



MINUTES

CITY OF HARTSVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA
PUBLIC HEARINGS AND REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2024 – 5:30 PM
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 100 EAST CAROLINA AVENUE

Mayor/Council:

Mayor Hancock
Mayor Pro-Tem Caldwell
Councilmember Braddock
Councilmember DeLaine
Councilmember Hungerpillar
Councilmember Mack
Councilmember Meadows

Attorney – None

Press – Bob Sloan, The Messenger

Executive Staff:

City Manager Moore
Assistant City Manager/CFO Caulder
City Clerk Crenshaw
Special Projects Director Skipper
Public Services Director Bethea
Fire Chief Burr
Human Resources Director Jones
Planning & Zoning Manager Kelley
Parks and Recreation Director Robinson

PURSUANT TO SOUTH CAROLINA FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT CODE SECTION 30-4-80: WRITTEN NOTICE WAS DELIVERED TO THE PRESS BY EMAIL ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2024, AND DULY POSTED AT CITY HALL LOCATED AT 100 EAST CAROLINA AVENUE AND ON HARTSVILLESC.GOV. CITY HALL IS AN ACCESSIBLE FACILITY, FOR ASSISTANCE CALL 843-383-3018.

Mayor Hancock called the meeting to order at 5:32pm and asked Councilmember Mack to lead in the invocation, Pledge of Allegiance and Civility Pledge.

MOTION TO WAIVE READING OF AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 16, 2024 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING – APPROVED.

Motion: Caldwell; Second: Mack; Carried: All ayes.

PRESENTATIONS

Proclamations

- Black History Month Proclamation – Mayor Hancock presented to People-to-People representatives Barbara Carraway and Adlena Graham a proclamation declaring February as Black History Month in Hartsville.
- Random Acts of Kindness Month Proclamation - Mayor Hancock presented to People-to-People representatives Adlena Graham and Barbara Carraway a proclamation declaring February as Random Acts of Kindness Month in Hartsville.

Duke Energy Presentation

Lauren Baker, Government and Community Relations Manager for Duke Energy, announced the Duke Foundation is donating seventy-five thousand dollars across the state to organizations to promote African American history. She presented a five-thousand-dollar check for Pride Park for accessible and walkable enhancements to the park.

Year End 6-30-23 Audit Report

Mayor Hancock stated for the record he is no relation and has no relationship with Sheheen, Hancock & Godwin.

Mark Wood, CPA, Partner from Sheheen, Hancock, & Godwin, LLP presented the annual audit report to Council and reviewed the executive audit summary. The City of Hartsville received an unmodified opinion with no findings, the highest-level opinion a municipality can receive from auditors. The audit found no material misstatements and no internal control issues were found during the audit. The audit report is a clean opinion with no findings. Auditors ask a lot of questions and demand a lot of documents during the audit. CFO Caulder and Finance staff do a wonderful job.

City Manager Moore thanked the auditors and finance staff. In 2020 Council adopted a General Fund reserve policy requiring a reserve of fifteen to thirty percent of budgeted expenditures and gave staff three years to increase the reserve to seventeen percent. At year three there is a thirty percent reserve thanks to the hard work of staff, expenses regulated and growth in the city.

Public Comments

None.

MANAGER UPDATE

Recognition of Employees – City Manager Moore and Police Chief Snellgrove planned to recognize staff of the Hartsville Police Department but will postpone until the March meeting due to a law enforcement situation. City Manager Moore took the opportunity to recognize all City employees as they work so hard to make Hartsville a wonderful place to live.

The HartsVision 2025 Strategic Planning Session is on February 21, 2024 beginning at 9am at The Edition. This will be an all-day meeting to set goals for the fiscal year 2025. The day will begin with a driving tour with transportation provided by PDRTA.

The SC Arts Commission announced today that Hartsville was granted official state designation as a South Carolina Cultural Art District. Hartsville is the tenth designation in the state. The cultural districts aim to bring people together and make communities stronger while driving growth, tourism opportunities and civic pride.

The SC Statement of Economic Interests Filing deadline is March 30, 2024 at Noon by filing at <https://ethicsfiling.sc.gov/filing/home>. City Manager Moore reminded Council to file their statement of economic interests before the deadline. This is a requirement for those holding public office. There is a fine for late filing.

CONSENT AGENDA - Received as Information Only

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL READING ORDINANCE 4467: TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND AMENDMENT OF FEES AND RATES THAT ARE NECESSARY FOR THE OPERATION OF THE CITY OF HARTSVILLE – APPROVED.

Reading by Title and Presentation - City Manager explained this approves changes to lower the cost of building permit fees.

Open/Close Public Hearing (State name and address for record) – Mayor – None.

Approval of Final Reading and Waiving of Complete Reading: Motion: Caldwell; Second: Mack; Carried: All ayes.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION 02-24-01: APPROVAL TO APPLY FOR FEMA ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS (AFG) GRANT – APPROVED.

City Manager Moore explained this applies for a grant for self-contained breathing apparatus equipment for firefighters at the Hartsville Fire Department and replaces equipment which is at the end of useful life. The annual grant each March is extremely competitive.

Motion: Caldwell; Second: Mack; Carried: All ayes.

RESOLUTION 02-24-02: APPROVAL FOR COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF HARTSVILLE AND THE HOUSE OF HOPE OF THE PEE DEE FOR EMERGENCY SHELTER SERVICES – APPROVED.

City Manager Moore explained this resolution is a follow-up to Council's obligation of ARPA funds to House of Hope of the Pee Dee for emergency shelter services. This action approves an agreement with House of Hope for the emergency shelter services so we can move forward with funding.

Motion: DeLaine; Second: Mack; Carried: All ayes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO SC CODE FOIA SECTION 30-4- 70(a)(1) FOR DISCUSSION OF APPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS CITY BOARDS, COMMITTEES, AND COMMISSIONS AND FOR DISCUSSION OF MATTERS RELATED TO CITY JUDGE – APPROVED.

Motion: Caldwell; Second: Mack; Carried: All ayes.

MOTION: TO EXIT AND VERIFY THAT ONLY THE ITEMS STATED IN THE MOTION TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION WERE DISCUSSED DURING EXECUTIVE SESSION – APPROVED.

Motion: Mack; Second: Caldwell; Carried: All ayes.

UPON RETURNING TO OPEN SESSION, COUNCIL MAY TAKE ACTION ON MATTERS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

RESOLUTION 02-24-03: APPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS – APPROVED.

Motion to appoint:

Board of Appeals Regarding Technical Enforcement – Shaun Morrison with term expiring June 30, 2026, Planning Commission – Leslie Patrick Rogers to fill an unexpired term ending on June 30, 2023.

Motion: Braddock; Second: Hungerpiller; Carried: All ayes.

INFORMATION ONLY

Calendars and Other Items

ADJOURNMENT without objection at 6:55pm.

Casey Hancock, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Andrea D. Crenshaw, CMC, City Clerk