

May 16, 2022

CITY OF CONWAY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CONWAY CITY HALL
229 MAIN STREET, CONWAY
MONDAY, MAY 16, 2022 - 4:00 P.M.

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

STAFF: Adam Emrick, City Administrator; John Rogers, Deputy Administrator; Mary Catherine Hyman, Deputy 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; Steven Pearce, Police; Lynn Smith, Human Resource Director; Timmy Williams, Grounds & Maintenance Director; James Friday, Public Utilities Director; Reggie Jenerette, Solid Waste Director; Brandon Harrelson, Public Works Director; Robert Cooper, Building Official; David Crotts, Assistant Finance Director; Ashley Smith, Director Parks and Recreation; Kayla Fleming, Associate Judge; and Alicia Shelley, City Clerk

OTHERS: Sara Rich, Devin Parks of Conway Chamber of Commerce, and approximately 20 others in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Blain-Bellamy called the meeting to order. Shane Merrill, The Refuge gave the invocation and the Conway High School's JROTC Color Guard 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 May 16, 2022 meeting agenda. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. **Final Reading of Ordinance #2022-05-16(A) Establishing a Keep Conway Beautiful Committee and a Keep Conway Beautiful Fund.**
- B. **Final Reading of Ordinance #ZA2022-05-16(B) to rezone approximately 2.22 acres of property located at 1601 Third Ave (PIN 368-03-03-0017, 368-06-02-0001 & 368-04-04-0053) from High-Density Residential District (R-3) to City of Conway Highway Commercial (HC).**
- C. **Final Reading of Ordinance #2022-05-16(E) granting a non-exclusive franchise agreement to Catherine Sutz, d.b.a. Dragonfly Paddleboard Adventures, for paddleboard excursion and instruction services that will embark and disembark from docks located in the Waccamaw Riverfront District (WRD).**

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- D. Approval of 2022 Annual Renewal and Recertification Disaster Cooperative Purchasing Agreement**
- E. Special Event – 2nd Annual Juneteenth Soul Food Festival – June 18, 2022**
- F. Approval of 2022-2023 Contractual Agreement with Horry County Schools Resource Officer Program**
- G. Approval of May 2, 2022 City Council Minutes**

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: **Motion:** White made a motion, seconded by Hyman to approve the May 16, 2022 consent agenda. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT:

Sara Rich of Coastal Carolina University spoke in favor of the Trails and Pathways Plan.

Orton Bellamy said that the Waccamaw Snag and Drag Organization would begin cleaning out the Waccamaw River. Bellamy commended the City Administrator on the great job of the 5-year plan to the downtown area.

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

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

- A. Employee of the Month of May – Public Works –** Harrelson presented Kevin Edwards, Public Works with the Employee of the Month award.
- B. Recognition of Educational Achievement – Dale Long –** Rogers recognized Dale Long, Chief of Police for receiving his Masters in Criminal Justice.
- C. Presentation of Gun Violence Awareness Day Proclamation -** Mayor Blain-Bellamy presented the Gun Violence Awareness Day Proclamation to Marcelle Ross, Horry County Local Group Lead of Moms Demand Action and four others.
- D. Presentation of Guillain-Barre' Syndrome (GBS) and Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy (CIDP) Awareness Month Proclamation -** Mayor Blain-Bellamy presented the GBS and CIDP Awareness Month Proclamation to Merrilyn Macurak, Southeastern Regional Director and Rick Forney, Mid-Atlantic Regional Director.
- E. Request to annex approximately 2.82 acres of property located on Bohemia Court (PIN 383-11-01-0002) and request to rezone from Horry County Planned Unit Development (PUD) to City of Conway Light Industrial (LI).** Hardin informed council that this property is part of a larger industrial complex, Atlantic Center Industrial Park off Century Drive, with access to Highway 501 at Singleton Ridge and located behind Lowes. Bohemia Court is one of several streets located in the Atlantic Center Industrial Park. The

Comprehensive Plan future land use map projects the use for this parcel as Industrial. The Planning Commission recommended approval. The public hearing will be June 6, 2022.

- F. Request to annex approximately 3 acres of property located at West Hwy 501 (PIN 326-09-01-0001 & 326-09-01-0002) and request to rezone from Horry County Commercial Forestry Agriculture (CFA) to City of Conway Highway Commercial (HC).** Hardin informed council that this annexation request was for 2 properties submitted by the Hardee Family Holdings and these properties are adjacent to the recently approved parcel. The properties adjacent to the original annexation were meant to be part of the discussion, but were not identified in the original request. This review corrects that oversight. The Comprehensive Plan future land use map projects the use for these parcels as Highway Commercial. The Planning Commission recommended approval and the public hearing is scheduled for the June 6 City Council meeting.

White asked about the footprint of the City limits. Hardin said that water services are provided by the City in this area, and are available to this property via the main line along Highway 501. The Police Department encourages careful expansion of the city limits to ensure consistent levels of police service. The Conway Fire Department already serves this area as part of an agreement with the Horry County Fire Department.

Hyman said that the applicant made this request and wants to be in the City.

- G. Request to rezone approximately 0.34 acres of property located on Sessions Street (PIN 338-06-03-0081) from City of Conway Low/Medium-Density Residential (R1) to City of Conway Highway Commercial (HC).** Hardin stated that the applicant, Bruce Young, owns two properties that abut Sessions Street. One is on Main Street at 1912 Main Street, and holds The Freeze restaurant while the other is located behind The Freeze at 1805 Sessions Street, and is currently vacant. Mr. Young wants to use the vacant property to expand parking for his restaurant. The property is currently zoned Residential (R1) and parking lots are not an allowed use in that zoning district. To accommodate the expansion, the applicant is requesting that the parcel be rezoned to HC to match the zoning on the restaurant parcel. The Future Land Use map in the Comprehensive Plan calls for the current zoning district boundaries to stay as they exist now – the property at 1912 Main St is shown as Highway Commercial, and the property at 1805 Sessions St is shown as Low Density Residential. Citing other properties in the area that had been zoned to support businesses on Main St, the Planning Commission voted (6-1) to recommend approval of the rezoning as requested.

White said that a need for parking is a must in this area but asked if there would be some sort of barrier from the homes in the area. Hardin said that a landscape buffer would be required.

- H. Request to rezone approximately 9 acres of property located on Mill Pond Rd (PIN 338-00-00-0008) from City of Conway Low/Medium-Density Residential (R1) to City of Conway Conservation Preservation (CP).** Hardin said that Jenkins Properties owns approximately 39 acres of property located along Millpond Road, approximately 1,000 feet south/west of the intersection of Church Street and Mill Pond Road, and also across Mill Pond Road from the Conway Sports and Fitness Center. Jenkins properties

has entered into an arrangement to sell approximately 9 acres of that property to Thomas Gymnastics for the construction of a gymnasium. The Jenkins acreage is currently zoned Low/Medium Density Residential (R-1). While several recreational uses are permitted in the R-1 zoning district, a “gymnasium” is not. Therefore, Thomas Gymnastics has applied to rezone the portion of property they intend to purchase from R-1 to CP. The Future Land Use map in the *Comprehensive Plan* calls for the entire acreage to convert to Conservation Preservation (CP), in part due to the large portion of the property that is a part of, and contributes to, the Conway stormwater system. The north/eastern boundary of the property is created by the Crabtree Canal. A tributary from Crabtree crosses the property to the south where it splits; one branch leads to Hwy 378, and the other passes by the Greenbriar, Brantley, Suggs and Buckwood subdivisions en route to Tinkertown Ave and Taylor Sq. The most sensitive areas of the 39+ acres are shown as being retained by Jenkins Properties. Staff cites the Future Land Use map, which calls for the subject property to convert to CP. Planning Commission recommended rezoning the 9-acre area, with the second reading being held until the 9-acre tract can be subdivided from the parent parcel.

- I. Discussion of a proposed amendment to Article 6, Section 6.6.2 – Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs), of the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO), regarding size requirements as well as conditions.** Hardin stated that staff has become aware of a discrepancy with the Definition in Article 2 of the UDO vs. the requirements in Article 6 for Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs). This ordinance would maintain the definition in Article 2 keeping consistency throughout the UDO. Currently, the definition in Article 2 limits the size of an ADU to 1,000 square feet or less; yet the requirements in Article 6 limit the size of an ADU to 50 percent of the gross floor area of the principal dwelling or 1,000 square feet, whichever is greater. As written, the current ordinance would allow a 3,000 square foot home to build a 1,500 square foot accessory dwelling unit (space allowing). Staff does not feel that this was the intent of the ordinance. Furthermore, “other conditions” listed in the ordinance prevent ADU’s from being leased by the property owner. This is not a condition that staff has any way of enforcing. Additionally, the condition would prevent the ADU from being used for the benefit of the property owner should a family member no longer need the housing unit. Hardin said that no more than one ADU shall be permitted on a single deeded lot in conjunction with a permitted single-family detached dwelling. The size of an accessory dwelling unit shall not exceed 50 percent of the gross floor area of the principal dwelling or 1,000 square feet, whichever is less. The other conditions include that the ADU shall be detached from or attached to a single family detached dwelling, no retail sales shall be permitted, all building and fire codes shall be met, and under no circumstances shall the property be converted to a horizontal ownership regime. Both the Housing Element and Population Elements support the affordable housing efforts to meet the needs of all of Conway’s citizens. Hardin said that the public hearing would be held at the City Council meeting on June 6, 2022.

Hyman asked if the ADU could be a unit above the detached garage. Hardin said yes, that it would be considered an ADU if it has cooking and bathing abilities.

White asked if he could purposely build for his daughter. Hardin said yes, so long as it is less than 1,000 square feet and placed in the appropriate place in the yard.

J. Discussion of a proposed amendment to Title 5, Chapter 3 of the City of Conway Municipal Code and Article 14 of the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) to move public hearing responsibilities to the Planning Commission, and amend the Planning Commission Rules and Procedures to reflect the change. Hardin explained the current work flow for public hearings regarding annexation/rezoning petitions, UDO amendments, Comp Plan amendments and other issues requested by City Council. Applications for land use changes sit still for 25-39 days without input or review. This time could be better utilized and cut to the bare minimum, saving the land owner precious development time. Any time an application is on an agenda, and an applicant is allowed to speak to the board, state law requires that others with standing in the application are given ten days (10) notice so that they may hear and/or rebut the information given to the Planning Commission. The current schedule, from application to Planning Commission meeting, does not allow for enough time to notify other property owners to meet the state code. Often, the public raises issues that could be resolved by the Planning Commission and staff prior to the application coming to City Council.

Hardin stated that staff recommends moving the public hearings to Planning Commission meetings. This would allow for better input at the beginning of the process so that the public needs are addressed prior to City Council meetings. This could cut two weeks from the review time as the publication could be moved to meet state code without adding two more weeks to the existing process to add Planning Commission meetings to public notice letters.

Blain-Bellamy asked if staff would bring concerns to Council. Hardin said those concerns could be given to Council during the special presentation.

Hyman thinks it is a good idea as Planning Commission rarely knows of any public concerns.

White asked if they would still need two readings. Hardin said yes, the second reading could continue to be put on consent.

PUBLIC HEARING AND FIRST READING

Public Hearing and First reading of Ordinance #2022-06-06(A) Article J, Chapter 5 – Hotel Incentive, of the City of Conway Municipal Code to create the Hotel Incentive Program, which provides economic incentives to develop hotels and commercial short-term rentals in the City of Conway. M. Hyman told Council that City Council had expressed the need to attract more hotels in Conway, and more specifically, in the downtown in the Central Business District (CBD) and Core Commercial (CC) zoning districts. These developments would increase local employment, expand the tax base, and create new wealth opportunities in the community. In recent years, the City has approved amendments concerning hotels. Parking requirements for hotels, motels, and inns were removed in the Central Business District, as the City will be providing a majority of the parking infrastructure. Additionally, an amendment was approved to allow short-term rentals downtown. A hotel development in downtown could currently request reimbursement for capital recovery fees (Redevelopment Enhancement Incentive). A renovation could receive reimbursement for property taxes (Preservation Tax Incentive Program), and a renovation in CBD

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could request reimbursement for building permit fees + business license fees (Vacant buildings in CBD Incentive).

M. Hyman said that to attract quality hotels throughout the City of Conway, a new Hotel Incentive program would include reimbursement of property taxes and hospitality taxes for as many as 5 years, and an expedited review period of 15 days instead of 30 days. To attract hotels downtown, this new incentive could be stacked with existing incentives to additionally provide reimbursement of capital recovery fees, building permit fees, and business license fees.

M. Hyman stated that each request would come before City Council and any and all reimbursements on a case by case basis.

White asked if staff would look into grocery store. M. Hyman said yes.

Devin Parks of the Conway Chamber of Commerce spoke in favor of this program.

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

Motion: White made a motion, seconded by Hyman to approve first reading of an ordinance creating a Hotel Incentive Program. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

BUDGET ITEMS

- A. Public Hearing and First Reading of Fiscal Year 2022-23 Budget - Ordinance #2022-06-06(B) An Ordinance to Levy Taxes and Establish a Municipal Budget for the City of Conway, South Carolina.** Crofts presented the FY 2022-2023 Budget highlights to Council stating that the budget totals \$63,947,820, which is a 21% increase over the current year's budget.

Proposed Personnel

- Cost of Living salary increase of 7% for qualifying employees
- New Personnel - 5 Full-Time Positions

Property Tax Increase

Property Tax millage will increase by the Cost of Living rate of 7% from 77.3 mills to 82.7 mills.

Proposed Fees:

New Fees

Sanitation Plan Review Fee – \$300 per unit for new single-family and multi-family units utilizing roll carts or similar for collection. Currently, the Solid Waste Department reviews every major residential development without a review fee. This action takes considerable time and effort without a funding source for such activity. To assure that all new development does not create or continue to create a burden that is offset by tax payer funded contributions, a Sanitation Plan Review Fee shall be added to every new residential construction. This fee shall be charged at the time a building permit is issued

and will be collected from the Builder or person pulling the building permit and shall be for single or multi-family units utilizing roll carts for garbage collection.

Fee Increases:

Building –

- Building Permit fees will increase from \$100/sq. ft to \$125/sq. ft to reflect the actual costs of construction.

Solid Waste -

- Solid Waste collection fees will increase due to the need for additional funds to maintain service to our rapidly growing population. Monthly charges will increase by 7% for both residential and commercial service fees.

For Example -

- Residential monthly fee for 1 roll out cart with a single pick up will increase from \$24 to \$26 per month.
- Commercial monthly rates for dumpsters will follow the same increase.
- Roll cart fees will increase to cover the increasing costs of the carts.
 - Solid Waste roll cart fee will increase from \$60 to \$85
 - Recycle roll cart fee will increase from \$46 to \$70
- All new customers will be required to purchase both a Solid Waste roll cart and recycling roll cart at the time of establishment of service.

Environmental Refuse Facility Rates (ERF)

- As we expand the ERF program in the downtown and Riverfront areas, those users of the ERFs save the City time and money, but sometimes at the expense of some convenience to the user. As such, a 10% discount in garbage removal services is offered to those users. The same users also will not need to purchase any roll carts.

Stormwater -

Stormwater monthly fees will increase in order to address flooding concerns throughout the City. Monthly charges will increase by 16% for both residential and commercial service fees.

For Example -

- Residential monthly fee will increase from \$6.25 to \$7.25 per month.
- Commercial monthly rates will follow the same increase.

Public Utilities -

- Water & Sewer Rates will increase by 3% due to an increase in rates by Grand Strand Water & Sewer.
 - Increase for a household average of 6,000 gallons of usage
 - In-City - \$1.47
 - Out-of-City (Water only) - \$1.38
 - Out-of-City - \$2.94

- Several fees within the Public Utilities Department will increase to raise the needed funds to keep pace with the rehabilitation and upgrade needs of the City's aging water & sewer systems. Multiple essential water and sewer projects are planned over the next few years in order to keep up with the capacity needs of the City.
 - The following fees mainly impacting new growth will increase 30%
 - Water Meter Connection/Tap Fees
 - Water and Irrigation Meter Base Fees
 - Sewer Connection Fees
 - Fire Hydrant Meter Tap and Installation Fees
 - Residential Pump Station Installation Fees
 - Water or Sewer Wet Tap Fees
 - Maintenance and Construction Fees

White asked for clarification on the roll carts. Emrick said that the bins are going away and new customers will be required to purchase both a roll cart and recycling roll cart at the time of establishment of service. Emrick said the city would continue the roll cart program when it is available.

B. First reading of Ordinance #2022-06-06(C) Amending Title 1, Chapter 1, Section 1-4-4 Creation of Specific Departments. Crotts stated that Section 1-4-4 of the City's Code of Ordinances needs to be amended to accurately reflect the City's specific departments in light of the recent promotion and reclassifications approved by Council. Planning will change to Planning and Development. Grounds and Maintenance will now be called Hospitality and Beautification. The addition of Departments includes Technology Services and Fleet Maintenance.

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

Motion: Hyman made a motion, seconded by Jordan to approve first reading of Fiscal Year 2022-23 Budget - Ordinance #2022-06-06(B). **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

Motion: Hyman made a motion, seconded by Butler to approve first reading of an ordinance amending and creation of specific departments. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

FIRST READING

First Reading of Ordinance #ZA2022-06-06(D) to annex 0.80 acres of property located at 2597 Long Ave Ext. (PIN 324-16-03-0025) and request to rezone from Horry County Residential (SF40) to City of Conway Low/Medium Density Residential. (R1). Hardin informed Council that this property is contiguous to the Conway city limits and other properties on the same side of Long Avenue Ext have been previously annexed and that this annexation request is being made as part of the requirements for connection to water and/or sewer services.

Motion: Blain-Bellamy made a motion, seconded by Helms to approve first reading of this annexation request. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION

A. Consideration of an Agreement to Lease City-Owned Property - 150 Busbee Street and 181 Long Avenue. M. Hyman stated that the City has acquired many lots in the floodplain through the FEMA buyout program. The use of the land must be restricted in perpetuity to protect and preserve the natural floodplain values, and the land shall be used only for purposes compatible with open space, recreational, or wetlands management practices. Maintenance and upkeep of these properties is also the responsibility of the City. City Council has approved the use of private leases to neighboring property owners. These leases allow the property owners to use and maintain the FEMA lots for personal use with certain conditions. The City has received an application for a license to lease two City owned properties acquired through the FEMA buyout program. Mary and Kevin Tovornik, owners of 151 Busbee Street (PIN 339-01-04-0015) have requested to lease 150 Busbee (PIN 339-01-04-0014) and 181 Long (PIN 339-01-04-0016).

Blain-Bellamy asked if we could revoke the agreement at any time. Emrick said yes, with a 60 days notice.

Motion: Blain-Bellamy made a motion, seconded by White to give the City Administrator the authority to enter into a signed agreement between the City of Conway and this applicant. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried

B. Consideration of the Amended Emergency Operations Plan – Hendrick informed Council that the Emergency Operations Plan is reviewed annually and any changes or modifications are reviewed with City Staff and approved by the City Administrator. Due to Covid and other events, the plan has not been modified since the original version in 2019. Staff has updated the plan to include several minor adjustments and housekeeping items. The only three significant changes to the plan are as follows:

1. The City Shop Complex on Highway 378 is now recognized as our fourth sector location
2. Added a glossary of Emergency Support Functions that are recognized by FEMA
3. OPCON Level 1 has been split into two categories
 - a. Level 1 Major – All Department Heads will report to the EOC
 - b. Level 1 Minor – Specific Department Heads will report to the EOC (this was used during COVID restrictions to limit exposure)

Motion: White made a motion, seconded by Hyman to authorize the City Administrator to approve the amended City of Conway Emergency Operations Plan. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Emrick informed Council of the following:

- Construction bids are open for the work on Smith Jones Pool.
- Last week and today, staff worked at the new Gateway sign at Conway High School. Special thanks to our Building department, Planning department and our very own Mary Catherine Hyman for their hard work to make another beautiful welcoming to our City.
- There is a nighttime lane closure planned on the Main Street Bridge tomorrow night from 10 p.m. until 5 a.m. for an inspection.
- Keep Conway Beautiful held their Great American Cleanup on Saturday. 75 volunteers, which included 58 city employees collected 89 bags of litter, 820 lbs. of litter from 12.55 miles of streets and roads in the City of Conway. Thank you to all of those who participated, to our Keep Conway Beautiful Committee, to our Grounds and Maintenance Staff and to all of the other volunteers as well. Litter is a serious problem everywhere in our community and unfortunately, it takes a lot of good people to pick up after a few bad ones.
- We had two timely applicants for the RFQ for public art. We will have a recommendation for you at a future meeting. Mr. White, I would like to talk to you about using one of the applicants for your proposed mural at A Father's Place.
- SCDOT has scheduled a public meeting at the Sports and Fitness Center on June 21, to discuss the intersection project at 378 and 16th Avenue. A time has not yet been determined.
- The Grounds and Maintenance Department will begin installation of the American Flag displays throughout the City next week and they will remain up until July 11.
- Emrick said he is going to start calling a section of his bi-weekly report, Adam's Soapbox. In the last three weeks, since we got close to campaign signs being legal, we have picked up more than 400 signs that were either up too early or placed in the right of way. Reached out to one politician who told me that signs are running about \$10 each this season. So, politicians, you've wasted \$4,000 so far, plus you've cost tax payers more than \$1,000 in staff time to pick up your litter. Please, only put your signs on private property, where you have permission to put them. And only one sign per lot. If you don't have permission from the person who owns the property, you can't put your sign there. If there is a stop sign on a corner, and you put your sign under that stop sign, you are littering and violating our ordinance. There is my impassioned plea to you to avoid having a ticket written to you and us having to clean up after you. Tickets are punishable by up to a \$1,100 fine per violation.
- The draft of the Downtown and Riverfront Master Plan is being reviewed internally and with our stakeholder group. Once all edits are made, our Consultants will be back to a Council meeting to present their findings and suggestions to Council.
- Tonight, we have Department Head reports from Reggie Jenerette in our Solid Waste Department.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Solid Waste – Jenerette informed Council of the following:

- The Solid Waste Department has one position open, Heavy Equipment Operator

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- For the month of April:
 - There was 542 tons of residential solid waste.
 - There was 88 tons of cardboard and 125 tons of co-mingle recyclables.
 - There was 776 tons of commercial solid waste.
 - Rented out 17 dumpsters since July.
 - There was 359 tons of yard waste.
 - The total bill for the landfill was \$70,882.15.
 - The total amount of diesel fluid used for April was 5,969 gallons, totaling \$28,000.

Blain-Bellamy thanked the Solid Waste Department for their hard work.

Hyman congratulated Jenerette on the plaque that he received from SCDNR for the help with the removal of the derelict boats along the river.

COUNCIL INPUT:

Helms said that she attended Horry Georgetown Technical College's graduation, with 574 people graduating and congratulated them all. She had a great time at the Concert and wished the City could do it more often, like they do in NMB.

Hyman said that he also attended the Groovin on the Green and it was a great turnout, guessing about 2,500 people in attendance. He said he was excited to see Sara Rich speak today about the trails and bike path. He said that the City's greatest attribute is the river and he hopes that the river can join in on the rails to trails. He thinks there are endless possibilities. Hyman said that he saw Greg and Willie painting the sign at Conway High School and every 5 seconds someone was honking and they were waving.

White is glad to see the Smith Jones pool moving along. He stated that he sometimes asks crazy questions based on what citizens ask him and he wants everyone to hear the answers so that all is informed.

Butler congratulated the graduates of Coastal Carolina University and Horry Georgetown Technical College. She reminded all to give these graduates an opportunity to stay in this area if possible. Butler said that the seniors from Conway High School are preparing to graduate and that they went to their Elementary Schools today and walked the halls. She said it was great to see all the excitement.

Blain-Bellamy congratulated Reggie and Dale on their accomplishments. She said that at the last meeting she asked staff to look into opportunities for internships. She assured Williams that she was at a conference and that is why she could not attend clean up day. While attending the Conference she said she learned that the MASC has a pilot project, beginning this year, and they are looking at MPA students and to try to roll from that group potential professional opportunities for learning with them and to have first dibs at them. This year the MASC will cost share 5 of these students and she would like for the City to have a slot for one of these and offset the cost.

Blain-Bellamy reported that the SC Tort Claims Act may be changing. She said that for a long time the City, County or State couldn't be sued and that changed in 1986. The SC Torts Claim

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Act has limited the liability of governmental claims to \$300,000 for a single occurrence for a person and a total of \$600,000 regardless of the number of claims. There is a proposal that sits in the Senate that would increase those limits to \$500,000 and \$1 Million and if it is passed our premiums will probably be going upwards of 9%, which is substantial. Blain-Bellamy said that we cannot do much about that, but this is a reminder that our losses is what we need to guard against so to reclaim this attention to detail following OSHA rules and City of Conway rules.

Blain-Bellamy said that she has had a few conversations with a gentleman out of San Antonio, who is working with a Professor out at CCU about developing some greenhouses to grow produce, and to get the community involved. The proposal for the City is to do something with our FEMA lots, start on a small scale and possibly build from that.

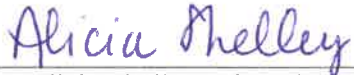
EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion: Blain-Bellamy made a motion, seconded by Helms to enter into Executive Session for the following: A. Consideration of Appointments to Boards, Commissions and Committees [pursuant to SC Code §30-4-70(A)(1)]; B. Acquisition of Property for Consideration of Conservation Near Crabtree Swamp and/or Kingston Swamp [pursuant to SC Code §30-4-70 (A) (2)]. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

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

POSSIBLE ACTION ON MATTERS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes approved by City Council this 6 day of June, 2022.



Alicia Shelley, City Clerk