City Council Minutes October 4, 2022

Orangeburg City Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, October 4, 2022, at 6:00 PM with Mayor Michael C. Butler presiding.

PRESENT: Michael C. Butler, Mayor Dr. Kalu Kalu, Mayor Pro Tem Bernard Haire L. Zimmerman Keitt - arrived 6:03 Sandra P. Knotts Richard F. Stroman

<u>PRESENT VIRTUALLY:</u> Jerry Hannah

A motion was made by Councilmember Stroman, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kalu to approve the September 20, 2022, City Council minutes. The motion was unanimously approved. Councilmember Keitt was not present for the vote.

Mayor Butler recognized Respect as the October Community of Character Trait.

City Council and Department of Public Utilities Manager Warren Harley presented a Retiree Resolution to Mr. James Dean Spradley for twenty-six years, nine months and seven days with a retirement date of September 17, 2022.

Director of Public Safety Chief Charles P. Austin, Sr. addressed Council concerning the announcement of the DNA Capacity Enhancement for Backlog Reduction Grant award. He stated, "I want to take this opportunity to give you an update on the Department of Public Safety (DPS). First, I want to announce a grant received from the office of the Attorney General of the United States for \$250,000 that will be applied to our Forensic Lab for back log. The next item is an update on our dispatch operations. I have sent letters to the director of the Criminal Justice Academy regarding scheduling our dispatchers for certification classes. Each dispatcher will have to take an entry test to qualify to attend the academy. Our goal for 2023 is for each of our dispatchers to be certified as telecommunication operators. Eastly, I am encouraged by the influx of applications we are receiving at DPS and the quality of those applicants. We have selected five candidates and we have others we believe are going to become productive and solid employees. We recently concluded a promotion process, and I am delighted to announce that we have promoted 14 of our DPS personnel to various ranks within the agency. I have had the opportunity to sit with each personally and talk with them about our expectations and the mission that we have as an agency of excellence serving with integrity. They understand and embrace that, and I am looking forward to each assuming their respective roles and working with them."

City Administrator Evering addressed Council concerning Façade Grant Updates. "He stated, "I would like to take a moment of public privilege to acknowledge and thank so many of our City employees who came together for purposes of serving our community with Hurricane Ian approaching. I am proud of the remarkable work our employees and the surrounding community. Mr. Harley and DPU were leading the charge in many regards and making sure our utilities would be on or be turned back on. We had meetings with Orangeburg County Administrator Harold Young and Orangeburg County Director of Emergency Services, Billy Staley. We worked with the Red Cross and Department of Social Services (DSS) to open the City gym as a shelter. It was a total team effort. Next, I want to update Council on the Façade Grants program. As you recall, when Council allocated ARPA funds, you allocated \$250,000 toward a Façade Grants program. We have been working to put together the Façade Grant Program and guidelines. We hope to roll this out to the public the first of November. Council will be receiving a Façade Grant booklet for your review prior to the next Council meeting. This program is to respect and preserve the historic integrity of our buildings downtown but also try to provide a cohesive look. The guidelines cover the signs, awnings, lighting, storefront, windows, and the historic detail that we are attempting to preserve. The actual grant program will be administered in three different tier levels of grants that

will be allocated. Tier One does not require a match; Tier Two requires 20% match and Tier Three requires 50% match."

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Kalu, seconded by Councilmember Keitt to enter Executive Session concerning Personnel Matters – Performance Evaluation Discussion SC Code Sec. 30-4-70(a)(1) a) Department of Public Utilities Manager and b) City of Orangeburg Administrator. The motion was unanimously approved.

Council did not return to open session. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Linda McDaniel City Clerk





RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, James Dean Spradley, faithfully served the Department of Public Utilities of the City of Orangeburg for twenty-six years, nine months and seven days with a retirement date of September 17, 2022; and

WHEREAS, he, through his long and faithful service contributed greatly to the successful operation of the City of Orangeburg; and

WHEREAS, the City Council, in recognition of the fine contribution rendered to the City of Orangeburg, wants to inscribe on the records its appreciation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Members of Council, in Council assembled, do officially recognize the faithful service rendered to the City of Orangeburg in the capacities in which he served and we take pride in commending him for a job well done.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution, in appreciation for his devotion of duty to the City of Orangeburg, be placed in the Minute Book of the City in recognition of his services.

PASSED BY the City Council of the City of Orangeburg, State of South Carolina, this 4th day of October 2022.



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ATTEST:

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City Clerk