

**CITY OF ABBEVILLE, SC
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2019**

Members Present: Mayor S. Delano Freeman, Councilmembers Louise Aikens, Christopher R. Crawford, Jason Edwards, James R. Grant, Benjamin P. Greeson, Jr., James Jackson, A. Faye Thomas. Absent was Trey Edwards.

Staff Present: R. Blake Stone – City Manager, Fran Strickland – Assistant City Manager, Amber Price – HR Director and City Clerk, Laura Snelling – CFO, Mike Clary – Community Development Director, and Thomas E. Hite, III – City Attorney

Media Present: Henry Green – **Press and Banner**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Freeman.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Freeman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was given by Councilmember Crawford.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilmember Thomas and seconded by Councilmember Jackson to approve the minutes from the regular City Council Meeting held on Tuesday, June 11, 2019. With no objections the **motion passed** unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD –

1. Susan Jordan, HPPC Member

Susan Jordan spoke regarding proposed Ordinance No. 8-2019.

OATH OF OFFICE

1. Councilwoman Louise Aikens, District No. 1, was sworn into office by William H. McNeil, City Judge.

PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS

1. Eric Smith, Business Owner and Property Owner

Eric Smith spoke with council about purchasing his property located at 100 W. Pickens Street.

ORDINANCES

Second Reading: Ordinance No. 8-2019: An Ordinance of the City of Abbeville, S.C. Amending Ordinance 1-2006, the Historic Properties Protection Ordinance, as Revised in 2012, to Better Develop the Design Review Process and to Include Updated Responsibilities for Commission Members.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jackson and seconded by Councilmember Grant to approve Ordinance No. 8-2019 amending Ordinance No. 1-2006, the Historic Properties Protection Ordinance, as Revised in 2012, to Better Develop the Design Review Process and to Include Updated Responsibilities for Commission Members.

A motion was made by Councilmember Greeson and seconded by Councilmember Thomas to table Ordinance No. 8-2019. Voting in favor were Mayor Freeman and Councilmembers Greeson, Thomas, Grant, Aikens, and J. Edwards. Voting in opposition were Councilmembers Jackson and Crawford. The **motion passed 6-2**.

Second Reading: Ordinance No. 9-2019: An Ordinance of the City of Abbeville, S.C. Amending Ordinance No. 9-2018, the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget to Account for the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant and the Fox Theatre – Opera House Grant.

A motion was made by Councilmember Thomas and seconded by Councilmember Crawford to approve Ordinance No. 9-2019 amending Ordinance No. 9-2018, the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget to Account for the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant and the Fox Theatre – Opera House Grant. With no objections the **motion passed** unanimously.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 8-2019: A Resolution Approving the Initiation of a Mutual Aid Agreement Between the City of Abbeville and Little River Electric Coop.

A motion was made by Councilmember Grant and seconded by Councilmember Crawford to approve Resolution No. 8-2019 approving the initiation of a Mutual Aid Agreement between the City of Abbeville and Little River Electric Coop. With no objections the **motion passed** unanimously.

FORMAL REPORTS TO COUNCIL

Report No. 21-2019: Information Only – DuBose Street Stormwater Update.

Report No. 22-2019: Information Only – June 22nd Storm Update.

Report No. 23-2019: Information Only – EDA Grant Update.

Report No. 24-2019: Approval Requested – Approval of Bid to Select Auditing Firm for Next Four-Year Auditing Cycle.

A motion was made by Councilmember J. Edwards and seconded by Councilmember Thomas to approve Report No. 24-2019 approving the bid to select an auditing firm for the next four-year cycle. With no objections the **motion passed** unanimously.

CITY ACTIVITY REPORTS

City Council received and acknowledged as information the Monthly City of Abbeville Department Activity Reports for June 2019.

NEW BUSINESS –

- 1. Consideration of appointment to fill the three year term of office of Kathryn Harcarik on the Historic Properties Protection Commission (HPPC). Kathryn recently resigned from the board.**

Councilmember Grant nominated Tom Coughlin.

A motion was made by Councilmember Crawford and seconded by J. Edwards to table the consideration of appointment. Mayor Freeman and Councilmembers J. Edwards, Greeson Thomas, Crawford, Jackson and Aikens voted in favor. Councilmember Grant voted in opposition. The **motion passed 7-1.**

- 2. Discussion of Public Safety within the City of Abbeville by Mayor Freeman.**
- 3. Discussion of adding a new city fireworks event during the 4th of July in the City of Abbeville by Councilman Crawford.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION -

A motion was made by Councilmember Crawford and seconded by Councilmember Thomas to go into Executive Session. With no objections the motion passed unanimously.

- 1. Discussion of Employee Evaluation. (Blake Stone, City Manager)**
- 2. Discussion of City Services, Animal Control. (Blake Stone, City Manager)**
- 3. Discussion of Updated Employment Techniques. (Blake Stone, City Manager)**
- 4. Discussion of Contractual Matters. (Economic Incentives)**

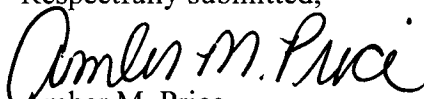
EXECUTIVE SESSION – POSSIBLE ACTIONS AND FOLLOW UPS

No actions were taken following the Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to discuss a motion was made by Councilmember Crawford and seconded by Councilmember Thomas to adjourn the City Council meeting at 9:05 p.m. The **motion passed** unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Amber M. Price
City Clerk