

GREENWOOD CITY COUNCIL

August 20, 2012 - 5:29 p.m.

MINUTES

PRESENT Council Members: Mayor D. Welborn Adams, Niki Hutto, Linda Edwards, Kenn Wiltshire, Johnny Williams, and Ronnie Ables. City Manager Charles Barrineau, Assistant to City Manager Julia Wilkie, City Clerk Steffanie Dorn, City Fire Chief Strange, and City/County Planning Director Phil Lindler; City Attorneys Adam Bacot and Tripp Padgett; and Chris Trainor of the Index Journal.

ABSENT Betty Boles

CALL TO ORDER The meeting in Council Chambers was called to order by Mayor Adams at 5:29 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."

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 Ronnie Ables, seconded by Kenn Wiltshire.

The motion passed unanimously.

RECOGNIZE

Ms. Erica
Wofford of
Mathews'
Community Crime
Watch.

Under Public Appearances, City Manager Charles Barrineau recognized Ms. Erica Wofford representing the Mathews Mill Village Community Crime Watch group. The group addressed several issues of vandalism, blocking traffic, and harassing comments committed by juveniles throughout the day and late hours of the evening. She thinks a curfew can be used as a tool to protect the minors under 17 from other kids that may commit these crimes during curfew hours. Ms. Wofford distributed a rough draft of a proposed curfew of children under the age of 18 with sample curfews from other counties and suggested a designated "curfew center" to get juveniles off the streets that offers counseling or referrals for parents who may need help with childcare.

Councilor Kenn Wiltshire asked if Ms. Wofford knew the percentage of children outside of Mathews causing trouble and if there was a Neighborhood Watch committee. Ms. Wofford stated that 25% comes from other neighborhoods and are older than the children in Mathews. There were already three to four neighborhood watch meetings and they're working on a Crime Stoppers Neighborhood designation.

Councilor Niki Hutto stated that funding, housing, screening, and liability for the curfew center would be an issue. She asked if Ms. Wofford discussed the increased adult and juvenile crime activities with the Police Department and suggested that the Mathews Neighborhood group should offer neighborhood activities for children afterschool when most juvenile problems occur. Ms. Wofford stated that she hasn't looked into a place that can be used as a facility but is working on the aspects of it. She met with Police Chief Brooks who made several arrests based on drug convictions and things have gotten much better in the community.

Councilor Linda Edwards noted that a curfew can't be done for only one community but should be citywide in which she is in favor of. She encouraged Ms. Wofford to utilize the neighborhood programs already in place from Mr. Marcus Scurry and Faith Christian Center and educate the parents to help. Ms. Wofford agreed that a curfew should be citywide and will contact Mr. Marcus Scurry and Faith Christian Center. She also noted that there would be exemptions for children participating in school activities, religious events, and attending movies.

Mayor Adams polled the audience to see who was for or against a curfew. (The majority was in favor.) He then thanked Ms. Wofford for coming forth with a proactive approach to the problem and stated that the City will work on it as well.

RECOGNIZE

Ms. Debra Case
of Uptown
Merchants.

City Manager Charles Barrineau recognized Ms. Debra Case of the Floral Case located at 202 Main Street in Uptown Greenwood.

Ms. Case stated that she and other Uptown merchants have issues regarding parking. Ms. Case asked Council for parking limits to be unified citywide to two hours, reducing the three hour limit fronting McCaslans to the Floral Case. She noted that there is no sufficient parking during business hours when the Arts Center at the Federal Building has events occurring during the day. She asked the City for enforcement of parking limits on the full length of Oregon and Main Street. She also suggested that the City should be proactive in planning for future development with the push for upper story housing in Uptown.

Mr. Bill Wilson, owner of Thayers, distributed and read a street parking proposal study that was done before Christmas last year. Signatures of other Uptown Merchants listed on the proposal are interested in pursuing guidelines, or something similar to it, and would like unified parking to be done before Christmas. He is concerned about losing customers if they're not able to park in front of businesses. Mr. Wilson suggested that the City should send letters to all businesses Uptown emphasizing the importance and need to keep on-street parking free for customers and clients, explaining the rule and fines once guidelines are accepted.

Councilor Johnny Williams didn't know that there was three hour parking. City Manager Barrineau stated there are designated areas, particularly around beauty salons and special events that have three hour parking because two hours isn't enough time to receive services and attend events. He stated that the City is also trying to be flexible with residential property owners.

Councilor Wiltshire suggested that Uptown residences have parking passes because they shouldn't have to park across town. Mr. Wilson stated that it would be okay if residents parked behind the businesses because sometimes they may have multiple cars and guests.

Mayor Adams stated that Council will look into the parking situation.

RECOGNIZE

Margaret Blocker
of 1405 Sanka
Street.

City Manager Charles Barrineau stated that Ms. Blocker was unable to attend the City Council meeting due to illness but will continue to address her issues regarding incidents related to the In and Out Deli.

CONSIDER

Ordinance No.
12-017 A Tele-
communications
Franchise and
Consent
Ordinance with
South Carolina
Tele-
communications
Group Holdings
LLC (SCTG) d/b/a
Spirit
Communications.

Under Public Hearings, City Manager Charles Barrineau reviewed proposed Ordinance No. 12-017 and stated that there were no changes since first reading.

No one spoke in favor or against Ordinance No. 12-017.

There was no discussion from Council.

Motion to approve Ordinance 12-017 was made by Niki Hutto, seconded by Johnny Williams.

The motion passed unanimously.

(2nd reading)

City Manager Barrineau confirmed to Councilor Edwards that Spirit Communications is not a cable company.

-attach-

CONSIDER

Ordinance No. 12-016 Amending the City of Greenwood's Official Zoning Map (Ordinance 04-020) by Rezoning a 1.91 Acres Parcel of Land Located at 200 West Kirksey Drive from HI (Heavy Industrial) to NC (Neighborhood Commercial).

(2nd reading)

Under Unfinished Business, City Manager Charles Barrineau reviewed the request to rezone a parcel of land located at 200 West Kirksey Drive from Heavy Industrial to Neighborhood Commercial.

A motion to approve Ordinance No. 12-016 was made by Ronnie Ables, seconded by Niki Hutto.

The motion passed unanimously.

-attach-

CONSIDER

Appointments to Vacant Positions on the City of Greenwood Board of Architectural Review (BAR) to Replace Carmen Kinney, Willie Lee, and Joyce Turner.

Mayor D. Welborn Adams noted that this item will continue to be on the agenda until all the vacancies are filled. City Manager Barrineau stated that Dr. Dan Harrison has agreed to serve on the BAR. He suggested that Council appoint him to replace Carmen Kinney.

A motion to appoint Dr. Dan Harrison to replace Carmen Kinney on the BAR was made by Linda Edwards, seconded by Niki Hutto.

The motion passed unanimously.

Councilor Hutto stated that the Historical Society suggested Gene Tinsley because he owns a historical home in Hodges and would be willing to serve.

CONSIDER

To Authorize the City Manager and City Clerk to Submit a Loan Application to the South Carolina Brownfields Cleaning Revolving Loan Fund.

City Manager Charles Barrineau informed Council of his research to find an additional funding source and suggested the Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund operated by the State of South Carolina through the Catawba Regional Council of Governments. The City can apply for up to \$1 million with a 10 year payback for brownfield cleanup, specifically the Greenwood Mill site on Kitson Street. He recommended Council to allow City Staff to secure a loan up to \$500,000 where 1/5 of it would be a grant in which the City would only have to pay \$400,000 at 1% interest that the City can spread over the 10 year period.

Motion to allow City Staff to submit a loan application to the South Carolina Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund was made by Johnny Williams, seconded by Niki Hutto.

The motion passed unanimously.

Councilor Williams noted a majority of residents that were present at a neighborhood meeting voted to tear down the smokestack and offices at the Greenwood Mill site. Councilor Hutto stated that there may be private funding available to keep the original office buildings from being demolished. Councilor Williams suggested that the neighborhood community center can be remodeled because it's worth saving more than the office building in the field.

City Manager Barrineau reminded Council of their vote to give staff authorization to recommend a contract to the Department of Commerce with NEO to remove the mill debris and elevator shaft. All the existing asbestos from the two buildings (warehouse and original office) are being removed whether they're torn down or not. He did state that there will be enough time to decide what to do with the buildings.

A structural engineer will review the smokestack and the City is continuing negotiations of landfill fees. Councilor Williams stated that Greenwood County waived landfill fees for Lander University and should waive the City fees also. Councilor Hutto suggested there should be a comparison of Lander fees waived for their debris and the estimate of the Greenwood Mill site debris.

ADJOURNMENT

Linda Edwards made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Mayor Adams adjourned the meeting at 6:25 p.m.

D. Welborn Adams, Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk and Treasurer