

Regular Meeting
July 23, 2018

The regular meeting of City Council was held this date in City Hall Council Chambers at 6:00 pm. In attendance were Mayor Terence Roberts, Mayor Pro Tem Thompson, Council Members John Roberts, Laughridge, Stewart, Chapman, Harbin, Newton and Jeff Roberts. Also in attendance were City Manager, Linda McConnell; Finance Director, Margot Martin; Police Chief, Jim Stewart; and Court Administrator, Kim Poulin. The invocation was given by Councilman Laughridge and respect to the flag was given by Councilman Harbin.

ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO TEM
Council Member Dr. Beatrice Thompson

City Manager, Linda McConnell said the Anderson City Code specifies that the mayor pro tem shall be elected from the council membership and shall serve a term of one year. The mayor pro tem serves in the absence of the Mayor and as a representative of the City and Council at events, functions, speaking engagements and other such duties and responsibilities otherwise attached to the office of Mayor.

As per Sec. 2-220. Mayor pro tempore.

- (a) Prior to July 1st of each year, or as soon thereafter as may be practicable, the council shall elect from its membership a mayor pro tempore for a term of one year to run from July 1st to June 30th or until his or her successor is officially named and designated. The council shall elect the member who has served the longest period of time as council person and is willing to serve as mayor pro tempore. The person elected shall not serve consecutive terms. The person elected shall have a minimum of two years service on council. The person elected shall be succeeded by the person next in length of service who is willing to serve as mayor pro tempore. Should two members of council have equal service, the member with the earliest birth date shall serve first. The council shall have an election each year to name the next eligible member in the rotation. Should circumstances prevent the eligible member from serving, the member may maintain his position of seniority in the rotation for subsequent elections.

Based upon Sec. 2-220, the next Council member in rotation is Beatrice Thompson, who is willing to serve as Mayor Pro Tem.

A motion by Councilman Stewart seconded by Councilman Laughridge carried unanimously (9-0) to elect Council Member Thompson as Mayor Pro Tem to serve a one-year term.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion by Mayor Pro Tem Thompson seconded by Councilman John Roberts carried unanimously (9-0) to approve the minutes of July 9, 2018 and July 13, 2018 meetings as presented.

REQUEST CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE 18-11 TO ANNEX AND ZONE TO R-5, SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL 1704 SOUTH MURRAY AVENUE EXTENSION

City Manager, Linda McConnell said the applicant requests to annex and zone the single-family dwelling into the City in order to receive City services. Recently, two neighboring properties, 1706 and 1709 South Murray Avenue Extension were also annexed into the City. The R-5 zoning classification is consistent with the zoning and land uses in the general area.

The Planning Commission considered this request on July 10th and unanimously recommended approval.

A motion by Mayor Pro Tem Thompson seconded by Councilman Laughridge carried unanimously (9-0) to approve Ordinance 18-11 to annex and zone to R-5, Single-Family Residential, 1704 South Murray Avenue Extension on First Reading.

REQUEST CONSIDERATION OF A REFERRAL TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION A PETITION TO REZONE 1805-1811 AND 1806-1808 EDGEWOOD AVENUE FROM R-5 SINGLE FAMILY TO RM-18 MULTI-FAMILY

City Manager, Linda McConnell said the applicant proposes to rezone the existing multi-family dwellings to RM-18, Multi-Family Residential in order to bring them into zoning compliance. According to the applicant, this is needed for lending purposes from the bank. When the multi-family dwellings were constructed years ago, the property was zoned for multi-family uses, but the area was changed to R-5, Single-Family Residential in 1998 when the Zoning Ordinance went through a major revision. Therefore, the multi-family dwellings are currently non-conforming uses.

The Planning Commission will consider this request at their August 7th meeting.

A motion by Councilman Laughridge seconded by Councilman Newton carried unanimously (9-0) to approve a referral to the Planning Commission a petition to rezone 1805-1811 and 1806-1808 Edgewood Avenue from R-5 Single-Family to RM-18 Multi-Family.

REQUEST CONSIDERATION ORDINANCE 18-12 TO AMEND CHAPTER 82 OF THE ANDERSON CITY CODE

City Manager, Linda McConnell said Article III, Chapter 82 of the Code of the City of Anderson provides for ordinances pertaining to the operation of vehicles.

Pursuant to Section 82-7 of the City Code, the City of Anderson has adopted the state statutes pertaining to vehicles and traffic within the jurisdiction of the Municipal Court. S.C. Code Section 56-5-10 et. seq. is the Uniform Act Regulating Traffic on Highways. This statute sufficiently covers the operation of vehicles provided in Article III of the City Code. The statute also prohibits local ordinances in conflict with its provisions unless expressly authorized.

The repeal of Article III will make our traffic ordinances consistent with the Uniform Act Regulating Traffic. In addition, some grant applications may be more favorably received.

Police Chief, Jim Stewart and Court Administrator, Kim Poulin answered several questions from Council about the types of tickets issued and the percentage of fines that are submitted to the State of South Carolina.

A motion by Councilman Harbin seconded by Councilman Laughridge carried unanimously (9-0) to approve Ordinance 18-12 to amend Chapter 82 of the Anderson City Code on First Reading.

REQUEST CONSIDERATION OF A CONTRACT FOR REVENUE COLLECTION CONSULTING SERVICES

Finance Director, Margot Martin said the City solicited proposals from consulting firms to examine and analyze business activity within the City's corporate limits that may necessitate a City business license and/or other local business taxes and fees as defined by the City. The City's objective is to identify non-compliant businesses operating within the jurisdiction as well as any other licensing, associated fees and/or taxes that may be due. The RFP was issued May 15, 2018 with responses due back June 1, 2018.

The City had three responses and staff evaluated based on the following criteria: (1) Experience with past projects of comparable size, (2) professional personnel and adequate staffing levels, (3) ability to meet time and quality requirements, (4) recent, current and projected workloads, (5) location of office(s), and (6) total cost/reasonableness of fee proposal. Staff verified references including our peer cities of Florence, Spartanburg, and Myrtle Beach.

Currently the City has approximately 3,600 active business licenses on record. Increasing compliance among businesses engaging in local commerce, creates equitable sharing of license/tax responsibility. The Consulting company reviews revenue sources, utilizing a data driven, digital approach to research and identification to reveal non-compliant, commercial activity and facilitates the compliance process on behalf of the City. All collections are made directly to the City providing budget increases for current and future years.

The consulting company receives a commission based on the dollar amount of collections. Below is a summary of the proposed commission rates:

NuStrat Analytics (Rock Hill, SC/High Point, NC)	38% of Collections – year one only
Avenu Insights & Analytics (Birmingham, AL)	40% of Collections – year one only

Southern Resource Advisors, LLC (Greensboro, NC) Fee Scale for year one based on amounts collected and 35% renewal fee for year two.

The City staff recommends awarding the three-year contract to NuStrat Analytics for revenue collection consulting service contract for the City of Anderson based on the fees and South Carolina references.

Councilman Stewart requests a report to Council in six months on the progress of NuStrat Analytics to increase business license revenue.

A motion by Councilman Harbin seconded by Councilman John Roberts carried unanimously (9-0) to award a three-year contract with NuStrat Analytics for revenue collection consulting.

REQUEST CONSIDERATION OF AN AGREEMENT AMONG THE CITY OF ANDERSON, ANDERSON COUNTY AND INNOVATE ANDERSON REGARDING THE CVB AND COUNTY SQUARE DEVELOPMENT

City Manager, Linda McConnell said the City of Anderson is a member of the public-private organization Innovate Anderson. Innovate Anderson established the Convention & Visitors Bureau. The City of Anderson and Anderson County have been the primary sources of funding for the CVB since its inception. Innovate Anderson's long-term goal when establishing the Convention and Visitors Bureau, Visit Anderson, was to develop it and then transition it to a stand-alone entity, separate from the umbrella organization of Innovate Anderson. The Anderson County Convention and Visitors Bureau (ACCVB), Visit Anderson, has completed this transition. The City of Anderson plans to continue to contribute to the ACCVB/Visit Anderson to promote and support tourism in Anderson County from the City's Accommodations Tax collections, a part of which must be allocated to the designated tourism entity.

Bobby Beville, Division Director for the City Parks & Recreation will serve on the Board of the ACCVB in an ex-officio capacity; additionally, the City will appoint two people from the hospitality/lodging industry to serve on the ACCVB as vacancies occur on the Board.

A motion by Councilman Chapman seconded by Councilman Jeff Roberts carried unanimously (9-0) to approve an agreement among the City of Anderson, Anderson County and Innovate Anderson regarding the CVB and County Square Development.

ADMINISTRATIVE BRIEFING

UPCOMING EVENTS

City Manager, Linda McConnell reminded Council of the following upcoming events and all meetings in July and August 2018.

July 26th – Concerned Citizens of Eastside

July 26th – AU Overlay District Public Meeting

August 7th – ABC (A Better Community) Meeting

August 9th – Anderson County Municipal Association Meeting

August 11th – Southeast Community Outreach Task Force – 14th Annual Back to School Bash

August 16th – Southeast Anderson Task Force meeting cancelled

ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Councilman Newton seconded by Councilman Harbin carried unanimously (9-0) to adjourn.

ATTEST:

Terence V. Roberts
Mayor

Margot B. Martin
City Clerk Treasurer