

**CITY OF DARLINGTON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
OCTOBER 15, 2013**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dave Breunig at 7:05 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited. Present at roll call were: Steve Pickett, Bev Anderson, Cindy Corley, John Sonsalla and Don Osterday. Excused absence: Dave Gough. Also present were: Bill McDaniel, Suzy Osterday, Jeremy Williams and Phil Risseeuw.

Motion by Anderson second by Pickett that the meeting notice and agenda were properly posted. Motion carried. Motion by Pickett second by Anderson to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion carried.

Under unfinished business, discussion was held concerning the re-consideration of a previous Council decision to demolish the pump house building on W. River Street. Mayor Breunig reported earlier this year, the City Council voted to demolish the pump house building on W. River Street. Since that time, interested parties have suggested the pump house building be sold and restored. Based on those suggestions, members of the Property and Insurance Committee have recommended selling the pump house property. Therefore, the Council needs to re-consider its previous decision to demolish the pump house building. After discussion and consideration, motion by Osterday second by Sonsalla to re-consider the previous Council decision to demolish the pump house building on W. River Street. Motion carried.

Under other old business, Suzy Osterday reported she was contacted by Mr. Rogers, the donor of the new lights in the park; requesting a letter from the City accepting the donation. The letter also needs to acknowledge the cost of the project. Attorney McDaniel suggested Mr. Rogers provide evidence of the project costs, so he could prepare proper documentation of the donation. Suzy Osterday stated she would convey the message. Discussion was also held concerning some type of public recognition of Mr. Rogers for his donation to the City. Suzy Osterday also stated she will coordinate such an event. Tallitha Reese then arrived at the meeting.

Under new business, Suzy Osterday presented the Darlington Chamber/Main Street Annual Report. She distributed copies of the report to the Council members at this meeting. Suzy presented the information, and thanked the Council for their past support. Suzy reported the annual budget for the Chamber/Main Street program is \$49,000.00; which does not include the money received from the room tax. The room tax revenue is used for advertising and promotion of the entire Darlington Community. Suzy then requested a \$15,000.00 donation to the Chamber/Main Street program again for 2014. That donation request will be considered by the Finance and Personnel Committee at their next meeting.

Discussion was then held concerning the following recommendation from the Property and Insurance Committee. A copy of the meeting minutes was included in the agenda packet.

- Approve the sale of the pump house property on W. River Street by sealed bids. A copy of an advertisement prepared by Attorney McDaniel was included in the agenda packet. The advertisement was reviewed, and the minimum bid provision was discussed further. After discussion and consideration, motion by Osterday second by Anderson to approve the sale of the pump house property on W. River Street by sealed bids, using the advertisement prepared by Attorney McDaniel as presented. Motion carried. Suzy Osterday then left the meeting.

Discussion was then held concerning the following recommendation from the Finance and Personnel Committee. A copy of the meeting minutes was included in the agenda packet.

- Approve the hiring of an applicant for the Public Works / Wastewater Operator position. Mayor Breunig reported the Committee is recommending the hiring of Jeff McCarthy for this position. The starting wage rate will be \$17.00 per hour, with a six month probation period. In addition, any accrued sick leave, personal time and vacation time remaining at the time of job transfer, will transfer to the new position. After discussion and consideration, motion by Pickett second by Anderson to accept the recommendation from the Finance and Personnel Committee and hire Jeff McCarthy for the Public Works / Wastewater Operation position as presented. By Voice Vote: Ayes: Pickett, Anderson, Sonsalla and Osterday. Nays: None. Abstained: Corley. Motion carried.

Discussion was then held concerning a proposed contract for audit services from Johnson Block and Company, Inc., the City's current auditing firm. A copy of the proposed agreement was included in the agenda packet. The agreement covers the audit years of 2013, 2014 and 2015, with a slight increase in fees each year. After discussion and consideration, motion by Anderson second by Sonsalla to approve the proposed contract for audit services from Johnson Block and Company, Inc., for the audit years of 2013, 2014 and 2015 as presented. Motion carried.

Discussion was then held concerning the following recommendation from the Water and Sewer Committee. Their meeting was held just prior to this Council meeting.

- Approve 2014 Water Department budget. The proposed Water Department budget calls for total revenues of \$561,800.00 and total operating expenses of \$531,800.00 for a net operating income of \$30,000.00.
- Approve 2014 Sewer Department budget. The proposed Sewer Department budget calls for total revenues of \$903,858.00 and total operating expenses of \$797,450.00 for a net operating income of \$106,408.00. This proposed budget incorporates a sewer rate increase effective December 1, 2013. The operating net income is needed to satisfy the current revenue bond covenants.

After discussion and consideration, motion by Pickett second by Osterday to approve the 2014 Water Department budget and 2014 Sewer Department budget as presented. Motion carried.

The September 30, 2013 financial statements for the City, Water Dept. and Sewer Dept. were then presented for review and approval. After discussion and consideration, motion by Pickett second by Corley to approve the September 30, 2013 financial statements for the City, Water Dept. and Sewer Dept. as presented. Motion carried.

Under reports of committees, Mayor Breunig reported on the Plan Commission meeting held October 8, 2013. A copy of the meeting minutes was included in the agenda packet. Mayor Breunig also reported on the Police Commission meeting also held October 8, 2013. A copy of those meeting minutes was also included in the agenda packet. And a meeting of the Finance and Personnel Committee was scheduled for Tuesday, October 29, 2013, at 6:00 PM, to review department budgets and overall City budget.

There being no further business for this meeting, motion by Sonsalla second by Osterday to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 PM. Motion carried.

CITY OF DARLINGTON

Philip A. Risseeuw, Clerk-Treasurer