CITY OF DARLINGTON
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE OLD COUNCIL CHAMBERS LOCATED AT
400 PEARL STREET, DARLINGTON, SC
TUESDAY MARCH 4, 2025 - AT 6:00 PM

PRESENT AT THE MEETING:
Mayor Pro-Tem John Segars, Councilpersons Baccus, McRavin, Milling, and Reed. Also present was Police Chief Jimmy Davis, Hunter Thomas, Sheila Bryant, Steve Abbott, Jannie Lathan, Gloria Hines, Dr. Dawson, Sean Odom. Mayor Curtis Boyd and Councilman Bryant Gardner were not present at the meeting.

Mr. Stephen Drew from the news and press was present at the meeting.

Mayor Pro tem, John Segars called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM.

Invocation was by Councilwoman Elaine Reed followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Councilwoman Elaine Reed made a motion to approve the minutes of our special meeting public forum on February 1, 2025, Councilwoman Angela McRavin seconded the motion. Councilpersons Baccus, Milling, and Segars voted in favor of the motion.

Councilwoman Angela McRavin made a motion to approve the minutes from the Darlington City Council Regular Meeting on February 4, 2025. Councilwoman Elaine Reed seconded the motion. Councilpersons Baccus, Milling and Segars voted in favor of the motion.

Councilman Milling made a motion to approve the February 18th minutes from the workshop with a minor amendment. He said on February 18th council meeting minutes, it notes that I was not present, but I would like for the record to reflect that I was out of state and didn't just not show up. Councilwoman Angela McRavin seconded the motion. Councilpersons Baccus, Reed and Segars voted in favor of the motion.

BOARDS & COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS - MRS. SHEILA BRYANT
City Manager Hawkins presented the board nominations while Mrs. Bryant was busy with another project. Ms. Hawkins said there are two vacancies on the Beautification Board. The Board of Zoning Appeals has one vacancy. The City Grants Committee has one vacancy, the Historic Landmarks Committee has one vacancy, and the Planning Commission has five vacancies. The Tree Board has one vacancy, and The Williamson Park Committee has three vacancies. Ms. Hawkins said we have received several applications from citizens who would like to be appointed to a board or commission. The following applications were received for the Planning Commission: Mr. Steven Carroll, James Litchard, Gloria Hines and Clarence

Chapman, Jr. For the Williamson Park Committee: Blake Kirby & Amanda Watts. Mrs. Sheila Bryant recommends appointing each applicant to the board as assigned above, which will leave each of the boards with one vacancy, except for the Beautification Board, which will have two vacancies. **Councilman Milling made a motion to appoint Mr. Stephen Carroll to the Planning Commission. Councilwoman McRavin seconded the motion. Councilpersons Baccus, Reed and Segars voted in favor of the motion.**

Councilman Milling made a motion to appoint Mr. James Litchard to the Planning Commission. Councilwoman Reed seconded the motion. Councilpersons Baccus, McRavin, and Segars voted in favor of the motion.

Councilwoman Baccus made a motion to appoint Ms. Gloria Hines to the Planning Commission. Councilwoman Reed seconded the motion. Councilpersons Milling, McRavin, and Segars voted in favor of the motion.

Councilwoman Baccus made a motion to appoint Mr. Clarence Chapman to the Planning Commission. Councilwoman McRavin seconded the motion. Councilpersons Milling, Reed and Segars voted in favor of the motion.

Councilman Milling made a motion to appoint Blake Kirby to the Williamson Park Committee. Councilwoman Reed seconded the motion. Councilpersons Baccus, McRavin and Segars voted in favor of the motion.

Councilwoman McRavin made a motion to appoint Amanda Watts to the Williamson Park Committee. Councilwoman Reed seconded the motion. Councilpersons Milling, Baccus and Segars voted in favor of the motion.

RECOGNITIONS, REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Councilwoman McRavin said March is Women's History Month, so we wanted to acknowledge a couple of people. Councilwoman McRavin asked Dr. Don Dawson to come forward on behalf of his late wife Dr. Thelma Dawson. She said that the City of Darlington is committed to recognizing and celebrating the accomplishments and contributions achieved by its local women. The leadership roles of women have and continue to evolve in our society. So, the City of Darlington recognizes notable citizens who were, are, and continue to provide a valuable and indelible legacy through the promotion of community peace, and the general welfare of the city. Dr. Thelma Pugh Dawson was the first female dentist in Darlington and Florence Counties, and she dedicated more than 34 years serving the children and families of Darlington County while sitting on the Darlington County school board. Her love for children and providing a positive contribution to the community was obvious through the often-free dental services she provided. Her love of music earned her a bachelor's degree in music education at Howard university, and she served bands for notable artists. The Mayor and Darlington city council members recognize the accomplishments and service of Dr. Thelma Pugh Dawson and proclaim March 4, 2025, as women's history month.

CITIZENS WISHING TO APPEAR BEFORE COUNCIL ***(5 minutes per person, Maximum of thirty (30) total minutes) Neither personal attacks nor disruptive behavior are permitted**** **Please sign in to be heard at this time.)**
No one signed up to speak.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
Councilman Milling made a motion to approve the concert series purchase order over $5,000. Councilwoman Reed seconded the motion. Councilpersons McRavin, Baccus, and Segars voted in favor of the motion.

NEW BUSINESS

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT - CITY MANAGER HAWKINS
Ms. Hawkins said the fire department has won a V-Safe grant in the amount of $14,000 which will help them with equipment purchases. Ms. Hawkins shared information about … she told them they may want to look at it and pursue it before the deadline at the end of the month. She said I know that there is a desire to have a warming center and one of your community partners is looking for funding so if we can't use it there may be other folks in the community who can use this. Ms. Hawkins said it is called Main Street America, and it's called Investing Big in Small Towns and it's $50,000 through T mobile. She said, for whomever you all want to partner with I'm sure they would agree if they had a letter of support from the City of Darlington, it might be good. She said she wanted to use it badly, but she spoke with some of the staff, and they had one idea which wasn't really a good one because it needs to be shovel ready but I believe that some of our community members might be able to benefit from this. She said she answered a letter from Ms. Shealy from the Council on Aging within the last hour when she asked if there were any more grants, so I sent her this. She said if anybody has any ideas where the city can partner with you and get this in by the 31st, please let her know. Councilman Milling told Ms. Hawkins to send this information to Tonya flowers since she came and talked with them about her women's shelter. Ms. Hawkins says she is on my list to call back and this is the perfect thing for her.

REMINDERS
Tuesday, March 18, 2025, City Council work session at 6:00 PM
Monday March 31, 2025, Joint City Council Meeting
Tuesday, April 8, 2025, regular city Council meeting 6:00 PM

EXECUTIVE SESSION
In accordance with SC code, Ann. 30– 4–70(a) (2) to discuss employment of personnel.

The council may act upon the closure of the executive session.

Councilman Milling made a motion to go into executive session at 6:25 PM. Councilwoman Reed seconded the motion. Councilpersons McRavin, Baccus and Segars voted in favor of the motion.

Councilman Milling made a motion to end the executive session at 7:08 PM. Councilwoman McRavin seconded the motion. All voted in favor of ending the executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Milling made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 PM. Councilwoman Reed seconded the motion. All approved the motion to adjourn the meeting.

_____

Mayor

ATTEST:

_____

Clerk & Treasurer