

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
229 MAIN STREET
CONWAY, SOUTH CAROLINA
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2017 – 5:30 PM

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

STAFF: Bill Graham, City Administrator; Vicky Lefler, Deputy City Administrator; James Friday, Public Utilities Director; Kevin Chestnut, Public Works Director; Adam Emrick, Planning Director; Reggie Gosnell, Police Department; Le Hendrick, Fire Chief; Foster Hughes, Parks, Recreation and Tourism Director; Reggie Jenrette, Solid Waste Director; Billy Joe Sawyer, Building Official; Lynn Smith, Human Resource Director; Allison Williams, Finance Director; Timmy Williams, Grounds and Maintenance Director; and Debbie F. Smith, City Clerk

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Kathy Ropp and others

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.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Blain-Bellamy recognized Rev. William Miller of Bethel AME Church who gave the invocation. City Council and those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Rev. William Miller thanked Mayor Blain-Bellamy and Council for their financial support of the 150th Anniversary Celebration at Bethel AME Church.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion: White made a motion, seconded by Timbes, to approve the agenda as presented. Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Final reading of Ordinance #ZA2017-02-20 (A) Accepting the petition of Cindy Graham to annex approximately 1.3 acres of property located at 2350 Acie Avenue (TMS 122-00-05-096/PIN 33712040001) and to rezone the property to Low Density Residential (R-1) upon annexation**
- B. Final reading of Ordinance #ZA2017-02-20 (B) Accepting the petition of Michael and Jamie Hedges to annex approximately 3.8 acres of property located at 3200 Ninth Avenue (TMS 1361201001/PIN 36808040002) and to rezone the property to Low Density Residential (R-1) upon annexation**
- C. City Council Minutes – February 6, 2017**

Motion: Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT: Ernie McCall thanked the Recreation Center staff for saving his life during a health crisis he experienced while at that facility and he thanked Mayor and Council for making Conway a great place to live.

Motion: Anderson made a motion, seconded by Alford, to close public input. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

- A. Recognition of contributions to “Conway Critters” project by Coastal Carolina University.** Professor Easton Selby introduced Professor Alex Knox and the Coastal Carolina students who participated in creating the eight bronze sculptures as part of the “Conway Critters” project. Professor Selby’s power point presentation included photographic examples of the clay critter sculptures; however, one tangible sculpture was presented at the meeting in order for Council to see the actual size and scale of the final product. Students from the CCU Department of Visual Arts are also working on the design and narration of a Conway Critters coloring book.
- B. Mid-year report from the Conway Chamber of Commerce on progress made on assisting the City with economic development.** Kelli James, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce, thanked Mayor and Council for their support of an investment in positive economic growth. James introduced Gary Lee, Chamber Board Economic Development Vice President and Chamber staff member Devin Parks. Lee and Parks shared a power point presentation which described the various types of information the public will be able to view on the new website, ConwaySCNOW.com, which was developed using the special funding given to the Chamber by Council. The website is expected to go live March 6, 2017.
- C. Special event request: Riverfest 2017, July 1, 2017.** Kelli James of the Conway Chamber of Commerce submitted this special event request. The annual Riverfest is scheduled for Saturday, July 1, 2017, along Marina Drive, the Riverfront Tennis Center parking lot and at Riverfront Park from 11:00 am to 10:00 pm. The applicant requested road closure of Marina Drive from Elm Street to the Horry County parking lot from 5:30 pm on Friday, June 30th, until 9 pm on Saturday, July 1st. The park will be available only by paid admission (\$5) from 3 pm until 10 pm for Riverfest activities. Maps showing the location of activities and the proposed designated special event area for the public consumption of alcohol accompanied the special event application. Staff recommended approval of the special event application with the cost of support services provided to be absorbed by the City’s operating funds. **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Alford, to approve the special event application for Riverfest 2017 as presented by staff. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.
- D. Employees of the Month for February** was presented to Recreation Center staff members Barbara Melenik, June Wood, Foster Hughes, and David Williams, whose quick actions and resuscitation efforts saved the life of Ernie McCall. The presentation was made by the City Administrator.

RESOLUTION: Authorizing acceptance of a fee in lieu of open space in Rivertown Row Subdivision, Phase II. Emrick reported that Forrest Beverly of Beverly Homes, LLC, has requested to pay a fee in lieu of open space for the residential development at Rivertown Row Phase II. The fee in lieu for consideration for Rivertown Row Phase II is \$12,118.22. The fee is determined by calculating the fair market value of the unimproved land per acre and multiplying that by the required open space remaining. The purchase price for the 33.85 acres was \$280,001, or \$8,271.82 per acre. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the request. **Motion:** Timbes made a motion, seconded by Alford, to adopt

the resolution authorizing the acceptance of a fee in lieu of open space in Rivertown Row Phase II Subdivision. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE FOR FIRST READING: First reading of Ordinance #ZA2017-03-20 (A) Accepting the petition from Richard Edwards to annex approximately .38 of an acre of property located at 129 Clemson Road (TMS 151-19-02-045/PIN 38310010024) and to rezone the property to Low Density Residential (R-1) upon annexation. Emrick advised Council that the request is being made to allow the residential structure on the property to tie onto the City's water and sewer system. The City of Conway Comprehensive Plan identifies the parcel as Existing Residential. The Planning Commission has recommended approval of the request. Staff recommended first reading approval. **Motion:** Anderson made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch, to approve first reading of Ordinance #ZA2017-03-20 (A). **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

- A. Authorization of application for Rural Infrastructure Grant for Chicora Subdivision drainage project.** Chestnut reported that the engineer has completed the surveying and preliminary drainage plans for all of Chicora Subdivision and the final revised plans for Phase I. City Council approved \$150,000 for construction of Phase I in the FY 2016-17 budget. However, staff is inquiring on the application process for a grant, up to \$500,000, for this project through the Rural Infrastructure Authority with no match required. Staff recommended delaying the bid process for Phase I of the Chicora Subdivision drainage project and staff be authorized to apply for a Rural Infrastructure Authority grant for this project. Rural Infrastructure Authority grants are expected to be announced in May 2017. **Motion:** White made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch, to accept staff's recommendation. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.
- B. Request to place approximately eight Canadian flags on Main Street from the Main Street Bridge to Fifth and Main for Can Am Days, March 10-20.** Graham reported that Conway Downtown Alive will be promoting Can Am Days from March 10-20, 2017, with scheduled activities on March 15-16, 2017, for Canadian visitors. Conway Downtown Alive has requested permission to display eight Canadian flags, which will alternate with US flags, on Main Street from the bridge to Fifth Avenue. Staff recommended approval of the request. **Motion:** Timbes made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch, to approve the request as presented. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.
- C. Bid for installation of sports field lighting for Field A at the Conway Recreation Complex.** Hughes reported that a request for proposals was issued to five qualified electrical contractors authorized to install GE sports field lighting equipment. Four of the contractors did not bid on the project due to their heavy work load. Only one bid was received: Kingston Electric for \$52,750. Staff recommended approval of the sole bid. Funds to pay for this project are included in the FY 2016-17 budget. **Motion:** White made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to accept the sole bid in the amount of \$52,750, submitted by Kingston Electric for installation of the sports lighting. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.
- D. Approval of proposed Horry County Public Safety Communications System User's Agreement.** Hendrick reported that the P-25 digital radio migration with Horry County will occur in April 2017. This service requires a monthly and annual fee paid to Horry County to off-set operating expenses. Horry County has agreed to allow the rebate from Horry County on tipping fees at the Horry County Solid Waste Authority provide a discount for each municipality's user fees for the Public Safety Communication's system. Due to the City's high volume of refuse, the City's monthly and annual

costs will be \$0.00. Council Member Anderson inquired if the City's surplus rebate could be used to purchase newer radios. Staff recommended approval for the City Administrator to execute the User Agreement for the P-25 Digital Radio Migration. **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by White, to accept staff's recommendation. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

ITEM FOR INFORMATION: Report on training and use of heroin antidote by police officers and firefighters. Gosnell reported that the Horry-Georgetown Police Chief's Association has agreed to provide training on the use of naloxone through a pilot program administered by the state, the LEON program. The LEON program will provide comprehensive training to law enforcement agencies that focus on drug overdose prevention. In addition to the training, the program will provide the antidote naloxone to agencies as well as free replacements at no cost. Gosnell noted that the training is scheduled for late March 2017. Both police and fire will participate in the training. The LEON Program does not provide naloxone to Fire Departments. Conway Fire Department will use a \$3,500 grant provided by Conway Medical Center to purchase naloxone.

ITEM FOR DISCUSSION: Code Red alert system procedures. Gosnell described incidents that required use of the Code Red alert system and he gave a brief update on the Code Red alert system's performance during recent episodes of criminal activity in residential neighborhoods. Gosnell noted that staff is still working out the details with regard to the City's protocol for issuing alerts, but a significant amount of progress has been made.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Graham reported that the first Neighborhood Town Hall meeting for 2017 to be held on Tuesday, March 14th, and suggested that the meeting be held at the Conway Senior Center beginning at 5:30 p.m. Council was in agreement with that plan. He noted that the Police Department will have presentations on the do's and don'ts of traffic stops and survival tips in active shooter situations. Graham also reported on the current status of the floating docks, confirming that the process of permitting by the Corps of Engineers is underway and the 30 day comment period will open soon.

COUNCIL INPUT:

Alford:

- In reference to House Bill 3650 and 3651, he suggested staff make contact in support of keeping the business license at a city level.
- Requested staff to move forward with ordering business cards for the Mayor Pro Tem next year.

White:

- Recommended a name plate displaying Mayor Pro Tem be used in Council chambers.
- Expressed appreciation to Mayor, Council and staff for their financial support on behalf of AME On behalf of Bethel AME church.
- Invited those in attendance to attend the Community Garden meeting on Tuesday, February 21, 2017, beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the Horry County Library.
- Thanked the City for putting a 4-way stop at Whittemore and Singleton Streets.

Timbes inquired if staff could start spraying for mosquitos.

Anderson:

- Reported that the Conway High School girls' basketball team will advance to the championship game with a win tonight.

- Reported that the repaving on Windmeadows Drive has resulted in the asphalt being higher than the sidewalk and requested that staff look into this matter.

Blain-Bellamy

- Congratulated the Recreation Department staff on the very successful Father/Daughter Dance.
- Agreed with Alford in ordering business cards and a name plate displaying Mayor Pro Tem.

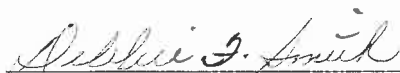
Motion: Anderson made a motion, seconded by White, to authorize the Mayor and City Administrator to work on and order the business cards and nameplate each year for the Mayor Pro Tem. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: **Motion:** Anderson made a motion, seconded by Alford, to enter into executive session to discuss negotiations incident to possible purchase of property, negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements, and appointments to City boards, committees and commissions. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

RECONVENE FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION: **Motion:** White made a motion, seconded by Smith, to come out of Executive Session. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: **Motion:** Smith made a motion, seconded by White, to adjourn the meeting. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes approved by City Council this 20th day of March, 2017.



Debbie F. Smith, City Clerk