GREENWOOD CITY COUNCIL

November 18, 2013 - 5:34 p.m.

MINUTES

PRESENT

Council Members: Mayor D. Welborn Adams, Niki Hutto, Linda Edwards, Betty Boles, Kenn Wiltshire, Johnny Williams, and Ronnie Ables. City Manager Charles Barrineau, Assistant to City Manager Julia Wilkie, City Clerk Steffanie Dorn, and City Attorneys Bacot and Padgett; Brian King of GwdToday.com and Chris Trainor of the Index Journal.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting in Council Chambers was called to order by Mayor Adams at 5:34 p.m. and he welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Councilor Linda Edwards gave the invocation.

QUORUM AND STATEMENT

Mayor Adams read the following statement, “In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, Chapter 4, Title 30, Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, an agenda has been posted on the front door of City Hall and notification of this meeting has been given to the news media.”

City Clerk Steffanie Dorn confirmed a quorum was present.

Mayor Adams then recognized Boy Scout Troop #270 from the First Baptist Church.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Adams asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda.

Motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Ronnie Ables, seconded by Betty Boles.

The motion passed unanimously.
RECOGNIZE

Stacey Thompson, Greenwood Museum Director - Railroad Center Project.

Under Public Appearances, City Manager Charles Barrineau recognized Greenwood Museum Director, Stacey Thompson, who updated Council on the Railroad Center Project. After distributing a booklet detailing renovation plans, she thanked Council for supporting the project by providing matching funds for the National Heritage Corridor grant.

Stacey Thompson reviewed the renovations that have already taken place and discussed the funding request for 2014. She noted funding for the third year will concentrate on long term stability.

Mayor Adams inquired of the use of local contractors and the status of railroad cars. Ms. Thompson confirmed that most contractors are local when possible. The only non local contractor was the Georgia Railroad Museum. The cars are still closed and won’t be opened until abatement is completed.

Councilor Kenn Wiltshire inquired of track reconstruction and Duke Power interest and contribution. Ms. Thompson stated only one train needs lifting while the others can have concrete ties poured in. She will not contact Duke Power until the site plan is near completion. Norfolk Southern Railroad will be visiting the project and will hopefully help with the tracks.

Stacey Thompson confirmed to Councilor Betty Boles that she will be looking into other funding sources including private donations.

City Manager Barrineau noted that $152,000 was added to the budget last year but not all of the funds have been used yet. Carolina Avenue will not impact renovation plans internally but externally such as parking and pedestrian access. He will present Council with a progress report to include the Entrance Phase at the beginning of the year.
CONSIDER

Ordinance No. 13-027 to Authorize the City Manager to Issue CPW Revenue Bond Anticipation Notes in 2014.

(1st reading)

Under New Business, City Manager Charles Barrineau discussed Ordinance No. 13-027 that authorizes the City Manager to issue CPW revenue bond anticipation notes for 2014. This is a standard ordinance considered by Council every year that allows the CPW to use bonds, if they have cash flow problems, to purchase natural gas.

There was no discussion from Council.

A motion to authorize the City Manager to issue CPW revenue bond anticipation notes in 2014 was made by Niki Hutto, seconded by Linda Edwards.

The motion passed unanimously.

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CONSIDER

Ordinance No. 13-028 to Adopt the Budget for 2014

(1st reading)

City Manager Charles Barrineau discussed the proposed budget for 2014. The General Fund is balanced at $14,288,711 to include Victim Funds, Accommodations, and Hospitality tax budgets with no significant changes made since the work session. Some of the highlighted items included the 5 mill tax increase, a three percent cost of living adjustment for staff, the purchase of a fire pumper, a sanitation residential loader truck, five patrol cars, and one leaf and limb loader truck.

Councilor Wiltshire inquired of the sanitation truck. City Manager Barrineau stated that the Sidearm Standard is budgeted but the order will be on hold until CPW decides what to do.

A motion to adopt the budget for 2014 was made by Kenn Wiltshire, seconded by Niki Hutto.

Those who voted in favor were Mayor Adams, Niki Hutto, Linda Edwards, Betty Boles, and Kenn Wiltshire. Johnny Williams and Ronnie Ables voted against.

The motion passed 5-2.

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CONSIDER

Ordinance No. 13-029 to Levy Tax for the City of Greenwood for 2014.

(1st reading)

City Manager Charles Barrineau discussed the proposed ordinance to levy tax for the City of Greenwood in 2014. There will be a five mill tax increase from 98.7 to 103.7 mills. The budget will be publicized according to State Law and the public hearing will be scheduled for December 16 at 5:30 p.m.

There was no discussion from Council.

A motion to levy tax for the City of Greenwood in 2014 was made by Kenn Wiltshire, seconded by Linda Edwards.

Those who voted in favor were Mayor Adams, Niki Hutto, Linda Edwards, Betty Boles, and Kenn Wiltshire. Johnny Williams and Ronnie Ables voted against.

The motion passed 5-2.

-attach-

CONSIDER

Ordinance No. 13-030 to Authorize the City Manager to Issue Tax Anticipation Notes in 2014.

(1st reading)

City Manager Charles Barrineau discussed the proposed ordinance to authorize the City Manager to issue tax anticipation notes in 2014 if the City has a cash flow problem.

Councilor Edwards inquired if the ordinance was ever implemented. City Clerk Steffanie Dorn stated that it hasn’t been used during her 14 years of employment at the City but tax anticipation notes has been used before. Councilor Johnny Williams noted that tax anticipation notes were used when there wasn’t a fund balance in place.

A motion to authorize the City Manager to issue tax anticipation notes in 2014 was made by Kenn Wiltshire, seconded by Niki Hutto.

The motion passed unanimously.

-attach-
CONSIDER

Ordinance No. 13-031 Amending Appendix A, Rate 8.11, Appendix B & C of the City of Greenwood Business License Ordinance, Chapter 10, Article II of the City of Greenwood Code of Ordinances.

(1st reading)

City Manager Barrineau discussed the updated codes to the City Business License Ordinance that aligns businesses with the rate structure to match the Internal Revenue Service profitability statistics. The ordinance is revenue neutral so the City will get the same amount of revenue. Some categories will increase while others will decrease.

There was no discussion from Council.

A motion to amend the Business License Ordinance was made by Niki Hutto, seconded by Betty Boles.

The motion passed unanimously.

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CONSIDER

To Authorize the City Manager to Sign Elevator Maintenance Contract with Otis Elevator Company.

City Manager Barrineau informed Council of the elevator service contract that was originally signed three decades ago with Dover which was then bought by ThyssenKrupp. In an attempt to get better pricing, requests for contract bids were sent to area elevator operators with City business licenses and Otis Elevator Company had the better bid. If approved, City Manager Barrineau will not sign a contract with Otis Elevator Company until the one with ThyssenKrupp is resolved.

Councilor Edwards inquired why ThyssenKrupp will not be renewing their contract. City Manager Barrineau stated that several letters were sent to ThyssenKrupp but no bids were received from them until they received a notice of the City’s attempt to cancel the contract.

A motion to authorize the City Manager to sign an elevator maintenance contract with Otis Elevator Company was made by Niki Hutto, seconded by Kenn Wiltshire.

The motion passed unanimously.
CONSIDER  

Executive Session to Discuss a Legal Matter.  

City Manager Barrineau requested that Council meet in an Executive Session to discuss a legal matter. No action will be taken.

A motion to enter into Executive Session was made by Kenn Wiltshire, seconded by Betty Boles.

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting recessed at 6 p.m.
The meeting reconvened at 6:25 p.m.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS  

City Manager Barrineau reminded Council of the upcoming events:

December 9 – The Mayor’s Lunch
December 12 – The Administrative Dinner at the Federal Building

Christmas lights were also discussed.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS  

There were no comments at this time.

ADJOURNMENT  

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Niki Hutto, seconded by Linda Edwards.

Mayor Adams adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

D. Welborn Adams, Mayor

ATTEST:  

City Clerk and Treasurer