

BUDGET WORKSHOP  
CONWAY CITY COUNCIL  
PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY TRAINING ROOM  
1600 9<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE  
CONWAY, SOUTH CAROLINA  
MONDAY, JANUARY 22, 2018 – 3:30 PM

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**PRESENT:** Mayor Barbara Blain-Bellamy; Mayor Pro Tem Larry A. White; Council Members Thomas J. Anderson II, William M. Goldfinch IV, Shane Hubbard, Ashley Smith, and Jean M. Timbes

**STAFF:** Adam Emrick, City Administrator; Vicky Lefler, Deputy City Administrator; Kevin Chestnut, Public Works Director; Robert Cooper, Building Official; James Friday, Public Utilities Director; Le Hendrick, Fire Chief; Mary Catherine Hyman, Planning Director; Reggie Jenerette, Solid Waste Director; Lynn Smith, Human Resources Director; Allison Williams, Finance Director; Timmy Williams, Grounds and Maintenance Director; Captain Tammy Carter, Police Department and Debbie F. Smith, City Clerk

**OTHERS:** Kathy Ropp and other media representatives

The requirements for posting notice of this meeting under South Carolina's Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) were met.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Blain-Bellamy called the meeting to order.

The following is Council input on discussion items for the FY 2018-2019 budget and future budgets:

**Smith:**

- Discuss the staff's proposal for the Conway Youth Play program.
- Construction of an ADA playground.
- City Council should sponsor a Highway 378 litter clean-up.
- Increase police officers' salaries.
- Build a bridge over the water from one peninsula to the other at Riverfront Park.
- Erect a large "Welcome" sign over the Main Street Bridge.
- Re-pave driveway at Fire Station #2.

**Goldfinch:**

- Establish policy for responding to employee life events (ex: deaths, births, retirements, etc.)
- Discuss direction for annexations in the future.
- Create a plan for maintenance and upkeep of the Recreation Center
- Hire Medicaid recipients
- Establish policy for cell phone communications between Council members.
- Initiate discussions with Coastal Carolina University representatives regarding coverage by CCU officers of areas adjacent to CCU (student housing complexes, etc.).
- Encouraged Council and staff to be conservative in budget decisions.

**Anderson:**

- The City should lead the concept of an ADA playground and allow the community an opportunity to get financially involved.
- Build a Community Life Center.

- The Mayor, City Administrator and several City Council members should meet monthly with CCU President DeCenzo to discuss needs of the City that CCU students could assist in meeting.
- Take a tour of the city to view issues.
- Consider welcome signs in the shape of City Hall with the year of incorporation.
- Order lapel pins shaped like an oak tree to give away.

**Timbes:**

- Facilitate the clean-up of Lake Busbee.
- Purchase the building beside City Hall
- Suggested the Community Life Center be housed in the former Whittemore School building should the property be donated to the City.
- Work on a TIF plan for the riverfront area.
- Revisit the current annexation policy for both residential and commercial properties.
- Increase landscape budget and staff.
- Add attractive lighting and/or shade sails to Riverfront Park.
- Implement ideas previously discussed for Highway 378.
- Create a committee to establish policy for responding to employee life events.
- Purchase voting machines.
- Work on Council communications – website, access channels, city cell phones.
- Consider an offer from The Theater of Republic to stage a summer production in Riverfront Park which could employ local youth.
- Discuss a way for the City to market Conway (magnets, T-shirts, coasters, etc.) in a single location and during festivals.

**White:**

- Allow children to trade in-kind work on “Community Clean-up” days for free play at the Recreation Center.
- No “spot” annexations.
- Upgrade additional street lighting where needed.
- Place a “Suggestion Box” in each city department.
- Landscaping on Highway 501 needs attention.
- Address the potholes and dead weeds near/on the bridge on Highway 501.

**Hubbard:**

- Replace the missing shingles on the annex building.
- Maintain and afford the current parks before constructing new ones.

**Blain-Bellamy:**

- Promote private and corporate sponsorships to employ local youth at minimum wage for approximately 25 hours a week, 6 weeks a year.
- Develop a Youth Council.
- Offer free concerts of local talent at Riverfront Park.
- Revisit employee salary scales.
- Make Highway 378 corridor a source of pride for Conway.
- Schedule a Town Hall meeting with property owners on Highway 378 to get ideas.
- Work on plans for a new Town Hall.
- Invite interns from Horry Georgetown Technical College, Coastal Carolina University, and Miller-Motte for each department.
- Provide training on the role of the Public Information Officer for City Council and Department Heads.


- Department heads to name one person in their departments to continuously survey building and grounds maintenance needs.
- Purchase voting machines.
- Look into displaying colored scenes of downtown on billboards on thoroughfares.

Staff had on display for Council's review the Inovo Think pad as a possible replacement of the iPads Council is currently using.

**ADJOURNMENT: Motion:** Anderson made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch, to adjourn the meeting.

**Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes approved by City Council this 5<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2018.

  
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Debbie F. Smith, City Clerk