



**MINUTES OF
PUBLIC HEARING &
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL
MONDAY, AUGUST 21, 2023
– 6:00 PM**

PRESENT

MAYOR

TODD M. HARRELSON

COUNCIL

**JOAN GAUSE
LEWIS C. HARDEE, JR.
ANDREA L. COLEMAN
CARROLL D. PADGETT, JR.
MICHAEL E. SUGGS
JAN P. VESCOVI**

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Harrelson at 6:00pm on Monday, August 21, 2023.

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 City Clerk Graham.

FOIA:

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

PUBLIC HEARING COMMENTS: Tonya Sykes asked what the real reason was that the elections were being moved to the County. Mayor Harrelson said that he would provide her with a statement that explains the reasons for the change. She said that she and a few others had applied to be on the Election Commission but had not received a response. Administrator Young stated that he would reach out to her.

PUBLIS HEARING ADJOURNMENT: Motion made by Councilman Hardee to adjourn the Public Hearing. Seconded by Councilwoman Vescovi. All in favor. Motion passes.

Business of the Special Council Meeting resumed @ 6:10PM.

MINUTES:

- A. **SEPTEMBER 6, 2022- REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING-** Motion made by Councilwoman Gause to approve the minutes. Seconded by Councilman Hardee. All in favor. Motion passes.
- B. **JUNE 13, 2023- REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING-** Motion made by Councilman Hardee to approve the minutes. Seconded by Councilwoman Coleman. All in favor. Motion passes.

BUSINESS:

- A. **OLD LORIS HIGH SCHOOL PROPERTY-** Discussion in Executive Session.

ORDINANCES:

- A. **2nd READING – ORDINANCE 10-23- AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ELECTIONS OF THE CITY OF LORIS, SPECIFICALLY TO ESTABLISH THE TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY TO CONDUCT MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS TO THE COUNTY ELECTIONS COMMISSION OF HORRY COUNTY–** Motion made by Councilwoman Gause to approve the ordinance transferring elections to Horry County. Seconded by Councilwoman Coleman. Councilman Padgett asked how we were notified that the MASC asked that elections be moved to the county to administer. Mayor Harrelson said that the MASC has recommended this change for all municipalities. The vote was taken by roll call. Council woman Gause, Councilwoman Coleman, and Councilwoman Vescovi voted in favor of approving the motion. Councilman Hardee, Councilman, Padgett, and Councilman Suggs voted no. Mayor Harrelson voted yes. Motion passed 4-3.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- A. **DISCUSSION ON CONTRACTUAL MATTERS AND PROPERTY MATTERS**
- B. **PERSONNEL MATTERS**

Motion made by Councilwoman Vescovi to enter Executive Session; Seconded by Councilwoman Gause. All members voted in favor of entering Executive Session.

Motion made by Councilman Padgett to exit Executive Session; Seconded by Councilman Hardee. All members voted in favor of exiting Executive Session.

Mayor Harrelson said that no action was taken during the Executive Session.

Councilman Padgett made a motion to reject the proposal that was executed at mediation regarding the Old Loris High School property. Seconded by Councilman Suggs. The vote was taken by roll call. Councilman Padgett and Councilman Suggs voted yes. Councilwoman Gause, Councilman Hardee, Councilwoman Coleman, Council woman Vescovi, and Mayor Harrelson voted no. The motion did not pass.

Councilwoman Vescovi made a motion to ratify the mediated settlement agreement between the City of Loris, Nathan E. Hardwick III, and the Nathan E. Hardwick III Limited Family Partnership. Councilman Suggs said that he was not comfortable moving forward without more information based on the limited discussion had during Executive Session. The vote was taken by roll call. Councilwoman Gause, Councilman Hardee, Councilwoman Coleman, Councilwoman Vescovi, and Mayor Harrelson voted yes. Councilman Padgett and Councilman Suggs voted no. Motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

ATTEST:

**BRANDY GRAHAM
CITY CLERK**

**TODD HARRELSON
MAYOR**

LORIS COUNCIL MEMBERS

JOAN S. GAUSE

LEWIS C. HARDEE JR.

ANDREA L. COLEMAN

CARROLL D. PADGETT, JR.

MICHAEL E. SUGGS

JAN VESCOVI