



**MINUTES OF  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY HALL  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4,  
2024  
6:00 PM**

**PRESENT**

**MAYOR**

**MICHAEL E. SUGGS**

**COUNCIL**

**ANDREA COLEMAN  
JOAN S. GAUSE  
KELLI GERALD  
LEWIS C. HARDEE, JR.  
CARROLL D. PADGETT, JR.  
TONYA SYKES**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The Regular Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Suggs at 6:00pm on Monday, October 7, 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:**

- A. **JULY 1, 2024- REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING-** Motion made by Councilwoman Gause to approve the minutes. Seconded by Councilwoman Gerald. All in favor. Motion passes.
- B. **AUGUST 5, 2024- REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING-** Motion made by Councilwoman Gerald to approve the minutes. Seconded by Councilwoman Sykes. All in favor. Motion passes.

2. **COMMUNICATIONS:**

- A. **MAYORS'S REPORT-** Mayor Suggs stated that the October League of Cities was held at Briarcliffe Acres. He, Councilman Hardee, Councilwoman Gerald, Councilwoman Sykes, Administrator Young, and Attorney Zilinsky attended. The corner lot was complete by Bog-off. Thank you to Wayne Fox for his hard work completing the project. The Loris Bog-off was a huge success. Thank you to the City staff for their work at the Bog-off. The tribute to Veteran's Event was very nice. On October 22, 2024 Senator Kent Williams and Representative Hardee presented the City of Loris with a \$1,000,000.00 check to assist in the demolition of the old Loris High School.

Samantha Norris, Executive Director of the Loris Chamber of Commerce, stated that the Loris Bog-Off was a huge success. Monster Mash was packed. She estimated 2000 participants. Senator Kent Williams gave \$100,000.00 to the Historical Society for the State Theater.

**B. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

- 1. **WATSON PARK UPDATE-** Administrator Young stated that the new locks have been installed. The Community Room should be ready to rent January 1, 2025.
- 2. **OLD LORIS HIGH SCHOOL UPDATE-** Administrator Young reported that Dawn Schoolcraft completed an asbestos study at the site.
- 3. **OCTOBER MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT-** The report is included in the packet. Water and Sewer is on track for the quarter.

**C. DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS-** Reports from Department Heads in Council packet.

1. **CODE ENFORCEMENT-** Wayne Fox stated that soon water meters would be set at Meadow Walk. Marlowe Farms updated their conceptual plan. There is a vacancy on the Zoning Appeals Board.
2. **FIRE-** Chief Hardee thanked McLeod Health for medical bags. CW Williams is inspecting all fire equipment. Smoke detectors are being installed as requested.
3. **POLICE-** Chief Bulkey stated that the department is very busy. The lights on the outside of the building need to be replaced.
4. **PUBLIC WORKS**
5. **RECREATION**

**3. BUSINESS**

- A. **DISCUSSION AND SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE- 09-24- AN ORDINANCE TO ANNEX 0.21 ACRES INTO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF LORIS AS R-2 (RESIDENTIAL, MEDIUM DENSITY) LOCATED APPROXIMATELY 110 FEET EAST OF CANNON ROAD [PIN: 176-11-01-0048 – DARLENE RICHBURG, AGENT]-** Clerk Graham read the ordinance by title only. Motion to approve Second Reading of Ordinance 09-24 made by Councilman Padgett. Seconded by Councilman Hardee. All in favor. Motion passes.
- B. **DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL HOLIDAY BONUS FOR FULLTIME CITY OF LORIS STAFF-** Motion to approve the annual Holiday Bonus for \$300 made by Councilwoman Gerald. Seconded by Councilwoman Coleman. All in favor. Motion passes.
- C. **DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF CONTRACTUAL SERVICES PROVIDED BY ASBESTOS INSPECTIONS, LLC FOR THE OLD LORIS HIGH SCHOOL-** Administrator Young introduced Dawn Schoolcraft to explain the work she would do for the City of Loris. Dawn Schoolcraft will work with the City of Loris on the Old Loris High School property. She completed an asbestos study. Her contract would include assisting the City of Loris with the bid process for demolition, bid documents, bid meetings, and possible salvage options. Councilman Padgett asked if bricks could be salvaged and sold to the public. Ms. Schoolcraft said that permission would have to come from DES. Motion made by Councilwoman Gerald to approve the contract with Dawn

Schoolcraft and allow Administrator Young to sign the contract on behalf of the City. Seconded by Councilwoman Coleman. All in favor. Motion passes.

**D. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF MASTER AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FROM BOLTON AND MENCK, LLC-** Administrator Young explained that Bolton and Menck would assist the City on an as needed basis with Downtown projects. Motion made by Councilman Hardee to approve the agreement with Bolton and Menck and for Administrator Young to sign on behalf of the City. Seconded by Councilwoman Sykes. All in favor. Motion passes.

**E. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF EXPENSES TO INSTALL CHRISTMAS LIGHTS AND STARS-** Administrator Young stated that the City spends \$15,000 a year on equipment rental and overtime wages to hang Christmas decorations. He requested funds for an outside company to hang the lights. Motion made by Councilman Padgett to approve the expenditure from Hospitality funds. Seconded by Councilman Hardee. All in favor. Motion passes.

#### **PUBLIC AND PRESS COMMENTS-**

1. **Veda Nichols (Church Street)-** Ms. Nichols reminded the Council of the Veteran's Day Program on November 9, 2024.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Motion to enter executive session for discussion of personnel and contractual matters made by Councilman Hardee. Seconded by Councilwoman Gerald. All in favor. Motion passes.

Motion to exit executive session made by Councilman Padgett. Seconded by Councilwoman Coleman. All in favor. Motion passes.

Mayor Suggs stated that Council discussed a contractual matter and a personnel matter.

Councilman Padgett made a motion to give fulltime City Employees a one time, \$700 incentive, to be included with the Christmas Bonus. Employees of less than a year would be prorated. Seconded by Councilwoman Coleman. All in favor. Motion passes.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion made by Councilman Padgett for adjournment; Seconded by Councilwoman Coleman. All members voted in favor. There being no further business, the Council Meeting was adjourned at 7:32PM.

**ATTEST:**

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**BRANDY GRAHAM  
CITY CLERK**

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**MICHAEL E. SUGGS  
MAYOR**

**LORIS COUNCIL MEMBERS**

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**JOAN S. GAUSE**

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**LEWIS C. HARDEE, JR.**

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**ANDREA L. COLEMAN**

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