CITY OF DARLINGTON
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING (EXECUTIVE SESSION)
HELD IN THE COURTROOM/COUNCIL CHAMBERS
400 PEARL STREET, DARLINGTON, SC
WEDNESDAY MARCH 20, 2024 – 6:00 PM

Present: Mayor Boyd, City Manager John Payne, Councilpersons Bryant Gardner, Sheila Baccus, John Segars, Elaine Reed, John Milling and Angela McRavin.

Mayor Boyd called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE
The invocation was led by Mayor Curtis Boyd followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Pursuant to South Carolina code of laws, section 30-4–70(1), personnel matter. the council may at following executive session.

Councilman Bryant Gardner made a motion to go into executive session at 6:02 pm pursuant to SC Code of Laws Section 30-4-70(1), personnel matter. Councilwoman McRavin asked if the executive session could just be with council and not the City Manager or the Clerk. Councilman Gardner said he doesn't see any reason why the Clerk needs to come out. He said you can ask Mr. Payne to leave, but he can legally request to stay. Councilwoman Baccus said, "We're not discussing him, we're discussing hiring an interim." Councilwoman McRavin said, I respectfully request that our current city manager be excused from the executive session, and it be just for the mayor and council. Mr. Payne said, "I'm inclined to leave, but you will need to vote because the ordinance says that I am to attend every city council meeting. I can go home and eat dinner. I don't care." Councilman Milling said, "I don't want you to go home. There may be some point and time that you might need to come back in." Councilwoman McRavin made a motion for executive session be for the mayor and city councilmembers." Councilman Gardner said, "We already have a motion on the table, but I think he said he's fine with that, so we just need to vote." Councilman Milling said, "I'm not sure what I'm voting on." Councilman Gardner said, "Just to go into executive session." Councilman Milling asked, "Are you withdrawing your previous motion that was made in open session"? Councilman Gardner said, no. Councilman Milling said, "There was a motion and a second on your motion, so we have to vote on your motion before we can entertain a second motion." Councilman Gardner said, "I think we just motioned to go into executive session, and she asked to have the city manager step out and he said he would, so I think we just need to go forward and vote." Councilman Milling said he is just trying to get the motion straight. **Councilman Gardner said, "I did make a motion, but I would like to amend my motion to say just council and the mayor. Councilwoman Elaine Reed seconded the motion. Councilpersons Milling, McRavin, Baccus, Segars and Mayor Boyd voted I favor of the motion.**

Councilman Gardner made a motion to come out of executive session at 7:21 PM. Councilwoman Elaine Reed seconded the motion. Councilpersons Milling, McRavin, Baccus, Segars and Mayor Boyd voted in favor to end the executive session.

Councilman John Milling made a motion to hire Bill Taylor as Interim City Manager beginning Wednesday March 27, 2024, based upon the terms set forth in his proposed contract which would be $600 per week he would work at least three days a week and that he would be paid mileage at the rate allowed by the internal revenue service to perform his duties as interim city manager. Councilman Bryant Gardner seconded the motion. Councilpersons McRavin, Baccus, Reed, Segars and Mayor Boyd voted in favor of the motion. Councilwoman Elaine Reed made a motion to accept John Payne's resignation effective March 29, 2024, as stated in his resignation letter. Councilwoman Baccus seconded the motion. Councilpersons Milling and McRavin voted in favor of the motion. Councilpersons Segars, Gardner and Mayor Boyd voted "no." Councilman Gardner and Mayor Boyd said they would like more days before Mr. Payne leaves.

Councilman John Milling made a motion to move our city council meeting from the first Tuesday April 2nd to the second Tuesday April 9th so that the interim city manager can be here. Councilman Bryant Gardner seconded the motion. Councilpersons McRavin, Baccus, Reed, Segars and Mayor Boyd voted in favor of changing the April council meeting date.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Councilman Bryant Gardner, seconded by Councilwoman Angela McRavin the meeting adjourned at 7:24 PM. Councilpersons Milling, Baccus, Reed, Segars and Mayor Boyd voted in favor of adjourning the meeting.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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Clerk & Treasurer