

City of West Columbia, SC

Attachment VIII.B

Regular Council Meeting

September 15, 2014 at 6 p.m.

Members Present:

Joe Owens, Mayor
Casey Jordan Hallman, Mayor Pro-Tem
Eric L. Fowler
L. Dale Harley
Boyd J. Jones
Temus C. Miles, Jr.
Tommy Parler
Teddy Wingard
B.J. Unthank

Members Absent:

None

Others Present:

Jenny Cunningham, City Administrator
Mardi Valentino, City Clerk/PIO
Sid Varn, Director of Planning & Engineering
Rick Hodge, Financial Consultant
Jamie Hook, Sanitation/Streets/Parks Superintendent
Donna Smith, Director of Economic Development
Members of the Public and Press

Ken Ebener, Municipal Judge
Brian Carter, Assistant City Administrator
Dennis Tyndall, Police Chief
Justin Black, City Treasurer
Stuart Jones, Building Official
Joe Vasquez, Esq., City Attorney

Agenda Item I – Call to Order

Chairperson Unthank 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, The Columbia Star* and radio and television stations were notified of the meeting by e-mail on September 12, 2014.

Agenda Item II – Determination of Quorum

Chairperson Unthank noted a quorum was present to conduct business.

Agenda Item III – Invocation

Council Member Miles gave the invocation.

Agenda Item IV – Pledge of Allegiance

All attendees at the meeting recited the Pledge of Allegiance before the flag of the United States of America.

Agenda Item V – Announcements/Communications by Mayor

Chairperson Unthank recognized Mayor Owens who stated that he had no announcements.

Agenda Item VI – Approval of Minutes for Previous Meetings

Chairperson Unthank entertained a motion to approve minutes for the special council meeting held July 17, 2014, the special council meeting held July 30, 2014, the regular council meeting held August 5, 2014, the special council meeting held August 18, 2014 and the special council meeting held August 25, 2014. Council Member Harley so moved and Council Member Miles seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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Agenda Item VII – Unfinished Business

- A. Chairperson Unthank entertained a motion for consideration to grant the city of Columbia a pedestrian trail easement over a portion of the existing sanitary easement at the West Columbia Sanitary Sewer Pump Station located at 100 Wheat Street in Columbia. Mayor Owens so moved and Council Member Miles seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- B. Chairperson Unthank entertained a motion for consideration to construct accessible pathways to city facilities at city hall, the fire station and Fowler Park. Mayor Owens so moved and Council Member Fowler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- C. Chairperson Unthank recognized Mr. Jamie Hook, Superintendent for Sanitation, Streets and Parks and Beautification. Mr. Hook explained that equipment requests for his departments in the amount of \$190,000 had been approved in the FY 2014-2015 budget while under the direction of former Utilities Director Charles Garren. Mr. Hook stated he wanted to change some of the equipment requests to be more compatible with departmental needs. The Sanitation Department currently has requested equipment approved in the budget for \$140,000.00, which includes the purchase of a new 33000 GVWR International Workstar truck, and a new 11-yard packer body with the purpose of changing out the 16-yard existing packer to install it on a new International truck and to put the new 11-yard packer on an existing F-650 truck body. Mr. Hook proposed to change the budgeted equipment request to removing the 16-yard packer off the current F-650 truck to install it on a new M2-106 Freightliner chassis purchased under state contract for \$90,000.00 with a \$15,000.00 installation cost. He said he wanted to install a new Switch and Go on the existing F-650 truck and include two 17-yard bodies with chipper/leaf roofs. In the amount of \$27,250.00. The new proposed equipment budget for the Sanitation Department would be \$132,250.00.

The Parks Department currently has requested equipment in the amount of \$50,000.00, which includes the purchase of an F-450 with a five to eight-yard dump body installed. Mr. Hook proposed to change the budgeted equipment request to purchasing an F-550 diesel vehicle for \$36,475.00 with a 17-yard Switch and Go dump body for \$20,325.00. The new proposed equipment budget for the Parks Department would be \$56,800.00. Mr. Hook explained the F-450 truck in the original equipment request would not be strong enough to handle the 17-yard Switch and Go body. Upsizing the truck to an F-550 diesel would allow both the body and the truck to be used in the Parks and Sanitation Departments. Mayor Owens moved to accept the proposed budget transfers as stated by Mr. Hook and Mayor Pro-Tem Hallman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- D. Chairperson Unthank entertained a motion for consideration of bids for the lease purchase financing for 23 mobile data terminals in the Police Department and equipment for the Sanitation and Parks/Beautification Departments. Mayor Owens made and motion and Council Member Parler seconded. Chairperson Unthank recognized City Treasurer Justin Black who stated the city received two bids for the lease purchasing financing for 23 mobile data terminals in the budgeted amount of \$110,000.00 for a term of three years and equipment in the budgeted amount of \$190,000.00 for a term of five years for the Sanitation and Parks/Beautification Departments. Mr. Black said First Citizens Bank and Trust, NA submitted a low bid to finance \$312,244.98 with an interest rate of 1.55 percent. Mr. Black recommended that council accept the low bid from First Citizens Bank & Trust, NA. Chairperson Unthank called for the vote and the motion passed unanimously.

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Agenda Item VIII – Adjourn to Executive Session to Discuss a Legal Matter Concerning an FOIA Request, a Personnel Matter Concerning Appointments to Boards and Commissions and a Contractual Matter to Discuss a Contract for Engineering Services on a City Project

Chairperson Unthank entertained a motion to adjourn to executive session. Council Member Miles so moved and Council Member Wingard seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Council adjourned to executive session at 6:15 p.m.

Agenda Item IX – Reconvene to Regular Session

Chairperson Unthank entertained a motion to adjourn executive session and reconvene to regular session. Mayor Owens so moved and Council Member Miles seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Council reconvened to regular session at 7:05 p.m. Chairperson Unthank stated that no action was taken in executive session.

Agenda Item VII – Unfinished Business (continued)

- E. Chairperson Unthank entertained a motion for consideration to appoint Mrs. Allison Swygert to the West Columbia Planning Commission to fill an unexpired term ending in May 2016. Council Member Harley so moved and Council Member Fowler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- F. Chairperson Unthank entertained a motion for consideration to reappoint Ms. Phyllis “Cookie” Holmes to the Municipal Election Commission for a six-year term to expire in May 2020. Council Member Jones so moved and Mayor Owens seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- G. Chairperson Unthank entertained a motion for consideration of an agreement with the Dennis Corporation to provide professional engineering services for the Saluda River Pedestrian Bridge project. Council Member Jones recused himself from the vote stating he had a conflict of interest with the Dennis Corporation. Council Member Miles stated, “I move that, subject to approval from South Carolina Department of Transportation, that we approve the proposed contract with the Dennis Corporation with a revision to the price, and only the price; the new contract price will be \$672,508.39, with all price reductions to be applied to second phase services.” Mayor Owens seconded the motion. All council members voted in favor of the motion with the exception of Council Member Jones who recused himself from the vote.

Agenda Item X – Adjournment

Chairperson Unthank entertained a motion to adjourn. Council Member Parler so moved and Council Member Miles seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Council adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marta M. Valentino, CMC
City Clerk/Public Information Officer