

**MINUTES OF MEETING
CONWAY CITY COUNCIL
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
229 MAIN STREET
CONWAY, SOUTH CAROLINA
MONDAY – JUNE 13, 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, and Larry A. White

ABSENT: Council Member Jean M. Timbes was absent due to her attendance at Waccamaw Regional Council of Governments committee and board meetings.

STAFF: Bill Graham, City Administrator; Billy Joe Sawyer, Building Official; Michael Hardee, Finance Director; Foster Hughes, Parks, Recreation and Tourism Director; Timmy Williams, Beautification 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, Walt Smith, and others

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

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Lawson welcomed Rev. Cheryl Adamson of Palmetto Missionary 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 Anderson, to approve the agenda contents. Vote: Unanimous among those present. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA: **City Council minutes – May 23, 2011.** Motion: Chestnut made a motion, seconded by White, to approve the consent agenda. Vote: Unanimous among those present. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT: None.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: Employee Longevity Awards were presented to Jim Hill, Building Department, and Lakeisha Smith, Police Department, 5 years; Anthony Huggins, Beautification Department, 10 years; and Sandra Smart, Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department, 35 years. Howard Norman, Solid Waste Division, 5 years, was unable to be present. These employees were recognized by City Council for their years of service to the City.

PUBLIC HEARING AND ORDINANCE FOR FINAL READING: **Fiscal Year 2011-12 Budget Ordinance #2011-06-13 (A), An Ordinance to Raise Revenues and Adopt Budgets for the General Fund, Enterprise/Public Utility Fund, Street/Drainage Fund, Storm Water Fund, Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Fund, Accommodations Tax Fund, Community Development Fund, and Hospitality Fee Fund, City of Conway, South Carolina, for the**

Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2011, and Ending June 30, 2012. First reading of this ordinance was approved at the May 23, 2011, Council Meeting. The FY 2011-12 budget proposal totals \$28,040,525, a 9.9% decrease from the FY 2010-11 budget. No tax increase is being proposed; water and sewer rates are proposed to increase 10%. It was noted that some adjustments have been made in recreation fees. No cost of living or merit increases for employees are proposed. Staff recommended second reading approval.

Public Hearing: There was no comment from the public.

Motion: Koon made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch, to approve second reading of Ordinance #2011-06-13 (A). **Vote:** Chestnut voted in the negative; all others present voted in the affirmative. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE FOR FIRST READING: Ordinance #2011-06-27 (A), An Ordinance to Place a Moratorium on the Enforcement of Sections 7.1005.E., 11.1015.B., 4.2620.B., and 4.2720.B. of the City of Conway Zoning Ordinance. Graham reported that the Task Force on the proposed Unified Development Ordinance has recommended that, in light of current economic conditions, a moratorium be placed on the enforcement of certain sections of the Zoning Ordinance to stimulate economic development within the City. The sections cited relate to continuance of nonconforming uses, structures, or characteristics of use, and landscaping improvements. If approved, the moratorium will be in effect for a period of 18 months (date of second reading approval through December 31, 2012) after which time the need for continuance of this moratorium will be assessed. Staff recommended first reading approval. **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Koon, to approve first reading of Ordinance #2011-06-27 (A). **Vote:** Unanimous among those present. Motion carried.

ITEM FOR CONSIDERATION: Acceptance of \$400,000 SCDOT Enhancement Grant to construct Long Avenue Extension multi-use trail. The City was recently notified that its application for this grant had been approved. The grant for \$400,000, with matching City funds up to \$100,000, will be used to construct an 8' wide asphalt multi-use trail along Long Avenue Extension and Highway 813. In addition to the asphalt paving, several ditch sections will be tiled. Staff recommended acceptance of this grant and that Council authorize the SCDOT to provide administration and management for this project. **Motion:** Koon made a motion, seconded by White, to approve staff's recommendation. **Discussion:** Goldfinch advised council that he has had feedback from community residents in the project area and conveyed concerns regarding compensation for removing items from the right-of-way, parking space for persons using the trail, and increased traffic in these neighborhoods. He also expressed his concerns over the cost of maintenance for the trail and asked if Council would commit to exploring options for providing parking space. Goldfinch also inquired about notice to neighborhoods to be affected by the trail. Mayor Lawson noted that project area must be outside the GSATS boundary to qualify for these funds and only a small portion of the area inside the city limits met that criterion. She asked staff to research the availability of any dedicated open space in the project area neighborhoods that might be used for parking. **Vote:** Goldfinch voted in the negative; all others present voted in the affirmative. Motion carried.

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

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: None.

COUNCIL INPUT:

White

- stated, for the record, that the gates at Smith Jones Park were being closed at the request of the Smith Jones Board of Commissioners. Noting police coverage at this park on most weekends, he inquired if police patrol other city parks. Mayor Lawson responded that police coverage at that park was requested the Smith Jones Joint Venture Committee and that police coverage at other City parks has not been requested.
- inquired if the new City recreation center would have accessibility for the handicapped, including the blind. Hughes responded in the affirmative.

Koon

- noted the flower containers around the City appear to need maintenance and more flowering plants.
- asked staff to check on removal of the dirt that is still around the new replacement light poles at Collins Park.
- asked for and received contact information to arrange for an early trash pick-up.

Chestnut expressed her appreciation to the Police Chief for the recent deployment of the speed trailer on Snow Hill Drive and noted that its use appeared to have been beneficial.

Goldfinch commented on the enthusiasm that has been generated by the UDO Task Force recommendations and thanked the Task Force members for their time and effort.

Mayor Lawson

- expressed appreciation to the members of the Task Force and Council for their input at the workshop on the proposed UDO and to staff members for their efforts in preparing for the workshop.
- informed those present of the Waccamaw COG activities that prevented Council Member Timbes from attending this Council meeting.
- reminded Council that any service requests they may have during the week should be called in to Graham for timely attention by staff.

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

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

Vicky Lefler, City Clerk