

**CITY OF DARLINGTON  
SPECIAL MEETING  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2017 AT 6:00 PM**

The City of Darlington held a Special Meeting on Tuesday, September 19, 2017 at 6:00 PM in the Courtroom/Council Chambers located at 400 Pearl Street. Those in attendance included: Mayor Gloria C. Hines, Council Members: Mayor Pro-Tem Coleman Cannon, Councilpersons Carolyn Bruce, John Segars, Elaine Reed, Bryant Gardner, and John Milling. Others attending included: City Manager, Howard Garland, City Attorney Kevin Etheridge Ms. Jannie Lathan, Mrs. Lisa Rock, Mr. Alex Gainey, and Mr. Kinsaul.

Two news stations were present at the meeting.

Mayor Hines called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and said at the special meeting no one from the audience is allowed to speak out. Mayor Pro-Tem Coleman Cannon did the invocation.

Mayor Hines said a meeting was held this morning at 10:00 concerning the storm water bids.

Mr. Garland said two companies put in bids for the Southwest storm drainage project and both bids were well over the budget – (more than 20% on one and more than 50% or more on the other). He said the base bids were well above our bid for the entire project including the alternates. Mr. Garland said we had interest from ten contractors for the project, but we only had two to bid. Mr. Garland recommended that we reject these bids and rebid the entire project. He said the second bid opening will be Tuesday October 10, 2017 at 2:00 PM followed by a special meeting to review bids this same evening Tuesday, October 10, 2017 at 6:00. Mr. Garland said there is no way we can accept the current bids. He said after talking with some contractors this afternoon there would be some additional interest. Councilman Milling asked Mr. Garland the status of the easements that are needed for this project? Mr. Garland said we have one easement concerning the railroad and there's an issue as to ownership. He said either CSX owns or S.C. Central Railroad and they are trying to determine which one. Mr.

Garland said they put in applications with both so we'll see which one comes back. Mr. Garland said there's another easement concerning 124 Coker Street. He said the owners of the property don't want to give us an easement, they want to sell us the property so since we own Anhow Street we'll just go in the street for that part of that easement. Councilman Milling asked if there were any issues concerning property on the By-Pass or Highway 340. Mr. Garland said, "No". Councilman Milling said when you are dealing with the railroad they may want a set of plans to see what will happen with them (their right-of-way). Councilman Milling suggest that we find out what they are going to need as quickly as we can to determine whether or not what we are doing will affect their right-of-way. Ms. Jannie Lathan said Mr. Garland is correct about the one railroad easement. She said out of thirty-eight they have that one remaining and one from a property owner that's out of state. Ms. Lathan said the owner is deceased and the next level is deceased, but she has located a family member and they are waiting on that one. **Councilwoman Elaine Reed made a motion that we reschedule our approval for the storm water project bid on October 10, 2017 at 2:00 following with a Special Meeting that same evening at 6:00 PM. Councilman Cannon seconded the motion. All Approved the motion.**

Mr. Garland said this is a grant that we applied for in 2014 for a cherry picker and it finally came through. He said it's \$50,000 toward the purchase picker. He said he needs Council to affirm the grant award this evening which is a part of the conditions of the grant. Upon motion of Councilman Milling, seconded by Councilman Segars, to accept the USDA Community Facilities Grant, which unanimously carried. Mr. Garland said the new cherry picker should be delivered in within the next three weeks.

**Upon motion of Councilman Milling, seconded by Councilwoman Bruce, the meeting adjourned at 6:09 PM.**

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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Clerk & Treasurer