



Mayor
Elise Partin

Mayor Pro-Tem
James E. Jenkins

Council Members
Phil Carter
Tim James
Hunter Sox

City Manager
Tracy Hegler

Deputy City Manager
Jim Crosland
Assistant City Manager
Michael Conley

**City of Cayce
Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, October 3, 2023**

The October 3, 2023 Regular Council Meeting was held this evening at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. Those present included Mayor Elise Partin, Mayor Pro Tem James Jenkins and Council Members Phil Carter, Tim James and Hunter Sox. City Manager Tracy Hegler, Deputy City Manager Jim Crosland, Municipal Clerk Mendy Corder, Assistant Police Chief Shawn Grant, Assistant Fire Chief Ryan Gates, Finance Director Kelly McMullen, Utility Director Betsy Catchings, IT Director Jamie Beckham and City Attorney Danny Crowe were also in attendance.

Mayor Partin asked if members of the press and the public were duly notified of the meeting in accordance with the FOIA. Ms. Corder confirmed they were notified.

Call to Order

Mayor Partin called the meeting to order and Council Member Sox gave the invocation. Mayor Partin led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

Council Member Carter made a motion to approve the September 5, 2023 Regular Council Meeting, September 20, 2023 Regular Council Meeting and September 26, 2023 Special Council Meeting minutes as written. Mayor Pro Tem Jenkins seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Public Comment Regarding Items on the Agenda

No one signed up for Public Comment.

Proclamation

- A. Approval of Proclamation – Declaring October 15, 2023 as South Carolina Latino/Hispanic Business Day

Council Member James made a motion to approve a Proclamation declaring October 15, 2023 as South Carolina Latino/Hispanic Business Day. Mayor Pro Tem Jenkins seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Presentation

- A. Presentation by Ms. Kimberly Hinder with Stantec on the Findings for the City of Cayce African American Cemeteries Survey Grant

Ms. Hinder stated that the City was awarded a Federal Historic Preservation Grant for the African American Cemeteries Preservation project and hired Stantec to perform the work. She stated that she was a senior historian with Stantec and her presentation would review the results of their work. She stated that they identified seven (7) African American cemeteries and four (4) which may have had some African American burials within the City's limits. She stated that they recorded them on archaeological and architectural survey forms and submitted them to the Department of Archives and History along with photographs.

Ms. Hinder stated that the site visit of St. Ann's I Cemetery identified 34 marked interments historically associated with St. Ann's Mission and the property on which this cemetery was located was acquired by the Episcopal Church from Harriet Arthur in 1886. She stated that the church was meeting there by 1891, but the marked graves spanned the years from 1927 to 2005. She stated that death certificates identified an additional 28 burials ranging from 1915 to 1977. Ms. Hinder stated that nearby there was a cemetery referred to as St. Ann's II. She stated that the Earle Cemetery was heavily obscured by brush, but the site visit identified 24 marked internments. She stated that historic research indicated that at least nine (9) additional people were buried there. Ms. Hinder stated that due to confusion over many members belonging to the St. Ann's Church some of the death certificates marked as St. Ann's Cemetery may be interred in the Earle Cemetery. She stated that the known death date's ranged from 1915 to 2007 and oral history indicated that this cemetery might have been used by those enslaved on the Arthur Plantation. She stated that an 1839 plat showed this cemetery near the homes of Henry Arthur and his sisters who jointly owned 125 enslaved people in 1860.

Ms. Hinder stated that in 1885, Harriet Arthur conveyed 10 acres to David and Lavinia Earle in consideration of faithful services rendered to her deceased husband General Henry Arthur. She stated that in 1899, a widowed Mrs. Earle conveyed right-of-way to the Carolina Midland Roadway, the deed noted that it would not run through the graveyard on the Earle property. She stated that this was the first mention of St. Ann's II Earle Cemetery. She stated that after Mrs. Earle's death, the property passed to her son, but he and his wife had no children so there were no clear owners after they passed away. Ms. Hinder stated that currently St. Ann's II Earle Cemetery was nestled in a grove of mixed growth trees adjacent to commercial development and an active railroad. She stated that the eastern half of the parcel could not be accessed because of dense vegetation but it was possible there were additional graves in that section. She stated that grave depressions were also observed in the open area there.

Ms. Hinder stated that another cemetery associated with St. Ann's Church was identified along Wilkinson Street. She stated that the Episcopal Church had just over 22 acres by 1927 when a plat was filed, subdividing their land and dedicating a cemetery parcel along Wilkinson Street. She stated that although the site visit did not reveal any markers or depressions indicating a cemetery, property records still indicated it as such.

She stated that she was told earlier that day that it was known as the Hart Cemetery. She stated that the Taylor's Cemetery only had three (3) marked graves and the two (2) legible markers were for World War One Veteran Abraham Taylor and his sister Ruthie Taylor. She stated that a search of death certificates revealed that their mother and 14 other individuals were buried there between 1906 and 1932.

Ms. Hinder stated that the Seaboard Cemetery was noted at the same location during the public meeting but the only records found indicating its existence were the death certificates of 12 individuals entered between 1928 and 56. She stated that the Taylor Seaboard Cemetery was not maintained with grass growing taller than the grave markers at the time of their visit. She stated that this cemetery was a particular risk of headstone breakage due to the adjacent road and parking area. She stated that due to the proximity and possible tie between the two burial grounds, they also looked at the Arthur Cemetery which consisted of 14 known internments spanning from 1817 to 1906. She stated that most of the existing markers belonged to members of the Arthur family, as shown by geo referencing the 1839 plat. Ms. Hinder stated that this cemetery was near the plantation of Hargrove and Mary Author and although it was primarily a family cemetery, a burial ground for those enslaved on their plantation might ay have been nearby, and two burials in the cemetery had unknown ties to the family.

Ms. Hinder stated that after the Authur family died out, the Cayce Land Company sold a 72-acre parcel to the American Agricultural Chemical Company in 1910. She stated that the deed noted the existence of a cemetery at the southeastern corner of the property extending along the right-of-way of the Seaboard Airline Railway 225 feet. She stated that the current length of the cemetery parallel to the railroad was approximately 72 feet, possibly indicating that the Taylor Seaboard Cemetery was considered part of the same cemetery in 1910. She stated that in 1956, Foreman Street was extended through the area possibly cutting through the eastern portion of the cemeteries. Ms. Hinder stated that residents at the January meeting reported that plats showed a cemetery on property historically owned by the Guignard family who started a brick works on the west bank of the river around 1801. She stated that when the family decided to subdivide their land, they hired the Tomlinson Engineering Company to file a plat in 1936. She stated that it depicted "a colored cemetery" south of the brickworks. Ms. Hinder stated that while there was no above ground evidence of this cemetery, death certificates indicated that at least 12 African American people with ties to the brick works were interred there between 1916 and 1944 and that cemetery continued to appear on plats until 1967 but was developed with houses after 2001.

Ms. Hinder stated that Mount Pisgah AME Church Cemetery was located on a three-acre parcel incorporating over 200 marked graves, a few of which were south of the parcel boundary. She stated that death certificates or obituaries identified an additional 19 burials in the cemetery. She stated that Andrew Davis sold the land for this cemetery to Mount Pisgah AME Church in 1891 and in 1914, the church received two (2) acres about seven tenths of a mile southeast of the cemetery and relocated their

meeting space but still use the cemetery. She stated that although the church acquired this property in 1891, the oldest remaining marked grave date to 1905 and the cemetery was still in use and well maintained. Ms. Hinder stated that some of the graves exhibited the purposeful scraping of the ground surface, but there was evidence of erosion in the northern portion of the cemetery. She stated that many damaged markers were observed and some likely were victims of vandalism. She stated that military bronze plaques were possibly stolen, leaving only blank stones. She stated that most of the graves with temporary funeral home markers tend to be concentrated at the western end of the cemetery, with about half of those missing the information of those interred.

Ms. Hinder stated that local residents at the January meeting identified an area along Six Mile Creek as a possible cemetery site. She stated that their visit did not reveal the exact location, but research did indicate its existence. She stated that Rosetta Morigan donated a quarter of an acre of land with a church and graveyard on Six Mile Creek to the Mount Pleasant Colored Church in 1887. She stated that death certificates were found for a dozen burials between 1918 and 1951. She stated that according to the current Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, their organization was an offshoot of the Mount Pleasant Baptist Church in the West Columbia area, and they were unaware of the existence of a cemetery at this location.

Ms. Hinder stated that the final cemeteries which were researched were affiliated with the Granby Community. She stated that the Siebel and the Hane's Cemeteries were small family cemeteries for early residents of Granby, whose census records indicated had enslaved people in their household. She stated that the Cayce Granby Cemetery appears to have started as a community cemetery and all three (3) were located on the Martin Marietta Materials Quarry property. She stated that Granby was the primary trading center along the Congaree River at the time and was occupied roughly between 1754 and 1818. She stated that African Americans played a significant, if unappreciated, part in the community. Ms. Hinder stated that in 1800, more than half of Granby's population was enslaved with a total of 178 blacks and 162 whites. She stated that it was unknown if those who died while enslaved were interred in a separate section of the cemetery or at a different location. She stated that the cemetery incorporated 21 known burials with death dates ranging from 1804 to 1956. She stated that the cemetery was located approximately 180 feet east of mining activity and was entirely covered with gravel with evidence of recent bleeding. She stated that there were numerous grave markers with broken elements within the cemetery. She stated that considering the recent disturbance as well as the abundance of gravel covering the area, the probability of there being additional sunken and lost markers was high. She stated that pieces of field stone and marble were evident throughout the area.

Ms. Hinder stated that both the Hane and Siebel cemeteries had been impacted by quarry operations with a monument erected for the Hane's Cemetery and the Granby

Cayce Cemetery and the original monuments in the Siebel Cemetery relocated. She stated that considering the past vandalism and disturbance in the general quarry area there might be additional burials in the vicinity of the original family plots. She stated that it was unclear if the enslaved members of the households might have been buried nearby. She stated that although her presentation focused primarily on the identification and conditions in each cemetery, the report provided a brief history of the community, discussed burial traditions and made recommendations for maintenance, stabilization and interpretation. She stated that two (2) of the earliest cemeteries, the Arthur and Granby Cayce Cemeteries were identified by the State Historic Preservation Office as eligible for listing in the National Register. She stated that with most of the other cemeteries requiring some additional testing or research they were recommending ground penetrating radar for most of the sites in order to determine the number of burials and the boundaries of the cemetery.

Mayor Pro Tem Jenkins asked Ms. Hinder if she said they were unable to find the Seaboard Cemetery. She stated that based on the January meeting, she understood that cemetery was adjacent to the Taylor Cemetery. Mayor Pro Tem Jenkins stated that he believed the Seaboard Railroad Cemetery was right beside Steel Hands Brewery. He asked how many graves they found there. Ms. Hinder stated that for the Taylor's Cemetery, they found three (3) markers there and 14 other individuals buried there. She stated that no markers were found in the Seaboard Cemetery but 12 individuals were buried there.

Mayor Pro Tem Jenkins stated that he and Mayor Partin, along with archaeologists from the University of South Carolina, used penetrating equipment and found 20 graves. He stated that they probably would have found more but the driveway had three (3) layers of impact and the machine could not pick up anything through so many layers. He stated that there were areas that were missed that had graves. Ms. Hinder stated that her information was based off the death certificates that she found that reference the burial in the Seaboard Cemetery or the Taylor Cemetery. She stated that she did not doubt that there were a lot more burials there. Council Member James asked if graves were found in the area off of Axtel Drive and Slann Drive. Ms. Hinder stated that they did not find any evidence of a cemetery there but it did appear in plats until 1967. She stated that she found a dozen death certificates that indicated burial in the Guignard Cemetery. She stated that all of the people that she found death certificates for had some tie to the brick works. She stated that she suspected, like the Seaboard Cemetery, there were a lot of burials there that were not recorded, and there was nothing left on the ground. Ms. Hinder stated that they geo-referenced the plat but there could have been burials outside of that boundary as well. Mayor Partin thanked staff for putting together a great grant and getting the survey done. She stated that it was meaningful and it mattered.

Items for Discussion and Possible Approval

- A. Discussion and Approval to Reschedule the November 14, 2023 Council Meeting to November 15, 2023

Council Member James made a motion to approve rescheduling the November 14, 2023 Council Meeting to November 15, 2023. Council Member Sox seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Committee Matters

- A. Approval to Enter the following Committee Approved Minutes into the City's Record
Museum Commission – August 2, 2023
Events Committee – August 10, 2023

Council Member Sox made a motion to enter the Committee approved minutes into the record. Council Member Carter seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

- B. Appointments and Reappointments
Beautification Foundation – One (1) Position

Mayor Partin stated that the Beautification Foundation currently had one (1) open position and the City had received a potential member application from Mr. Rembert William Jr. Council Member Carter made a motion to appoint Mr. Williams to the Foundation. Council Member Sox seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

City Manager's Report

Ms. Hegler stated that the upcoming Saturday was the City's Fall Fest put on by the Events Committee and held in Granby Gardens Park. She stated that the Cayce Beautification Foundation's Brick Works fundraising dinner was October 25. She stated that the City's Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony would be Thursday, November 30. She stated that it was decided to go back to the Tree lighting Ceremony and not do the drive thru this year. She stated that the City's Events Committee would be hosting Carols Along the Riverwalk on Friday, December 1 and the Cayce Historical Museum Christmas Open House would be held Saturday, December 3. She stated that the Museum Commission had made some changes to the program. She stated that this year it would be similar to a European-style Christmas Market with five (5) or six (6) vendor stalls created by the Commissioners selling food and crafts. Ms. Hegler stated that there would also be lantern tours that were fully scripted. She stated that the City's

Police Department would be helping the Richland County Sheriff's Department as they laid their fallen Deputy to rest. She stated that they certainly shared in their grief.

Council Comments

There were no Council comments.

Executive Session

- A. Receipt of legal advice relating to claims and potential claims by and against the City and other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege

Mayor Pro Tem Jenkins made a motion to move into Executive Session. Council Member Sox seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Reconvene

After the Executive Session was concluded, Council Member James made a motion to reconvene the Regular meeting. Council Member Sox seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote. Mayor Partin announced that no vote was taken in Executive Session other than to adjourn and resume the Regular meeting.

Possible actions in follow up to Executive Session

Council Member James made a motion to authorize the City's Attorney, Mr. Brandon Taylor, and his firm to pursue settlement of the currently litigated claims for the City that was discussed during Executive Session. Council Member Sox seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote

Adjourn

Council Member Carter made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Sox seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:16pm.

Elise Partin, Mayor

ATTEST:

Mendy Corder, CMC, Municipal Clerk

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK ON A MATTER APPEARING ON THE MEETING AGENDA, PLEASE COMPLETE THE INFORMATION BELOW PRIOR TO THE START OF THE MEETING.* **THANK YOU.**

COUNCIL MEETING SPEAKERS' LIST

Date of Meeting **October 3, 2023**

Name	Address	Agenda Item

***Appearance of citizens at Council meetings - City of Cayce Code of Ordinances, Sec. 2-71.** Any citizen of the municipality may speak at a regular meeting of the council on a matter pertaining to municipal services and operation, with the exception of personnel matters, by notifying the office of the city manager at least five working days prior to the meeting and stating the subject and purpose for speaking. Additionally, during the **public comment period** as specified on the agenda of a regular meeting of the council, a member of the public may speak on a matter appearing on the meeting agenda, with the exception of personnel matters by signing a speakers list maintained by the city clerk prior to the start of the public comment period. The number of speakers at a council meeting may be limited in the discretion of the mayor or presiding officer, the length of time for any speaker's presentation is limited to a maximum of five minutes, and a presentation may be curtailed if determined to be uncivil, contentious, or disruptive in the discretion of the mayor or presiding officer or by majority of vote of council.