GREENWOOD CITY COUNCIL
January 8, 2007 - 5:32 p.m.

MINUTES

PRESENT
Council Members: Mayor Nicholson, Niki Hutto, Linda Edwards, Betty Boles, Herbert Vaughn, and Johnny Williams; City Manager, Assistant City Manager, City Clerk and City Attorney.

ABSENT
Barbara Turnburke.

CALL TO ORDER
The meeting in Council Chambers was called to order by Mayor Nicholson at 5:32 p.m. and he welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Mayor then gave the invocation.

Before Mayor Nicholson read the Statement and Quorum he said, “Just for the record, I would like to let you know that Ms. Turnburke had a Red Cross meeting in Greenville and that’s why she’s not present with us this evening.”

STATEMENT AND QUORUM
Mayor Nicholson 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 Mayor then asked the City Clerk, Steffanie Dorn, if a quorum was present. She said, “Yes, Mr. Mayor, we have a quorum present.”
CONSIDER

Ordinance No. 07-001 Annexing Property Owned by SAC Enterprises, Inc.

(1st reading)

Under New Business, Mayor Nicholson read the first item and recognized the City Manager.

STEVEN BROWN

“Mr. Mayor and Members of Council, in the past three or four months you have adopted ordinances and approved incentive agreements for two properties located at the corner of Calhoun Road and 72 By-Pass; one is the County Bank Property and the other is the Zimmerman Property which we refer to as ‘SAC Enterprises’. As a requirement of those signed agreements, Mr. Zimmerman and the County Bank also signed a petition to annex their properties. This particular ordinance will annex the Zimmerman property. The next ordinance you will be considering will be to annex the County Bank property.”

MAYOR NICHOLSON

“Okay. Do I have motion?”

Motion to approve was made by Linda Edwards, seconded by Niki Hutto.

“Are there any questions or further discussion? All in favor raise your right hand. So moved.”

Motion passed unanimously.

- attach -
CONSIDER

Mayor Nicholson read the second item and asked for a motion.

Ordinance No. 07-002 Annexing Property Owned by the County Bank.

(1st reading)

Motion was made by Niki Hutto, seconded by Betty Boles.

“Are there any questions or discussion? All in favor raise your right hand. So moved.”

The motion passed unanimously.

- attach -

CONSIDER

Mayor Nicholson read the third item and recognized the City Manager.

Ordinance No. 07-003 Annexing Property Owned by Helen Talley Located off Cannon Road.

(1st reading)

STEVEN BROWN

“Mr. Mayor and Members of Council, this is property that you have also been discussing. Mr. Cannon, his attorney and Edward Smith, a partner in this project, have requested your consideration of annexing this property and assigning to it an R-4 (Medium-Density Residential) zoning. Mrs. Talley, who owns the property, has signed a petition requesting to be annexed.

This ordinance, if you pass it on first reading, will annex that property and assign it to the R-4 zoning classification. We will have another public hearing on this matter in two weeks. In fact, we would have one on all three of these ordinances.”

MAYOR NICHOLSON

“Okay. Do I have a motion?”

Motion was made by Linda Edwards, seconded by Niki Hutto.

“Are there any questions or further discussion? All in favor raise your right hand. So moved.”

Motion passed unanimously.
CONSIDER Awarding Contract for Visitor Center Displays.

CHARLES BARRINEAU

“Mr. Mayor and City Council, a few months back you allowed us to enter into a contract with Riggs Ward Design out of Virginia to develop a visitor’s center display for the Federal Building. We bid that completed design just before Christmas and received four proposals. We did try to contact local and other cabinetry fabricators in the State but it is a pretty specific type of work we’re looking for.

The four bids came from Charlotte, Alabama and two from Virginia. The low bid was from Studio Displays, Inc. in Charlotte for $43,184. They’re very familiar with the State of South Carolina completing work for the Anderson Museum and SCPRT Trails Department. Riggs Ward is comfortable with them and we would recommend that you accept the Studio Displays, Inc. bid.

I would note that we also need a small amount of electrical work done for $3,190. Therefore, the total that I will request for this project is $46,374. We’re asking that you take that out of your three percent local accommodation taxes.”

MAYOR NICHOLSON

“Okay. Are there any questions?”

STEVEN BROWN

“Mr. Mayor, I know it often seems to you that we throw a lot of project names, numbers and all kinds of things at you. Please understand that it is only our attempt to keep you informed, as promised, and let you know what we’ve done when we spend these monies. Charlie’s memo stated that this has been approved by the joint advisory committee. Because this is a joint funded office from both the City and County, we’re trying to keep the two Councils informed. If at any time we confuse you with projects, numbers and whatever, please let us know. We are attempting to keep this before the governing bodies to make sure they are aware of what we’re doing.”

NIKI HUTTO

“Was this a part of the budget we just passed?”
“That is correct. This was included in the budget for the tourism office this year. Again, just like Mr. Brown said, we just wanted to make sure that City Council has a full understanding of what’s going on. If this is awarded, we’ll ask them to complete this project by the end of March so that we can be ready when Spring comes.”

“Is not some of this money being funded from grant money?”

“That is correct. Some of this money will be coming from a $20,000 grant so actually only half of this will be coming from your local Accommodations Tax.”

“Forty-six thousand dollars is the total expenditure and $20,000 of that will be paid from grant funds.”

“Did you say that the difference is included in our budget?”

“Yes, in our tourism budget.”

“This display is a part of that budget.”

“The budget is showing the half of what we will be paying.”

“Okay. Do I have a motion?”

Motion was made by Niki Hutto, seconded by Betty Boles.

“Are there any questions or further discussion?”

“Will this display be on the outer perimeter or the inside?”

“Inside. It will be in the little room to the left of the new reception desk. There will be a big, plasma TV screen on the wall and cabinetry displaying brochures. There will be three more monitors where you can actually use a touch screen. If you want to see a movie about golf in our area, just touch the screen and a video will play. We have partnered with Piedmont Tech. and Lander University which are helping to get the videos for us.”

“It’s not the gift shop, but the area where the Santa Workshop was.”

“When will this probably be installed?”
CHARLES BARRINEAU “As soon as you award this to us, we can start tomorrow. We hope to be done by the end of March.”

MAYOR NICHOLSON “Okay. Are there any further discussion?”

STEVEN BROWN “Our goal, as soon as this is done, is to attempt to have that facility manned 7 days a week so weekend visitors in the community will have access to this center and collect information about Greenwood.”

NIKI HUTTO “Are we going to have signage on the outside indicating that there is a visitors center in the Federal Building? I know we don’t want banners, but the whole concept is to make it visible so that people can know that it’s there.”

CHARLES BARRINEAU “We’re definitely aware of it. We were hoping to get some of the construction finished from around the building and the theater before we place a big welcoming mat and have it open 7 day a week.”

LINDA EDWARDS “The type of sign you’re talking about is on the outside too, right?”

NIKI HUTTO “Yes ma’am. If you’re driving down the street you want to see, ‘Visitors Center’, ‘Tourism Office’ or some sort of indication of what we got here.”

CHARLES BARRINEAU “We intend to develop directional signage further out on Highway 25 that says, ‘Visitors Center Straight Ahead’.”

LINDA EDWARDS “Or ‘Visitors Center Downtown Greenwood’ because ‘Straight Ahead’ is misleading.”

MAYOR NICHOLSON “Okay. All in favor of the contract raise your right hand. So moved.”

Motion passed unanimously.

“That ends our business part of the meeting. Do I have a motion that we adjourn and go into our work session?” Motion was made by Linda Edwards, seconded by Niki Hutto.

“The meeting is adjourned.”
Meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Floyd Nicholson, Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk and Treasurer