

CONWAY CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
229 MAIN STREET
CONWAY, SOUTH CAROLINA
MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2016 – 5:30 PM

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

STAFF: Bill Graham, City Administrator; Vicky Lefler, Deputy City Administrator; Kevin Chestnut, Public Works Director; Adam Emrick, Planning Director; Reggie Gosnell, Police Chief; Le Hendrick, Fire Chief; Reggie Jenrette, Solid Waste Director; Lynn Smith, Human Resource Director; Allison Williams, Finance Director; Timmy Williams, Grounds and Maintenance Director; and Debbie F. Smith, City Clerk

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Bob Scarborough, Hillary Howard, 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. She announced that Council member Smith was involved in a Conway High School athletic event in Charleston and would be in attendance later during the meeting.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Blain-Bellamy recognized Rev. Mark Burlinson of Christ Community Church who gave the invocation. City Council and those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: **Motion:** Goldfinch 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 #ZA2016-10-17 (B) Accepting the petition of Claude A. White of White Company LLC to annex and rezone approximately 1.2 acres of property located at the corner of University Forest Circle and Highway 501 Business (TMS# 151-00-04-044/PIN 38301010008) from Horry County Highway Commercial (HC) to City of Conway Highway Commercial (HC) upon annexation**
- B. Final reading of Ordinance #2016-10-17 (D) Amending Title 5, Chapter 1, of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Conway by adding Section 5-1-41 Swimming Pool and Spa Code**
- C. Minutes of City Council meeting – October 3, 2016**

Goldfinch requested that the minutes of the October 3, 2016, City Council meeting be amended to reflect that he rescinded his motion to approve the special event request for the Conway Christmas parade as presented. **Motion:** White made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to approve the

consent agenda with minutes of the October 3rd Council meeting corrected as stated. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT:

Bob Scarborough spoke in response to comments made at the previous Council meeting relative to the resurfacing project on Laurel Street and possible damage by vibration from milling of the street. He commented that he did not want his neighborhood to be a thoroughfare and asked Council to not do anything that would bring harm to the old homes on that street.

Janice DeAngelis spoke in opposition to the rezoning of 4.7 acres located at 3001 Hwy 701 South based on her apprehension of negative traffic impact on the adjacent residential neighborhood. .

By a show of hands, Mayor Blain-Bellamy confirmed there were seven others in attendance who were in opposition of the rezoning of property on Hwy 701 South.

Motion: White made a motion, seconded by Timbes, to close the public input. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT ON OPTIONS FOR REDEVELOPMENT OF THE FORMER LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER PROPERTY AND ADJACENT PARKING AREA INTO A TOWN SQUARE WITH AN OPEN AIR PAVILION: There was no input from the public. Council Member Smith arrived at this time.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

- A. Presentation of resolution honoring Amber Campbell.** At its October 3rd meeting, City Council adopted a resolution honoring Amber Campbell for participating in the 2016 Rio Olympics. On behalf of Council, Mayor Blain-Bellamy read aloud and officially presented this resolution to Campbell.
- B. Presentation of resolution honoring Sergeant Don Parker on his retirement from the City of Conway Police Department.** At its October 3rd meeting, City Council adopted a resolution honoring the retirement of Sergeant Don Parker from the Conway Police Department on September 9, 2016. On behalf of Council, Mayor Blain-Bellamy read aloud and officially presented this resolution to Sergeant Parker. Mayor Blain-Bellamy recognized Mrs. Parker who was in attendance with her husband.
- C. Progress report on the 4th Avenue underground wiring project.** Steve Powell, Venture Engineering, gave a brief overview of the progress made on the 4th Avenue underground wiring conversion project to date. He noted the final design layout should be complete by late November. Santee Cooper will then begin the easement acquisition process. Venture Engineering will handle the permitting process, including necessary permits to bore under Kingston Lake, through SCDOT, the Army Corps of Engineers and DHEC. Invitations to bid will be issued in early 2017 and construction should begin in Spring 2017. The project time is estimated to take 6-8 months. Jake Powell, Project Manager, was also present.
- D. Special event request: Rivertown Christmas Celebration.** Hillary Howard with the Conway Downtown Alive submitted this special event request. The event is scheduled to take place on Thursday nights in December (December 1, 8 and 15, 2016) starting at 6:00 p.m. and

ending at 8 p.m. in the Downtown area. The applicant requested closure of 3rd Avenue between Main Street and Laurel Street each Thursday evening during the event from 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. A map illustrating the location of the event accompanied the application. Staff recommended approval of the special event request. **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by White to approve the special event application for the Rivertown Christmas Celebration as presented. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

E. Employee of the Month Award for September was presented to James Warren, Solid Waste Department. The presentation was made by the City Administrator accompanied by the Solid Waste Director.

PUBLIC HEARING AND ORDINANCE FOR FINAL READING: Public hearing and final reading of Ordinance #2016-10-17 (C) Establishing admission and sponsorship fees for the Conway Celebration of Lights. Council approved first reading of Ordinance #2016-10-17 (C) at its September 19th meeting. Staff recommended final reading approval. **Public Hearing:** The City Administrator and Mayor read aloud the sponsorship package fees. There was no input from the public. **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by White, to close the public hearing. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried. **Motion:** Anderson made a motion, seconded by Smith to approve final reading of Ordinance #2016-10-17 (C). **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE FOR FINAL READING: Ordinance #2016-10-3 (A) Granting Consent to the Application for Amendment of State-Issued Certificate of Franchise Authority for Frontier Communications of the Carolinas LLC. At the September 19th Council meeting, first reading of Ordinance #2016-10-3-(A) was approved. It was requested at that time that a representative from Frontier be invited to answer questions Council may have at final reading. Todd van Epps and Marcy Fox of Frontier Communications were present. Council was informed by van Epps that Frontier does not currently have an office in Conway to assist walk-ins; however, renovations have begun to a building on Laurel Street owned by Frontier and the front of the building might be staffed for customer service in the future. **Motion:** White made a motion, seconded by Timbes, to approve final reading of Ordinance #2016-10-3 (A). **Vote:** Anderson and Smith voted in the negative; all others voted in the affirmative. Motion carried.

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING:

A. Ordinance #2016-11- 07 (A) An Ordinance conveying title to 0.24 of an acre of City-owned property consisting of a separately platted abandoned railroad spur to The Burroughs Company. Graham noted that the development agreement between The Burroughs Company and the City of Conway contains a provision that the City would endeavor to obtain title to the abandoned railroad spur and convey the property to The Burroughs Company. R. J. Corman Railroad Company/Carolina Lines, LLC recently provided the City with a quitclaim deed conveying its interest in the railroad spur to the City. Graham noted that the City will now arrange for a survey of property to be retained by The Burroughs Company and property to be acquired by the City as provided in the development agreement. Should bids for the survey exceed \$10,000, they will be presented for Council's consideration. **Motion:** Alford made a motion, seconded by Timbes, to approve first reading of Ordinance #2016-11-07 (A). **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

B. Ordinance #ZA2016-10-17 (A) Accepting the petition of Don Quattlebaum on behalf of DAQ Investments LLC to rezone approximately 4.7 acres of property located at 3001 Highway 701 South (TMS# 136-12-06-002/PIN 36809020040) from Low Density

Residential (R1) to Highway Commercial (HC). During the October 3rd meeting, a public hearing was held and first reading was presented to Council. Council voted to table this item of business at that time to allow time for staff to get an update from GSATS regarding the status of the Janette Street intersection project. Emrick reported that, according to GSATS, the Janette Street intersection project has been delayed for one year until the status of RIDE III can be determined. The RIDE III project package contains an outer loop road for the City which will connect Highway 378 to Highway 701 South in the vicinity of the Janette Street intersection. In response to concerns of the impact of traffic on the adjoining residential area, Emrick commented that, regardless of whether or not RIDE III passes, the Janette Street intersection will be redesigned. Shawn Hoescher of DDC Engineering, confirmed that the most logical access for ingress and egress for the subject property will be via Highway 701 and that, at present, there are no plans for development of the property. Emrick noted that a traffic study would be required for development of the property and staff would require access to be on the upper end of Creel Street and Highway 701. **Motion:** White made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch, to approve first reading of Ordinance #ZA2016-10-17 (A). **Vote:** White, Anderson, and Goldfinch voted in the affirmative; Alford, Smith, Timbes, and Blain-Bellamy voted in the negative. Motion failed.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

- A. Acceptance of bid to furnish and install drywall in the former Post Office/Museum building.** The following bids were received to furnish and install the drywall: D & F Paint & Drywall, Longs, SC - \$15,886; Bellamy Drywall, Nichols, SC - \$17,400; and Chris Fowler Drywall, Tabor City, NC - \$18,552. Graham informed City Council that bids would be obtained for painting and if bids are over \$10,000, they would be presented to Council for consideration. Staff recommended acceptance of the low bid. **Motion:** White made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to accept the low bid in the amount of \$15,886 which was submitted by D & F Paint & Drywall. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.
- B. Proposed job advertisement for new City Administrator.** On October 11, 2016, the City Council Committee of the Whole met to discuss a proposed job advertisement for the City Administrator position. The Mayor and three Council members were in attendance. The committee discussed minimum requirements for this position including education and work experience. Staff presented Council with a proposed job ad drafted in accordance with input received during that meeting. Alford expressed his opposition to the experience requirement for the position. **Motion:** White made a motion, seconded by Timbes, to approve the proposed job advertisement as presented and authorize advertising to begin October 24th. **Vote:** Alford voted in the negative; all others voted in the affirmative. Motion carried.

ITEM FOR INFORMATION: Police Department update. Information was presented on public outreach on proper/improper behavioral actions during police/citizen encounters, active shooter training, and concerns relative to the heroin epidemic. Gosnell noted that Fire Chief Hendrick will report on Narcan kits at a future Council meeting.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

- Reported that Halloween will be observed in the City of Conway on Monday, October 31st, and hours for Trick or Treating will be 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Golf carts are not allowed on public streets after dark.
- Commented that Hughes has been working with Santee Cooper on wiring needs to support the Celebration of Lights event. The cost for the wiring is \$4,235 and is eligible for payment from

the Santee Cooper Underground Wiring Fund. Staff recommended using funds from the Underground Wiring account for this project. **Motion:** Timbes made a motion, seconded by Smith, to approve staff's recommendation and give Santee Cooper credit for its contribution. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

- Reminded Council that only one regular City Council meeting will be held in November (November 7th) and that the final Town Hall meeting for 2016 will be held on Tuesday, November 15, 2016, at Conway Middle School.
- Updated Council on the impacts of Hurricane Matthew including the current river level and the predicted river level of 17.9 feet.

COUNCIL INPUT:

Mayor Blain-Bellamy along with City Council commended staff on the attention given to being prepared with necessary equipment and personnel for Hurricane Matthew and thanked them for their efforts toward recovery in the aftermath of the storm.

Smith

- Commended Conway High School's Principal James, Coach Jordan, and Conway High School football players and cheerleaders who worked throughout the Conway community cutting trees and raking yards in the days after Hurricane Matthew.
- Commended Willie Woodbury and James Givens for their exceptional efforts to assist a Conway resident with a situation involving a water leak.

Goldfinch encouraged City Council to give more consideration to the recommendation of staff and city committees and not be unduly swayed by comments made by some members of the public.

Anderson thanked Chief Gosnell and the City Administrator for their assistance with traffic during road closures due to flooding.

Timbes expressed her pride in staff, City forefathers for locating the City on higher ground and the "neighbor helping neighbor" attitude that has prevailed since the storm.

Alford

- Suggested that a supply of Council Member's business card be kept at the receptionist's desk at City hall and be made available to the public.
- Requested staff to look into allowing parking during the Christmas parade between 3rd Avenue and 4th Avenue, down 3rd Avenue, Laurel Street and Elm Street and evaluate the sight distance needed from street corners.
- Requested staff to look into steps that can be taken to prevent intimidation at the polls in November.

Blain-Bellamy asked staff to look into improving the visibility of power point presentations and other visual displays used during Council meetings. In response to comments made by Goldfinch, she stated that it was her belief every decision made by Council members was based solely on what was believed to be in the best interest of the City.

WORKSHOP:

- A. Discussion of potential amendment to Article 2, Section 2.1.2 General Definitions of the City of Conway *Unified Development Ordinance (UDO)* defining measurement of**

setbacks. Emrick noted that the current definition of measurements of setbacks is the distance between the nearest portion of a structure (including roof overhangs) and the nearest property line or portion thereof. He recommended that the current definition be amended to allow setbacks to be measured from structure's foundation which would allow an overhang to encroach 2' into the setback. **OUTCOME:** Staff will present a proposed amendment to the Planning Commission for review and recommendation.

B. Introduction of the first draft of the Conway Comprehensive Plan Population Element. Emrick reported that there are nine required elements of the comprehensive plan: (1) Population (2) Economic Development (3) Natural Resources (4) Cultural Resources (5) Community Facilities (6) Housing (7) Land Use (8) Transportation (9) Priority Investment. Council was presented a first draft of the Population Element for review. Other elements will be presented as updates are completed. **OUTCOME:** Staff will present the first draft of the Population Element to the Planning Commission for review and consideration. First reading and a public hearing will be scheduled for an upcoming Council meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion: Anderson made a motion, seconded by White, to enter into Executive Session to discuss negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes approved by City Council this 5th day of November, 2016.


Debbie F. Smith, City Clerk