

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
CONWAY CITY COUNCIL  
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
229 MAIN STREET  
CONWAY, SOUTH CAROLINA  
MONDAY – APRIL 9, 2012 – 4:30 p.m.**

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

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

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Kathy Ropp, Steve Jones, Sgt. Tony Martin, Blake Lanford, Mike Marlowe, and others

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

**INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Lawson recognized Sgt. Tony Martin, Chaplain for the Conway Fire Department, who gave the invocation. City Council and those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Mayor Lawson asked that the agenda be amended to include public input. **Motion:** Koon made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch, to approve the agenda contents as amended. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:**

**A. Final reading of Ordinance #ZA2012-04-09 (A) Accepting the petition of C & K Properties to annex approximately 0.6 acres of property located on US Highway 501 (TMS 151-00-01-007) and to rezone the property Highway Commercial (HC) upon annexation**

**B. City Council minutes – March 26, 2012**

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

**PUBLIC INPUT:** Leinwand informed Council that a public hearing to amend the Coastal Estates PD relative to signage had been advertised to be held at this Council meeting. However, it had since been determined this public hearing is unnecessary since the Coastal Estates signage must comply with the Gateway Corridor Overlay regulations and this issue could be dealt with by the City Planner. No one responded to a call from the Mayor as being present for the hearing. There was no other public input.

## SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

- A. **Conway-Horry County Airport Fly-In.** Mike Marlowe, General Aviation Manager for the Airport, presented information on this event scheduled for April 28<sup>th</sup> 11 am to 3 pm. Council was invited to attend.
- B. **2012 Conway Farmers Market.** Blake Lanford of the Conway Farmers Market Association gave a report on the new market season and the Waccamaw Market Cooperative which consists of farmers markets in Conway, Loris, North Myrtle Beach, and at the Market Common in Myrtle Beach. The Conway Farmers Market will be open on Saturdays from May 5<sup>th</sup> through October.
- C. **Presentation of 2011 SCMIT Occupational Safety Award.** The City of Conway recently won 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Division 3 (over 150 employees) in the 2011 SCMIT Occupational Safety contest. Graham recognized the efforts of Rick Baker and Robert Cooper, who have been spearheading the City's efforts to improve safety. Baker accepted the award on behalf of all City employees in recognition of their efforts that earned this award for the City.
- D. **Employee Longevity Awards** were presented to Jerry Shannon, Public Utilities, 5 years, and Crystal Garcia, Police Department, 10 years. The presentation was made by Council Member Goldfinch and the City Administrator.

Graham advised that a last minute request from the property owner and developer to delay action on the final reading of Ordinance #ZA2012-04-09 (A) had been approved earlier under the consent agenda before this request could be presented to Council. Graham further advised that, if Council desired to grant this request, Council would need to take action to reconsider final reading followed by action to table final reading of this ordinance. **Motion:** Koon made a motion, seconded by Timbes, to reconsider final reading of Ordinance #ZA2012-04-09 (A). **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried. **Motion:** Blain-Olds made a motion, seconded by Koon, to table final reading of Ordinance #ZA2012-04-09 (A) Accepting the petition of C & K Properties to annex approximately 0.6 acres of property located on US Highway 501 (TMS 151-00-01-007) and to rezone the property Highway Commercial (HC) upon annexation. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

## RESOLUTIONS

- A. **Recognizing April as National Fair Housing Month.** Leinwand presented a proposed resolution recognizing April, 2012, as National Fair Housing Month. Staff recommended adoption of the resolution. **Motion:** Koon made a motion, seconded by White, to adopt the resolution as presented. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried. See attachment.
- B. **Grand Strand Area Transportation Study (GSATS) Major Road Improvements for 2012-2018 Transportation Improvement Program.** At its March 26<sup>th</sup> workshop session, Council discussed projects within its jurisdiction to be recommended for funding in the GSATS 2012-2018 Transportation Improvement Program. Graham reported that, after further review, staff believed it would be unrealistic to ask for funding for all of the transportation enhancement projects discussed at the March 26<sup>th</sup> workshop in view of cost estimates, anticipated funding and other factors. Council received information on the improvement projects contained in the

Conway Elementary School Safe Routes to School Travel Plan, broken down into segments with cost estimates, with priorities recommended by staff based on previous discussions and need. Staff recommended that Council consider endorsing the following projects for inclusion in the Grand Strand Area Transportation Study (GSATS) Major Road Improvements for 2012-2018 Transportation Improvement Program:

- The widening of US 501 to six lanes between SC Highway 31 and Conway with transit; intersection improvements at Factory Stores, Gardner Lacy, Singleton Ridge, CCU, and other signalized intersections.
- Transportation enhancements (as prioritized #1 through #14):
  1. Improvements recommended in the Conway Elementary School Safe Routes to School Travel Plan as follows: 5' sidewalk and drainage on Snow Hill Drive from (#1) Magrath Avenue to 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue, (#2) 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue to Danner Drive, (#3) Danner Drive to 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue, (#4) 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue and (#5) sidewalk and curbing on Magrath Avenue from Snider Street to Lakeside Drive.
  2. Sidewalk to Homewood Elementary School along the west side of US 701 (#6 - #13).
  3. Any additional funding that may be required to complete the existing GSATS sidewalk and drainage project on Oak and Boundary Streets (#14). Graham reported that it appears this project will be closer to the original budget than previously expected.

**Motion:** Timbes made a motion, seconded by Koon, to adopt the resolution endorsing projects recommended for funding in the GSATS 2012-2018 Transportation Improvement Program as presented by staff. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried. See attachment.

#### **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:**

- A. Grand Strand Area Transportation Study Intersection Improvement Project – US Highway 501 and 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue intersection.** Council discussed this issue at its March 26<sup>th</sup> workshop session. The revised cost of this project according to SCDOT is \$205,000; the City's 20% match, approximately \$41,000, is required before the project moves forward. Adequate funds have been allocated in the FY 12-13 budget for this project. The project includes pedestrian refuge islands on Highway 501, pedestrian counters, ADA compliant ramps, no right turns on red on both sides of 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and traffic signal mast arms. Staff recommended approving the project with the City providing a maximum of 20% match toward the total cost. There was discussion on the no right turns on red on both sides of 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue and the locations of the pedestrian refuge islands. **Motion:** Blain-Olds made a motion, seconded by Koon, to approve the GSATS intersection improvement project for the Highway 501/16<sup>th</sup> Avenue intersection. **Discussion:** Anderson suggested that approval be contingent upon Council's approval of the engineering design. **Amended Motion:** Blain-Olds made an amended motion to approve the GSATS intersection improvement project for the Highway 501/16<sup>th</sup> Avenue intersection contingent upon Council's review and approval of the engineering design. Koon withdrew his second; the amended motion was seconded by White. **Vote:** Koon voted in the negative; all others voted in the affirmative. Motion carried.
- B. Grand Strand Area Transportation Study Intersection Improvement Project – US Highway 501 and US Highway 378 intersection.** Council discussed this issue at its March 26<sup>th</sup> workshop session. The revised cost of this project according to SCDOT is \$280,000; the

City's 20% match, approximately \$56,000, is required before the project moves forward. Adequate funds have been allocated in the FY 12-13 budget for this project. The project includes the installation of a flashing light on Highway 501 to inform motorists when the traffic signal at this intersection is red (if feasible), ADA compliant ramps, and traffic signal mast arms. Graham reported requirements for the location of the flashing light may make its installation unfeasible and, therefore, it may not be recommended by SCDOT. The final design will be brought back to Council for review. Staff recommended approving the project with the City providing a maximum of 20% match toward the total cost. **Motion:** White made a motion, seconded by Blain-Olds, to approve staff's recommendation. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

- C. Bids for repair of Riverwalk seawall.** The seawall at the Riverwalk has been damaged from years of erosion and leaking irrigation lines and needs to be repaired. In response to a request for proposals, two bids were received for this work: Sellers General Construction, LLC (\$12,011.36) and Intercoastal Contracting, Inc. (\$34,350). Staff recommended that Council accept the bid submitted by Sellers General Construction, LLC, in the amount of \$12,011.36. Funds to repair the seawall will come from a portion of the remaining Riverwalk Phase 3 bond funds. **Motion:** Koon made a motion, seconded by White, to accept the low bid in the amount of \$12,011.36 which was submitted by Sellers General Construction, LLC. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.
- D. Bids for replacement of Vehicle Extrication Equipment for Fire Station 3 district.** Baker reported that the vehicle extrication tools at Fire Station 3 are inadequate compared to Fire Stations 1 and 2 and need to be replaced in order to provide the same level of updated and compatible equipment to all of the Fire Department's service coverage area. The following bids were obtained to replace the Vehicle Extrication tools at Fire Station 3: Safe Industries (\$21,200.40), Newton's Fire and Safety (\$20,439), and Slagle Fire Equipment (\$25,544.16). One hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) was included in the FY 2012-13 budget for the replacement of the Fire Department squad truck. As approved by Council in February 2011, the bid has been awarded for the replacement of that truck for \$127,629, including tax. Staff recommended that Council accept the low bid and approve the use of the net savings (over \$22,000) from the Squad truck purchase to fund the purchase of these Vehicle Extrication tools. **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Timbes, to approve staff's recommendation. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.
- E. Main Street pedestrian safety improvements.** This issue was discussed at the March 26<sup>th</sup> Council workshop session. Gosnell advised Council that, based on a survey recently conducted by SCDOT regarding pedestrian safety along Main Street in the downtown business district as well as a survey of on-street parking in the study area conducted by the City's Public Works Director, staff recommended that Council authorize the restriping of parking spaces on Main Street from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> Avenues to remove four identified parking spaces (three at Main Street and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and one at Main and 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue) that are in noncompliance with the City's Unified Development Ordinance and to authorize SCDOT to proceed with the implementation of pedestrian actuation and pedestrian signals for both directions of 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenues and that pedestrian signals be installed on the Main Street approaches at these locations. **Motion:** Timbes made a motion, seconded by Blain-Olds, to approve staff's recommendation. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

Council Member Timbes was excused from the meeting at this time in order to attend a Waccamaw Regional Council of Governments meeting in Georgetown.

**F. Acceptance of police vehicle won by the Conway Police Department at the Annual Statewide Law Enforcement Awards Banquet.** Gosnell reported that the Conway Police Department won a fully-equipped 2012 Dodge Charger at the annual state-wide LEN Awards Banquet on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. The estimated value of the vehicle and equipment is \$32,000. The vehicle will be used primarily for traffic enforcement duties and in support of community/neighborhood speed abatement and Citywide DUI enforcement efforts. Departmental markings and radio equipment will be installed upon delivery to the agency. The Mayor and Council congratulated Gosnell and his Department on the winning of this equipment.

## ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

**A. Report on Gun Buy Back Program.** Gosnell gave a report on this initiative which was held on March 25<sup>th</sup>. A list of the partners, sponsors and community supporters was shared with Council and Council signed a letter of appreciation to be sent to these organizations/persons. Sandra Rhodes, Interim Chief, HCPD, and April Gardner of UPWARD, also spoke briefly on the success of this effort.

**B. Fiscal year 2011-2012 budget update.** Hardee provided Council with an update, by fund, on the City's financial status as of February 29, 2012. The financial update was presented as information only.

## ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

- Reminder of April 15<sup>th</sup> submission deadline for the Statement of Economic Interests Reports.
- Reminder of the Horry County League of Cities meeting in Surfside Beach on April 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm; the Conway Housing Authority has its annual banquet at the same time. Blain-Olds, who plans to attend the banquet, was requested by Mayor Lawson to give Council's regrets due to the conflict with the League of Cities meeting.

## COUNCIL INPUT:

**Blain-Olds** asked if staff could check on the possibility of designating two reserved parking spaces for magistrates near the old Courthouse, preferably on Beaty Street.

**White** expressed appreciation for the "Everything Conway Night" tickets to the Pelicans baseball game.

### **Koon**

- noted the improved appearance of the old Public Works shop area.
- voiced complaints about speeders/loud motorcycle in the Smith Street/7<sup>th</sup> Avenue area.

**Anderson** asked if staff could take another look at the transition area where the sidewalk ends at the foot of Main Street bridge.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion:** Koon made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch to enter into executive session to consider appointments to boards, commissions and committees and to discuss a personnel matter. **Vote:** Unanimous among those present. Motion carried.

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

**Appointments to Boards, Commissions and Committees. Motion:** Blain-Olds made a motion, seconded by White, to make the appointments as listed below. **Vote:** Unanimous among those present. Motion carried.

Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee: Appointed Reba Anderson for a three-year term.

Community Appearance Board: Appointed Danny Clonts to fill an unexpired term ending December 31, 2012.

Construction Board of Appeals: Appointed Jason Hardee for a three-year term.

Housing Authority Board of Commissioners: Appointed Sandra F. Gowans for a five year term (April 24, 2012, to April 24, 2017).

Zoning Board of Appeals: Appointed Byron David for a three-year term.

**ADJOURNMENT: Motion:** Koon made a motion, seconded by White, to adjourn the meeting. **Vote:** Unanimous among those present. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes approved by City Council this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2012.

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Vicky Lefler, City Clerk