

**Minutes of the
Simpsonville City Council
Business Meeting
January 28, 2025
6:00 P.M.
Council Chambers – City Hall**

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Shewmaker

CITY COUNCIL:

Mayor Paul Shewmaker
Ward 1 Chad O’Rear
Ward 2 Aaron Rupe
Ward 3 Shannon Williams
Ward 4 Sherry Roche
Ward 5 Tim Pinkerton
Ward 6 Lou Hutchings

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES –The minutes for October 22, 2024 were approved as written.

CITIZEN COMMENTS- Jordan Dotson, 518 Poinsettia Drive, concerns about stormwater pipe on his private property; Brittney Mims, 5 Delgado Way, concerns about the use of sports fields.

BUSINESS

A. Welcome Center Budget

Motion by Councilmember Roche with a 2nd by Councilmember Pinkerton to approve Welcome Center Budget and move to next business meeting. Y-7 N-0. Motion Carried.

B. Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee

Motion to approve Advisory Tax Committee recommendations by Councilmember Hutchings with 2nd by Councilmember O’Rear.

Motion by Mayor Shewmaker with a 2nd by Councilmember Rupe to reduce allocations for Walking Art Tour Guide from \$1,000 to \$0, reduce allocation for Octoberfest from \$8,000 to \$5,500, and reduce allocations for Spring into Art from \$5,000 to \$1,000, bringing the total reduction to \$7,500. The change would then increase funding for Everything Outdoor Fest from \$7,500 to \$15,000. Y-7 N-0 Motion carried.

Main motion as amended to move item to next business meeting Y-7 N-0. Motion carried.

C. RFP FEMA Assistance

Motion by Councilmember Roche with a 2nd by Councilmember Rupe to approve RFP FEMA Assistance to next business meeting. Y-7 N-0. Motion carried.

D. RFP Tenant for former Fire Department Admin Building

Motion by Councilmember Roche with a 2nd by Councilmember Pinkerton to approve Crown & Bloom as the tenant for the former Fire Department Administration Building. Y-7 N-0 Motion carried.

E. East Curtis Street Crossing

Motion by Councilmember Pinkerton with a 2nd by Councilmember Roche to approve resolution R-2025-01 to direct City Administrator to request that SCDOT install a pedestrian crossing at E. Curtis @ Park Drive. Y-7 N-0. Motion carried.

F. Council Access to Communications

Motion by Councilmember O’Rear with a 2nd by Councilmember Pinkerton to adopt an Ordinance allow Council equal access to communications, including, but not limited to, website, print media and electronic media.

Motion from Councilmember O'Rear with a 2nd by Councilmember Pinkerton to postpone to item to next Committee of the Whole. Y-4 N-3. Motion Carried. Opposed: Shewmaker, Williams, Roche.

Executive Session

Motion by Councilmember Rupe with a 2nd by Councilmember Roche to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of receiving legal advice on pending litigation and FOIA matters, and for the discussion of a personnel matter within the Administrative Department.

Upon returning from Executive Session, the following votes were taken.

Motion by Mayor Shewmaker with a 2nd by Councilmember Roche to accept retirement letter from City Administrator. Y-7 N-0. Motion Carried.

Motion by Mayor Shewmaker with a 2nd by Councilmember Rupe to form a search committee for the new City Administrator. Members consisting of Mayor Shewmaker, Mayor Pro Tem Roche, Council Member Hutchings, City Administrator Gracely and Human Resource Director Clark. Y-7 N-0

Meeting adjourned 9:40 pm.