



Mayor  
Elise Partin

Mayor Pro-Tem  
Tim James

Council Members  
Phil Carter  
Hunter Sox  
Byron Thomas

City Manager  
Mike Conley

Assistant City Manager  
Wesley Crosby

**City of Cayce  
Regular Council Meeting  
Tuesday, September 2, 2025**

The September 2, 2025, Regular Council Meeting was held this evening at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. Those present included Mayor Elise Partin, Mayor Pro Tem Tim James and Council Members Phil Carter, Hunter Sox and Byron Thomas. City Manager Michael Conley, Assistant City Manager Wesley Crosby, Municipal Clerk Mendy Corder, Finance Director Allison Barrs, Human Resources Director Keisha Brunson, IT Director Jamie Beckham, Police Chief Bruce Wade, Fire Chief Steven Bullard, Utilities Director Betsy Catchings and City Attorney Will Dillard 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 Regular Council meeting to order and Council Member Sox gave the invocation. Mayor Partin led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes**

Municipal Clerk Corder stated that it was brought to her attention that there was an error in the August 20, 2025, Council Meeting minutes and asked that Council postpone approval until the September 17, 2025, Council Meeting so she could correct them. Council Member Sox made a motion to approve the August 5, 2025, Regular Council Meeting minutes as written and postpone approval of the August 20, 2025, Council Meeting minutes until the September 17, 2025, Council Meeting. Council Member Thomas seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

**Public Comment Regarding Items on the Agenda**

There was no public comment.

**Presentations**

**A. Presentation by Fire Chief Steven Bullard on the Cayce Fire Department**

Fire Chief Bullard gave Council an update on the past year for the Fire Department. He stated that over the past year, the Department responded to a total of 2,249 calls, 267 of those were fire related calls, 1,065 were medical related, 187 fire alarms, four (4) hazmat calls, and 437 other calls. He stated they were averaging approximately seven (7) calls

per day and their average response time for their first engine on scene was four minutes and 16 seconds. He stated that their call volume was the second busiest one station department in the state, only behind West Columbia, and that was out of 430 departments, and 63 of those only have one station for training. He stated that in 2024, they had just under 4,000 hours of training and were on track to do the same this year. Fire Chief Bullard stated that the Fire Department maintained their ISO two rating, were fully staffed, obtained their Fire Safe Community designation for the second year in a row, received a new fire engine and an UTV for special events in the Riverwalk, received new extrication equipment, a station alerting system, and nearly half of the department was now EMT certified. He stated that they started a BLS program in January of this year and were currently under Lexington County's standing orders, which allowed them to provide advanced lifesaving care to those in need.

Fire Chief Bullard stated some of the department's other accomplishments were they consolidated fire dispatch with Lexington County, established automatic aid agreements with all departments in Lexington County, and now there was never a delay in response. He stated that Lindsay McDade established a therapeutic equine program that had been very successful and had reached partners nationwide.

### **Proclamation**

- A. Approval of a Proclamation – Woman's Club International Day of Service

Mayor Pro Tem James made a motion to approve the Woman's Club International Day of Service Proclamation. Council Member Sox seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

### **Items for Discussion and Possible Approval**

- A. Discussion and Approval to move forward with a City Stormwater Mitigation Program

Mayor Pro Tem James made a motion to approve the staff recommendation to allocate up to \$300,000 from the unrestricted reserved fund balance and the addition of two full time employees for the creation of a stormwater team and program. Council Members Carter, Sox and Thomas voted yes. Mayor Partin voted no.

### **Ordinances**

- A. Discussion and Approval of Ordinance 2025-06 Annexing Property Located at 2140 Frink Street (Tax Map Number 005758-01-023) and Assigning C-2 Neighborhood Commercial Zoning Designation – Second Reading

Council Member Sox made a motion to approve the annexation and C-2 zoning designation. Council Member Carter seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

### **Committee Matters**

- A. Approval to Enter the Following Committee Approved Minutes Into the City's Record
  - Cayce Housing Authority – May 20, 2025
  - Cayce Housing Authority Special Meeting – June 26, 2025
  - Museum and Historical Commission – July 2, 2025

Council Member Sox made a motion to enter the approved minutes into the City's record. Council Member Carter seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

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

Council Member Carter made a motion to appoint Ms. Laura Scaggs to the Beautification Foundation. Council Member Thomas seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Council Member Carter made a motion to reappoint Ms. John Sloan Jr. to the Public Safety Foundation. Council Member Sox seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

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

City Manager Conley stated that the City's Fall Fest was Saturday, October 4 from noon to 6pm in Granby Gardens Park and was a country theme this year with country genre musicians. He stated that there was a large rock in Guignard Park that was shaped like the state of South Carolina and Municipal Clerk Corder worked with a local artist to have a mural painted on it. He stated that Police Chief Wade successfully defended his dissertation and was getting his Doctrine of Criminal Justice.

### **Council Comments**

Mayor Pro Tem James thanked the Fire Department for all their accomplishments and congratulated Police Chief Wade on receiving his Doctorate.

Council Member Thomas stated that he was holding a Hot dogs and Handshakes event on Sunday, September 21 from 1pm to 3pm at H. Kelley Jones Park and Police

Chief Wade and City Manager Conley would be there. He stated that he had partnered with Synovus Bank to host a financial literacy workshop at City Hall on Monday, November 17 at 6pm. He thanked Martin Marietta staff for attending the Riverland Park Neighborhood meeting recently.

Council Member Sox gave an update on the infrastructure work going on near the Churchill Heights neighborhood. He stated that the following Wednesday and Thursday, there would be public input meetings to discuss the proposed updates to the Zoning Ordinance and Land Development Regulations for the City.

Mayor Partin stated that the City of Cayce was in a New York Times article about pickleball. She asked City Manager Conley to give Council updates on the Riverwalk in his City Manager Report so everyone would receive them. She stated that she would like to get updates on the economic development requests that she had in with City Manager Conley for quite some time since the City now had a staff person, she wanted updates on those to bring some small businesses. She asked that he also bring back the Ordinance for the vacant buildings.

### **Executive Session**

- A. Receipt of legal advice regarding Council – Staff Communications
- B. Receipt of legal advice regarding hospitality tax funding of City “pocket parks”
- C. Receipt of legal advice and discussion of proposed contractual arrangements regarding fire department vehicle
- D. Receipt of legal advice regarding participation in proposed settlement of opioid class action litigation (Purdue/Sackler Settlement and Secondary Manufacturers National Opioid Settlement)

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

### **Reconvene**

After the Executive Session was concluded, Mayor Pro Tem James made a motion to reconvene the Regular meeting. Council Member Sox 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 in follow up to Executive Session**

- A. Other

Council Member Sox made a motion to authorize the City Manager to execute a fire truck purchase order with Pierce, as discussed in Executive Session. Mayor Pro Tem James seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Council Member Sox made a motion to authorize the City Manager to execute settlement documents for participation in the opioid class action settlements as discussed in Executive Session. Mayor Pro Tem James seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Mayor Partin asked City Manager Conley and City Attorney Dillard to make sure to list any possible actions after Executive Session so that the public knows what might be coming out of Executive Session. She stated that listing other probably did not qualify. She stated that if they knew what the possible actions were, they needed to put them there.

### **Adjourn**

Council Member Sox made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Pro Tem James seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:04pm.

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Elise Partin, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Mendy Corder, CMC, Municipal Clerk

