

**CITY OF ABBEVILLE, SC
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, 2021**

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

Members Via Phone:

Members Absent:

Staff Present: R. Blake Stone – City Manager; Laura Snelling – CFO, Mike Clary – Executive Assistant/City Clerk, Thomas E. Hite, III – City Attorney, Tim Hall – Utilities Director, Ron Bosler – Police Chief, Neal Dickenson – Fire Chief, Dwayne Balchin – Investigator

Staff Via Phone: Fran Strickland Anderson – Assistant City Manager

Staff Absent: None

Media Present: Henry Greene – **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 Thomas.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilmember Jackson and seconded by Councilmember J. Edwards to approve the minutes from the City Council Meeting held on Wednesday, April 14, 2021. With no objections the **Motion Passed Unanimously.**

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD –

Mayor Edwards gave a statement concerning Road Closures during the Spring Festival.

Roger Welborn spoke concerning the Road Closures during the Spring Festival.

LEGISLATIVE

ORDINANCES

1. ORDINANCE NO. 3-2021: Second Reading

An Ordinance Of The City Of Abbeville, S.C. Amending Ordinance No. 10-2018 To Update Language Regarding The Economic Incentive Program.

A motion was made by Councilmember Thomas and seconded by Councilmember Greeson to Approve Ordinance No. 3-2021. An Ordinance Of The City Of Abbeville, S.C. Amending Ordinance No. 10-2018 To Update Language Regarding The Economic Incentive Program.

Ordinance passed unanimously.

2. ORDINANCE NO. 4-2021: Second Reading

An Ordinance Of The City Of Abbeville, S.C. Amending Chapter 19, Article V., Division 3. - Sewer Use Regulations to Remain In Compliance With State And Federal Standards.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jackson and seconded by Councilmember Crawford to Approve Ordinance No. 4-2021. An Ordinance Of The City Of Abbeville, S.C. Amending Chapter 19, Article V., Division 3. - Sewer Use Regulations to Remain In Compliance With State And Federal Standards.

Ordinance passed unanimously.

3. ORDINANCE NO. 5-2021: First Reading

An Ordinance Of The City Of Abbeville, S.C. Establishing Loitering And Failure To Stop Regulations To Encourage Effective Policing Within The City Limits.

A motion was made by Councilmember Gambrell and seconded by Councilmember Aikens to Approve Ordinance 5-202. An Ordinance Of The City Of Abbeville, S.C. Establishing Loitering And Failure To Stop Regulations To Encourage Effective Policing Within The City Limits.

Ordinance passed 5-4 with Crawford, Thomas, Jackson, and J. Edwards opposed.

FORMAL REPORTS TO COUNCIL

1. **Report No. 24-2021: Approval Requested**

Vending Machine Request

A motion was made by Councilmember Greeson and seconded by Councilmember Thomas to approve Report No.24 – 2021, Vending Machine Request. The motion passed 8-1 with Crawford opposed.

2. **Report No. 25-2021: Information Only Report**

Spring Festival Update

3. **Report No. 26-2021: Approval Requested**

Business License Update

4. **Report No. 27-2021 Approval Requested**

McGowan Waterline Project Update

5. **Report No. 28-2021 Information Only**

Abbeville Community Performing Arts Foundation Update

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Discussion** – Spring Festival (Councilman Chris Crawford)

Councilman Crawford thanked City Staff for their hard work on the Festival.

2. **Discussion** – Volunteer Recruitment Drive for Graveyard Cleanup (Mayor Edwards)

Mayor Edwards discussed the upcoming Graveyard Cleanup.

3. **Discussion** – Derelict and Abandoned Vehicles

Council discussed derelict and abandoned vehicles on certain properties.

4. **Discussion** – County Tipping Fees

City Manager Stone Informed Council of the County's plan to implement tipping fees which will force the City to raise the cost of Garbage Collection Services on residential customers by up to \$2 per month.

5. **Discussion** – Intergovernmental Agreement with Abbeville County

City Manager Stone discussed the County's request that the City assist with the purchase of a motor for the dive team.

6. **Discussion** – Spring Festival Times (City Manager, Blake Stone)

City Manager Stone discussed the option of change the Festival from Thursday through Saturday to Friday through Sunday.

7. **Discussion** – Naming of Streets within Housing Authority (City Manager, Blake Stone)

City Manager Stone noted that the City has the option to rename the streets within the Housing Authority to allow first responders to more easily identify where calls are coming from.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Consideration of appointment to fill the four-year term of office of Jason Walker on the Planning Commission which expired on March 8, 2020 (Mr. Walker resigned from the board and does not wish to serve again).

Councilmember Greeson nominated Jonathan Meyers to the Commission. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Consideration of appointment to fill the four-year term of office of Betty Simpson on the Planning Commission which expired on February 14, 2021 (Ms. Simpson does not wish to serve again).

Councilmember Greeson nominated Tyler Goss to the Commission. Councilmember Edwards motioned to table until Mr. Goss could come before Council and Councilmember Crawford seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-1 with Sutherland opposed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Discussion of matters relating to the proposed location, expansion, or the provision of services encouraging location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the public body. (Residential)
2. Employee Evaluation

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

ADJOURNMENT

Following Executive Session, Mayor Edwards moved to renew the City Manager's Contract. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

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 9:33PM. With no objections the **Motion Passed Unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael T. Clary', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Michael T. Clary
Deputy Administrative Officer/City Clerk