

July 5, 2022

CITY OF CONWAY
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL WORKSHOP
CONWAY CITY HALL
229 MAIN STREET, CONWAY
TUESDAY, JULY 5, 2022 - 3:00 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 Administrator; Mary Catherine Hyman, Deputy Administrator; Jeff Leveille, Technology Services Director; June Wood, Public Information Officer; Allison Hardin, Planning & Development Director; Dale Long, Police Chief; Timmy Williams, Hospitality & Beautification Director; Brandon Harrelson, Public Works Director; and Alicia Shelley, City Clerk

OTHERS: Hillary Howard, Lynn Hammond, Jimmy Hammond

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Blain-Bellamy called the meeting to order.

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 July 5, 2022 special workshop agenda. Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

WORKSHOP:

- A. Discussion of Riverfront Park Fountain** – Rogers informed Council that city staff met with Alex Palkovich, a renowned bronze sculptor based in Israel, who has completed several well-known bronze pieces in South Carolina. Rogers said that Mr. Palkovich has visited the site to replace the fountain currently along the Riverwalk in Riverfront Park and has prepared a prototype of a statue for this location. Palkovich intends this statue to serve as a monument to the floods that struck the area in 2015, 2016, and 2018.

Alex Palkovich introduced himself and presented a prototype of a statue for this location.

Blain-Bellamy said that she loved the realism and the depiction of the helpfulness of people in Conway. She asked about the headdress on the lady. Emrick said that it was a raincoat, but that council may want the hood down as it was not raining when the rescue was taking place.

Rogers stated that the city is within the budget, staff will come up with the specs and bid out. Rogers then said it was suggested to have granite or marble as the base.

Council then directed staff to continue working on the artwork to replace the fountain in Riverfront Park.

B. Discussion on Name for the Future Road Adjacent to the Billy Gardner Sports Complex – MC Hyman informed Council that a new road is under construction adjacent to the Billy Gardner Sports Complex that will connect 16th Avenue to Mill Pond Road and will provide access to the Sports and Fitness Complex and several commercial establishments that front Highway 501. A portion of the road is located on City property, and the other portion is located on property owned by the Jenkins family. The Jenkins family granted a temporary construction easement to the City for the road construction, and after completion the road will be dedicated to the city as a public right-of-way. As with any new road, this one also needs a name. Because of the local, historical name of the area, the Jenkins family has proposed Jenkins Field Boulevard for consideration. The Technical Review Committee and Horry County Addressing/E911 have reviewed and approved this proposed name. Planning Commission will review at the August 4th Meeting. Because this is a City-built road, City Council may also provide input on street names.

Blain-Bellamy said that Boulevard usually gives a sense of a wider street and therefore suggested Jenkins Field Way, Street, Road or Place.

C. Discussion on Consumption Zone and Amending Last Call to Midnight – Long informed Council that staff has been approached to create a consumption zone overlay for the downtown area. The Plan has defined areas that comprise the downtown area. There are a number of downtown activities in the defined areas that allow alcohol consumption. Currently, patrons are not allowed to move from business to business with alcohol. The exception is a permitted event with a defined alcohol zone.

A draft of an amended ordinance will be sent to council for first reading if the proposal receives a favorable review. It adds language extending the consumption zone to overlay the downtown zone. The amended section would allow consumption rules to apply and patrons to travel within the consumption zone with alcohol in accordance to the other rules within the ordinance.

Additionally, the downtown merchants have asked for a last call provision of midnight which would extend the stated quiet time hours already in place within the noise ordinance, and serve to allow the mingling of residential and commercial with less noise related issues an open business creates. The downtown area is seeing additional residential facilities under construction or renovation, and other hotel options being pursued. The growth of residential areas in the downtown area can come into conflict with the nightlife hours and functions of local businesses.

Hyman said that he talked to owners of Chanti's, Crooked Oak, Crafty Rooster, Whittakers, Hop N Wich, and he reached out to the Bistro but was unsuccessful in getting in touch with him, and they are all in support of closing at midnight.

Goldfinch asked for clarification, ceasing alcohol at midnight does not mean that you have to close your pizza store. Long said in speaking to the local businesses they want to be closed and at home at midnight.

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Blain-Bellamy stated that it seems that the consensus is that by closing at midnight is beneficial to all.

Emrick stated that the map looks like it encompasses all the wooded areas, that is the zoning districts of the WRD and CBD districts.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes approved by City Council this 18 day of July, 2022.



Alicia Shelley, City Clerk