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# City Council Meeting May 2, 2023

**DATE AND TIME:** Tuesday, May 2, 2023, 6:00 PM

## **Members Present:**

Mayor Mike Fuessler  
Mayor Pro Tem Ed Brown  
Councilmember Matthew Hickey  
Councilmember Marion Ramsey

Councilmember Stephanie Jarrett  
Councilmember Charles Brewer  
Councilmember Kellie Harrold

## **Staff Present:**

City Manager Dalton Pierce  
Municipal Clerk Amy Craig  
Finance Director Jeff Wilkins  
Fire Chief Mike Regal  
Police Chief Brian Trail  
Sergeant David Dover

Utilities Director Ben Wright  
Human Resources Director Sarah Ramirez  
Community Events Director Becky Mestas  
Zoning Administrator Amanda Blackston  
Utilities Crew Brian Craig

## **Participants:**

## **Others Present:**

(See Sign-in Sheet)

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### **1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Mike Fuessler

- Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

### **2. PRAYER**

Mayor Pro Tem Ed Brown

### **3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Mike Fuessler

### **4. PRESENTATIONS**

#### **4.1. Silver in the City**

John Leake and Terry Montgomery spoke about the success of the Silver in the City event that was held April 20-22. 65 airstreams were brought to the City from 10 different states and Canada. The economic impact this event had on the City is that it brought in approximately \$25,000 to \$35,000 to the local businesses. In addition, \$4,117 was donated to P.A.T.H. Next year, the event will be held April 11-14, and 20 participants have already registered. Mr. Leake and Mr. Montgomery mentioned letters that had been sent to them. The letters contained positive remarks about the City of York. Mr. Leake and Mr. Montgomery are thankful to the mayor, police, and the City for allowing this event and making it the success it has become.

#### **4.2. New Employees**

Police Chief Brian Trail introduced two new officers, Dusty Gaston and Cameron Bergin, to the York Police Department.

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## 4.3. 2022 Fire Safe South Carolina Community

Fire Chief Mike Regal expressed how proud he is that the York Fire Department has been recognized as a Fire Safe South Carolina Designation for 2022. The Designation is given to Fire Departments that demonstrate commitment to reducing fire related injuries and promote consistent fire safety messaging. Over 500 fire departments are in the state of South Carolina and only 132 earned this accomplishment. In June, the recipients of this achievement will be recognized at the South Carolina Fire & Rescue Conference at Myrtle Beach. Also, Chief Regal stated that York Fire Department is coordinating with the State Fire Marshalls Office to promote residents having more than one smoke alarm in their home.

## 5. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS

Melissa Gray with York Historical Society, a citizen of York and President of York Historical Society, spoke in regard to the B-1 Central Business District. She stated for the best interest of the York Historical Society and the community, that requests for Council to preserve the historical accuracy and adhere to the original developmental intentions of the district. The original composition of the Business District should have retail shops and restaurants. Ms. Gray further stated that windows with offensive, divisive, and inappropriate displays have no place in the City of York.

Brad Vassey, Pastor of Hillcrest Baptist Church, in regard to the B-1 Central Business District, stated he would like Council to define what constitutes a “special exception” on the basis for new implementation under the B-1 Central Business District ordinance structure. His concern is not so much the present with the Council already established, but rather what the future holds with potential changes and how the church will be protected when those changes come.

## 6. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

### 6.1. Rural Infrastructure Authority – SCIIP Grant Award

City Manager Dalton Pierce stated that the Rural Infrastructure Authority – SCIIP Grant Award has provided the City of York notice that the City has been awarded \$10million for the Water Treatment Plant upgrades and improvements along with the Liberty Street waterline project. The City did not receive the \$500,000 grant to go with the City’s match, so the City will contribute 25% through ARPA.

### 6.2. City of York Water Filtration Plant Environment Review & Remediation

City Manager Dalton Pierce stated that the Water Filtration Plant Environment Review & Remediation has been posted on various sites for solicitation of qualified engineering consulting firms. The City will use funding of \$700,000 provided by the State Budget appropriations with an additional amount \$800,00 for the City’s portion. There are two scopes of work. The engineering firm will assess and develop a cost estimate for the remediation and demolition of the existing site. Bids are due May 23, 2023 and an update will be provided in June.

### 6.3. Lake Caldwell Update

City Manager Dalton Pierce stated that the city received a Permit to Construct on April 17 from DHEC. Shield Engineering is completing the RFQ based on approved drawings. This will allow Bids to be solicited in the near future.

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## 6.4. City of York Redistricting Post-Adoption Update

City Manager Dalton Pierce stated that on April 17, 2023, the Ordinance for Redistricting was approved. The City remained in contact with Dr. Ruoff and provided him the signed Ordinance. With the information the City provided, along with Dr. Ruoff's GIS files, he was able to provide the Elections Commission and RFA with the updated data.

City Manager Dalton Pierce stated that this week is Municipal Clerks week and wanted to recognize Municipal Clerk Amy Craig for the hard work she provides the City, himself, and others that need her assistance.

## 7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

### 7.1. Council Work Session, April 17, 2023, Council Special Called April 17, 2023.

Councilmember Ramsey made a Motion to accept the Minutes into the record, which was Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brown. The Motion passed unanimously.

## 8. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Finance Director Jeff Wilkins discussed the finances for the end of April. The City is close to 100% of the revenues received being only at 7 months into the Fiscal Year, and the City is at 60% of expenditures. The earned interest from the LGIP is \$47,000. On May 13, a CD will mature, and it is losing money. Once the maturity date is reached, the money will be moved to the LGIP account. The auditors should be ready to do a presentation before Council soon as they complete the audit. City Manager Dalton Pierce stated that since the \$10million has been received, it will be added to the budget amendment. Paired with the funding from York Electric Cooperative for the light industrial park, plus incurred earned interest, the City can mitigate increases for liability insurance on properties and vehicles.

## 9. OLD BUSINESS

### 9.1. First Reading Ordinance 23-689, Amendment B-1 Central Business District Revisions

Councilmember Hickey made a Motion to Untable First Reading Ordinance 23-689, Amendment B-1 Central Business District, which was Seconded by Councilmember Jarrett. With no Discussion, the Motion was adopted unanimously.

Councilmember Jarret made a Motion to approve First Reading Ordinance 23-689, Amendment B-1 Central Business District, which was Seconded by Councilmember Harrold. With no Discussion, the Motion was adopted unanimously.

### 9.2 Second Reading Ordinance 23-692, Local Revenue Services

Councilmember Hickey made a Motion to approve Second Reading Ordinance 23-692, Local Revenue Services, which was Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brown. With no Discussion, the Motion was adopted unanimously.

## 10. NEW BUSINESS

### 10.1 SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATIONS:

Community Events Director Becky Mestas stated that York Middle School has given the City permission to use their facilities for the annual Fourth of July Celebration.

Councilmember Hickey made a Motion to approve the Fourth of July Celebration event, which was Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brown. With no Discussion, the Motion was adopted unanimously.

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## 11. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Fuesser stated in April 49 bags of trash were picked up throughout the City and he appreciates everyone that participated to get our City cleaned up. Also, he commended City Manager Dalton Pierce for a presentation that he had given at Trinity United Methodist Church. Mayor Fuesser expressed best wishes to City Manager Pierce and his fiancé, Amanda, as they get married this weekend. Mayor Fuesser stated that he will be out of town May 15, 2023, for Council's Work Session. Mayor Pro Tem Brown will stand in the Mayor's place during this meeting. The July meeting will be discussed at the Work Session because the meeting is scheduled during the Fourth of July holiday. Mayor Pro Tem reminded everyone of the National Day of Prayer on City Hall steps on May 4, 2023, at 12pm. Councilmember Hickey stated that he is partnering with York Police Department for a St. Jude's fundraiser to raise \$5,000.

## 12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

12.1 To Discuss Contractual Arrangements Regarding the City of York's Health Insurance

12.2 To Discuss Personnel Matters Related to the Public Works Department

Councilmember Hickey made a Motion to go into Executive Session to Discuss Contractual Arrangements Regarding the City of York's Health Insurance and To Discuss Personnel Matters Related to the Public Works Department, which was Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brown. With no Discussion, the Motion was adopted unanimously.

Councilmember Ramsey made a Motion to exit Executive Session, which was Seconded by Councilmember Hickey. The Motion was adopted unanimously.

## 13. UPON RETURNING TO OPEN SESSION, COUNCIL MAY TAKE ACTION ON MATTERS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

*\*\*No action taken\*\**

## 14. ADJOURN

Councilmember Hickey made a Motion to Adjourn, which was Seconded by Councilmember Ramsey. The Motion was adopted unanimously. The meeting Adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Amy Craig  
Municipal Clerk