

# City of West Columbia, SC

# Attachment VIII.B

## Special Council Meeting

December 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  
Brian Carter, Assistant City Administrator  
Stuart Jones, Building Official  
Justin Black, City Treasurer  
Sid Varn, Director of Planning and Engineering  
Jamie Hook, Superintendent for Sanitation, Streets, Parks  
Shane Phillips, Captain/West Columbia PD  
Members of the Public and Press

Myron Corley, Deputy City Administrator  
Dennis Tyndall, Police Chief  
Mardi Valentino, Director of Human Resources  
Wyatt Coleman, Fire Chief  
Anna Huffman, IT Systems Administrator  
Kelli Brazell, City Clerk  
Scott Morrison, PIO/West Columbia PD

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### 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 December 11, 2014.

### Agenda Item II – Determination of Quorum

Chairperson Unthank noted a quorum was present to conduct business.

### Agenda Item III – Invocation

Council Member Parler 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 – Adjourn to Executive Session to Discuss a Contractual Matter Concerning City Property and a Contractual Matter Concerning the Improvement of City Property and a Personnel Matter

Chairperson Unthank entertained a motion to adjourn to executive session. Council Member Parler so moved and Mayor Owens seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Council adjourned to executive session at 6:01 p.m.

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### Agenda Item VI – Reconvene to Regular Session

Chairperson Unthank entertained a motion to adjourn executive session and reconvene to regular session. Mayor Pro-Tem Hallman so moved and Council Member Miles seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Council reconvened to regular session at 6:42 p.m. Chairperson Unthank stated that no action was taken in executive session.

### Agenda Item VII – Announcements / Communications by the Mayor

Chairperson Unthank recognized Mayor Joe Owens. Mayor Owens informed Council and staff of the employee Christmas luncheon on December 17 from 12 p.m. – 2 p.m. in the New Brookland Room. The distribution of Christmas gift baskets / gift cards will be December 22, 2014 from 1-4 p.m. at City Hall. Mayor Owens then reminded Council of the Lexington County Municipal Association December meeting dinner on December 18, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. The LCMA dinner will be held at Grecian Gardens on Sunset Boulevard. Mike Dawson of the River Alliance will be this month's guest speaker. Mayor Owens informed Council and staff that the City of West Columbia would be closed for Christmas holiday December 24 – December 26.

### Agenda Item VIII – Requests for Appearances/ Citizen Comment Period

- A. Chairperson Unthank recognized Anna Huffman, City of West Columbia IT Systems Administrator. Mrs. Huffman updated council on the launch of the new City of West Columbia website. Mrs. Huffman stated the firm InDesign, LLC., in Cayce, South Carolina built the website. The website can be updated from a computer or smartphone. Mrs. Huffman listed some of the merits of the new website: public safety notifications scroll across the top of each page, more mobile friendly, ADA compliant, more user friendly for customers to sign up for e-billing and newsletters online. Mayor Pro-Tem Hallman asked if people could fill out an application for employment online. Mrs. Huffman indicated that the form can be printed from the website, filled out and turned into city hall. The data input on an employment application is risky to have submitted online. Mayor Pro-Tem Hallman also suggested adding the Fire Department Twitter page to the website. Chairperson Unthank thanked Mrs. Huffman and stated Council would like to see the website launched within a week.
- B. Chairperson Unthank recognized Mr. Taylor Hall and Mr. Josh Speed with Wilson & Kibler Real Estate. Mr. Hall and Mr. Speed wanted to start a discussion about the possibility of a proposed park on Sunset Boulevard across from the Riverbanks Zoo and Botanical Gardens entrance. Mr. Hall and Mr. Speed stated that the land is currently Lexington County property. They suggested the city purchase the property. Parcel B is inside the city limits and Parcel A is contiguous so that it may be incorporated into the city. Power lines and a pond prohibit commercial construction. Mr. Hall and Mr. Speed would like the city to consider purchasing the property to be used for a recreational area. Chairperson Unthank informed them Council would take the information under advisement.

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Agenda Item IX – Unfinished Business

- A. Chairperson Unthank entertained a motion for second reading consideration of the Planning Commission's recommendation to establish the zoning classification of recently annexed property located at 101 Adams Street (TMS# 004660-03-009) as R-3 (low-density residential). Chairperson Unthank asked for discussion and there was none. Council Member Miles so moved and Council Member Harley seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item X – New Business

- A. Chairperson Unthank entertained a motion for consideration to grant a roofing and rain gutter easement for the building located at 351 Meeting Street. Council Member Miles so moved and Council Member Parler seconded. Chairperson Unthank asked for discussion. Chairperson Unthank stated Council had discussed the easement with developer and were advised not to compromise the property in any way. Mayor Owens stated he could not vote in favor of granting the easement due to the fact city real estate representatives, Ben Kelly and Patrick Chambers, already have the property under contract. Mayor Owens stated that granting an easement on property already under contract is not legal. Council voted unanimously in opposition of granting the easement.

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 7:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelli Brazell  
City Clerk