

**City Council Minutes
June 4, 2024**

Orangeburg City Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, June 4, 2024, at 6:00 PM with Mayor Michael C. Butler presiding.

PRESENT:

Michael C. Butler, Mayor
Annette Dees Grevious
Dr. Kalu Kalu
L. Zimmerman Keitt, Mayor Pro Tem
Richard F. Stroman

PRESENT VIRTUALLY:

Jerry Hannah
Sandra P. Knotts

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Keitt, seconded by Councilmember Kalu to approve the May 21, 2024, minutes. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mayor Butler recognized "Resourceful" as the June Community of Character Trait.

Mr. Bryant Williams, Executive Director, SC Department of Mental Health presented Council a summary of services provided by the SC Department of Mental Health.

City Attorney Kozlarek addressed Council concerning second reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 2: Administration of the City Code, by adding Section 2-5.2.b to clarify the City Administrator's authority to adopt and enforce City-Wide non-discrimination policies and procedures. He stated, "This started as an EPA requirement of a vendor protest policy to the portion of the code procurement in section 2-5; 1-3. When the protest policy was drafted and presented back to the EPA for review, the EPA came back with additional requirements of a much broader, non-discrimination policy for the City to adopt to include training for vendors and employees, for people who interact with the City for all other activities and programs, and for people who have limited English proficiency. It is a much broader scope of things than just vendor procurement. For the administrative aspect of it, it made sense to propose that we change from adding .4 to the Procurement Section 2-5; to instead amend the City Administrator's roles and responsibilities under 2-5.2.b. The current item 12 within the Administrator's responsibilities will move to Item 13. Item 12 will read, performs such other duties as may be required by the Council not inconsistent with state law or ordinances of the City. It administratively becomes much simpler for the administrator to then sign off on the final versions of those policies and procedures which obviously would have to be consistent with other City code, state, and federal law. We are recommending that Council move forward with providing the administrator with specific authority to approve those policies and procedures and make that minor change within the City Administrator's portion of the Code rather than the procurement code and continue to work with the EPA to produce the final policies and procedures."

A motion was made by Councilmember Kalu, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Keitt to approve the second reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 2: Administration of the City Code, by amending Section 2.5-2.b to clarify the City Administrator's authority to adopt and enforce City-wide non-discrimination policies and procedures. The motion was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Keitt, seconded by Councilmember Stroman to approve the cancelation of the July 2 and July 16, 2024, City Council Meetings due to Budget Meetings. The motion was unanimously approved.

City Administrator Evering addressed Council concerning appointments to the Employee Grievance Committee. He stated, "There are two vacancies on the Employee Grievance Committee. The first is an unexpired term ending June 4, 2026, in the Finance Department. The recommendation is to appoint Julie Spell. The second vacancy is in the Public Works Department. The recommendation is to appoint Michael Gardner to fill this term ending June 4, 2027."

A motion was made by Councilmember Stroman, seconded by Councilmember Kalu to approve the appointments to the Employee Grievance Committee of Julie Spell to the unexpired term ending June 4, 2026, and Michael Gardner to the term ending June 4, 2027. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mayor Butler stated, "Executive Session Item #6, discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements and proposed sale or purchase of property, the receipt of legal advice or other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege – Project Disc S.C. Code Sec. 30-4-70(a)(2) will not be discussed in Executive Session."

A motion was made by Councilmember Stroman, seconded by Councilmember Kalu to go into Executive Session concerning 1) discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements and proposed sale or purchase of property, the receipt of legal advice other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege – Project Disc S.C. Code Sec. 30-4-70(a)(2), 2) discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements and proposed sale or purchase of property, the receipt of legal advice or other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege – Project Young S.C. Code Sec. 30-4-70(a)(2), 3) discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline, or release of an employee – Department of Public Safety S.C. Code Sec: 30-4-70(a)(1), 4) receipt of legal advice where the legal advice relates to a pending, threatened, or potential claim or other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege, settlement of legal claims, or the position of the public agency in other adversary situations involving the assertion against the agency of a claim – CRE Holdings LLLP v City of Orangeburg – 2024-CP-38-00383-SC Code 30-4-70(a)(2). The motion was unanimously approved.

Mayor stated, "Council may elect to return to open session and vote on any matters discussed in Executive Session."

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Keitt, seconded by Councilmember Hannah to return to open session. The motion was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Keitt, seconded by Councilmember Hannah to approve first reading of an ordinance consenting to the closure of, and relinquishment of any claim of right, title, or interest in or to, a portion of the public way now or formerly known as Arthur Street and/or Fersner Street as more fully described as "Tract B" in CRE Holdings LLLP v City of Orangeburg – 2024-CP-38-00383- SC Code 30-4-70(a)(2). The motion was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Councilmember Stroman, seconded by Councilmember Grevious to adjourn. The motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Linda McDaniel
City Clerk

