



## MINUTES

City of Liberty- Regular Session

September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – 6:30 pm

Rosewood Center- 419 E Main St. Liberty SC 29657

- **Welcome and Call to Order Mayor Woods at the time:** \_\_\_\_\_ 6:30 PM \_\_\_\_\_
- **Invocation giving by:** \_\_\_ Councilmember Graybeal \_\_\_\_\_
- **Pledge of Allegiance**
- **Proclamations:**
  - Constitution Week September 17<sup>th</sup>- 23<sup>rd</sup> 2024
- **Presentation:**
  - Update- Pickens Regional Joint Water Systems (PRJWS)- Troy Rosier
- **Mayor's Announcements**
- **Public Session (Speakers are allowed 3 minutes)-**
  
- **Approval of Minutes –**
  - August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024- Regular Session Minutes
    - Motion: \_\_\_ Councilmember Graybeal \_\_\_\_\_
    - Second: \_\_\_ Councilmember Arms \_\_\_\_\_
    - Discussion: \_\_\_\_\_ No Discussion \_\_\_\_\_
    - Vote: \_\_\_ 7-0, Unanimous \_\_\_\_\_
  - August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024- Special Called Minutes
    - Motion: \_\_\_ Councilmember Padgett \_\_\_\_\_
    - Second: \_\_\_ Councilmember Whitaker \_\_\_\_\_
    - Discussion: \_\_\_\_\_ No Discussion \_\_\_\_\_
    - Vote: \_\_\_ 7-0 Unanimous \_\_\_\_\_
  
- **Unfinished/ Old Business: (2nd Readings)-**
- 2024-05- Amending the Smoking Regulation contained in Chapter 23 of the City of Liberty Code.
  - Motion: \_\_\_ Councilmember Graybeal \_\_\_\_\_
  - Second: \_\_\_ Councilmember Whitaker \_\_\_\_\_
  - Discussion: \_\_\_\_\_ No Discussion \_\_\_\_\_
  - Vote: \_\_\_ 6-1 Councilmember Padgett opposed \_\_\_\_\_
  
- 2024-06—Amending Section #2-41(AGENDA) to provide more flexibility and efficiency in scheduling and conducting City Council meetings.
  - Motion: \_\_\_ Councilmember Arms \_\_\_\_\_
  - Second: \_\_\_ Councilmember Graybeal \_\_\_\_\_
  - Discussion: \_\_\_ Councilmember Whitaker addressed this does not change anything regarding the public session, it is only changing the order of the agenda to make it more flexible for the Clerk, for when the clerk has to prepare the agenda.
  - Vote: \_\_\_ 7-0 Unanimous \_\_\_\_\_

- 2024-07- Business License- Update  
 Motion:        Councilmember Graybeal \_\_\_\_\_  
 Second:        Councilmember Padgett \_\_\_\_\_  
 Discussion:        No Discussion \_\_\_\_\_  
 Vote:        7-0 Unanimous \_\_\_\_\_
  
- 2024-08- Setoff Debt- Update  
 Motion:        Councilmember Arms \_\_\_\_\_  
 Second:        Councilmember Shoenleben \_\_\_\_\_  
 Discussion:        No Discussion \_\_\_\_\_  
 Vote:        7-0 Unanimous \_\_\_\_\_
  
- **New Business: (1<sup>st</sup> Readings & Resolutions)-**
  - 2024- 03 Resolution- Designating a South Carolina Rural Water Association (SCRWA) Voting delegate and alternate voting delegate to represent the City of Liberty.  
 Mayor Woods proposed that the City Administrator be the voting delegate and the Mayor be the alternate voting delegate.  
 Motion:        Councilmember Arms \_\_\_\_\_  
 Second:        Councilmember Whitaker \_\_\_\_\_  
 Discussion:        No Discussion \_\_\_\_\_  
 Vote:        7-0 Unanimous \_\_\_\_\_
  
  - 2024-09- 100% Owners Annexation- 122 Green Forest Circle  
 Motion:        Councilmember Padgett \_\_\_\_\_  
 Second:        Councilmember Shoenleben \_\_\_\_\_  
 Discussion: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Vote:        7-0 Unanimous \_\_\_\_\_
  
  - 2024-10- 100% Owners Annexation- 113 Green Forest Circle  
 Motion:        Councilmember Graybeal \_\_\_\_\_  
 Second:        Councilmember Arms \_\_\_\_\_  
 Discussion:        No Discussion \_\_\_\_\_  
 Vote:        7-0 Unanimous \_\_\_\_\_
  
  - 2024-11- 100% Owners Annexation- 109 Green Forest Circle  
 Motion:        Councilmember Whitaker \_\_\_\_\_  
 Second:        Councilmember Arms \_\_\_\_\_  
 Discussion:        No Discussion \_\_\_\_\_  
 Vote:        7-0 Unanimous \_\_\_\_\_
  
  - 2024-12- 100% Owners Annexation- 103 Green Forest Circle  
 Motion:        Councilmember Arms \_\_\_\_\_  
 Second:        Councilmember Graybeal \_\_\_\_\_  
 Discussion:        No Discussion \_\_\_\_\_  
 Vote:        7-0 Unanimous \_\_\_\_\_
  
- **City Administrator/Department Head Reports-**
  - Mr. Philip Trotter’s Administrator’s Report

- **City Council Reports –**

- Robbie Shoenleben (Ward 1)

No report.

- Lavant Padgett (Ward 2)

He spoke with Mrs. Sizemore today regarding Business Licenses and would like to commend her for her outstanding efforts. Katie has worked extremely hard and has generated significant revenue for the city by diligently managing the Business License Department and staying on top of her responsibilities. \_

- Daniel Graybeal (Ward 3)

Although he does not typically engage on social media, he noticed a lot of misinformation circulating about the SROs. The city values the presence of School Resource Officers (SROs) and believes they help foster connections with the youth. It is important to note that the decision regarding SROs was made by the School District, not the city. He encourages everyone to verify facts before spreading inaccurate information, especially on sensitive matters.

Additionally, a resident recently lost their dog, which wandered into Mr. Graybeal's yard. Although he couldn't secure the dog, an officer patrolling the area stopped, assisted, and successfully rescued the dog. The pet is now safe and back home.

- Jeff Massie (Ward 4)

Mr. Massie inquired whether background checks are conducted for council members. Bailee Locke confirmed that they are. He also asked if credit checks are performed for staff who handle city finances. The City Administrator explained that such a decision would fall under administrative jurisdiction.

- Zachary Arms (At-Large)

Mr. Arms emphasized the importance of grant writing as a future initiative for the city. He suggested finding volunteers to assist with this effort and potentially collaborating with ACOG and MASC for support. Additionally, the Homecoming Parade will be held on September 24th at 7 PM with a "Glow" theme, and he expressed excitement for the students' creative contributions. He also thanked former Chief Gilstrap for his 17 years of dedicated service to the Liberty Police Department, noting his professionalism and courtesy.

- Rhonda Whitaker (At-Large)

Ms. Whitaker also extended her appreciation to Katie for her exceptional work in the Business License Department, noting her diligence and the revenue she has generated for the city through her focus on Business Licenses and the Hospitality Department. She further expressed gratitude for Chief Gilstrap's years of service to the City of Liberty.

- **Let me know if you'd like any further adjustments! Motion to Enter Executive Session**

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilmember Graybeal \_\_\_\_\_

Second: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilmember Arms \_\_\_\_\_

Discussion: \_\_\_\_\_ No Discussion \_\_\_\_\_

Vote: \_\_\_7-0 Unanimous \_\_\_\_\_

1. Executive session pursuant to S.C. Code Sec. 30-4-70(a)(1) discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline or release of an employee, or an appointment to a public body; - Planning Commission
2. Executive session pursuant to S.C. Code Sec. 30-4-70(a)(2) discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements, discussions of a proposed sale or purchase of property, receipt of legal advice, settlement of legal claims or discussions of the public agency's position in adversary situations, discussion about development of security personnel or devices; -Clear Water Solutions (CWS)

*Council may or may not take action on matters discussed in executive session after returning to the regular session.*

- **Motion to Exit Executive Session**

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilmember Arms \_\_\_\_\_  
 Second: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilmember Graybeal \_\_\_\_\_  
 Discussion: \_\_\_\_\_ No Discussion \_\_\_\_\_  
 Vote: \_\_ 7-0 Unanimous \_\_\_\_\_

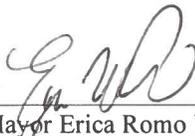
Mayor Woods is asking for a motion to contract Clear Water Solutions for meter auditing services, this will come out of \_\_\_\_\_ funds in water and sewer.

Motion: Councilmember Massie  
 2<sup>nd</sup>: Councilmember Whitaker  
 Discussion: No Discussion  
 Vote: 7-0 Unanimous

- **Adjournment** at the time: \_\_\_\_\_ at 8:45pm \_\_\_\_\_

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilmember Arms \_\_\_\_\_  
 Second: \_\_\_\_\_ Councilmember Graybeal \_\_\_\_\_  
 Discussion: \_\_\_\_\_ No Discussion \_\_\_\_\_  
 Vote: \_\_\_\_\_ 7-0 Unanimous \_\_\_\_\_

Approved Date: 10/14/24

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mayor Erica Romo Woods, City of Liberty