



MINUTES
CITY OF GOOSE CREEK, SOUTH CAROLINA
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
TUESDAY, JUNE 22, 2021 – 6:00 PM
FIRE STATION I – TRAINING ROOM
201 BUTTON HALL AVENUE

MAYOR/COUNCIL PRESENT:

Mayor Gregory S. Habib
Mayor Pro Tem Jerry Tekac
Councilmember Hannah Cox
Councilmember Melissa Enos
Councilmember Debra Green-Fletcher
Councilmember Corey McClary
Councilmember Gayla McSwain-By Phone

CITY STAFF:

City Administrator Natalie Zeigler
Assistant City Administrator Brian Cook
City Clerk Kelly J. Lovette
Tyler Howanyk, Chief Financial Officer

PRESS PRESENT:

None

GUESTS PRESENT:

None

PURSUANT TO THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT SC CODE 30-4-80: WRITTEN NOTICE WAS DELIVERED TO THE PRESS BY EMAIL ON FRIDAY, JUNE 18, 2021, AND DULY POSTED AT CITY HALL LOCATED AT 519 N GOOSE CREEK BOULEVARD, AN ACCESSIBLE FACILITY, AND ON CITYOFGOOSECREEK.COM

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Habib called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

II. DISCUSSION ITEM(S)

a. Kathy Maness, Councilwoman, Town of Lexington, and President of the National League of Cities

Mrs. Maness was not able to make the meeting due to an unexpected family matter. She has been rescheduled for the upcoming City Council Workshop in August.

b. Discussion of Cultural Arts Commission Requirements

Mrs. Zeigler stated this was Mayor Habib's idea and it was a good one. She stated we have had difficulty recruiting people for the Cultural Arts Commission and by City Code, it says it is composed of seven (7) residents of the City. We are recommending adding of the "the City or the Goose Creek Recreation District" so City staff can expand the advertising for our recruiting efforts. After a brief discussion, it was decided the CAC would be comprised of up to two (2) seats would be filled by residents from the Goose Creek Recreation District and five (5) seats would be filled by residents of Goose Creek.

c. Discussion of a Moratorium on the Issuance of New Business Licenses, Permits for Expansion, Certificates of Occupancy for: (1) Used Automobile Vehicle Sales; (2) Repair Shops

Mr. Cook briefed City Council on the proposed Zoning Code rewrite within the areas of the City's existing incentive zones that were previously approved by City Council. He stated City staff has received a good many inquiries by people who wished to open used car lots and repair shops along the Redbank Road corridor. He reviewed the City's current zoning for the uses of these types of businesses and commented on future development within the overlay district in the incentives area and how this could affect the areas redevelopment. He stated this would be a temporary moratorium that is being suggested by the Zoning staff's recommendation. Mayor Habib elaborated on what Mr. Cook stated and he gave a brief

history on where the incentive area came from. He stated the moratorium would be used to make that area and our City what we would want it to look like and what we would want to see in those areas. Mrs. Zeigler stated City staff was recommending a moratorium for at least 18 months until the overlay of the zoning district can be completed. After discussion amongst City Council on the subject, types of businesses currently in that area and the vision the City has for future growth, it was decided to take a proposed Ordinance before City Council at their regular City Council meeting in July.

d. Special Events Discussion

Mr. Howanyk thoroughly briefed and reviewed with City Council the need for a Special Events Ordinance and presented to them City staff's proposed suggestions of what should be implemented within a newly revised Special Events Application; as well as the need for a Parade Ordinance. Mr. Howanyk stated Greenville has many special events throughout the year and City staff has thoroughly reviewed their Special Events Application and are recommending modeling the City's very much like Greenville's. Mr. Howanyk thoroughly answered all of City Council's questions.

e. AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GOOSE CREEK, SOUTH CAROLINA, BY REVISING AND MAKING CHANGES TO THE ELECTIONS, SECTION 37.03 WHEN ELECTIONS TO BE HELD

Mayor Habib stated the next item has to do with changing the election years from even to odd years. Mrs. Zeigler stated within the City Council packet is a list of municipalities who already hold their elections during odd number years. Mayor Habib stated it was thought by City Council to move the elections to November, wherein there are more people voting; but hindsight being what it is, it was not discussed wherein the elections should be held during odd number years in November, so the public is recognizing it is municipal election time and municipal elections are not being drowned out by the presidential election. Mayor Habib stated the Municipal Associations of all the states and the International City Council Manager's Association are in support of this and much of the research shows your ability to drive the narrative is most effective on odd number years, so you are not competing with all the noise from the General Election, and the media has the ability to focus on municipal elections. Participation during an odd number year is going to be much greater than an election in April whether it be in odd or even number years. There was a brief discussion on incentivizing elections for voters, as well as how to go about making the change. It was stated there would be council members serving one (1) term of five (5) years in order to get the elections moved to even number years. Mayor Habib suggested those Council members running for council in 2022 would be for one (1) five-year term and those Council members who were not running in 2022, their terms would be extended for one (1) additional year. Councilmember McSwain stated she did not wish to move the elections to odd number years. Mayor Pro Tem Tekac stated he concurred with Mayor Habib on the length of terms for the 2022 election (five (5) year term) and extending the other Councilmembers for one (1) more year, making it a total of five (5). Councilmember McClary stated he felt by changing the elections to odd number years, there would be less people coming out to vote. Councilmember McSwain requested that City staff look at whether or not City Council could legally change the terms of office by extending same.

III. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Tekac; Second: Councilmember McSwain

Discussion: None.

Carried: All ayes, 7:14 p.m.

Date: July 13, 2021

Kelly J. Lovette, MMC
City Clerk