



## CITY OF CAYCE

*MAYOR*  
ELISE PARTIN

*MAYOR PRO-TEM*  
JAMES E. JENKINS

*COUNCIL MEMBERS*  
TARA S. ALMOND  
EVA CORLEY  
TIMOTHY M. JAMES

*CITY MANAGER*  
REBECCA VANCE

*ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER*  
SHAUN M. GREENWOOD

### **CITY OF CAYCE Regular Council Meeting October 7, 2014**

The October Regular Council Meeting was held this evening at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. Those present included Mayor Elise Partin, Council Members Tara Almond, Eva Corley, Tim James, and James Jenkins, City Manager Rebecca Vance, Assistant City Manager Shaun Greenwood and Municipal Clerk Mendy Corder. Municipal Treasurer Garry Huddle, Director of Utilities, Blake Bridwell, and Chief Charles McNair were also in attendance. Mayor Partin asked if members of the press and the public were duly notified of the Council Meeting in accordance with the FOIA. Ms. Corder confirmed they were notified.

#### **Call to Order**

Mayor Partin called the meeting to order. Council Member Skip Jenkins gave the invocation. United States Navy Veteran Mr. Paul Cupstid led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Cupstid served in the Navy from 1974 to 1980 and 1990 to 1993. He helped build the aircraft carrier USS Nimitz and had a small part in the movie Final Countdown with Kirk Douglas which was filmed on the USS Nimitz.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

Council Member James made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 2, 2014 Regular Meeting and the September 17, 2014 Special Meeting as submitted. Council Member Jenkins seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

#### **Presentations**

##### **A. Introduction of Young Miss Cayce, Miss Catarina Costa**

Mayor Partin introduced Miss Catarina Costa, Young Miss Cayce. Miss Costa is nine years old and a fourth grade honors student at Duncan Elementary. She will represent the City of Cayce at the Little Miss and Teen Miss South Carolina Scholarship Pageant in Hartsville, SC in July 2015.

Mayor Partin stated Miss Costa is actively involved with donating her time to the Palmetto Children's Hospital in Columbia as well as promoting her personal platform, Bee Buzzingly Bright with Books, which encourages reading at a young age.

##### **B. Presentation by Mr. Bill Shanahan re Cayce Night at Lexington County Baseball Stadium**

Mr. Bill Shanahan announced that construction has begun on the new Lexington County baseball stadium which will be the home of the Lexington County Blowfish. He explained the state-of-the-art complex will be available for other uses including collegiate and high school baseball championships, baseball camps, tournaments, concerts and other local events. This will make the grounds a hub for entertainment, not just in Lexington County but in the Midlands. Mr. Shanahan invited Council to attend Opening Day on May 27, 2015.

### **Public Comment Regarding Items on the Agenda**

Mr. Gerald Cromer regarding Item IV. D. – please see comments attached.

### **Ordinances and Other**

- A. Discussion and Approval of a Funds Commitment Letter and TIF Funds to Match the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant

Ms. Vance advised that Council approval is needed for a Funds Commitment Letter allowing the City to apply for the Hazard Mitigation Grant through FEMA. These funds will be utilized to provide soil stabilization to a portion of Phase I of the Riverwalk.

Ms. Vance explained that as part of the grant program requirements, entities that are pursuing funds through FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant must provide a letter committing 25% match funds for the project. The City can use TIF funds for the match of this project since it is benefiting the Riverwalk. The total project cost is \$29,557. The grant will provide \$22,167.75 in funds, leaving only \$7,389.25 to be paid by the City as a match. Council Member James made a motion to authorize the City Manager to move forward with the funds commitment letter and provide the 25% match from TIF Funds. Council Member Almond seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

- B. Approval of Ordinance Establishing a Temporary Moratorium on Certain Requests for Revenue from the City's Local Hospitality Tax Account – First Reading

Ms. Vance explained that on August 1, 2014 the City of Cayce enacted by Ordinance a local Hospitality Tax of two percent on all prepared food and beverage sold within the City. Staff researched and determined a one year moratorium on all outside City requests for use of H-Tax funds may be in the best interest of the City. Staff believes the first year's revenue should be focused on inside City projects. Staff also believes that limiting the number of projects and events is prudent until the first year of collections is complete. This will allow the City to more accurately account for this revenue stream. Additionally, if the Capital Project Penny Tax passes in Lexington

County the City's Hospitality Tax will be cut and therefore staff needs to be sure the revenue meets the justification of the tax for City projects like the Riverwalk and Museum.

Ms. Vance explained that Council can renew the moratorium when the year is over. Council Member James made a motion to approve the moratorium on certain requests for expenses and that the Ordinance come back before Council in one year. Council Member Almond seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Council Member James stated that he initially thought that hospitality tax funds would only be spent on projects inside the City. Ms. Vance explained that some cities only give funding to inside projects and others give funding to projects that benefit their City's citizens even if it is outside their city. Mayor Partin thanked staff for being clear on the funding guidelines for the first year so everyone will know what projects are eligible.

- C. Approval of Ordinance Establishing an Incentive Reimbursement Grant Program for Insurance Companies with Corporate Headquarters in the City – Second Reading

Council Member James made a motion to approve an Ordinance establishing an incentive reimbursement grant program for insurance companies with their corporate headquarters in the City. Council Member Jenkins seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

- D. Approval of Ordinance Setting Salaries for the Mayor and Members of Council – First Reading

Council Member Jenkins made a motion to increase the Mayor's salary to \$18,000 annually and Council's salary to \$15,000 annually. Council Member James seconded the motion. Council Member Almond explained to the assembly that Council put much thought into this issue and did not take it lightly. She stated that the City's Mayor and Council salaries do not include health benefits nor are they compensated for any travel within fifteen miles of the City. She stated most municipalities Councils consist of seven to nine members and meet once a month whereas Cayce's Council has five members and meet twice a month. Council Member Almond explained that City staff was able to research Council's compensation back to 1995 and their current salaries are the same amount as they were in 1995.

Council Member Corley made a motion to amend the original motion and increase the Mayor Pro-Tem's salary to \$16,500 annually since he has additional

duties. Council Member Almond seconded the amended motion. Ms. Vance stated that other municipalities have similar salary structures for their Mayor Pro-Tem as well.

Mayor Partin stated that in the agenda packet there is a salary comparison of surrounding municipalities Council's salaries and she reminded Council that those numbers do not include what the other Council's are compensated for health insurance. Ms. Vance explained that the Town of Lexington's Council receives a \$2,400 stipend if they opt to not be on the Town's health insurance.

Ms. Vance stated that when comparing municipalities you have to consider that the City of Cayce is a full service City and most other municipalities are not. For example, the Town of Lexington does not have a water or wastewater plant nor do they have a Sanitation Department, Animal Services Department or a Fire Department. Lexington has 143 employees and the City of Cayce has 180 employees. The City of West Columbia has a water plant but does not have a wastewater plant.

Mayor Partin explained that she and Council hope that comparable salaries to other municipalities Councils will encourage other people to serve on Council in the future. Council is concerned that such a low salary will only allow people who are independently wealthy to serve on Council and that will cause it to not be a representative Council. She stated that Council hopes that this will open up an opportunity for more people to serve their municipality.

Council Member Almond stated that the majority of the City's Council have to use annual leave from their jobs to attend City meetings and conferences. She explained that it is important for Council to attend since they receive training and legislative updates. Council Member James stated that he feels it is important to view serving on Council as a duty which equates to it being a job and it is important to compensate for that job adequately. He stated he believes the City has a Council which is moving the City in the direction it needs to go. Council Member James stated that Council should not have to look at serving as an absorption of their personal finances and the increase in salaries will assist those who serve in the future. Council Member Jenkins stated he agrees that this issue is very important for the City's future. Council Member Jenkins agreed to put the amended motion in his original motion. Ms. Corder called the question which passed unanimously by roll call vote.

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

Ms. Vance stated the contractor has finally been able to start on the Riverwalk Park since it is not raining as much. She explained that Mr. Crowe is in the process of reviewing the contract for Burnette Park. Ms. Vance stated that the Planning Commission is about to start on the five year update on the Comprehensive Plan. She advised that Dr. Eric Poplin will give a presentation on the results of the new analysis on

the Battle of Congaree Creek on October 15, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. in Council Chambers. These conclusions are based on recent archeology and in depth historical research. She explained that the research gives much more detail into the events of February 14 and 15, 1865. Ms. Vance stated all City committees and commissions are invited as well as the public.

### **Committee Matters**

- A. Approval to Enter the Following Approved Committee Minutes into the City's Official Record

Council Member Almond made a motion to approve entering the following Committee minutes into the City's official record:

Planning Commission – June 16, 2014  
Museum Commission – August 5, 2014  
Beautification Board – August 12, 2014  
Cayce Events Committee – August 14, 2014

Council Member Corley seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Mayor Partin commented on what a success the Congaree Bluegrass Festival was. She thanked staff for all their hard work and asked staff to let the Events Committee know what a phenomenal job they did. Ms. Vance explained that Ms. Corder is the staff liaison for the Events Committee and works diligently on the festival four months out of the year. Council Member James stated that all of staff was working extremely hard the day of the festival to make the event a success.

- B. Appointments

#### **Beautification Board – One Position**

There is one open position on the board since Ms. Katie Scott resigned. Staff has received a potential member application from Ms. Sherree Thompson who would like to serve on the Board. Her application is attached for Council's review. The Beautification Board does recommend Ms. Thompson for appointment. Council Member Jenkins made a motion to appoint Ms. Thompson to the Beautification Board. Council Member James seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

#### **Events Committee - Three (3) Positions**

Ms. Ellen Mancke's term expired in October and she would like to serve again. Ms. Mancke has served on the Committee since 2005 and has never had an unexcused absence and consistently attends the meetings. Her application is attached for Council's review. Mr. Dave Capp's application is attached for Council's review. He would like to serve on the Committee. The Events Committee does recommend him for appointment. Council Member James made a motion to re-appoint Ms. Mancke to the Events Committee and appoint Mr. Dave Capps to the Committee. Council Member Almond seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

#### Planning Commission – One Position

Mr. Butch Kelly's term expired and he indicated that he could not serve again at this time due to an increased workload. There are four potential member applications attached for Council's review. Council Member Almond made a motion to appoint Ms. Maryellyn Cannizzaro to the Commission. Council Member James seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote. Council Member James stated that Mr. Earle Smith and Mr. Chris Jordan are interested in serving on the Planning Commission and are both real go-getters. He stated the City definitely needs to use them on a committee if possible. Mayor Partin asked Ms. Corder to call all the interested applicants to see if they are willing to serve on one of the City's committees that has an opening.

#### Executive Session

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

Ms. Vance advised that there were not any matters to discuss in Executive Session.

#### Adjourn

There being no further business, Council Member Jenkins made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Almond seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

  
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Elise Partin, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Mendy C. Corder, Municipal Clerk



**One of the first requirements to serve on city council is a desire to serve the citizens of Cayce knowing that the job doesn't pay very well. But there are people that are committed to step up and try to do the job under some adverse conditions at times.**

**I've talked to most of you and the city manager many times about the city and the progress that it's making. I know that it's hard to please all of the citizen and business all of the time and I know that I don't always agree with how the votes and the decision always go.**

**But each of you have always listened to me and to what I had to say and you all have tried to fill me in on your prospective on the subject. I think that we always have reached an understanding. We all agree many more times than we disagree.**

**About a year ago I asked the city manager about rising the salary for the council in the next budget year to be on an equal of other cities of our size. The other cities have done this in the past few years while Cayce hasn't. I was advised then that that had to come from the council and not from the city manager. I have talked to a few of you about this but most times the answer was that they thought that the time wasn't right and the city was still trying to get it's budget in line.**

**I attend most all of the council meetings, neighborhood meetings, and have sit through many budget meetings. I think more budget planning meetings than any citizen has. I've listened to the heads of the departments come before you with requests for their budgets and also their wish list. Usually their budget requests are very well thought out and it's what's needed to keep their**



department running and serving the citizens and business. Then I've listen to all of you try and try and come up with a workable budget and how best to use the city's money. So many citizens have no idea about the time that all of you put into serving the citizens of Cayce. The many meeting that you attend, the work shops that you attend, the schools that you speak at, the social functions that you have to attend, the other government meetings that you have to go to and it goes on and on.

I recall a few years back when there were others on council that didn't think that you should get paid for any expenses that were incurred inside the city, that all of you should only get mileage if you were going a certain number of miles away from the city, like 25 or 35 miles. I think that most all of your travels are around the city and that can be a lot with the many meeting and such that you have to do to do you job serving on council. With the cost of fuel being so high now, I think that all of you should be getting a fuel allowance like \$50 a month to help off set that expense.

With all of this being said I think that the time has come that the city pay all of you that is on an equal pay scale as other cities of our size in the midlands. This in return for a job that most times goes without any praise and receiving a lot of flack along the way. I've always tried to give a little praise to you along the way and I thank each of you for taking the time to always letting me bend your ear. Thank you for doing a good job for Cayce...

Gerald Cromer  
1014 Summerland Dr.  
Cayce, SC