



CITY OF SPARTANBURG

SOUTH CAROLINA

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

**City Council Meeting
City Council Chambers
145 West Broad Street
Spartanburg, SC
Monday, November 9, 2015
6:00 p.m.**

- I. Moment of Silence**
- II. Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. Approval of the Minutes of the October 26, 2015 City Council Meeting**
- IV. Approval of Agenda of the November 9, 2015 City Council Meeting**
- V. Public Comment**
*Citizen Appearance forms are available at the door and should be submitted to the City Clerk
- VI. Announcement of the Winners of the Neighborhood Challenge to Participate in Seeing Spartanburg In A New Light Public Art Project**
Presenter: Jennifer Evins, CEO & Director of Development, Chapman Cultural Center
- VII. Spartanburg School District 7 Potential Capital Improvements Update**
Presenter: Dr. Russell Booker, District 7 Superintendent
- VIII. Other Business**
 - A. Authorization to Proceed with Demolition of 142 Oakland Avenue**
Presenter: Ed Memmott, City Manager
 - B. Police Department Records Management Purchase**
Presenter: Alonzo Thompson, Police Chief
- IX. City Council Updates**
- X. Adjournment**

** City Code Sec. 2-57. Citizen Appearance. Any citizen of the City of Spartanburg may speak at a regular meeting on any matter pertaining to City Services and operations germane to items within the purview and authority of City Council, except personnel matters, by signing a Citizen's Appearance form prior to the meeting stating the subject and purpose for speaking. No item considered by Council within the past twelve (12) months may be added as an agenda item other than by decision of City Council. The forms may be obtained from the Clerk and maintained by the same. Each person who gives notice may speak at the designated time and will be limited to a two (2) minute presentation.*

As required by the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Spartanburg will provide interpretive services for the City Council Meetings. Requests must be made to the Communications & Marketing Office (596-2020) 24 hours in advance of the meeting. This is a Public Meeting and notice of the meeting was posted with the Media 24 hours in advance according to the Freedom of Information Act.



**City Council Meeting
City Council Chambers
145 West Broad Street
Spartanburg, SC
Monday, October 26, 2015
5:30 p.m.**

**(These minutes are subject to approval at the
November 9, 2015 City Council meeting.)**

City Council met this date with the following members present: Mayor Junie White, Mayor pro tem Erica Brown, Councilmembers Jan Scalisi, Robert Reeder, Jerome Rice, Sterling Anderson, and Laura Stille. City Manager Ed Memmott and former City Attorney Spencer King, filling in for City Attorney Cathy McCabe, were also in attendance. Notice of the meeting was posted with the Media 24 hours in advance according to the Freedom of Information Act. All City Council meetings are recorded for a complete transcript.

- I. Moment of Silence - observed**
- II. Pledge of Allegiance - recited**
- III. Special Music by Meeting Street Academy Music Students** – Students from Meeting Street Academy, led by their music director, Larry Lawson, sang “The Star Spangled Banner” and “Tomorrow”, from the musical “Annie”.
- IV. Approval of the Minutes of the October 12, 2015 City Council Meeting** – *Councilmember Rice made a motion to approve the minutes as received. Mayor pro tem Brown seconded the motion, which carried unanimously 7 to 0.*
- V. Approval of Agenda of the October 26, 2015 City Council Meeting** – *Councilmember Scalisi made a motion to approve the agenda as received. Councilmember Stille seconded the motion, which carried unanimously 7 to 0.*
- VI. Public Comment - None**
**Citizen Appearance forms are available at the door and should be submitted to the City Clerk*
- VII. Seeing Spartanburg In A New Light Public Art Project and Cultural District Updates**
Presenter: Jennifer Evins, CEO & Director of Development, Chapman Cultural Center
Ms. Evins stated that the City was approved by SC Arts Commission on June 24 as a Cultural District. She shared that in July, the Chapman Cultural Center launched a competition for Spartanburg Artist to participate in a logo competition, which was awarded to Matthew Donaldson. She added that a grant proposal was submitted for a

Ten at the Top Vibrancy Elevate Upstate Grant to implement a launch of the new Cultural District designation to include a temporary art installation that would include the entire district. She stressed that her staff was working with the city marketing staff to align the Cultural District branding with the city's overall marketing and branding strategies.

Ms. Evins shared that a celebration was held on Tuesday, August 4, to launch Seeing Spartanburg in A New Light with over 2,000 City residents organized by the City Police Department. She stated that on September 1, a question and answer session for Neighborhood Leaders was held for them to ask questions and learn more about the Public Art Project and submitting their letters of inquiry. She continued that on September 10, ten letters of interest from ten neighborhood associations with over 160 signatures from residents who wanted to participated were received.

She shared that on October 14, the selection committee, Artist Erwin Redl, Chief Project Curator Mark Sloan, Ann Elizabeth Goddard, and Police Officers Chris Banks, Kimberly Ritter, Regina Nowak, and Daniel Gordon, toured all ten neighborhoods listening to residents speak about the history of their neighborhoods, the activities that they do to encourage resident involvement and their hope to participate in Seeing Spartanburg in a New Light. She continued that on Thursday, the committee visited the Daniel Morgan Career Center and then the Converse College Sculpture Student Workshop, where all are interested in being involved in the design, fabrication and installation of the Public Art. Ms. Evins shared that, after completing the due diligence with city engineering and property owners, she hoped to announce the final sites on Monday, November 9 at the City Council meeting. She also recognized and thanked Lisa Gosnell, City of Spartanburg Community Services Specialist, for her assistance with the process.

VIII. Public Hearing

A. Resolution in Support of the Issuance by The South Carolina Jobs-Economic Development Authority of Its Economic Development Revenue Bond (Wofford College Project), Pursuant to the Provisions of Title 41, Chapter 43, of the Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, As Amended, in the Aggregate Principal Amount of Not Exceeding \$50,000,000

Presenter: Ed Memmott, City Manager

Mr. Memmott presented the item to City Council as follows:

“Wofford College intends to utilize bond financing through the South Carolina Jobs-Economic Development Authority (SCJEDA) for the financing of various capital projects. In order to facilitate this financing, City Council is being asked to conduct a public hearing on this matter and then consider a Resolution in support of the bond issue. The City Attorney and bond counsel for the City have reviewed the Resolution and determined that the City will have no obligation for repayment of these bonds.

ACTION REQUESTED: Staff is requesting that City Council conduct a public hearing and then approve the Resolution in support of the bond issue.

BUDGET & FINANCIAL DATA: No financial obligation for the City.”

Mayor White opened the Public Hearing. He asked if there was anyone to speak against the proposed resolution. Hearing none, he asked if there was anyone to speak in favor of the proposed resolution. No one came forward.

Councilmember Reeder made a motion to close the Public Hearing.

Councilmember Anderson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously 7 to 0.

Councilmember Scalisi made a motion to approve the resolution as presented.

Mayor pro tem Brown seconded the motion, which carried unanimously 7 to 0.

IX. Resolution

A. Authorizing Staff to Proceed with Efforts to Acquire and Reach Agreement with Norfolk Southern Railway Company to Reimburse City Expenses Associated with Modifications of Farley Street Necessary to Accommodate the Removal of the Farley Street Railroad Bridge

Presenter: Ed Memmott, City Manager

Mr. Memmott presented the item to City Council as follows:

“Staff has been in discussion with Norfolk-Southern Railroad regarding the possibility of demolishing the Farley Street Bridge that crosses over Norfolk Southern rail lines. Over the years, City staff has had concerns regarding the structural stability and safety of the bridge. More than a year ago, the City closed the bridge because of these concerns. There were protracted discussions between the City and Norfolk regarding whether the bridge should be repaired. Eventually, the possibility of bridge removal was considered. If the bridge is removed, it will be necessary for the City to acquire a vacant structure located at 391 Farley Street so that a turnaround area can be constructed. There is a house on this property which has been condemned by City Code Enforcement to prevent occupancy of the structure. Spartanburg County has set the value of this property at \$6,800. Norfolk has tentatively agreed to pay all costs to acquire the property, demolish the structure, and construct the turnaround. Staff has consulted with neighborhood leadership regarding bridge removal. No objections were raised. Emergency services were also consulted with no objections.

ACTION REQUESTED: Council approval of a Resolution authorizing staff to proceed with efforts to acquire TMS 7-12-05-173 (391 Farley Street) and, if successful in reaching agreement on purchase, to enter into an Agreement with Norfolk Southern to reimburse the City for all costs associated with closure of the Farley Street Bridge. If staff is unsuccessful in reaching an agreement on sales price with the property owner, staff will return to Council requesting authorization to acquire the property using the City’s power of eminent domain.

BUDGET & FINANCIAL DATA: Costs to City will be reimbursed by Norfolk.

Councilmember Anderson made a motion to approve the resolution as presented. **Councilmember Stille** seconded the motion, which carried unanimously 7 to 0.

X. Consent Agenda

- A. To Authorize the City to Grant to South Carolina Telecommunications Group Holdings LLC, D/B/A Spirit Communications (“Spirit Communications”), the Right, Power and Authority to Construct, Install, Maintain and Operate in the City to Render Telecommunications Service to its Customers in the Corporate Limits of the City for Such Period as Provided Herein and to Provide for the Payment of Compensation for the Use of the Streets and Public Places (Second Reading)**

Presenter: Dennis Locke, Finance Director

- B. To Amend the Code of the City of Spartanburg 1988, Chapter 4, “Animals and Fowl” to Provide Additional Measures as Determined by the Court if a Dangerous or Vicious Animal is Determined to be a Continuing Threat of Serious Harm (Second Reading)**

Presenter: Cathy McCabe, City Attorney

Councilmember Reeder made a motion to approve the consent agenda as received. Councilmember Stille seconded the motion, which carried unanimously 7 to 0.

XI. Other Business

- A. Approval of 2016 City Council Meeting Schedule**

Presenter: Connie McIntyre, City Clerk

Ms. McIntyre presented the proposed 2016 City Council meeting schedule. She noted the council meetings, the city holidays, and the dates for the two National League of Cities conferences.

Mayor pro tem Brown made a motion to approve the schedule as presented.

Councilmember Scalisi seconded the motion, which carried unanimously 7 to 0.

XII. City Council Updates

Mayor pro tem Brown shared that she had participated in the Cleveland Park Community Build and that it was a great day with many volunteers participating with the common goal of rebuilding the park. She added that it was healing event for all involved. She shared that the previous weekend was her 15 year Wofford College reunion, adding that her classmates could not believe all that had happened and was happening in Spartanburg since they attended Wofford.

She shared that she attended the homecoming football game where a ceremony was held before the game presenting the Northside Voyagers with the Distinguished Citizens Award.

She added that after the Wofford festivities, she made it to the end of the first annual Hub City Brew Fest, which was a great event.

Councilmember Reeder shared that the “We Are One” event on October 17 was well attended and a success. He offered his condolences to former Councilmember Rev. Lewis Mills on the loss of his wife, Rayma.

Councilmember Rice shared he had attended the Stewart Park Fall Festival, which

featured outstanding food, and he added that he was the current reigning Horseshoe Champion. He also reminded everyone that the last Jazz on the Square for the season would take place on October 30.

Councilmember Scalisi reminded everyone to vote on Tuesday, November 3. She shared that she, Councilmember Scalisi and Councilmember Reeder would be leaving the following week for the National League of Cities Conference in Nashville, TN. She reminded everyone about “The Latest Thing in Spartanburg” at The Tap House on St. John Street on the following Thursday.

Councilmember Anderson encouraged everyone to go to the polls and vote on Tuesday.

Councilmember Stille shared that she was looking forward to attending the National League of Cities Conference for the first time. She mentioned that she had attended a production of “Hamlet” at the Chapman Cultural Center, the Lee Brice Live on the Green concert at Barnet Park, and the opening of the Drayton Trail, which she thought was a great community effort.

XIII. Adjournment

Councilmember Stille made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Rice seconded the motion, which carried unanimously 7 to 0. The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.



Connie S. McIntyre, City Clerk



REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL ACTION

TO: Mayor and Members of City Council
FROM: Ed Memmott, City Manager
SUBJECT: 142 Oakland Avenue
DATE: November 5, 2015

BACKGROUND: Buddy Bush, City Building Official, has determined that 142 Oakland Avenue is a hazardous structure that poses serious health and safety concerns. 142 Oakland is a large two story structure that has a significant amount of asbestos in it. Mr. Bush recently ordered the owner to either repair or demolish the structure. The property owner, Mr. Joe Mabry resides in a nursing home. His wife, Ida Mabry also resides in a nursing home. They do not have the financial means to repair the property. It has been vacant for several months. The home was left with furniture, clothing, and other household items in it. The Mabry's have no ability to correct the extensive deficiencies at the structure. Staff has been in contact with family members who have no interest and/or financial ability to intervene. There are several lenders who have recorded mortgages on the property. These lenders have determined that is not in their financial interest to involve themselves in the matter. At this point, there is no other party for the City to hold responsible for the property. Staff does not believe these circumstances will change.

At my direction, code enforcement staff solicited bids for asbestos abatement and demolition of the structure. Two bids were received. The low bid for removal of the structure was \$79,950. There are no funds budgeted to cover this expense. A total of \$101,000 in Community Development Block Grant funds was budgeted for FY16 for demolition. These funds have been obligated for the demolition of other derelict structures.

As I see it, the following options are available:

- Do nothing.
- Postpone demolition until July/August of 2016 when additional funds would be available. I would remind Council that the amounts of Community Development Block Grants have been declining. Budgeting sufficient funds for demolition of 142 Oakland Avenue and the 12-14 homes which typically require demolition in the course of any year would necessitate significant cuts in other programs supported by CDBG funding.
- Rebid to determine if a lower bid price emerges. This approach can result in higher expenses.
- Pursue other options such as a controlled burn of the property. Given the location of this property and its very close proximity to other businesses, I have been reluctant to pursue this option.

ACTION REQUESTED: I am requesting Council authorization to proceed with asbestos abatement and demolition as an unbudgeted expense.

BUDGET & FINANCIAL DATA: \$79,950 expense to General Fund.



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA – SUMMARY REPORT

TO: Ed Memmott, City Manager

FROM: Chief Alonzo Thompson,
Spartanburg Police Department

SUBJECT: Police Records Management Purchase

DATE: November 5, 2015

BACKGROUND: The Police Department has utilized its current computer based police records management system for over fifteen years. This TriTech software system, formally known as VisionAir, has replaced the officers' clipboard with a mobile computer that is utilized within the patrol vehicle. This system manages millions of police records and archives every criminal incident that occurs in our community. However, with the development of technology, the current system has become stagnant, offering very few options that are available through modern technologically advanced software. Because of the current software limitations, the police department has had to purchase multiple software databases to compensate for TriTech's shortcomings. We must utilize separate databases for evidence tracking, image storage, training, equipment, personnel records, GIS mapping and data research, and incident link analysis.

UPDATE INFORMATION: Within the recent years, the police department and the City IT team has researched and evaluated several innovative police records management systems. During this research, a top priority was finding a database through which data sharing could be accomplished. The research continuously led back to a locally used records management system, Spillman Technologies. The Spartanburg Sheriff's Office utilizes the Spillman Technology's RMS system and has for many years. Through their usage, the Sheriff's Office has established a wealth of sharable data which would be advantageous for the betterment of the City Police Department because of the opportunity for data sharing. Data sharing in policing is critical because individuals involved in the commission of crimes do not limit their activities to specific jurisdictions.

Advantages of Moving from TriTech to Spillman's Record Management System

- 1. Acquisition of Spillman would lead to the two largest law enforcement agencies in Spartanburg County sharing real-time police intelligence and incident data. This also opens the door for smaller, local municipalities to join the data sharing initiative, with little or no cost. A software agreement has already been signed between the City of Spartanburg and Spartanburg County.**
- 2. The transition would combine multiple in-house databases into one user-friendly system. Over time, these databases will transition into the main Spillman system. This in turn, would eliminate the yearly maintenance fees for these systems which would mean a potential for an estimated \$80,000 annual savings.**

- 3. Each officer would have crime analysis, crime mapping, and predictive policing tools on the mobile computer in their patrol vehicle. These tools will greatly enhance the in-the-field crime fighting strategies and tactics.**
- 4. The City and County databases would be a mirror system. This would allow for a duplicate and identical data storage system. This creates a stronger disaster recovery protocol for both agencies. For example, in the event of a natural or man-made disaster resulting in destruction of one system, the redundancy and duplication of the software database would provide a secure and safe system through the other agency.**
- 5. Spillman Technologies is a stable company that has been privately owned for over 30 years. They have never been “bought out” and only focus on public safety clients.**
- 6. Because the Sheriff’s Department has a successful history with the Spillman organization, and data sharing is the most logical solution for our agency, this would be a sole source purchase.**

BUDGET AND FINANCE DATA: The net cost of this system upgrade would be \$116,000 in the current fiscal year and \$46,000 each of the next seven years. We intend to repurpose \$66,000 of existing grant funds currently in hand to reduce the impact on the current fiscal year to \$50,000.

We recommend that the City Manager be authorized to execute the necessary agreements.