

# City of West Columbia, SC

## Regular Council Meeting

June 4, 2013

Following the Public Hearing on the Budget 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:

None

### 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  
Dennis Tyndall, Police Chief  
Ken Ebener, Municipal Judge  
Shane Phillips, Police Captain

Rick Hodge, City Treasurer  
Wyatt Coleman, Fire Chief  
Brian Carter, Director of Planning and Zoning  
Charles Garren, Public Works Director  
Stuart Jones, Building Official  
Matt Edwards, Police Major  
Justin Black, Staff Accountant  
Members of the Public and Press

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### Agenda Item I – Call to Order

Mayor Owens called the meeting to order at 6:04 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 30, 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. Andy Abate, PE with ICA/Florence & Hutcheson (F&H), an engineering firm with offices located on Burnham Street in West Columbia and on Huger Street in Columbia. Mr. Abate introduced Mr. David Beatty, PE, South Carolina regional manager. Mr. Abate said he met with City Engineer Sid Varn to review the challenges the city will encounter with environmental regulations. Mr. Abate described his company as a local consulting engineering firm with full-service, multidisciplinary civil engineering service with in-house capabilities to complete all water and wastewater related tasks. He noted that F&H has been in business for over 45 years and employs over 300 people with 26 offices throughout the Southeast including four offices in South Carolina. He listed the services his firm provides including water/wastewater design, collection system evaluation and design, water distribution systems, GIS-based modeling, ecological studies and stream restoration, permitting, storm water, surveying, geo-technical services and transportation.
- B. Mayor Owens recognized Mrs. Liz Deas, who stated she was representing Brookland Baptist Church's Lakeview Empowerment Center with a request for council's approval to hold a car and bike show from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Lakeview Empowerment Center on June 16, 2013. She said the non-alcoholic event would include a concert with live music from 4 to 9 p.m.

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### Agenda Item III – Requests for Appearance (continued)

Mrs. Deas stated she had completed a zoning request to hold the show through Brian Carter, Director of Planning and Zoning, and had met with officials at the Police Department to discuss the event. She said if the city council does not approve her request then the event may be in violation of the noise ordinance. Mayor Pro-Tem Jones said his understanding was that there were problems with noise at previous events, but that an effort would be made to keep the noise from the show and concert at a lower level. Mrs. Deas responded that the music would be miked singing to pre-recorded song tracks not a band. Mayor Owens recognized Mayor Pro-Tem Jones who moved to approve the car and bike show. Council Member Unthank seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

### Agenda Item IV – Announcements by Mayor

Mayor Owens stated that a special council meeting would be held on June 17, 2013 to take second reading on the budget. The Zoning Board of Appeals will meet at 6 p.m. on June 18, 2013 and the Planning Commission will meet at 6 p.m. on June 24, 2013.

### Agenda Item V – Approval of Minutes

- A. Mayor Owens entertained a motion to approve the minutes for the Public Hearing on Urban Chicken Farming held May 7, 2013, the Regular Council Meeting held May 7, 2013, the Special Council Meeting held May 21, 2013 and the Budget Work Session held May 28, 2013. Council Member Parler so moved and Council Member Unthank seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### Agenda Item VI – Old Business

- A. Mayor Owens entertained a motion for second 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 Fowler so moved and Council Member Wingard seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- B. Mayor Owens entertained a motion for second 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 Parler so moved and Council Member Wingard seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### Agenda Item VII – New Business

- A. Mayor Owens entertained a motion for first reading consideration of an ordinance adopting a budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013 and levying a tax to meet such budget for the fiscal year with the General Fund \$12,736,000 and the Water/Sewer Fund \$12,278,000. Council Member Fowler so moved and Council Member Unthank seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- B. Mayor Owens stated that council would not take action on the resolution to endorse the West Columbia Community Advisory Committee. He said council members would deliberate and consider the resolution at a later time.

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### Agenda Item VII – New Business (continued)

- C. Mayor Owens stated that council would not take action on the resolution to allow the West Columbia Community Advisory Committee to consume beer and wine at a picnic at the Riverwalk Park on July 27, 2013. He said council would deliberate and consider the resolution at a later time.
- D. Mayor Owens entertained a motion for consideration of a resolution urging state lawmakers to fight violent crimes by passing H.3051, requiring a person while released on bond who commits a violent act to be brought before a circuit court judge for the bond hearing and if convicted have a mandatory five-year sentence imposed in addition to the principal offense. Council Member Hallman so moved and Council Member Harley seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- E. Mayor Owens entertained a motion for first reading consideration of an ordinance to adjust the annual compensation of elected officials and city employees to provide a monthly stipend of \$250.00 in lieu of health insurance coverage for those elected officials and city employees who choose to not participate in the State Health Insurance Plan. Council Member Unthank so moved and Mayor Pro-Tem Jones seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Owens recognized Council Member Parler who announced the next city-wide Clean Up Day on Saturday, October 19, 2013. He described problems that the Public Works Department encountered with people bringing in trash from other areas for the city to pick up during the Clean Up Day. He gave an example of a man who brought in a trailer containing over 150 tires with the expectation that the city would dispose of the tires for him. Council Member Parler said he discussed the situation with Public Director Charles Garren and changes will be made to limit the amount of trash and tires at the next Clean Up Day to reduce the opportunity for people to take advantage of the city's efforts. He noted overall feedback from the program has been positive and the city is much cleaner since the program began.

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

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 6:28 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 Unthank so moved and Council Member Parler seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Council reconvened to regular session at 7:25 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 Unthank so moved and Council Member Fowler seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Council adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marta M. Valentino, CMC  
City Clerk