



Mayor Elise Partin	Mayor Pro-Tem Phil Carter	Council Members Tiffany Aull Byron Thomas Alice Rose	City Manager Mike Conley	Assistant City Manager Betsy Catchings Wesley Crosby
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**City of Cayce**  
**Regular Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday, May 20, 2026**  
**5:00 p.m. – Cayce City Hall – 1800 12<sup>th</sup> Street**  
[www.caycesc.gov](http://www.caycesc.gov)

**To Access Council Meeting Livestream, click**  
<https://www.youtube.com/@cityofcayce1137/streams>

The May 20, 2026, Regular Council Meeting was held this evening immediately following the Special Called Council Meeting for General Fund Budget Workshop; the meeting started at 5:19 p.m. in Council Chambers. Those present included Mayor Elise Partin, Mayor Pro Tem Phil Carter and Council Members Byron Thomas, Tiffany Aull, and Alice Rose. City Manager Michael Conley, Assistant City Manager Wesley Crosby, Assistant City Manager/Utilities Director Betsy Catchings, Municipal Clerk Kristen Hall, Human Resources Director Keisha Brunson, Fire Chief Steven Bullard, Police Chief Bruce Wade, Communications Coordinator Karly Shorter.

Mayor Partin asked if members of the press and public were duly notified of the meeting in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act. Mrs. Hall confirmed they were notified.

### Call to Order

Mayor Partin called the Regular Council Meeting to order, and Council Member Thomas gave the invocation. Mayor Partin led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### Approval of Minutes

Council Member Thomas made a motion to approve both the April 22, 2026, Regular Council Meeting minutes and the April 27, 2026, Special Called Meeting minutes as written. Council Member Rose seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

### Public Comment Regarding Items on the Agenda

Joe Long – Item III. A. – Mr. Long addressed Council regarding the accommodation tax funding process. He expressed concerns about the 2025 accommodation tax allocation to the Greater Cayce-West Columbia Chamber of Commerce, alleging that the organization had not submitted the required application and expenditure documentation prior to Council consideration. He also raised concerns regarding potential conflicts of interest and recusal practices involving Council members associated with the Chamber. Mr. Long urged Council to ensure that all future accommodation tax awards adhere to established application requirements, that any affiliations between Council members and applicants are disclosed on the record prior to voting, and that applicants submit detailed budgets corresponding to requested funding amounts. He stated that maintaining these standards would help ensure transparency and public confidence in the process.

### **Items for Discussion and Possible Approval**

- A. Discussion and Approval of the Accommodations Tax Committee's Recommendation for Distribution of Funding for FY26/27

Mayor Pro Tem Carter made a motion to table this item until the next meeting. Council Member Rose seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

- B. Discussion and Approval of the Hospitality Tax Grant Funding for FY26/27

Mayor Pro Tem Carter made a motion to table this item until the next meeting. Council Member Rose seconded. Before the vote, Council Member Thomas recused himself, stating he was not aware the CWC Cares Foundation submitted a request for funding and wished to avoid any appearance of a conflict of interest regarding the item. The motion to table was approved unanimously by roll call vote, with Council Member Thomas abstaining due to his recusal.

### **Ordinances**

- A. Discussion and Approval of Ordinance 2026 - 04 to Adopt an Annual Budget, levy a Property Tax, and Provide Revenue for the City of Cayce for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2027, and To Adopt and Establish Certain New Fees and Charges with Amounts – First Reading

Mayor Pro Tem Carter made a motion to table the First Reading of the Fiscal Year 2027 General Fund and Utility Fund Budgets until May 26, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. Council Member Aull seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

### **Committee Matters**

- A. Approval of Minutes  
Cayce Housing Authority – Annual Board Meeting January 20, 2026  
Cayce Housing Authority – Regular Board Meeting, January 20, 2026

Council Member Thomas made a motion to enter both the Cayce Housing Authority Annual Board Meeting Minutes from January 20, 2026, and the Cayce Housing Authority Regular Board Meeting Minutes from January 20, 2026, into the City's record. Council Member Rose seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

### **City Manager's Report**

City Manager Conley stated there were no items for the City Manager's Report.

### **Council Comments**

Council Member Aull announced a community meeting scheduled for May 21 at Refuge Church in Riverland Park, hosted in partnership with Council Member Thomas, where representatives from Martin Marietta would discuss proposed mining permit modifications. She also congratulated the Class of 2026 graduates and informed the public that Lexington School District Two would provide free breakfast and lunch throughout the summer for individuals 18 years of age and younger at Brookland-Cayce High School, Cayce Elementary School, Riverbank

Elementary School, and Pine Ridge Middle School. Additional information and meal schedules are available throughout the district.

Council Member Thomas thanked community members and staff for their efforts in organizing a public information meeting regarding Martin Marietta's proposed mining permit modifications and encouraged public participation. He also recognized volunteers who participated in a recent litter cleanup in Riverland Park, noting that more than 100 pounds of litter were collected, and thanked members of the Brookland-Cayce High School Sustainability Club for their involvement.

Council Member Thomas announced the upcoming Cayce-West Columbia Block Party and highlighted planned participation by community partners, including health screenings, educational resources, and school registration assistance. He also thanked residents for supporting Transportation Security Administration (TSA) employees at Columbia Metropolitan Airport during a recent federal funding disruption through donations of gas cards and other assistance.

Council Member Thomas expressed support for further discussion of a proposed vacant building ordinance during a future Council work session, emphasizing the importance of reviewing best practices, staff input, and potential incentives for property owners. He concluded by recognizing Memorial Day and expressing appreciation for military service members and their families.

Mayor Partin highlighted positive community interest surrounding the proposed Thomas Dambo art project and noted its potential economic and tourism benefits for the City. She also discussed the history of the proposed vacant building ordinance, including previous Council consideration and examples of properties that were redeveloped following its initial introduction. Mayor Partin stated that the ordinance was intended to encourage productive use of vacant properties and support economic development within the City.

### **Executive Session**

- A. Discussion of the Lexington County Municipal Association Dues
- B. Receipt of legal advice and discussion of proposed contractual arrangements relating to City of Cayce Judges
- C. Receipt of legal advice concerning the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act process and the City's procedural obligations in connection with a proposed economic development project
- D. Receipt of legal advice relating to claims and potential claims by and against the City and other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege

Council Member Rose made a motion to move into Executive Session for Items A, B, and C, as there was nothing to discuss for Item D. Council Member Thomas seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

### **Reconvene**

After the Executive Session was concluded, Mayor Partin announced that no action was taken in Executive Session other than to adjourn and resume the regular meeting.

**Possible Action in follow-up to Executive Session**

- A. Possible action to approve the Lexington County Municipal Association Dues

City Manager Conley stated that no motion was needed for this item.

- B. Possible action to reappoint Municipal Judges and approval of agreements

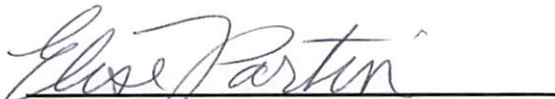
Mayor Pro Tem Carter made a motion to renew and approve the contracts of Judge Boberts and Judge Jefferies with the same terms and conditions as the previous contractual agreement. Council Member Aull seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

- C. Possible action, if any, relating to claims or potential claims discussed in executive session, as appropriate and as permitted by law

No action for this item.

**Adjourn**

Council Member Thomas made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Rose seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by roll call vote. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

  
Elise Partin, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Kristen Hall, Municipal Clerk



RECUSAL STATEMENT

Member Name: Byron Thomas

Meeting Date: May 20<sup>th</sup> 2026

Agenda Item: Section 111 Number B

Topic: H - Tax

I serve on the CWC Foundation  
and ~~the~~ we received funds

*The Ethics Act, SC Code §8-13-700, provides that no public official may knowingly use his office to obtain an economic interest for himself, a family member of his immediate family, an individual with whom he is associated, or a business with which he is associated. No public official may make, participate in making, or influence a governmental decision in which he or any such person or business has an economic interest. Failure to recuse oneself from an issue in which there is or may be conflict of interest is the sole responsibility of the council member (1991 Op. Atty. Gen. No. 91-37). A written statement describing the matter requiring action and the nature of the potential conflict of interest is required.*

Justification to Recuse:

Professionally employed by or under contract with principal

Owns or has vested interest in principal or property

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5/20/26

Date

[Signature]

Member Signature

Approved by Parliamentarian:

[Signature]