



MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2022
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – JUDICIAL CENTER
202 KELLEY STREET
7:00 P.M.

<https://www.facebook.com/christiannewsty2/videos/666742874517209>

MAYOR/CITY COUNCILMEMBER PRESENT

Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr	Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby
Councilmember Yamekia Robinson	Councilmember Wilhelmena W. Scott
Councilmember William Askins	Councilmember Richard Cook
Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary	

STAFF

William Hall	Teresa Benjamin	Tonya Huell
Jonathan Laster	Patrick Miles	Cynthia Mallette
Donna Tracy	Jonathan Laster	Ricky Sims

OTHERS

No press **Christian News-Ty**
A list of attendees will accompany the minutes

The City Council Regular City Council Meeting agenda acknowledgment was made publicly on the City's Facebook and website on Friday, February 4, 2022. The agenda was emailed on Friday, February 4, 2022 to members of the media and posted on the bulletin board at the Lake City Municipal Complex, as well as on the city's Facebook page and official website.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Anderson Jr. called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and explained the protocol for the meeting with social-distancing measures encouraged.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Invocation was led by Councilmember Richard Cook (recited the Lord's Prayer), and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby.

POLLING OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS – A QUORUM WAS PRESENT

City Clerk Teresa K. Benjamin polled City Councilmembers and found there to be a quorum present.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA - APPROVED AS PRESENTED

A motion to approve the Tuesday, February 8, 2022, Regular City Council agenda: Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby; Seconded: Councilmember Yamekia Robinson; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember William Askins, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember Richard Cook, and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr all voted Aye).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – APPROVED AS PRESENTED

A motion for the approval of the minutes from the Tuesday, January 11, 2022 Regular City Council Meeting, Tuesday, January 18, 2022 Special-Called City Council Meeting, and Minutes from the Tuesday, January 25, 2022 Special-Called City Council Meeting: Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby; Seconded: Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember William Askins, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember Richard Cook, and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr all voted Aye).

PRESENTATION

Recognition of Dr. Ron McNair – presented by Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr in the absence of the Dr. Ronald E. McNair Board President and former Councilmember Ms. Gloria Tisdale. A special recognition for the City of Lake City’s native son Dr. Ronald McNair was presented by Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr. This acknowledgement was special in that this month because this month is recognized as Black History Month. Dr. Ronald McNair exuded black excellence by shooting the stars. The tragic last flight for our native son was recognized in the month of January; but today we celebrate this man for paving the way for some of our youth in this great City of Lake City, South Carolina. If you dream and work hard for it, you can achieve it.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – Notes on Comment Period: Comments are limited to two minutes per person and no personal or verbal attacks will be entertained:

Mattie Thomas (resides at 100 Lattimore Street) – she asked for additional information in reference to the process of revisions for the older Resolutions. It is her opinion that the citizens of Lake City, South Carolina need some more details pertaining to Resolution 2022.016. She stated that she recalled a previous Resolution in place that addresses this issue. Will this Resolution replace that one or is this something new? She would like a response to her question.

ORDINANCES**Ordinance 2022.002 First Reading**

An Ordinance for the City of Lake City, South Carolina for the approval to enter into a Mutual Aid Agreement with the City of Kingstree Police Department and the City of Lake City Police Department, South Carolina; and all other matters related thereto – Approved as presented.

A motion to approve Ordinance 2022.002 of the City of Lake City, South Carolina for the approval to enter into a Mutual Aid Agreement with the City of Kingstree Police Department and the City of Lake City Police Department, South Carolina; and other matters related thereto: Councilmember Yamekia Robinson; Seconded: Councilmember Richard Cook; Discussion: Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby how often do we enter into these types of agreements with other municipalities? She stated that she remembered completing several of these about 4 or 5 years ago; how much time has to past before they are considered expired? Interim City Administrator William Hall responded that under the previous Administration that the City received several agreement requests, and yes, they were executed during that time. Interim Administrator Hall stated that anytime there is a change in management, as we have gone through recently. He was not sure of the timeframe or the expiration, if any, applied to these agreements. Major Patrick Miles explained the process to Mayor and Council for the perimeters of a Mutual Aid Agreement. In short, Interim Administrator Hall stated that this would deputize other officers from another area to aid and assist our police department. Councilmember Crosby do the request have to be in writing? Major Miles responded that it depends on the situation. The funding depends on the situation and the course of action. Major Miles gave an example of a festival happens in Kingstree and they needed our assistance. The City of Lake City would still have coverage and Kingstree would be responsible for paying the cost of the use of our officer(s). City Clerk Teresa K. Benjamin responded that she would look that information up and forward to the Councilmembers before the March 8, 2022, Regular City Council Meeting; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember William Askins, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember Richard Cook, Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary, and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr).

Ordinance 2022.003 First Reading

An Ordinance for the City of Lake City, South Carolina for the approval of rezoning property located at 208 West Cole Road, TM#00169-31-258 consisting of 9.42 acres belonging to Signs Limited of Lake City, South Carolina: and all matters thereto – Approved as presented.

A motion to approve Ordinance 2022.003 of the City of Lake City, South Carolina for the approval of rezoning property located at 208 West Cole Road, TM#00169-31-258

consisting of 9.42 acres belonging to Signs Limited of Lake City, South Carolina; and other matters related thereto: Councilmember Yamekia Robinson; Seconded: Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary; Discussion: Councilmember Richard Cook asked why? Interim Administrator Hall explained about the process of annexation and rezoning of the property located in this area. Councilmember Crosby asked what does OIA mean? City Clerk Teresa Benjamin responded that the definition was on page 32. Councilmember Crosby asked who owned this property? Interim Administrator Hall responded Kenny Sauls. Councilmember Crosby asked if he was an employee of the City? The response was no at the time of purchase he was not employed with the City. Councilmember Cook asked why did she ask that question? Councilmember Crosby stated that would be a conflict of interest if he was employed by the City; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember William Askins, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember Richard Cook, Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary, and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr).

Ordinance 2022.004 First Reading

An Ordinance for the City of Lake City, South Carolina for the approval of rezoning property located at 278 West Cole Road, TM#00169-31-271 belonging to the City of Lake City, South Carolina: and all matters thereto – Approved as presented.

A motion to approve Ordinance 2022.003 of the City of Lake City, South Carolina for the approval of rezoning property located at 278 West Cole Road, TM#00169-31-271 belonging to the City of Lake City, South Carolina; and other matters related thereto: Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby; Seconded: Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott; Discussion: None; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember William Askins, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember Richard Cook, Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary, and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr).

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2022.012 – Approved as presented

A Resolution for the City of Lake City, South Carolina seeking the approval to change the date for the Tuesday, May 10, 2022, Regular City Council Meeting to the next business day of Wednesday, May 11, 2022; and other matter related thereto– Approved as presented.

A motion to approve Resolution 2022.012 of the City of Lake City, South Carolina seeking the approval to change the date for the Tuesday, May 10, 2022, Regular City Council Meeting to the next business day of Wednesday, May 11, 2022; and all other matters related thereto – Approved as presented: Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby; Seconded: Councilmember Yamekia Robinson; Motion Carried: All Ayes

(Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember William Askins, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember Richard Cook, Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary, and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr).

Resolution 2022.013 – Approved as presented

A Resolution for the City of Lake City, South Carolina seeking the approval to begin the process for the Church Street Water Tank Rehab; and other matters related thereto – Approved as presented.

A motion to approve Resolution 2022.013 of the City of Lake City, South Carolina seeking the approval to begin the process for the Church Street Water Tank Rehab; and all other matters related thereto – Approved as presented: Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby; Seconded: Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary; Discussion: Councilmember William Askins asked what exactly are they authorizing. Interim Administrator Hall explained that this is the beginning process of writing and the submission of the grant application. Councilmember Yamekia Robinson asked for some clarification in reference to the amounts shown, and Interim Administrator Hall provided the estimates or the approximate amount. He explained that the deadline is scheduled for March 2022 Councilmember Richard Cook asked if this only for the outside of the tank or the inside. Interim Administrator Hall responded this is for the outside. Councilmember Robinson asked what is the timeframe or the start date for this project. Interim Administrator Hall stated at this time there are no definite dates. Councilmember Askins about the RFQ process, and Interim Administrator Hall explained the process of continuing with AECOM to meet the deadline; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember William Askins, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember Richard Cook, Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary, and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr).

Resolution 2022.014 – Approved as presented

A Resolution for the City of Lake City, South Carolina seeking the approval for the process for relocation of Blanding Street and Graham Road Pump Station Relocation; and other matters related thereto – Approved as presented.

A motion to approve Resolution 2022.014 of the City of Lake City, South Carolina seeking the approval for the process for relocation of Blanding Street and Graham Road Pump Station Relocation; and all other matters related thereto – Approved as presented: Councilmember Richard Cook; Seconded: Councilmember Yamekia Robinson; Discussion: Interim Administrator Hall stated that this pump station would tie in with another project. Ricky Sims (Public Works Director) was available for questions. Councilmember Askins asked about the number CBDG grants at one time? Interim Administrator Hall responded that there is no limit on the number of how many CBDG

grants. He stated that if this is approved, it will handle two things that are needed. Ricky Sims (Public Works Director) explained the process that needs to take place to prevent flooding at this location (Blanding Street Ballpark); Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember William Askins, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember Richard Cook, Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary, and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr).

Resolution 2022.015 – Approved as presented

A Resolution for the City of Lake City, South Carolina seeking the approval for the process to begin improvements for Carver Street Neighborhood; and other matter related thereto - Approved as presented.

A motion to approve Resolution 2022.015 of the City of Lake City, South Carolina seeking the approval for the process to begin improvements for Carver Street Neighborhood; and other matter related thereto – Approved as presented: Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary; Seconded: Councilmember Yamekia Robinson; Discussion: Councilmember Richard Cook asked if these funds are from the American Rescue Plan? Interim Administrator responded yes, but it is in accordance with the American Rescue Plan guidelines. This deals with stormwater, sidewalks collapsing, and preventing cave-in. Ricky Sims (Public Works Director) read aloud the names of the streets. Councilmember Yamekia Robinson asked if the grant would cover the bulk of the cost? Interim Administrator Hall responded yes, that is what we are hoping for and by putting these measures in place can help alleviate some of the financial issue; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember William Askins, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember Richard Cook, Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary, and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr).

CITY ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS – Interim Administrator Hall stated that the Public Information Department is doing an excellent job by keeping the public engaged. The Public Information Department also have forged a better relationship with the local new media.

Interim Administrator Hall also provided a list of projects that have been completed and ongoing projects to Mayor and Council. He informed Mayor and Council about the issue with the lighting throughout the City. The new lights will be put in and should brighten up the City. The fees and a list have been given to Duke Energy back in October 2021.

INTERIM CITY ADMINISTRATOR WILLIAM HALL: MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT – FISCAL YR 2022 PERIOD ENDING JANUARY 31, 2022. The following is a summary of the City's financial results for the major operating funds as of January 31, 2022. Fiscal year activity has been included as of February 4, 2022.

GENERAL FUND:

REVENUE - Budgeted: \$7,566,989; YTD Actual Collected = \$4,219,095, representing 56% of the current budget compared to the prior year actual collected = \$3,847,066.

EXPENSES – Budgeted: \$7,566,989; YTD Actual Spent = \$4,760,803, representing 63% of the budget compared to the prior year actual = \$4,323,813.

REVENUE OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES: YTD = (\$541,708); PRIOR YR ACTUAL = \$(476,747).

WATER FUND:

REVENUE – Budgeted: \$1,584,743; YTD Actual Collected: \$959,334 representing 61% of the budget compared to the prior year actual: \$868,957.

EXPENSES – Budgeted: \$1,584,743; YTD Actual Spent: \$897,552 representing 57% of the budget compared to the prior year actual: \$773,657.

REVENUE OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES: YTD = \$61,782; PRIOR YR ACTUAL = \$95,300.

SEWER FUND:

REVENUE – Budgeted: \$2,910,554; YTD Actual Collected: \$1,816,236 representing 62% of the budget compared to the prior year = \$1,741,944.

EXPENSES – Budgeted: \$2,910,554; YTD Actual Spent: \$1,742,489 compared to the prior year actual = \$1,401,631 representing 60%.

REVENUE OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES – Budgeted: \$0; YTD Actual Collected: \$73,747 compared to the prior year actual = \$340,313.

APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2022 (page 48) – Approved Items 1 - 8 as presented.

A motion to approve the February 2022 Bill List items 1 – 8: Councilmember Yamekia Robinson; Seconded: Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott; Discussion: Councilmember Cook asked about items 2 and 3, what do these people do for the City? Interim Administrator Hall explained that these are for IT services; they monitor our systems at

all our facilities. Councilmember Crosby asked for some additional clarification on the annual services, and Interim Administrator Hall responded explaining the process. Councilmember Cook asked when are we going to start hauling off the City's slug? Interim Administrator responded that because of COVID, this has caused a slight hiccup in the process. He is working on getting our employees trained. Hopefully by the end of February 2022, the truck will be here; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember William Askins, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember Richard Cook, Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary, and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr).

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS – PRESENTED BY LAKE CITY MAJOR PATRICK MILES.

Lake City Police Major Patrick Miles presented to Mayor and Council January 2022 statistical data (data sheets has been included in the minutes).

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Entered at 7:47 p.m.

A motion to enter Executive Session pursuant to the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act Section 30-4-70 (a)(1) for the discussion of a personnel employment, compensation or appointments and other matters related thereto: Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary; Seconded: Councilmember Yamekia Robinson; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember William Askins, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember Richard Cook, Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary, and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr).

ACTION AS NEEDED WITH RESPECT TO MATTERS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION – Exited at 8:27 p.m., there was no action taken during the Executive Session.

A motion to exit Executive Session pursuant to the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act Section 30-4-70 (a)(1) for the discussion of a personnel employment, compensation or appointments and other matters related thereto: Councilmember Richard Cook; Seconded: Councilmember Yamekia Robinson; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember William Askins, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember Richard Cook, Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary, and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr).

Resolution 2022.016 – Approved as presented

A Resolution for the City of Lake City, South Carolina seeking the approval for the process to begin the implementation of a Public Service Recruitment Housing Program; and other matter related thereto - Approved as presented.

A motion to approve Resolution 2022.016 of the City of Lake City, South Carolina seeking the approval for the process to begin the implementation of a Public Service Recruitment Housing Program – Approved as presented: Councilmember Richard Cook; Seconded: Councilmember Yamekia Robinson; Discussion:; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember William Askins, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember Richard Cook, Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary, and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr).

CITY COUNCILMEMBERS REPORTS

Councilmember William Askins – No report.

Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott - she thanked everyone for coming out and expressing their concerns. She stated that she would like to see more of the American Rescue Plan funding available in her district. She named Deep River and Beauregard; this area needs to have more handicap accessible areas. She stated that Leroy Service Station have cars parked on the grass side, and she has received several complaints in reference to this nuisance. Some of the constituents have called her from other districts. Mayor Anderson Jr responded that he would follow up with the Lake City Police Department and asked Major Miles to check on this matter. She stated that she will be celebrating her birthday this month. Happy birthday! She provided her cashapp for those who wanted to bless her.

Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary – she thanked everyone for coming out and bringing their concerns. She reminded everyone to remember to practice all safety measures because COVID is around.

Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby – she thanked everyone for coming out to express their concerns. She stated that she would like to see some of the funding from the American Rescue Plan be used to have sidewalks put on Carver, Moore, and Floyd Streets.

Councilmember Yamekia Robinson – she thanked everyone for coming out to voice their concerns. She encouraged everyone to stay safe and continue to wear their masks where it is deemed necessary. She provided a run-down of the events that took place in January 2022. The February events: COVID Vaccination Clinic was held on February 19, 2022, at Wesley United Methodist Church, she provided some information that she obtained from the Hometown Legislative Action Day that was held on February 3, 2022; a Black History event was held via teleconference platform on February 22, 2022, that began at 12 p.m.; and the remembrance of the former Postmaster Frazier Baker.

Interim City Administrator William Hall reminder Mayor and Council of the free COVID testing that was taking place at 278 Cole Road (Arts, Cultural and Recreational facility).

Councilmember Richard Cook – he thanked for coming out and he wished Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott a very Happy Birthday.

MAYOR’S REPORT – he thanked everyone for coming out and stated how much he appreciated the City staff members for all of their challenging work.


ADJOURNMENT - Adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Having heard all matters presented and having no citizens input, a Motion to Adjourn: Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby; Seconded: Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember William Askins, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember Richard Cook, Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary, and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr): Motion Carried: Unanimously.



Lovith Anderson Jr
Mayor

Attest:



Teresa K. Benjamin
City Clerk