

**CITY OF ABBEVILLE, SC  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2023**

---

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

**Members Absent:**

**Staff Present:** R. Blake Stone – City Manager, Fran Strickland Anderson– Assistant City  
Manager, Laura Snelling – CFO, Mike Clary – Deputy Administrative  
Officer/City Clerk, Thomas E. Hite, III – City Attorney

**Staff Absent:**

**Media Present:** Henry Green – **Press and Banner** Robert Jordan- **Index Journal**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Pro-Tem Greeson.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Pro-Tem Greeson 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 Thomas to  
approve the minutes from the City Council Meeting held on Wednesday January 11, 2023. With  
no objections the **Motion Passed Unanimously.**

**PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS**

Proclamation- Jennifer Justice Smith, Jen’s Book Den

**LEGISLATIVE**

**ORDINANCES**

**ORDINANCE NO. 1-2023 FIRST READING**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ABBEVILLE, S.C. FOR THE SALE OF A PORTION OF PARCEL 109-13-05-045

A motion was made by Councilmember J. Edwards and seconded by Councilmember Gambrell to approve Ordinance 1 – 2023. With no objections the motion passed unanimously. Mayor Edwards was not present for this vote.

**CITY MANAGER REPORTS**

**Report No. 4-2023 Approval Requested**

Commercial Garbage Truck Bid Results

A motion was made by Councilmember Gambrell and seconded by Councilmember Jackson to approve Report 4 – 2023. With no objections the motion passed unanimously. Mayor Edwards was not present for this vote.

**Report No. 5-2023 Information Only**

Hydro Relicensing Progress Update

**Report No. 6-2023 Information Only**

Great Community Competition

**NEW BUSINESS**

Consideration of appointment to fill the four-year term of office of Lilla Ray on the Planning Commission. (Ms. Ray is willing to serve again).

A motion was made by Councilmember Thomas and seconded by Councilmember Crawford to reappoint Ms. Ray to the Planning Commission. With no other nominations the motion passed unanimously.

Consideration of appointment to fill the four-year term of office of Steve Davis on the Planning Commission. (Mr. Davis is willing to serve again).

A motion was made by Councilmember J. Edwards and seconded by Councilmember Gambrell to reappoint Mr. Davis to the Planning Commission. With no other nominations the motion passed unanimously.

#### Veterans Memorial Park

Councilwoman Thomas brought forward an idea to install a Veterans Memorial at an existing City Park.

A motion was made by Councilmember J. Edwards and seconded by Councilmember Crawford to moved forward with the initial planning phase for a Veterans Memorial at an existing City Park. With no objections the motion passed unanimously.

#### Holistic Expo Road Closure

It was noted by Council that the existing application list Thanksgiving as the day for the road closure. Staff is going to follow up with the applicant on the correct date of the event.

#### Collection of City Taxes

Councilman J. Edwards brought forward that he had received an inquiry from a constituent concerning the reasoning for the City's and County's taxes being on the same annual bill. City Manager Stone discussed the reasons for the merger of City and County tax collection.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Consideration of appointment to fill the four-year term of office of Steven Marner on the Historic Properties Protection Commission. (Mr. Marner does not wish to serve again).

A motion was made by Councilmember Sutherland to appoint Ms. Lynda Negron to the Historic Properties Protection Commission. With no other nominations the motion passed unanimously.

Ambassador to National League of Cities

After discussion, a motion was made by Councilmember Jackson to nominate Councilman Crawford to serve as the Cities Ambassador to the National League of Cities. The Motion passed 6-3 with Mayor Edwards and Councilmembers Gambrell and Sutherland opposed.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

A comment was given by an employee of the Abbeville County Delinquent Tax Office concerning if residents were claiming all appropriate tax deductions.

A motion was made by Councilmember Greeson and seconded by Councilmember Thomas to enter Executive Session. With no objections the motion passed unanimously.

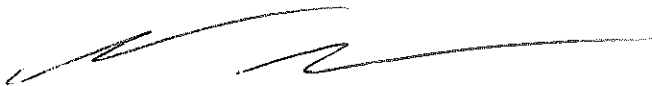
### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Receipt of Legal Advice (Naming of City Streets and Thoroughfares)

### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business to discuss a motion was made by Councilmember Gambrell and seconded by Councilmember Thomas to adjourn the City Council meeting at 8:03 p.m. With no objections the **Motion Passed Unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,



Michael T. Clary  
Deputy Administrative Officer/City Clerk