

**MINUTES OF MEETING
CONWAY CITY COUNCIL
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
229 MAIN STREET
CONWAY, SOUTH CAROLINA
TUESDAY – SEPTEMBER 4, 2012 – 5:30 p.m.**

PRESENT: Mayor Alys C. Lawson, Mayor Pro Tem Larry A. White, and 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; Jerry Barnhill, Public Works Director; Foster Hughes, Parks, Recreation and Tourism 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, Rev. Kyle Randle, Joey Singleton, Ben Burroughs, Hillary Howard, Angela Nicholas, Susan Mungo, Ben Burroughs, Frankie Bonnette, John Bonsignor, Robert Miller and others

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

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Lawson recognized Rev. Kyle Randle of First United Methodist Church who gave the invocation. City Council and those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

A. Final reading of Ordinance #ZA2012-09-04 Amendment to the City of Conway Unified Development Ordinance to add Section 12.1.7 Nonconforming Mobile Homes and Mobile Home Parks

B. Resolution in recognition of Amber Campbell

C. City Council minutes – August 20, 2012

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

PUBLIC INPUT: Ms. Frankie Bonnette presented her concerns with regard to animal control policies and practices.

John E. Bonsignor spoke to Council on the issue of feral cats and offered the assistance of the Sav-R-Cats organization to help the City address this problem.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

- A. Report from Attorney Joey Singleton regarding the amendment of agendas.** Mr. Singleton reviewed for Council his opinion on the recent court ruling in a case involving Saluda County Council and the Freedom of Information Act; in particular, the impact it may have on Conway City Council and the setting of its agendas.
- B. Proposal to donate Mayor Quattlebaum's coat to Horry County Museum.** Ben Burroughs appeared before Council requesting guidance for the preservation of the topcoat that belonged to Colonel C. P. Quattlebaum, the first Mayor of Conway. Giving a history of the coat, Burroughs informed Council that it was his understanding the topcoat had been given to former Mayor Greg Martin by Laura Quattlebaum Jordan. Following Mayor Martin's demise, Burroughs reported that the Martin Family, being unsure of the coat's ownership but with a desire to see it properly preserved, had approached Burroughs for assistance. Burroughs proposed that the City contact the Horry County Museum and ask for an agreement to donate the coat to the Museum for conservation/preservation with the stipulation that the coat will be returned to the City should the Museum, at any time, determine the coat is no longer wanted. **Motion:** Anderson made a motion, seconded by Blain-Olds, that, upon receipt of the C. P. Quattlebaum topcoat, the coat will be donated by the City of Conway to the Horry County Museum for permanent display with the agreement that, should the coat be removed from permanent display, it is to be returned to the City. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried. A time for the special presentation of the coat to the County is to be arranged.

Referencing the number of special event requests that regularly appear on Council agendas, Mayor Lawson stated that many special event requests are for recurring annual events or events that appear to be staff approval issues. She commented that, after contemplating this meeting's requests, she hoped Council could reach a consensus to allow staff to handle such special event applications unless they include requests such as street closures, alcohol, use of parks, etc, that require Council's approval.

C. Special event requests:

- 1. Saw You at the Pole Rally (National Day of Prayer for Students), September 26, 2012, 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm.** Rev. Trey Greene of North Conway Baptist Church has requested a special event permit for this event which is planned for Riverfront Park. No City support services are being requested. The event will not prevent use of the park by the public. Staff recommended approval of the request. **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Koon, to approve the special event application as presented. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.
- 2. Conway Ghost Walk, October 25-27, 2012, 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm nightly.** Conway Downtown Alive has requested a special event permit for this event which will take place in Downtown Conway. No City support services are being requested. Staff recommended approval of the request. **Motion:** Blain-Olds made a motion, seconded by Timbes, to approve the special event application as presented. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.
- 3. Dancing with Wool, October 27 through December 1, 2012 – Barbara Streeter of CREATE Conway.** Barbara Streeter of CREATE Conway and the Dixie Knitters have

requested a special event permit for this event. The applicants have requested permission to install the “Dancing with Wool” exhibits around six to eight trees and one light pole along Laurel Street from 2nd Avenue toward the Conway water tank. No City services are being requested. Timbes advised Council she had been asked to relay a citizen’s request that “yarn bombing” of the City’s oak trees not be allowed and that it was her request as well. Mayor Lawson commented that many of the telephone calls that have been made in opposition are from citizens who have given money annually for the care and protection of the City’s oak trees and she believed this to be a valid concern. She discussed with Streeter the possibility of a compromise to confine the project to the City-owned light poles in the same area of Laurel Street. **Motion:** Timbes made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to approve the special event application for the dates and location requested with the yarn to be placed only around the light poles on Laurel Street beginning at 2nd Avenue and continuing for as many light poles as needed. Mayor Lawson called for roll call vote. **Vote:** Mayor Lawson, Anderson, Goldfinch and Timbes voted in the affirmative; White, Blain-Olds, and Koon voted in the negative. Motion carried.

4. **Walk From Obesity, November 3, 2012, 7:00 am – 3:00 pm.** Dr. Morris Washington and Laurel Foster of Obesity Action Coalition/ASMBS have requested a special event permit for this event which will take place in Downtown Conway and Riverfront Park. The main event will be located on private property adjacent to the former Sidewheeler Restaurant. The walk will take place along the Riverwalk and will end before 11:30 am. No City support services are being requested. The event will not prevent use of the park by the public. Staff recommended approval of the request. **Motion:** White made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to approve the special event application as presented. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.
5. **St. Nicholas Winterfest 2012, November 15-17, 2012.** St. Paul’s Episcopal Church has requested a special event permit for this event which will take place in Downtown Conway at the Jerry Cox, Peanut Warehouse, Lower Warehouse, Tractor Shed, and former Sidewheeler Restaurant areas. Plans call for the sale of beer and wine during the event and a map of the proposed designated area for public consumption was included in the special event application. The event sponsor requested that pets not be allowed in the event area and, if the request is approved, agreed to be responsible for enforcement. Proceeds from the event will go toward various charities in Conway. Staff recommended approval of the request with the cost of City services provided to be absorbed through the City’s operating budget. **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Blain-Olds, to approve the special event application as presented. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.
6. **Rivertown Reindeer Run, December 1, 2012.** The Coastal South Carolina Chapter of the American Red Cross has requested a special event permit for this event which will take place in Downtown Conway and the Riverfront Park area. Plans call for event setup to begin at 6:30 am, with the race beginning at 8:00 am and ending at noon. The event will not prevent use of the park by the public. Staff recommended approval of the request with the cost of City support services provided to be absorbed by the City’s operating budget. **Motion:** Anderson made a motion, seconded by Timbes, to approve the special event application as presented. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

D. Employee Longevity Awards were presented to Albert Hickman, Public Works

Department; Rick Andrews and Tara Holmes, Police Department, 5 years; and Chris Williamson, Police Department, 10 years. Jason Eden, Public Works Department, 5 years, was also recognized for his service but was unable to attend the meeting. The presentation was made by Council Member White and the City Administrator.

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING:

- A. Ordinance #ZA2012-10-01 (A) Accepting the petition of Joyce A. Gregg to annex approximately 0.55 acres of property located at 3312 Cates Bay Highway (TMS# 136-11-01-001) and to rezone the property Low Density Residential (R-1) upon annexation.** This property is contiguous to the City limits. Ownership of the property has recently changed and the City can require annexation in order to make a change in the public utilities account. The City's Comprehensive Plan identifies the parcel as Low Density Residential. Staff recommended first reading approval. **Motion:** Blain-Olds made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to approve first reading of Ordinance #ZA2012-10-01 (A). **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.
- B. Ordinance #ZA2012-10-1 (B) Accepting the petition of Paul and Wendy Harmer to annex approximately 0.051 acres of a portion of property located at 3609 Long Avenue Extension (TMS# ? – Plat not yet recorded) and to rezone the property to Low Density Residential (R-1) upon annexation.** Mr. and Mrs. Harmer have recently purchased .051 acres of adjoining land and have combined it with their property. The recently-purchased property is currently located in Horry County and the Harmers are requesting that it be annexed into the City limits and zoned R-1. Leinwand advised that, although the Comprehensive Plan recommends RR or PD zoning for this property, staff believes R-1 zoning would also be appropriate and recommends first reading approval. **Motion:** Anderson made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch to approve first reading of Ordinance #ZA2012-10-01 (B). **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

- A. Four way stop at 9th Avenue/Palmetto Street/Grainger Road intersection.** Gosnell reported that, at the request of the City, SCDOT recently conducted a study of this intersection to determine if a four-way stop should be installed. The results of that study indicated that a four-way stop could be beneficial to the safety and operation of the intersection. SCDOT is now requesting the City to provide a letter of concurrence with the installation of the four-way stop. Upon receipt of that letter, SCDOT will proceed with the installation of the proposed improvements. Staff recommended that Council authorize the City Administrator to provide a letter of concurrence for the intersection improvements. **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Blain-Olds, to approve staff's recommendation. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried
- B. Proposal for improvements, including traffic light, at the intersection of 4th Avenue and Janette Street.** In May 2010 Council endorsed a potential improvement project for this intersection under the Waccamaw Regional Council of Governments' (WRCOG) rural intersection improvement program. At an onsite SCDOT scoping meeting held in April 2011, the following potential intersection improvements were discussed: the addition of a turn lane on Janette Street, signalization, and the installation of raised landscaped medians at an estimated cost of \$600,000. Leinwand reported that the WRCOG Rural Technical

Committee has approved the project and gave it highest ranking of the 16 rural intersection projects that the committee is recommending to the WRCOG Board of Directors. The WRCOG Board of Directors is expected to vote on the committee's recommendation at its September 10th meeting. If the projects are approved as recommended by the Rural Technical Committee, the 4th Avenue/Janette Street intersection project would be given the highest priority for start of preliminary engineering and design. Staff recommended that Council approve the rural intersection project at the intersection of 4th Avenue/Janette Street. **Motion:** Timbes made a motion, seconded by Blain-Olds, to approve the rural intersection project as presented. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

C. Proposed development of City-owned property at the corner of 4th Avenue and Main Street. The Design Review Committee of Conway Downtown Alive and staff from the City of Conway Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department have worked to create a development plan for this vacant lot. Hughes introduced Mr. Robert Miller who gave a powerpoint presentation of the development plan for Council. Miller advised that consideration is being given to a brick paver program such as "adopt a paver" to fund the cost of the brick paver areas outside of City funds. Hughes advised Council that the \$4,000 Palmetto Pride grant that the City had obtained will be used toward the cost of installing pavers, landscaping and benches on this property; however, the grant must be expended by December 1, 2012. Graham noted the access to the rear of the theatre across the back of the property as depicted on the plan is a 6' dedicated walkway and Miller reported that current plans call for this access to be retained and doubled in width. Other representatives from Conway Downtown Alive Board of Directors were also in attendance in support of the proposal. Staff recommended that the development plan be approved as presented. **Motion:** Timbes made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch, to approve staff's recommendation. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

D. Updated Emergency Operations Plan. Baker reviewed the major changes that had been made in the plan and noted that all other information in the plan has been updated as needed. Staff recommended that Council approve the plan as presented. **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by White, to approve the City of Conway 2012 Emergency Operations Plan. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION:

A. Fiscal year 2011-2012 budget update. Hardee provided Council with an update, by fund, on the City's financial status as of June 30, 2012. The financial update was presented as information only.

B. Introductory briefing on City Council iPads. City iPads were issued to Council members and Stephanie Carroll provided a brief introduction on their use. More in-depth training will be provided at a later date as the transition is made toward paperless Council meetings.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Koon, to enter into executive session to consider a committee appointment. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

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

Committee Appointment: Motion: Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Blain-Olds, to appoint Edwin F. “Chip” Brown, Jr. to the Smith Jones Joint Venture Committee for a term ending December 31, 2014. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes approved by City Council this _____ day of _____, 2012.

Vicky Lefler, City Clerk