



**City Council Meeting
City Council Chambers
145 West Broad Street
Spartanburg, SC
Monday, July 13, 2015
5:30 p.m.**

**(These minutes were approved
at the July 27, 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, and Laura Stille. Councilmember Sterling Anderson was absent attending the South Carolina Sheriff's Annual Conference June 12 - June 14, 2015. City Manager Ed Memmott and 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. Approval of the Minutes of the June 22, 2015 City Council Meeting –**
Councilmember Rice made a motion to approve the minutes as received.
Councilmember Scalisi seconded the motion, which carried unanimously 6 to 0.
- IV. Approval of Agenda of the July 13, 2015 City Council Meeting –**
Councilmember Reeder made a motion to approve the agenda as received.
Councilmember Stille seconded the motion, which carried unanimously 6 to 0.
- V. Public Comment - none**
*Citizen Appearance forms are available at the door and should be submitted to the City Clerk
- VI. Special Presentation –** *Mayor White stated the presentation would be postponed to another meeting.*
Presenter: Mayor Junie White
- VII. Ordinance**
 - A. To Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Deed Conveying Vacant Lot on Greenlea Street, Block Map Sheet 7-16-07-219.00**
Presenter: Mitch Kennedy, Community Services Director
Mr. Kennedy presented the item to City Council as follows:

“In 1971, the City of Spartanburg acquired a parcel on Greenlea Street, Block Map Sheet 7-16-07-219.00. This is a small vacant wooded lot which has a creek running through it and is adjacent to the property owned by Quinton McClintock. Staff does not anticipate redeveloping this parcel in the future. Mr. McClintock asked if the City would be willing to donate the property to him.

ACTION REQUESTED: Approval of an Ordinance conveying the property on Greenlea Street, Block Map sheet 7-16-07, Parcel 219.00 to Quinton McClintock.”

After discussion, Councilmember Reeder made a motion to approve the ordinance as requested on first reading. Councilmember Scalisi seconded the motion, which carried unanimously 6 to 0.

VIII. Resolution

A. Approving Voluntary Acquisition (Block Map Sheet 7-16-01-256.00, 7-16-01-157.00, 7-16-01-158.00, 7-16-01-159.00)

Presenter: Mitch Kennedy, Community Services Director

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

“The City of Spartanburg in an effort to stabilize its neighborhoods and provide for redevelopment opportunities has from time-to-time purchased real property. Staff assesses the value of the property, current conditions, and potential for redevelopment to determine feasibility of acquisition.

The owner of 412 Highland Avenue (7-16-01-255.00) and 414 Highland Avenue (7-16-01-256.00) has offered to sell the two parcels to the City. Both properties have vacant blighted structures. Staff believes that it is in the public’s interest to purchase the two properties and tentatively negotiated a purchase price of \$25,000.

The owner of 328 Caulder Avenue (7-16-07-157.00), 330 Caulder Avenue (7-16-07-158.00), and 334 Caulder Avenue (7-16-07-159.00) has offered to sell the three parcels to the City. All three parcels are vacant lots. Staff believes that it is in the public’s interest to purchase the three properties and tentatively negotiated a purchase price of \$18,000

Staff plans to work with a nonprofit housing provider to redevelop these sites if acquired.

ACTION REQUESTED: Approval of a Resolution to authorize the City Manager to proceed with the purchase of 412 Highland Avenue, 414 Highland Avenue, 328 Caulder Avenue, 330 Caulder Avenue, and 334 Caulder Avenue

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL DATA: \$43,000 in CDBG funds will be used for the purchase of the parcels.”

After discussion, Councilmember Rice made a motion to approve the resolution as requested. Councilmember Reeder seconded the motion, which carried unanimously 6 to 0.

B. Authorizing the City Manager to Enter Into an Employment Contract for Municipal Judge

Presenter: Mayor Junie L. White

Mayor White stated that Judge Erika L. McJimpsey had been the Municipal Judge since 2011 and that her contract was due for renewal. He shared that the Judicial Review committee had met and talked with Judge McJimpsey and that they were very pleased with the job that she had done for the City over the last two years. He added that Judge McJimpsey was pleased with her contract with the city.

Mayor White stated that the committee recommended approval of a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a new contract with Erika L. McJimpsey as Municipal Judge for a term of two years with her annual salary to remain at the current amount.

Mayor pro tem Brown made a motion to approve the resolution as requested.

Councilmember Reeder seconded the motion, which carried unanimously 6 to 0.

Mayor White took the opportunity to introduce Ms. Terrill Bates, new Executive Director of the Spartanburg Housing Authority, since June 8. Ms. Bates shared that she was looking forward to working with everyone to make the community a better place. Council welcomed Ms. Bates and wished her well in her new position at the Housing Authority.

IX. Other Business

A. Award of Bid for Landscape Maintenance Contract

Presenter: Mark Ford, Grounds & Environmental Services Manager

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

“The City contracts for grounds maintenance of certain leased parks and green spaces. These locations are:

Mary H. Wright Greenway	Irwin Park
Andrews Farm Park	Bethlehem Center
Adams Park	Fairgrounds BB
Park Hills Area	TK Gregg (former site)

Staff solicited competitive bids for this work. Bids were submitted by:

Clipping Grounds, Spartanburg, SC	\$57,583
US Lawns, Spartanburg, SC	\$68,454
Green’s Landscaping, Inman, SC	\$76,500

Clipping Grounds is a certified MWBE contractor and has provided reliable service to the City for several years. Staff is recommending contract award to Clipping Grounds.

ACTION REQUESTED: Council authorization for the City Manager to enter into a contract with Clipping Grounds for grounds maintenance in the amount of \$57,583 annually.

BUDGET AND FINANCE DATA: Grounds Maintenance Division - Professional Services \$57,583.”

After discussion, Councilmember Rice made a motion to approve the award of bid as requested to Clipping Grounds, Spartanburg, SC in the amount of \$57,583. Councilmember Scalisi seconded the motion, which carried unanimously 6 to 0.

B. Approval of Development Agreement to Support the Renovation and Reuse of 137 W. Main Street

Presenter: Chris Story, Assistant City Manager

Mr. Memmott presented the item for Mr. Story as follows:

“137 West Main is an important structure within the historic blocks of Morgan Square. It has been vacant for many years. It was most recently occupied by the Sandwich Factory which closed over five years ago. Since that time, our Economic Development staff has sought to encourage its renovation and reuse.

Earlier this year, 137 West Main LLC, a locally owned corporation purchased the building for the purpose of renovating and restoring the property to being a productive contributor to our downtown. The attached development agreement would provide necessary incentives to ensure completion of this undertaking.”

After discussion, Councilmember Stille made a motion to approve the development agreement as requested. Councilmember Scalisi seconded the motion, which carried unanimously 6 to 0.

X. City Council Updates

Mayor White asked Council to be sure and forward their recommendations for boards and commissions that would be presented at the July 27 council meeting.

Councilmember Stille shared she was pleased to read the editorial in the Sunday paper about all the great things happening in Spartanburg. She mentioned the new website seespartanburgrise.com, which is an interactive and informative website to learn about development of downtown property. She reminded everyone of the Baguette & Company grand-opening the following day on Wall Street, and of the opening of Sparkle City Mini Putt on Thursday at 5:00 p.m. She stated she was excited about the completion of the Main Street Streetscaping completion in a couple of weeks.

Councilmember Rice mentioned and complemented the new signage on the bridge on Pine Street going out of town, as well as all the new signage downtown. He shared that the eight time winner of Mr. Olympia Lee Haney was in town and held an event at Barnet Park, and visited Spartanburg High School to promote healthy living and fitness.

Councilmember Scalisi mentioned that the Art Walk would be after the opening of Sparkle City Mini Putt. She encouraged everyone to attend “Scrappy Shakespeare” in the amphitheater behind the George on Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 7:30 p.m. for free.

Mayor pro tem Brown mentioned that the Panthers Training Camp would start on July 31 and that the city was very grateful for all the tourists and visitors who would be in

town, and for the Panthers choosing Spartanburg as the location for their camp. She stated that she didn't know if everyone had heard last Friday the news about "some piece of cloth that we decided to take down from the statehouse, and I just want to commend those that fought for that, and I want to say thanks, maybe, to the legislature for doing the right thing, but I'm still kind of bitter about some people and their opinions, but I'm very happy about that, and it's not going to erase racism, but to me it means a lot because I remember learning about the Civil War in high school and in middle school. For me, as a child, what it meant to me was just one thing, and it still means the same thing to me this day, so I was very happy to see that news. I think this is a move in the right direction for us to all move forward and begin the healing process, to continue to move forward together as one. So, I was very happy about that."

Councilmember Reeder shared that two weeks ago, Gina McCarthy, Head Administrator for the EPA, came to tour Spartanburg. He added that he, the Mayor, Mr. Memmott, Mitch Kennedy and others toured the northside, southside, the Hope VI project, and the many things that were happening in the city. He shared that she was "floored" by all the collaborative partnerships that the city has, and all the work that the city is doing as a whole. He stated that she "went back bragging on that" and President Obama sent her a note thanking her for her "leadership and protection of our most valued communities. We need to keep doing all that we can do to make sure these communities do not bear the burden of the national pollution and to make sure their voices are heard when we make decisions.....we hope Mr. Harold Mitchell will continue to look for new ways to build on the community there in Spartanburg, South Carolina." He reiterated that we are working together, northside and southside, to make Spartanburg a better place in which to live, and that we need to continue to strive for that.

- XI. Adjournment – Mayor pro tem Brown made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Reeder seconded the motion, which carried unanimously 6 to 0. The meeting adjourned at 5:57 p.m.**



Connie S. McIntyre, City Clerk