

GREENWOOD CITY COUNCIL

April 16, 2012 - 5:34 p.m.

MINUTES

PRESENT

Council Members: Mayor D. Welborn Adams, Niki Hutto, Linda Edwards, Betty Boles, Johnny Williams, and Ronnie Ables. City Manager Charles Barrineau, Assistant to City Manager Julia Wilkie, City Clerk Steffanie Dorn, Police Chief Gerald Brooks, City Attorneys Bacot and Padgett; Michael Davis of GwdToday and Chris Trainor of the Index Journal.

Kenn Wiltshire entered the meeting at 5:46 p.m.

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.

STATEMENT AND
QUORUM

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."

The City Clerk, Steffanie Dorn, stated that there was a quorum present.

APPROVAL OF
CONSENT AGENDA

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

Motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Johnny Williams, seconded by Betty Boles.

The motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER

To Accept
Results of 2011
Audit as
Presented by
David Phillips
of Greene,
Finney and
Horton.

City Manager Barrineau recognized David Phillips and Keith Campbell of Greene, Finney and Horton who conducted a power point presentation of the City of Greenwood Financial Audit as of December 31, 2011.

Mr. David Phillips noted that revenues came in at one percent under budget from the areas of property taxes and business licenses. Expenditures were up \$700,000 due to the HVAC project at the Municipal Complex, more debt service on the lease purchase, utility costs, and gas prices. Because the City staff planned for the budget shortfall, it turned out \$200,000 better than expected by salary savings from not replacing turnover positions as quickly.

His summary included:

- No findings of material weaknesses
- Single Audit was required for 2011
 - The ARRA Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant and the Augusta Fields-Environmental Protection Agency Grant were audited as major programs this year
- Required communications to management and those charged with governance - no issues to report
- Unqualified opinion on the Financial Statements from GF&H
- Good financial condition as of December 31, 2011
- The City has not come out of the economic slump yet - good management of finances in tough economic times.

Councilor Kenn Wiltshire entered into the meeting at 5:46 p.m.

A motion to accept the audit was made by Johnny Williams, seconded by Ronnie Ables.

The motion passed unanimously.

-attach-

Councilor Betty Boles commended the Finance Department for a job well done because of their professionalism and hard work.

David Phillips stated that the City of Greenwood has a really solid staff and the larger towns and cities he's worked with don't have the same quality.

Councilor Kenn Wiltshire thanked Mr. Phillips for his passionate presentation of turning numbers into something exciting. Councilor Linda Edwards stated that she's happy to see the audit presentation in a form that she can understand.

CONSIDER
Proclamation
for
Administrative
Professionals
Week.

The Administrative Professionals Day Chair, Faye Leslie of the Emerald Chapter International Association of Administrative Professionals (IAAP), invited Council Members to attend their annual seminar at Piedmont Technical College on Wednesday, April 25. She spoke of Emerald Chapter's history and the significance of the 70th Anniversary of IAAP and the 60th Anniversary of Administrative Professionals Day.

Mayor Adams then presented her a signed proclamation for Administrative Professionals Week.

CONSIDER
Resolution No.
12-008 to
Endorse and
Support a
"Complete
Streets: Policy
to Provide Safe
and Convenient
Access for All
Users of
Roadways.

City Manager Barrineau reminded Council of the work session presentation from Rachel Bronson with the Palmetto Cycling Coalition and recommended the adoption of a "Complete Streets" policy resolution.

A motion to accept Resolution No. 12-008 was made by Niki Hutto, seconded by Betty Boles.

The motion passed unanimously.

-attach-

CONSIDER

Authorizing
City Manager
and City Clerk
to Accept
Assignment of
Property from
the Greenwood
County
Forfeited Land
Commission.

City Manager Barrineau noted that City staff tries to avoid recommending Council to demolish property, but reminded them that one component of the Edgefield/South Main Corridor Master Plan is the need to begin acquiring abandoned and dilapidated property. There is a large house at the front and a small modular home in the back at 706 Edgefield Street. The Forfeit Land Commission is willing to assign the tract to the City at no cost. The City Manager believes assembling these properties and working with the surrounding neighborhoods and communities for redevelopment is the only way that this area will be able to recover in the long term.

Councilor Kenn Wiltshire asked the estimated cost of demolition and if the building possessed anything of architectural value. City Manager Barrineau stated that he didn't have the exact quote but estimates about \$5,000 to \$7,500 and he can schedule a walk-through for anything salvageable. Councilor Johnny Williams confirmed to Linda Edwards that the building was once a boarding home 15 -20 years ago.

Motion to accept assignment of property made by Niki Hutto, seconded by Linda Edwards.

The motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER

Authorization of
Funding to
Demolish
Substandard
Residential
Structures
Identified by
the Building
Official.

City Manager Charles Barrineau distributed a list of targeted substandard residential housing for demolition that included: 1030 Cokesbury Street, 431 James Street, 605 Hall Avenue, 517 Griffin Avenue, 161 Robinson Avenue, 706 Edgefield Avenue, 806 & 720 Grendel Avenue, and 908 Chappell Street. He noted that these properties have owners that haven't paid property taxes in multiple years or either are out of town and have ignored the City's request to repair what's in severe decline. He asked Council to allow staff to begin the process of working with the City Attorneys to conduct a title search on each property to insure that every due diligence was done on the City's behalf to contact any potential owner and take bids to demolish the properties. He also asked Council to set aside \$25,000 of Community Funds to demolish the properties based on the severity.

Councilor Edwards informed Mayor Adams that 908 Chappel Street is located off of Milwee Avenue.

Motion to authorize funding to demolish substandard residential structures was made by Linda Edwards, seconded by Johnny Williams.

The motion passed unanimously.

CITY MANAGER
COMMENTS

City Manager Charles Barrineau noted that the Phoenix storage building upgrade project should be finished by the end of this week and will set a time for Council to tour.

CITY COUNCIL
COMMENTS

There were no comments at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Adams adjourned the meeting at 6:14 p.m.

D. Welborn Adams, Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk and Treasurer