

**CITY OF DARLINGTON
SPECIAL MEETING AT 6:00 PM &
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING AT 6:30 PM
TUESDAY - JULY 10, 2018**

PRESENT AT MEETING:

Mayor Gloria Hines, City Manager, Mr. Howard Garland and Councilpersons: Elaine Reed, John Segars, Carolyn Bruce, Sheila Baccus, Bryant Gardner and John Milling. Also, present: Mrs. Lisa Rock, City Attorney Kevin Etheridge, Police Chief Kelvin Washington, Building Official Alex Gainey, Mr. Kinsaul, Mr. Linwood Epps, Mrs. Betty Jackson, Ms. Jannie Lathan, Officer Jimmy Davis, Ms. Karen Carroll, Mr. Danny Dubose, and other visitors.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Bryant Gardner made a motion to go into Executive Session: Personnel at 6:01 PM to discuss the City Manager's contract extension. The City of Darlington may or may not vote after closing session. **Councilwoman Carolyn Bruce seconded the motion.** **Councilman Bryant Gardner made a motion to end Executive Session at 6:51 PM.** **Councilman John Segars seconded the motion.**

After coming back into regular session, **Councilman Milling said they have come back after executive session which was held for purposes of discussing an extension of the City Manager's contract and he make a motion that the contract be extended until July 1, 2020.** **Councilman Bryant Gardner seconded the motion.** Mayor asked for a show of hands for the ones that voted, "aye". **Councilpersons John Milling, John Segars, Carolyn Bruce and Bryant Gardner voted in favor of the motion.** **Mayor Hines and Councilwomen Sheila Baccus and Elaine Reed voted against the motion.** **(Motion carries)** Councilman Milling propose that Council have a work session in August where they go through our City ordinance and further define duties and responsibilities of the City Manager as they may be found in the current document. He said they also discussed among themselves a good way that when there's an issue that needs to be addressed that everybody is on board and everybody understands so each one will know what's happening and as they communicate with Mr. Garland he knows they are communicating with him as a unified Council.

Councilman Milling said he would like to have this set up as a work session in late July or early August.

Councilman Bryant Gardner made a motion to go out of executive session. Councilwoman Carolyn Bruce seconded the motion.

REGULAR MEETING BEGAN

NEWS REPORTERS

Also present were News Reporters from the News & Press and the Morning News.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion of Councilwoman Carolyn Bruce, seconded by Councilman John Milling, to approve the Minutes of May 15, 2018 Council meeting, which unanimously carried. Upon motion of Councilwoman Carolyn Bruce, seconded by Councilman John Milling to approve the Minutes of May 31, 2018 meeting, which unanimously carried. Upon motion of Councilwoman Carolyn Bruce, seconded by Councilman John Milling to approve Minutes of June 5, 2018 Council meeting, which unanimously carried. Upon motion of Councilwoman Carolyn Bruce, seconded by Councilman John Milling to approve the Minutes of June 28, 2018, which unanimously carried.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Upon motion of Councilman John Milling, seconded by Councilwoman Elaine Reed, to approve the meeting agenda, which unanimously carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

A) DARLINGTON DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION ASSOCIATION – MRS. LISA ROCK

Mrs. Rock said this Thursday the DDRA continues its “Bringing Downtown Alive free concert series at Liberty Lane and Pearl Street. Dustin James and

Hank Edwards will perform with the Darlington Lions Club staffing the event. She said special thanks to Fast Track convenience stores, Pepsi of Florence, Wilson Senior Care, the Darlington Rescue Squad, Belk Funeral Home, Kistler Funeral home and Andrews & Bryant, Inc. Papa John's will be on site selling pizza by the alongside Mike's Italian Ice and C&C Ribs & Bar-B-Que selling ribs and bar-b-que. Medic of South Carolina and the DDRA will present a community karaoke party with S&T Entertainment on Thursday August 9th and Radio Vibe will perform for the final concert on Friday August 31st during race week. She said anyone interested in helping with the concerts and events may contact her office. She said they will have cruise-in on Thursday night as well. Mrs. Rock said the DDRA invites businesses to network and learn about their programs and give feedback for future projects at their monthly members breakfast. The next monthly breakfast for members is 8:00 AM Wednesday July 25, 2018 at Takis Diner. Breakfast will be provided for member businesses at no charge and a small donation of \$5.00 towards the meal for nonmember businesses. Those meetings will continue monthly through October on the last Wednesday of the month. The DDRA still has funds available for improvement incentive program. The 50/50 matching grant of up to \$1,000 can go towards façade improvements such as a fresh coat of paint, or repairs to the front entrance or adding new awnings or signage. The grant application is available on the City website at buildupdarlington.org or from her office. She said their most recent recipient Singletary Auto Repair not only painted the front of his building, but he painted his antique telephone booth and updated his signage. She said when they went to get the photo to present the grant to him, he donated that \$1,000 to his church.

B) GREATER DARLINGTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE –

(No one present)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A) PUBLIC HEARING ANNEXATION 224 BLUE STREET

Mayor Hines opened the floor for public hearing on annexation of 224 Blue Street. Mr. Ernest Edwards said his well went dry so he applied for city water and he received it. Mayor Hines told Mr. Edwards that Council approved it and wanted to know if there was a problem with it. Mr. Edwards said he has no problem with it and everything is fine.

No one else came forward to speak, so Mayor Hines closed the public hearing.

B) SECOND READING ON ORDINANCE 2018-13 ANNEXATION OF 224 BLUE STREET

Councilman Milling made a motion to approve Second Reading to approve the annexation at 224 Blue Street which is ordinance 2018-13. Councilman Bryant Gardner seconded the motion. All approved the motion.

C) PUBLIC HEARING ON ZONING OF 224 BLUE STREET TO R-6

Mayor Hines said they now need to have a public hearing on the zoning of 224 Blue Street. Mr. Garland said he would like for Mrs. Lisa Rock to explain what the R-6 designation means. Mrs. Rock said the Planning Commission reviewed all the zoning designations in that area (General Commercial, R-6 & R-10). She said R-6 is what the Planning Commission chose based on what is actually on the property at this time. She said there's currently a bricked-in doublewide which is behind Springfield Apartments. Mrs. Rock said if the adjoining property owners were to have a similar issue with their wells, they will probably end up zoning it the same way. There were no other comments, so the public hearing was closed.

D) SECOND READING ON ORDINANCE 2018-14 ZONING 224 BLUE STREET TO R-6

Councilman Gardner made a motion to approve Second Reading on Ordinance 2018-14 the Zoning of 224 Blue Street to R-6 High Density Residential. Councilwoman Elaine Reed seconded the motion. All approved the motion.

NEW BUSINESS

PATRICIA SULLIVAN – DARLINGTON COUNTY FIRST STEPS

Ms. Sullivan said she works with Darlington County First Steps as a Communication Specialist and she's also the coordinator for the Choose Well Grant that they received through the New Morning Foundation. Ms. Sullivan said the mission of First Steps is to provide program services and information to strengthen families and communities in Darlington County and their vision is strong families and healthy communities. She said they have a lot of programs, but they focus on family strengthening. Other programs include school transitioning, reproductive health education. She said for the youth they have youth leadership teams, so they work with adolescents, contraceptive care, educational counseling which is birth

control counseling for the parents. Ms. Sullivan told Council today she wanted to talk about the contraceptive care side of things. Ms. Tiffany Byrd and she's the Manager for an organization called Choose Well. She said Choose Well is a four-year initiative that's focused on decreasing the rates of unwanted pregnancy in South Carolina. Ms. Byrd said the organization is funded by a South Carolina based non-profit called New Morning Foundation and they have been around for about a decade or so. Ms. Byrd said their vision is to see in South Carolina where there's equitable access to all methods of birth control without persons receiving any coercion, judgment or stigma. She said what they want to see in South Carolina where women, men and their families are not forced to use any particular method of birth control, but who has access to whatever method they desire and are not judged for their choice. Ms. Byrd said in South Carolina over half of all pregnancies are unintended. Ms. Byrd said South Carolina pays for about 79% of all unintended births which totals about \$84 million dollars a year. She said babies born from unintended pregnancies are more likely to be of low birth weight, longer hospital stays and more likely to be sent home with the equipment to help with broken development. She said these babies are less likely to be breast fed and we all know that breast milk is the best for broken development. Ms. Sullivan said moms who experience an unintended pregnancy are less likely to have had prenatal care which could mean that she is not in her healthiest state for pregnancy and this has been associated with increased risk for complications during and after labor. Ms. Sullivan said that Choose Well is an initiative that is focused on working with partners like Darlington County First Steps and other health care providers across the State to ensure that the community can be educated on birth control options that are available to them and to ensure that they can get connected with a provider so that they can get those methods without cost being a barrier. Mayor Hines told Ms. Sullivan she knows contraceptives are in the beauty shops and asked her if there were any other special place she wants to put them and Ms. Sullivan said, "Yes". Ms. Sullivan said they were interested in the Darlington Recreation Department as an extension of the program the Mayor was talking about. Ms. Sullivan said they call the program ACDC which stand for Access Condoms in Darlington County where they partner with barbershops, beauty shops, small businesses and individuals to disseminate condoms free of charge. She said they put the condoms in those places because those are more non-judgmental locations for clients. Councilwoman Bruce asked Ms. Sullivan if this was just for information or is she asking to be able to put the condoms in different locations and Ms. Sullivan said "Yes". Ms. Sullivan told Council

they should have an infographic in their packet which shows the County ranking. Ms. Sullivan asked Council if she could start a healthy precedent in Darlington which is very different, but they just can't sweep it under the rug like it's not a necessity for our community. She said it would be a great opportunity to have it at the Darlington Recreation Department and to work with them and devise a plan that is comfortable for everyone, but very beneficial for the people who need the service. Ms. Sullivan asked Council if they would grant them permission to work with them and create a strategic plan to work with them and put condoms in their facility in discrete locations. Councilwoman Elaine Reed said her only concern with putting condoms at the recreation department is the ages because they have them from four or five years old. Councilwoman Reed asked Ms. Sullivan if working with the recreation department would limit the exposure to that age group. Ms. Sullivan said they understand there are children that shouldn't have it in their face at the moment, but she would like the opportunity to work with Mr. Brantley Jett since he's there every day and he knows the atmosphere and the ins and outs. Councilman Segars said, "Are you going to be educating these kids, or teenagers or young adults? You're not promoting sex, you're going to try and educate them on possibly abstinence rather than promoting sex"? Ms. Sullivan said that's always promote abstinence first, but things do happen and in case they do, they want to make sure they are prepared. Councilman John Milling asked Ms. Sullivan if they would be staffing or would they be relying upon city employees to be involved in disbursing and dispensing? Ms. Sullivan said it would depend on how Mr. Brantley Jett would like it facilitated. Councilman Milling told Ms. Sullivan he would like for her to talk with Mr. Jett and after they have some proposition, come back to Council with how they think it can be achieved. Councilman Milling said at this point and time some of them might not be as familiar with this program as others may be. Ms. Sullivan said it's not really a heavy responsible, she said with their current ACDC partners, they just give them the condoms and the people know where to go to get them. Mayor Hines said what about putting the condoms in the office away from the smaller children and the older adults can go there and get them. Councilman Milling asked Brantley Jett if he was comfortable with this and He said not at their Sanders Street location, but maybe at the A.W. Stanley location where they older kids are. Councilwoman Carolyn Bruce said from her experience in the Darlington County School District, there are kids as early as ages 10 and 12 that are engaging in sex, so they know what's going on. She said she thinks it would be beneficial in both locations. Councilman Bryant Gardner said he has no problem with that, but he would

say we don't put them in the office and find a more discrete area that will educate them that condoms are in this place. Ms. Sullivan said they have logos, or window decals letting people know condoms are available. Councilwoman Elaine Reed said she retired from the Department of Health and Human Services every since 2010 and is surprised that Darlington is just getting to this because they were all over the State promoting this. Councilwoman Reed said she is in favor of this. Councilman Milling asked where the locations are where First Steps operates its traditional purposes. Ms. Sullivan suggested they browse their website Darlingtoncountyfirststeps.org and it lists all their programs and services. Ms. Sullivan said Mrs. Darnell McPherson is the mastermind behind everything and Executive Director. Ms. McPherson gave a shout-out to Mrs. Lisa Rock because when they started on the journey of pregnancy prevention Mrs. Rainey Knight was the School Superintendent and Mrs. Lisa Rock was the editor of the Hartsville Messenger. Mrs. McPherson said Mrs. Rock wrote a Pulitzer Prize winning article that she wrote that was on the front page of the paper that succinctly indicated to people that we needed to do something. Mrs. McPherson said they get funding from The New Morning Foundation through the Choose Well, but the Duke Endowment has also funded their pregnancy prevention initiative. Mrs. McPherson said they just want to make sure that the young people have access and information and they have a healthy community. **Mayor Hines & Councilwoman Reed made a motion that we accept Darlington County First Steps and allow them to come in and bring condoms to both recreation departments, talk with them first, leave brochures and put them in a place where students might need them. Councilwoman Carolyn Bruce seconded the motion. All approved the motion.**

B) ANTHONY GREEN – FATHERHOOD GROUP

Mr. Anthony Green along with Mr. Terrence Turner, Craig Lightfoot and Daniel Blathers appeared before Council to introduce themselves and talk a little about their program Man 2 Man. Mr. Green said the Man 2 Man Fatherhood Program is an 18-month program that is geared toward strengthening and bridging the gap between fathers, families and making them strong again. He said fathers that may be 18 years of age that have children at least under the age of eighteen. Mr. Green said they also have mothers in the program as well. He said they work with the individuals diligently to try and strengthen them to see what the factors is to bring them back into the work force to make sure they are providers once again for the families. Mr. Green said there may be situations where they may be

individuals that may or may not be with their children. He said many participants that are referred to them and those that they recruit sometimes have child support issues. He said they work diligently with the Department of social Services whom they have a contract with. He said if an individual is facing incarceration due to child support, because of their partnership with them and with the court; the court will allow individuals to come to their program. He said this starts the 18-month period. Mr. Green said they take the individual through a five-point component where they try to strengthen the individual with parenting skills, co-parenting skills and help to strengthen them for healthy relationships and job readiness. Mr. Green said oftentimes these individuals are labeled as “deadbeat dads” but working with them throughout the several months that they have, they have come to understand that these individuals are not deadbeat dads, they are just “dead broke”. He said they try to get the individuals to understand there’s a responsibility factor to get back into the work force and the greatest of all, to have the individual to understand it’s time to be a “father”. Mr. Green said there’s the economic stability factor that they’ve presented. He said many of their individuals do not understand the child support system and it causes errors to the point where there’s a fallout between mother and father because of a financial issue. He said they bring the father back full scale to understand in the part of healthy relationships, respect the mother regardless of the situation because at the end of the day, they are both parents. He said their program covers five counties which is Darlington, Florence, Marlboro County, Dillon and Chesterfield. They have two offices which the main office is in Bennettsville and another in Florence at 1321 W. Evans Street. Mr. Green said in Darlington County they have started conducting sessions every Monday from 10:00 AM – 12 noon and if individuals do not have transportation they will pick them up, bring them to the session and provide them with a meal. He said to many of their participants, this is the only meal they have. He many are coming for the meal, but at the same time they are giving them the strength and verbal instilment that they need to become a part of their families’ lives again. He said they conduct a session in the Florence office on Monday from 2:00 PM-4:00 and in the Hartsville office on Wednesdays from 4:00 PM– 6:00 PM. Mr. Green said their program is unique because as you think about fatherhood programs not many come to mind. He said they have an employment readiness boot camp. He said it’s a five-day boot camp where they put them through everything from learning employment law to make them employment ready; preparation on how to apply for a job and also resume building. He said if an individual doesn’t have the proper clothing to do an interview, they have a clothing closet at

their office. Once they finish this boot camp they receive a certification, a leather binder and a flash drive where they can keep up with their resumes and information on contacts and how they can contact employers. Mr. Green said Mr. Craig Lightfoot connects individuals with employment around the area. He said he actually goes to employment places such as Otis Elevator, Johnson Controls, GE and Honda. He said these places have partnered with them because of Mr. Lightfoot, so their participants (when they are employment ready) are going right in the door making a strong wage opposite of what they would make with a temp service. He said they have a high number of success stories and maybe at a later date they can bring some of those persons. Mr. Green said they just wanted to come tonight to introduce themselves and let them know that they are here and some of the things they are doing in Darlington and Florence Counties. He said as of 2017 they have 374 participants served. The children that have had a positive impact under the fatherhood program is 855. They have a 72% reported and improved relationship with their children. 43% with a child support order have paid their child support. Mr. Green said since the Man 2 Man Program they have helped over 2,067 fathers prepare to meet their material, emotional and spiritual needs of their children. He said 116 men employed full-time, part-time or temporary one month or more that they have done. Mr. Green said their program is absolutely free to the individual. He said their program is non-profit and under 501(c) (3) and donations are desperately needed. He said maybe they will come back at a later date and talk about that. Mayor Hines asked him if he was trying to get a building here in Darlington and he said, "Yes". Mr. Garland said from time to time we have job openings and if he has his economic developer get in contact with us, we will happy to let them know what's available.

C) PROPOSED NORTH STREET/OAK STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT EXPANSION

Mr. Garland said Councilman Segars asked that this be put back on the agenda. Councilman Segars said he's been contacted by some of the residents in the Oak Street/North Street section of the City and they would like to pursue getting the historic district designation in that section of town. She said they see a need and an advantage to have that designation. Mrs. Lisa Rock said the neighborhood brought this originally to the Historic Commission members and they went to the people and knocked on doors about joining or expanding the historic district. She said there were several areas in the State study (areas in town) that showed some areas that could be expanded if they chose. She said based on the areas in the survey is where

the historic commission went door-to-door and talked to the folks in that area. She said of those areas, this is the area that they felt the neighbors were most immutable to this. She said when these homeowners get this district designation any exterior improvements will go to the historic commission if they are going to be outside the realm of changing the historic character. Mrs. Rock said they will also help these folks get listed on the State National Register. She said once they get on the State National Register that opens them up to being able to get a tax credit of up to 20% if you are going to spend more than \$15,000 on your home. Mrs. Rock told Council this was brought to them before and to move forward they will have to send out certified letters, give a 30-day notice period and then they will present an ordinance format at a later date. Councilman Bryant Gardner said he has no problem with us expanding the historic district. He said he hopes the Historic District made a good faith effort in reaching out to these homeowners to discuss it with them. He said he doesn't want to put an undue burden on these families without discussing it with them. Mrs. Rock said the only person that has not been contacted is Aegis Enterprises because it is a rental property, but they will get a certified letter that will go directly to the owner of the property. Councilwoman Elaine Reed asked Mrs. Rock about the parsonage for her church and when she approached the administrative board, they had been contacted. Mrs. Rock said they will be getting a certified letter. Mayor Hines asked, "What if they don't want to participate in it"? Mrs. Rock asked Councilwoman Reed if they want to be a part of it and Councilwoman Reed said they only communication they had was when she went back to find out if they had any communication. Mrs. Rock asked if someone is staying in the house. Councilwoman Reed said the Pastor's home is in Greenville, so he wasn't there all the time. Mrs. Rock said that may be how they missed him. Mrs. Rock asked Councilwoman Reed for the name of the person she needs to contact concerning the parsonage so she can talk with them. Councilman Milling said Mayor Hines had a question of if there is an "opt out" provision for a homeowner who would be within the area that's been drawn, and Mrs. Rock said only if Council excluded it from that ordinance. Mrs. Rock said whatever ordinance they present to council (it will list the properties) they will have to take it out of there. Mayor Hines said she doesn't have a problem with it as long as everybody is on board with it. Mrs. Rock said they have not started the official legal process yet, but they wanted to make sure Council was informed of the situation and on board before they went through the trouble.

D) FIRST READING ON ORDINANCE 2018-06 BULKY REFUSE FEE AND ORDINANCE

Mrs. Karen Carroll said there's been a proposal to change the ordinance on bulky refuse. She said the current ordinance says we do not pick up furniture, refrigerators, etc. on a regular basis. She said the proposed change says that the City will pick up appliances such as, but not limited to, refrigerators, ranges, water heaters, freezers, dishwashers, trash compacters, washers, dryers, air conditioners and commercial large appliances. She said the city will pick up furniture or household items placed by residents on a reasonable basis. Residents may not place more than one appliance or piece of furniture per month for pickup. Placement of more than one item per month will result in an additional charge based on the proposed fee schedule. All bulky refuse items should be placed outside the day before pickup. Any bulky refuse items not approved for pickup shall be removed by owner with 72 hours. All apartment complexes shall have a container for tenants to dispose of bulky refuse. Mrs. Carroll said that was the proposed change and after reading it, she said we should not pick all of this up because it practically leaves nothing outside that we would not pick up. She said it would be an extreme burden on the two new cherry pickers to start picking up all of this stuff. She said it's opening the door for an enormous amount of refuse to be put out. Mrs. Carroll said at the present we are trying to control the picking up of the furniture. She said when someone puts furniture out, it seems as though it's repeat offenders in the same location, but in the last couple of months it has gotten better. She said they are working with Codes Enforcement and if the guys see furniture or whatever on the side of the road, they contact Codes Enforcement and they send them a letter that they need to remove it because we do not pick that up. She said it's in the ordinance that we don't, and we should let that stand. Mrs. Carroll said the change to the ordinance should plainly read: when the City is forced to removed unauthorized refuse, there will be a fee assessed to the next water bill and the collection fees should be deposited into street department's capital fund. She said that would help them build that fund up for replacement of equipment and vehicles for that department. The proposed fee schedule is as follows: 1-5 items placed on the road - \$5.00 each item; 5-10 items - \$50.00; Anything over 10 items - \$100.00 and overly excessive would be assessed accordingly. Councilwoman Reed asked Mrs. Carroll when she would determine her course and Mrs. Carroll said when the occupant hasn't removed it. She said the original says 72 hours. Councilwoman Reed said, "so that means you're monitoring it"? Mrs. Carroll said, "We're monitoring it now". Councilwoman Reed said, "If

something is out there over a 3-day period, then that's when you would pick it up and assess the fee to the water bill"? Mrs. Carroll said, "Yes".

Councilwoman Baccus said, "Within the last one to two months we've cleaned up a lot of the furniture and things out of the City, and if you're proposing that we change the ordinance that's going to say we're not going to pick up any furniture, to me that's going to push the citizens to go back to dumping on empty lots". Councilwoman Baccus said her perspective is if you can't do one piece per month, then they are going to go back to putting furniture on empty lots so now you're going to send a letter to someone who didn't put it there at all because you don't know who put in on the empty lot. Councilman Gardner said he's assuming in that situation that we'll use some smarts; if there's one house and there's an empty lot across the street the we can probably assume it came from the house across the street.

Councilwoman Baccus said we can't assume. Councilman Gardner said he understands that but if we can't prove it then we can't send the fine anywhere. Councilman said he has an interest in the fee schedule. He said the 1-5 item charge should be \$10.00 each instead of \$5.00 each and then have a cumulative of 20 items. Councilman Segars said he thinks we need to raise the fee much higher than that as a deterrent. He said \$5.00 or \$10.00 is nothing. He said think about what the landfill charges will be when we start hauling this stuff to the landfill. Councilman Segars said we need to put \$25,00-\$50.00 per item on there so that these people will think twice before they put it on the street. Mrs. Carroll said she agrees, she just put these fees in there to raise interest. Mrs. Carroll said her proposal is to leave it where it says: We do not pick this up. She said don't change it to say we're picking up one or whatever' don't even open that door. Mrs. Carroll said we are going to have cases where we are going to wind up picking it up, on a lot that we can't prove who put it there. Mayor Hines asked Council if they want to vote on this tonight. Councilwomen Baccus and Bruce said we need to make some adjustments on this. Councilman Gardner said we can do the first reading and then change it. Mr. Garland said not if we have a fee involved. Mrs. Carroll asked Council that they not carry this for another year. Mayor Hines said they won't; they need more discussion on this.

Councilman Milling said, "If you will, don't use the word *overly excessive* and *assess fee accordingly*. He said if you have determined doing it more than five times a month, then put something in there that says if you do it five times a month you will be assessed a fee of \$500.00 a month.

Councilman Milling said, "Just give them the real notice.". Mrs. Carroll said and devise a method of communication to let people get the knowledge of what's getting ready to happen. Councilwoman Baccus asked what will

be the turn around time for removing furniture from an empty lot? Mr. Garland said how about 72 hours or 3 days. Mayor Hines told Council if they are not going to vote on this tonight they need to close it out and move on.

E) BID APPROVAL – VIRGIL WELLS STADIUM – BRANTLEY JETT

Mr. Brantley Jett said as far as getting the football fields “play ready” they called several contractors and they came and looked at the project, but many didn’t do masonry work. He said some contractors were supposed to come and didn’t. He said Roosevelt Scott gave a quote of \$22,000 for the brick work and since no other contractors submitted quotes, they accepted Roosevelt Scott. Mr. Jett said the second phase is the goal posts. He said they have goal posts at Welch Stadium, but they have been there about 50 years. He said it would cost as much to get it moved as it would for him to build new ones. Mr. Jett said it costs approximately \$3,000 to move the goal posts. They were given a quote of approximately \$5,000 to build new ones. He said they will meet certain specs for high school and wind resistant specs. He said the bleachers at Welch Stadium has to be disassembled and reassembled once moved. Mr. Jett said we only have five workers and it would be too time consuming for them to break down all of the bleachers (because the guy said he would have to cut some of bolts off and replace them). Mr. Jett said he was given a quote of \$3,800 to disassemble, move and reassemble at Virgil Wells Stadium. He said the last item is the scoreboard. Mr. Jett said he talked to Pepsi about six months ago when they did the concession stand and they gave them a new scoreboard and that saved us about \$6,000. He said they have already delivered the scoreboard to them and they have it in the warehouse. Mr. Jett said the same guy that’s going to move the bleachers gave him a quote of approximately \$1,000 to hang the scoreboard. He said they just received another quote today for \$850 for the wiring. Mr. Jett said they have a contract with one of the semi pro football teams and their first game is August 4th. Mr. Jett said he talked with all of the contractors and they will have all of this done before August 4th of Council approves it. He said they are moving the football over there this year. Mr. Jett said we are looking at approximately \$33,000 to get the football stadium ready. Mr. Garland told Council to go ahead and get Virgil Wells Football voted on. **Upon motion of Councilwoman Elaine Reed to accept bid proposal of \$32,525 for Virgil Wells Stadium, seconded by Councilwoman Carolyn Bruce, which unanimously carried.** Mr. Jett said the next phase is the playground. He said they just received a quote

today for the tennis courts and the reason why it is so high is they have to remove it and rebuild another one. The quote for this came in at \$95,000. Councilwoman Reed said there were several people that indicated they wanted the tennis courts and she knows it's extremely high but asked that Council please consider this Mr. Jett said it's two separate courts. Councilman Segars asked if there is a need for two more tennis courts. Councilwoman Reed said, "There may not, but it's just those in that area".....Councilman Gardner said the agenda item "f" for the city tennis courts he said he understands the bid did come in a little high and assume that we're taking the tennis court information of \$95,000 for information as long as the playground quotes for information since they are not listed as an agenda item. Councilman Gardner offer that Mr. Garland maybe can look at a couple more companies to see if he can get some more quotes. Mr. Garland said he has not had time to do due diligence on the \$95,000. He said the work and experience he has had has been to repair cracks and not to replace it completely so he can't vouch as to whether it's high or low. Mayor Hines asked which tennis court they are referring to and they said the one on Magnolia Street. Mr. Jett said the quote he received for the playground is \$44,815 for all of the playground equipment. Mr. Jett said that's for a turnkey job. Mr. Jett said this is across from the Virgil Wells football field. Councilman Segars asked Brantley what was on the ground and he said it's similar to sawdust or a soft mulch. Brantley said he talked with Lee Andrews this morning about the quote for Hampton Street and it came in at \$193,973. Mr. Jett said some of the things can be added or deleted. He told Council they can pick and choose what they want. Mr. Jett said the second part was the water park/splashpad – one quote came in at \$77,000 which has more seating and more water features; and the other quote came in at \$65,000. Mr. Garland said we're still waiting on the quote on the baseball/softball fields and if council want to have a work session on everything together, they can do that.

F) BID APPROVAL – TENNIS COURT REPAIR

Mayor Hines said whatever the total cost is, the school district will pay half. **Councilwoman Elaine Reed to approve the bid for tennis court repair at \$18,750, seconded by Councilman Bryant Gardner, which unanimously carried.**

G) BOARDS/COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

Mrs. Rock said there are several openings on the various boards. She said there's one seat and one alternate on the Planning Commission. Councilman

Milling nominated Mr. Howard Nettles and Ms. Letha Martin asked to be appointed to the board and Councilwoman Baccus nominated Ms. Rosalind Green; however, there are only two seats available. **Upon motion of Councilman John Milling, seconded by Councilman Bryant Gardner to appoint Mr. Howard Nettle to the Planning Commission, which unanimously carried. Upon motion of Councilwoman Sheila Baccus, seconded by Councilman John Milling to appoint Ms. Rosalind Green to the Planning Commission, which unanimously carried.** Mrs. Rock said they have one seat available on the Beautification Board, but two people have applied for this seat. She said there are a couple of people who have not attended Beautification Board meetings, so Council can approve both, Ms. Letha Martin and Ms. Gladys Jules. **Upon motion of Councilman Bryant Gardner, seconded by Councilwoman Carolyn Bruce to appoint Ms. Letha Martin to the Beautification Board, which unanimously carried. Upon motion of Councilwoman Sheila Baccus, seconded by Councilwoman Carolyn Bruce to appoint Ms. Gladys Jules to the Beautification Board, which unanimously carried.**

H) POLICE DEPARTMENT PROMOTIONS – CHIEF KELVIN WASHINGTON

Chief Washington said he's been here about four months and he took a look at how the office was restructured and decided to do some restructuring and reorganizing and as a result of that several members of the department are receiving well deserved promotions. He said next Monday evening July 16th at 6:30 they will have their first promotion ceremony. Chief Washington said on August 7, 2018 is National Night Out. He said it's annual community building campaign that promotes police community partnerships and neighborhood comraderies. He said it's celebrated all over the country, but this is the first opportunity for us to celebrate here locally. He said it will be held at Liberty Lane and Pearl Streets. Chief Washington asked Council to be in attendance. He said they are inviting the entire community. It gives the police and the community and opportunity to come together in a positive setting and have what he hopes we will have a night of little to no crime in Darlington. Chief Washington said they will begin at 4:00 PM and end at 7:00. Council meeting begins at 6:30 PM so hopefully they get a chance to come.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Hines thanked Mr. Curtis Boyd for sponsoring to have work done in the median in front of Mitchell Josey funeral Home.

Councilwoman Elaine Reed said she didn't want the vote for the City Manager to go like it did. She said she really wants to support him and keep him, but it was a thing that they wanted a work session prior to voting on the contract. She said she wants him to know as well as the residents that our Council is in support of our City Manager at this time for the kinds of things that he's doing. Councilwoman Reed said there are some things she would have liked to have done prior to the vote that went on. Mayor Hines said she feels the same way. She said certain things they wanted to put in place. Councilman Gardner said he and Councilman Milling discussed them doing a work session on the City Manager and the role the Council has with him and the role he has for the City. He asked that Council work on getting that work session put together. Councilman Gardner said once we have all the final numbers on the recreation equipment for all the different properties we have he would like to have a work session for that as well.

REMINDERS

Thursday – Sunday, July 19 – 22, 2018 MASC Annual Meeting in Hilton Head Island, SC.

Thursday, July 26, 2018 at 6:00 PM City Council Work Session

Tuesday August 7, 2018 at 6:30 PM – Regular Monthly Meeting Darlington City Council

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Councilman Bryant Gardner, seconded by Councilwoman Carolyn Bruce, the meeting adjourned at 8:38 PM.

Mayor

ATTEST:

Clerk & Treasurer