

GREENWOOD CITY COUNCIL

January 10, 2005 - 5:30 p.m.

SPECIAL MEETING

PRESENT

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

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting in the Council Chambers was called to order by Mayor Nicholson at 5:30p.m.

STATEMENT AND QUORUM

The Mayor gave 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."

Mayor Nicholson asked the City Manager, Steven Brown, if a quorum was present. He said, "There is a quorum present, Mr. Mayor."

The Mayor then asked a motion to enter into Executive Session to conduct interviews with CPW Commissioner Candidates.

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

The Mayor said, "All in favor raise your right hand. So moved."

Motion passed unanimously.

City Council entered into Executive Session at 5:37 p.m.

The Special Meeting then reconvened at 6:50 p.m.

CONSIDER

An Appointment to
Fill the Unexpired
Term of CPW
Commissioner.

Mayor Nicholson said, "At this time, I would like to consider a motion to make an appointment to fill the unexpired term of the CPW Commissioner. Do I have a motion?"

Motion was made by Linda Edwards, seconded by Betty Boles, to appoint Mr. Henry Watts to fill the unexpired term of CPW Commissioner.

The Mayor asked, "Any discussion? All in favor, raise your right hand. Opposed? 4-3."

Those who voted in favor of the motion were Mayor Nicholson, Linda Edwards, Betty Boles, and Herbert Vaughn. Those who voted against were Niki Hutto, Johnny Williams, and Barbara Turnburke.

Motion passed.

Mayor Nicholson said, "Mr. Watts, congratulations! You're appointed to fill the three year term of Commissioner. At this time, I'd like for you to come forward and I can administer the oath to you."

Mayor Nicholson then administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Henry Watts.

The Mayor said, "Mr. Watts, I think the Commissioners are having a meeting tomorrow at two o'clock."

MAYOR
NICHOLSON

"Mr. Watts, I think you know Mr. Reeves and the other Commissioner, Mr. Monaghan. You can talk with them and they can give you some information about the meetings.

Again, I want to thank each one of the candidates for their interest in the position and ask that you continue to support us in our community."

RECEIVE
Information on
Community
Development
Planning Grant

Mayor Nicholson read the second item and recognized the Assistant City Manager.

CHARLES
BARRINEAU

"Mrs. Hutto, Mrs. Turnburke, Mr. Brown, Ruth LaForge with Upper Savannah COG, and I recently met with F.A. Johnson, a management and development firm out of Columbia. They were the only firm that submitted a proposal for the Department of Commerce Low to Moderate Income Planning Study. F.A. Johnson Sr. and Junior are a minority firm. It's a father and son team, and the father has been working in community development for 20 to 30 years. They are knowledgeable.

They propose to set up three LMI (Low to Middle Income) study areas - Northern, Central, and Southern Greenwood. Then, after having three separate meetings in one day and doing a lot of demographic work, they'll bring a final proposal to you.

The studies they have done in the past have been more along the lines of assisting Community Development Corporations leverage private dollars to

develop new housing developments. They've done a lot in Columbia and similar larger cities. They are interested in providing a plan to Council as to how to best use CDBG dollars for renovation and demolition, however they are also interested in assisting Council with ways of financing new housing developments.

At this point, we could reissue the bid and attempt to have other consultants submit proposals. However, we must have the study completed within a six month period. Another option Council could decide upon is to allow the Upper Savannah COG staff complete the study."

NIKI HUTTO

"Is Upper Savannah capable of doing what we need?"

CHARLES
BARRINEAU

"They are capable."

NIKI HUTTO

"Can they do it in a timely manner?"

CHARLES
BARRINEAU

"I'm sure they can get it done. Staff had hoped that we could bring in "fresh eyes" to make recommendations on future community development projects."

NIKI HUTTO

"Will they tailor, or scope down, for the amount of money that we have?"

CHARLES
BARRINEAU

"If it is within the range of the program."

NIKI HUTTO

"Well, I was impressed with their capabilities. They seemed very knowledgeable in what they were doing, and it would be better to have an outside entity to take look at some things. I just thought that they were going much more beyond the scope."

BARBARA
TURNBURKE

"They also have a vision past this point."

NIKI HUTTO

"They also think we have a pocketbook passed this point, and we don't."

CHARLES
BARRINEAU

“The funds can only be used to study low to moderate income areas such as the central area of the City and through Mathews Mill Village. We hope that the final study will give Council a roadmap for spending future CDBG dollars.”

JOHNNY
WILLIAMS

“This is going to take the load off Upper Savannah. Every time they come here, Ms. Edwards and myself would say, ‘You’ve been here once. Let’s choose the neighborhood tomorrow and we got today to do it.’”

CHARLES
BARRINEAU

“In the end, you will get a study that should provide you a 1, 2, 3...list of priorities.”

BETTY BOLES

“So they’re going to do it all over?”

NIKI HUTTO

“Yes.”

CHARLES
BARRINEAU

“All the LMI areas.”

STEVEN BROWN

“There are neighborhoods that do not qualify, and there is no need to spend your money in these areas, but HUD makes those decisions without the City’s input. We can only target LMI area and give you a basis upon which to make your decision.”

JOHNNY
WILLIAMS

“I would like to see an outside firm to do it for a change instead of what we’ve been doing, because there has always been a uproar.”

STEVEN BROWN

“I think the critical factor is for the City Council to define the scope of work. I believe they’ll give you what you want, as long as it is detailed and explicit.”

CHARLES
BARRINEAU

“The only other thing I would point out is my understanding that Senior F. A. Johnson has worked in the past with Dr. Patton at GLEAMNS. He has already spoken with Dr. Patton concerning our proposed study. Mr. Johnson would like to partner with GLEAMNS in some way. So, that may be a good opportunity.”

NIKI HUTTO

“Well, I was impressed with GLEAMS by how they dressed up that building with the historic homeplace in that area. They want to be able to have their work

to sustain over a long period of time, not to work somewhere and, three years later, have it look the same way it did before we went.”

BETTY BOLES

“I was amazed and shocked.”

NIKI HUTTO

“It looks great.”

JOHNNY
WILLIAMS

“I remember we used to get a grant and go all over the City with it. Now, you can only go to certain areas.

NIKI HUTTO

“Do we have to put it to a motion and a vote?”

JOHNNY
WILLIAMS

“Let’s go with it.”

MAYOR
NICHOLSON

“Okay. Do I have a motion?”

Motion was made by Johnny Williams, seconded by Niki Hutto.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

“We’re adjourned.”

There being no further business, the special meeting was adjourned at 5:39 p.m.

Floyd Nicholson, Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk and Treasurer