

Regular Meeting  
April 12, 2021

The regular meeting of City Council was held this date in City Hall Council Chambers at 6:00 pm. In attendance were Mayor Terence Roberts, Mayor Pro Tem Laughridge, Council Members Thompson, Chapman, Harbin, John Roberts, Newton and Jeff Roberts. Councilman Stewart was not present. Also, in attendance were City Manager, David McCuen, Assistant City Manager, Andrew Strickland; Finance Director, Margot Martin; City Attorney, Frankie McClain; Utilities Director, Jeff Caldwell; Planning Director, Maurice McKenzie; and Community Development Director, Erica Craft. The invocation was given by Councilman John Roberts and respect to the flag was given by Councilman Don Chapman.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION  
Council Member Beatrice Thompson  
South Carolina African Heritage Commission  
Preserving Our Places in History Award

Mayor Terence Roberts recognized and awarded Council Member Beatrice Thompson with the Preserving Our Places in History Award from the South Carolina African Heritage Commission for her many years of service to the Anderson Community.

PROCLAMATION  
Fair Housing Month

# *Proclamation*

**WHEREAS**, the month of April is recognized throughout these United States of America as Fair Housing Month; and

**WHEREAS**, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, set forth a national policy of fair housing without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status or disability; and

**WHEREAS**, housing is a critical component of family and community health and stability; and

**WHEREAS**, both State and Federal offices of the Department of Housing and Urban Development continue their efforts to promote and educate as many citizens as possible about every person's right to enjoy equal opportunities in housing insuring that all Americans have the opportunity to achieve the American Dream of homeownership; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Anderson continues to affirmatively further fair housing for its citizens.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Terence V. Roberts, Mayor of City of Anderson, South Carolina, along with my fellow council members of City Council, do hereby proclaim April 2021 to be

## **FAIR HOUSING MONTH**

in the City of Anderson, SC for the significance of fair housing to our way of life and encourage all citizens to observe and support both the letter and spirit of the Fair Housing Law as an expression of the individual rights guaranteed by the United States Constitution and the Constitution of the State of South Carolina

Signed this 12th day of April, 2021



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Mayor Terence V. Roberts

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion by Mayor Pro Tem Laughridge seconded by Councilman Newton carried unanimously (8-0) to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2021 meeting as presented.

### **REQUEST CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 21-07 SUPPORTING THE ANDERSON AREA REMEMBRANCE AND RECONCILIATION INITIATIVE; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO**

Mayor Terence Roberts said the Anderson Area Remembrance and Reconciliation Initiative has worked with the Equal Justice Initiative (EJI) in Montgomery, Alabama to identify five victims of racial lynching in Anderson County from 1894-1911.

In the past year, the local group launched a research project in partnership with EJI to find appropriate ways to foster dialogue, promote education and encourage conversations that will acknowledge the past and work toward a time when true fellowship prevails among people of all races in our community.

Members of the Anderson Area Remembrance and Reconciliation Initiative aim to raise awareness and inspire action through dialogue, community education, and public memorials. It is the goal that this increased awareness will lead to concrete policies and actions that will eliminate disparities and move us toward the goal of a "Beloved Community."

The City of Anderson wishes to be part of this national effort to create new spaces, markers and memorials that address the legacy of slavery, lynching and racial segregation.

This resolution will offer support for the efforts by the Anderson Area Remembrance and Reconciliation Initiative to memorialize the victims of lynching in Anderson County and promote awareness programs aimed at addressing racial inequities in our community.

A motion by Councilman Harbin seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Laughridge carried unanimously (8-0) to approve Resolution 21-07 supporting the Anderson Area Remembrance and Reconciliation Initiative; and other matters related thereto.

#### REQUEST CONSIDERATION OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR WATER SERVICE MAINTENANCE ON MARSHALL AVENUE

Utilities Director, Jeff Caldwell said earlier this year, SCDOT began deep-depth milling and patching on Marshall Avenue in preparation for a complete resurfacing project. During the initial work, the milling operations damaged several water services. In making the necessary repairs, our team noted that the original taps were installed using a lead gooseneck material.

The EPA's new lead and copper rule was scheduled to go into effect on March 16, 2021 but has been extended to June 17, 2021. This update includes new guidance for water providers to identify and document lead service lines (LSL) within their water systems. The plan provides direction on focused sampling in areas where known and potential LSL exist and requires an LSL replacement program based on the sampling results.

The benefit of this contract is to instill the greatest confidence in our customers and provide the safest drinking water, we should plan to eliminate all lead service lines.

SCDOT has agreed to postpone the final surfacing on Marshall Avenue for two months to allow the City time to replace the lead service lines within the project limits. To meet this timeframe,

we proceeded under the emergency procurement guidelines to solicit competitive bids from several local contractors. The following bids were received:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Stone Grading	Starr, SC	\$141,600.00
J&M Construction	Anderson, SC	\$151,300.00
Fontaine Construction	Pelzer, SC	\$159,454.72
Moorhead Construction, Inc.	Belton, SC	No Bid

Moving forward with this project will provide the highest quality water possible to our customers.

This project is supported by the Water Fund.

Staff recommends approval of a construction contract with Stone Grading in the amount of \$141,600 for this water service maintenance project.

A motion by Councilman Jeff Roberts seconded by Councilman John Roberts carried unanimously (8-0) to approve a construction contract for water service maintenance on Marshall Avenue Stone Grading in the amount of \$141,600.

City Manager, David McCuen requested to move into Executive Session.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion by John Roberts seconded by Councilman Chapman carried unanimously (8-0) to move into Executive Session:

Section 30-4-70(a)(2) – Legal Advice relating to matters covered by the attorney-client privilege involving possible litigation.

A motion by Mayor Pro Tem Laughridge seconded by Council Member Thompson carried unanimously (8-0) to move out of Executive Session.

REQUEST CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 21-08 CONSENTING TO THE JUDICIAL CLOSURE AND ABANDONMENT OF A PORTION OF SUMMIT AVENUE AND A PORTION OF COLLEGE AVENUE; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO

Planning Director, Maurice McKenzie said as part of Anderson University's master plan, the creation of a boundary between the campus and the residential neighborhood in the Springdale/College Avenue area is proposed by closing a portion of Summit Avenue and College Avenue. This plan was discussed with the City Council during the University's rezoning efforts on that side of campus in 2020.

The process to close streets goes before the Circuit Court, and Anderson University has filed a petition to close portions of Summit Avenue and College Avenue that are maintained by the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT). Although these streets are maintained by the SCDOT, part of the legal process includes the City of Anderson consenting to this requested closure by resolution, since the streets are located within the City limits.

The proximity of the subject streets to the University and contiguity with their property prevents and restricts the beneficial development and configuration of the campus. This includes improvements and construction of parking areas, pedestrian pathways, and other amenities which will reduce university-related traffic flow in the surrounding neighborhood, ensuring safety to surrounding property owners and enhancing the surrounding area.

The benefit of this Resolution is the improvement of traffic flow and enhancement of the surrounding area.

Mr. Boyd Galloway, resident of 607 Boulevard is opposed to the closure. He believes this closure will increase traffic in already high traffic areas such as the Boulevard. He is not against increasing the parking lot but would like the roads to remain open.

Mr. Adam Artigliere with Burr & Forman Law Firm, addressed City Council as representative of Anderson University. Mr. Artigliere is assisting Anderson University with the petition process. When the petition is served, the City will have time to respond. He asked the City to consider responding to not wanting the parking lot to be a cut thru.

Councilman Jeff Roberts said that less than 10% of the traffic into the parking lot comes from the Springdale area and should have minimal impact in closure of the road.

Mr. Reggie Gay, in-house council for Anderson University, said they are willing to work with the neighbors. The goal is to make this area a safe environment for students and the surrounding community.

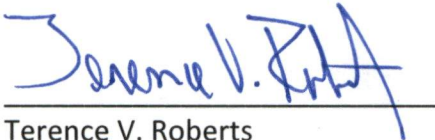
A motion by Councilman Newton seconded by Councilman Harbin carried unanimously (8-0) to approve Resolution 21-08 consenting to the judicial closure and abandonment of a portion of Summit Avenue and a portion of College Avenue; and other matters related thereto.

ADJOURNMENT

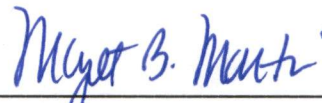
A motion by Councilman Newton seconded by Council Member Thompson carried unanimously (8-0) to adjourn at 7:00 p.m.

*Notice of this meeting was posted on the City of Anderson's website and the Anderson Independent Mail newspaper was notified of the meeting at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting in accordance with the S.C. Freedom of Information Act.*

ATTEST:



Terence V. Roberts  
Mayor



Margot B. Martin  
City Clerk Treasurer