

DIVISION 5. - LOCAL HOSPITALITY TAX ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Sec. 2-411. - Creation; composition; appointment of members; ex officio members; chairman.

There shall be a local hospitality tax advisory committee which shall consist of seven members, who shall be appointed by the council. The city manager shall serve as ex officio member of the local hospitality tax advisory committee. The local hospitality tax advisory committee shall elect one of its members as chairman and one as vice-chairman whose terms shall be one year.

Sec. 2-412. - Terms of appointive members; vacancies.

The appointed members of the local hospitality tax advisory committee shall be appointed annually by the council. Any vacancy of an appointed member shall be filled by the council for the remainder of the term and shall serve until their successors are appointed. Members of the local hospitality tax advisory committee will be as follows:

- (a) Members representing the lodging industry in the city: two;
- (b) Members representing businesses in the city that primarily serve visitors to the city, to include restaurants, attractions, recreational amenities, transportation facilities and services, and travel information and promotion entities: two;
- (c) Member representing the cultural organizations of the city: one; and
- (d) Citizens-at-large who may or may not be associated or affiliated with the hospitality industry or cultural organizations of the city: two.

Sec. 2-413. - Powers and duties.

It is the general function of the local hospitality tax advisory committee, **when funds are available and not budgeted through the city's annual budget process**, to review applications for hospitality funds and make comments and recommendations to the city council. Recommendations will be limited to hospitality funds appropriated in the city's budget for such a purpose. The appropriated funds may be used for tourism-related expenditures, as defined by S.C. Code 1976, § 6-1-730.

- (a) The revenue generated by the hospitality tax must be used exclusively for the following purposes:
 - (1) Tourism-related buildings including, but not limited to, civic centers, coliseums, and aquariums;
 - (2) Tourism-related cultural, recreational, or historic facilities;
 - (3) Beach access and renourishment;
 - (4) Highways, roads, streets, and bridges providing access to tourist destinations;
 - (5) Advertisements and promotions related to tourism development; or
 - (6) Water and sewer infrastructure to serve tourism-related demand.

Sec. 2-414. - Meetings.

The local hospitality tax advisory committee shall hold meetings twice annually to review applications for hospitality funds.

Sec. 2-415. - Quorum.

A minimum of four members must be present at any meeting of the local hospitality tax advisory committee to conduct business.

Sec. 2-416. - Staff support.

The finance department for the city shall be responsible for receiving applications, providing staff comments, sending notices, and arranging meetings as needed. The finance department may be assisted by any staff person as directed by the city manager.

Secs. 2-417—2-499. - Reserved.