

City of West Columbia, SC

Attachment V.A

Regular Council Meeting

February 1, 2011 at 6 p.m.

Members Present:

Bobby E. Horton, Mayor
Jack L. Harmon, Mayor Pro-Tem
Eric L. Fowler
L. Dale Harley
Boyd Jones
Marsha Moore
Tommy Parler
B.J. Unthank

Members Absent:

Cathy Shannon

Others Present:

Jenny Cunningham, City Administrator
Myron Corley, Deputy City Administrator
Mardi Valentino, City Clerk
Donna Smith, Economic Development Director
Brian Carter, Planning and Zoning Director
Joe Owens, Utilities Director
Ken Ebener, Municipal Judge

Rick Hodge, City Treasurer
Charles Garren, Public Works Director
Stuart Jones, Building Official
Dennis Tyndall, Police Chief
Sid Varn, Planning & Engineering Director
Wyatt Coleman, Fire Chief
Members of the Public and Press

Agenda Item I – Call to Order

Mayor Horton 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, 2010.

Agenda Item II – Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

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

Agenda Item III – Requests for Appearance

Mayor Horton stated there were no requests for appearance before the City Council.

Agenda Item IV – Announcements by the Mayor

Mayor Horton announced that the following meetings would be held in the month of February; Beautification Foundation on February 2 at 8 a.m., Mayor’s Roundtable Meeting at 5:30 p.m. and the Council Work Session at 6 p.m. on February 21, and the Planning Commission on February 28 at 6 p.m. He stated that City Hall would be closed on February 21 for the President’s Day holiday.

- A. Mayor Horton recognized Nathaniel Harper, Firefighter II, as Firefighter of the Year, Colleen Belk, Victim Advocate, as Police Officer of the Year, and Rachel Nance, Dispatcher, as Civilian Police Employee of the Year.
- B. Mayor Horton recognized city employees for their years of service to the city. Five-year pins were awarded to Boyd Jones and Tommy Parler (Mayor and Council), Stuart Jones (Inspections), Donna Smith (Economic Development), Ronald Fair, Brandon Field, Page Moore, Bruce Wade, and Jason Spears (Police), Richard Barefoot (Streets), Joseph Alaimo, Brad Reese, and Nathaniel Simons (Sanitation), Brandon Snow (Maintenance), and Grady McMehan (Water Billing).

Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting

February 1, 2011

Page Two

Agenda Item IV – Announcements by the Mayor (continued)

10-year pins were awarded to Sal Castellano, Mark Wharton, Matt Edwards, and Rachel Nance (Police). 15-year pins were awarded to Mary Hall-Oliver, Scott Morrison, and Sandy Nieves (Police). 20-year pins were awarded to Myron Corley (Administration), Cindy Webber (Court Administration), and Johnny Dollar (Police). A 25-year pin was awarded to Danny Roberts (Fire). 30-year pins were awarded to Tommy Anderson, Tom Carson, and Doug Hilyer (Fire), Kippy Perry (Maintenance) and Rex Adkins (Water/Sewer). A 35-year pin was awarded to Billy McLemore (Fire). Mayor Horton thanked all employees for their years of dedicated service to the citizens of West Columbia.

Agenda Item V – Minutes

- A. Mayor Horton entertained a motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Council Meeting held on January 4, 2011. Council Member Unthank so moved and Mayor Pro-Tem Harmon seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item VI – Old Business

- A. Mayor Horton entertained a motion for second reading consideration of an ordinance to annex .35 acres of property located at 935 N. Lucas Street (TMS# 004663-01-001). Council Member Parler so moved and Council Member Moore seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- B. Mayor Horton entertained a motion for second reading consideration of an ordinance to annex .31 acres of property located at 328 Greenwood Road and 321 Gaffney Street (TMS# 004617-04-036). Mayor Pro-Tem Harmon so moved and Council Member Parler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- C. Mayor Horton entertained a motion for first reading consideration of the Planning Commission's recommendation to establish a zoning classification for .16 acres of recently annexed property located at 1912 and 1914 Crapps Avenue (TMS# 004636-01-004) as R-3 (low-density residential). Council Member Moore so moved and Council Member Unthank seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item VII – New Business

- A. Mayor Horton entertained a motion for first reading consideration of an ordinance to annex .28 acres of property located at 1720 Crapps Avenue (TMS # 004636-04-023). Council Member Moore so moved and Council Member Harley seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- B. Mayor Horton entertained a motion for first reading consideration of the Planning Commission's recommendation to establish a zoning classification for approximately 34 acres of recently annexed property consisting of the Hulon Green Subdivision as R-2 (medium density residential) for parcels containing single-family residences and related common areas (all parcels identified on Tax Map Page 003640 Blocks 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, and 10 with the exception of parcels 003640-03-001 and 004 that are not part of the Subdivision) and as R-1 (high density residential) for parcels containing multi-family condominiums and related common areas (all parcels identified on Tax Map Page 003640 Blocks 5, 6, and 11). Council Member Unthank so moved and Council Member Fowler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting

February 1, 2011

Page Three

Agenda Item VII – New Business (continued)

- C. Mayor Horton entertained a motion for first reading consideration of the Planning Commission's recommendation to establish zoning for approximately 2 acres of recently annexed property located at 2430 Morningside Drive (TMS# 004599-10-010) as LM (Light Manufacturing). Mayor Pro-Tem Harmon so moved and Council Member Fowler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- D. Mayor Horton entertained a motion for first reading consideration of the Planning Commission's recommendation to approve a map amendment to change the zoning classification of approximately 1.27 acres of land located at 1817 Platt Springs Road (TMS# 005746-04-019) from C-2 (general commercial) to C-3 (restricted commercial). Council Member Harley so moved and Council Member Moore seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- E. Mayor Horton entertained a motion for consideration of a resolution recognizing Reverend Dr. Charles B. Jackson, Sr. upon his 40th anniversary as pastor of Brookland Baptist Church. Council Member Fowler so moved and Council Member Parler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- F. Mayor Horton entertained a motion for consideration of a resolution recognizing Mr. Rhett Bickley, retired Lexington County landscape administrator. Council Member Moore so moved and Mayor Pro-Tem Harmon seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- G. Mayor Horton entertained a motion for consideration of the Planning Commission's recommendation to accept a Subdivision Agreement and a Letter of Credit from Mungo Homes, Inc. in the amount of \$90,210.00 for the Oakwood Commons Combination Cluster Housing Development located on Oakwood Drive (TMS # 004597-04-023) subsequent to bonded plat approval by the Planning Commission. Council Member Unthank so moved and Council Member Parler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- H. Mayor Horton entertained a motion for consideration to appoint the following persons to the Property Maintenance Board of Appeals for staggered terms; Mike Hutchins, General Contractor, for a three-year term expiring February 2014; Bruce Smith, Residential Builder, for a four-year term expiring February 2015 and Charles D. Epting, Residential Builder, for a five-year term expiring February 2016. Council Member Jones so moved and Council Member Unthank seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- I. Mayor Horton entertained a motion for consideration to appoint David S. Chaney, Assistant Superintendent/Lead Operator, to the Employee Grievance Committee to fill an unexpired term through January 2012. Council Member Harley so moved and Mayor Pro-Tem Harmon seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- J. Mayor Horton entertained a motion for consideration to approve the 2011 Jury List for the City of West Columbia Municipal Court. Council Member Fowler so moved and Council Member Moore seconded. Mayor Horton recognized Ken Ebener, Municipal Judge, who stated that the pool of jurors is obtained from the voter registration list from the S.C. Election Commission. He explained that council members and invalid entries are removed before the list is brought before Council for approval. He said the 2011 Jury List contains 10,994 names compared to 11,016 on the 2010 Jury List. Mayor Horton called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting

February 1, 2011

Page Four

Agenda Item VII – New Business (continued)

K. Mayor Horton recognized Planning and Zoning Director Brian Carter who presented proposed revisions on the abandoned vehicle ordinance. Mr. Carter explained the revisions, modeled after state law, would strengthen current regulations relating to abandoned vehicles, define and regulate derelict vehicles including a method to eliminate the “blue tarp” loophole for multiple vehicles and strengthen regulations relating to the storage of boats and recreational vehicles on private property. Stored vehicles would be allowed if covered with a fitted and secure cover or displays a current license plate. He said the proposed ordinance would limit the number of vehicles allowed to be stored on a property to two vehicles a year and limits residents to one travel or camping vehicle and one boat per family living on the premises. He said if a vehicle or boat is not in compliance with the ordinance then the owner would have 30 days to remove it from the property. Mr. Carter stated that derelict vehicles become health hazards when fluids leak on to the ground and vermin build nests in the wrecks. Mr. Carter noted that the revisions have been reviewed by the city attorney. He said first reading consideration would be on the March meeting agenda.

L. Mayor Horton entertained a motion for consideration of a resolution to participate in the SC Employee Insurance Program. Council Member Harley so moved and Council Member Fowler seconded. Mayor Horton recognized City Administrator Jenny Cunningham who gave a brief overview of the SC State Health Insurance Plan. Mrs. Cunningham stated that the City of West Columbia was notified that the SC Local Governments Assurance Group (SCLGAG), the city’s health insurance carrier, will dissolve effective June 30, 2011. Mrs. Cunningham explained that there were many factors that went into making the decision including declining membership participation, current economic conditions, continuing healthcare costs increases and increased utilization by group members which made the program no longer viable. She met with State Health Plan officials regarding the city’s participation and determined that it provides excellent insurance benefits to city employees. Over the years many cities and counties have joined the State Health Plan, which is in the Blue Cross/Blue Shield network. Mrs. Cunningham summarized the standard coverage under the State Health Plan as follows:

Annual Deductible: \$350 for individuals and \$700 for families compared to \$1,000 for individuals and \$3,500 for families under SCLGAG.

In-network Coinsurance: 80/20 Out-of-Network Coinsurance: 60/40

Annual Coinsurance Maximum: \$2,000 for individuals and \$4,000 for families compared to \$3,500 plus deductible for individuals and \$7,000 plus deductible for families under SCLGAG.

Per Occurrence Deductible: \$10.00 per office visit compared to \$35 under SCLGAG.

Network Retail Pharmacy: \$9 generic, \$30 formulary, and \$50 non-formulary.

Mrs. Cunningham noted that the premiums for the State Health Plan coverage will be about 10 to 15 percent less than the premiums the city currently is paying to SCLGAG and the state’s standard plan coverage is better. She explained that during the first two years of coverage under the State Health Plan the city will not be experience-rated, but will pay the same rates as other comparably-sized entities. Mayor Horton called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting

February 1, 2011

Page Five

Agenda Item VIII – Adjourn

Mayor Horton entertained a motion to adjourn. Council Member Harley so moved and Council Member Parler seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Council adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marta M. Valentino, CMC
City Clerk