



Mayor  
Elise Partin

Mayor Pro-Tem  
James E. Jenkins

Council Members  
Ann Bailey-Robinson  
Phil Carter  
Tim James

City Manager  
Tracy Hegler

Assistant City Manager  
James E. Crosland

**City of Cayce  
Regular Council Meeting  
June 16, 2021**

A Regular Council Meeting was held this evening at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom video and conferencing software. Those present included Mayor Elise Partin, Mayor Pro Tem James Jenkins and Council Members Ann Bailey-Robinson, Phil Carter and Tim James. City Manager Tracy Hegler, Assistant City Manager Jim Crosland, Municipal Clerk Mendy Corder, IT Director Jamie Beckham 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 meeting in accordance with the FOIA. Ms. Corder confirmed they were notified. Mayor Partin stated that the meeting was being recorded through Zoom. She stated that the public was provided a call in number to be able to follow all of the City business as normal. She asked any caller to mute their audio so there would not be any feedback. She stated that the meeting organizer was also able to mute calls. Mayor Partin stated that the public could speak on any item on the agenda if they prearranged speaking with the City's Municipal Clerk.

**Call to Order**

Mayor Partin called the meeting to order and Council Member James 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.

**Presentations**

- A. Presentation by Midlands Business Leadership Group (MBLG) on the Midlands Governmental Cooperation Initiative to beautify key gateways around the region, beginning with Hwy. 302 Airport Corridor

Mr. James Bennett with Midlands Business Leadership Group (MBLG), Mr. Will Schenk with EngenuitySC and Mr. Gregory Spouse and Mr. Reginald Simmons with the Central Midlands Council of Governments (CMCOG) attended the meeting on behalf of the Midlands Business Leadership Group (MBLG) Governmental Cooperation initiative to update Council on the regional gateway beautification project beginning with the Hwy. 302 airport corridor. Mr. Bennett stated that one of the goals of the project was to enhance cooperation between local governments and to help build stronger working relationships between local and elected officials.

Mr. Bennett stated that the MBLG was a group of over 45 CEO's and top executives from the largest companies in the Columbia region who met regularly to discuss issues important to the region's success. He stated that in 2016, the MBLG began a private sector led, community-supported effort to drive improvement in Columbia's regional competitiveness. He stated that MBLG's vision was to accelerate the development of Columbia as a region that attracts and retains top talent, produces vibrant job offerings and provides necessary resources to improve livability for all people.

Mr. Bennett stated that the regional gateway beautification project's goal was to identify key gateways to the Columbia region and develop a unified plan for landscaping, signage and improvements. He stated that the City of Columbia, Richland County, Lexington County, the Town of Springdale, the City of West Columbia and the City of Cayce were all participating governments. He stated that the MBLG continued to work with Forest Acres and the Town of Lexington to join the initiative. Mr. Bennett thanked Mayor Partin and Ms. Hegler for their continued support. He stated that they had been involved since day one and had been very supportive and engaged in the initiative.

Mr. Bennett stated that initial construction costs would be fundraised using mostly private funding. He stated that the CMCOG and its associated charitable organization would act as the fiscal vehicle. Mr. Bennett stated that Hwy. 302 and Airport Blvd. would be fundraised and completed first. He stated that fundraising launched in March 2021 and over \$1 million dollars, of an estimated \$1.3 million total construction cost, had been committed for construction of Hwy. 302. He stated that the estimated construction cost of all eight (8) gateways was \$2.6 million.

Mr. Bennett stated that there was a Regional Gateways Intergovernmental Agreement between the CMCOG and all the participating governments. He stated that the CMCOG would be the project manager and committees of representatives from all participating governments would make decisions and guide procurement. He stated that the CMCOG would provide oversight for initial construction and maintenance supported by local government staff. Mr. Bennett stated that the intergovernmental agreement was designed to allow flexibility, oversight and thorough review by participating governments.

Mr. Bennett stated that next steps were to complete the intergovernmental agreement draft review process through legal teams and full governmental cooperation group, adoption by all participating Councils, complete fundraising for the first project then the IGA committees and the CMCOG would take over procurement, construction, etc. and fundraising would continue. He stated that the project was one that the entire region could be proud of.

Mayor Partin thanked Mr. Bennett for updating Council on the amazing progress that had been made. She stated that Council passed a Resolution supporting the project when MBLG first approached the City about the project.

### **Proclamations and Ordinances**

#### **A. Approval of Proclamation – National League of Cities Small Cities Month**

Mayor Pro Tem Jenkins made a motion to approve a Proclamation making June National League of Cities Small Cities month. Council Member James seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

#### **B. Discussion and Approval of Ordinance 2021-16 Approving the Financing of Sewer System Improvements Through the Borrowing of Not Exceeding Four Million Eighty-Six Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$4,086,660), Plus Capitalized Interest, if any, from the State Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund, by Agreement with the South Carolina Water Quality Revolving Fund Authority, Pursuant to Title 48, Chapter 5, Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as amended, Providing for the Agreement to Make and to Accept a Loan, the Execution and Delivery of a Loan Agreement between the City of Cayce, South Carolina and the South Carolina Water Quality Revolving Fund Authority, the Execution and Delivery of a Promissory Note from the City of Cayce, South Carolina to the South Carolina Water Quality Revolving Fund Authority; and other Matters Relating Thereto – First Reading**

Ms. Hegler stated that Council action was needed to approve First Reading of a Series Ordinance providing for the financing of sewer system improvements of a loan from the State Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund (the "Fund") maintained by the SC Water Quality Revolving Fund Authority (the "State Authority") in an amount not exceeding \$4,086,660 (plus capitalized interest, if any).

Ms. Hegler stated that at the June 2, 2020 Council Meeting, City Council adopted a resolution authorizing an application to the State Authority for a loan from the Fund to finance major improvements and upgrades to the City's Septage and Grease Facility. She stated that the project included but was not necessarily limited to structures, equipment, site work, yard piping, valves, mechanical piping, electrical and appurtenances all associated with the following parts of the project: the addition of a second truck receiving bay; removal of septage/oil/grease receiving equipment and controls in existing receiving bay and replacement with new septage/oil/grease receiving equipment and controls; modifications to existing concrete and piping in existing receiving bay to accommodate new equipment; addition of second belt filter press; expansion of existing belt press building; conveyor system for new belt filter press; replacement conveyor system for existing belt filter press; and modifications to existing SCADA system to accommodate new equipment. Ms. Hegler stated that since

then, the City had been working with American Engineering on designing the upgrades and contractor bidding. She stated that Council approved a bid award for the project to M.B. Kahn Construction at the June 1, 2021 Council Meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Jenkins made a motion to approve First Reading of the Series Ordinance to authorize the loan from the Fund in an amount not exceeding \$4,086,660.00 (plus capitalized interest, if any) to fund the required sewer system improvements. Council Member Bailey-Robinson seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

### **City Manager's Report**

Ms. Hegler stated that the ladder firetruck RFP was due that Friday and staff was excited to review the responses. She stated that the City had recently issued a RFP for professional auditing services. She stated that formal training was scheduled the next day for the Planning Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals and the Standard Technical Codes Board of Appeals members. She stated that they were going back to meeting in person and staff thought it would be a good idea to get them used to the process again. She stated that the City's Municipal Court did not have any backlog of cases and were completely caught up. Mayor Partin stated that the Court staff's work was amazing. Ms. Hegler stated that the City's timber harvest was complete.

### **Council Comments**

Mayor Partin stated that the City's Parks staff was always so respectful of people walking on the Riverwalk. She stated that staff always pulled over so people could pass. She stated that she always had residents comment to her how kind and thoughtful Parks staff was. She stated that this was another example of the City's culture of customer service and kindness and she was very thankful for the City team.

### **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. Discussions of negotiations incident to proposed contractual relationship with Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority

Mayor Pro Tem Jenkins made a motion to enter into Executive Session. Council Member James seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

### **Reconvene**

After the Executive Session was concluded, Council Member James made a motion to reconvene the Regular meeting. Council Member Carter 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**

No actions were taken in follow up to Executive Session.

**Adjourn**

Mayor Pro Tem Jenkins made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member James seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

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Elise Partin, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Mendy Corder, CMC, Municipal Clerk

