

**MINUTES OF MEETING
CONWAY CITY COUNCIL
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
229 MAIN STREET
CONWAY, SOUTH CAROLINA
MONDAY – APRIL 11, 2011 – 5:30 p.m.**

PRESENT: Mayor Alys C. Lawson, Mayor Pro Tem Thomas J. Anderson, and the following Council Members: Vivian E. Chestnut, William M. Goldfinch IV, Irby L. Koon, Jean M. Timbes, and Larry A. White

STAFF: Bill Graham, City Administrator; Billy Joe Sawyer, Building Official; Michael Hardee, Finance Director; Foster Hughes, Parks and Recreation Director; Jerry Barnhill, Public Works Director; Reggie Jenerette, Solid Waste Superintendent; Freddie DuBose, Public Utilities Director; Rick Baker, Fire Chief; Reggie Gosnell, Police Chief; Michael Leinwand, Planning Director; and Vicky Lefler, City Clerk

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Bridgette Johnson, Hillary Howard, Fran Rickenbaker, Samantha Brown, John Zilinsky, Gus Hardee, Billy Fulmer, Christi Coffin, Kathy Ropp, Mike Bessant and others

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Lawson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Lawson welcomed Chaplain Eddie Hill of the J. Reuben Long Detention Center who gave the invocation. City Council and those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: **Motion:** Koon made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch, to approve the agenda contents. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Final reading of Ordinance #ZA2011-04-11 (A) Accepting the petition of Gilad Mor to annex approximately 0.43 acre located at 1125 SC Highway 544 (TMS#151-20-01-008) and declaring the property to be zoned Neighborhood Commercial (NC) immediately upon annexation**
- B. Final reading of Ordinance #ZA2011-04-11 (B) Amending the City of Conway Zoning Ordinance by revising Section 12.4005, Gateway Plaza Sign Criteria**
- C. City Council minutes – March 24 and 28, 2011**

Motion: Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by White, to approve the consent agenda. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT: Abdullah Mustafa appeared before Council to express his concerns regarding (1) the recent reduction in force by the City, (2) the lack of playground equipment at the Darden

Terrace Housing Complex, and (3) City promotion procedures. There being no further public comment, Mayor Lawson closed this portion of the agenda.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

- A. Service Learning Program at South Conway Elementary School.** Mr. Leon Hayes, Principal of South Conway Elementary School, presented information on this program which was enthusiastically received by Council.
- B. Presentation by Smoke Free Horry.** Mr. George Durant presented information on this initiative. Horry County is one of only two counties in South Carolina to have been selected for this grant program. It is administered locally by Shoreline Behavioral Services.

Mayor Lawson informed Council she was abstaining in the matter of the special event request for the Rivertown Music and Arts Festival because her place of employment was included in the list of participating restaurants. She excused herself from Council Chambers during discussion and voting on this agenda item. Mayor Pro Tem Anderson presided over the special event request.

- C. Special event request: Rivertown Music and Arts Festival, May 7, 2011, 10:00 am to 9:00 pm.** Conway Main Street has requested a special event permit for this event at which 3,000 attendees and 50 vendors are expected. The closure of Laurel Street from 2nd Avenue to 5th Avenue and 3rd Avenue from Main Street to Elm Street was requested. Council reviewed a map showing the proposed designated special event area for the public consumption of alcohol and the restaurants the organizer requested to be allowed to sell beer and wine for off-premises consumption during the event. If the request is approved, the cost of City support services will be absorbed by the City's operating funds. Gosnell assured Council of the Police Department's ability to provide adequate protection for the city and the event. Leinwand noted that appropriate signage would mark the boundaries of the designated event area. In response to Timbes' inquiry regarding the size of the designated area, Graham responded that approval/disapproval/modification of the designated special event area requested by the applicant was at Council's discretion. White suggested the use of identification wristbands for public consumption at the event. After discussion on responsibility for the purchase of the wristbands, Hillary Howard of Conway Main Street advised Council that Conway Main Street, as the organizer, would provide the wristbands. Staff recommended approval of the special event request as presented. **Motion:** Koon made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch, to approve the special event request for the Rivertown Music and Arts Festival as presented contingent upon the organizer supplying participating restaurants with public consumption identification wristbands for use during the event. Voting was accomplished by roll call. **Vote:** Timbes and Chestnut voted in the negative; Anderson, Goldfinch, Koon and White voted in the affirmative; Mayor Lawson abstained. Motion carried. See attachment.

Mayor Lawson returned to the meeting and presided over the remainder of the meeting.

- D. Special event request: Riverfest 2011, June 25, 2011, 1:00 pm to 11:00 pm.** The Conway Chamber of Commerce has requested a special event permit for this event. No street closures

were requested. Leinwand reviewed maps showing the Family Pavilion Area (Area 2) and the designated special event area for alcohol sales/public consumption (Area 1) that has been requested by the event organizer. The Chamber of Commerce would be the sole vendor of alcoholic beverage at this event. If the request is approved, the cost of City support services will be absorbed by the City's operating funds. Staff recommended approval of the special event request as presented. **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to approve the special event request for Riverfest 2011 as presented. **Discussion:** White asked that a requirement be established that the event organizer shall supply identification wristbands for vendors/participating restaurants at any special event that includes the sale/public consumption of alcoholic beverages. **Amended Motion:** Goldfinch amended his motion, and Anderson his second, to add the requirement that, for this event and all future special events that include the sale/public consumption of alcoholic beverages, identification wristbands shall be supplied by the event organizer to the vendors and/or participating restaurants. **Vote:** Chestnut voted in the negative; all others voted in the affirmative. Motion carried.

- E. Employee Longevity Awards** were presented to Brent Green, Fire Department, 5 years; and Reginald Hill, Police, and Derrick Turner, Streets Division, 15 years. Brian Kyzer, Fire Department, 5 years, and Amber Lewis, Police Department, 10 years, were unable to attend. These employees were recognized by City Council for their years of service to the City.
- F. Police Department Employee of the Quarter Award** was presented to Police Officer Josh Hardee. Officer Hardee, accompanied by his wife and fellow officers on the Alpha Team, was commended by City Council for having been selected as the recipient of this award.

RESOLUTIONS

- A. Endorsing the updated Horry County Solid Waste Plan.** Jenerette informed Council that the Horry County Solid Waste Management Plan has been reviewed and updated as required. All county municipalities will be asked to adopt the resolution of endorsement of the revised plan after which the revised plan will be presented to SCDHEC. Staff recommended adoption of the resolution. **Motion:** Anderson made a motion, seconded by Koon, to approve the proposed resolution as presented. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried. See attachment.
- B. In support of the Ten Year Collaborative Plan to End Homelessness in Horry County.** Home Alliance, Inc., is a non-profit organization that was created to develop housing resources for the homeless. Other non-profit, local government, private and public organizations, including the City of Conway, participated with Home Alliance in the development of this plan. Gosnell reported that all municipalities in Horry County are being asked to adopt resolutions of support. Staff recommended that Council adopt the resolution as presented. **Motion:** Koon made a motion, seconded by White, to adopt the resolution in support of the Ten Year Collaborative Plan to End Homelessness in Horry County. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried. See attachment.
- C. In support of National Fair Housing Month.** Leinwand presented a proposed resolution recognizing April, 2011, as National Fair Housing Month. April 11, 2011, marks the 43rd anniversary of the passage of the National Fair Housing Act. Staff recommended adoption of

the resolution. **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to adopt the resolution as presented. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried. See attachment.

D. ORDINANCE FOR FIRST READING: Ordinance #2011-04-25 (A) Amending the Code of Ordinances, Title 1, Chapter 8, Section 1-8-3, Nonpartisan Elections; Procedure, to add Items (1) and (2) to Subsection 1-8-3 (a) and revise Subsection 1-8-3 (b) and Subsection 1-8-5. Graham reviewed for Council the proposed changes to current code that would be made by passage of this proposed ordinance: Establishment of local candidate qualifications, setting of fixed filing fees, the on-line filing of State Ethics Commission SEI reports, and a change in time of taking office after general elections. Staff recommended first reading approval. **Motion:** Timbes made a motion, seconded by Chestnut, to approve first reading of Ordinance #2011-04-25 (A). **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

ITEM FOR CONSIDERATION: Agreement for release of letter of credit for Turnstone Drive, Wild Wing Subdivision. Leinwand reported that the developer of Wild Wing Subdivision has requested that the City of Conway release a letter of credit for the future construction of Turnstone Drive, in the amount of \$1,537,795.75, so that the developer can use these funds to install a traffic signal at the intersection of Wild Wing Boulevard and US Highway 501. Staff recommended that Council authorize the City Administrator to execute an agreement for the release of this letter of credit with the following conditions: (1) Before the Wild Wing Plantation Phase 4 Final Plat is recorded at the Horry County Register of Deeds Office, the portion of Turnstone Drive within Phase 4 shall be built, and (2) before the Wild Wing Plantation Phase 6 Final Plat is recorded at the Horry County Register of Deeds Office, the portion of Turnstone Drive within Phase 6 shall be built and it shall be connected to East Cox Ferry Road. **Motion:** Koon made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to approve staff's recommendation with regard to the release of the letter of credit. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

ITEM FOR INFORMATION: Fiscal year 2010-2011 financial update. Hardee provided Council with an update, by fund, on the City's financial status as of February 28, 2011. The financial update was presented as information only.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

- Advised Council that the parking lot at the corner of 4th Avenue and Laurel Street will be resurfaced on Wednesday, April 13th. Public notice has been given on the Access Channel and website and businesses in the immediate area have been notified. Santee Cooper's electrical refueling apparatus will not be affected.
- Reminded Council of the CTC meeting on April 12th at 7:00 pm at the Old County Courthouse (Beaty Street entrance).
- Reported on the first public meeting on the Unified Development Ordinance and advised Council of changes in the schedule for future public meetings.
- Shared a copy of the proposal from Richard Johnson of Historical Iron for the plaque on the

iron gates that will be installed at the Main Street entrance to City Hall. This project (gates and plaque) is being fully funded by the Conwayborough Historic Neighborhood Association as a memorial to Mayor Gregory K. Martin. The gates were approved by Council at a previous meeting. Graham advised that the plaque and its placement on the gate, as recommended by Mr. Johnson, have been reviewed by Mr. Buddy Sasser, president of the Neighborhood Association, and the proposal was being presented for Council's consideration. **Motion:** Koon made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to approve the wording and placement of the plaque as recommended by Richard Johnson of Historical Iron. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

- Reminded Council that Operation Guard Alliance started on this date and will continue through April 14th.

COUNCIL INPUT:

White advised that his recent absences at City meetings/events were due to work-related business and he was pleased to be back in attendance for the Council meeting.

Anderson asked Council to consider ways to help promote the Service Learning Program to other middle and elementary schools in the City. Council was in agreement that a letter of commendation should be sent to Mr. Hayes at South Conway Elementary School.

Koon began a discussion on items to consider with regard to recycling bins. Staff was asked to prepare a comprehensive review of these issues for Council's consideration (cost of bins, the possible purchase of roll-out bins by residents, how to make recycling bins easily recognizable, any savings that would be realized if the number of pick-ups could be reduced by using larger bins).

Chestnut inquired about the length of the wait for a green light for traffic to cross US Highway 501 at 16th Avenue and 9th Avenue. Gosnell responded that the timing was likely at a maximum to expedite the heavy flow of traffic on Highway 501.

Timbes reported that the Spring Sports Jamboree was an enjoyable event and asked the number of children who attended. Hughes responded that the number was approximately 1,200.

Goldfinch, citing examples of progress made by South Conway Elementary School, commended Principal Leon Hayes for his phenomenal leadership. He also expressed appreciation to the Police Department for its diligence and pro-active efforts in situations that appear to be suspicious.

Mayor Lawson

- Reported the Conway Crawl has resumed and attendance was good for the first event.
- Commended the Recreation staff for the excellent condition of the athletic fields and for staging a wonderful Jamboree.
- Expressed appreciation to Council members Chestnut and Timbes for their attendance at the Jamboree.
- Announced that Dee Shearin, Executive Director of the Shepherd's Table, is retiring and this group will be seeking a new director.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes approved by City Council this _____ day of _____, 2011.

Vicky Lefler, City Clerk