

September 6, 2022

CITY OF CONWAY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
BUILDING & PLANNING DEPARTMENT
196 LAUREL STREET, CONWAY
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2022 - 4:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Barbara Blain-Bellamy, Alex Hyman, Mayor Pro Tem
Council Members: Amanda Butler, William Goldfinch, Beth Helms, Justin Jordan, Larry White

STAFF: Adam Emrick, City Administrator; John Rogers, Deputy City Administrator; Mary Catherine Hyman, Deputy City Administrator; Jeff Leveille, Technology Services Director; June Wood, Public Information Officer; Le Hendrick, Fire Chief; Allison Hardin, Planning & Development Director; Dale Long, Police Chief; Wayne Calhoun, Police; Mike Prosser, Police; Lynn Smith, Human Resource Director; Reggie Jenerette, Solid Waste Director; Kayla Fleming, Associate Judge; Brandon Harrelson, Public Works Director; Robert Cooper, Building Official; Rock Rabon, Fleet Maintenance Director; Allison Williams, Finance Director; Roseanne Dates, Grants Supervisor; Timmy Williams, Hospitality & Beautification Director; Ashley Smith, Recreation Director; Ted Dudley, Interim Utilities Superintendent; Charlie Crosby, IT Technician II; Elizabeth Damico, Hospitality & Beautification Administrative Assistant; Chris Williamson, Police Lieutenant; Andy Hendrick, Municipal Judge; and Alicia Shelley, City Clerk

OTHERS: Hillary Howard, John Danford, Devin Parks, Alan Brown, William Caddell, Mike Cook, Chris Snyder, Priscilla Fuller, and Jimmy Day.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Blain-Bellamy called the meeting to order, gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The requirements for posting notice of this meeting under South Carolina's Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) were met.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: **Motion:** Hyman made a motion, seconded by Jordan, to approve the September 6, 2022 meeting agenda. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Special Event – Conway Ghost Walk – October 20, 21 and 22, 2022**
- B. Special Event – Halloween Golf Cart Parade – October 29, 2022**
- C. Special Event – Lights, Music, Christmas at North Conway Baptist Church – December 11, 2022**
- D. Special Event – Conway High School Homecoming Parade – September 23, 2022**
- E. Special Event – Smoke on the Waccamaw BBQ Festival – Conway Parks and Recreation and Waccamaw Shrine Club - October 14 and 15, 2022**
- F. Approval to Purchase Vehicles for Public Works (budgeted)**

G. Approval to Purchase Vehicle for IT (budgeted)

H. Approval to Purchase Vehicle for the Fire Department (budgeted)

I. Approval to Purchase Vehicle for Public Utilities (budgeted)

J. Approval to Purchase Vehicle for the Recreation Department (budgeted)

K. Approval to Purchase Vehicle for Hospitality and Beautification (budgeted)

L. Approval of August 15, 2022 City Council Minutes

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Motion: White made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch to approve the September 6, 2022 consent agenda. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT:

Alan Brown had concerns with sanitation pickup in Forest Glen.

Blain-Bellamy read a letter addressed to City Council from Southern Ventures on behalf of Waccamaw Hotel LP thanking them for their support of the hospitality industry through the City's Hotel Incentive Program.

There was no further public input. **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Hyman, to close public input. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

Presentation of Longevity Awards – August 2022 – 35 years: Andy Hendrick, Court; 20 years: Christopher Williamson, Police; 5 years: James Ellis, Police; 5 years: Elizabeth Damico, Hospitality and Beautification; 5 years: Charlie Crosby, IT – Emrick and Goldfinch presented the City of Conway longevity awards.

PUBLIC HEARING

Public Hearing for the Proposed Conway Trails and Pathways Master Plan – Hardin introduced Ellie Lerner with Design Workshop who briefly introduced the plan. Hardin further explained the steps for implementation of the Conway Pathways and Trails Plan, Trail Typologies, and the Trails Prioritization Tiers & Implementation Plan. Hardin stated that this plan works with the trail systems outside of the city limits to help create a regional, alternative transportation corridor and includes opportunities for public/private partnerships. Hardin then said that this plan can tie in the trails planning with our Tree City program and planting plans to abate heat along current and future pathways. There are many options for grant funding that are being identified. This plan also refocuses staff's attention on the open space requirements in the UDO. Hardin said that Planning Commission and staff both recommend approval.

There was no public input. **Motion:** Hyman made a motion, seconded by Butler, to close public input. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

FIRST READING

- A. First Reading of Ordinance #ZA2022-09-19 (A) to annex approximately 17.71 acres located at the intersection of Hwy 813 and Hwy 65 (PIN 324-00-00-0036) and rezone from Horry County Residential (SF-10) to City of Conway Low/Medium Density Residential (R1).** Hardin informed Council that this property is located along Highways 813 and 65, and abuts Lite Road. The property is currently vacant, and the applicant plans to install a new single-family residential subdivision. Annexation is sought to comply with the City of Conway policies regarding connection to utility services. The current zoning is Horry County Single Family Residential (SF10) and is asking to be rezoned in the City of Conway in the R-1 zone. The future land use map identifies the parcel as Low Density Residential and is compatible with the applicant's request. Hardin stated that letters were sent out to the property owners within 200 feet of the property, sign was posted on site, and the legal ad ran in the newspaper. After holding the public hearing at the Planning Commission meeting on September 1, the Planning Commission recommended approval. Hardin added that the cemetery that that was discussed at the last meeting has been verified that it is not part of the annexation.

Hyman asked if SF10 is the same as R1. Hardin stated that the zones mesh well.

Motion: Hyman made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch to approve first reading of this request. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

White stated that the church did not receive a letter. Hardin said that the church is more than 200 feet, but that signs were posted and an ad was run in the paper.

White asked if the 200 feet requirement could be expanded.

After some discussion, staff will evaluate and provide some alternatives to Council in the future regarding the expansion of the 200 feet requirement.

- B. First Reading of Ordinance #ZA2022-09-19 (B) to annex approximately 0.72 acres of property located at 3601 Long Ave Ext (PIN 324-04-03-0003) and request to rezone from Horry County Commercial Forest Agriculture (CFA) to City of Conway Low/Medium Density Residential District (R-1).** Hardin informed Council that this property is located at 3601 Long Avenue Ext. The property is vacant and is being made as part of the requirements for connection to water and/or sewer utilities. The current zoning is Horry County Commercial Forest Agriculture and is requested to be rezoned to City of Conway R-1. The Future Land Use Map identifies this parcel as Low Density Residential. The next request is similar and by the same applicant.

Motion: White made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch to approve first reading of this request and the next request on the agenda, which are agenda items VIII.B. and VIII.C. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

- C. First Reading of Ordinance #ZA2022-09-19 (C) to annex approximately 1.0 acre of property located at 3721 Long Ave Ext (PIN 323-01-04-0023) and request to rezone from Horry County Commercial Forest Agriculture (CFA) to City of Conway Low/Medium Density Residential District (R-1). See above motion.**
- D. First Reading of Ordinance #ZA2022-09-19 (D) to annex approximately 0.53 acres of property located at 134 Clemson Road (PIN 383-10-01-0009) and request to rezone from Horry County Residential (SF-10) to City of Conway Low/Medium Density Residential District (R-1).** Hardin informed Council that this property is located at 134 Clemson Road and was submitted by the applicant as part of the requirements for connection to water and/or sewer utilities as the property is contiguous to Conway city limits. The current zoning is Horry County SF-10 and the applicant has requested City of Conway R-1, which is identified as Low Density Residential on the Future Land Use Map. Staff recommends approval.

Motion: Hyman made a motion, seconded by White to approve first reading of this request. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

- E. First Reading of Ordinance #ZA2022-09-19 (E) to annex approximately 1 acre of property located at 540 Four Mile Road (PIN 326-06-04-0002) and request to rezone from Horry County Commercial Forest Agriculture (CFA) to City of Conway Low/Medium Density Residential District (R-1).** Hardin informed Council that this property is located at 540 Four Mile Road and was submitted by the applicant as part of the requirements for connection to water and/or sewer utilities as the property is contiguous to Conway city limits. The current zoning is Horry County CFA and the applicant has requested City of Conway R-1, which is identified as Low Density Residential on the Future Land Use Map. Staff recommends approval.

Motion: Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Butler to approve first reading of this request. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

SECOND READING

- A. Second Reading of Ordinances #ZA2022-09-06 (B) and #ZA2022-09-06 (C) to annex approximately 1.63 acres of property located on Hwy 378 (PINs 337-15-01-0010 and 337-15-01-0017) and rezone from Horry County Highway Commercial (HC) to City of Conway Highway Commercial (HC).** Hardin stated that both properties are located on Highway 378 and are currently vacant, within our service area and currently zoned Horry County Highway Commercial. The annexation is sought to comply with the City policies regarding connection to utility services. The Future Land Use map shows the property as Highway Commercial, which matched the zoning request for this proposal. The Planning Commission held a public hearing on August 4 and 3 people spoke to express their concerns. City Council voted 6-1 to approve first reading on August 15, 2022.

Motion: Hyman made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch to approve second and final reading of this request. **Vote:** Helms, Hyman, Blain-Bellamy, Goldfinch, Jordan and Butler voted yes, with White voting no. Motion carried 6-1.

- B. Second Reading of Ordinance #ZA2021-09-20 (D) to rezone approximately 27.27 acres of property located at 2670 Church Street (Parent PIN 337-03-03-0008) from a Planned Development District (PD) to 24.37 acres zoned High Density Residential R3 (New PIN 337-00-00-0038) and 2.9 acres zoned Highway Commercial (New PINs 337-04-04-0034/0035/0036).** Hardin informed Council that this request, known as the Moses Johnson Planned Development located at 2670 Church Street, is now back before Council as the split zoning issue has been resolved. Last year in September 2021 City Council gave First Reading to rezone the PD to R-3 and HC, and agreed to wait on Second Reading until the buyers could determine the developability of the site in accordance to their intended use. Thomas & Hutton have designed a townhome community for the site and have worked through the City's review process, which was granted approval by Planning Commission in August 2022. Staff also recommends approval.

Motion: Blain-Bellamy made a motion, seconded by Hyman to approve second and final reading of this request. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION

- A. Selection of Artist to Design and Produce Art for Riverfront Park** – Rogers stated that in the current fiscal budget, council appropriated \$250,000 to the replacement of the fountain at Riverfront Park with a new feature that included outstanding artwork. Staff solicited the work of artist, Alex Palkovich, a renowned bronze sculptor who works around the world, including a studio on Florence, South Carolina. Council was previously presented with a prototype of a proposed statue to serve as a memorial to the floods that struck the area in recent years. Mr. Palkovich proposes a 10-12-month timeline to complete the artwork at a cost of \$197,500. Once procured, council will be presented with a more detailed version of the statue, at which point they can provide design input.

Blain-Bellamy stated that she thinks the artist captured the spirit of who Conway is and that what separated us from everyone else was the degree to which we all came together.

Goldfinch asked what was the funding source. Rogers said that \$250,000 was budgeted from hospitality funds.

Motion: Hyman made a motion, seconded by Blain-Bellamy to direct staff to procure the artwork for Riverfront Park.

Butler asked if the fountain part of the design would cost \$50,000. Rogers said yes, and it could be less expensive as there are a wide range of designs to choose from.

Vote: 6-0, Goldfinch abstained. Motion carried.

- B. Appropriation of ARPA Funding for the Purchase of Vehicles for Various Departments** – Rogers stated that the City of Conway received approximately \$4.3 million as part of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. Staff proposed to budget \$650,000 of this funding to the purchase of vehicles, as allowed under the scope of the Act. The detailed budget consists of the following:

Police	4	37563	150252	4 police cars
Solid Waste	1	300000	300000	Automated garbage truck
Public Works	1	32000	32000	F-150
Fire	1	33000	33000	F-150
Building	1	32000	32000	F-150
HR	1	30000	30000	SUV/mid-size sedan
Fleet	1	38000	38000	F150 4WD
Planning	1	28000	28000	Ford Ranger

Rogers said that the remaining \$6,748 of the appropriation will serve as a contingency balance.

Motion: Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Jordan to approve the appropriation of \$650,000 of ARPA funding to the purchase of vehicles for various departments. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

C. Consideration of Acceptance of Bid for Construction of Smith Jones Pool – Rogers stated that the City has twice solicited bidders to complete the reconstruction of the Smith Jones Pool. The first bid resulted in no bidders, but the second solicitation was successful. One bid was received from Arnold’s Pools for \$480,642. The City has allocated \$286,344 in CDBG funding for this project. Completion of the project will require council to allocate the remaining ARPA funding. Acceptance of this bid will allow the contractor to set a goal of having the pool open for the entire 2023 season.

White asked if this would include the splash pad. Rogers said no, this only includes the reconstruction of the pool.

Motion: White made a motion, seconded by Blain-Bellamy to approve the budget of \$210,000 in ARPA funding to the Smith Jones Pool project and direct staff to enter into a contract with Arnold’s Pools to complete construction.

Goldfinch asked if there were any other options, maybe even ripping out what’s there and starting over. Rogers said that the bid included the best product.

Goldfinch asked where was the difference in the amount coming from. Rogers said from ARPA funding and also staff is exploring some other grant funding.

Goldfinch asked what projects were we taking away from with the overage on the pool. Emrick said the design of the perpendicular streets, the redesign of the old tennis center lot and town green.

Goldfinch said that he did not like giving up to do something when there is a public pool a half a mile away.

Blain-Bellamy said that the pool is a very viable piece of that center and that she had never ridden by when the pool was open that it wasn't filled with children.

Hyman said that he understands where Goldfinch is coming from as it does cost more than we thought but that a delay may only increase the price.

Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

- D. Consideration of Approval of Matching Funds for the 2022 South Carolina Infrastructure Investment Program (SCIIP) through Rural Infrastructure Authority (RIA)** – Harrelson informed Council that South Carolina received \$1.8 billion in ARPA funds with \$783 million allocated to SCRIA. The \$783 million was distributed into three categories. \$683 million was then allocated to community impact projects for priority investments in capital improvements. Each applicant is allowed to apply for up to \$10 million with a match of 15%. The City of Conway will be applying for the full amount to complete two stormwater projects. The first project will begin at the dead end of Beaty St. and upgrade all stormwater infrastructure to the outfall at Kingston Lake. The second portion of the project will begin at the concrete canal along Pine St. and end near Lakeland Dr. All outfalls within the City were taken into consideration with these two areas being priorities. Both locations consist of outdated infrastructure. Beaty St. and Pine St. were also identified as priorities by Davis & Floyd Engineers, who is currently underway with the Stormwater Master Plan. Upgrading the infrastructure along these two outfalls will not only have immediate positive impacts to the residents along these areas, but also positively impact the entire downtown area. The areas with the most impacts will consist of an area between Kingston Lake to Church St. and from 16th Ave. to 4th Ave. The overall goal will accomplish flood reduction during a 25 – year storm event and flash flooding. Projects of these magnitude are generally only accomplished with grant funding such as this opportunity. The City will be required to fund \$1.765 million as our match. The Stormwater and Streets/Drainage reserve funds will provide the match.

Motion: Hyman made a motion, seconded by Blain-Bellamy to authorize staff approval of matching funds for the 2022 South Carolina Infrastructure Investment Program (SHIIP) grant. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

- E. Consideration of Approval to Apply for the ARPA Funded Stormwater Infrastructure Program (ASIP) Grant through the South Carolina Office of Resilience (SCOR)** – Harrelson informed Council that the South Carolina Office of Resilience is currently accepting grant applications for stormwater projects addressing water quality standards, flood reduction during the 25-year storm event, and benefit cost analysis. City staff recommends replacing the concrete in the McKeithan St. canal with a green solution. Also, the acquisition of flood sensitive wetlands would be a portion of the grant. The City would not be obligated to match funds, although it is encouraged. The application would request approximately \$1.1 million to complete the project and acquire wetlands.

Motion: Blain-Bellamy made a motion, seconded by Helms to authorize staff to apply for the ASIP grant. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

White asked if some sort of a barrier would be needed to keep someone from falling in. Harrelson stated that the green infrastructure acts as its own barrier and that concrete tends to attract more than the green solution.

- F. Discussion on use of two parking spaces for a temporary construction dumpster in the City right-of-way during the rehabilitation of the building located at 318 Laurel Street, Conway, South Carolina (PIN 368-04-02-0081 and 368-04-02-0082) –** M. Hyman informed Council that the building located at 318 Laurel Street, beside Crooked Oak Restaurant is currently being renovated. A construction dumpster is currently located at the rear of the building. However, due to complaints, the developer has requested to move the dumpster. They are currently working on the front of the building, so they have asked permission to move the dumpster to the parking spaces on Laurel Street for a period of 60 days. It is a 30' dumpster, rather than a typical 15', therefore two parking spaces are needed. There are three parking spaces located in front of the proposed restaurant, and the developer is willing to locate in any 2 of the 3 spaces. A safety tunnel and scaffolding are already in place. M. Hyman said that the contractor, JB Clark was present to answer any questions.

Blain-Bellamy said that due to the flow of traffic, it may be simpler using the parks nearest the alley or the two closest to Fourth and Laurel. M. Hyman said that the developer is willing to locate in any of the parks.

Hyman recommended using the dumpsters in front of where the work is actually being done.

Motion: White made a motion, seconded by Blain-Bellamy to give approval of the temporary dumpster placement for 60 days in the two parking spaces nearest to the alley.

Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

- G. Consideration of Golf Cart Parking on Second Avenue Fronting the Town Green –** M. Hyman stated that with the recent growth of downtown businesses and events has led to an increase in golf cart transportation to downtown Conway. Conway Downtown Alive reached out to City Staff and pitched the idea of golf cart parking spaces fronting the Town Green on 2nd Avenue. The existing area is approximately 68' wide, and includes 5 car parking spaces and a painted hatched area. The hatched area is no longer needed. A typical parking space is 9' wide x 19" deep. The average golf cart is 4' wide, and does not require door space like a typical car parking space. Therefore, at 6' wide, the area could hold 11 golf cart parking spaces. If approved, Conway Downtown Alive has offered to provide signage for the area.

Blain-Bellamy inquired about the spaces also being used for dual purposes, such as motorcycles.

Goldfinch thinks it's a novel idea and asked if there was any way to do golf carts and cars in that area.

Hyman suggested 2 car spaces and the rest with golf carts for after 5 p.m. and on the weekends.

M. Hyman said that staff would like at some alternatives with a mix of spots for cars and golf carts and bring back to council for consideration.

H. Consideration of Cancellation (no build) of Intersection Project at 378 and 16th Avenue – Emrick said that several years ago the City was asked by GSATS to come up with ideas for intersection projects. One of the ideas that the City pitched to them was Highway 378 and 16th Avenue, which scored the highest by SCDOT as needed for a remediation project. Where 16th Avenue hits Highway 378 it does not align with Rhue and Brown Streets, so there is a conflict with three different roads. There is also not a signal at this intersection, and an unsignalized pedestrian crossing in the middle of 378. Since that time, Whittemore Middle School has been selected for a new location on El Bethel Road, as that school will be left behind. Recently, SCDOT held public hearings about the project. SCDOT received 135 comments and 130 of those comments were against the project and so they have decided not to proceed with the project as designed as an intersection project. SCDOT has now given the City two options. One is to install a raised median on 378 to eliminate the conflict points and the second option is to do nothing and leave it as is. Staff recommends to do nothing and call it a no build; and ask SCDOT if we can find another intersection to rebuild.

Hyman said if it has been deemed not necessary by SCDOT and doing away with it makes more sense to do something somewhere else where the intersection does have a problem. Emrick stated that he thinks the raised median may have as many negative complaints. Without the school there is less traffic.

Blain-Bellamy stated that the moving of Whittemore Middle School may have had an impact on the realigning, as she is confident that before long some entity will replace the school and then the need will arise.

Motion: White made a motion, seconded by Blain-Bellamy to approve to proceed with the no build option. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Emrick informed Council of the following:

- Comp Plan rewrites will take place in this same room at the Planning and Building Department Conference Room. On September 13, the Population Element, September 20 will be the Housing Element, and on September 27 will be the Resiliency Element. These each will be held from 5:30-7:00 p.m. on those dates.
- Update on the progress at The Terrace. If you didn't take a look at it on the way in, make sure you do on the way out. The brickwork is mostly completed and the levels are in the process of grading. The turf should be installed soon. It may not be fully completed by the end of the month, but it should be usable.
- Jenkins Field Road completed the subgrade grading to the Roundabout last week. A compaction test and proof roll are scheduled for this week. Base will be spread to the

roundabout by end of this week. The road will be ready for curb and gutter by middle September. I'm sticking to end of October for completion date. With good weather and the contractors showing up on time, no reason it shouldn't be earlier.

- The 4th Avenue conversion underground phase is completed. We have a few water meter bases and utility infrastructure items to complete and then the overhead movement will commence. Still on track for full completion by Spring of 2023.

Goldfinch asked about milling Fourth Avenue. Harrelson said that could be done but in six months the big trucks will have it beat bad and it may end up like a dirt road.

Harrelson said he would bring it up to the contractor.

- We have a special guest with us tonight. Congratulations to our Conway High School Tigers for reclaiming our Victory Bell from Myrtle Beach. The Bell is back home where it belongs.
- I've asked Wanda Lilly, the City Arborist to discuss the tree cuttings at the Van Pelt house on Lakeland Drive. I know many of you have received calls on this one.

Lilly stated that there was some activity at 206 Lakeland Drive. The owner removed a tree in the back yard and the city removed 2 trees in the front yard. The trees that the City removed were in the City right of way and they both fell under our hazardous situation.

Jordan asked from the hazardous standpoint, what made these trees hazardous. Lilly said the two trees, one being in the middle of a semi-circular concrete drive and it was very old with numerous cavities in the top that had let water in and it had lost a lot of limbs on the top. Lilly said that the other tree was smaller, had previously been pruned by the utility company and was leaning over the power line and the sidewalk, and had a stress crack.

Jordan said that most of the calls he received were about the concern of other trees in the rights of way just around the corner from the cemetery. Lilly said that staff would take a look at them.

Emrick stated that if staff receives a complaint of a tree being dangerous, that it is looked at quickly.

Emrick continued his report:

- Conway Superstars is scheduled for September 24 at 2 p.m. in the McCown Auditorium at 805 Main Street.
- Business License is moving to Planning and Building.
- Conway Downtown Alive has worked with a downtown property owner and has gotten CAB approval for a mural on Laurel Street. This mural will begin next week, weather permitting.

- Levon Williams has been a firefighter with the City for 30 years and is retiring this month. A drop-in send-off is scheduled for the September 19 from 2-4 p.m. Please put this on your calendars.
- This Sunday is the 21st anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. As we did last year, our Fire Department and Police Department, along with other community members, will stage a memorial around the Main Street bridge from 8:46 am, the time the first World Trade Center tower was hit, until 10:28 am, the time of the second building collapse. It is a moving tribute and I encourage you all to drive across the bridge during that time.
- Conway Fire Department is also participating in two other 9/11 memorials this weekend, one at Mission BBQ in North Myrtle and another at the MB Harley Davidson. For both, off-duty personnel have volunteered their time to participate.
- Finally, we have had a lot of attempted breaking and entering into parked vehicles over night during the last few weeks. Please be diligent, lock your car and make sure you don't leave any valuables or firearms in your car.

COUNCIL INPUT

Jordan congratulated Conway High for bringing the bell back home and said that if you haven't had the joy of listening to Ashley call the games, it is exciting. Coastal had a huge game at home Saturday night against Army with a great turnout and record attendance. Jordan said it is hard to believe it has been 20 years since that program started.

Goldfinch said that a couple of weeks ago Horry County, the Army Corp of Engineers and the City of Conway met at the Horry County Courthouse for a signing ceremony. Horry Independent picked up the story but Goldfinch said that he hasn't seen it in any other news media. He said he is baffled as this is the biggest thing done for flooding, as the federal government is involved on longer term solutions to fix flooding. He is glad that Conway is a part of this project. Goldfinch said that on the national news in Jackson, MS, there is a water shortage as that town has been irresponsible due to the fact that they did not keep up with the maintenance of the water and sewer. Goldfinch said that he poses this statement at least once a year, that all of these quality of life events to make Conway so special are great, but he just wants us to be vigilant and not get to a point where we go to our water faucet and there is no water pressure at all, as that is an essential service. Goldfinch then said lastly, he apologizes if he came across earlier as being overly concerned. He said that he didn't vote on the statue, but loves the idea. He said that he is genuinely concerned with what next year holds, and wants to be mindful that things are doing to slow down and things that we have taken for granted, we will have to face. He said that he knows that Council allocated a lot of money in early March at the budget retreat, but he just wants this to be a part of our discussions going forward that we be a little more vigilant about how we allocate our financial resources to capital expenditures, even quality of life things that we all are proud of.

White thanked everyone for the Smith Jones pool project. He then asked that the hedges be trimmed at Gasoline Alley and Ninth Avenue.

Hyman seconded what Goldfinch said about the flooding agreement with the cities and the county as that is huge. The City of Conway is far more ahead of any other municipalities in the way that we have handled the flooding, but there is only so much that we can do as a City. Hyman was so

September 6, 2022

happy about the bell and something else that was so important about Saturday night was when watching Carolina play Georgia State, there was Tonka Hemingway who plays D line for Carolina and then Darren Grainger, the starting quarterback for Georgia State, which was really cool. There was a couple of times when they said Darren Grainger from Conway and then another time when they said Tonka Hemingway from Conway. Its always great to put Conway on the national stage. Hyman stated that the train was moved from the river site to Danny Jones Metalworks and he hopes to soon have something for the City as to what he thinks it may have looked like.

Helms agreed with everyone about the flooding. She enjoyed watching the Conway boys playing and that they look the best they had in 5 years. She then said that the Hall of Fame would be September 29.

Blain-Bellamy said ditto to everything she has heard.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion: Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Helms to enter into Executive Session for the following: A. Discussion of Potential Acquisition of Property [pursuant to SC Code §30-4-70 (A) (2)]; B. Discussion of Investment Opportunities Incident to Contractual Negotiations [pursuant to SC Code §30-4-70 (A) (2)]. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

RECONVENE FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion: Hyman made a motion, seconded by Jordan to leave Executive Session. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

POSSIBLE ACTION ON MATTERS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion: Blain-Bellamy made a motion, seconded by Butler to make an offer to purchase property adjacent to the Recreation Center. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

Motion: Hyman made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch to approve a continuing contract with First Tryon Advisors, currently procured as the City's Financial Advisors, to invest City financial assets in such a manner as to secure the greatest return on those investments. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried

ADJOURNMENT: Motion: Hyman made a motion, seconded by Jordan, to adjourn the meeting. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes approved by City Council this 19 day of September, 2022.


Alicia Shelley, City Clerk