

City Council Meeting
June 9, 2015
7:00 P.M.
City Hall

Council Members Present:

Mayor Michael J. Heitzler; Mayor Pro Tem Mark A. Phillips; Councilmember James (Kimo) Esarey; Councilmember Franklin Moore; Councilmember Jerry Tekac; Councilmember Debra Green-Fletcher; Councilmember John McCants

Council Members Absent:

Staff Present:

City Administrator Dennis C. Harmon; City Clerk Kelly J. Lovette; Police Chief Harvey Becker; Fire Chief Steve Chapman; Director of Public Works Steve Price; Director of Recreation Gary Stuber; Director of Golf Operations Troy Sanders; Director of Planning and Zoning Sarah Hanson

Staff Absent:

Finance Director Ron Faretra

Invocation:

Councilmember John McCants

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor Heitzler

Press Present:

Dan Brown; The Goose Creek Gazette

Guests Present:

I. Call to Order:

Mayor Heitzler called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. Comments from the Audience:

There were no comments.

III. Approval of Previous Minutes:

City Council Meeting – May 12, 2015

Councilmember Tekac made a motion to approve the minutes, as stated by Mayor Heitzler. Councilmember Green-Fletcher seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

IV. Public Hearings:

Mayor Heitzler read the title to the proposed Ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE PURSUANT TO TITLE 5, CHAPTER 3, SECTION 5-3-150, SUBSECTION 3, OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, AS AMENDED, TO ANNEX AN AREA (229 LINDY CREEK ROAD) INTO THE CITY OF GOOSE CREEK, A SOUTH CAROLINA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (Second and Final Reading)

Councilmember Esarey made a motion to approve the proposed Ordinance, as stated by Mayor Heitzler. Mayor Pro Tem Phillips seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Mayor Heitzler read the title to the proposed Ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE PURSUANT TO TITLE 5, CHAPTER 3, SECTION 5-3-150, SUBSECTION 3, OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, AS AMENDED, TO ANNEX AN AREA (222-00-00-046 - PROPERTY ALONG ST. JAMES AVENUE) INTO THE CITY OF GOOSE CREEK, A SOUTH CAROLINA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (Second and Final Reading)

Councilmember McCants made a motion to approve the proposed Ordinance, as stated by Mayor Heitzler. Councilmember Moore seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Mayor Heitzler read the title to the proposed Ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE PURSUANT TO TITLE 5, CHAPTER 3, SECTION 5-3-150, SUBSECTION 3, OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, AS AMENDED, TO ANNEX AN AREA (222-00-00-124 – ALONG PLANET ROAD) INTO THE CITY OF GOOSE CREEK, A SOUTH CAROLINA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (Second and Final Reading)

Mayor Pro Tem Phillips made a motion to approve the proposed Ordinance, as stated by Mayor Heitzler. Councilmember McCants seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Mayor Heitzler read the title to the proposed Ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF GOOSE CREEK, SOUTH CAROLINA, TO PROVIDE FOR CHANGES IN THE ZONING DISTRICTS OF THE CITY OF GOOSE CREEK BY CHANGING THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF THE FOLLOWING PROPERTIES:

THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 225 LINDY CREEK ROAD, DESIGNATED AS TMS# 244-01-04-005, FROM CONSERVATION OPEN SPACE (CO) TO MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (R-2),

Councilmember Tekac made a motion to approve the proposed Ordinance, as stated by Mayor Heitzler. Councilmember Esarey seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

AND, THE PROPERTIES LOCATED AT 133 BLOSSOM STREET, 135 BLOSSOM STREET, 137 BLOSSOM STREET, AND 139 BLOSSOM STREET, DESIGNATED AS TMS #'s 244-01-01-005, 244-01-01-004, 244-01-01-003, AND 244-01-01-002 RESPECTIVELY, FROM CONSERVATION OPEN SPACE (CO) TO MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (R-2) (Second and Final Reading)

Councilmember Esarey made a motion to approve the proposed Ordinance, as stated by Mayor Heitzler. Councilmember McCants seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Mayor Heitzler stated before City Council was a Resolution for the City to apply to borrow monies to expand the water system. Mayor Heitzler requested Councilmember Tekac to explain the details of the Resolution. Councilmember Tekac stated the City was in the process of improving the water lines and adding a hydropillar to the City's water system. He stated the City would borrow \$8,500,000.00, and this Resolution would allow the City of Goose Creek to apply to borrow up to this amount of money through the State. He stated City Council received a briefing on this the previous month and provided a financing mechanism to fund the construction of the improvements. Councilmember Esarey stated funding would also connect all 3 water tanks together so one would not empty and another remain full; the 3 pillars would work together to give everyone throughout the City the same water pressure. Mr. Harmon stated the City worked on this project for approximately 2½ years. Mayor Heitzler stated the improvements are anticipated to be able to provide sufficient water pressure for the next 25 years. Mr. Harmon stated the money would be borrowed from the South Carolina State Revolving Fund with an interest rate of 2.2% for 20 years.

Mayor Heitzler recognized Mr. Allan Wall who inquired if there was a set location for the hydropillar. Mayor Heitzler stated yes, behind the Senior Citizens Center. Councilmember Esarey stated the location was between the 2 existing water tanks and on land the City owned. Councilmember Tekac stated this Resolution authorized City Council to borrow up to \$8,500,000.00, but did not commit City Council to borrow the entire amount or borrowing it from the fund source listed. Mr. Harmon stated the Resolution authorized the City to apply for the funding.

Mayor Heitzler read the title to the Resolution.

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GOOSE CREEK SOUTH CAROLINA (South Carolina Water Quality Revolving Fund Authority – Federal Safe Drinking Water Act)

Councilmember Esarey made a motion to approve the Resolution, as stated by Mayor Heitzler. Mayor Pro Tem Phillips seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

V. Department Reports:

Police Department – Councilmember Moore thanked Chief Becker and his police officers for the way they professionally handled a recent burglary at his business.

Fire Department – There were no comments or questions.

Department of Public Works (DPW) – Mayor Heitzler stated Mr. Price worked closely with other area water companies. He stated Mr. Price’s leadership and consultation assisted in an expansion of the Lake Moultrie Water Treatment Plant. Councilmember Esarey stated the employee who used the grapppler for trash pickup did a wonderful job not making a mess or tearing garbage bags. Mayor Heitzler inquired how many times a day this employee has to pick up trash and Mr. Price stated at least 700 hundred.

Administration Department & Municipal Court – There were no comments or questions.

Recreation Department – Councilmember Esarey stated he spent the previous 7 or 8 Saturdays at Felkel Field and he was amazed at how coaches are able to get 5 year olds to coordinate into a ball team. He stated the fields looked great and clean. Mr. Stuber stated the pool at the Crowfield Golf Club was now open full time. He stated that coming Friday would be the 4th Sounds of Summer concert and it would be held at the barn at Carnes Crossroads. Councilmember Tekac stated the last Sounds of Summer concert would be at Dogwood Park.

Golf Department – Mr. Sanders stated the golf course renovations were coming along nicely. Councilmember Esarey stated one of his neighbors complemented Rob , a golf course employee, on how he handled a situation with him after his surgery. He stated Rob suspended his membership until he was able to return and play and this meant a lot to the customer.

Planning Department – Councilmember Esarey stated he went to the new Mattress Firm and the gentleman running the store was very helpful and the prices were terrific. Mayor Pro Tem Phillips inquired when the new Neighborhood Market on St. James Avenue was opening. Mrs. Hanson stated the Grand Opening was scheduled for June 24, 2015, at 7:30 a.m. Councilmember Tekac and Councilmember McCants stated the Grand Opening of the Neighborhood Market on Red Bank Road was wonderful and they had a fun time.

VI. City Administrator’s Report:

Request to Purchase – Recreation Department: Mr. Harmon stated there was a request with supporting documentation from the Recreation Director to purchase a 2015 Ford F-150 Pick-up Truck from Jones Ford Inc.,

Charleston, SC, as the low responsible bidder in the total amount of \$24,110.00. He requested City Council's consideration.

Mayor Pro Tem Phillips made a motion to approve the purchase in the total amount of \$24,110.00, for a 2015 Ford-150 Pick-up Truck from Jones Ford Inc., as stated by Mr. Harmon. Councilmember McCants seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

VII. Mayor's Report:

Continue to Develop Recreation Opportunities (#6 of the 2015 Goals & Objectives): Mayor Heitzler reviewed "Develop Recreation Opportunities", number 6 on the 2015 Goals & Objectives, wherein he stated the following: in the forefront was the "Activity Center" being added onto the Goose Creek Community Center. He stated the Activity Center would house all the programs currently held at the Casey Community Center. He stated after the programs are moved to the new center, the Casey Center would be demolished. Mayor Heitzler stated the City's architects were done with the conceptual planning of the building and would soon be accepting construction bids to build the facility. He stated City Council was also investigating a dog park. Mayor Heitzler requested the people in the audience raise their hand if they were interested in having a dog park. Seven (7) people raised their hand. He stated they were also investigating developing recreational opportunities for citizens with disabilities. Mayor Heitzler stated City Council wanted to improve the fine arts activities. He stated some of the local Goose Creek schools were where the Berkeley County School District concentrated their efforts to providing the fine arts schools to its students. He stated he would like a Cultural Arts Commission to be taken into consideration. Mayor Heitzler stated there are many more miles of planned Hiker Biker Trails to be completed. He stated he would like for there to be access to the Goose Creek Reservoir by having a non-motorized boat landing conceivably at Foster Creek Park. Councilmember Tekac mentioned Dennis Park. Mayor Heitzler stated Mr. Harmon's plan for 15 years was to expand passive recreational opportunities from Boulder Bluff Elementary School to North Goose Creek Boulevard (US Highway 52). Mr. Harmon stated the area Mayor Heitzler was referring to consisted of 35 acres. Mayor Heitzler stated the previous day he had the pleasure of signing paperwork which would allow the transfer of land to Boulder Bluff Elementary so they could have an improved egress for automobiles during drop-off and pick-up of children. He stated in exchange for this, the Berkeley County School Board passed a motion to give the City 20 acres of land to combine with 8 acres of land already owned by the City. He stated the City has plans for a future passive park to emerge in the middle of a densely populated residential zone. Mayor Heitzler stated the City has 100 acres in its downtown area and 12 acres at the Casey Center, all to be used for large active and passive recreational spaces.

VIII. Comments and Questions:

Mayor Heitzler recognized Mr. John Causey who was the President of the Crowfield Homeowner's Association. Mr. Causey stated the Crowfield HOA was progressing along with a lake study at Lake Crowfield and once complete, the findings would be shared with Mr. Harmon. Mayor Heitzler recognized Mr. and Mrs. Joe and Brenda Daning. Mayor Heitzler stated Mr. Daning is the Representative for the City of Goose Creek, in the State's General Assembly, in Columbia. He stated Mr. Daning's leadership and experience was missed on City Council.

IX. Adjournment:

Councilmember Tekac made a motion to adjourn. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

_____ Date: July 14, 2015

Kelly J. Lovette, MMC
City Clerk

A copy of this meeting's agenda was sent to the Post and Courier and The Goose Creek Gazette; and, it was posted in City Hall 24 hours prior to the meeting.