



**City Council Meeting  
City Council Chambers  
145 West Broad Street  
Spartanburg, SC 29306  
Monday, November 11, 2019**

**These minutes were approved at the  
November 25, 2019 City Council meeting.**

**City Council met this date with the following Councilmembers present: Mayor White, Mayor pro tem Alan Jenkins, Councilmembers Erica Brown, Jerome Rice, Ruth Littlejohn, Sterling Anderson and Jamie Fulmer. City Manager Chris Story and City Attorney Robert Coler 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 with the help of Boy Scouts in Troop 2.**
- III. Approval of the Minutes of the October 28, 2019 City Council Meeting –**  
*Councilmember Littlejohn made a motion to approve the minutes as received.  
Councilmember Fulmer seconded the motion, which carried unanimously 7 to 0.*
- IV. Approval of the Agenda of the November 11, 2019 City Council Meeting –**  
*Mayor pro tem Jenkins made a motion to approve the agenda as received.  
Councilmember Rice seconded the motion, which carried unanimously 7 to 0.*
- V. Public Comment**  
\*Citizen Appearance forms are available at the door and should be submitted to the City Clerk
  1. Chris Jennings, retiring Director of Spartanburg Convention and Visitors Bureau, thanked Council for their support during the time he served as Director. Council thanked Mr. Jennings for his work championing Spartanburg, and wished him all the best as he retires and moves up north to be with his family.
  2. Matt Spencer, 712 Brown Arrow Circle, Inman, SC, spoke regarding his concerns of Spartanburg Water’s leadership, financial leadership and stewardship of user’s money.
  3. Don Bramblett, 185 Mills Avenue, Spartanburg, SC, spoke regarding his concerns of veteran’s PTSD, suicide rate, and overall mental health.
  4. Janeen Scott, 240 Carlisle St., Spartanburg, SC, spoke regarding reinforcing gratitude for 2017 resolution and asking council to remember and represent all residents.

## VI. Resolutions

**A. To Certify that 127 W. Main Street is Eligible to Pursue the Special Tax Assessment for Rehabilitated Historic Property Pursuant to Chapter 18, Article III of the Code of the City of Spartanburg, South Carolina, 1988 as Amended**  
**Presenter: Patty Bock, Economic Development Director**

**Ms. Bock presented the item to Council as follows:**

“On April 9, 2018, City Council approved by ordinance to enter into a development agreement with 127 W. Main, LLC. Terms in the Development Agreement includes the developer’s commitment to expend a minimum of \$3.5 Million and the City’s commitment to enable the property to benefit from Special Assessment for Rehabilitated Historic Property for a period of ten (10) years. With the developer’s investment commitment now fulfilled, passage of the attached resolution will fulfill the City’s commitment to authorize the special assessment.

We recommend your approval and welcome any questions you may have.”

*Councilmember Fulmer made a motion to approve the resolution as presented.*

*Councilmember Littlejohn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously to 0.*

**B. To Certify 970 South Pine Street as an Abandoned Building Site pursuant to the South Carolina Abandoned Buildings Revitalization Act, Title 12, Chapter 67, Section 12-67-100 et seq., of the South Carolina Code of Laws (1976), as amended, Tax Map Parcel# 7-17-05-095.00**

**Presenter: Patty Bock, Economic Development Director**

**Ms. Bock presented the item to Council as follows:**

“The Abandoned Building Revitalization Act (State Code 12-67-100) was put into effect by the state and serves as a mechanism that helps further encourage the redevelopment of vacant, underutilized properties. In order for an owner to obtain the credits that incentivize redevelopment, governing entities must certify by Resolution that a property qualifies for and meets the SC 12-67-100 definition of “abandoned”. 970 South Pine Street was recently leased and the Lessee plans to fully redevelop the property into a functional and contributing property in the city. Staff has verified that the property meets the criteria and qualifies for the Abandoned Building Revitalization Act (State Code 12-67-100).

The attached Resolution outlines the certification and allows the project to claim the state incentive that involves income tax credits. This does not involve any financial commitment or incentive by the city.

*Councilmember Rice made a motion to approve the resolution as presented.*

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

## VII. Spartanburg Healthy Homes Initiative

**Presenter: Martin Livingston, Neighborhood Services Director**

**Mr. Livingston presented the item to Council as follows:**

“Lead is a highly toxic metal that may cause a range of health problems, especially in young children. When lead is absorbed into the body, it can cause damage to the brain and other vital organs, like the kidneys, nerves and blood. With over 70% of our housing stock being over forty years old, deteriorated lead-based paint remains a health concern. In August 2019, the City of Spartanburg and its partners submitted a grant application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for a Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control Grant. On October 1, staff was notified that it was awarded \$1 million in Lead Hazard Control funding and \$300,000 in Healthy Homes funding. This grant funding will allow the City to work with property owners and community partners to address potential hazards. Staff is currently in the negotiation phase of the process and will share information on the grant.”

*Council received the report as information.*

### **VIII. Spartanburg Housing Authority Board Appointments**

**Presenter: Mitch Kennedy, Assistant City Manager**

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

“The Spartanburg Housing Authority (SHA) presently has 2 vacant board seats. City Staff has worked closely with SHA Staff to process the applications for their 2 remaining board seats. Spartanburg Housing Authority Board shall represent: A seven-(7) member board with each serving a five-(5) year term. Four (4) members shall be residents of the City of Spartanburg with one of these members being a tenant in a residence owned by the Authority. The other three (3) members are not required to be residents of the City of Spartanburg but if possible should represent a major Spartanburg County employer, a higher education facility and a foundation interested in the goals of the Spartanburg Housing Authority.

We received 5 applications seeking to fill the one open SHA Resident seat, and 1 application seeking to fill the one open seat that represents an employer, institution of higher education, or foundation. All of the applicants had an opportunity to speak directly with a SHA or City Staff member regarding the roles, responsibilities, and capabilities of SHA Board members in advance of submission to City Council.

Based on her qualifications, Staff recommends the appointment of Keisha Gray, Program Director at the Mary Black Foundation, to fill the open seat that represents an employer, education of higher education, or foundation. Keisha’s application is included.

Staff request Council to review the applications of the 5 SHA Residents, and select one to serve as the Resident member.”

*Councilmember Rice made a motion to appoint Keisha Gray to the Spartanburg Housing Authority Board. Councilmember Littlejohn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously 7 to 0.*

*Mayor White appointed Councilmembers Fulmer, Brown, and Littlejohn to serve on an interview committee to interview the applicants to fill the resident vacancy on the SHA board.*

### **IX. Approval of 2020 City Council Meeting Schedule**

**Presenter: Connie McIntyre, City Clerk**

*Ms. McIntyre presented the item to Council for approval.*

*Councilmember Anderson made a motion to approve the 2020 calendar as presented. Councilmember Rice seconded the motion, which carried unanimously 7 to 0.*

**X. City Council Updates** - *Each Councilmember gave updates on their activities since the previous council meeting.*

**XI. Executive Session** – *Mayor pro tem Jenkins made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session. Councilmember Brown seconded the motion, which carried unanimously 7 to 0. Council adjourned to Executive Session at 6:42 p.m.*

**A. Executive Session Pursuant to Section 3-4-40(2) Concerning a Personnel Matter Related to Annual Review of City Manager**

**Council may take action on matters discussed in Executive Session after exiting Executive Session.**

**Council reconvened at 7:04 p.m. Mayor White stated that discussion was held with no decisions made.**

**XII. Adjournment** - *Mayor pro tem Jenkins made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Rice seconded the motion, which carried unanimously 7 to 0. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.*



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**Connie S. McIntyre, City Clerk**