

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
October 15, 2019

Orangeburg City Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, October 15, 2019, at 7:00 P.M., in Council Chambers with Mayor Michael C. Butler presiding.

PRESENT:

Michael C. Butler, Mayor
Bernard Haire
Jerry Hannah
Dr. Kalu Kalu
L. Zimmerman Keitt
Sandra P. Knotts
Richard F. Stroman

ABSENT:

None

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Keitt, seconded by Councilmember Knotts to approve the October 1, 2019 minutes as distributed. This motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Jim Headley, Executive Director of the SC Recreation and Parks Association addressed Council. He stated, "I am here tonight to present you with the 2019 Programming Excellence Award for the City of Orangeburg Festival of Roses. You have two staff members on our board currently, Shaniqua Simmons and Shawn Taylor. This award is for the population of less than 30,000 and it showcases the Edisto Rose Gardens." A video was shown of the award and the award was presented to Mayor Butler.

Mr. William Green addressed Council concerning the upcoming 23rd annual Alzheimer's Fundraiser to be held at the Premier on November 30th. He stated, "Gloria Hutto is the chair this year and we have been raising funds for 23 years now and the funds go to MUSC for their Alzheimer's Unit. We have raised over five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) in 23 years. Recently, two meds have been founded to help slow the progress of this disease. There are approximately 80,000 people in the state with this disease and approximately over 2,600 in Orangeburg and Calhoun counties. I invite you to attend and support this endeavor."

Ms. April Richardson addressed Council on the 2020 Census and Complete Count Committee. She handed out packets to Mayor and Council on the Committee. She stated, "The census this year will online, mail or phone. I am here to make sure you have a complete count committee. This is needed to be sure everyone is counted and to make sure South Carolina gets its fair share of funding. This is so important for schools and in 2010, there were children that were not counted and five years later, we had school crowding. We need to be sure there are trusted voices in the community, and it starts with this committee. We will train your committee."

Mayor Butler stated, "I feel that there should be someone from each district or area on this committee because we need to know, has the City grown. I do not want Orangeburg to miss out on any money."

Mayor Butler asked, "How long is the form to complete?"

Ms. Richardson stated, "About 10-15 minutes."

Mayor Pro Tem Keitt asked, "What kind of employment is needed and in what areas?"

Ms. Richardson responded, "It varies, and it would include rural areas. We all have to take an oath of confidentiality and it is strictly enforced and safe. In mid-March there will be three opportunities to respond to the census and then if you do not, we will send someone out."

Councilmember Kalu asked, "How do you account for undocumented aliens?"

2858
Ms. Richardson responded, "We do not ask about citizenship, only if you live here and we do include the homeless and those in jail. October 22 is the National Day of Recruiting and we need about 500,000 people to assist in the census. We do not need to lose the seat South Carolina gained in 2010 in the House of Representatives from the prior Census. The power and money are determined by the census."

Councilmember Hannah asked for a moment of personal privilege. He stated, "This is South Carolina State University Homecoming week. I am speaking on behalf of the Greater Orangeburg Chapter of the National Alumni Association which includes Calhoun, Bamberg and Orangeburg County. I want to invite you all to participate with us. The City has been good to SCSU and SCSU has been good to the community. There is something for everyone including the parade, food and the football game. Come out and enjoy the events."

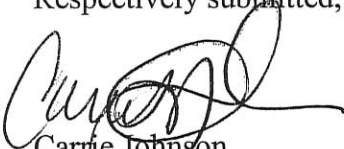
The update on the Forensics Lab Certification was postponed to the November 5, 2019 City Council meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Keitt made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Kalu to Authorize the Department of Public Utilities to enter into an Asset Management Agreement with SCANA Energy Marketing, Inc. The motion was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Councilmember Hannah, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Keitt to enter into Executive Session concerning 1) Economic and Industrial Development Matter, Project Hunter and 2) Proposed Contractual Matter, Northwood Estates Sewer. This motion was unanimously approved.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted,


Carrie Johnson
City Clerk

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