

CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
229 MAIN STREET
CONWAY, SOUTH CAROLINA
MONDAY, MARCH 2, 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, Jean M. Timbes, and Larry A. White

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; Jeremy Carter, Assistant Fire Chief; and Debbie F. Smith, City Clerk

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Kathy Ropp, Rev. Dawn Rider, Hillary Howard, Ray Friedl, Alicia Todd, Sharon Jordan, Lynne Delph, Dwaine Koscielniak, and others

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

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Lawson recognized Rev. Dawn Rider of St. Paul's Anglican 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 Anderson, to approve the agenda contents. Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

A. Final reading of Ordinance #ZA2015-03-02 (A) Accepting the request by Will F. Brown, acting as representative of the Estate of Juanita Gentry Brown, to rezone approximately 0.5 acres of property located at 901 Main Street (TMS# 123-14-06-003 / PIN 33813010035) from Low Density Residential (R-1) to Professional (P)

B. City Council Minutes – February 16, 2015

Motion: Timbes made a motion, seconded by Blain-Olds, to approve the consent agenda. Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT:

Alicia Todd spoke on behalf of the Community Spirit Council, a public relations group of parents, students, and school faculty and staff that has as its main purpose the improvement of support and school spirit in the Conway community. She described the various ways this group is getting more involved in the school community. Todd asked City Council to consider the needs of the Conway area schools at its upcoming budget retreat and award matching funds to help support the efforts of this group. She noted the committee will also be raising funds for these efforts. Mayor Lawson recommended that Todd complete a funding application and meet with the City Administrator before Council leaves for its budget retreat. Todd introduced Conway High School's Public Relations liaison, Chandler Cannon, who will be a contact for the group's efforts to improve Conway schools.

Lynne Delph asked if the City Administrator could give an update on the City's position on the Rivertown Row walkway. Graham stated that, after a review of research by the Planning Director and legal counsel, it had been determined that a mulched walkway around the ponds in Rivertown Row was included in the open space requirement for the subdivision. This mulched walkway, as a part of the open space for Rivertown Row, was proposed by the developer and approved by the Planning Commission and the City. Graham concluded his remarks by stating that the mulched walkway/trail is the minimum requirement of the City and installation of concrete sidewalks would be at the discretion of the developer and homeowners association. Delph reiterated her concerns regarding the lack of handicapped accessibility with a mulched walkway and asked Council to consider not requiring a walkway if it cannot be a cement sidewalk. She presented emails addressing this matter along with petitions, which she presented at the February 16th Council meeting, with additional names and a letter from a resident who had concerns about the walkways but was unable to attend the meeting.

Dwaine Koscielniak thanked the City Administrator and City Planner for their assistance in researching the issue of the mulched walkway in the Rivertown Row subdivision.

At the conclusion of Public Input, Mayor Lawson recognized and welcomed County Councilman Johnny Vaught to this meeting.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

A. Request from American Legion Horry Post 111 for donation to help send high school delegates to Palmetto Boys State. Ray Friedl, Palmetto Boys State Coordinator, presented a request to Council for a donation to help send a high school delegate to Palmetto Boys State. Post 111 sponsored ten delegates to Palmetto Boys State last year. The amount requested, \$300, was based on last year's cost to send one delegate. **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Blain-Olds, to approve funding in the amount of \$300 from FY 2014-15 Council Contingency funds to the American Legion Horry Post 111 to help send one delegate to attend the 2015 Palmetto Boys State. Council requested that at least one of this year's delegates sponsored by the American Legion Horry Post 111 be from the Conway community. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

Mayor Lawson abstained from discussion and vote on the following special event request for the Rivertown Music & Craft Beer Festival because her place of employment may be a participant in the event. Mayor Pro Tem Blain-Olds presided over the meeting for this item of business.

B. Special event request: Rivertown Music and Craft Beer Festival, May 2, 2015. Hillary Howard of Conway Downtown Alive submitted this special event request. Plans call for the event to be held in the area of 3rd Avenue between Main Street and Elm Street and Laurel Street between 2nd and 5th Avenues. Maps depicting the location of the event, street closures (with times), and the alcohol consumption zone accompanied the special event application. Approval of the special event request as submitted will exempt the event from requirements of the City's noise ordinance. Staff recommended approval of the special event application with the cost of any City 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 Rivertown Music and Craft Beer Festival as presented by staff. **Vote:** Mayor Lawson abstained and all others voted in the affirmative. Motion carried.

Mayor Lawson presided over the remainder of the meeting.

C. Employee Longevity Awards were presented to Foster Hughes, Recreation Department, and Christopher Ray, Fire Department, 5 Years; Anthony Collins, Vehicle Maintenance Department, 10 Years. The presentations were made by Council Member Timbes and the City Administrator.

RESOLUTION: In opposition to House Bill 3490 – Business License Tax Reform Act. Graham advised Council that the Municipal Association of South Carolina has asked all municipalities to consider adoption of a resolution in opposition to proposed House Bill 3490. This proposed legislation, would set a limit of \$100 for each business license issued by the City. Graham explained the affect this legislation, if passed, could have on the City of Conway. Staff recommended adoption of the resolution as presented. **Motion:** Blain-Olds made a motion, seconded by White, to adopt the resolution in opposition to House Bill 3490 as presented. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE FOR FINAL READING: Ordinance #2015-03-02 (B) An Ordinance amending the City of Conway Code of Ordinances by adding Title 6, Chapter 5, Article A, Regulations and requirements relating to smoking in certain public places owned by the City of Conway, in City vehicles, and at special events on public property. At its February 2nd meeting, Council gave first reading approval to this ordinance with revisions to be made in the ordinance for final reading. These revisions included the omission of regulations pertaining to use of smokeless tobacco products and inclusion of regulations pertaining to the prohibition of smoking at special events that are held on public property in the City of Conway. The ordinance, with the changes made as requested by Council, was presented for consideration for final reading. **Motion:** Alford made a motion, seconded by Timbes, to approve final reading of Ordinance #2015-03-02 (B). Blain-Olds suggested that Section 3 (d) of the ordinance be revised to read “Inside the designated area for special events held on public property.” **Amended Motion:** Alford made a motion, seconded by Timbes, to approve final reading of Ordinance #2015-03-02 (B) with the change suggested by Blain-Olds. **Vote:** White voted in the negative; all others voted in the positive. Motion carried.

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

WORKSHOP SESSION: Presentation of request to adopt an Overlay Zone to mirror Horry County’s Coastal Carolina University Neighborhood Overlay Zone. Mike Trotta, an owner of property located on Presbyterian Drive within the City, presented his request to Council to adopt an overlay district in College Park, Quail Run, and Quail Creek subdivisions that would mirror the County’s Coastal Carolina University Neighborhood Overlay Zone. He was accompanied by Johnny Vaught who gave an overview of the history of this zoning overlay and its implementation. Emrick explained that all of the neighborhoods contained in the County overlay zone are also in the City’s Water Service District and subject to future annexation by the City. Adopting the same overlay standards and overlay zone as that of the County would assist in uniformity between properties in the City and the County’s overlay zone. Emrick reviewed the County’s overlay regulations which limit rentals to the lesser of four unrelated persons per home or one person per permitted bedroom. The County overlay also adds parking regulations to control improper parking in front yards and designated open space. Emrick noted that the County did not allow additional permits for bedrooms after its overlay was implemented. **Outcome:** There appeared to be support for moving forward with consideration of first reading of a proposed ordinance to adopt an overlay zone as reviewed by staff. Graham advised that the issue would first go before the Planning Commission, and a public hearing would be required.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes approved by City Council this 16th day of March, 2015.

Debbie F. Smith
Debbie F. Smith, City Clerk