

GREENWOOD CITY COUNCIL

January 5, 2015 - 5:33 p.m.

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT Council Members: Mayor D. Welborn Adams, Niki Hutto, Linda Edwards, Betty Boles, Kenn Wiltshire, Johnny Williams, and Ronnie Ables; City Manager Charles Barrineau, Assistant City Manager Julia Wilkie, and City Clerk Steffanie Dorn; Brian King of Gwdtoday.com and Colin Riddle of the Index Journal.

CALL TO ORDER After Councilor Linda Edwards gave the invocation, the meeting in Council Chambers was called to order by Mayor Adams at 5:33 p.m.

QUORUM AND STATEMENT 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 that a quorum was present.

CONSIDER Under New Business, City Manager Charles Barrineau asked Council to consider a neighborhood improvement grant fund application to be submitted to the South Carolina Housing Trust Fund. The City is partnering with the Greater Greenwood Habitat for Humanity to get rid of dilapidated and unfit housing in the North Edgefield Street neighborhood as identified in the 2012 Edgefield Street Corridor Master Plan.

Resolution No. 15-001 An Endorsement of the 2012 Edgefield/South Main Master Plan and Approval of the Targeted Revitalization Strategy. The application requires that City Council officially approve the plan and endorse the revitalization area strategy which is to first acquire and demolish several dilapidated homes where the taxes haven't been paid in four or five years on Tabor Street and Washington Avenue.

In the past 20 years, about 24 houses were demolished and only one home is being built by Habitat for Humanity off of Marion Street. He noted that if anything isn't done, it'll be too late to turn this neighborhood around. He did note that a private entity will match an additional 10% of the proposed grant. With the City's \$75,000 and their \$75,000, it will be a total of \$900,000 funded for this project.

DISCUSSION

Councilor Kenn Wiltshire inquired if Carolina Avenue is included in this project and the tax situation of Mineral Court Apartments. (Councilor Edwards noted that the majority of homes on Mineral Court are not owner occupied.) He also asked if the Episcopal church is also included. City Manager Barrineau stated that Carolina Avenue isn't included because it's located south of the South Carolina Heritage Trail boundary. Although some are dilapidated, Mineral Court Apartments are current on their taxes. Because only \$35,000 is allotted for each individual lot, it will not be enough to address them. He noted that the Episcopal church wasn't initially included but should be. Mayor Adams stated that both the Episcopal and South Main Baptist churches are active in the community.

Councilor Betty Boles inquired if homeowners are eligible for renovations. City Manager Barrineau noted that this grant is only for the demolition of dilapidated housing but Habitat for Humanity may consider rehab projects.

A motion to approve Resolution No. 15-001 was made by Kenn Wiltshire, seconded by Niki Hutto.

The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the Business Meeting was made by Betty Boles, seconded by Linda Edwards.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Adams adjourned the meeting and entered into the work session at 5:43 p.m.

D. Welborn Adams, Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk and Treasurer