

**CITY OF CAYCE
Special Meeting
November 23, 2009**

A Special meeting of Cayce City Council was held today at 5:30 p.m. in Council Chambers. Those present included Mayor Elise Partin, Councilmen Steve Isom, James Jenkins, Kenneth Jumper, and Rick Myers, City Manager John C. Sharpe, and Municipal Clerk, Tammy Barkley. Mayor Partin advised that members of the press and the public were duly notified of the meeting in accordance with the FOIA.

Mayor Partin opened the meeting and Mr. Jumper said the invocation. Mayor Partin then led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Other

A. Discussion of proposed Ordinance regarding Council Expenses and Reimbursements

The City Manager provided Council with revised guidelines based on input received from Mr. Jenkins and Mr. Myers and a revised ordinance that references the guidelines. He stated that the ordinance would need to be finalized by the City Attorney for second reading at the December meeting.

Mr. Myers stated it was important to note that four of the five cities/counties researched do have specific guidelines in place in that there has been some discussion as to why the city needed to put guidelines or an Ordinance in place. He stated that he felt the guidelines were very vague and open ended and does not provide clear directions to the City Manager. He stated that the other cities and counties who have guidelines in place are very specific and pointed and thought that this should be the direction Council should head.

Mr. Jenkins stated that where the guidelines mention the MASC Annual Meeting only, he would like to revise it to read any other type travel that would deal with business of the city. The City Manager advised that other type travel was included in item 7 of the guidelines.

Mr. Jumper stated that he prefers mileage reimbursement for trips more than 15 miles. Mr. Isom pointed out that Mr. Myers comments included reimbursement for trips 30 miles or more.

The City Manager reviewed the guidelines with Council. He stated that item 5 touches on all expenses the city currently reimburses. He stated that mileage was reimbursed according to the IRS mileage rate.

Mr. Jenkins stated that he felt if a Council member takes a trip that is out of the norm that the City should pay for the expenses in advance. The City Manager stated that he agreed as these trips can become quite expensive.

Mr. Myers proposed that what he submitted also be included in the guidelines and would be happy to overview his comments for discussion purposes. He stated that he felt this would put more meat into it rather than what has been submitted to Council.

Mr. Isom inquired if doing this by Ordinance would refer to these as guidelines, policies or regulations. The City Attorney stated that if they are incorporated into the Ordinance by reference, then they are more than guidelines, they become the law and should be referred to as regulations. He stated that an Ordinance is required according to State statute.

Mr. Myers reviewed his comments with Council (attached). Mr. Jumper inquired if the City auditors perform an audit on all expenses. The City Manager stated that they perform the audit based on a sampling of expenses and not all items.

Mr. Jenkins reviewed his comments with Council (attached). Mr. Myers inquired as to what part of his comments hindered anyone on Council from doing their job. He stated that he understands the personal mileage issue, and felt the out of state travel and personal expense may need some tweaking. Mr. Jenkins stated that if the guidelines start off at a higher level, it is difficult to go down and once it has been made law, it would be difficult to change it. Mr. Myers stated that Council has approved many ordinances and then go back to change them. Mr. Jenkins stated that he felt that Council should put together guidelines that are livable.

After discussion, Mr. Isom made a motion to incorporate Mr. Myers' suggestions into the proposed ordinance. Mr. Myers seconded the motion. The motion passed three to two with Mr. Isom, Mr. Jumper and Mr. Myers voting yes and Mr. Jenkins and Mayor Partin voting no.

The City Manager advised that the Groundbreaking Ceremony for the new Wastewater Treatment Plant will be held on December 4th at 10 a.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.

Elise Partin, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tammy P. Barkley, CMC, Municipal Clerk