

Mayor  
Elise Partin

Mayor Pro-Tem  
Tara S. Almond

Council Members  
Phil Carter  
Eva Corley  
James E. Jenkins

City Manager  
Tracy Hegler



**CITY OF CAYCE**  
**Regular Council Meeting**  
**June 4, 2019**

The June Regular Council Meeting was held this evening at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. Those present included Mayor Elise Partin, Council Members Tara Almond, Phil Carter and Eva Corley. Council Member James Jenkins was unable to attend due to an illness. City Manager Tracy Hegler, Assistant to the City Manager Rachelle Moody, Municipal Clerk Mendy Corder, Municipal Treasurer Garry Huddle, Planning and Development Director Carroll Williamson, Utilities Director Blake Bridwell, Director of Public Safety Byron Snellgrove, Deputy Director of Public Safety Jim Crosland, and City Attorney Danny Crowe were also in attendance.

Mayor Partin asked if members of the press and the public were duly notified of the Council Meeting in accordance with the FOIA. Ms. Corder confirmed they were notified.

**Call to Order**

Mayor Partin called the meeting to order. Council Member Almond gave the invocation. Mayor Partin stated that the City is proud to honor military veterans by inviting them to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance at every regular Council Meeting. She stated that Chief Master Sergeant Micah Gardner is a Superintendent for the Aircraft Maintenance Squadron at Shaw Air Force Base, South Carolina. Chief Gardner provides senior enlisted leadership for 230 personnel responsible for providing quality aircraft maintenance for a fleet of 27 F-16 aircraft valued at \$891 million dollars. He provides technical expertise to the commander, leads maintenance efforts, manages resources and training, and generates safe, reliable, combat-ready aircraft to facilitate combat operations for use in accomplishing national security objectives. Chief Gardner enlisted in the Air Force in November of 1998 as an Avionics Systems Technician. He has been assigned to installations in the United Kingdom, South Korea, and the United States including California, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia. He has held various assignments at the Flight, Squadron, and Command level including positions at Headquarters Air Combat Command on Langley Air Force Base. Chief Gardner has deployed six times to Southwest Asia and the Middle East in support of Operations in Iraq, Syria, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Africa. He just returned from seven (7) months in Kuwait supporting the liberation of Syria from ISIS militant rule.

**Approval of Minutes**

Council Member Almond made a motion to approve the May 7, 2019 Regular Council Meeting minutes and the May 22, 2019 Special Council Meeting minutes as written. Council Member Carter seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

### **Public Comment Regarding Items on the Agenda**

No one signed up for Public Comment.

### **Presentations**

#### **A. Presentation of the Whole Sole Award**

Mayor Partin read a nomination submitted for three employees to be awarded the City's Whole Sole Award. The nomination stated that on October 9, 2017 William Player Holland was shot and killed in the Hunter's Mill Subdivision. Even though it appeared to be accidental, it still taxed Cayce Department of Public Safety's Investigations Unit for the next several months. There was a tremendous amount of evidence to be processed along with many witnesses to be interviewed. When working a case like this, it is imperative that sensitive information be kept inside the department. Media relations, along with other entities were consistently demanding information about the case that Public Safety simply did not have. At this time, there is only speculation on what might have happened but still nothing that can be proved. During all this, Public Safety staff were communicating with Player Holland's parents, who were understandably angry and extremely emotional. Investigator Caleb Thomas, Victim's Advocate Danielle McCord, and Administrative Coordinator Pattie Rabon took the initiative to coordinate meetings on a weekly basis with Bill and Sheron Holland. The meetings were intended to keep them up to date with the investigation but, maybe more importantly, also served to comfort them and let them mourn. There were many lunches missed and late afternoons because of these meetings but never any negative words or expressions. Even after a year and a half, the Hollands still come by every week to meet with these compassionate individuals in an attempt to help dull some of the pain of losing a child. This is the stuff that cannot be taught in the classroom or a process for on the job training. It comes from the heart and soul of a person and having staff like this makes Cayce Department of Public Safety so special.

Mayor Partin presented the Whole Sole Award to Investigator Thomas, Victim's Advocate Ms. McCord and Administrative Coordinator Ms. Rabon and thanked them for going above and beyond.

### **Ordinances and Other**

#### **A. Discussion and Approval of Ordinance 2019-09 Amending City Code Sections 2-33 and 16-3 Concerning the Date for Elections for Mayor and Members of Council – First Reading**

Ms. Hegler stated that Lexington County Manager of Elections Ms. Beth Henrick appeared before Council at the May 7, 2019 Council Meeting to request that the City change its current election date for Mayor and Council from the Federal and State general election date in November of even-numbered years to November in odd-numbered years. Ms. Hegler stated that Ms. Henrick stated that changing the election dates to odd-numbered years would reduce confusion at the polls. Ms. Henrick stated that currently many voters do not realize that there is a municipal election on the ballot as well as State and Federal Elections. She also stated that changing the years would reduce the demand on the County election staff. She stated that many voters vote straight party ticket and do not remember that there was a municipal election as well until after they cast their ballot. Ms. Hegler stated that currently the City and the Town of Lexington are the only municipalities that hold their elections in even-numbered years. She stated that there would not be an increase in cost for the City to move the elections to odd-numbered years.

Council Member Almond made a motion to amend Ordinance 2019-09. Council Member Corley seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

**B. Discussion and Approval of Ordinance 2019-10 to Adopt an Annual Budget, Levy a Property Tax, and Provide Revenue for the City of Cayce for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2020 and To Adopt and Establish Certain New Fees with Fee Amounts and New Fee Amounts for Certain Existing Fees – First Reading**

Ms. Hegler stated that the General Fund Budget was balanced at \$14,339,723 with two new or revised revenue sources proposed. One is an increase of 4.04 mills in property taxes, per the allowed amount within the look back and current CPI. One mil is valued at \$52,655. Anticipated revenue is calculated at 95% collection rate per historical collection records. The City's current millage is 49.69 mills and this increase would bring it to 53.73 mills. The proposed mil increase would cost the average \$100,000 home an additional \$16.16 per year or \$1.35 per month. Ms. Hegler stated that the proposed budget also includes a new local accommodations tax and a proposed 3% cost of living adjustment for all employees.

Ms. Hegler stated that the Utility Fund Budget is balanced at \$21,089,801 and includes a 3.0% rate increase as required by the terms of the City's SRF Loan for the Waterline Replacement Project. She stated that this fiscal year was the final year for that obligation. She stated that the increase will cost the average water and sewer customer an additional \$1.45 a month.

Council Member Almond made a motion to approve Ordinance 2019-10 on First Reading. Council Member Carter seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

C. Discussion and Approval of Ordinance 2019-07 Amending City Code Sections 2-66 Concerning Regular Meetings of Council – Second Reading

Council Member Corley made a motion to approve Ordinance 2019-07 on Second Reading. Council Member Almond seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

D. Discussion and Approval of Ordinance 2019-08 Amending the City Code to Add Chapter 29 (“Local Accommodations Tax”) – Second Reading

Council Member Almond made a motion to approve Ordinance 2019-08 on Second Reading. Council Member Corley seconded the motion which was unanimously by roll call vote.

E. Discussion and Approval of Supportive Municipal Judge Agreement for Bond and other Judicial Duties with Lexington County

Ms. Hegler stated that she asked for deferral on this item at the last Council Meeting. She stated that she wanted to get more insight on the cost proposal of the agreement. She stated that the County has provided her with really good information on how they determined the City’s fee. Ms. Hegler stated that it is a fair rate that is applied to the City’s typical number of defendants that are sent to the County for processing. She stated that with that information she is comfortable recommending that Council proceed with the agreement.

Council Member Corley made a motion to approve the agreement. Council Member Carter seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

**City Manager’s Report**

Ms. Hegler stated that Ms. Rachelle Moody was moving on to a wonderful opportunity as the Assistant City Manager for the City of North Augusta. Ms. Hegler stated that Ms. Moody made her transition to the City easy and provided her with exceptional support. She asked that Council join her in congratulating Ms. Moody and wishing her well in her future endeavors.

**Committee Matters**

- A. Approval to enter the following Committee approved Minutes into the City's Record  
Events Committee – April 11, 2019  
Planning Commission – April 22, 2019

Council Member Corley made a motion to enter the approved Events Committee and Planning Commission meeting minutes into the record. Council Member Carter seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

- B. Appointments and Reappointments  
Public Safety Foundation – One (1) Position

Council Member Almond made a motion to reappoint Mr. Hubert Smoak to the Public Safety Foundation. Council Member Carter seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

### **Council Comments**

Mayor Partin stated that the Cayce Public Safety Foundation's Cayce Serves Tennis Tournament fundraiser is Saturday, June 15 starting at 9am at the Cayce Tennis & Fitness Center. Council Member Almond thanked Ms. Hegler and staff for their hard work in balancing the budget. She stated that it could not have been easy since there was a large gap between revenues and expenses initially. Council Member Corley and Council Member Carter thanked staff as well. Council Member Carter also stated that he enjoyed working with Ms. Moody and appreciated her hard work. Mayor Partin asked everyone to keep Council Member Jenkins in their thoughts. She stated that he was not feeling well.

### **Executive Session**

- A. Receipt of legal advice relating to claims and potential claims by and against the City and other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege

Council Member Corley made a motion to move into Executive Session. Council Member Carter seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

### **Reconvene**

After the Executive Session was concluded, Council Member Almond made a motion to reconvene the Regular meeting. Council Member Carter seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

**Possible Actions by Council in follow up to Executive Session**

No action was taken in follow up to Executive Session.

**Adjourn**

There being no further business, Council Member Almond made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Corley seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote. The meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

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Elise Partin, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Mendy C. Corder, CMC, Municipal Clerk

