

CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
229 MAIN STREET
CONWAY, SOUTH CAROLINA
MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2015 – 5:30 PM

PRESENT: Mayor Alys C. Lawson, Mayor Pro Tem Barbara Blain-Olds, and Council Members Randle L. Alford, Thomas J. Anderson II, William M. Goldfinch IV, and Larry A. White.

ABSENT: Council Member Jean M. Timbes

STAFF: Bill Graham, City Administrator; Vicky Lefler, Deputy City Administrator; Michael Hardee, Finance Director; Foster Hughes, Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Director; Kevin Chestnut, Public Works Director; James Friday, Public Utilities Director; Adam Emrick, Planning Director; Billy Joe Sawyer, Building Official; Reggie Gosnell, Police Chief, Le Hendrick, Fire Chief, and Debbie F. Smith, City Clerk

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Kathy Ropp, Dr. James Cokley, Dan Gray, John Long, Leon Hayes, Kristi Faulk, Tommy Moore, and others.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Lawson called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Lawson recognized Dr. James Cokley of Cherry Hill Missionary Baptist 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 White, to postpone recognition of the employee of the month for February and to approve the agenda as amended. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: **City Council minutes – March 2, 2015.** **Motion:** White made a motion, seconded by Blain-Olds, to approve the consent agenda. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT: None.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

A. Presentation of proposed resolution endorsing the 2015 Horry County Solid Waste Management Plan. Mike Bessant, Assistant Executive Director of the Horry County Solid Waste Management presented the resolution for Council's consideration. The resolution is an endorsement by Council of the 2015 update of the 2011 Horry County Solid Waste Management plan. The updated 2015 plan was developed with input from the County and all local municipalities. Bessant was accompanied by Horry County Solid Waste Authority Board Members Dr. James Cokley, Dan Gray, and John Long. **Motion:** Blain-Olds made a motion, seconded by Alford, to adopt the 2015 Horry County Solid Waste Management Plan resolution as presented. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried. See attachment.

B. Special event request: A Black Tie Affair, March 21, 2015. Kelli James of the Conway Chamber of Commerce submitted this special event request. Plans call for the event to be held in Downtown Conway on Saturday, March 21st, from 6:00 pm to 11:00 pm. Maps depicting the location of the event and the alcohol consumption zone accompanied the special event application. There was no

request for road closures. Staff recommended approval of the special event application with the cost of any support services provided to be absorbed by the City's operating funds. **Motion:** Anderson made a motion, seconded by White, to approve the special event application for A Black Tie Affair as recommended by staff. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

- C. **Special event request - 8th Annual Earth Day Music Fest and Expo, April 18, 2015.** Kristi Faulk of the Wellness Council for South Carolina submitted this special event request. The event is planned to be held April 18th in Riverfront Park from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. Maps depicting the location of the event, event parking areas, and the alcohol consumption zone accompanied the special event application. The park will remain open to the public during the special event. In the event of rain, the event will move to the Farmers Market and alcohol consumption will be confined to the Market's private property. Staff recommended approval of the special event application with the cost of any support services provided to be absorbed by the City's operating funds. **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to approve the special event application for Earth Day Music Fest and Expo as recommended by staff. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING/ORDINANCE FOR FIRST READING

- A. **Ordinance #ZA2015-04-20 (A) Accepting the request by Horry County Board of Education to rezone approximately 9.98 acres of property located at 3001 Fourth Avenue (South Conway Elementary School, TMS# 136-12-06-0473, PIN 36809010048) from Low Density Residential (R-1) to Institutional (IN).** Emrick advised Council that South Conway Elementary School requested to rezone this property from Low Density Residential (R-1) to Institutional (IN) to accommodate the planned installation of an electronic message center sign. Emrick noted the surrounding properties in the area are zoned R-1; however, it is expected that any impact on the surrounding residential neighborhood would be minimal. The Comprehensive Plan recommends the future land use of this property be designated Institutional. The Planning Commission has recommended approval of the request. A letter from South Conway Elementary School Principal Leon Hayes, accompanied the request and gave details of the purpose of the electronic message center. Staff recommended first reading approval. **Public Hearing:** There was no comment from the public. **Motion:** White made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to approve first reading of Ordinance #ZA2015-04-20 (A). **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried. Mayor Lawson welcomed Principal Leon Hayes who was present in support of this request.
- B. **Ordinance #ZA2015-04-20 (B) Accepting the request by Charles E. Smith to annex approximately 0.25 acres of property located at 626 Leisa Lane (TMS# 150-17-02-012, PIN 38212010004) and to rezone the property Low Density Residential (R-1) upon annexation.** Emrick advised Council that the applicant is planning to build a single family detached home on the property, which is currently vacant, and will require City water and sewer services. The parcel is contiguous to the Conway City limits. Staff recommended first reading approval. **Motion:** Blain-Olds made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to approve first reading of Ordinance #ZA2015-04-20 (B). **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

- A. **Approval of water pump station agreement with Grand Strand Water and Sewer Authority and authorization of City Administrator to execute documents.** Graham reported the proposed agreement is an excellent example of intergovernmental cooperation. The joint project would improve water pressure and water flow for both systems. Graham explained that the agreement is for the construction of a water booster pump and connections near the corner of Mill Pond Road and Oak Street. According to the agreement, Grand Strand Water and Sewer and the City will equally

share in the cost of construction, maintenance, and operation of the booster pump station. The cost of eventual replacement of any equipment, apparatus included in the original construction of the booster pump project, including the pumps, water lines, valves, etc., will also be shared equally. The initial construction cost for the project is estimated to be \$1,028,608; therefore, the estimated initial project cost for each entity will be \$514,304. The estimated operation expense for electricity and daily maintenance is \$81,443 annually, which would be shared equally. Graham noted that by joining with Grand Strand Water and Sewer Authority, this project will save the City approximately \$1 million. City staff and the City's legal counsel have reviewed the proposed agreement. Staff recommended that Council approve the water pump agreement with Grand Strand Water and Sewer Authority and authorize the City Administrator to execute the necessary documents. **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Alford, to approve staff's recommendation. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

- B. Acceptance of bids for asbestos abatement for the old Post Office Building and old City Law Enforcement Center.** Graham explained that the City has plans to renovate the old Post Office building for use as a community center and to demolish the old City Law Enforcement Center. Bids for the required asbestos abatement for these buildings were solicited and the following bids were received: Asbestos and Demolition, Columbia, SC - \$52,200; NEO Corp., Canton, NC - \$55,300; and Rhino Demolition, Little River, SC - \$37,000. Staff recommended that Council accept the low bid which was submitted by Rhino Demolition in the amount of \$37,000 (Law Enforcement Center - \$34,500 and old Post Office - \$2,500 along with an additional \$10 per linear foot should any additional or unforeseen asbestos be detected.) **Motion:** Blain-Olds made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to accept the low bid of \$37,000 which was submitted by Rhino Demolition. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.
- C. Acceptance of bid for playground equipment at Recreation Complex.** City staff recently issued a Request for Proposals for interested firms to design and provide the playground equipment for the Conway Recreation Complex. (The bid opening was held on March 5, 2015.) The Kiwanis Club is funding this project by a donation of \$25,000 (\$5,000 annually for five years) and based on input from the Kiwanis Club, staff recommended approval of the bid submitted by Churchich Recreation. **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by White, to accept the playground design and bid in the amount of \$25,000 submitted by Churchich Recreation. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.
- D. Acceptance of bid for sports field lighting for Field B and Field D at the Conway Recreation Complex.** Hughes reported that funds were included in the FY 2014-15 General Fund budget to pay for the purchase and installation of ball field lights at the Recreation Complex. A Request for Proposals was issued and bid information was sent to several manufacturers. The bid opening was held on March 10, 2015, with Kingston Electric of Conway being the only bidder. Staff recommended the acceptance of the bid in the amount of \$122,880 submitted by Kingston Electric of Conway to install GE sports lighting systems on Fields B and D at the Recreation Complex. **Motion:** Anderson made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch, to approve staff's recommendation. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.
- E. Acceptance of bid for asphalt patching (two-year contract).** Chestnut reported that the contract for asphalt patching will expire on March 31, 2015. The City issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a two year contract (April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2017) and the bid opening was held on March 11, 2015. Staff recommended that Council accept the bid submitted by Coastal Asphalt, LLC for \$2.49 per square foot unit for 2 inch asphalt patch, \$1.00 per linear foot unit for 2 inch depth saw cut, and \$1.95 per square foot unit for overlay up to 2 inches. **Motion:** Blain-Olds made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to accept the bid submitted by Coastal Asphalt, LLC. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

COUNCIL INPUT:

Alford proposed that the City look into having a “Walk to Work” day in the City of Conway. There was a consensus of Council to consider such an event.

Anderson commented on the job well done by City staff in preparing for the budget retreat and his enjoyment of time spent with City Council during the retreat.

Mayor Lawson, Goldfinch, and Blain-Olds reiterated Anderson’s comments regarding the budget retreat.

Blain-Olds noted that her comments about the safety and security of the City were not intended as an indictment of the Police Department. She clarified that it is her belief the Police Department does a great job and she wants to be sure that the department stays fully staffed, gets all necessary training, and has the full support of Council.

Mayor Lawson remarked that some of the newspaper articles referencing the safety of the community did not do justice to the Police Department. She expressed appreciation for the efforts of the Police Department and its creative programs, and also thanked the neighborhood watch groups for their hard work.

The Council meeting recessed after this item of business and reconvened in the conference room for the remainder of the meeting.

WORKSHOP SESSION

Discussion on proposal to amend landscaping and buffering requirements in Article 9 of the City’s Unified Development Ordinance to provide for buffering based on Zoning Districts rather than Land Uses. Emrick stated that the buffering standards in the City’s previous zoning ordinance were based on zoning districts but when the UDO was drafted, the buffering standards were changed and are now determined by land use. Emrick used a power point presentation to demonstrate the effects of the current UDO buffering requirements. He asked for guidance from Council on presenting the issue of reinstating landscaping and buffer requirements based on zoning districts to the Planning Commission for its input. **Outcome:** Council was in agreement that staff should present this issue to the Planning Commission and report back on the outcome.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion: Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to enter into executive session to discuss appointments to City Boards and Commissions. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

Motion: White made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to come out of executive session. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

Appointments to City Boards and Commissions:

Motion: Blain-Olds made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch, to appoint Chris Sansbury to a three-year term on the Planning Commission ending December 31, 2017. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

Motion: White made a motion, seconded by Alford, to reappoint Pat Livingston and appoint James Friday to three-year terms on the Employee Grievance Committee ending March 24, 2018. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

Motion: Anderson made a motion, seconded by Blain-Olds, to reappoint Council Member Goldfinch as Council's representative on the Conway Downtown Alive Board of Directors for FY 2015-16. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes approved by City Council this 20th day of April, 2015.



Debbie F. Smith, City Clerk