps for our water system in a couple of areas, so we keep that number of $108,000.00. Councilman Gardner said his understanding is we supposed to have two pumps at each one of the stations. Mr. Kinsaul said that is in Sewer this is water. Mr. Kinsaul said projected next year budget is eighty. Mayor Boyd said line item 249, Medical Lab and Supplies, you did not spend anything. Mr. Kinsaul no he did not. Mayor Boyd asked what it is used for. Mr. Kinsaul said if they buy first aid kits for the trucks or need stuff, fortunate nobody got hurt if they did, they ended up with a doctor or something. Councilman Gardner asked is this where if they get hurt and must get a drug test and go to the doctor. Mr. Kinsaul that would be in the line item for physicals or it could be medical. Mayor Boyd suggested he bring it down to $600.00 from $2,600.00, since you have not been spending that. Mr. Kinsaul said that was good with him, the rest could go towards the salaries. Councilman Milling asked Ms. Pridgen is there any word on if there was anything that we may be able to use from the stimulus package on any of our budget line items. Ms. Pridgen said the only thing she has heard is that we will be able to use it for would be budget shortfalls but what you do is compare the year before the event actually happened to the year of the event and what ever the difference is which we are thinking it will maybe be about $100,000.00 that is what she and Kimberely are thinking but we will not be sure until we get the instructions on that. Councilman Milling said how about some of these capital outlays that we know we are going to need for repairs of pumps. Ms. Pridgen said I know there was a lot that you will be able to use for Water projects, but we do not know to what extent. Councilman Milling said so we are pretty much still in the dark. Ms. Pridgen said pretty much, she said she knows that it outlines premium pay, and we are tying to figure out what that meant, and I think Kimberly had talk with Chief and I think we can kind of get around that those that had work, the essential workers, and we can give them a bonus or something like that using that terminology. Councilman Milling asked are we using the Municipal Association to advise us on where we can and cannot spend it or if we have another source we are going to. Ms. Pridgen said they do have something on the website that we can print out but like she said you know until they get everything set in stone. Councilman Milling asked do you know who they are when you say when they get it set in stone, who is they. Ms. Pridgen said that she is talking about the State. Ms. Pridgen gave all the information that she had. Council and Ms. Pridgen had discussion about the stimulus package. Mr. Kinsaul explained his decreases and increases. Ms. Pridgen answered questions from Council. Council had questions about some of the decreases and increases. Mr. Kinsaul and Council suggested that any overage money should go to salaries. Mr. Kinsaul discuss in detail 914C Sewer Collections in detail. Mr. Kinsaul discussed the

increases and decreases for the line items. He explained any increases and decreases to Council. Council asked questions and he answered them. Mr. Kinsaul explained in detail 914T – Sewer Treatment. He answered all questions that Council had about each line item. Ms. Pridgen explained some of the details. Councilman Milling asked Mr. Kinsaul to provide them with a list of his known projects. Mr. Kinsaul said that he had a list of capital outlays five years out.

BUDGET PRESENTATION – RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Mayor Boyd said Lee Andrews may or may not make it. He said we will table it for the moment.

Councilman Bryant Gardner made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:17 PM to discuss personnel matter (The City of Darlington May or May Not Vote After Executive Session). Councilman Howard Nettles seconded the motion to go into Executive Session. Councilpersons Milling, Baccus, Reed, Segars and Mayor Boyd all voted in favor of the motion.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING

Upon motion of Councilman John Milling, seconded by Councilman Howard Nettles, the Executive Session ended at 8:21 PM.

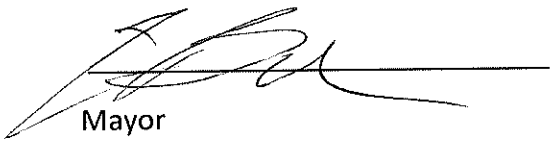
Councilman Milling, coming out of Executive Session, made a motion that Council go on record as disapproving any statements by any member of Council or employee of the city that disparages any other Council member, employee or any member of the community based on race, religion, or national origin. Councilwoman Reed seconded the motion. Councilpersons Nettles, Baccus, Gardner, Segars and Mayor Boyd all voted in favor of the motion.

ADJOURN

Upon motion of Councilman Howard Nettles, seconded by Councilwoman Elaine Reed, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Assistant Clerk & Treasurer

ATTEST:



Mayor

CITY OF DARLINGTON

EXECUTIVESESSION AT 6:00 PM

HELD IN THE COURTROOM/COUNCIL CHAMBERS LOCATED AT

400 PEARL STREET, DARLINGTON, SC

MAY 19, 2021

Mayor Boyd called the meeting to order.

Councilman Milling made a motion to go into Executive Session at 6:05 PM to discuss Recreation – RFG for Hwy 151 property – Contract negotiation and deal with Personnel Matter involving review and Prioritize City Manager Candidate Applications. Councilman Howard Nettles seconded the motion to go into Executive Session. Councilpersons Reed, Baccus, Segars, Gardner and Mayor Boyd all voted in favor of the motion.

After coming out of Executive Session at 7:05 PM, Mayor Boyd said they we will vote on the RFQ for Hwy 151 Property for the Recreation Sports Complex. **Upon motion of Councilman Gardner to approve the architect from Mozingo & Wallace as the designer for the Darlington Sports Complex. Councilwoman Reed seconded the motion to approve architect from Mozingo & Wallace as the designer for the Darlington Sports Complex. Councilpersons Nettles, Milling, Baccus, Segars and Mayor Boyd all voted favor of the motion.**

REMINDERS

Tuesday, June 8, 2021 at 6:30 PM – Monthly City Council Meeting

Monday, May 24, 2021 at 6:00 PM - Workshop Session

Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at 3:00 PM – Interviews for Applicants for City Manager (Executive Session)

Thursday, May 27, 2021 at 3:00 PM – Interviews for Applicants for City Manager (Executive Session)

ADJOURN

Upon motion of Councilman Bryant Gardner, seconded by Councilman Howard Nettles, the meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM

Assistant Clerk & Treasurer

ATTEST:

Mayor