

**CITY OF ABBEVILLE, SC
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 2023**

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

Members Absent:

Staff Present: R. Blake Stone – City Manager, Fran Strickland Anderson– Assistant City Manager, Laura Snelling – CFO, Mike Clary – Deputy Administrative Officer/City Clerk, Thomas E. Hite, III – City Attorney

Staff Absent:

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

The hearing was called to order at 6:50 p.m. by Mayor Edwards.

PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing was held by City Council to provide comments regarding the proposed 2023 Comprehensive Plan.

Mayor Edwards opened the floor for comments.

No comments were received.

Mayor Edwards ended the public hearing at 6:59 p.m.

MEETING

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 J. Edwards.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilmember Gambrell and seconded by Councilmember J. Edwards to approve the minutes from the City Council Meetings held on March 8 and 15, 2023. With no objections the **Motion Passed Unanimously.**

PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS

Introduction of Interim Police Chief Nicholas Moore.

LEGISLATIVE

ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE NO. 2-2023 SECOND READING

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ABBEVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA AMENDING ORDINANCE 1-2021 TO UPDATE THE LANGUAGE OF THE BAILEY BILL SPECIAL TAX ASSESSMENT

A motion was made by Councilmember Gambrell and seconded by Councilmember Jackson to approve Ordinance 2 – 2023. With no objections the motion passed unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 3-2023 SECOND READING

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ABBEVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA AMENDING CHAPTER 10 – SECTION 3 MUNICIPAL COURT

A motion was made by Councilmember Greeson and seconded by Councilmember Gambrell to approve Ordinance 3 – 2023. With no objections the motion passed unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 4-2023 SECOND READING

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY OF ABBEVILLE TO ENTER INTO AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT RELATING TO SOUTH CAROLINA LOCAL REVENUE SERVICES; TO PARTICIPATE IN ONE OR MORE LOCAL REVENUE SERVICE PROGRAMS; TO EXECUTE AND DELIVER ONE OR MORE PARTICIPANT PROGRAM SUPPLEMENTS; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO.

A motion was made by Councilmember J. Edwards and seconded by Councilmember Crawford to approve Ordinance 4 – 2023. With no objections the motion passed unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 5-2023 FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ABBEVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA TO ADOPT THE 2023 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN CONSISTENT WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING ENABLING ACT OF 1994

A motion was made by Councilmember Jackson and seconded by Councilmember Gambrell to approve Ordinance 5 – 2023. With no objections the motion passed unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 6-2023 FIRST READING

AN AMENDMENT ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ABBEVILLE, SC AUTHORIZING THE REZONING OF 100 GREENVILLE STREET (TAX MAP 109-09-03-045) FROM R-6 TO OFFICE COMMERCIAL

A motion was made by Councilmember J. Edwards and seconded by Councilmember Greeson to approve Ordinance 6 – 2023. With no objections the motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 1-2023

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ABBEVILLE DECLARING APRIL OF 2023 AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH.

A motion was made by Councilmember Thomas and seconded by Councilmember Crawford to approve Resolution 1 – 2023. With no objections the motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2-2023

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ABBEVILLE TO CERTIFY 100 GREENVILLE STREET, ABBEVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA AS AN ABANDONED BUILDING SITE (ABBEVILLE TAX MAP NUMBER 109-09-03-045)

A motion was made by Councilmember Gambrell and seconded by Councilmember Greeson to approve Resolution 2 – 2023. With no objections the motion passed unanimously.

CITY MANAGER REPORTS

Report No. 9-2023 Approval Requested

CTC Engineering

A motion was made by Councilmember Gambrell and seconded by Councilmember Greeson to approve Report 9 – 2023. With no objections the motion passed unanimously.

Report No. 9-2023 Approval Requested

Jefferson Davis Park Project

A motion was made by Councilmember Gambrell and seconded by Councilmember J. Edwards to approve Report 10 – 2023 to move forward with the development of Jefferson Davis Park as a Dog Park. With no objections the motion passed unanimously.

Report No. 11-2023 Information Only

Potential Tiny Home Development

City Manager Stone gave an update on the process which the potential tiny home development would need to go through to be approved for construction.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration of appointment to fill the three-year term of office of Scott White on the Property Maintenance Board of Appeals. (Mr. White is willing to serve again).

A motion was made by Councilmember Greeson and seconded by Councilmember Gambrell to reappoint Mr. White to the Property Maintenance Board of Appeals. With no other nominations the motion passed unanimously.

Juneteenth Parade

Council unanimously approved a motion to approve the Road Closure request for the Juneteenth Parade.

Police Department Building Design – Exterior

Mayor Edwards made a motion to request additional design options for the Police Department Exterior design. With no objections the motion passed unanimously.

National League of Cities Report – Councilman Crawford

Councilman Crawford gave an update on the NLC Conference discussing the grant and other opportunities that he learned about. Mayor Edwards noted that the initial conference went over budget and that funds could be better spent here in the community.

Autism Awareness

Mayor Edwards noted the increase in autism in children and the need to increase awareness within the community.

Renaming of Adams Drive Park

Council unanimously approved a motion to rename Adams Drive Park to Faye Thomas Park.

Clean-Up Day

Mayor Edwards brought to Council's attention that a cleanup day would take place on April 22nd from 8AM – 12PM. Councilmember Crawford noted that scheduling these events out in advance may help in attendance.

Street Name Change

After discussion Council approved a motion to withdraw the request to rename S. Main in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. 8-1 with Councilmember Crawford opposed. Council then approved a motion to rename a portion of Hwy 72 (East and West Greenwood Street) in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. 8-1 with Councilmember Crawford opposed.

OLD BUSINESS

Creation of City Flag

A motion was made by Councilmember Gambrell and seconded by Councilmember Greeson to approve the plan for the creation of the City Flag. With no objections the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No public comments were given.

A motion was made by Councilmember Gambrell and seconded by Councilmember Jackson to enter Executive Session. With no objections the motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline or release of an employee, or an appointment to a public body (Police Department)

Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements (PMPA & Abbeville Veterans Memorial Foundation)

Discussion of matters concerning the proposed location, expansion or provision of services encouraging location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the public body (Zoning Regulations and SC Commerce Funding)

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to discuss a motion was made by Councilmember Gambrell and seconded by Councilmember Thomas to adjourn the City Council meeting at 9:24 p.m. With no objections the **Motion Passed Unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,



Michael T. Clary
Deputy Administrative Officer/City Clerk