

City Council Meeting
March 12, 2019
Regular Meeting 7:00 P.M.
City Hall

Council Members Present:

Mayor Gregory S. Habib; Mayor Pro Tem Kevin Condon; Councilmember Debra Green-Fletcher; Councilmember Jerry Tekac; Councilmember Corey McClary; Councilmember Gayla McSwain

Council Members Absent:

None

Staff Present:

City Administrator Jake Broom; Assistant City Administrator Daniel Moore; City Clerk Kelly J. Lovette; Director of Economic Development Matt Brady; Chief of Police LJ Roscoe; Finance Director Tyler Howanyk; Public Information Officer Frank Johnson

Staff Absent:

Invocation:

Pastor Dr. Eric Tharp

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor Habib

Press Present:

Guests Present:

I. Call to Order:

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

II. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor Habib introduced Dr. Eric Tharp, Pastor of Trident Baptist Church, who presented the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

III. General Public Comments:

A resident from Lakeview Commons shared his concerns regarding parking, erosion, and streets. He asked City Council to look into his concerns.

IV. Approval of Minutes:

a) City Council Meeting – February 12, 2019

A motion was made by Councilmember Green-Fletcher to approve the minutes, as stated by Mayor Habib. Councilmember Tekac seconded the motion. Hearing no discussion, Mayor Habib called for the vote. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

V. Public Hearings, Presentations & Proclamations:

a) Proclamation – Preston Soriano, Stratford High School – AAAAA 126 lb. State Wrestling Champion

Mayor Habib read the Proclamation recognizing Preston Soriano and invited Mr. Soriano, his family and his coaches to join him as he read the Proclamation and took photos.

b) Proclamation – Israel Schultz, Goose Creek High School – AAAAA 120 lb. State Wrestling Champion

Mayor Habib read the Proclamation recognizing Israel Schultz and invited Mr. Schultz, his family and his coaches to join him as he read the Proclamation and took photos.

c) Proclamation – Goose Creek High School Girls Basketball Team – State Champions

Mayor Habib read the Proclamation recognizing the Goose Creek High School Girls Basketball Team and invited Coach Baldwin and the Lady Gators to join him as he read the Proclamation and took photos.

d) 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 IDENTIFIED AS TMS 234-00-00-139 INTO THE CITY OF GOOSE CREEK, A SOUTH CAROLINA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION – St. James Avenue at Grey Goose Drive (Public Hearing & First Reading)

Mayor Habib read the title to the proposed Ordinance. Hearing no comments, Mayor Habib inquired if City Council wished to act. A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Condon to approve the proposed annexation Ordinance, as stated by Mayor Habib. Councilmember Green-Fletcher seconded the motion. Hearing no discussion, Mayor Habib called for the vote. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

e) 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 IDENTIFIED AS TMS 244-05-01-105 INTO THE CITY OF GOOSE CREEK, A SOUTH CAROLINA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION – Lindy Creek Road (Public Hearing & First Reading)

Mayor Habib read the title to the proposed Ordinance. Hearing no comments, Mayor Habib inquired if City Council wished to act. A motion was made by Councilmember Tekac to approve the proposed annexation Ordinance as stated by Mayor Habib. Mayor Pro Tem Condon seconded the motion. Hearing no discussion, Mayor Habib called for the vote. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

VI. New Business:

None.

VII. Old Business:

None.

VII. Monthly Department Report:

Matt Brady, Economic Development Director: Mr. Brady presented a PowerPoint presentation showing end of year statistics for 2018. His presentation displayed growth in commercial activities, sales, business licenses, sale taxes, housing starts and hospitality fees. Mr. Brady stated that projects such as C.R. HIPP, Goose Creek Village, and Project Luminous are in the works. He stated that looking ahead, he would like to implement a marketing plan and engage a marketing firm to create digital marketing content. Mr. Brady stated the Goose Creek Local Brand will probably launch at the end of this month which is something local businesses can apply for and be recognized. He stated the closing of the old Fire Station is forthcoming. He stated he felt 2019 is a good time to think about marketing some City owned commercial properties. Mayor Habib thanked Mr. Moore for his report.

VIII. City Administrator’s Report:

a) Request to Purchase – Police Department – Dodge Charger Police Cars (x7)

Mr. Broom stated he received a request from the Police Chief to purchase seven (7) Dodge Chargers to be used by the Field Services Division. He stated City staff was requesting to purchase the cars from Santee Automotive of Manning, S.C. for the State contract price of \$24,252 each. He stated the total price for the seven (7) vehicles will be \$169,764. Mr. Broom stated the cars will be shipped directly to Global Public Safety of Roebuck, SC, where they will be upfitted with lighting and radio equipment for an additional \$104,444.76. He stated this brings the total cost to \$274,208.76. Mr. Broom stated the Police Department Budget includes \$236,570 for vehicles and \$264,500 for small equipment

purchases. He stated there were three (3) additional vehicle requests that evening. He stated the sum of all ten (10) vehicles was about \$2,040 over what was budgeted for these vehicles, the overage was due to a change in the State contract pricing for one (1) of the vehicles, and the overage will be made up elsewhere in the Police Department Budget.

Mayor Habib inquired if City Council wished to act. A motion was made by Councilmember Tekac to approve the request to purchase seven (7) Dodge Chargers in the total amount of \$274,208.76. Councilmember Green-Fletcher seconded the motion. Following a brief discussion regarding upfitting of these vehicles Mayor Habib called for the vote. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

b) Request to Purchase – Police Department – Dodge Ram Animal Control Trucks (x2)

Mr. Broom stated he received a request from the Police Chief to purchase two (2) Dodge Ram 1500 Pickup Trucks from Butler Motor Company of Beaufort, SC, under State contract for \$19,347.20 each, and that the vehicles would be used for Animal Control. He stated the total cost for both pickup trucks are \$38,694.40, and the trucks will be shipped to Global Public Safety where they will be upfitted with lighting and radio equipment for an additional \$8,721.00, and with a total cost of \$47,415.40.

Mayor Habib inquired if City Council wished to act. A motion was made by Councilmember Green-Fletcher to approve the request to purchase two (2) Dodge Ram Animal Control Trucks in the total amount of \$47,415.40. Mayor Pro Tem Condon seconded the motion. Hearing no discussion, Mayor Habib called for the vote. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

c) Request to Purchase – Police Department – Ford Police Interceptor SUV

Mr. Broom stated the final Police Department vehicle request was a Ford Police Interceptor SUV to be used by the Community Oriented Policing position which was created in the 2019 budget. He stated City staff was requesting to purchase the SUV from Vic Baily Ford of Spartanburg, SC, under State contract for \$30,152.00 and the trucks will be shipped directly to Global Public Safety where it will be upfitted with equipment for an additional \$15,923.83 bringing the total cost to \$46,075.83.

Mayor Habib inquired if City Council wished to act. A motion was made by Councilmember Green-Fletcher to approve the request to purchase the Ford Interceptor SUV in the total amount of \$46,075.83. Councilmen Tekac seconded the motion. Hearing no discussion, Mayor Habib called for the vote. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

d) Request to Purchase – Administration – HVAC Unit Replacement (x4)

Mr. Broom stated the next request is from the Finance Director regarding the purchase and installations of four (4) HVAC units. He stated two (2) units are for the Courtroom and two (2) units are for Council Chambers. He stated City staff received three (3) bids and requested to hire Goose Creek Heating and Air for the total price of \$29,160. He stated of the three (3) bids received, Goose Creek Heating and Air was the second lowest and City staff requested to hire Goose Creek Heating and Air in order to maintain brand/type continuity with our existing HVAC units, and that the City has an existing maintenance contract with them. Mr. Broom stated while they have confirmed they will maintain any brand we purchase; City staff is most comfortable they maintain the brand with which they are most familiar.

Mayor Habib inquired if City Council wished to act. Councilmember Tekac made a motion to approve the request to hire Goose Creek Heating and Air in the total amount of \$29,160 to replace four (4) HVAC units. Mayor Pro Tem Condon seconded the motion. Hearing no discussion, Mayor Habib called for the vote. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

e) Contract Award – Real Estate Services – Representation for Sale of City- Owned Residential Properties

Mr. Broom stated in December of 2018 City staff posted a request for proposal (RFP) from qualified real estate agents to represent the City in the possible sale of vacant City owned residential lots. He stated the City received eight (8) proposals and the Assistant City Administrator, Economic Development Director and himself scored each proposal based on the respondents' background, references and proposed commission. He stated City staff is requesting to hire Georgia and Lawrence Richard of Carolina One Real Estate. Mr. Broom stated their proposal was clear, professional, and included everything we asked. He stated if approved, City staff will formalize the agreement with Carolina One, then work with City Council to finalize the list of properties to be marketed.

Mayor Habib inquired if City Council wished to act. A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Condon to hire Georgia

and Lawrence Richard of Carolina One to represent the City of Goose Creek in the sale of City owned residential lots. Councilmember Tekac seconded the motion. Councilmember Green-Fletcher recused herself because she works for Carolina One. Councilmember McClary stated the City should value the Green Space that it owns and should check with the residents if they would like to see the City sell property. Councilmember McClary stated at this point, he was opposed to selling City owned residential properties. Councilmember McSwain stated that evening's decision was just to hire a real estate agent as City Council will examine the properties to be sold, if any, at a later date. Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Habib called for the vote. Councilmember Tekac, Councilmember McSwain, Mayor Pro Tem Condon and Mayor Habib voted in favor. Councilmember McClary was opposed. Motion carried.

f) Appointment of New Planning Director:

Mr. Broom stated that City code states the City Administrator hires Department Managers with the approval of Mayor and City Council. He stated pursuant to that requirement, he was pleased to request the approval to hire Mark Brodeur to be the City's next Planning Director. He stated he believes the forty (40) plus years of experience Mr. Brodeur has in city planning and downtown redevelopment will serve the City well.

Mayor Habib inquired if City Council wished to act. A motion was made by Councilmember Tekac to approve the request to hire a new Planning Director. Councilmember Green-Fletcher seconded the motion. Hearing no discussion, Mayor Habib called for the vote. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

IX. Mayors Report:

Mayor Habib stated he had two (2) items he wished to discuss. He stated he asked the City's Public Information Officer (PIO) to put together a list of articles about the City of Goose Creek that have happened this year. He stated he has about thirty (30) articles from publications such as the Post and Courier, The Gazette, and Live5news.com that highlighted what the City is doing. Mayor Habib stated he makes this point because he does not remember a time in the past where the City has had this much attention and that part of this is because we participate in our region. Mayor Habib stated this spotlight encourages the type of work that our Economic Development Director is doing.

Mayor Habib stated the second item was that every year the City awards an artist the "City of Goose Creek Purchase Award." He stated this year's recipient is Ms. Belle Anderson. At that time, he invited Ms. Anderson to the front to speak and have photos taken.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Habib stated City Council was going into Executive Session to discuss the following:

a) Section 30-4-70 (a) (2) Discussion of Negotiations Incident to Proposed Sale of Property – (Old Fire Station I)

Councilmember Tekac made a motion to go into Executive Session. Councilmember Green-Fletcher seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. (7:56 p.m.)

Mayor Pro Tem Condon made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Councilmember Tekac seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. (8:19 p.m.) City Council took no action in Executive Session.

XI. Adjourn:

Councilmember McSwain made a motion to adjourn. Mayor Pro Tem Condon seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. Meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Kelly J. Lovette, MMC
City Clerk

Date: April 9, 2019

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.