



Mayor
Elise Partin

Mayor Pro-Tem
Tara S. Almond

Council Members
Phil Carter
Eva Corley
James E. Jenkins

City Manager
Tracy Hegler

Assistant City Manager
James E. Crosland

**City of Cayce
Regular Council Meeting
March 18, 2020**

A Regular Council Meeting was held this afternoon at 5:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. Those present included Mayor Elise Partin, Council Members Tara Almond, Phil Carter, Eva Corley and James Jenkins. City Manager Tracy Hegler, Municipal Clerk Mendy Corder, Planning and Development Director Carroll Williamson, Director of Public Safety Byron Snellgrove, and City Attorneys Danny Crowe and Lawrence Flynn were also in attendance.

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

Call to Order

Mayor Partin called the meeting to order and Council Member Corley gave the invocation. Mayor Partin led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment Regarding Items on the Agenda

No one signed up for Public Comment.

Ordinances and Other

- A. Discussion and Approval of Ordinance 2020-03 Amending the Zoning Map and Rezoning Property Located at the Southwest Corner of Saxe Gotha and 12th Street Extension (A Portion of Tax Map Number 006897-01-042, Plat Book 16753, Page 163) from M-1 to PDD – Second Reading

Ms. Hegler stated that since the First Reading, language and illustrations have been added to provide more detail on the Main Street and Commons areas. It also clarifies that lifestyle storage will be compatible with the adjacent multi-family building, and provides more detail on the colors of the buildings. She stated that staff asked for these items to be included for Second Reading of the Ordinance.

Council Member Almond made a motion to approve Ordinance 2020-03 on Second Reading. Council Member Jenkins seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

- B. Discussion and Approval of Ordinance 2020-04 Authorizing Electronic Meetings of Council, Quorums and Voting by Electronic Means, and Other Related Measures for Council Meetings

Ms. Hegler stated that Mr. Crowe drafted the Emergency Ordinance in light of the current situation with COVID-19. Council Member Corley made a motion to approve the Emergency Ordinance. Council Member Almond seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

C. Discussion of Status of Certain Franchises and Authorization for City Manager to Provide Appropriate Notices Under the Franchises

Mr. Crowe stated that the City has been engaged in negotiation of new franchises for electric and gas utilities with which the City has current franchises with SCE&G and Mid-Carolina Co-op. He stated that the negotiations have stalled and he and Ms. Hegler were requesting that Council authorize the City Manager to provide the two year notice of proposed date of termination to the electric and gas utilities with which the City has these franchises. Mr. Crowe stated that it would take two years for that to go into effect but he and Ms. Hegler believe that it would be of assistance with the negotiations of new franchises.

Council Member Corley made a motion to authorize the City Manager to provide the two year notice to the electric and gas utilities with which the City has franchises. Council Member Almond seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

City Manager's Report

Ms. Hegler updated Council on the steps that staff have taken in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. She stated that on Monday, March 16 public access to City buildings was prohibited for the next two weeks. She stated that all business is being conducted through the City's drive thru window. She stated that all City services are functioning as normal. Ms. Hegler stated that all the City's Parks are closed except the Riverwalk. She stated that upcoming events have been cancelled. Staffing plans are being looked at so the City will be prepared if staff has to be reduced. She stated that the next step would be to limit services but the City is not at that point yet. She stated that the City of Columbia had enacted a curfew and staff was discussing if the City needs to do that as well. She stated that staff spoke to the City Attorney to ensure that the City has the legal means to enact a curfew if necessary. Ms. Hegler stated that staff was working diligently to push out the City's response to the COVID-19 to citizens. She stated that staff was concerned about local businesses and are looking for ways to make sure they can continue to operate. She stated that staff was still working on the budget and would present it to Council in the near future. She stated that staff's goal was to continue to provide services as long as it was safe and healthy to do so. She stated that if Council ever had any questions about what staff was doing in response to COVID-19 to please call her.

Council Member Corley asked for details on the curfew that the City of Columbia implemented. Ms. Hegler stated that Columbia's curfew is from 11pm to 6am. She

stated that the curfew ensures that there are less people on the streets so it is easier for Public Safety Officers to enforce patrol. She stated that ideally a curfew would be imposed at the state level.

Mr. Crowe stated that the Emergency Ordinance gives Council the ability to have an emergency meeting with the Freedom of Information Act notice requirements waived. He stated that if Council feels from a public safety perspective that a curfew should be implemented then an Ordinance can be put into effect quickly. Mr. Crowe stated that Emergency Ordinances, under state law, expire after 60 days on their own without further action from Council. Ms. Hegler stated that she asked Chief Snellgrove to monitor nighttime activities and if there was a cause for concern staff would bring that back to Council.

Committee Matters

A. Appointments and Reappointments Museum Commission – Two (2) Positions

Council Member Jenkins made a motion to reappoint Ms. Judy Corbitt to the Cayce Museum Commission and appoint Mr. Larry Whitener to the Museum Commission. Council Member Corley seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Council Comments

Council Member Carter voiced concern about how the COVID-19 issue would affect the City's local businesses and restaurants. He asked Ms. Hegler to forward the requirements and guidelines for the City's Hospitality Tax to Council.

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**
- B. Discussion of possible contractual arrangements concerning Lexington County water rates**
- C. Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangement for a sewer line project and Town of Lexington Utility Service**
- D. Discussion of refunding options for certain outstanding utility revenue bonds**

Council Member Jenkins made a motion to move into Executive Session. Council Member Almond 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 Corley seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote. Mayor Partin announced that no vote was taken in Executive Session other than to adjourn and resume the Regular meeting.

Possible Actions by Council in follow up to Executive Session

A. Discussion and Approval of Proposed Contractual Arrangement for Sewer Line Project and Town of Lexington Utility Service

Council Member Almond made a motion to postpone this item until the City Attorney could get more information from the Town of Lexington on the implications of this action. Council Member Carter seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

B. Approval and Authorization for City Manager to Accept and Negotiate Term Sheet for Refunding of Outstanding Utility Revenue Bonds

Council Member Almond made a motion to authorize the City Manager to accept and negotiate a term sheet for refunding the City's outstanding Utility revenue bonds. Council Member Corley seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Adjourn

Council Member Almond made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Jenkins seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:49 p.m.

Elise Partin, Mayor

ATTEST:

Mendy Corder, CMC, Municipal Clerk

