



**Mayor**  
Elise Partin

**Mayor Pro-Tem**  
Tim James

**Council Members**  
Phil Carter  
Hunter Sox  
Byron Thomas

**City Manager**  
Tracy Hegler

**Deputy City Manager**  
Jim Crosland  
**Assistant City Manager**  
Michael Conley

**City of Cayce  
Regular Council Meeting  
Wednesday, May 15, 2024**

The May 15, 2024, Regular Council Meeting was held this evening at 5:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. Those present included Mayor Elise Partin, Mayor Pro Tem Tim James and Council Members Phil Carter, Hunter Sox and Byron Thomas. City Manager Tracy Hegler, Deputy City Manager Jim Crosland, Assistant City Manager Michael Conley, Municipal Clerk Mendy Corder, Police Chief Chris Cowan, Fire Chief Steven Bullard, Finance Director Kelly McMullen, Human Resources Director Lynn Dooley, IT Director Jamie Beckham, Utilities Director Betsy Catchings 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 Pastor Eddie Coakley gave the invocation. Mayor Partin led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Comment Regarding Items on the Agenda**

No one signed up for comment.

**Presentation**

A. Presentation of a Key to the City to Mr. A.G. Dantzler

Mayor Partin asked Mayor Pro Tem James to join her at the podium on the floor. Mayor Pro Tem James thanked Mayor Partin for deferring the presentation to him and stated that he greatly appreciated it. He stated that Chief Dantzler was very dear to him, and this was something that usually fell with the Mayor to present but she had allowed him to do it. He invited the rest of Council to stand with him and Mayor Partin.

Mayor Pro Tem James stated that the presentation was meant to be lighthearted and fun. He stated that first he wanted to go around the room and talk about some of the people who were there that were dear to Chief Dantzler. He acknowledged former Cayce Museum Director Leo Redmond who was with the City and helped the City for many, many years. He acknowledged Ms. Pattie Rabon who was Chief Dantzler's dear friend and assistant for years and Ms. Miss Mary Sharpe who served on the Museum Commission for decades. Mayor Pro Tem James stated that after Chief Dantzler retired, he joined the Museum Commission as well. He acknowledged Senator Nikki

Setzler and said even though Senator Setzler had chosen to retire from the Senate he was not retiring from public life. He acknowledged Mr. Paul Howell, who worked at Cayce Fire Department for 41 years and Mr. Vince Rhodes, who was the Chair of the State Credit Union and a dear friend of the family. Mayor Pro Tem James also acknowledged Lexington County Sheriff Koon, former Cayce Mayor Mr. Archie Moore, and Pastor Eddie Coakley. Lastly, he acknowledged his oldest daughter, Taylor, and his wife Gay and stated that people that were important to him were also important to Chief Dantzler.

Mayor Pro Tem James stated when this distinguished designation came before Council the prior week, he commented at that time that an opportunity such as this came along few and far between but so did people like A.G. Dantzler. He stated that since the City's incorporation in 1914 this was only the second key to the City that had been presented. He stated that if that did not say something of the importance that Council placed on the key to the City, he did not know what did. He stated that he was most proud to say that he not only had a professional relationship with Chief A.G. Dantzler, but most importantly and most endearing to him was he had a personal relationship with Chief Dantzler. He stated that during his years of working for Chief Dantzler, he not only led but he cared and remained caring. Mayor Pro Tem James stated that Chief Dantzler was from Elloree, South Carolina and had always wanted to be a police officer and after learning that there was a job opening in the City of Cayce, he found a way to get there to interview for that job and eventually got that job. He stated that he started as a patrolman and worked his way up to Chief and as the Chief led the City through many critical incidents.

Mayor Pro Tem James stated that Chief Dantzler would help anyone in need and was an excellent negotiator before negotiations were even cool. He stated that administratively Chief Dantzler was a leader and always did what was asked of him. He stated that Chief Dantzler always found a way by leading the way. He stated that he embraced new concepts and the future and as an innovator Chief Dantzler paved the way for Cayce to become one of the leading agencies in the state of South Carolina, to implement the community policing model, with many of those ideas coming from Chief Ruben Greenberg in Charleston. He stated that Chief Dantzler also implemented a police substation program, interviewing businesses throughout the community, who donated buildings for law enforcement officers to work out of. Mayor Pro Tem James stated that Chief Dantzler hired the very first School Resource Officer for Brookland Cayce High School, began the very first Citizens Academy and recruited and hired the first female police officer and the first African American officer, all leading the way to the City receiving the 1997 South Carolina Department of Excellence for Law Enforcement. He stated that Chief Dantzler wanted to share that with every officer, so he asked Lexington County to come in and protect the City while every officer was given a brand new badge to wear for the whole year that said, "Excellence in Law Enforcement."

Mayor Pro Tem James stated that Chief Dantzler had achieved so much but he would be the first to tell you, he had not done it alone, but with his beautiful bride Miss B who he had been with for over 60 years. He stated that Miss B and Chief Dantzler's three (3) daughters, Tina, Peggy, and Karen, made his heartbeat every single day. He stated that Chief Dantzler loved his family and without them, he did not think he would have been able to do his job. He stated that not only were they celebrating Chief Dantzler but his family as well who supported him to help him to become the man that he was and to give him the time to be able to touch so many other people in his life. He stated that they were about to present a key to the City which had him ask what a key meant to him. He stated that it meant someone entrusted him with something, or maybe whatever the key went to, he had access to it. He stated that when one was given a key, there was a lot that came with that. Mayor Pro Tem James stated that Chief Dantzler had greatly earned access to the City, and he would never take ownership because he was a man of sharing. He stated that they gave a sense of gratitude to Chief AG Dantzler for what he had done to be able to make the City what it was today. The Key to the City was presented to Chief Dantzler who thanked everyone for coming.

### **Ordinances and Resolution**

#### **A. Discussion and Approval of Ordinance 2024-04 to Amend the City Code of Ordinances to Add Section 28-27 Entitled "Hate Intimidation" – Second Reading**

City Manager Hegler stated that there were not any changes made to Ordinance 2024-04 between First and Second Reading. Mayor Pro Tem James made a motion to approve Ordinance 2024-04. Council Member Thomas seconded the motion. He stated that in his first speech as a Council Member he stated that the C in Cayce stood for community. He stated that this Ordinance let people know that the culture in the community was a loving culture and hate would not have a place in the City of Cayce. He stated that he challenged the other cities and towns in Lexington County to pass some type of hate law. Mayor Partin called the question which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

#### **B. Discussion and Approval of Ordinance 2024-05 Authorizing Sale of the City-Owned Portion of Real Property at 800 Lexington Avenue – Second Reading**

City Manager Hegler stated that there were not any changes made to Ordinance 2024-05 between First and Second Reading. Council Member Carter made a motion to approve Ordinance 2024-05. Council Member Thomas seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

### **City Manager's Report**

City Manager Hegler stated that the City was in the middle of business license renewal season and the team was working hard. She stated that they were using the online portal and the renewals were coming in better this year than they did the prior year. She stated that property registrations had increased as well. She thanked Council for the work sessions and working with staff on the budgets. She stated that they had four (4) really good, robust work sessions and she appreciated their time.

### **Council Comments**

Council Member Thomas stated it was Officer Appreciation Week and he wanted to thank every officer that had served the City of Cayce and for making the City the best place to live.

### **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

There were no items for discussion in 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 5:23pm.

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Elise Partin, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Mendy Corder, CMC, Municipal Clerk

