

Regular Council Meeting

March 6, 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:

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
Rick Hodge, City Treasurer

Wyatt Coleman, Fire Chief
Dennis Tyndall, Police Chief
Ken Ebener, Municipal Judge
Stuart Jones, Building Official
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 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 March 2, 2012.

Agenda Item II – Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

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

Agenda Item III – Requests for Appearance

- A. Mayor Owens recognized Mr. John Banks, Director of Tourism with the West Metro Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Banks announced that the Chamber is hosting the second annual Tartan Day South on Saturday, March 31, 2012 at the Columbia Speedway on Charleston Highway. He explained the Celtic cultural event includes highland dancing and games, dog herding demonstrations, piping and drumming competitions, and an exhibit of British cars.

Mr. Banks said the kickoff event is the Celtic Commotion Concert at the West Columbia Riverwalk Amphitheater from 6 to 9 p.m. on Friday, March 30, 2012. The Celtic Commotion Concert will include Irish dancing and three international bands performing traditional Celtic music with bagpipes. The cultural event is free to the public. He requested that Council approve beer and wine sales during the concert with the proceeds going to the West Columbia Beautification Foundation. Mayor Owens noted that a resolution is on the agenda under New Business for council to consider approving the sale and consumption of beer and wine during the concert at the Riverwalk Amphitheater.

Regular Council Meeting Minutes

March 6, 2012

Page Two

Agenda Item III – Requests for Appearance (continued)

Mr. Banks stated he also was present to give the West Metro Visitors Center annual report. He said the Visitors Center website averages about 1,400 “hits” per month and over 3,600 brochures were passed out last year. The Visitors Center is promoting river sports in a surrounding 10-state area by placing ads on canoekayak.com and paddling.net. A ¾ page ad was placed in *Sports Destination* magazine to highlight the new tennis center in Cayce. Mr. Banks said he is participating in outdoor trade shows in Atlanta, Fort Bragg, Fort Campbell and Nashville to promote West Columbia and Cayce as destinations for river activities. Mayor Owens thanked Mr. Banks for his presentation.

- B. Mayor Horton recognized Mr. Mike Mayo with Palmetto Outdoors, who announced that Palmetto Outdoors has become the largest river outfitter in South Carolina. Mr. Mayo said he was appearing before council again to provide information on the historic tours he wants to conduct on the Riverwalk Park pathway. He displayed Civil War era jacket resembling the uniform of a federal soldier that he plans to wear as he gives tours. Mr. Mayo also described the route of the tours and the various stops the groups would make along the river. He said the tours groups have enough room to step off the path when he was speaking about specific events so as to not block other people from using the pathway. He said the tours groups would not exceed 20 adult participants or 25 school children. He explained the historical material would cover the founding of Columbia and surrounding area, the great flood of 1905, the uses of the three rivers for travel and commerce including Friday’s Ferry crossing and the wreck of the SS Columbia, and events surrounding the final days of the War Between the States, particularly the Confederate defense of Columbia. He asked for Council’s approval to conduct the tours. Mayor Owens recognized Council Member Unthank who made a motion to approve Mr. Mayo’s tours at the West Columbia Riverwalk Park as described. Council Member Fowler seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- C. Mayor Owens recognized Mr. Rod Lorick with HotRod TV and Mr. Milton Zanders, owner of True BBQ Restaurant at 1237 D Avenue. Mr. Lorick said he and Mr. Zanders were seeking Council’s approval to hold the second annual TrueFest Music Festival at D Avenue on April 28, 2012. Mr. Lorick said the non-alcoholic festival would host Christian-music bands and gospel singing groups at the restaurant and next door at Triangle City Pharmacy. Mr. Zanders said the format would be the same as last year with the music ending before the noise ordinance goes into effect. He said parking would be across the street at the old muffler shop and volunteers would provide cleanup of the festival and parking areas. Mayor Owens recognized Council Member Fowler who made a motion to approve holding the TrueFest Music Festival and Council Member Unthank seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- D. Mayor Owens recognized Mr. James Williams, who plans to open the Vegas Sports Bar and Grill at 1832 Airport Boulevard. Mr. Williams said he is opening a business in building that is in the city limits of Cayce and is required to install a sprinkler system. The City of Cayce has a water line across the street, but West Columbia has a water line about 50 to 75 feet way from the building, which is much closer. He was advised by Building Official Stuart Jones that an out-of-city water tap fee is \$8,000. Mr. Williams requested that the council waive the tap fee or reduce it to the in-city rate of \$4,000. He also asked to make payments on the tap fee.

Regular Council Meeting Minutes

March 6, 2012

Page Three

Agenda Item III – Requests for Appearance (continued)

Mayor Owens asked Mr. Jones what size line was needed for a sprinkler system. Mr. Jones responded that a six-inch is required and he based the tap fee on that size line. Mayor Owens stated that the city cannot waive taps fees because the fee structure is set in the city ordinance. Mayor Owens said if Mr. Williams provides the city with a letter from an engineer stating a four-inch water line can be used for the sprinkler system then a smaller fee might be arranged.

- E. Mayor Horton stated that Mr. Ronald Johnson with Johnson Insurance Company was to appear before council to discuss becoming the agent of record for the city's tort and liability insurance coverage. Mayor Owens said that the matter should be discussed in executive session since it was of a contractual nature. Mr. Johnson agreed to meet with council at a later date.

Agenda Item IV – Announcements by Mayor

- A. Mayor Owens reminded council members of the Lexington County Municipal Association (LCMA) quarterly meeting on March 9, 2012 at the SCNA corporate offices on the 12th Street Extension in Cayce.

Agenda Item V – Approval of Minutes

- A. Mayor Owens entertained a motion to approve the minutes for the following council meetings: a Special Council Meeting held February 1, 2012, the Regular Council Meeting held February 7, 2012 and a Special Council Meeting held February 21, 2012. Council Member Unthank 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 2.86 acres of property located at 846 Chris Drive (TMS# 004599-10-006). Council Member Fowler so moved and Mayor Pro-Tem Jones seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- B. Mayor Owens entertained a motion for first reading consideration of an ordinance to annex approximately one acre of property located at 176 McSwain Drive (TMS# 004597-01-002). Mayor Pro-Tem Jones so moved and Council Member Fowler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- C. Mayor Owens entertained a motion for first reading consideration of the Planning Commission's recommendation to approve a map amendment to change the zoning classification of 122 Hammond Avenue (TMS# 004627-03-020) from R-2 (medium-density residential) to C-2 (general commercial). Council Member Fowler so moved and Council Member Unthank seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- D. Mayor Owens entertained a motion for consideration of a resolution to authorize the sale and consumption of beer and wine between 6 and 9 p.m. during the Celtic Commotion Concert at the West Columbia Riverwalk Amphitheater on March 30, 2012. Council Member Unthank so moved and Council Member Hallman seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Mayor Owens noted that the concert is sponsored by the West Metro Chamber of Commerce and all proceeds from the beer and wines sales will be donated to the West Columbia Beautification Foundation.

Regular Council Meeting Minutes

March 6, 2012

Page Four

Agenda Item VI – New Business (continued)

- E. Mayor Owens entertained a motion for consideration of a resolution to authorize the sale and consumption of beer and wine between 2 and 9 p.m. during the Riverwalk Music Festival at the West Columbia Riverwalk Amphitheater on April 21, 2012 and from 6 to 9 p.m. at the West Metro Rhythm on the River Concert Series beginning April 28, 2012 and continuing for 8 weeks. Council Member Unthank so moved and Mayor Pro-Tem Jones seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- F. Mayor Owens entertained a motion for consideration of a proclamation to designate March 12 through 18, 2012 as Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Awareness Week. Council Member Fowler so moved and Council Member Bray seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- G. Mayor Owens entertained a motion for consideration of bids for asphalt milling and patching on Charleston Highway at the K-Mart pump station, US Highway 302 adjacent to I-26, and Arlington and Lexington Streets. Council Member Unthank so moved and Council Member Fowler seconded. Mayor Owens recognized Mr. Sid Varn, Director of Planning and Engineering, who stated that the city received two bids for the work and recommended that Council approve the low bid of \$92,396.00 submitted by Sloan Construction. Mayor Owens called for the vote and the motion passed unanimously.
- H. Mayor Owens entertained a motion for consideration to appoint Mr. Marion Galloway to fill an unexpired term ending May 2014 on the Zoning Board of Appeals. Council Member Fowler so moved and Council Member Unthank seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Mayor Owens entertained a motion to adjourn to executive session for a personnel matter. Council Member Unthank so moved and Mayor Pro-Tem Jones seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Council adjourned to executive session at 6:47 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 Fowler so moved and Council Member Unthank seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Council reconvened at 7 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 Fowler so moved and Council Member Unthank seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Council adjourned at 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marta M. Valentino, CMC
City Clerk