



**City Council Meeting
City Council Chambers
145 West Broad Street
Spartanburg, SC 29306
Monday, October 8, 2018
5:30 p.m.**

**(These minutes were approved at the
October 22, 2018 City Council meeting.)**

City Council met this date with the following Councilmembers present: Mayor Junie White, Mayor pro tem Jerome Rice, Councilmembers Erica Brown, Sterling Anderson, Alan Jenkins, Max Hyde, and Ruth Littlejohn. City Manager Chris Story and Interim City Attorney Larry Flynn 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 September 24, 2018 City Council Meeting –**
Councilmember Littlejohn made a motion to approve the minutes as received. Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion, which carried unanimously 7 to 0.
- IV. Approval of the Agenda of the October 8, 2018 City Council Meeting –**
Mayor pro tem Rice made a motion to approve the agenda as received. Councilmember Brown 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
- VI. Update on “Network for Southern Economic Mobility”**
Presenter: Mitch Kennedy, Community Services Director
Mr. Kennedy introduced Troy Hanna and Travis Wharton for the presentation. Mr. Hanna and Mr. Wharton reviewed the purpose and goals of the Network for Southern Economic Mobility (NSEM) as follows:
“NSEM is a network of Southern cities that are committed and equipped to identify long-term, system changing strategies that can improve upward economic mobility for youth and young adults in the lowest income brackets.
NSEM goals:
 1. Create a detailed systems and data analysis of Spartanburg County youth in the lowest income bracket and the barriers to economic mobility;

2. Align and connect initiatives focused on economic motility to foster collaborative action and collective impact;
3. Develop and implement an integrated action plan that fosters a dual-customer system (youth and employers), accelerating youth mobility efforts;
4. Change the offs of economic mobility for youth and young adults by creating an opportunity agenda with multiple pathways and access points;
5. Become a healthy community that can challenge itself, and be a place where people want to live and thrive.”

Council received the report as information.

VII. Presentation of Certificates to Graduates of the City of Spartanburg Citizens Academy

Presenter: Mayor White

Kathy Hill, Community Services Coordinator, and one of the coordinators of the Citizen’s Academy, stated the following prior to presentation of certificates by the Mayor to the graduates:

“The mission of the City of Spartanburg Citizen Academy is to provide the citizens of Spartanburg the opportunity to receive an in depth education about the services and operations provided by the City of Spartanburg. The goal is that the participants will “graduate” with a greater understanding of municipal operations.”

VIII. Presentation by Mary Black Foundation Regarding Partnering to Improve Adolescent Health

Presenters: Molly Talbot-Metz, CEO Mary Black Foundation

Kim Moultrie, Parks and Recreation Superintendent

Molly Talbot-Metz and Polly Edwards Padgett thanked the city for their partnership with the Mary Black Foundation on many projects, particularly in the areas of Way to Well and Hello Family. They announced that the Mary Black Foundation had awarded grants to City Parks and Recreation Department in the amount of \$160,000 for a project with Connect Institute, and \$3,000 to the City Police Department for status offenders work.

Council received the report as information.

IX. Final Evaluation of “Seeing Spartanburg In a New Light”

Presenter: Jennifer Evins, President and CEO Chapman Cultural Center

Ms. Evins presented the final evaluation of “Seeing Spartanburg In A New Light” to Council. She highlighted the following points:



Seeing Spartanburg in a New Light – Summary of Findings

Seeing Spartanburg in a New Light was a temporary public art project in Spartanburg, SC on view from October 4 to April 25, 2017. It featured 9 art installations by light and media artist Erwin Redl representing 10 city neighborhoods. *Seeing Spartanburg in a New Light* aimed to develop and enhance relationships between the arts community, the Spartanburg Police Department and local residents. It was a partnership among the City of Spartanburg Police and Community Relations Departments, artist Erwin Redl, the Chapman Cultural Center and neighborhood associations in the city of Spartanburg.

Key Statistics

- **2.5 million views** of 9 installations on display across 10 neighborhoods over 157 days
- **\$1.7 million** catalyzed for the local economy, including:
 - \$1 million Bloomberg Philanthropies' Public Art Challenge grant
 - \$63,500 local project funding
 - \$480,000 in-kind contributions
 - \$148,500 investments for new initiatives created as a result of the projects, including:
 - \$126,000 for arts initiatives
 - \$22,500 for future work related to crime prevention and workforce development
- **83 partners** implemented the project, including businesses, nonprofits, government agencies and community organizations, encompassing:
 - 13 city agencies
 - 16 public-private collaborations activated on behalf of the projects
- **77 people employed** to help create and support *Seeing Spartanburg in a New Light*
- **980 volunteers** contributed their time and talent
- **63 programs** and activities were held in connection with *Seeing Spartanburg in a New Light*
- **45 articles** appeared in local and national print and online press
- **10% of city residents** attended the opening event
- **117 local artists** and makers engaged throughout the development of the project
- **122 police officers** engaged in the project
- **1 video created for the art installation** now used as a training tool by the Spartanburg Police Department
- **50 poems** written by residents for the installations



Highlighted Project Outcomes

Seeing Spartanburg in a New Light supported the local arts community and created opportunities for future art projects.

- *Seeing Spartanburg in a New Light encouraged interest in existing arts and culture offerings.*
 - One-third of visitors said that they planned to visit another cultural attraction that day.

- *The project expanded community members' knowledge of public art and appetite for future projects.*
 - 89% of residents surveyed had never participated in a public art project, with some never hearing the term public art before.
 - 9 arts and government leaders interviewed said that they would like to continue to host public art in the city.

- *Seeing Spartanburg in a New Light helped advance the work of local artists.*
 - 117 local artists and makers were engaged throughout the project in site development, fabrication and installation.

- *The project led to the creation of new initiatives.*
 - 2 arts initiatives were created as a direct result of *Seeing Spartanburg in a New Light*, including:
 - The ArtsXcelerator Challenge, a new \$10,000 grant annual grant opportunity for artists.
 - "Lighten Up Spartanburg," a public art exhibit by the Spartanburg Art Museum.

Seeing Spartanburg in a New Light advanced progress on critical civic issues.

- *The project promoted a positive shift in facets of police-community relations.*
 - 122 police officers were retrained using a video installation featuring residents talking about their experiences living in a traditionally high-crime neighborhood. The video has become part of the Spartanburg Police Department training program for all existing and future officers and administrative staff.
 - Police officers have indicated that they had been receiving more notes and comments of appreciation than before the project.

Seeing Spartanburg in a New Light promoted a sense of community, civic leadership and pride.

- *Residents embraced opportunities to engage in the project either by participating in planning or celebrating its opening.*
 - 10 neighborhood associations collaborated with *Seeing Spartanburg in a New Light*.
 - One-third of the city's population attended the launch of *Seeing Spartanburg in a New Light* on October 4, 2016.

- *Planning meetings created opportunities for people from diverse backgrounds to interact.*
 - 35 planning meetings hosted before the project opened to the public brought residents from different neighborhoods together with government officials, police officers, arts leaders and project team members.
 - Social capital was created through these meetings over time among groups with historically difficult relations, evidenced by the development of positive relationships (i.e. recipe swapping, hugging and ongoing conversations).

 - *Cross-sector arts advocates emerged as a result of the project.*
 - Spartanburg Police Chief Alonzo Thompson advocated for the power of public art at a hearing convened by the House Judiciary Committee on the challenges facing local law enforcement.
 - The Mary Black Foundation, a foundation devoted to healthcare in Spartanburg, supported arts for the first time by funding *Seeing Spartanburg in a New Light's* evaluation efforts.

 - *The project elevated community voices and increased civic engagement among participating neighborhood associations.*
 - The Highland Neighborhood Association emerged as a particular leader in its community, successfully advocating for single-family housing when presented with a city proposal to establish multiple-family housing in the neighborhood.
- Seeing Spartanburg in a New Light* encouraged collaboration and the development of new relationships.**
- *Seeing Spartanburg in a New Light* enhanced or created many working relationships.
 - 78% of interviewees reported working with an individual or group that they had never worked with before.
 - 62% of interviewees indicated that they now had connections that would benefit themselves and the community, and that they had a better sense of "who is around and what they do."

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

XI. Executive Session Pursuant to Section 30-4-70 (a) (5) of the South Carolina Code to Discuss Matters Relating to Encouraging a New Investment Downtown

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

Council reconvened to regular session at 6:54 p.m. Mayor White stated that discussion was held with no decisions made.

XII. Adjournment – *Mayor pro tem Rice made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion, which carried unanimously 7 to 0. The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.*



Connie S. McIntyre, City Clerk