

July 1, 2019

**CITY OF CONWAY
CITY COUNCIL RECREATION & ADMINISTRATION and PUBLIC SAFETY
COMMITTEE MEETING
CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM
JULY 1, 2019 – 4:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Mayor Barbara Jo Blain-Bellamy, William Goldfinch, Mayor Pro Tem, and Council Committee Members Larry White and Shane Hubbard

ABSENT: Ashley Smith

STAFF: Adam Emrick, City Administrator; Jeff Leveille, Information Technology Manager; David Williams, Assistant Recreation Director; Le Hendrick, Fire Chief; Dale Long, Police Chief; Taylor Newell, Public Information Officer; Barbara Tessier, City Clerk

OTHERS: Kathy Ropp, Chris Spiker

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: **Motion:** White made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch, to approve the July 1, 2019 agenda as presented. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by White, to approve the Public Safety Committee minutes of May 13 and June 10, 2019 and the Recreation & Administration Committee minutes of June 5, 2019 as presented. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- A. Discussion of Cellular Phone Service Provider.** Leveille informed the committee that an RFP was issued on March 3, 2019 for cellular service and devices. Responses were received from AT&T, Verizon, T-Mobile and Spring. HTC did not respond directly letting AT&T respond.

AT&T provided information for FirstNet which covers Public Safety, and personnel that directly supports them. FirstNet is a dedicated public safety resource for first responders ensuring cellular service during disasters.

AT&T provides the best coverage for Horry County followed closely by Verizon with T-Mobile and Sprint providing the lowest coverage.

T-Mobile and Sprint provides the best monthly pricing, but do not provide a priority network for public safety and the unlimited plans have restrictions.

Staff recommends moving Public Safety and department heads to FirstNet with the rest of staff remaining on HTC services.

Leveille noted that FirstNet was dedicated to public safety and that if there was a lot of cell phone use due to a large event, like the Country Music Festival, Public Safety would not be affected negatively.

Leveille was asked if Council could also be a part of the FirstNet service. Leveille commented that he would have an answer for them prior to the July 15 Council meeting.

Motion: Hubbard made a motion, seconded by White, to move this request forward to City Council based on staff's recommendation. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

- B. Special Event – Conway SuperStar.** Williams informed the committee that the 2019 Conway SuperStar special event is scheduled for August 17th at 7:00 p.m. At a Planning meeting, a Council Member requested the event be moved from its usual location at Riverfront Park to an indoor venue.

Staff contacted the Horry County Museum inquiring about use of McCown Auditorium as a possible alternative location to avoid spectators and competitors being exposed to heat and humidity. Horry County Museum has agreed to partner with the City to hold the event at no cost to support the local competition. There have not been any direct incidents related to the heat by any spectators or competitors; however, the stage and lawn directly in front of the stage have no coverage from the sun. The auditorium would offer an air conditioned environment with staging and lights.

Staff requests that the Committee select either Riverfront Park or McCown Auditorium for the 2019 Conway SuperStar special event.

There was discussion about using the auditorium for a contingency location; however, Williams did not know if the museum would agree to that. Mayor Blain-Bellamy said the request had been hers as she had gone to the event for several years and it was always terribly hot and humid. She also had a concern that the heat might dissuade visitors from coming to another event at the park. Goldfinch suggested holding the event later in the year when it was cooler. Williams said staff had no issues with either venue.

Motion: Mayor Blain-Bellamy made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch, to recommend to City Council moving the Conway SuperStar event for 2019 to the McCown Auditorium. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

- C. Discussion of Quit Claim Deed of City's interest in private alley on Main Street.** Emrick informed the Committee that the City had been contacted by an attorney representing a potential buyer of the Jerry Cox Building and other Burroughs Company buildings downtown. An alley that runs from Fourth Avenue, behind Amanda's Collection, is labeled "Private Alley." It

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appears that the City has no interest in the alley. There are no easements that run through it. To clear title to the property, the City was asked to sign a quit claim deed disavowing any interest in the alley. City attorney, Sam Graves, indicated that it would absolve the City of any interest it did not have.

There was discussion concerning whether or not the City signing a quit claim deed would prevent the use of the alley for the other property owners in the alley. Emrick commented that it would not as the City was only saying it had no interest in the alley. Emrick noted that the deeds were old and very convoluted and there was no clear ownership of the alley. Emrick noted that this would not be an issue for the other property owners as Burroughs owned the adjacent parcels.

Motion: White made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch, to move this request forward to City Council based on staff's recommendation. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

- D. Discussion of the sale of seven lots on Ann Street for private development.** Emrick informed the committee that the City had been contacted by an attorney representing a builder interested in developing housing on City-owned properties on Ann Street. The lots are currently zoned Core Commercial with adjacent lots zoned R2.

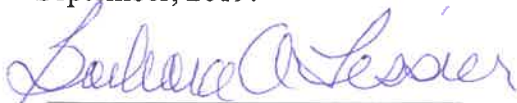
Emrick commented that if the City is interested in selling the lots, an assessment of the fair value should be determined, and an RFP issued allowing anyone interested to submit their project proposal and bid for the property. At that time, the City could place conditions on the development such as saving the two mature oak trees and installing sidewalks.

There was discussion that the parcels should be zoned first and then an RFP issued; however, that would limit what might potentially be the best use of the properties. Goldfinch asked if the family that gave the property to the City had anything they specifically wanted to see done with the property, and Emrick noted there were no restrictions. Goldfinch suggested the City step back and get a clear vision of what would be best for the entire area.

Motion: Mayor Blain-Bellamy made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch, to table the request **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes approved by City Council this 3rd day of September, 2019.



Barbara A. Tessier, City Clerk