

Regular Council Meeting

December 4, 2012 at 6 p.m.

Members Present:

Joe Owens, Mayor  
Boyd Jones, Mayor Pro-Tem  
Abbott L. Bray, Jr.  
Eric L. Fowler  
Casey Jordan Hallman  
L. Dale Harley  
Tommy Parler  
B.J. Unthank  
Teddy Wingard

Members Absent:

None

Others Present:

Jenny Cunningham, City Administrator  
Myron Corley, Deputy City Administrator  
Mardi Valentino, City Clerk/PIO  
Brian Carter, Director of Planning and Zoning  
Charles Garren, Public Works Director  
Sid Varn, Director of Planning and Engineering  
Donna Smith Director of Economic Development  
Justin Black, Staff Accountant

Rick Hodge, City Treasurer  
Wyatt Coleman, Fire Chief  
Rodney Howell, Fire Training Officer  
Dennis Tyndall, Police Chief  
Stuart Jones, Building Official  
Matt Edwards, Police Major  
Mark Jones, Police Captain  
Nikki Setzler, Esq., City Attorney

Members of the Public and Press

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Agenda Item I – Call to Order

Mayor Owens called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. and noted a quorum was present. *The State, Free Times, Lexington County Chronicle, Cayce-West Columbia News, and The Columbia Star* were notified of the meeting by e-mail on November 30, 2012.

Agenda Item II – Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Council Member Bray gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Item III – Requests for Appearance

Mayor Owens stated that Mr. Chris Twitty, the bankruptcy receiver for Parkwood Mobile Home Park would not be appearing before Council. He explained the city reached a tentative agreement with the bank regarding water service at the mobile home park precluding Mr. Twitty's appearance before Council.

Agenda Item IV – Announcements by Mayor

Mayor Owens made the following announcements: There will be no council work session in December. The next council meeting will be January 8, 2013. The Zoning Board of Appeals will meet December 18, 2012 at 6 p.m. The West Columbia Children's Christmas Party will take place at noon on Friday, December 21 at the West Columbia Fire Station. The West Columbia City Hall will be closed for the Christmas holidays on December 24, 25, and 26. City Hall also will be closed on Tuesday, January 1, 2013.

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### Agenda Item V – Approval of Minutes

- A. Mayor Owens entertained a motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Council Meeting held November 13, 2012. Council Member Fowler so moved and Council Member Parler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### Agenda Item VI – Old Business

- A. Mayor Owens entertained a motion for second reading consideration of an ordinance amending the business license ordinance provisions for insurance companies. Council Member Parler so moved and Mayor Pro-Tem Jones seconded. Mayor Owens recognized City Administrator Jenny Cunningham who explained a recent change in federal law known as the *Dodd-Frank Act* requires municipalities to amend their business license ordinances for insurance companies and non-admitted insurance brokers. She said a new state law requires the SC Department of Insurance to collect the brokers' premium tax and deposit all revenue collected into a special fund. The law also authorizes MASC to serve as the municipal agent to receive the funds from the SC Department of Insurance and to distribute the funds to municipalities. Mrs. Cunningham said the amending ordinance would bring the city into compliance with state and federal law. Mayor Owens called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.
- B. Mayor Owens entertained a motion for second reading consideration of an ordinance to annex .35 acres of property located at 1528 Double Branch Road (TMS # 004644-04-004). Council Member Fowler so moved and Council Member Wingard seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### Agenda Item VII – New Business

- A. Mayor Owens entertained a motion for consideration of a mutual aid agreement between the city of West Columbia and the Columbia Metropolitan Airport Public Safety Department. Council Member Parler so moved and Council Member Wingard seconded. Mayor Owens recognized Fire Chief Wyatt Coleman who explained that the agreement is a generic mutual aid agreement to render assistance primarily for triage and first responders support. Chief Coleman said the city used to have a mutual aid agreement with the airport, but a new chief is now over the airport's public safety department and a new agreement is needed. He said the city would not be involved with aircraft fires. The mutual agreement would also help in sustaining the city's low ISO rating. Mayor Owens called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.
- B. Mayor Owens recognized Mr. Brian Carter, Director of Planning and Zoning, who briefed council members on recent updates to the city's Emergency Operation Plan (EOP). Mr. Carter explained the EOP is reviewed annually and changes for 2012 included page number changes, amendments to material and equipment inventories, a few items on radio equipment and communications, and reflections on changes in staff. He also announced a table top exercise with the department heads in the early spring. Council Member Hallman made a motion to accept the amendments to the EOP and Council Member Bray seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### Agenda Item VIII – Adjourn to Executive Session to Discuss a Contractual Matter

Mayor Owens entertained a motion to adjourn to executive session. Council Member Fowler so moved and Council Member Wingard seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Council adjourned to executive session at 6:10 p.m.

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### Agenda Item IX – Reconvene to Regular Session

Mayor Owens entertained a motion to adjourn executive session and reconvene to regular session . Council Member Fowler so moved and Council Member Parler seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Council reconvened at 7:07 p.m. Mayor Owens stated that council discussed matters of a contractual nature concerning the property the city owns at Meeting, State, and Court Streets, but no action was taken in executive session. He said there were some issues the council members felt needed to be addressed before any further action is taken.

Mayor Owens announced the Employee Christmas Party on December 20, 2012 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the New Brookland Room at City Hall. City Administrator Jenny Cunningham said invitations would go out to the employees to let them know about the Employee Christmas Party.

Mayor Owens recognized Council Member Hallman who thanked all city staff involved with the West Columbia Tree Lighting. She said the event was very well done.

Mayor Owens recognized Council Member Parler who gave a report on the West Columbia Clean Up Day on Saturday, October 13, 2012. The Sanitation Department picked up about 90,000 pounds of trash including 334 tires. He said the first city clean up day netted 550 tires and, with the 334 tires in the second clean up, the city has picked up about 900 tires in one year. He noted that the city pays \$1.50 per tire to dispose at the county landfill, which makes picking up old tires a costly expense.

### Agenda Item X – Adjourn

Mayor Owens entertained a motion to adjourn. Council Member Hallman so moved and Council Member Bray seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Council adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marta M. Valentino, CMC  
City Clerk