

City of West Columbia, SC

Regular Council Meeting

December 3, 2013 following the Public Hearing at 6 p.m.

Members Present:

Joe Owens, Mayor
Eric L. Fowler
Casey Jordan Hallman, Mayor Pro-Tempore
L. Dale Harley
Boyd Jones
Temus C. "Tem" Miles, Jr.
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
Dennis Tyndall, Police Chief
Sid Varn, Director of Planning and Engineering
Shane Phillips, Police Captain
Joe Vasquez, City Attorney
Rodney Howell, Fire Training Officer

Anna Huffman, IT Systems Administrator
Wyatt Coleman, Fire Chief
Brian Carter, Director of Planning and Zoning
Stuart Jones, Building Official
Matt Edwards, Police Major
Rick Hodge, City Treasurer
Ken Ebener, Municipal Judge
Charles Garren, Director of Public Works
Members of the Public and Press

Agenda Item I – Call to Order

Mayor Owens called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m. and noted a quorum was present. *The State, Free Times, Lexington County Chronicle, Cayce-West Columbia News, The Columbia Star, COLADaily.com* and radio and television stations were notified of the meeting by e-mail on November 27, 2013.

Agenda Item II – Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

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

Agenda Item III – Adjourn to Executive Session for a Personnel Matter

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

Agenda Item IV – Reconvene to Regular Session

Mayor Owens entertained a motion to adjourn executive session and reconvene to regular session. Council member Parler so moved and Council Member Hallman seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Council reconvened at 6:12 p.m.

Agenda Item V – Election of Mayor Pro-Tempore

Mayor Owens recognized Council Member Miles who made a motion to elect Council Member Hallman as Mayor Pro-Tempore for a two-year term ending December 2015. Council Member Wingard seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Mayor Owens congratulated Mayor Pro-Tem Hallman upon her election. He also thanked Council Member Jones for serving as mayor pro-tem for the previous two years.

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Agenda Item VI – Requests for Appearance

- A. Mayor Owens recognized Ms. Tammy Wallace, Healthcare Services Coordinator for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Ms. Wallace commended the West Columbia firefighters who raised \$2,988.50 from their Annual Boot Drive. Fire Chief Wyatt Coleman presented Ms. Wallace a ceremonial check for the funds collected in the boot drive. Chief Coleman noted all shifts participated during the three-day event. Fire Training Officer Rodney Howell coordinated the Boot Drive for the West Columbia Fire Department.

Agenda Item VII – Announcements by Mayor

Mayor Owens announced that the 9th Annual Christmas Tree Lighting will take place on Friday, December 6, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. on the front lawn at city hall. City Hall will be closed from December 25 through December 27 for the Christmas holidays and also on Wednesday, January 1, 2014 for the New Year.

Agenda Item VIII – Approval of Minutes

Mayor Owens entertained a motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Council Meeting held November 5, 2013. Council Member Jones so moved and Council Member Parler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item IX – New Business

- A. Mayor Owens entertained a motion for first reading consideration of an ordinance to annex .39 acres of unimproved property located at Lot 54 Brookwood Circle (TMS# 5717-01-014). Council Member Harley so moved and Council Member Fowler seconded. Mayor Owens recognized Ms. Donna Smith, director of Economic Development, who explained that a different part of the annexation code is being used because the small, undeveloped lot in Brookwood Subdivision is split between West Columbia and Springdale. She said the portion of the lot in Springdale has a commercial zoning classification while the portion in West Columbia has a residential zoning classification. The annexation would effectively move the Springdale portion of the lot into the city limits of West Columbia where the entire lot would be considered residential, which would allow a house to be built on the property. She noted that the Town of Springdale would need to approve the line change by ordinance as well. A public hearing on the realignment of the municipal boundaries is required by state statute and will be held prior to the regular council meeting on January 7, 2014. Mayor Owens called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.
- B. Mayor Owens entertained a motion for consideration of a resolution in support of the issuance by the South Carolina Jobs – Economic Development Authority (JEDA) of health facilities revenue bonds for the South Carolina Episcopal Home at Still Hopes project in an amount not to exceed \$30,000,000.00. Council Member Unthank so moved and Council Member Fowler seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Mayor Owens explained that JEDA requires that the local government pass a resolution in support of the revenue bonds for Still Hopes, but that the city is not required to be involved with the bond issuance process or to be obligated in any way to repay the bonds.
- C. Mayor Owens entertained a motion for consideration of a resolution to support the repriorization of the federal Ryan White CARE Act to reverse the spread of HIV/Aids. Council Member Parler so moved and Council Member Wingard seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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Agenda Item IX – New Business (continued)

- D. Mayor Owens entertained a motion to reappoint City Clerk Marta M. Valentino, CMC, for a two-year term ending December 2015. Council Member Fowler so moved and Council Member Harley seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- E. Mayor Owens entertained a motion to reappoint City Treasurer Richard K. Hodge, CPA, for a two-year term ending December 2015. Council Member Fowler so moved and Council Member Parler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- F. Mayor Owens entertained a motion to reappoint Municipal Judge Kenneth E. Ebener, Esq., for a two-year term ending December 2015. Council Member Jones so moved and Council Member Parler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- G. Mayor Owens entertained a motion to reappoint the law firm of Setzler & Scott, PA, as city attorney for a two-year term ending December 2015. Council Member Fowler so moved and Council Member Hallman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- H. Mayor Owens recognized City Treasurer Rick Hodge who presented budget amendments for Fiscal Year 2012-2013. Mr. Hodge explained that most of the large amounts of money dealt with grants. He explained transfers that related to the purchase of I-pads for council and staff members, an appropriation for the Riverwalk Music Festival, professional services for zoning consultation, and additional hours for firefighters called in to man the fire station while shift firefighters fought several major fires. He stated that General Fund revenues exceeded expenses by \$1,042,000.00. Mr. Hodge asked council to approve the interdepartmental budget transfers for FY 2012-2013. Council Member Unthank so moved and Council Member Fowler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item X – Adjourn to Executive Session to Discuss a Contractual Matter

Mayor Owens entertained a motion to adjourn to executive session. Council Member Parler so moved and Council Member Wingard seconded. Council adjourned to executive session at 6:30 p.m.

Agenda Item XI – Reconvene to Regular Session

Mayor Owens entertained a motion to adjourn executive session and reconvene to regular session. Council Member Harley so moved and Council Member Parler seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Council reconvened to regular session at 7:11 p.m. Mayor Owens stated that no action was taken in executive session.

Agenda Item XII – Adjourn

Mayor Owens entertained a motion to adjourn. Council Member Harley so moved and Council Member Miles seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Council adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marta M. Valentino, CMC
City Clerk/Public Information Officer