

City Council Minutes
April 20, 2021

Orangeburg City Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on Facebook Live via Zoom on Tuesday, April 20, 2021 at 6:00 PM with Mayor Michael C. Butler presiding.

PRESENT:

Michael C. Butler, Mayor
Dr. Kalu Kalu

PRESENT BY TELEPHONE:

Bernard Haire
Jerry Hannah
L. Zimmerman Keitt
Sandra P. Knotts
Richard F. Stroman

Mayor Butler called the meeting to order by roll call of Councilmembers.

A motion was made by Councilmember Keitt, seconded by Councilmember Stroman to approve the April 6, 2021 City Council minutes. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Assistant City Administrator Singh addressed Council concerning the third reading of an Ordinance to amend the Future Land Use Plan and City of Orangeburg Plan Compliance Index of the City Comprehensive Plan 2016-2026. He stated, "We completed the notice process and the public hearings process at the second reading at the last meeting. We have received no additional comments since our last meeting. I am glad to answer any questions you may have."

Mayor Pro Tem Kalu asked, "In our last meeting, you talked about buffering. Where are you with that concept?"

Assistant City Administrator Singh answered, "We have the draft of the document. I plan to have it ready for the next Council meeting."

A motion was made by Councilmember Keitt, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kalu to approve the third reading of an Ordinance to amend the Future Land Use Plan and City of Orangeburg Plan Compliance Index of the City Comprehensive Plan 2016-2026. The motion was approved 5-2 by roll call vote. Councilmembers Haire and Knotts opposed.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Kalu, seconded by Councilmember Keitt to approve the third reading of an Ordinance adopting 2017 and 2018 Building Codes and Standards. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

City Administrator Evering addressed Council concerning an update on CSX Railroad repairs on Stonewall Jackson Boulevard. He stated, "As you recall, not quite a month ago, Council passed a resolution requesting that the President of CSX expedite the repair of the railroad crossing at Stonewall Jackson Boulevard. I am happy to say that repairs have been made as of last week. I want to thank Council for passing the resolution and thank CSX for expediting the process as the crossing has been in disrepair for quite some time. I am pleased that it has been completed."

Mayor Butler stated, "Thank you, Mr. Evering, for your due diligence in getting this completed because this has been an issue for a long time."

City Administrator Evering addressed Council concerning an appointment to the Aviation Commission to fill an unexpired vacancy. He stated, "There is a vacancy on the Aviation Commission in Councilmember Haire's district due to the death of Commissioner Lamar Tisdale. Councilmember Haire has submitted the nomination of Dr. Carl A. Carpenter to fill this vacancy. This is an unexpired term ending January, 2024."

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Kalu, seconded by Councilmember Keitt to appoint Dr. Carl A. Carpenter to the Aviation Commission term expiring January 2024. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

A motion was made by Councilmember Keitt, seconded by Councilmember Stroman to cancel the July 6 and July 20, 2021 City Council meetings due to Budget Meetings. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

City Administrator Evering addressed Council concerning the first reading of an Ordinance separating the positions of City Clerk and Treasurer. He stated, "For your consideration, we have the first reading of an Ordinance separating the positions of City Clerk and Treasurer and the duties of the City Clerk and Treasurer. Currently, this position is held by the same person, Mrs. Carrie Johnson. At this time, I think it would be more efficient if those positions were separated. Mrs. Johnson has done a fine job as City Clerk, but she is also the Finance Director. I think her time would be better spent as Finance Director. This first reading of the Ordinance would separate these and allow for a City Clerk to be appointed by Council."

Councilmember Haire stated, "We are talking about separating this position, but we have not received information of salary changes of either the proposed person or the person currently serving. I would like to see this matter addressed and discussed in detail in our budget planning session."

City Administrator Evering stated, "Councilmember Haire I am happy to address those issues or concerns in Executive Session since it would be a personnel matter."

A motion was made by Councilmember Haire, seconded by Councilmember Hannah to deny the first reading of an Ordinance separating the positions of City Clerk and Treasurer until Council has an opportunity to discuss in the budget planning sessions. The motion was approved 4-3. Mayor Butler, Councilmembers Keitt and Stroman opposed the motion.

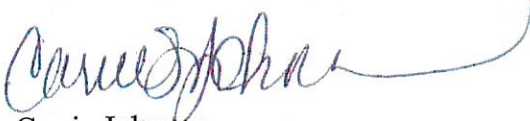
Mayor Pro Tem Kalu asked, "Mr. Evering, what is your reason again to separate the positions?"

City Administrator Evering stated, "Currently, the Finance Director, Mrs. Johnson serves as Clerk/Treasurer and Clerk to Council. This Ordinance will separate the Clerk/Treasurer position so Council will have the opportunity to appoint a Council Clerk and Mrs. Johnson can continue to serve as Finance Director and Clerk Treasurer. I am re-organizing in a way to provide more efficient service to our citizens. Mrs. Johnson has done a fine job as Clerk/Treasurer, but she has her plate full as Finance Director which is why I asked Council to consider this Ordinance to separate the two."

A resolution to appoint a City Clerk was tabled.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Kalu, seconded by Councilmember Keitt to adjourn. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Carrie Johnson
City Clerk

/lrm

