

GREENWOOD CITY COUNCIL

August 6, 2018 - 5:31 p.m.

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT Council Members: Mayor D. Welborn Adams, Linda Edwards, Kenn Wiltshire, Matthew Miller, and Ronnie Ables; City Manager Charles Barrineau, Assistant City Manager Julie Wilkie, City Clerk Steffanie Dorn, and City Attorney Tripp Padgett; Adam Benson from the Index-Journal.

Councilor Niki Hutto entered the meeting at 5:38 p.m.

ABSENT Councilor Betty Boles.

CALL TO ORDER Mayor D. Welborn Adams called the special called meeting in Council Chambers to order at 5:31 p.m.

City Manager Charles Barrineau 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."

City Clerk Steffanie Dorn confirmed a quorum was present.

RECOGNIZE Carolyn Phelps. Under the only Public Appearance, City Manager Barrineau recognized Ms. Carolyn Phelps of 157 North Street, Williamston, South Carolina, who voiced her concerns regarding the violence and shootings around African American communities in Greenwood. She offered the following suggestions:

- Immediately enact a curfew for those who are under the age of 18.
- Raise taxes to fund more police staff; she noted a suicide call to 911 was delayed because all police staff was responding to the Greenwood Mall shooting incident.
- Create a special task force for a more consistent police presence in the communities, both on foot and roadblocks.
- Enforce stricter gun laws.

- Encourage citizens to talk by offering Cash awards/Crime Stoppers.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Linda Edwards informed Ms. Phelps that all her suggestions were already made but were met with opposition. She noted that it takes money to hire extra policemen, but no one wants their taxes raised.

Councilor Kenn Wiltshire noted that practicality is an issue because even with a tax increase there isn't enough money to fund the personnel to enforce a curfew.

Cynthia Tolbert of 109 Richard Street suggested utilizing citizens within the community with City Council reinforcement. She informed them there were people, that Council wouldn't expect or would be afraid to talk to, who are willing to patrol their areas. Outreach should come from within the community instead of the outside looking in. Mayor Adams stated Council members are unafraid to canvas inner city communities because they've done it several times before. Councilor Niki Hutto noted some citizens are fearful of policemen and that Council will support community activists but are unable to provide funds.

Councilor Edwards informed Jameena (Sandy) Anderson of 105-C Jasmine Court that most of the proposed curfew opposition came from African-American people not wanting anyone else telling them how to raise their kids.

CONSIDER
Resolution No.
18-005 Endorsing
the Expenditure
of City Funds as
a Required Match
for a Community
Development
Block Grant
(CDBG) for the
Jackson Street
Community Center
Clearance
Project.

Under New Business, City Manager Barrineau informed Council that the City is required to pay a 10% CDBG match, estimated at \$30,000 plus \$14,000 in delinquent taxes, coming from the Community Fund account to finance the project.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Wiltshire wanted to know the cost to demolish the community center. City Manager Barrineau estimated the total cost of demolition will be an estimated \$250,000 - \$300,000.

There was no further discussion from Council.

A motion to endorse the expenditure of City funds as a required CDBG match for the Jackson Street Community Center Clearance Project was made by Matthew Miller, seconded by Linda Edwards.

The motion passed unanimously.

ORDINANCE

Consider Resolution No. 18-006 Authorizing Mayor and City Manager to Sign a Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund Commitment Letter.

City Clerk Steffanie Dorn reminded Council of the Kitson Mill Site storm drain issue of existing lines made of clay that and are crumbling apart. Public Works Director Billy Allen suggested connecting new lines over the existing ones to save money. Staff is requesting up to \$400,000 from the Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund for a 10 year term at 1% interest, with (up to) \$75,000 to be forgiven. The City will use a budgeted \$200,000 out of its Sunday alcohol sales account and the remainder out of General Funds to pay back the total estimated \$325,000.

DISCUSSION:

City Clerk Dorn informed Mayor Adams that the plastic liner indicating a contaminated soil barrier must be maintained, but tax incentives are available for any experienced developer that can remediate brownfields.

There was no further discussion from Council.

A motion to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to sign a Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund Commitment Letter was made by Niki Hutto, seconded by Kenn Wiltshire.

CONSIDER

Acceptance of an \$88,342 FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program and Authorize Local Match from the General Fund of \$8,834.

City Manager Barrineau informed Council that this \$88,342 FEMA grant will be for vehicle extraction equipment and search & rescue certification training. A local match of \$8,834 will come out of the City's General Fund.

There was no discussion from Council.

A motion to accept an \$88,342 FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program and authorize local match of \$8,834 from the General Fund was made by Ronnie Ables, seconded by Kenn Wiltshire.

The motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER
 Authorizing the
 City Manager to
 Apply for a 2018
 Justice
 Assistance Grant
 (JAG) in
 Coordination
 with the
 Greenwood County
 Sheriff's
 Office.

City Manager Barrineau informed Council that the City must jointly apply for \$32,860 in available funds; \$20,496 for the City Police Department and \$12,241 for the County Sheriff's Office.

DISCUSSION:

City Manager Barrineau confirmed to Councilors Ronnie Ables and Linda Edwards that a match will not be needed, but it must be used only by the Police Department.

City Clerk Dorn acknowledged that funds can be used for things the City doesn't have, nor buy, in its regular budget. She confirmed to Councilor Hutto that funds can be used for cameras purposes, but other ongoing costs will occur if it's used for surveillance.

There was no further discussion from Council.

A motion to authorize the City Manager to apply for a 2018 Justice Assistance Grant in coordination with the Greenwood County Sheriff's Office was made by Ronnie Ables, seconded by Niki Hutto.

The motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER
 Authorizing the
 City Manager to
 Enter into an
 Agreement with
 Traffic Planning
 & Design, Inc.
 for the Uptown
 Main Street/US
 25 Traffic
 Calming
 Analysis.

City Manager Barrineau reminded Council of various partners funding the updated City Center Master Plan study with one of the partners, Greenwood Partnership Alliance, requiring a traffic calming analysis. Staff, along with the SCDOT, recommended the winning bid from Traffic Planning & Design, Inc. He suggested a written copy of their recommendation should be included in Master Plan Rewrite bids.

DISCUSSION:

Councilor Ables was concerned that Main Street will be physically altered. City Manager confirmed that the purpose of the analysis is to slow traffic on Main Street and this company will make three recommendations to the City. City Clerk Dorn assured him the City wouldn't have money to make any alterations right away.

There was no further discussion from Council.

A motion to authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Traffic Planning & Design, Inc., for the Uptown Main Street/US 25 Traffic Calming Analysis made by Niki Hutto, seconded by Matthew Miller.

The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Kenn Wiltshire, seconded by Niki Hutto.

Mayor Adams adjourned the Special Called Meeting at 6:20 p.m.

Mayor D. Welborn Adams

ATTEST:

City Clerk and Treasurer