



**Regular Council Meeting
City Council Chambers
231 East Hayne Street
Tuesday, February 28th, 2017
5:30 p.m.**

(These minutes are subject to approval at the regular March 2017 meeting)

City Council met on this date with only Councilman Kennedy absent. Interim City Manager/City Attorney Terry Clark and City Clerk Sophie Spivey were also present. Notice of the meeting was sent to the media days prior to the meeting and posted on the bulletin board at City Hall in advance of the meeting according to the Freedom of Information Act.

- I. **Call to Order-** The meeting was called to order by Mayor Brad Burnett at 5:31 p.m.
- II. **Mayor's Report & Approval of Minutes-** A motion was made by Councilman Smith to accept the meeting minutes from January 24th 2017 as written. The motion was seconded by Councilman Durham. The vote passed unanimously. Councilwoman Norman was absent for this vote.

The mayor discussed the nice turnout with the Miss Teen South Carolina visit. He also said that we want to reengage with the chamber and he met with an investment firm about the old Mill's Mill property. He said we had many applicants for City Manager and interviews would take place soon. He said there was a committee for police chief. He also mentioned looking at a craft fair ordinance.

- III. **Citizen's request to appear before council-** Mr Charles Tucker was a no-show.
- IV. **Old Business**
There was no old business to discuss.
- V. **New Business**
 - a. **Standardization of the Municipal Election Dates** – Mr. Henry Laye with the Spartanburg Election Commission asked that the election dates for municipal elections be moved to an odd year in November or June. This would require a shortening of current terms by one year or the extension of those terms by one

year. He stated this was good for municipalities because in big elections people typically vote a straight party ticket and don't bother voting in non-partisan elections. He also said it would get us out of the presidential election year and we would have a better turnout as people would be there to vote for municipal offices and not skip it. Mr. Laye also recognized Mr. Bob Hicks for his long service to the election commission. Councilman Arnold discussed his concerns about the low turn out for odd year elections. Other council members noted their concerns surrounding this recommendation. A motion was made by Councilman Smith to defer discussion to a March meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Durham. The motion passed with 4 yes votes and 1 no vote. The no vote was made by Councilwoman Norman

- b. **SafeBuilt proposal-** Stewart Dodson presented. Mr. Dodson discussed the addition of a permit department to our existing contract. This arrangement would be in addition to the codes but the payment would be based on permit fees and not an additional cost to the city. This would be as needed or on demand, and for large projects that surface, this would be all the time if needed. Council asked some questions about the process. A motion was made by Councilman Durham to allow Mr. Clark to enter into a one year contract negotiation with SafeBuilt. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Norman. The vote passed unanimously,
- c. **Amendment to Façade Grant Program-** A motion was made by Councilman Durham to table this discussion to allow Alyson Leslie to be present to discuss it in detail at the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Smith. The vote passed unanimously.

VI. **Other Business-**

- a. The mayor mentioned the walk with officials on the 25th of March and the clean up day which will be on Allen St. from March 31st through April 1st.
- b. The current financial statement was reviewed by council. A motion was made by Councilman Smith to accept the financial statement from December. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Sloan. The vote passed unanimously.
- c. Mr. Clark discussed the Miss South Carolina Teen visit last week and a celebration of African American History. He said the Easter Egg Hunt will be on April 15th at McKinney Park and Stone Soup will be 20-23 of April. Will Oliver, our parks supervisor, discussed the Disc Golf event to overlap Stone Soup.

VII. **Executive Session to discuss litigation-** A motion was made by Councilman Smith to enter executive session to discuss current litigation. The motion was seconded by

Councilman Arnold. The vote passed unanimously. Executive session was entered at 6:24pm

VIII. Regular session- Regular session was entered at 6:48PM. No action to be taken.

IX. Adjourn- A motion was made by Councilman Arnold to adjourn the meeting. A second was made by Councilman Durham. The vote passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:48PM.

Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sophie S. Spivey", written over a horizontal line.

Sophie S. Spivey
City Clerk/Treasurer