



| | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Mayor Elise Partin | Mayor Pro-Tem Tim James | Council Members Phil Carter Hunter Sox Byron Thomas | Interim City Manager James Crosland | Interim Deputy City Manager Michael Conley |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|--|

**City of Cayce
Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, August 21, 2024**

The August 21, 2024, Regular Council Meeting was held this evening at 5:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. Those present included Mayor Pro Tem Tim James and Council Members Phil Carter and Byron Thomas. Interim City Manager Jim Crosland, Interim Deputy City Manager Michael Conley, Municipal Clerk Mendy Corder, Interim Police Chief Shawn Grant, Fire Chief Steven Bullard, Human Resources Director Lynn Dooley and City Attorney Danny Crowe were also in attendance.

Mayor Partin asked if members of the press and the public were duly notified of the meeting in accordance with the FOIA. Ms. Corder confirmed they were notified.

Call to Order

Mayor Partin called the meeting to order and Mayor Pro Tem James gave the invocation. Mayor Partin led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. She stated that she was not aware that the other two (2) Council Members were not going to be in attendance and asked if anyone had any insight. Mayor Pro Tem James stated that he only knew that Council Member Sox was out of town.

Public Comment Regarding Items on the Agenda

Mr. Ross Shealy – Item III. A. Mr. Shealy stated that he tried to attend the last regular Council Meeting but it must have been cancelled due to the weather. He stated that he saw that the City was awarded some Best of Lexington County awards and he wanted to congratulate Mayor Partin for being recognized as best elected official and Sergeant Mandy Fournier for being awarded best law enforcement officer. He stated that the Soiree on State was awarded best community event and he wholeheartedly agreed with that. He stated that the Cayce Riverwalk was awarded best park and he agreed with that as well. Mr. Shealy stated that he thought that was a testament to the great job that former City Manager, Tracy Hegler did, with her strong leadership, her focus and dedication to the City, her focus on people and staff and delivering the best for residents. He stated that she was an outstanding public servant. He stated that knowing all that, several members of Council came to the last regular meeting with a fully formed plan to get rid of Ms. Hegler and someone had to have added that to the agenda. He stated that it was clear to everyone in the room that it was planned. Mr. Ross stated that it was not for the good of the City. He stated that he heard from another elected official in another jurisdiction who said they knew it was coming and that was very troubling to him. He stated that he had to wonder if it was related to the basic tenor of Council over the last few months, which seemed to be, to antagonize Mayor Partin as much as possible. He stated that the only real effort he had seen from a lot of Council was trying to undo things that had been built. Mr. Shealy stated that he did not

know if there was a larger plan. He stated that one of the Council Members worked for a political consulting firm and he thought it was a real danger. He stated that political motivations should go away after one's nine to five job and Council's decisions should be made based on what was good for the City. Mr. Shealy stated that he wondered if it would have gone down the same way, if it was a male City Manager.

City Attorney Crowe stated that Mr. Shealy was discussing a personnel matter and it was not on the agenda therefore it was inappropriate under Section 2-71 appearance of citizens. Mr. Shealy stated that he would confine himself to the agenda. He stated that he reviewed the agenda items and saw the communications procedures and thought it seemed a little half-baked. He stated that with regard to the real issues facing the City, Council needed to start working for the good of the City and the people and making its decisions based on the best interests of Cayce. He stated that the decision with regard to the treatment of Tracy Hegler was not in the best interest of the City.

Items for Discussion and Possible Approval

A. Discussion and Approval of Procedures of the City Public Information Officer regarding Council

Interim City Manager Crosland stated that staff recommended deferral of this item to a later date of the discretion of the City Manager due to the suggestion of third party contractual agreements, which included funding outside of the original MPA strategies agreement. He stated that it could be brought back for discussion with Council at a later date. Mayor Pro Tem James made a motion to defer the item to a later date. Council Member Carter seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

B. Discussion and Acceptance of Bid from State Utility Contractors for the Pump Station One Improvements

Interim City Manager Crosland stated that Pump Station One of the City's wastewater system has had some issues for some time with keeping up with extreme flows during large rain events. He stated that the pumps and the variable frequency drives (VFD's) and controls were past their end of useful life and needed to be replaced to maintain operations. He stated that Pump Station One currently received approximately 13 million gallons per day of wastewater coming from the City and the surrounding service area. He stated that the three (3) pumps, VFD's and controls currently at the station were installed around 2008 and in 2022 two (2) of the three (3) pumps ceased operations, which mandated emergency bypass pumping while waiting for pumps to be repaired. He stated that it was becoming more difficult, to not only find parts and services, but the time frame for receiving them was measured in months. Interim City Manager Crosland stated that staff asked American Engineering

Consultants to design new pumps, VFD's and controls to replace the aged and failing system. He stated that the design would also address the related pipe work, connecting the pumps to the City's system, providing the City a system that provided another 15 to 20 years of usable service. He stated that bids were opened on Tuesday, August 13, 2024, for this work and based on a review of the bid documents submitted, American Engineering Consultants recommended awarding the bid to State Utility Contractor for the amount of \$3,049,000. He stated that staff's recommendation was that the project be awarded to State Utility Contractors in the amount of \$3,049,000 and authorize the Interim City Manager to execute the contract. He stated that funding for the project would include the use of designated ARPA funds in the amount of \$1,047,217 and an EPA grant of \$540,000 leaving a balance of \$1,461,783 which would be funded from the Wastewater Renewal or Replacement Fund.

Council Member Carter made a motion to award the bid to State Utility Contractor for \$3,049,000 and authorize the Interim City Manager to execute the contract. Mayor Pro Tem James seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

C. Discussion and Approval of Award for Budgeting, Grants and Procurement Software as Approved by Council in the FY24-25 American Rescue Plan Funding Budget

Interim City Manager Crosland stated that Council approval was needed to award for budgeting grants and procurement software not to exceed the approved amount of \$132,300. He stated that the purchase of the software was approved by City Council in the FY24/25 American Rescue Plan Budget allocations on June 26, 2024. He stated that the software purchase would incorporate budgeting and planning and procurement contract management as well as grant management. He stated that City staff researched several vendors for this project, the majority of them having proficiencies in only one (1) of the three (3) needs encompassed in this project. He stated that the top contenders were Clear Gov for budgeting, Zoom Grants for grants management, Bonfire Hub for procurement and OpenGov for all three (3) needs. Interim City Manager Crosland stated that staff agreed that a single software vendor would offer the best solution for the City. He stated that in accordance with Title 11, Chapter 35 of the South Carolina Procurement Code, the City could participate in cooperative purchasing agreement for the procurement of any supply, services or construction with an agreement entered into between both parties. He stated that such cooperative purchasing might include, but not limited to, joint or multi-party contracts between public procurement units and open-ended State Public Procurement unit contracts. He stated that the use of purchasing cooperative afforded the City greater purchasing power and larger discounts by joining with other public identities.

Interim City Manager Crosland stated that through the City's membership with Omnia Partnership, the City was authorized as a public procurement unit and had the

option to enter into contracts already established through Omnia competitively solicited cooperative purchasing contracts due to the City's need for all three (3) needs to have seamless integration cooperation, as well as OpenGov's current to integrate with the City's current financial software. He stated that the City had chosen to contract with OpenGov under Omnia partners contract number 01-165 and afforded by South Carolina Procurement Code. He stated that staff recommended that the project be awarded to OpenGov through the Omnia purchasing cooperative contract in an amount not to exceed \$132,300 and authorize the Interim City Manager to execute the contract. He stated that the annual recurring cost of \$60,000 would start in FY26.

Mayor Pro Tem James made a motion that the project be awarded to OpenGov through the Omnia purchasing cooperative contract in an amount not to exceed \$132,300 and authorize the Interim City Manager to execute the contract. Council Member Carter seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Committee Matters

A. Reappointment Cayce Housing Authority – One (1) Position

Mayor Pro Tem James made a motion to reappoint Ms. Cheryl Seymour to the Cayce Housing Authority. Council Member Carter seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

City Manager's Report

Interim City Manager Crosland stated that Spencer Place had been repaved. He stated that 3D Dirt Works would be starting on installing a new concrete pad at the Fire Department the following day. He stated that the City's Fall Fest being held October 5, 2024, was completely booked with both food and crafts vendors already.

Council Comments

Mayor Pro Tem James thanked Ms. Corder for balancing all the events and keeping the City involved in the community in addition to her regular duties.

Council Member Thomas stated that he wanted to congratulate the local business community since the Cayce West Columbia Chamber was celebrating their Un Gala that night. He thanked the business community for being in the City of Cayce and for being part of the chamber. He stated that the chamber was the number one chamber, with less than 700 members, in North and South Carolina.

Mayor Partin thanked Interim City Manager Crosland for putting together two (2) council meetings in back to back weeks. She stated that she would ask that Council Members who were not going to be present or were going to be late to let her know, because that was just professional courtesy and they would know how they were running the meeting and that also helped the Interim City Manager. She stated also the rules that Council used when they took her off of all the committees she served on was attendance so it was an important issue. She stated that everyone in that meeting said that they wanted to report out on the external committees that they were sitting on and that has not ever happened so she asked that that item be added to the next agenda. She stated that way Council Members could report on all of the committees that they were sitting on that they said they wanted to.

Executive Session

- A. Receipt of legal advice relating to claims and potential claims by and against the City and other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege

Council Member Thomas asked if he could say something. Mayor Partin stated that they were in the middle of a motion. Mayor Pro Tem James made a motion to move into Executive Session. Council Member Carter seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Reconvene

After the Executive Session was concluded, Council Member Carter made a motion to reconvene the Regular meeting. Mayor Pro Tem James seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote. Mayor Partin announced that no vote was taken in Executive Session other than to adjourn and resume the Regular meeting.

Possible actions in follow up to Executive Session

There were no actions in follow up to Executive Session.

Adjourn

Council Member Carter made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Pro Tem James seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:24 p.m.

Elise Partin, Mayor

ATTEST:

Mendy Corder, CMC, Municipal Clerk

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK ON A MATTER APPEARING ON THE MEETING AGENDA, PLEASE COMPLETE THE INFORMATION BELOW PRIOR TO THE START OF THE MEETING.* THANK YOU.

COUNCIL MEETING SPEAKERS' LIST

Date of Meeting *August 21, 2024*

| Name | Address | Agenda Item |
|-------------|---------------------|-------------|
| ROSS SHEALY | 107 FERNWOOD CIRCLE | V, III, A |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

***Appearance of citizens at Council meetings - City of Cayce Code of Ordinances, Sec. 2-71.** Any citizen of the municipality may speak at a regular meeting of the council on a matter pertaining to municipal services and operation, with the exception of personnel matters, by notifying the office of the city manager at least five working days prior to the meeting and stating the subject and purpose for speaking. Additionally, during the **public comment period** as specified on the agenda of a regular meeting of the council, a member of the public may speak on a matter appearing on the meeting agenda, with the exception of personnel matters by signing a speakers list maintained by the city clerk prior to the start of the public comment period. The number of speakers at a council meeting may be limited in the discretion of the mayor or presiding officer, the length of time for any speaker's presentation is limited to a maximum of five minutes, and a presentation may be curtailed if determined to be uncivil, contentious, or disruptive in the discretion of the mayor or presiding officer or by majority of vote of council.