

GREENWOOD CITY COUNCIL

August 15, 2011 - 5:27 p.m.

MINUTES

PRESENT Council Members: Mayor D. Welborn Adams, 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 Attorney Tripp Padgett; Leslie Lane of Gwdtoday.com and Chris Trainor of the Index Journal.

Niki Hutto entered the meeting at 5:32 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER The meeting in Council Chambers was called to order by Mayor Adams at 5:27 p.m.

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 Betty Boles, seconded by Linda Edwards.

The motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER Presentation of Medal of Valor. Under Special Recognition, City Manager Charles Barrineau stated that it is always an honor to recognize the City of Greenwood staff. He then recognized City of Greenwood Police Chief Gerald Brooks.

Before he made his remarks regarding the medal of valor, Police Chief Gerald Brooks recognized the other police officers that were present, as well as their colleagues who were not there but equally deserving because of their bravery. He stated that every time these police officers come to work, they're literally putting themselves in harm's way. Chief Brooks then quoted various statistics of United States police officers who were killed in the line of duty versus soldiers on the battlefield in Operation Iraqi Freedom during the same timeframe.

Police Chief Brooks narrated the incident involving a shooting and stated that the three police officers performed in an exemplary manner while under fire bringing credit to themselves, the Greenwood Police Department, and the law enforcement profession. He noted that their actions were consistent with their training, departmental policy, and South Carolina statutes. Chief Brooks presented the Medal of Valor, which is given to a police officer who risks his life to save that of another individual during the performance of his duty, to Lieutenant Eric Lewis, Master Patrolman Dyar Archibald, and Master Patrolman Daniel Watts.

They all were given a standing ovation after receiving their medals.

Mayor Adams thanked Chief Brooks and the police department for their very impressive services.

Councilwoman Niki Hutto entered the meeting at 5:32 p.m.

CONSIDER

Ordinance No.
11-012 Amending
Section 1-13 of
the City of
Greenwood Code
of Ordinances.

(2nd reading)

Under Public Hearings, City Manager Charles Barrineau explained the typographical error in the codes where a particular word in Section 1-13 was supposed to be 'No specific penalty' instead of "So" that was later changed to "A".

No one spoke in favor or against the ordinance.

There was no discussion from Council.

The motion to amend Section 1-13 of the Greenwood Code of Ordinances was made by Kenn Wiltshire, seconded by Betty Boles.

The motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER
 Ordinance No.
 11-013 Amending
 Ordinance Number
 10-021, the City
 of Greenwood
 2011 General
 Budget.

City Manager Charles Barrineau stated that this ordinance would amend this year's budget by adding \$100,000 from the Hospitality Tax Account that will be distributed to the Arts Council at the Federal Building, The Greenwood Theatre, and The Greenwood Museum.

No one spoke in favor or against the ordinance.

There were no comments from City Council.

(2nd reading)

Motion to accept Ordinance No. 11-013 Amending the City of Greenwood 2011 General Budget was made by Johnny Williams, seconded by Linda Edwards.

Those who voted in favor were Mayor Adams, Linda Edwards, Betty Boles, Kenn Wiltshire, Johnny Williams and Ronnie Ables. Niki Hutto abstained due to a conflict of interest.

The motion passed.

-attach-

CONSIDER
 Ordinance No.
 11-014 Renaming
 Cooper Road to
 Cooper Road
 North and Cooper
 Road South.

City Manager Charles Barrineau discussed Greenwood County's request to rename Cooper Road that is split by the CSX railroad crossing. The only properties impacted are within the Connie Maxwell campus and the Planning Commission recommends approval.

No one spoke in favor or against the request.

(1st reading)

Councilor Linda Edwards asked if the road was on the left or right of Maxwell Avenue. City Manager Barrineau stated that it's on the left directly across Jenkins Springs Road Fire Station.

Motion to approve renaming Cooper Road to Cooper Road North and Cooper Road South was made by Niki Hutto, seconded by Johnny Williams.

The motion passed unanimously.

-attach-

CONSIDER

Ordinance No. 11-015 to Authorize the City Manager to Sign a Lease Agreement with the Greater Greenwood Parks and Trails Foundation, Inc. for Approximately 54 +/- Acres Located at the Corner of Grace Street Extension and Highway 72 Bypass.

(1st reading)

Under New Business, City Manager Charles Barrineau introduced the proposed ordinance and reminded Council that a motion passed at the June meeting to accept the deed from the Commissioners of Public Works (CPW) for this property with the understanding that a lease agreement would be entered into with the Greater Greenwood Parks and Trails Foundation. City Council must have two readings of an ordinance to enter into the lease.

Councilor Niki Hutto asked if Section 4-A has been changed to outline a timeframe for the master plan and safety plan. City Attorney Tripp Padgett stated that it changed from the first draft.

Councilor Johnny Williams stated that the Parks and Trails Foundation should have liability when they start working on it. City Attorney Padgett stated there will be Workers Comp coverage for workers and "No Trespassing" signs can be posted. Mayor Adams stated that he doesn't think they're going to sue themselves and the City should not put any more burdens on the Parks and Trails Foundation.

A motion to authorize the City Manager to sign a lease agreement with the Greater Greenwood Parks and Trails Foundation was made by Betty Boles, seconded by Kenn Wiltshire.

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.

CONSIDER

Resolution No.
11-012 to
Recognize the
Hard Work and
Dedication of
the City of
Greenwood
Employees.

City Manager Charles Barrineau introduced Resolution 11-012 and stated that Council has already seen the hard work and dedication tonight that the City has with over 190 employees. He noted that City staff has come through a great summer season with the festivals, as stated in the resolution. Mayor Adams stated that it is a great idea that they're honored.

Motion to recognize the hard work and dedication of City of Greenwood employees was made by Niki Hutto, seconded by Kenn Wiltshire.

The motion passed unanimously.

-attach-

CONSIDER

Resolution No.
11-013 to
Approve the
Expenditure of
City Funds as a
Match for a
Community
Development
Block Grant for
Efforts to
Secure, Remove
Debris, Assess,
and Revitalize
the Former
Greenwood Mill
Property Located
at 700 Kitson
Street.

City Manager Charles Barrineau introduced Resolution 11-013 and stated that the City is required to include a resolution committing City funds as a match with any CDBG application. The anticipated budget for this project is close to \$1 million and the City is required to present up to 10%, over \$100,000 in City funds that could be spread out over two years. Community Development Funds are available and staff will also be looking at ways the City can provide "in kind" services. If Council authorizes these funds, the work plan will include asbestos analysis, removal of existing dilapidated fencing, and installation of new fencing to secure the property and make sure children can't get in. The City must also put up more "No Trespassing" signage.

The grant process is due in September and funding awards will be given around Christmas. He doesn't suspect that the City can turn dirt until the Spring 2012 if the City is successful in getting the award.

Mayor Adams asked if the in kind service be counted as a 10% match? City Manager Barrineau stated that he fully anticipates the City is going to spend over the \$100,000 in cash over a two year period. The City will use the Community Development Funds as much as possible but local funds must be used for this. He has received a commitment from the CPW to provide water to keep the dust down during the demolition at no cost. CPW has also added aerial nighttime security lighting around the perimeter of the property.

The City is also working with the County to waive landfill fees and Duke Energy has a number of electricity transmission poles on the site that needs to be removed.

Councilor Kenn Wiltshire asked why he saw quite a few pallets of bricks stacked when he was told that there wasn't anything of value left on the site. He also asked about selling the flooring and weed control on the two remaining buildings. City Manager Barrineau stated that a contractor quoted approximately 15,000 cubic yards of stuff which would not be worth the salvageable value to go through it all. The City won't be able to give any environmental clearance on any of that material because of asbestos on the property, most of that brick is covered in lead paint, and the wood has creosote in it. The materials could be sold to a salvager who then goes through the environmental channels to clean it, but not a citizen. The City is looking at the ability to maybe crush materials, secure the area with fencing and board up the two severely damaged building after the historical items have been removed.

Councilor Betty Boles asked if the grant will be approved in September. City Manager Barrineau stated that this will be a strong application with a lot of good partners. Clemson University School of Architecture Planning and Development will have a class at the mill and the community will actually do a conceptual master plan on how to redevelop this site and be better tied to the downtown. A similar study was done at the Poe Mill in Greenville. The City secured \$15,000 in private funding for that master plan. Having a strong Neighborhood Association is an important part of the application process.

Councilor Linda Edwards asked how much the project will cost. City Manager Barrineau stated that it is estimated to total \$1 million. The Valley Brook Road project is a small sample of what the City is getting ready to do. Councilor Boles asked what would happen if this project doesn't get grant funding. The City Manager stated that the City will be looking for more funds such as applying for more from the Environmental Protection Agency. There is also a 50/50 loan assistance program where it has to be paid back but the City will get 50% of grants. Councilor Niki Hutto hopes that Commerce sees the value of this project as the final piece of the puzzle to all the other projects.

A motion to approve the expenditure of city funds as a match for a community development block grant was made by Johnny Williams, seconded by Niki Hutto.

The motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER
Acceptance of
Community
Infrastructure
Grant from the
Community
Development
Block Grant
(CDBG) Program
Approved for the
Southeast
Waterline
Upgrade Project.

City Manager Charles Barrineau introduced the next item and reported that the City has received a CDBG waterline award of \$405,610. The CPW will be committing the funds to match the award for Beechwood, Botany Court, Canyon Drive, Cherry Court, Roswell Road, and Still Drive. In total over the past five years, the City will have received over \$2.4 million for waterline upgrades due to a very successful partnership with the CPW. He recommends that Council accept these funds.

Motion to accept the community infrastructure grant was made by Betty Boles, seconded by Linda Edwards.

The motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER
Acceptance of
Bids for West
Court Avenue
Streetscape and
Authorize City
Funding.

City Manager Charles Barrineau introduced the next item and stated that the City received three bids. The first bid was about \$470,000 from LJ out of Columbia. The next bid was \$369,000 from AOS, a company out of Columbia, and there was a 'no bid' from Town & Country of Greenwood.

The total cost of the initial streetscape was \$369,000. The City has also looked at water and sewer line improvements for Court Avenue. The City will need an additional \$63,000 to improve water capacity and the hydrant locations. It will cost \$33,000 to upgrade the sewer line and added improvements to the CPW sidewalk entrance because it is a heavily used area.

The total project will cost \$485,321 with the difference of \$5,000 more of engineering fees for those additions totaling about \$117,758 in City funds. Even though the City anticipated spending \$50,000, the City Manager recommends spending \$117,758 of Hospitality Tax Funds to get water and sewer line upgrades to prepare for future growth. The project will look almost identical to Oregon and Maxwell Avenues with the decorative black lighting and water and electrical lines being located underground.

Mayor Adams thinks this is a wonderful idea. He asked if Greenwood County was aware of the upgrades. City Manager Barrineau stated that the project will go onto Monument Street with crosswalks similar to those next to Thayers.

A motion to accept the bids for the West Court Avenue streetscape and authorize City funding was made by Niki Hutto, seconded by Kenn Wiltshire.

The motion passed.

City Manager Barrineau stated that this will require a budget ordinance amendment in October or November. He anticipates 30 days to complete the paperwork and hopes to have the project completed around Christmas.

CONSIDER

Reappointing
Lillian Thomas
to the Housing
Authority Board
of
Commissioners.

City Manager Charles Barrineau introduced the next item and asked Council to reappoint Lillian Thomas to a four year term.

Motion to reappoint Lillian Thomas to the Housing Authority Board of Commissioners was made by Betty Boles, seconded by Niki Hutto.

The motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER

Appointment of
Mr. Stacy Kirby
to the
Accommodations
Tax Committee
replacing Mr.
Mort Walston of
Fatz Café.

City Manager Barrineau noted that the next scheduled City Council work session is September 5th, Labor Day, so a joint meeting with the A-Tax Committee to hear requests will be September 12. He recommends that Council appoint Stacy Kirby, General Manager of O'Charley's, to replace Mort Walston who is no longer employed at FATZ Cafe.

Motion to replace Mort Walston with Stacy Kirby on the A-tax Committee was made by Niki Hutto, seconded by Kenn Wiltshire.

The motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER Appointments to a City of Greenwood International Property Maintenance Code Board of Appeals.

City Manager Charles Barrineau asked Council to appoint members to a new International Property Maintenance Appeals Board. According to the code, anytime someone appeals the order of the building official and staff, they are supposed to go through a community board of appeals. He found a group with diverse architectural construction and community representation background to include Mr. Calhoun Mays, President of Town & County Construction and Property Management; Mr. Lee Dorn, an architect with Furman Architects; Mr. Wayne Kelly, a resident in the Greenwood Mill Village; Mrs. Anne Gunby, President of the Wisewood Homeowners Association; and Arlene Morgan who lives in Grendel to hear appeals of overgrowth, abandoned houses, and dilapidated structures.

Councilor Edwards asked how the City Manager selected that group. He stated that some volunteered and others were recommended but he will be glad to have alternatives.

Motion to appoint to the City of Greenwood International Property Maintenance Code Board of Appeals was made by Johnny Williams, seconded by Ronnie Ables.

Councilor Edwards asked if Council will meet with the group. City Manager Barrineau invited the group for a working lunch meeting or they can come at a work session.

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

The motion passed.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS There were no comments from the City Manager at this time.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS There were no comments from City Council at this time.

