

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
CONWAY CITY COUNCIL  
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
229 MAIN STREET  
CONWAY, SOUTH CAROLINA  
MONDAY – AUGUST 22, 2011 – 5:30 p.m.**

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**PRESENT:** Mayor Alys C. Lawson, Mayor Pro Tem Thomas J. Anderson II, 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, Recreation and Tourism Director; Jerry Barnhill, Public Works Director; 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:** Kathy Ropp, Steve Jones, Luke Anderson, Reggie Daves, Hillary Howard, Fran Rickenbaker, and others

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

**INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Lawson recognized Rev. Dr. Sandra S. Piorel of Trinity Methodist Church who gave the invocation. City Council and those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**A. Final reading of Ordinance #ZA2011-08-22 (A) Accepting the petition of Jimmy Edwards to rezone approximately 1.6 acres of property located at 1717 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue (TMS 137-05-20-010) from split-zoned Highway Commercial (HC) and Production, Service and Industry (PSI) to Highway Commercial**

**B. Final reading of Ordinance #ZA2011-08-22 (B) Accepting the petition of the City of Conway Planning Staff to rezone approximately 2.0 acres of property located at 1713 Mill Pond Road (TMS 136-00-01-063) from Planned Development District (PD) to Conservation Preservation (CP)**

**C. City Council minutes – August 8, 2011**

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

**PUBLIC INPUT: None.**

## SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

### A. Special event requests

1. **River Celebration, September 24, 2011, 3:00 pm to 9:00 pm.** The Winyah Rivers Foundation has requested a special event permit for this event at which approximately 175 attendees and five to eight vendors are expected. Plans call for the sale of beer and wine inside the Lower River Warehouse and Council reviewed a map showing the proposed designated special event area for the public consumption of alcohol during the event. The event sponsor will be required to adhere to the Special Events Alcohol Control Policy including the use of identification wrist bands. Staff recommended approval of the request. Christine Ellis and Reggie Daves were present in support of this special event request. **Motion:** Timbes made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch to approve the special event application for the River Celebration as submitted. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.
2. **Oktoberfest, October 8, 2011, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.** The First United Methodist Church has requested a special event permit for this event at which approximately 200 attendees are expected. The event sponsor requests the closure of 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue from Main Street to Laurel Street. Staff recommended approval of the request. Billy Fallaw of First United Methodist Church was present in support of this special event request. **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Timbes, to approve the special event application for Oktoberfest as submitted. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.
3. **Terror under the Bridge, October 27-31, 2011.** Fostering Hope, Inc., has requested a special event permit for this event. The requested time of the event is from 7:00 pm to 11:00 pm on the weekdays and 7:00 pm to midnight on the weekend. Approximately 2,000 attendees are anticipated over the course of this five-night event. Leinwand advised that a waiver of the City's noise ordinance will be necessary to allow the event to end nightly at the requested time and that no noise-related issues associated with this event have occurred in past years. Staff recommended approval of the request. Luke Anderson was present in support of this special event request. **Motion:** Koon made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to approve the special event application for Terror under the Bridge as submitted. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

Mayor Lawson abstained from the discussion and vote on the special event request for the Conway Crawl 2011-2012 because her place of employment may be a participant in the event. Mayor Pro Tem Anderson presided over the meeting for this item of business.

4. **Conway Crawl 2011-2012.** Conway Downtown Alive has requested a special event permit for the Conway Crawl to be held on the first Thursday of each month, 6:00 pm to 9:30 pm, from September through November, 2011, and June through November, 2012. Council reviewed a map showing the proposed designated special event area for the public consumption of alcohol during the event. The event sponsor does not plan to sell alcohol during the event; however, it was requested that local businesses within the designated special event area be allowed to sell beer and wine for public

consumption from their establishments if they so desired. The event sponsor and participating businesses will be required to adhere to the Special Events Alcohol Control Policy including the use of identification wrist bands. Hillary Howard and John Zilinsky of Conway Downtown Alive were present in support of this special event request. Staff recommended approval of this special event request with the cost of services provided by the City to be absorbed by the City's operating budget. **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Koon, to approve the special event application for the Conway Crawl 2011-2012 as submitted. **Vote:** Mayor Lawson abstained; Chestnut and Timbes voted in the negative; and all others voted in the affirmative. Motion carried. See attachment.

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

- B. "Excellence in Financial Reporting" Award – Michael Hardee and City Finance Department.** Graham advised this was the highest honor a local government could receive for the maintenance of financial records. It is the sixth consecutive such award to the City of Conway, one for each year Michael Hardee has been employed as Finance Director. The City of Conway has received this award for 21 of the last 24 years. A plaque from the Government Finance Officers Association was presented to Hardee by Graham. Council and Graham extended congratulations to Hardee and the Finance Department staff.

**ORDINANCE FOR FIRST READING: Ordinance #ZA2011-09-12 (A) Accepting the petition of Farrar Limited Partnership to annex approximately 8.0 acres of property located at 670 SC Highway 544 (TMS 150-00-06-030) and to zone the property Institutional (IN).** Leinwand reported that staff has been informed future development of this property would be a type of student housing. Such use would be accessory to the local colleges and would be permitted in the IN zoning district; however, any proposed development would have to be approved by the City's Technical Review Committee. City water is available to the property and sewer is available through Grand Strand Water and Sewer Authority. The Planning Commission and staff recommended first reading approval. **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to approve first reading of Ordinance #ZA2011-09-12 (A). **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

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

- A. Proposal for the City of Conway to receive and administer \$361,451 of CTC funds to assist with construction of traffic signal at intersection of Wild Wing Boulevard and US Highway 501.** Wild Wing Residential Development, LLC, has worked with SCDOT to develop plans for the construction of a traffic signal and intersection improvements at the Wild Wing Boulevard/Highway 501 intersection. The preliminary construction cost estimate for the project is \$850,000. Because of the public benefit of this project, the Horry County Transportation Committee (CTC) has committed \$361,451 toward construction of the project; Wild Wing Residential Development has committed to fund the remainder of the construction cost (approximately \$488,549). The CTC portion of the project funding is public funds and, as such, must be accepted and administered through a public entity. Because this intersection is located within the corporate limits of the City of Conway, Wild Wing Residential Development has proposed that the City accept and administer the CTC

funding for the project. Under this proposal, the CTC funding would be given to the City and the City will bid, award a contract, and pay for the portion of work funded by the CTC funds. Any cost above the CTC funding, including change orders and overages, will be funded by Wild Wing Residential Development. The remainder of the project will be funded and paid for by Wild Wing Residential Development. The City's participation will be limited to the CTC funding portion of the project only. Staff recommended that the City work with SCDOT and Wild Wing Residential Development as outlined to facilitate these intersection improvements. **Motion:** Timbes made a motion, seconded by Chestnut, to grant approval for the City of Conway to receive and administer \$361,451 of CTC funds to assist with construction of a traffic signal at the intersection of Wild Wing Boulevard and US Highway 501. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

**B. City of Conway Emergency Operations Plan for 2011 (Severe Weather Plan).** Baker reviewed the plan, as revised for 2011, with Council. Three changes in the revised plan were noted by Baker: A name change for the plan (from Severe Weather Plan to Emergency Operations Plan), a change in areas of Council participation, and a change in the means of communication between Council, Administration and Emergency Operations. Baker also provided the latest update on Hurricane Irene and emergency preparations. Staff recommended that Council approve the revised plan with the name change. **Motion:** Anderson made a motion, seconded by Koon, to approve the City of Conway Emergency Operations Plan for 2011 including the name change. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

**ITEM FOR INFORMATION: Fiscal year 2010-2011 budget update.** Hardee provided Council with an update, by fund, on the City's financial status as of June 30, 2011 (unaudited). The financial update was presented as information only.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:** Graham shared the following items with Council.

- The Conway SuperStars event has been rescheduled for September 10<sup>th</sup>.
- The ribbon cutting ceremony for Conway Downtown Alive is scheduled for August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:00 am.
- The dedication and grand opening of the new recreation center will be held September 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 am. Tours of the center began August 17<sup>th</sup> and will continue after the grand opening. The recreation center memberships to date total 697.

#### **COUNCIL INPUT:**

**Anderson**, citing a recent newspaper article, expressed appreciation to John Zilinsky and Conway Downtown Alive for efforts to promote Coastal Carolina University ties to the downtown area.

**Timbes** suggested that a notice be put on the Access Channel to remind citizens of the need to clean storm drains in front of their properties.

#### **Goldfinch**

- expressed excitement about plans for the Conway Crawl as it moves into a more concentrated format.

- stated concerns regarding the increasing number of stoplights on Highway 501 east.
- asked that efforts be heightened in identifying and addressing right-of-ways and private properties where trees and/or shrubs are obstructing traffic visibility.

**Mayor Lawson**

- commented on the many positive remarks she had received at recent community events regarding the various City departments and expressed appreciation to the employees.
- asked that a letter of appreciation be sent to Horry Electric Cooperative for the recent article on Conway in *South Carolina Living*.

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes approved by City Council this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2011.

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Vicky Lefler, City Clerk