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**City Council Meeting**

**Minutes**

**August 28, 2023 – 6:30 pm**

**In Person**

**Minutes**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Carlos Williams. Members of Council: Wade Young, Tabatha Strother, Dave Claytor, Jamie Price, Danielle Hughes, Tony Nelson, and Robbie King-Boyd

**ABSENT:**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Williams at 6:30 pm.

**Approval of Agenda Amendments**

Councilwoman King-Boyd made a motion to accept the approval of the agenda with amendments under Executive Session: Personnel Matter-Administration Department. Mayor Pro Tem added a Resolution – Charletta Thompson. The motion was second by Mayor Pro Tem Strother. The vote was unanimous (8-0).

**Roll Call**

9 Present at the time of roll call (8 In Person) and (1 virtually, Hughes)

*\*\*Hughes later joined the meeting in person.*

**Prayer**

Councilwoman King-Boyd offered prayer.

**Pledge**

Council recited The Pledge of Allegiance and The Civility Pledge.

**Citizens Forum**

*Darrell Diggs* – 142 West End Street – Recent affairs of the City (Administration and City Council). Mr. Diggs presented a letter to be inserted in public record.

*Rep. John King* – P.O. Box 11555 Rock Hill, SC – $500,000 for HVAC System at the Aquatic & Fitness Center.

*Forest Baker* – 118 York Street – Police Chief/Police Department.

**Petitioners**

*William King –*Requested to be moved to the next meeting.

**New Business**

**Approval of Minutes**

Councilwoman Strother made a motion to accept the minutes with necessary changes. Councilwoman Young second the motion. The motion passed unanimous (9-0)

**City Administrator’s Report – Information Only**

City Administrator, Malik Whitaker presented the City Administrator’s Report as information only. No action was taken.

**Consideration of Ordinances and Resolutions**

*Re-ratify Baily Bill* ***Rehabilitated Historic Properties Ordinance 2020-13.***

Councilman Young made a motion to accept the Resolution 2020-13. Mayor Pro Tem second the motion. The vote was as follows: (***7 in favor: Price, Young, Strother, Claytor, Nelson, Hughes and Williams***). (***2 Oppose: King-Boyd and Boyd-Crosby)***. The motion carried.

*Resolution adopting County Hazard Mitigation Plan*

Councilwoman King-Boyd made a motion to accept *Resolution adopting County Hazard Mitigation Plan.* Councilwoman Strother second the motion*.* The vote was unanimous (8-0).

*Hate Crimes Bill-2023-06*

City Administrator Malik Whitaker presented the Council the Hate Crime Bill (first draft). No action was taken.

*Resolution re-appointing Charletta Thompson (120 Henry Woods Drive) to the Water District Committee*

Councilwoman Strother made a motion to accept *Resolution re-appointing Charletta Thompson (120 Henry Woods Drive) to the Water District Committee.* Councilman Young second the motion*.* The vote was unanimous (9-0).

**City Administrator’s Update**

City Administrator, Malik Whitaker gave an update on the month of August’s projects.

**Unfinished Business**

*Request of ARPA Funds* – InfoVision -$61,500 – Councilman Young made a motion to approve the request of ARPA funda for InfoVision in the amount of $61,500. Councilwoman Nelson second the motion. The vote was unanimous (9-0).

**New Business**

*COG Board Nomination*

Councilwoman King-Boyd made a motion to nominate Mayor Williams for the COG Board. Councilwoman Boyd-Crosby second. The vote was unanimous (9-0).

*National Fitness Campaign-Apply for Grant*

City Administrator Malik Whitaker shared with Council the opportunity to apply for a grant to fund the National Fitness – Outdoor fitness*. No Action was taken.*

*MASC Economic Development Grant-*

City Administrator Malik Whitaker presented Council with the opportunity to apply for the MASC Economic Development Grant. No action was taken.

*Boards & Commission Appointments*

*Special Events Committee*

Councilwoman Strother made a motion to appoint TaTanish Campbell, Sam Stone and Council Representative (Mayor Williams) to the Special Events Committee. Councilwoman King-Boyd second the motion. The vote was unanimous (9-0).

*Zoning Board of Appeals Commission*

Councilwoman King-Boyd made a motion to appoint Frank Dickerson, Darren Brittan, and Stephan Sanderson. The motion was second by Councilwoman Strother. After discussion. Councilwoman Strother withdrew her second. King-Boyd withdrew her original motion. No action was taken.

Councilwoman King Boyd made a motion to appoint Darren Brittan and Frank Dickerson (continuing) to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Councilwoman Strother second the motion. The vote was unanimous (9-0).

*Planning Commission*

Councilwoman Strother made a motion to appoint Susan Kovas to the Planning Commission. The motion was second by Councilwoman Boyd-Crosby. The vote was unanimous (9-0).

Sharp Proposal – Sharp representative presented council with plans for upgrades.

Request for ARPA Funds – Councilman Young made a motion to approve the request for ARPA Funds in the amount of $53,000 for AgriBusiness Center/Pavilion project. Councilwoman Strother second the motion. The vote was unanimous (9-0).

*Public Safety – Police Department-*Councilwoman King-Boyd wanted information to inform the citizens of Chester about how safe they are. Mr. Whitaker stated that a statement was give. Mr. Whitaker also read the statement. No action was taken.

*Executive Session*

Councilwoman Strother made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Contractual Matter – First Net/ATT, Contractual Matter – Police Department and Personnel Matter -Administration Department. Councilman Price second the motion. The vote was unanimous (9-0).

Open Session

Chair entertained a motion to go back to open session at 9:39pm. Councilwoman Strother made a motion to go back into open session. Councilwoman Hughes second the motion. The vote was unanimous (9-0).

Note: *When Mayor Williams called for discussion to go back to open session, Councilwoman Boyd-Crosby proceeded to make a motion. Mayor Williams informed her that there was a motion on the floor and he was asking if there was any discussion about that particular motion.*

Mayor Willimas stated that while in Executive Session, Council discussed Contractual Matter – First Net/ATT, Contractual Matter – Police Department and Personnel Matter -Administration Department in which no action was taken.

Note: *Councilwoman Boyd-Crosby and Councilwoman Stother attempted to make a motion at the same time. Councilwoman Strother (while Councilwoman Boyd-Crosby was making her original motion made a motion to adjourn. Attorney Edwards stated that Councilwoman Boyd-Crosby could proceed with making her motion.*

Councilwoman Boyd-Crosby made a motion to terminate the contract of City Administrator effective immediately. Councilman Claytor second the motion. (***5 in favor: Nelson, Claytor, King-Boyd, Hughes, and Boyd-Crosby***). (***4 Oppose: Strother, Claytor, Price, and Williams)***. The motion carried.

With no other business, Councilwoman Strother made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was second by Councilman Young.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:47pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marquita Fair

Municipal Clerk