

**CITY OF ABBEVILLE, SC
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2021**

Members Present: Mayor Trey Edwards, Councilmembers Louise Aikens, Christopher R. Crawford, Jason Edwards, Mathew H. Gambrell, Benjamin P. Greeson, Jr., James Jackson, A. Faye Thomas

Members Via Phone:

Members Absent:

Staff Present: R. Blake Stone – City Manager, Fran Strickland Anderson– Assistant City Manager, Mike Clary – Executive Assistant/City Clerk, Thomas E. Hite, III – City Attorney

Staff Via Phone: Laura Snelling - CFO

Staff Absent: None

Media Present: Henry Green – **Press and Banner** Robert Jordan- **Index Journal**

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Edwards led the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was given by Councilmember Jackson.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilmember Jackson and seconded by Councilmember Crawford to approve the minutes from the special City Council Meeting held on Tuesday, January 26, 2021. With no objections the **Motion Passed Unanimously**.

PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS

1. **Proclamation – Honoring Kingston Marshall, Jahmear Hardy, and D’Nari Marshall for their act of heroism. (Mayor Trey Edwards)**
2. **Proclamation – Honoring Mary Lou Edens for her service with the Tracy Jackson Program G.I.F.T. (Mayor Trey Edwards)**

3. **Proclamation – Honoring Councilman James Jackson for his dedicated community service through the Community Outreach Center. (Mayor Trey Edwards)**
4. **Presentation – Historic Preservation and Rehabilitation of the Former Abbeville County Training School Building. (Tonya Haddock)**

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD –

Keith Stewart: Commented on the Lake Secession Property which had been brought up for potential sale. Mayor Edwards recused himself from the conversation and Mayor Pro-Tem Thomas led the meeting for the remainder of the comment period.

LEGISLATIVE

ORDINANCES

1. ORDINANCE NO. 1-2021:

First Reading An Ordinance of The City of Abbeville, South Carolina Amending Chapter 14 – Planning And Development Of The City Of Abbeville Code Of Ordinances To Adopt The Provisions Of The Bailey Bill Concerning A Special Tax Assessment For Rehabilitated Historic Property And Various Matters Related Thereto.

A motion was made by Councilmember Greeson and seconded by Councilmember Thomas to Approve Ordinance No. 1-2021. An Ordinance of The City of Abbeville, South Carolina Amending Chapter 14 – Planning And Development Of The City Of Abbeville Code Of Ordinances To Adopt The Provisions Of The Bailey Bill Concerning A Special Tax Assessment For Rehabilitated Historic Property And Various Matters Related Thereto.

Motion passed Unanimously.

2. ORDINANCE NO. 2-2021: First Reading

An Ordinance Of The City Of Abbeville, South Carolina Amending Chapter II – Administration, Article II. – City Council, Division 2. Meeting And Rules Of Procedure Of The City Of Abbeville Code Of Ordinances To Adjust The Meeting Times For Regular City Council Meetings.

A motion was made by Councilmember Greeson and seconded by Councilmember Gambrell to Approve Ordinance No. 2-2021. An Ordinance Of The City Of Abbeville, South Carolina Amending Chapter II – Administration, Article II. – City Council,

After discussion, a motion was made by Councilmember J. Edwards and seconded by Councilmember T. Edwards to amend the ordinance to the First Monday of the Month.

This motion passed 5-3 with Councilmembers Crawford, Thomas, and Jackson opposed.

After discussion, a motion was made by Councilmember Gambrell and seconded by Councilmember J. Edwards to amend the ordinance to the First Monday of the Month at 7:00 PM.

This motion passed 6-2 with Councilmembers Aiken and Crawford Opposed.

The vote on the ordinance as amended passed 7-1 with Councilmember Crawford opposed.

FORMAL REPORTS TO COUNCIL

1. Report No. 9-2021: Approval Requested Park Renovation Project.

A motion was made by Councilmember Crawford and seconded by Councilmember Aikens to approve Report No.9 – 2021, Park Renovation Project.

The motion passed unanimously.

2. Report No. 10-2021: Information Only Spring Clean-Up Day

3. Report No. 11-2021: Approval Requested Electric Distribution Development Agreement.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jackson and seconded by Councilmember Crawford to approve Report No.11 – 2021, Electric Distribution Development Agreement

The motion passed unanimously.

4. Report No. 12-2021: Approval Requested Public Utilities Lawncare Management Bids.

A motion was made by Councilmember Gambrell and seconded by Councilmember Greeson to approve Report No.12 – 2021, Public Utilities Lawncare Management Bids.

The motion passed unanimously.

5. Report No. 13-2021: Information Only Opera House Seats.**NEW BUSINESS****1. Discussion & Action Required - Slate Of Candidates Approval For Abbeville Community Performing Arts Foundation.**

A motion was made by Councilmember Greeson and seconded by Councilmember Jackson to approve the Slate of Candidates for the ACPA.

The motion passed unanimously.

2. Discussion - Dilapidated Properties Within the City Limits

A motion was made by Councilmember Aikens and seconded by Councilmember Thomas to move into Executive Session at 8:46 PM.

The motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION**1. Position Of Public Agency In Adversarial Situations Involving Assertions Against The City of a Claim.****2. Negotiations Incident to Proposed Contractual Matters.****3. Settlement Of Legal Claims. (Upon returning to open session, Council may take action on matters discussed in Executive Session.)****EXECUTIVE SESSION – POSSIBLE ACTIONS AND FOLLOW UPS**

Council resumed regular session at 9:26 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to discuss a motion was made by Councilmember Thomas and seconded by Councilmember Gambrell to adjourn the City Council meeting at 9:27 p.m. With no objections the **Motion Passed Unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'M' followed by a long horizontal stroke that tapers to the right.

Michael T. Clary
City Clerk