

**MINUTES OF MEETING
CONWAY CITY COUNCIL
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
229 MAIN STREET
CONWAY, SOUTH CAROLINA
MONDAY – SEPTEMBER 26, 2011 – 5:30 p.m.**

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, Rev. Glenn Stanley, Rein Mungo, Steven Fitch, Sallie Goldfinch, Bob Fogner, and others

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

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Lawson recognized Rev. Glenn Stanley of Pine Grove Baptist Church 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: **City Council minutes – September 12, 2011.** **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by White, to approve the consent agenda. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT: Mayor Lawson recognized Mr. Eddie Paul of Conway Journal.com, Aynor News.com, and Rivertown Radio.com. who spoke briefly on plans to record and broadcast City Council meetings on Rivertown Radio.com. There was no further public input.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

A. Accommodations Tax Committee Funding Recommendations. The amount of Accommodations Tax funds available for tourism-related expenditures for FY 2012 is \$12,788.74. This amount includes a carryover of \$2.73 and interest earned in the amount of \$105.76. Mr. Rein Mungo, Committee Chairman, advised Council the committee recommends a disbursement of funds to six separate agencies as follows for FY 2012: Conway Area Chamber of Commerce (\$3,850), Theatre of the Republic (\$3,800), Conway Downtown Alive (\$2,730), Horry County Historical Society (\$1,500), Conway Farmers Market Association (\$500), and Create Conway (\$400) with \$8.74 to be carried over. **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Koon, to approve the recommendation for the allocation of the Accommodation Tax funds for FY 2012. **Vote:** Anderson abstained

because he owns the building where the Farmers Market is located; all others voted in the affirmative. Motion carried. See attachment.

B. Special event requests

1. **HarvestFest, October 15, 2011, 9 am – 6 pm.** Cherry Hill Baptist Church has requested a special event permit for this event at which approximately 200-300 attendees are expected. The event will take place at the church and the closure of 5th Avenue from Church Street to Smith Street for the event is requested. Koon noted that, should the street be closed as requested, the garage on Highway 501 at the end of Smith Street would not have access to its service bays. Leinwand and Gosnell advised that, if the barricades were placed at the edge of the church property, the garage service bays could be accessed from Highway 501. Staff recommended approval of the request with the amended street closure and the cost of City services provided to be absorbed by the City's operating budget. **Motion:** Timbes made a motion, seconded by Koon, to approve the special event application for HarvestFest as amended. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.
2. **Falktoberfest, October 8, 2011, noon – 4 pm.** Dr. Daniel Falk has requested a special event permit for this event at which approximately 200 attendees are expected. The closure of Sweet Street from 8th Avenue to 9th Avenue from 11 am to 4 pm for the event is requested. Barricades for street closure would be provided but no other City services are being requested. Staff recommended approval of the request. **Motion:** Anderson made a motion, seconded by White, to approve the special event application for Falktoberfest as presented. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.
3. **Conway High School Homecoming Parade, October 21, 2011, 2:30 – 5:00 pm.** The Conway High School Key Club has requested a special event permit for this event. The lineup will start at 2:30 pm in the Marina Drive/Elm Street intersection area and the parade will start at 4 pm. The parade will travel up Elm Street and end at Conway Middle School. Steven Fitch and Sallie Goldfinch were present in support of the request; Mrs. Goldfinch asked Council to participate in the parade by riding on the City's antique fire engine. In response to a request from Principal Fitch, there was no opposition voiced to allowing candy to be thrown to spectators on the sidewalks during the parade. Staff recommended approval of the request with the cost of City services to be absorbed by the City's operating budget. **Motion:** Anderson made a motion, seconded by Koon, to approve the special event application for the Conway High School Homecoming Parade as presented. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.
4. **Annual Veterans Celebration, November 5, 2011, 8 am – 2 pm.** The Horry County Veterans Memorial Committee has requested a special event permit for this event. The celebration will take place on the grounds of the old County Courthouse in downtown Conway. Organizers have requested closure of portions of Beaty Street, 3rd Avenue, and Elm Street during the event for the safety of participants. Bob Fogner, accompanied by Joe Todd, was present in support of the request. Staff recommended approval of the request with the cost of City services to be absorbed by the City's operating budget. **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to approve the special event application for the Annual Veterans Celebration as presented. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE FOR FIRST READING: Ordinance #2011-10-10 (A) An Ordinance to amend the Purchasing Rules and Regulations for the City of Conway to provide for a local vendor preference. In response to interest that Council has expressed in granting preference to bids submitted by in-city vendors, staff drafted this proposed amendment to the City's Purchasing Rules and Regulations to provide for a local vendor preference. The proposed ordinance would provide a local business the opportunity to match the bid of an out-of-city business if the local vendor's bid is no more than 5% higher than the bid from the out-of-city vendor. Responding to inquiries from Council, Graham stated that normal due diligence by staff would assure comparable quality of work and that all specifications are met in the bidding process, and that the local vendor preference would apply only to businesses physically located within the city limits of Conway. Graham advised Council that this amendment would also provide guidance to City staff on a day to day basis for the smaller bids that, by ordinance, are handled at staff level. Staff recommended first reading approval. **Motion:** White made a motion, seconded by Koon, to approve first reading of Ordinance #2011-10-10 (A). **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

ITEM FOR CONSIDERATION: Installation of four-way stop at Elm Street/Second Avenue intersection. As a result of complaints regarding the visibility and safety at the intersection of 2nd Avenue and Elm Street, staff was asked to investigate the possibility of a four-way stop at this location. After consulting with SCDOT, staff is now recommending that a four-way stop be implemented. In order to implement this project, some additional curb and gutter will be required at the northeast corner of the intersection at a cost of approximately \$666 and additional signage and pavement markers will cost approximately \$290, bringing the total cost to \$956. Road safety funds, which are 50% City funds and 50% CTC funds, are available for this project. For cost savings, staff recommended that this project be scheduled to coincide with the restriping of 2nd Avenue at the conclusion of the resurfacing phase of the underground wiring project which is scheduled to be completed by the end of October. **Motion:** Koon made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to approve staff's recommendations. **Discussion:** Mayor Lawson suggested that this project be monitored with an eye toward using four-way stops, where feasible, instead of speed humps as traffic calming measures. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Graham reported that the map accompanying the special event application for the Fall Festival at the last Council meeting erroneously depicted the location of the stage area and the kids' play area. Mayor Lawson inquired if this item would need action by Council and, upon confirmation by Graham, advised that she would abstain from discussion and vote on this matter 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. Graham then presented a revised map of the special event area and the designated area for the public consumption of beer and wine during the Fall Festival and recommended that Council approve the special event maps as amended. **Motion:** Koon made a motion, seconded by White, to approve the amended special event area and the amended designated area for the public consumption of beer and wine for the Fall Festival. **Vote:** Mayor Lawson abstained; Chestnut and Timbes voted in the negative; Anderson, Goldfinch, Koon, and White voted in the affirmative. Motion carried. See attachment.

Mayor Lawson presided over the remainder of the meeting.

Graham also shared the following items with Council.

- Reminded Council of the grand opening of Otter Lake Boardwalk at the Cox Ferry Lake Recreation Area on Friday, September 30th, at 10:30 am.
- Advised that staff recommended “trick or treat” be observed on October 31st from 5 pm to 9 pm. Council voiced no opposition to this recommendation.

COUNCIL INPUT:

Timbes asked staff to give consideration to the planning of projects to be “shovel-ready,” insofar as possible, for future stimulus funds should such funds become available.

Chestnut expressed appreciation to the Police Department for its involvement in recent funeral services for a former officer.

Anderson suggested that a committee be formed to work on a master plan for a new fire station in the event that federal funds become available.

White

- stated the recent street paving has been well-received by citizens in Conway.
- conveyed a complaint from the resident who lives below the water tower on Temple Street in regard to flooding issues.
- reported that, in Sugar Hill, drivers are speeding and running the stop signs at the corner of 6th and Hill Street and on Woodward Drive.

Mayor Lawson noted there was a tremendous turnout for the Day of Caring and expressed appreciation to Horry County United Way for this day’s projects in Conway.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion: Koon made a motion, seconded by White to enter into executive session to discuss negotiations concerning a contractual matter. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

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

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

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

Vicky Lefler, City Clerk