



# MINUTES

## FORMAL MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL

City Hall, 206 S. Main Street, Council Chambers

Monday, January 8, 2024 - 5:30 p.m.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**  
Mayor Knox H. White
2. **INVOCATION**  
Councilmember Wil Brasington
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**  
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Boy Scout Troop 511.
4. **ROLL CALL**  
The following members of City Council were in attendance: Mayor Knox White, John DeWorken, Lillian Flemming, Ken Gibson, Wil Brasington, Russell Stall, and Dorothy Dowe.
5. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**  
December 11, 2023; Approved as submitted
6. **COMMUNICATIONS / ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL**
  - a. Election of Mayor Pro Tem  
Councilmember Gibson nominated Councilmember Flemming for Mayor Pro Tem. Hearing no other nominations, the motion carried unanimously.
  - b. Election of Vice Mayor Pro Tem  
Councilmember Flemming nominated Councilmember Dowe for Vice Mayor Tem. Hearing no other nominations, the motion carried unanimously.
7. **CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**  
  
**Joe Farmer, 207 Alpine Way**, expressed concern about meeting attendance of a member on the Board of Zoning Appeals and requested that Council remove and replace the member.
8. **PRESENTATION**  
None
9. **PUBLIC HEARING**  
None
10. **RECOGNITIONS AND APPOINTMENTS – Boards and Commissions**  
None

### CONSENT AGENDA

*There will be no discussion of Consent Agenda items unless a Council member so requests in which event the item in question will be considered separately.*

Councilmember Brasington moved, seconded by Councilmember Dowe, to approve second and final reading of agenda items 11a, 11b, 11c and 11d of the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

**11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – (Ordinances – Second and Final Reading)**

- a. Ordinance providing a one-time Cost of Living Adjustment for certain persons currently receiving benefits under the Firefighters' Pension Fund
- b. Ordinance to approve a quit-claim deed from the city of Greenville to Metropolitan Sewer Subdistrict d/b/a MetroConnects for the transfer and ownership of certain sanitary sewer lines, any easements and appurtenances located along Green Avenue, Guess Street, Otis Street, Hill Street, Ridge Street, and Mission Street.
- c. Ordinance authorizing an agreement with Metropolitan Sewer Subdistrict d/b/a MetroConnects pertaining to annexed property and appropriating \$221,550 from the Wastewater Fund for the payment of certain fees pursuant to the Agreement
- d. Ordinance to annex approximately 60.681 acres of South Carolina Department of Transportation Owned rights-of-way on forty five (45) sites adjacent to the city limits of the city of Greenville (AX-24-2023)

**12. NEW BUSINESS – (Ordinance – First Reading)**

None

**13. NEW BUSINESS – (Resolutions – First and Final Reading)**

None

<b>REGULAR AGENDA</b>
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**14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – (Ordinances – Second and Final Reading)**

None

**15. NEW BUSINESS – (Ordinances – First Reading)**

- a. Ordinance to amend Section 14-3(b), Nomination and Election Schedule, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Greenville to assist with the filing of Statement of Candidacy

Councilmember Gibson moved, seconded by Councilmember Flemming, to approve first reading.

Councilmember Dowe asked for confirmation that the amendment served as a method to change the verbiage within the Code. City Clerk Camilla Pitman responded affirmatively and advised that the process referenced in the amendment for filing for candidacy has been followed for the past two elections.

After discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

- b. Ordinance to enter into a financial participation agreement with the South Carolina Department of Transportation for the upgrades of traffic signals at the intersections of S-311 (Patewood Drive) and S-1103 (Enterprise Blvd/Frontage Road), S-79 (Butler Avenue) and S-47 (Hampton Avenue), US 123 (Academy Street) and S-79 (Wardlaw Street/Westfield Street), and S-75 (Washington Street) and Cleveirvine Avenue

Councilmember Brasington moved, seconded by Councilmember Gibson, to approve first reading.

Director of Engineering Services Clint Link advised that this agreement would fund upgrades to certain standard traffic signal installations provided by the SCDOT. Mr. Link also advised the upgrades would include installing mast arm poles, illuminated street name signs, and a back-up power supply.

Councilmember Flemming asked when work will begin on this project, and Mr. Link advised that it is anticipated to begin late 2024.

Councilmember Dowe asked for clarification of the funding source for the project described in this agreement and for the agreement proposed in agenda item 15c. Mr. Link advised that funding from the Intersection Safety Improvements Fund would be allocated for the proposed upgrades and that the Fund's current balance is approximately \$1.2 million dollars. Councilmember Dowe asked for clarification that this Fund was included in the Capital Improvement Program, and Mr. Link responded affirmatively.

After discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

- c. Ordinance to enter into a financial participation agreement with the South Carolina Department of Transportation for upgrades to traffic signals at the intersections of SC 291 (North Pleasantburg Drive) and S-21 (Rutherford Road) and SC 291 (North Pleasantburg Drive) and Antrim Drive

Councilmember Flemming moved, seconded by Councilmember Gibson, to approve first reading. The motion carried unanimously.

**16. NEW BUSINESS – (Resolution – First and Final Reading)**

- a. Resolution to designate \$10,000 from the City Council's reserve in the State Accommodations Tax Fund for the purpose of providing \$10,000 in financial assistance to the African American Tourism Council's Upstate Summit

Councilmember Flemming moved, seconded by Councilmember Gibson, to approve first and final reading.

Councilmember Stall asked why this request did not go through the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee (ATAX). Chief Financial Officer Patricia Dennis explained that ATAX met on December 5, 2023, to consider this application as an off-cycle request. Councilmember Brasington asked for confirmation that approving off-cycle requests was precedented, and Ms. Dennis responded affirmatively, referencing to an off-cycle approval of funds in February 2023.

After discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

- b. Resolution to authorize the purchase of property located on East Faris Road from SCAP 14, LLC, for the purpose of retaining open space and to authorize the use of funds from the open space acquisition project (ED3555) (Tax Map Number 026700020300015)

Councilmember Flemming moved, seconded by Councilmember Dowe, to approve first and final reading.

City Manager Shannon Lavrin advised that this property would be the second property purchased through the Open Space Acquisition Fund, which currently has a balance of \$1.3 million dollars. Ms. Lavrin also advised that the property scored highly on staff's Open Space Matrix and that keeping the property in its natural state would be in accordance with the GVL2040 mandate to preserve 35% percent of the City's open spaces.

Councilmember Dowe emphasized the importance of purchasing this property for environmental preservation and as a means of preventing gentrification in the Nicholstown community. Mayor White added that the property is located along the Swamp Rabbit Trail and the Reedy River and commented that he feels that the property should not be developed.

Councilmember Dowe commended staff for creating the matrices used to evaluate properties which can assist the City in forming data-driven decisions when purchasing property.

Councilmember Gibson expressed that this purchase is extremely important to the constituents of his District and will help protect the neighborhood from gentrification and traffic issues caused by potential development.

After discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

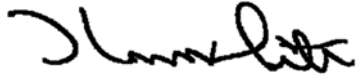
## 17. STAFF REPORTS

City Manager Shannon Lavrin provided information on the following items:

- a. Silver Palmetto Award. Ms. Lavrin announced that the city of Greenville was awarded the South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs' 2023 Silver Palmetto Award for its dedication to increasing accessibility and inclusivity for all residents and visitors of the City.

- b. Severe Weather. Ms. Lavrin advised that city departments are prepared for severe weather anticipated for January 9 and encouraged community members to check the City's website and social media channels for alerts and updates.

18. **ADJOURN.** There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:53 p.m.



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KNOX H. WHITE, MAYOR



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CAMILLA G. PITMAN, MMC, Certified PLS  
CITY CLERK

MEETING NOTICE POSTED AND MEDIA NOTIFIED ON JANUARY 5, 2024.