

GREENWOOD CITY COUNCIL

November 2, 2019 - 5:33 p.m.

MINUTES

PRESENT Council Members: Mayor Brandon Smith, Niki Hutto, Linda Edwards, Betty Boles, Johnathan Bass, Matthew Miller, and Ronnie Ables; City Manager Julia M. Wilkie, Assistant to the City Manager Ryan Thomas, City Clerk Steffanie Dorn, City/County Planning Director Phil Lindler, and City Attorney Tripp Padgett.

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Brandon Smith called the meeting in Council Chambers to order at 5:33 p.m.

Councilor Linda Edwards gave the invocation.

STATEMENT AND QUORUM Mayor Smith 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.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA Mayor Smith asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Betty Boles, seconded by Matthew Miller.

The motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER

Ordinance No. 19-017 Providing for the Issuance and Sale of Combined Public Utility System Revenue Refunding Bonds of the City of Greenwood, South Carolina, in the Aggregate Principal Amount of Not Exceeding Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000); and Other Matters Relating Thereto.

City Manager Julia Wilkie reviewed the Commissioners of Public Works' (CPW) request for the City to authorize them to refinance the remainder of their revenue bonds at a lower interest rate.

No one spoke for or against the proposed ordinance.

There was no further discussion from Council.

A motion to approve Ordinance No. 19-017 was made by Niki Hutto, seconded by Betty Boles.

The motion passed unanimously.

(2nd reading)

CONSIDER

Ordinance No. 19-018 to Approve the Creation of a Multi-County Business park inside the City of Greenwood and the County of Greenwood Relating to the Distribution of Fee in Lieu of Tax Revenues Related Thereto; and to Authorize City Officials to Take Such Actions as Necessary to Effectuate the Purposes of this Ordinance.

(2nd reading)

City Manager Wilkie gave Council a brief review of their agreements with Greenwood County regarding two solar farm projects to be built in the City of Greenwood. She noted that Greenwood County Council gave their final approval to these agreements on November 5, 2019.

Mr. Erich Miarka, representative of Pinegate Renewables constructing these solar farms, spoke in favor of the proposed ordinance by thanking staff and City Council for their consideration. He confirmed to Mayor Smith and Councilors Johnathan Bass and Betty Boles that the first phase should be completed and running by Summer of 2020.

This agreement is in conjunction with other solar farms located in the County, and the City will receive \$2,900 annually per project, per phase.

No one spoke against the proposed ordinance.

There was no further discussion from Council.

A motion to approve Ordinance No. 19-018 was made by Niki Hutto, seconded by Ronnie Ables.

The motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER

Ordinance No 19-019 Annexing Property Owned by Sara S. Baggett, et al.

(2nd reading)

City Manager Julia Wilkie reviewed the request from Todd Bailey, Developer of Milford Pines, who wants to develop housing similar to Orchard Park off of Calhoun Road that is adjacent to Ward 5.

No one spoke for or against the propose annexation.

There was no further discussion from Council.

A motion to annex property owned by Sara S. Baggett, et al was made by Niki Hutto, seconded by Betty Boles.

The motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER City Manager Wilkie informed Council that this request is for the same annexation, but they must have a separate vote for the second parcel.

Ordinance No 19-020 Annexing Property Owned by Linda Marie Johnson Jensen, et al.

No one spoke for or against the proposed annexation.

There was no further discussion from Council.

(2nd reading) A motion to annex property owned by Linda Marie Johnson Jensen et al was made by Niki Hutto, seconded by Matthew Miller.

The motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER Under New Business, City Manager Wilkie reminded Council that this bond anticipation note would allow the CPW to purchase up to \$10 million of natural gas, if needed.

Ordinance No. 19-021 to Authorize the City Manager to Issue CPW Revenue Bonds Anticipation Notes in 2020.

There was no discussion from Council.

A motion to approve Ordinance No. 19-021 authorizing the City Manager to issue CPW Revenue Bond Anticipation Notes in 2020 was made by Betty Boles, seconded by Niki Hutto.

(1st reading) The motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER City Manager Wilkie reminded Council that, as they discussed, there was no property tax increase and millage shall remain at 116.8 for 2020.

Ordinance No. 19-022 to Levy Tax for the City of Greenwood for 2020.

There was no discussion from Council.

(1st reading) A motion to approve to levy tax for the City of Greenwood for 2020 was made by Betty Boles, seconded by Niki Hutto.

The motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER
Ordinance No.
19-023 to Adopt
the Budget for
2020.

(1st reading)

City Manager Wilkie discussed highlights of the \$16.4 million balanced budget and informed them of \$35,583 in total increases to the budget since their last discussion at the November 4th work session. She informed Councilor Niki Hutto that the City will be using \$58,000 of the City's surplus funds for the 2020 Budget and explained the City's sewer agreement with CPW to Councilor Bass.

A motion to approve the proposed budget for 2020 was made by Johnathan Bass, seconded by Niki Hutto.

DISCUSSION:

City Manager Wilkie and City Clerk Steffanie Dorn informed Mayor Smith and Councilor Boles that Workers Compensation insurance and law enforcement liability claims insurance increases are a national trend. There are no better options to avoid the increase of workers compensation insurance premiums. The SC Municipal Insurance and Risk Financing Board of Directors voted to increase their rates, but municipalities (such as the City of Greenwood) get credits for no incidences and for being members of the SCMIRF and SCMIT (SC Municipal Insurance Trust).

The motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER
Ordinance No.
19-024 to Adopt
Hospitality
Budget Line Item
(Emerald
Triangle) for
2020.

(1st reading)

City Manager Wilkie reminded Council that this line item regarding the disbursement of Hospitality Tax funds to the Greenwood Arts Center, Theatre, and Museum for operations and maintenance funds was pulled out from the 2020 Budget Ordinance so that Councilors Hutto and Miller could vote on the City's budget.

There was no discussion from Council.

A motion to approve the Hospitality Budget line item for 2020 was made by Betty Boles, seconded by Johnathan Bass.

Those who voted in favor were Mayor Smith, Linda Edwards, Betty Boles, Johnathan Bass, and Ronnie Ables. Niki Hutto and Matthew Miller did not vote due to a conflict of interest.

The motion passed 5-0.

CONSIDER
 Ordinance No. 19-025 Amending the Business License Ordinance, chapter 10, Article II, Business Licenses, Divisions 1 through 6 and Appendices A, B, and C (Rate and Class Schedules).

City Manager Wilkie recognized City Clerk Dorn who reviewed the updated language and classification system rates to the proposed ordinance, based on the IRS statistics of profitability every four years.

There was no discussion from Council.

A motion to approve Ordinance No. 19-025 was made by Betty Boles, seconded by Niki Hutto.

The motion passed unanimously.

(1st reading)

CONSIDER
 Resolution No. 19-008 Authorizing Christmas Gifts for City Employees.

City Manager Julia Wilkie reminded Council that each year Council gives permission, by Resolution, to distribute Christmas gift cards to City of Greenwood employees (\$50 to those employed over one year and \$25 for those that are part-time and/or employed less than one year).

There was no discussion from Council.

A motion to approve Resolution No. 19-008 authorizing Christmas gift cards for City employees was made by Johnathan Bass, seconded by Niki Hutto.

The motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDER
 To Recess into Work Session.

City Manager Wilkie asked Council to recess the Business Meeting and enter into the Work Session before staff is dismissed.

A motion to recess into the Work Session was made by Betty Boles, seconded by Matthew Miller.

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting recessed into work session at 6:07 p.m.

The Meeting reconvened at 6:52 p.m.

CONSIDER
Executive Session to Discuss the Performance Review and Compensation of City Manager.

City Manager Wilkie informed Council that staff will not be present but wanted to know if they would be taking action tonight. City Clerk Dorn offered to record their motions after their session and/or place another Executive Session for action to be taken at the December 16, 2019 meeting.

Council agreed that action will not be taken after Executive Session and staff can be dismissed.

A motion to enter into Executive Session was made by Niki Hutto, seconded by Betty Boles.

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting recessed into Executive Session at 6:55 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 8:31

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Johnathan Bass, seconded by Niki Hutto.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Smith adjourned the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

Brandon Smith, Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk and Treasurer