

City of West Columbia, SC

Attachment V.A

Regular Council Meeting

January 3, 2012 at 6 p.m.

Members Present:

Joe Owens, Mayor
Boyd Jones, Mayor Pro-Tem
Abbott L. Bray, Jr.
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
Brian Carter, Director of Planning and Zoning
Sid Varn, Director of Planning and Engineering
Donna Smith, Director of Economic Development
Members of the Public and Press

Wyatt Coleman, Fire Chief
Jackie Brothers, Police Major
Rick Hodge, City Treasurer
Ken Ebener, Municipal Judge
Stuart Jones, Building Official
Charles Garren, Director of Public Works

Agenda Item I – Call to Order

Mayor Owens called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. and noted a quorum was present. *The State, Free Times, Lexington County Chronicle, Cayce-West Columbia News, and The Columbia Star* were notified of the meeting by e-mail on December 30, 2011.

Agenda Item II – Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

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

Agenda Item III – Requests for Appearance

Mayor Owens stated there were no requests for appearance before Council.

Agenda Item IV – Announcements by Mayor

- A. Mayor Owens recognized city employees for their years of service to the city. Five-year service pins were awarded to Marion Boyce, Scott Libertini, Phillip Morrell, Neal Nelson, India Taylor, Scott Neel, James Sullivan, Nick Williams, Mark Howard (Police), Chris Eagans (Streets), Allen Jeffcoat, Kyle Ramsey (Sanitation), and Bernard Blocker (Water Plant 2). 10-year service pins were awarded to Nanci Cirmella, David Myers, Deborah Knotts, Jan Otterbacher (Police), Rodney Howell, Phillip Reddick (Fire), Lonnie Johnson (Sanitation), Isiah Felder (Water Plant 1) and Teresa Kovac (Water Billing). 15-year service pins were awarded to James Jeffcoat, Ryan Miles (Sanitation) and Jerry Browder (Maintenance). 20-year pins were awarded to Eric Fowler (Mayor and Council) and Mike Oliver (Streets). A 25-year pin was awarded to Wayne Kleckley (Police). A 30-year pin and certificate was awarded to Jimmy Elmore (Fire).

Mayor Owens also presented a plaque to Council Member Fowler to recognize his achievement of 20 years perfect attendance at regular council meetings since first elected in September 1991.

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Agenda Item V – Approval of Minutes

- A. Mayor Owens entertained a motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Council Meeting held December 6, 2011. Council Member Parler so moved and Mayor Pro-Tem Jones seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- B. Mayor Owens entertained a motion to approve the minutes for the Special Council Meeting held December 19, 2011. Council Member Parler so moved and Mayor Pro-Tem Jones seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item VI – New Business

- A. Mayor Owens entertained a motion for first reading consideration of an ordinance to annex certain roadways contiguous to city boundaries located at North Hook Avenue, Sunset Boulevard, Chris Drive, Morningside Drive, Leaphart Road, Wade Street, Thornton Avenue, Crapps Avenue, Taylor Street, West Street, South Street and Moffatt Street. Council Member Unthank so moved and Council Member Harley seconded. Mayor Owens recognized Ms. Donna Smith, Director of Economic Development, who said as she reviewed city boundaries she noticed some roadways entirely surrounded by the city, but not in the corporate city limits. She sent a request to the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) to allow the city to annex the roadways for better service provision and quicker response for emergency services. Ms. Smith said under state law the city only needs a letter of consent from SCDOT agreeing to the annexation request, which she has received. Mayor Owens called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.
- B. Mayor Owens entertained a motion for consideration to approve the 2012 Jury List for the City of West Columbia Municipal Court. Council Member Harley so moved and Council Member Fowler seconded. Mayor Owens recognized Municipal Judge Kenneth Ebener who stated that the pool of jurors is drawn from a list of registered voters provided by the SC Election Commission. He said the list was purged of the names of council members and any addresses not in the city limits. Judge Ebener stated that the edited list contains 12,033 names, an increase of 1,077 people over last year's list. Mayor Owens called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.
- C. Mayor Owens recognized City Treasurer Rick Hodge, who distributed a listing of proposed interdepartmental budget transfers for Fiscal Year 2010-2011. Mr. Hodge explained that a majority of the transfers represent grant appropriations. He said that overstated appropriations were transferred to other line items to bring them up to a funded status. The transfer of \$148,200.00 from the Water/Sewer Fund to the General Fund was for partial payment of the city hall construction loan. Mayor Owens entertained a motion to approve the budget transfers. Council Member Harley made a motion to approve the transfers as stated on the listing and Council Member Parler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Owens recognized Council Member Harley who requested that city staff set up a tour of the water plants for the three newest council members to familiarize them with the city's water operations. City Administrator Jenny Cunningham said she would make arrangements with Mr. Sid Varn, Director of Planning and Engineering, for a tour.

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Agenda Item VII – Adjourn to Executive Session to Discuss a Legal Matter

Mayor Owens entertained a motion to adjourn to executive session to discuss a legal matter. Council Member Harley so moved and Council Member Fowler seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Council adjourned to executive session at 6:22 p.m.

Agenda Item VIII – 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 Fowler seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Council reconvened at 6:36 p.m. Mayor Owens stated that no action was taken in executive session.

Agenda Item IX – Adjourn

Mayor Owens asked if there was any further business to discuss and received no response. Mayor Owens entertained a motion to adjourn. Council Member Harley so moved and Council Member Parler seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Council adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marta M. Valentino, CMC
City Clerk