

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
229 MAIN STREET
CONWAY, SOUTH CAROLINA
MONDAY, APRIL 3, 2017 – 5:30 PM

PRESENT: Mayor Barbara Blain-Bellamy, Mayor Pro Tem Randle L. Alford, Council Members Thomas J. Anderson II, William M. Goldfinch IV, Ashley Smith, Jean M. Timbes, and Larry A. White

STAFF: Bill Graham, City Administrator; Vicky Lefler, Deputy City Administrator; Kevin Chestnut, Public Works Director; Adam Emrick, Planning Director; James Friday, Public Utilities Director; Reggie Gosnell, Police Chief; Le Hendrick, Fire Chief; Foster Hughes, Parks, Recreation and Tourism Director; Reggie Jenrette, Solid Waste Director; Billy Joe Sawyer, Building Official; Lynn Smith, Human Resource Director; Allison Williams, Finance Director; Timmy Williams, Grounds and Maintenance Director; and Debbie F. Smith, City Clerk

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Dale Todd, Kathy Ropp, and others

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

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

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Blain-Bellamy recognized Rev. James Way of Mercy Baptist Church in Conway who gave the invocation. City Council and those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: **Motion:** Anderson made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch, to approve the agenda as presented. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. **Final reading of Ordinance #ZA2017-04-03 (A) Accepting the petition by Castles Engineering, on behalf of Coastal Carolina University, to annex approximately 4.37 acres of property located at 120 Winyah Road (TMS# 151-00-03-004/PIN 38311030002) and to rezone the property from Horry County Highway Commercial (HC) to City of Conway Institutional (IN) upon annexation**
- B. **Final reading of Ordinance #ZA2017-04-03 (B) Accepting the petition by Castles Engineering, on behalf of Coastal Carolina University, to annex approximately 0.42 of an acre of property located in the 1000 Block of Highway 544 (TMS# 150-00-07-015/PIN 38212040010) and to rezone the property from Horry County Neighborhood Commercial (HC) to City of Conway Institutional (IN) upon annexation**
- C. **Final reading of Ordinance #ZA2017-04-03 (C) Accepting the petition by Castles Engineering, on behalf of Coastal Carolina University, to annex approximately 0.49 of an acre of property located in the 1000 Block of Highway 544 (TMS# 151-20-01-001/PIN 38212040009) and to rezone the property from Horry County SF 10 to City of Conway Institutional (IN) upon annexation**

- D. Final reading of Ordinance #ZA2017-04-03 (D) Accepting the petition of Ekklesia Christian Church to rezone approximately 8.31 acres of property located at 2469 Highway 501 East (TMS# 151-00-03-020/PIN 38311030005) from Highway Commercial (HC) to Planned Development (PD) to allow for the development of a church and related amenities**
- E. Final reading of Ordinance #ZA2017-04-03 (E) Accepting the petition of Phyllis R. Martin to annex approximately .2 of an acre of property located at 627 Lesia Lane (TMS# 150-17-03-014/PIN 38211020001) and to rezone the property to Low Density Residential (R-1) upon annexation**
- F. Final reading of Ordinance #ZA2017-04-03 (F) Accepting the petition of Charles A. Byrd to annex approximately 1.23 acres of property located at 2823 Graham Road (TMS #123-00-02-157/PIN 32416010001 and TMS #123-00-02-144/PIN 32416020002) and to rezone the property to Low Density Residential (R-1) upon annexation**
- G. Final reading of Ordinance #ZA2017-04-03 (G) Accepting the petition of Shelley Holdings LLC to annex approximately 4.34 acres of property located at 3215 – 3243 New Road (TMS #136-00-06-004, 136-00-06-024, 136-00-06-025, 136-00-06-026, 136-00-06-027, 136-00-06-028, 136-00-06-029, 136-00-06-030, 136-00-06-031) and to rezone the property to Low Density Residential (R-1) upon annexation**
- H. Final reading of Ordinance #ZA2017-04-03 (H) Amending the Southern Enchantment Carriages Franchise Agreement (Ordinance #2016-06-20 [E]) for horse drawn carriage services throughout the Central Business District of Conway**
- I. Neighborhood Town Hall Meeting Minutes – March 14, 2017 and City Council Minutes – March 20, 2017**

Alford requested that the minutes of the March 20, 2017, City Council meeting reflect his request for a letter to be written to the local legislative delegation in opposition to House Bill 3650 and 3651, the Business License Standardization Act. **Motion:** Anderson made a motion, seconded by Timbes, to approve the consent agenda with the minutes of the March 20th Council meeting amended as stated. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT:

Dale Todd shared positive comments about the Citizens Police Academy and he encouraged those in attendance to participate in the program. He thanked Council and staff for efforts to obtain a FEMA grant to assist those impacted by Hurricane Matthew and commented on the use of low blue lights by police, police retention efforts, and the commendable interaction with the public by police officers.

Shirley Martin, Executive Director of the Skipp Pearson Jazz Foundation, announced that April 30, 2017, is International Jazz Day in South Carolina and requested City Council support this event by attending the jazz event in the Edwards Recital Hall at Coastal Carolina University from 4:00 p.m. until midnight on April 30, 2017. Martin was accompanied by Dr. Amy Hardison Tully, Associate Dean, Edwards College of Humanities and Fine Arts of Coastal Carolina University, and Elise Graves, Executive Director of The Gold Key Jazz Society. Mayor Blain-Bellamy asked that this event be advertised on the City's website and the access channel.

Motion: Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to close the public input. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: Employee Longevity Bonus Award was presented to Jerry Shannon, Public Utilities Department, 10 years. The presentation was made by the City Administrator accompanied by Council Member Goldfinch.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING:

- A. Public hearing and first reading of Ordinance #ZA2017-04-17 (A) Amending the Conway Comprehensive Plan by replacing the Housing Element in its entirety.** Council reviewed the first draft of this updated element at its January 17th meeting. The Planning Commission has recommended approval of the updated Housing Element. **Public Hearing:** There was no input from the public. **Motion:** Anderson made a motion, seconded by White, to close the public hearing. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried. **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Timbes, to approve first reading of Ordinance #ZA2017-04-17 (A). **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.
- B. Public hearing and first reading of Ordinance #ZA2017-04-17 (B) Amending Article 5, Section 5.2.1, of the Unified Development Ordinance relating to parking, storage and use of recreational equipment.** Emrick noted that this proposed amendment has been discussed several times by Council, the last time being on January 3, 2017. At that meeting, there appeared to be no support by Council of a recommendation by the Planning Commission to exempt smaller recreation vehicles from the regulations and the issue was returned to the Planning Commission. Emrick informed Council that the Planning Commission has recommended approval of the amendment without this waiver but suggested adding a four-hour window for recreational vehicles to park in commercial districts to allow tourists and boaters to eat or shop. Following discussions on differences in small and large recreational vehicles and the number of recreational vehicles allowed to be parked in back yards in residential areas, there was no opposition voiced to the Mayor's suggestion that this matter be discussed further by Council as a workshop item. **Public Hearing:** There was no input from the public. **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by White, to close the public hearing. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried. **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Alford, to table Ordinance #ZA2017-04-17 (B) further discussion. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.
- C. Public hearing and first reading of Ordinance #ZA2017-04-17 (C) Amending Article 10, Section 10.3.8, of the Unified Development Ordinance to revise standards for building area elevations during lot development.** Emrick reported that due to flooding from Hurricane Matthew, the Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance requirements are being revised to amend flood elevation requirements. This ordinance will amend Section 10.3.8 of the Unified Development Ordinance, so that section will not be in conflict with the new requirements. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the amendment. Staff recommended first reading approval. **Public Hearing:** There was no input from the public. **Motion:** Alford made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to close the public hearing. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried. **Motion:** Alford made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to approve first reading of Ordinance # ZA2017-04-17 (C). **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.
- D. Public hearing and first reading of Ordinance #ZA2017-04-17 (D) Accepting the petition of Joyce J. Utt, et al and Ted Hudgins to annex a portion of a vacant 65 acre tract of property consisting of approximately 15 acres located on East Cox Ferry Road near the intersection with Conway Plantation Drive (TMS #151-00-04-008/PIN 38300000347) and to rezone the property**

from Horry County Commercial Forest Agriculture/General Manufacturing and Industrial (CFA/MA2) to Institutional (IN) upon annexation. Emrick advised Council that this request is being made in order to develop student housing in the subject property. He also noted that subdivision of the 65-acre site through Horry County and consummation of the sale of the 15-acre portion of this site in the purchaser's name will be required before final reading. The City of Conway Comprehensive Plan identifies the parcel as Industrial on the Future Land Use Map. The Planning Commission has recommended approval of the request. Staff recommended first reading approval. **Public Hearing:** Steve Powell, Project Engineer, spoke in support of the request and reported that the student housing would consist of 21 town homes with leasing restricted to students. **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Timbes, to close public hearing. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried. **Motion:** White made a motion, seconded by Alford, to approve first reading of Ordinance #ZA2017-04-17 (D). **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

- A. Authorization of letter opposing two proposed Business License Tax standardization bills (H3650 and H3651).** Williams reported that the legislature is considering two business license bills, H3650 and H3651 that would drastically cut revenue and create a tremendous hardship to the City. The Municipal Association of South Carolina predicted the loss of revenue would be approximately \$2.2 million based on FY 15-16 revenue. Williams informed Council, that if approved, the proposed letter would be sent to the local state legislative delegation and members of the legislative Committees on Labor, Commerce, and Industry. **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Smith, to authorize the Mayor to sign the proposed letter on behalf of City Council. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.
- B. Authorization of letter requesting full funding of Local Government Fund appropriations.** Williams reported that, since 2009, there has been a substantial reduction in this fund. If appropriations were fully funded, the City would receive an additional \$156,185 in FY 2017 and an additional \$198,841 in the upcoming FY 2018. Williams informed Council that, if approved, the proposed letter requesting full funding of Local Government Fund appropriations would be sent to members of the local state legislative delegation and members of the Senate Finance Committee. **Motion:** Anderson made a motion, seconded by White, to authorize the Mayor to sign the proposed letter on behalf of City Council. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.
- C. Acceptance of bid for asphalt patching (April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2019).** The City issued a Request for Proposals for a two year contract (April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2019) for asphalt patching. Chestnut reviewed the bids submitted by Palmetto Corporation, Donald Richardson & Son, and Coastal Asphalt, LLC. Staff recommended that Council accept the low bid submitted by Coastal Asphalt, LLC: \$3.40 per square foot unit for 2 inch asphalt patch, \$1.00 per linear foot unit for 2 inch depth saw cut, and \$1.95 per square foot unit for overlay up to 2 inches. **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Timbes, to accept the low bid which was submitted by Coastal Asphalt, LLC. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.
- D. Acceptance of bid for construction of floating docks.** Hughes reported that the following bids were received for the installation of an 8' x 24' extension of the Riverwalk where two gangways would be installed to access two 10' x 100' floating docks: Dock Hardware & Marine Fabricators, Conway - \$221,582.04; Seven Seas Marine Construction, Murrells Inlet - \$167,920.00; and Fetter Marine Construction, Conway - \$116,700.00. Staff recommended that Council accept the low bid which was submitted by Fetter Marine Construction. The bid includes all materials, labor, engineering and City

permits. Hughes noted that an allocation of \$100,000 was included in the FY 2016-17 budget for this project. However, \$4,000 has been encumbered by the Army Corps of Engineers permitting process. Therefore, based on the low bid, an additional \$20,700 would be needed to complete the project, which is available in the construction projects contingency in the current fiscal year General Fund budget. Hughes also gave an update on the status of permitting by the Corps of Engineers. **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to accept the low bid in the amount of \$116,700, submitted Fetter Marine Construction. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

E. Proposed program to allow non-member youth access to the Conway Recreation Center. Hughes presented an outline of the proposed program which would provide access to the Recreation Center on a year round basis to youth up to age 18 or still enrolled in high school. The cost for the program would be \$2.00 per person per session on Monday through Saturday from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. A second session will be offered on Wednesdays from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. for an additional \$2.00. Hughes noted that if Council approves the concept of this program, the fee will be included in the budget adoption process and implementation could begin July 1, 2017. **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to approve the Conway Youth Program as presented. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Graham reported that due to the heavy rains forecasted, the Spring Sports Ceremony scheduled for Tuesday, April 4th, may be delayed or postponed. The Billy Gardner dedication event, scheduled for the same day at the Recreation Center, will be held as planned.

COUNCIL INPUT:

Alford

- Suggested that a portrait of Mayor Blain-Bellamy, the City's first African-American Mayor, be displayed in City Hall.
- Suggested that the City offer a Citizen's Academy one night per week at City Hall to inform the public of the duties of each department.
- Recommended a traffic signal be installed where the exit ramp off Main Street intersects with Second Avenue.

Timbes

- Suggested that staff look at using the same approach to provide access to the Tennis Center that was proposed in the Conway Youth Program.
- Congratulated the South Carolina Women's Basketball Team on winning the NCAA Women's Championship and the South Carolina Men's Basketball Team for advancing to the Final Four in the NCAA competition.

Smith

- Recommended that phone calls to express the City's concerns with House Bill 3650 and 3651 and the Local Government Fund be made in addition to the letters being sent to the local delegates.
- Expressed his excitement about the Conway Youth Program.
- Commented that it was an honor to name the Recreation Center after Billy Gardner and Pete Wilkes.

Blain-Bellamy announced that Everett Sands plans to offer a football camp in the City, on June 24, 2017, for rising 3rd to 8th grade students (approximately 350-400), and that donations from businesses to assist with the program would be appreciated. She requested that Council consider a contribution of \$750 toward the event at its next meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion: Anderson made a motion, seconded by Timbes, to enter executive session to consider appointments to boards, commissions and committees and to discuss negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

RECONVENE FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion: Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to come out of executive session. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

ACTION ON MATTERS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Consideration of appointments to boards, commissions and committees [pursuant to SC Code §30-4-70(a)(1)]: Motion: White made a motion, seconded by Alford, to approve the following appointments as discussed in executive session. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

Accommodation Tax Advisory Committee: Appointed Jeffrey B. Hardwick to a three-year term ending December 31, 2019.

Community Appearance Board: Appointed Craig Smith and Sheila Walberg-O'Neil to four-year terms ending December 31, 2020.

Construction Board of Appeals: Reappointed Richard M. Garris to a three-year term ending December 31, 2019.

Planning Commission: Appointed Mark Stanley to fill an unexpired term ending December 31, 2018.

Rose Hill Memorial Gardens Committee: Reappointed Martha Onley to a three-year term ending December 31, 2019.

Employee Grievance Committee: Reappointed Jessica Stalvey and appointed Anthony Huggins to three-year terms ending March 24, 2020; appointed Boyce Lilly to fill an unexpired term ending March 24, 2019; and appointed Christopher Williamson as Alternate.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes approved by City Council this 17th day of April, 2017.


Debbie F. Smith, City Clerk