

GREENWOOD CITY COUNCIL

August 4, 2003 - 5:34 p.m.

MINUTES

PRESENT

Council Members: Mayor Nicholson, Linda Edwards, Betty Boles, Herbert Vaughn, Johnny Williams, and Barbara Turnburke; Assistant City Manager; and Wallace McBride from the Index-Journal.

Niki Hutto entered the meeting at 5:36 p.m.

ABSENT

City Manager; and City Clerk

CONSIDER

Ordinance Providing for the Issuance and Sale of a Series of Combined Public utility System Revenue Bonds of the City of Greenwood to be Designated Combined Public Utility System Refunding and Improvement Revenue Bonds, Series 2003, in the Principal Amount of Not Exceeding Sixteen Million Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$16,700,000) and Other Matters Relating Thereto.

Under new business, Mayor Nicholson read the first item and asked for a motion.

Motion was made by Johnny Williams, seconded by Herbert Vaughn.

The Mayor asked, "Any discussion or further questions? All in favor raise your right hand. So moved."

Motion passed unanimously.

- attach -

(2nd reading)

CONSIDER

Request from
Lakeland's Marine
Corps Detachment to
Construct Veterans
Monument on Property
Adjacent to the Public
Library.

Mayor Nicholson read the last item's title and recognized Mr. Henry Johnson.

HENRY JOHNSON

"Mr. Mayor and Members of Council, I'm Henry Johnson, representing Lakeland Marines. We're just here to answer any questions, or concerns, that anyone might have about our proposal."

MAYOR NICHOLSON

"Okay. Is there anyone from Council that have any questions to direct to Mr. Johnson?"

JOHNNY WILLIAMS

"Have you all looked for another site?"

HENRY JOHNSON

"We have not."

JOHNNY WILLIAMS

"Why?"

HENRY JOHNSON

"We don't give up hope."

MAYOR NICHOLSON

"Okay. Any other questions? Thank you, Mr. Johnson. I think Mr. Elsley called Mr. Brown, and said he wanted to make a statement. Mr. Elsley?"

JOHN ELSLEY

"Mr. Mayor, ladies and gentlemen of Council, my name is John Elsley, and I live on 520 Bryte Street, Greenwood, South Carolina. This evening, I address the situation of wearing two hats; first of all, as a private citizen of the City of Greenwood, and secondly, as Chairman of the City of Greenwood Beautification Commission. Several years ago, we were given the task to develop this piece of land in front of the library with the intention of it being an ongoing green space. We employed, at no cost, the services of Mike Etheridge, a well-known landscape architect, and I hear many comments of how pleased the citizens of Greenwood are at the results. The intention, very simply, was to have an open greenspace to show off the library and, at the same time, allow the library the potential of future developments.

If you're driving in front of it in either direction on the main highway, you will see the block has an uninterrupted view of the highway, and the greenspace, I think, softens the area between the library and the road. I'm also encouraged to see how that area is used. Although I don't speak on behalf of other members of the

Beautification Commission, I would strongly recommend to Council that we do, in fact, consider other sites within the City of Greenwood first.

Let me, at a personal level of course, say immediately that I'm not against, in any way, the principals of the memorial. I just have some serious doubts about that particular site, in light of the work put into this. I also think, if my memory serves me correctly, a certain amount of private money was also donated for that particular site to develop it in the way it was approved and subsequently carried out. Thank you very much for your considerations."

MAYOR NICHOLSON

"Thank you, Mr. Elsley. Do I have a motion that the Lakeland Marines Corps be allowed to construct a monument at the property adjacent to the public library?"

Motion to deny the request was made by Johnny Williams, seconded by Niki Hutto.

The Mayor asked, "Any discussion? All in favor of denying this site, raise your right hand. All opposed? Okay, the vote is 4-3 that the site be denied. So moved."

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

"That will adjourn our business part of the meeting. Now we will move into the work session part of our meeting."

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Floyd Nicholson, Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk and Treasurer