

City Council Meeting
October 11, 2016
7:00 P.M.
City Hall

Council Members Present:

Mayor Michael J. Heitzler; Mayor Pro Tem Mark Phillips; Councilmember Debra Green-Fletcher; Councilmember Brandon Cox; Councilmember Gregory Habib; Councilmember Kevin Condon; Councilmember James (Kimo) Esarey

Council Members Absent:

None

Staff Present:

City Administrator Jake Broom; City Clerk Kelly J. Lovette; Chief of Police Harvey Becker; Fire Chief Steve Chapman; Finance Director Ron Faretra; Director of Public Works Steve Price; Director of Recreation Gary Stuber; Director of Golf Operations Troy Sanders; Public Information Officer Frank Johnson; Director of Planning and Zoning Sarah Hanson

Staff Absent:

None

Invocation:

Mayor Pro Tem Mark Phillips

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor Heitzler

Press Present:

Ricky Dennis, Goose Creek Gazette

Guests Present:

I. Call to Order:

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

II. Approval of Previous Minutes:

City Council Meeting – July 12, 2016
City Council Meeting – August 9, 2016
City Council Meeting – September 13, 2016

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

III. Public Hearings:

Mayor Heitzler stated the first item under Public Hearings was the second and final reading of an ordinance to change the zoning of a parcel of land, located at the intersection of Henry Brown Boulevard and Liberty Hall Road, from Plan Unit Development Mobile Home (PDMH) to General Commercial (GC). Mayor Heitzler read 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 BY CHANGING THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF THE PROPERTY LOCATED ON HENRY E BROWN BOULEVARD AND LIBERTY HALL ROAD, DESIGNATED AS TMS# 244-00-00-065, FROM PLANNED DEVELOPMENT MOBILE (PDMH) TO GENERAL COMMERCIAL (GC) (Second and Final Reading)

Mayor Heitzler inquired if City Council wished to take action. Councilmember Deborah Green-Fletcher made a motion to amend the zoning of the property, as stated by Mayor Heitzler. Councilmember Esarey seconded the motion. All in favor none opposed. Motion carried.

Mayor Heitzler stated the second item under Public Hearing was the introduction and first reading of an ordinance to adopt the 2017 Fiscal Year Budget. Mayor Heitzler stated the proposed budget was over \$42,000,000, and it would allow the City to continue to provide excellent municipal services to its residents. Mayor Heitzler stated the budget was very conservative with only moderate increases. Mayor Heitzler stated there will be no increases to Business Licenses Taxes, Property Taxes, Franchise Fees or Water Rates. Mayor Heitzler stated the proposed budget would fund an employee Pay for Performance System with an average annual raise of 2%. He stated it would also provide for debt retirement for the City's water system upgrades, the new Headquarters Fire Station and Fire Station III, as well as, Phase II of the new Community Center. Mayor Heitzler stated within the proposed budget the City would be adding new positions for Police Officer, a Laborer for the Recreation Maintenance Division, an Assistant Finance Director (Note: The position is temporary and for transitioning into becoming the Finance Director, upon Mr. Faretra's retirement in 2017), nine (9) marked police vehicles and equipment for those vehicles, three (3) sanitation trucks, nine (9) Heart Start Defibrillators and fifty-eight (58) mobile data terminals. Mayor Heitzler read the proposed ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE TO RAISE REVENUE AND ADOPT A BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF GOOSE CREEK, SOUTH CAROLINA, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2017 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31,2017 (Introduction and First Reading)

Mayor Heitzler inquired if City Council wished to take action. Councilmember Habib made a motion to approve the proposed Ordinance for the 2017 FY Budget, as stated by Mayor Heitzler. Councilmember Condon seconded the motion. Hearing no discussion, Mayor Heitzler called for the vote. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Mayor Heitzler stated the last item under Public Hearings was a Resolution that would allow for the City Administrator to execute Mutual Aid Agreements with other administrations, cities and counties in South Carolina. Mayor Heitzler recognized Mr. Larry Alexis from the audience, who inquired about North Myrtle Beach being listed within the Resolution. Mayor Heitzler stated a police presence was necessary for large crowds during events like "Bike Week" and that Myrtle Beach would pay the salaries and overtime if they request the off duty services from our City's police officers. Mayor Heitzler recognized Ms. Barbara Bates from the audience and who inquired if the City currently had an Agreement with the City of Myrtle Beach. Mayor Heitzler stated no. Mayor Heitzler read the proposed Resolution.

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE A MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF GOOSE CREEK POLICE DEPARTMENT AND THE: BERKELEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, CHARLESTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, DORCHESTER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE; CHARLESTON POLICE DEPARTMENT, NORTH CHARLESTON POLICE DEPARTMENT; HANAHAN POLICE DEPARTMENT; MONCKS CORNER POLICE DEPARTMENT; MOUNT PLEASANT POLICE DEPARTMENT; SUMMERVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT; NORTH MYRTLE BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT

Mayor Heitzler stated the City currently has a Mutual Aid Agreement with the majority of the law enforcement agencies listed within the proposed Resolution. Police Chief Harvey Becker stated the law changed in June 2016, and an updated Agreement was necessary. Mayor Heitzler inquired if City Council wished to take action. Councilmember Esarey made a motion to approve the proposed Resolution as stated by Mayor Heitzler. Mayor Pro Tem Phillips seconded the motion. Hearing no discussion, Mayor Heitzler called for the vote. All in favor none opposed. Motion carried.

Mayor Heitzler requested the City Administrator, Mr. Broom, to brief City Council on the proposed Workplace Safety Resolution. Mr. Broom stated the City's insurance provider encourages City Council to annually pass a Resolution that states the City will provide a safe working environment for its employees.

Mayor Heitzler inquired if City Council wished to take action. Councilmember Condon made a motion to approve the proposed Resolution, as presented by Mr. Broom. Councilmember Esarey seconded the motion. Hearing no discussion, Mayor Heitzler called for the vote. All in favor none opposed. Motion carried.

IV. Department Reports:

Police Department – Mayor Heitzler recognized Mr. Luther Steele who stated the City's Police Department was doing a great job and that he volunteers his services with community policing. Mr. Steele inquired if Chief Becker could attend the next Crowfield Plantation Homeowner's Association Board Meeting. Chief Becker stated yes. Mayor

Heitzler recognized a lady from the audience who thanked the Police Department for its increased presence during Hurricane Matthew and for doing a wonderful job. Mayor Pro Tem Phillips inquired about the new Cop-Stop Program. Chief Becker stated it was alive and well and that the community brought in tons of food for the Police Officers when they were not able to attend on Saturday due to Hurricane Matthew.

Fire Department – Chief Chapman stated the Fire Prevention Display was cancelled due to the ongoing recovery efforts from Hurricane Matthew and he was trying to move some of the activities that had been previously scheduled over to the City’s Fall Festival. Chief Chapman stated that an auto extraction demonstration was currently scheduled for the Fall Festival.

Department of Public Works (DPW) – Mayor Heitzler thanked Mr. Price for all the work that he and his men were doing with the cleanup of the City after the storm. Councilmember Habib stated he was impressed with the recovery efforts from his department and inquired if Mr. Price felt like those efforts were moving in the direction he wanted. Mr. Price stated yes and he stated his crews were back to the normal sanitation schedule. Mr. Price stated the debris removal would be handled by a combination of Berkeley County and The State. Mr. Price stated the reason for this was because debris removal was reimbursed by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and that FEMA’s reimbursement would be provided to the entities that own the roads; this is why Berkeley County and the State would be responsible for clearing the roadways. Mr. Price stated both of these entities had contractors ready, but had to wait on the President of the United States to issue a Disaster Declaration, which came out today. Mr. Price stated the sanitation pickup schedules would be listed on the Goose Creek City website once they were made available.

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

Recreation Department – Mr. Stuber recognized Mrs. Nancy Trevino of whom he stated passed away from Stage IV Cancer and that she had been a Commissioner on the Goose Creek Recreation Commission since 1983. Mr. Stuber stated she did a lot for the kids in this community and will be missed.

Golf Department – Mr. Sanders stated with Hurricane Matthew, the golf course looked a little rough. He stated he had all hands on deck that Sunday and Monday and they had about 40 trees down on the property of the golf course, but they were open for business.

Public Information Officer/Annexation Coordinator – Mr. Johnson stated the Fall Festival was rescheduled to October 22, 2016, and Mayor Heitzler’s history lectures would start that Thursday.

Planning Department – Mrs. Hanson stated if anyone had significant structural damage to their home from the storm they could contact her at City Hall and she would provide them with additional information.

V. City Administrator’s Report:

Request to Purchase Headquarters Furniture (Fire Department) – Mr. Broom stated, in order to save money, the pieces before City Council were separated from a larger furniture quote, which would be forthcoming. Mr. Brooms stated the items requested to be purchased were: 10 reclining media chairs, 12 kitchen table chairs and 4 bar stools. He stated City staff was requesting to purchase the furniture from the low bidder, Dream Seat Commercial Furniture, in the amount of \$10,209.25. Mr. Broom stated the furniture was not in the 2016 FY Budget, but funds did exist in the General Fund for this expenditure.

Mayor Heitzler inquired if City Council wished to take action. Mayor Pro Tem Phillips made a motion to approve the purchase for furniture for the Headquarters Fire Station. Councilmember Cox seconded the motion. Hearing no discussion, Mayor Heitzler called for the vote. All in favor none opposed. Motion carried.

Request to Purchase Headquarters Fitness Equipment (Fire Department) – Mr. Broom stated City staff requested to purchase fitness equipment from the low bidder, Carolina Sports and Fitness Inc., in the total amount of \$31,558.00. Mr. Broom stated Carolina Sports and Fitness Inc., also provided the equipment for Fire Station III and City staff believed that using the same equipment in Headquarters Station would make maintenance easier. Mr. Broom stated the fitness equipment was not in the 2016 FY Budget, but that funds existed in the General Fund for this expenditure.

Mayor Heitzler inquired if City Council wished to take action. Councilmember Esarey made a motion to approve the purchase of the fitness equipment for the Headquarters Fire Station, as stated by Mr. Broom. Councilmember Condon

seconded the motion. Hearing no discussion, Mayor Heitzler called for the vote. All in favor none opposed. Motion carried.

Request to Purchase Headquarters Furniture Beds & Nightstands (Fire Department) – Mr. Broom stated City staff was requesting the following: 11 beds with headboards and under bed storage and 11 nightstands. Mr. Broom stated City staff was requesting to purchase the furniture from, Norex Commercial Furniture Group, in the total amount of \$25,204.85. Mr. Broom stated City staff has had difficulty finding beds with the appropriate storage and that were sturdy enough to be used in the Fire Stations. Mr. Broom stated, under State Contract, there were two (2) styles of beds that have storage and the one being presented was \$690.00, more expensive in the total. Mr. Broom stated the beds are steel framed and rated for 1,000 lbs, and City staff believes they will hold up longer. Mr. Broom stated this expenditure was not in the 2016 FY Budget, but that funds exist in the General Fund for this expenditure.

Mayor Heitzler inquired if City Council wished to take action. Councilmember Cox made a motion to approve the purchase of beds and nightstands for the Headquarters Fire Station, as stated by Mr. Broom. Councilmember Habib seconded the motion. Mayor Heitzler inquired if there was any discussion by City Council. Hearing no discussion, Mayor Heitzler called for the vote. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Request to Purchase Two (2) Pick-up Trucks (Department of Public Works) – Mr. Broom stated his final request was for the Department of Public Works to purchase two (2) 2016 Chevrolet Silverado Half Ton 4x2 Pickup Trucks to be used by the Maintenance Division. He stated City staff was requesting to purchase the trucks from the low bidder, Love Chevrolet, in the total amount of \$20,665, per truck, for a total amount of \$41,330. Mr. Broom stated the trucks were not in the 2016 FY Budget, but funds existed in the General Fund for this expenditure.

Mayor Heitzler inquired if City Council wished to take action. Councilmember Green-Fletcher made a motion to approve the purchase, as presented by Mr. Broom. Councilmember Habib seconded the motion. Hearing no discussion by City Council, Mayor Heitzler called for the vote. All in favor none opposed. Motion carried.

VI. Mayor's Report:

Improve Water System (Item #9 of the 2016 Goals and Objectives): Mayor Heitzler stated City Council had authorized the structure of a new elevated water tank, currently being built, and of which was located behind the Berkeley County Library. He stated the new water tank would bring sufficient water pressure for twenty (20) more years, according to the engineers hired by the City for the project. Mayor Heitzler stated City Council also authorized Santee Cooper Regional Water Authority to increase the amount of water that gets treated daily at the Santee Cooper Regional Water Authority Water Treatment Plant, located at Lake Moultrie, from 27,000,000 gallons a day, to 40,000,000 gallons a day.

VII. Comments and Questions:

There were no questions or comments.

VIII. Adjournment:

Councilmember Esarey made a motion to adjourn. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Date: November 8, 2016

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; it was posted in City Hall 24 hours prior to the meeting.