



**MEETING MINUTES**  
**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, MAY 11, 2021**  
**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – JUDICIAL CENTER**  
**202 KELLEY STREET**  
**7:00 P.M.**

<https://www.facebook.com/206915156485713/videos/1415677522123944>

**MAYOR/CITY COUNCILMEMBER PRESENT**

Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr	Councilmember Yamekia Robinson
Councilmember Richard Cook	Councilmember Wilhelmena W. Scott
Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby	Councilmember William Askins

**STAFF**

William Hall	Teresa Benjamin	Rick Sims
Police Chief Joseph Cooper	Fire Chief Randy Driggers	LaToya Miller
Glenn Bodenheimer		

**OTHERS**

Press – None	TY Christian TV	
Morris Brown	Roosevelt Bryant	Elizabeth Crowley
Tracie Morris	Emma Cooper	Thomas Williams
Margaret B. Robinson		

The City Council Meeting agenda was emailed on Friday, May 7, 2021 to members of the media and posted on the bulletin board at the Lake City Municipal Complex, as well on the city's Facebook page and official website.

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Mayor Anderson Jr. called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Anderson explained the protocol for the meeting with social-distancing measures in place.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Invocation was led by Councilmember Richard Cook and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Yamekia Robinson.

**POLLING OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS – A QUORUM WAS PRESENT**

City Clerk Teresa K. Benjamin polled City Councilmembers and found there to be a quorum present.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA - APPROVED AS AMENDED.**

A motion to approve the Tuesday, April 13, 2021 Regular City Council agenda: No Vote; A motion to amend the agenda to include item IV – Presentation, Section A – presenting a Special Recognition to the MUSC staff administering vaccines in the City of Lake City; Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby; Seconded: Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Richard Cook, Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember William Askins and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr all voted Aye).

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

Approval of the Minutes for Tuesday, April 13, 2021 Regular City Council Meeting, and a Special Meeting and Budget Workshop from Tuesday, April 20, 2021: Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott; Seconded: Councilmember Yamekia Robinson; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Richard Cook, Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember William Askins and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr all voted Aye).

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – Notes on Comment Period: Comments are limited to two minutes per person and no personal or verbal attacks will be entertained – No Public Input**

**PRESENTATION – Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr presented a proclamation giving special recognition to the staff members (Elizabeth Steele and Tracy) from MUSC; they administered COVID-19 vaccinations in throughout this area. Dr. Brown was in attendance and partnered with them to ensure everyone had an opportunity to receive their vaccinations.**

**LEGISLATIVE****ORDINANCE****Ordinance 2021.559 – First Reading**

An Ordinance for the City of Lake City, South Carolina to approve levying taxes and establish a municipal budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022; and other matters related thereto - Approved as presented.

A motion for the approval of levying taxes and establish a municipal budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022; and other matters related thereto; Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby; Seconded: Councilmember Yamekia Robinson; Discussion: there was no discussion; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Richard Cook, Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott,

Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember William Askins and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr all voted Aye).

## RESOLUTIONS

### **Resolution 2021.384 – Final Approval**

A Resolution for the City of Lake City South Carolina authorizing the Mayor and City Council to execute a Community Development Block Grant – Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) subrecipient agreement between the City of Lake City and the South Carolina Disaster Recovery Office to fund an infrastructure improvements project that will mitigate the impact of future disasters; and other matters related thereto - Approved as presented.

A motion to approve Resolution 2021.384 City of Lake City, South Carolina authorizing the Mayor and City Council to execute a Community Development Block Grant – Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) subrecipient agreement between the City of Lake City and the South Carolina Disaster Recovery Office to fund an infrastructure improvements project that will mitigate the impact of future disasters: Councilmember Richard Cook; Seconded: Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott; Discussion – Councilmember William Askins asked what area or what location will this project take place? Interim Administrator Hall explained that this project derived from the study performed on Independence but would extend through Highway 52. This will alleviate some of the flooding issues in this area; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Richard Cook, Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember William Askins and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr all voted Aye).

### **Resolution 2021.385 – Final Reading**

A Resolution for the City of Lake City South Carolina for the approval of funding the Garbage Truck I project, the City of Lake City has made application to USDA, Rural Development for a Community Facilities Grant in the amount of \$50,000 to assist in the need for essential community facilities in rural areas of South Carolina; and other matters related thereto - Approved as presented.

A motion to approve Resolution 2021.385 City of Lake City, South Carolina for the approval of funding the Garbage Truck I project, the City of Lake City has made application to USDA, Rural Development for a Community Facilities Grant in the amount of \$50,000 to assist in the need for essential community facilities in rural areas of South Carolina; and other matters related thereto: Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby; Seconded: Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott; Discussion: None; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Richard Cook, Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Singletary, Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott,

Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember William Askins and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr all voted Aye).

**Resolution 2021.386 – Final Reading**

A Resolution for the City of Lake City South Carolina for the approval of funding the Garbage Truck II project, the City of Lake City has made application to USDA, Rural Development for a Community Facilities Grant in the amount of \$49,000 to assist in the need for essential community facilities in rural areas of South Carolina; and other matters related thereto – Approved as presented.

A motion for the approval of RES#2021.386 for funding the Garbage Truck II project, the City of Lake City has made application to USDA, Rural Development for a Community Facilities Grant in the amount of \$49,000 to assist in the need for essential community facilities in rural areas of South Carolina; Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby; Seconded: Councilmember Yamekia Robinson; Discussion: there was no discussion; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Richard Cook, Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember William Askins and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr all voted Aye).

**CITY ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**INTERIM CITY ADMINISTRATOR WILLIAM HALL: MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT – FISCAL YR 2021 PERIOD ENDING APRIL 30, 2021.** The following is a summary of the City's financial results for the major operating funds as of April 30, 2021. Fiscal year activity has been included as of May 7, 2021.

**GENERAL FUND:**

REVENUE - Budgeted: \$6,728,750; YTD Actual Collected = \$5,250,637 representing 78% of the current budget compared to the prior year actual collected = \$5,234,851. The Use of Fund Balance = \$470,741.

EXPENSES – Budgeted: \$7,199,491; YTD Actual Collected = \$6,144,523 representing 85% of the budget compared to the prior year actual = \$5,182,416.

REVENUE OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES: YTD = (\$893,886); PRIOR YR ACTUAL = \$52,435

**WATER FUND:**

REVENUE – Budgeted: \$1,549,573; YTD Actual Collected: \$1,243,354 representing 80% of the budget compared to the prior year actual: \$1,309,171.

EXPENSES – Budgeted: \$1,549,573; YTD Actual Collected: \$1,069,941 representing 69% of the budget compared to the prior year actual: \$1,041,362.

REVENUE OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES: YTD = (\$173,413); PRIOR YR ACTUAL = \$267,809.

### **SEWER FUND:**

REVENUE – Budgeted: \$2,758,350; YTD Actual Collected: \$2,484,715 representing 90% of the budget compared to the prior year = \$2,374,430.

EXPENSES – Budgeted: \$2,758,350; YTD Actual Collected: \$2,179,137 compared to the prior year actual = \$1,893,096 representing 79%.

REVENUE OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES – Budgeted: \$0; YTD Actual Collected: \$305,578 compared to the prior year actual = \$481,334.

### **APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2021 (page 86) – Approved Items 1 - 8 as presented.**

A motion to approve the May 2021 Bill List items 1 – 8: Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott; Seconded: Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby; Discussion: Councilmember Richard Cook inquired about the status of the street closing on Dansing Street? This street has been closed for some time now, and it is his opinion that it needs to be opened back up by now. Interim Administrator William Hall and Public Works Director Ricky Sims provided some insight but stated that they would need to look into this matter and come back at a later date with their findings. Mayor Anderson Jr. added some input by stating this area is the concern of the South Carolina Department of Transportation; they would need to be included in the talks as well; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Richard Cook, Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember William Askins and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr all voted Aye).

### **PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS**

Lake City Police Chief Joseph Cooper provided a summary of the responses, incidents, and domestic situations they have responded to for the last three months to Mayor and Council:

- 61 tickets have been issued
- 6 warrants and arrests
- 19 arrests
- 25 assaults

- Arrests have been made pertaining to the Cadillac convertors and they are continuing to seek others who have been named.
- Domestic and sexual assaults: 1 arrest, 8 arrests in the 2<sup>nd</sup> degree
- They are continuing to operate with a limited staff, but the Lake City Police Department has notice more corporation from the community. Chief Cooper still asks for help from the community in solving cases and policing our city.

Lake City Fire Chief Randy Driggers provided a summary of the responses, incidents, and domestic situations they have responded to for the last three months to Mayor and Council:

- Data from Saturday 05/09/2021 COVID-19 Update
- New confirmed cases 192 (new confirmed cases in Florence County 6); total confirmed cases 486,282.
- New confirmed deaths 0; total confirmed deaths 8,448.
- The FDA has issued an emergency use authorization for the use of Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine in children ages 12 and older.
- South Carolina is awaiting the official recommendations from the CDC before notifying our state's providers that they may begin administering the Pfizer vaccine to those 12 and older. Parental consent is required, as a reminder, in the state of South Carolina, those 16 and older do not need parental consent to receive a vaccine from an authorized vaccine provider.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION – ENTERED AT 7:28 P.M**

A motion to enter into Executive Session pursuant to the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act Section 30-4-70 (a)(1)(2) to discuss vacancies on the City of Lake City Boards, Commissions and Committees, as well as, discussing contractual negotiations for sludge removal options; and other matter related thereto: Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby; Seconded: Councilmember Yamekia Robinson; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Richard Cook, Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Councilmember William Askins and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr): Motion Carried: Unanimously.

#### **ACTION AS NEEDED WITH RESPECT TO MATTERS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION – EXITED AT 7:55 P.M.**

A motion to exit Executive Session pursuant to the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act Section 30-4-70 (a)(1)(2) to discuss vacancies on the City of Lake City Boards, Commissions and Committees, as well as, discussing contractual negotiations for sludge removal options; and other matter related thereto: Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby; Seconded: Councilmember Yamekia Robinson; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Richard Cook,

Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, Councilmember William Askins and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr): Motion Carried: Unanimously.

### **CITY COUNCILMEMBERS REPORTS**

Councilmember William Askins – he stated that he was pleased to see how many people out to enjoy ArtFields this year. He hopes to see everyone at next month’s meeting.

Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott - she was pleased as well seeing all the people enjoying our community. She stated that she was excited to see that one of the showcase items during the upcoming Annual Meeting in July 2021, is the Lake City Continuum. Representatives from our area will be presenting information about the programs and different options that are available at the Continuum. She encouraged everyone to be honored at the things we have accomplished, to keep an open mind especially as it pertains to protecting ourselves during this pandemic and challenged everyone to at least try to experience or explore different things. She thanked all the City of Lake City’s staff, and she wished all the mothers a very Happy Mothers’ Day.

Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby – she thanked everyone for coming out and she wished all the mothers a very Happy Mother’s Day.

Councilmember Yamekia Robinson - she thanked everyone for coming to the meeting, and she wished all the mothers a very Happy Mother’s Day. She wished everyone a safe and Happy Memorial Holiday. The District 4 Community Zoom meeting was rescheduled for May 2, 2021. She stated that the attendance numbers were not what she hoped for, but she is going to continue to have these meetings and encouraged the community to utilize this time to bring their concerns and issues to the forefront. She stated that she attended the South Carolina Community Development Association Annual Meeting, and she felt it was a great opportunity to network and learn of new possibilities for projects in our area. In her opinion, ArtFields was successful this year. She encouraged everyone to continue to wear their masks, especially if they have not been vaccinated. COVID-19 is still out here, and everyone is not fully vaccinated. On Saturday, May 15, 2021, Moore Botanical Garden held an event from 8:30 a.m. until 3 p.m., and she encouraged everyone to go. She also stated that she has been in communications with the RaShaud Graham Committee to find out what the plans are for the upcoming June 12, 2021, date. At this time nothing had been decided and she stated that this year they were hoping to something more geared toward the youth in the committee. She would provide updates as she receives them.

Councilmember Richard Cook – he stated that he really enjoyed seeing all the people in town for ArtFields. He stated that hopefully we find more events to keep our downtown full of people; maybe we can sponsor monthly events to bring people back. He thanked everyone for coming out.

**MAYOR’S REPORT** – he dittoes the sentiments of the Councilmembers pertaining to ArtFields.


- The City of Lake City is sponsoring a Game and Movie Night on June 18, 2021, beginning at 6 p.m. on the Green. More information will be provided closer to the date.

- COVID-19 vaccinations were given at Saint James Church and Mount Claire Baptist Church on Saturday, May 21, 2021. Dr. Brown and his staff was present at these events to administer shots and provide additional information.
- A reminder of the holiday schedule for the trash pickups was made available and was posted on the City’s Facebook page and website.
- He recognized the current Councilmembers and stated that in his opinion; there was a good mix and hope that they will work together to move the City forward.
- He thanked the Interim City Administrator/Finance/Human Resources Manager William Hall, and he thanked all of the City’s staff for all the hard work that they put into keeping the city functioning.

**ADJOURNMENT** - Adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Having heard all matters presented and having no citizens input, a Motion to Adjourn was made by Councilmember Richard Cook; Seconded: Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby; Motion Carried: All Ayes (Councilmember Richard Cook, Councilmember Sondra Fleming-Crosby, Councilmember Yamekia Robinson, Councilmember William Askins, Councilmember Wilhelmena Scott, and Mayor Lovith Anderson Jr all voted Aye): Motion Carried: Unanimously.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lovith Anderson Jr  
Mayor

Attest:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Teresa K. Benjamin  
City Clerk