

**CITY OF ABBEVILLE, SC  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 2023**

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**Members Present:** Mayor Trey Edwards, Councilmembers Christopher R. Crawford, James Jackson, A. Faye Thomas, Jason Edwards, John Sutherland, Louise Aikens, Mathew H. Gambrell

**Members Absent:** Mayor Pro-Tem Benjamin P. Greeson, Jr

**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 Edwards.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Edwards led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**OPENING PRAYER**

The opening prayer was given by Councilmember Crawford.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Councilmember Gambrell and seconded by Councilmember Jackson to approve the minutes from the City Council Meeting held on April 12, 2023. With no objections the **Motion Passed Unanimously.**

**PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS**

Cynthia Jeffries – Trinity Church

Cynthia Jeffries gave a short presentation on Trinity Church and its history, noting that it attracts over 1,500 visitors per year. Ms. Jeffries invited members of Council to come for a tour of the Church at their convenience.

**LEGISLATIVE**

**ORDINANCES**

**ORDINANCE NO. 5-2023 SECOND READING**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ABBEVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA TO ADOPT THE 2023 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN CONSISTENT WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING ENABLING ACT OF 1994

A motion was made by Councilmember Gambrell and seconded by Councilmember Sutherland to approve Ordinance 5 – 2023. With no objections the motion passed unanimously.

**ORDINANCE NO. 6-2023 SECOND READING**

AN AMENDMENT ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ABBEVILLE, SC AUTHORIZING THE REZONING OF 100 GREENVILLE STREET (TAX MAP 109-09-03-045) FROM R-6 TO OFFICE COMMERCIAL

A motion was made by Councilmember Thomas and seconded by Councilmember J. Edwards to approve Ordinance 6 – 2023. With no objections the motion passed unanimously.

**ORDINANCE NO. 7-2023 FIRST READING**

AN AMENDMENT ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ABBEVILLE, SC AUTHORIZING THE REZONING OF 103 WINGFIELD STREET (TAX MAP 122-02-02-031) FROM R-6 TO GENERAL COMMERCIAL

A motion was made by Councilmember Crawford and seconded by Councilmember Jackson to approve Ordinance 7 – 2023. With no objections the motion passed unanimously.

**ORDINANCE NO. 8-2023 FIRST READING**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ABBEVILLE, S.C. AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 8-2022 TO UPDATE LANGUAGE REGARDING THE ECONOMIC INCENTIVE PROGRAM

A motion was made by Councilmember Gambrell and seconded by Councilmember Thomas to approve Ordinance 8 – 2023. With no objections the motion passed unanimously.

**RESOLUTIONS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 3-2023**

AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE ACCEPTANCE OF CERTAIN LOAN ASSISTANCE MONIES FROM THE SOUTH CAROLINA WATER QUALITY REVOLVING FUND AUTHORITY; AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE THAT CERTAIN LOAN ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF ABBEVILLE

AND THE SOUTH CAROLINA WATER QUALITY REVOLVING FUND AUTHORITY;  
AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO.

A motion was made by Councilmember J. Edwards and seconded by Councilmember Crawford to approve Resolution 3 – 2023. With no objections the motion passed unanimously.

## **CITY MANAGER REPORTS**

### **Report No. 12-2023 Approval Requested**

Civic Center Renovations

A motion was made by Councilmember Gambrell and seconded by Councilmember Jackson to approve Report 12 – 2023. With no objections the motion passed unanimously.

### **Report No. 13-2023 Information Only**

Additional Grant Funds for Henry-Hillcrest

### **Report No. 14-2023 Information Only**

SCIIP Grant Award

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Spring Festival – Mayor Edwards

Mayor Edwards noted that the Spring Festival had been overwhelmingly positive and that the few minor issues noted were easy to address in future festivals. He also noted that moving forward, once the event is voted on by Council, that should be the final involvement from Council concerning the layout of the festival.

Council Rules of Conduct – Mayor Edwards

Mayor Edwards apologized for his handling of the council travel reimbursement issue at the last meeting. The Mayor also noted that all Councilmembers should be setting a higher standard concerning the following of ordinances.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Mr. Gruff Herman spoke about the cigarette butts and beer bottles that patrons from the Brickyard Tavern leave at the front of and behind his property on Trinity Street. He was instructed to contact Code Enforcement regarding this issue. Mr. Herman also noted that the Spring Festival had gone exceptionally well.

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Discussion of compensation (Employee Compensation) City Manager Blake Stone

Discussion of matters concerning the proposed location, expansion or provision of services encouraging location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the public body (SC Commerce Funding) City Manager Blake Stone

Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements (PMPA, Solid Waste Ordinance, Fees) City Manager Blake Stone

Discussion of compensation (Council Travel Policy) Mayor Edwards

Discussions of the public agency's position in adversary situations (Zoning Regulations) Mayor Edwards

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business to discuss a motion was made by Councilmember Thomas and seconded by Councilmember Gambrell to adjourn the City Council meeting at 8:18 p.m. With no objections the **Motion Passed Unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,



Michael T. Clary  
Deputy Administrative Officer/City Clerk