

City of West Columbia, SC

Regular Council Meeting

May 7, 2013

Following the Public Meeting at 6 p.m.

Members Present:

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

Members Absent:

Abbott L. Bray, Jr., ill

Others Present:

Jenny Cunningham, City Administrator
Myron Corley, Deputy City Administrator
Mardi Valentino, City Clerk/PIO
Donna Smith, Director of Economic Development
Sid Varn, Director of Planning and Engineering
Ken Ebener, Municipal Judge
Justin Black, Staff Accountant

Rick Hodge, City Treasurer
Wyatt Coleman, Fire Chief
Brian Carter, Director of Planning and Zoning
Shane Phillips, Police Captain
Stuart Jones, Building Official
Matt Edwards, Police Major
Members of the Public and Press

Agenda Item I – Call to Order

Mayor Owens called the meeting to order at 6:16 p.m. and noted a quorum was present. *The State, Free Times, Lexington County Chronicle, Cayce-West Columbia News, and The Columbia Star* and radio and television stations were notified of the meeting by e-mail on May 1, 2013.

Agenda Item II – Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Police Captain Shane Phillips gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Item III – Requests for Appearance

- A. Mayor Owens recognized Mr. Larry Miller, Chairman of the West Columbia beautification Foundation, who briefed city council on the first Wine on the River Event held Saturday, April 27, 2013 at the West Columbia Riverwalk Amphitheater. He said the event was very successful with the Beautification Foundation receiving over \$5,000 in donations. He expressed his thanks to a number of West Columbia city employees who helped with the event. He stated the contributions would assist the Foundation with beautification plantings along Sunset Boulevard.

Agenda Item IV – Announcements by Mayor

Mayor Owens stated that a memorial service honoring a fallen West Columbia police constable would be held on May 15 at the Mark Westbrook Judicial Center in Lexington. He said the Constable James Earle Price died in 1925, but his name was never added to the police memorial outside of the county courthouse. Mayor Owens announced the budget work session would be at 5 p.m. on May 20. City Hall would be closed on Monday, May 27 in observance of Memorial Day.

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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 April 15, 2013. Council Member Parler so moved and Council Member Hallman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item VI – Old Business

- A. Mayor Owens entertained a motion for second reading consideration of an ordinance to annex .43 acres of property located at 2331 and 2333 Thornton Avenue (TMS # 004627-05-006). Council Member Harley so moved and Council Member Fowler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item VII – New Business

- A. Mayor Owens entertained a motion for first reading consideration of the Planning Commission’s recommendation for a map amendment to change the zoning classification for 915 Shull Street (TMS# 004657-12-004) from C-2 (general commercial) to C-3 (restricted commercial). Council Member Harley so moved and Council Member Fowler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- B. Mayor Owens entertained a motion for first reading consideration of the Planning Commission’s recommendation for a map amendment to change the zoning classification for 1659 Airport Boulevard (TMS# 005742-02-001) from C-3 (restricted commercial) to C-2 (general commercial). Council Member Fowler so moved and Council Member Parler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- C. Mayor Owens entertained a motion for consideration of a proclamation for Public Works Week. Council Member Parler so moved and Council member Fowler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- D. Mayor Owens recognized Ms. Donna Smith, Director of Economic Development, who presented funding recommendations from the Accommodations Tax Committee. Mrs. Smith stated the committee met on Tuesday, April 23, 2013 to consider qualified applications for the distribution of \$33,700.00 in accommodations tax funds for tourism-related events and projects. She said the committee received 11 applications with a total of \$118,250 in funding requests. After reviewing qualified applications and hearing comments from applicants, the committee unanimously approved funding the following projects for a total f \$33,700:

Riverbanks Zoo and Botanical Gardens	\$13,200
West Metro Visitors Center	\$5,500
EdVenture Children’s Museum	\$5,000
River Alliance/Tartan Day South	\$5,000
Columbia Metropolitan Convention and Visitors’ Center	\$5,000

Ms. Smith noted that to the best of the committee’s knowledge all of the recommended projects met all regulations under Chapter 4 of Title 6 of the South Carolina Code of Laws. Mayor Owens entertained a motion to approve the Accommodations Tax Committee’s recommendations. Council Member Hallman so moved and Council Member Harley seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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Agenda Item VII – New Business (continued)

- E. Mayor Owens entertained a motion to reappoint Mr. Richard Kuppens to the West Columbia Zoning Board of Appeals for a three-year term expiring May 2016. Council Member Fowler so moved and Council Member Unthank seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- F. Mayor Owens entertained a motion to appoint Ms. Rebecca Richardson and Ms. Melissa Sprouse Brown to the West Columbia Beautification Foundation Board. Council Member Fowler so moved and Council Member Parler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Mayor Owens entertained a motion to adjourn to executive session to discuss a contractual matter. Council Member Parler so moved and Council Member Fowler seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Council adjourned to executive session at 6:35 p.m.

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 to regular session at 6:58 p.m. Mayor Owens stated that council discussed matters of a contractual nature, but no action was taken in executive session.

Agenda Item X – Adjourn

Mayor Owens entertained a motion to adjourn. Council Member Parler so moved and Council Member Hallman seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Council adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marta M. Valentino, CMC
City Clerk