

City Council Meeting
January 14, 2020
6:30 P.M. (Executive Session)
7:00 P.M. (Regular Meeting)
City Hall

Council Members Present:

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

Council Members Absent:

City Councilmember Jerry Tekac

Staff Present:

City Administrator Jake Broom; Assistant City Administrator Daniel Moore; City Clerk Kelly J. Lovette; Police Chief LJ Roscoe; Director of Economic Development Matt Brady; Public Information Officer Frank Johnson; Head Golf Professional Bobby Donnellan; City Attorney Lawrence Flynn

Staff Absent:

Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance:

Councilmember Corey McClary

Press Present:

None

Guests Present:

None

I. Call to Order and Executive Session (6:30 pm):

Mayor Habib called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

SECTION 30-4-70 (A) (2) DISCUSSION OF NEGOTIATIONS INCIDENT TO PROPOSED CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENTS AND PROPOSED SALE OF PROPERTY (**Old Fire Station I – 101 Button Hall Avenue**)

SECTION 30-4-70 (A) (5) DISCUSSION OF MATTERS RELATING TO THE PROPOSED LOCATION, EXPANSION, OR THE PROVISION OF SERVICES ENCOURAGING LOCATION OR EXPANSION OF INDUSTRIES OR OTHER BUSINESSES IN THE AREA SERVED BY THE CITY (**Project Lightning Rod**)

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Condon to go into Executive Session. Councilmember Harmon seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried. (6:30 pm)

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Condon to come out of Executive Session. Councilmember Harmon seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. (7:28 pm)

Mayor Habib apologized to those who have been sitting and waiting for the meeting to begin. He stated they were trying to do things a little more efficiently by starting executive session prior to the regular City Council Meeting; however, they will have to think about it moving forward.

II. Regular Meeting – Invocation / Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor Habib called the regular City Council Meeting to order at 7:29 pm. Pastor Shawn Edwards, Journey Church. Mayor Habib asked that everyone keep Councilmember Tekac and his family in their thoughts and prayers as Councilmember Tekac's father passed away that morning and he was heading to Youngs Town, Ohio, to attend to his family.

III. General Public Comments:

Mayor Habib recognized a gentleman who commented on the traffic congestion at S Goose Creek Boulevard (US Highway 52) and St. James Avenue (US Highway 176) and that he recently read in the news paper there is an expected increase in population of 8,000 to 10,000 people moving into the Moncks Corner area in the near future. The gentleman stated he felt City Council should begin putting monies aside for when the improvements and expansion are done to the intersection. Mayor Habib stated the City is working very closely with Berkeley County and he is trying to develop plans to have the intersection redeveloped. He stated if you want to leave this part of Berkeley County it's not easy when you have two (2) major state highways running right through your city. He stated they are continuing to work with other agencies to try to get something done at that intersection, but when you are talking what could be upward to thirty million dollars, that's probably out of the City's capacity to handle such a project.

IV. Approval of Minutes:

a) City Council Meeting – December 10, 2019

Councilmember Harmon made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Condon seconded the motion. Councilmember McSwain stated in the minutes under Old Business regarding the sale of property, she would ask that the minutes reflect that she voted "no" on that item identified with TMS 244-05-01-032. Councilmember Harmon and Councilmember Green-Fletcher requested the minutes also reflect that they also voted "no". Hearing no further discussion Mayor Habib called for the vote. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

V. Public Hearings, Presentations & Proclamations:

a) PROCLAMATION – RECOGNITION OF SAMUEL B. JEFFERSON'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

Mayor Habib stated unfortunately Mr. Jefferson could not be present, but his daughter was there to accept the proclamation on behalf of Mr. Jefferson in honor of his 100th birthday and for his contributions to the Goose Creek community.

b) SPECIAL RECOGNITION – HIGH SCHOOL ALL-STARS

Mayor Habib introduced Maddie Mitchum. He stated Maddie was named to the North South All-State Volley Ball Team for 4-5A, 7-5A Region Team and she led the Stratford Knights this year with 208 kills and 30 blocks and he asked everyone to join him in congratulating Maddie for all of her hard work.

c) 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 PROPERTY LOCATED ON LINDY CREEK ROAD, DESIGNATED AS TMS# 244-05-01-032. FROM CONSERVATION OPEN SPACE (CO) TO MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (R-2) (Public Hearing & First Reading)

Mayor Habib read the title to the proposed Ordinance. There was a brief discussion about traffic concerns by a resident from that area. Mayor Habib stated the property was being rezoned as R-2 and would permit for two (2) houses. Mayor Pro Tem Condon made a motion to rezone the property from Conservation Open Space to R-2. Councilmember McSwain seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

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 243-03-06-007 (112 CHURCH PLACE) INTO THE CITY OF GOOSE CREEK, A SOUTH CAROLINA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (Public Hearing & First Reading)

Mayor Habib read the title to the proposed Ordinance. Councilmember McSwain made a motion to amend the proposed Ordinance to replace the description in paragraph 5 from 5.61 acres to .27 acres; and to replace the zoning district classification of Conservation Open Space (CO) to Planned Development (PD). Mayor Pro Tem Condon seconded the motion. Mayor Habib stated there was a scrivener's error in the proposed Ordinance;

therefore, Councilmember McSwain's motion included a correction to those errors. Hearing no further discussion Mayor Habib called for the vote. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

VI. New Business:

- a) **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE PROVISIONS OF ORDINANCE NO. 18-012.5 DATED MAY 8, 2018; AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 101 BUTTON HALL AVENUE IN THE CITY OF GOOSE CREEK (TMS NUMBER 243-04-00-008); AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO (Introduction & First Reading)**

Councilmember Harmon made a motion to table the proposed Ordinance until the next City Council Workshop. It was decided to discuss the proposed Ordinance at the next City Council Meeting. Councilmember Green-Fletcher seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

VII. Old Business:

None.

VIII. Department Report:

Chief LJ Roscoe, Police Department: Chief Roscoe stated it has been one (1) year since she took over as Chief of Police and she was prepared to brief City Council by reviewing 2019 of the Police Department. She stated violent crimes in Goose Creek were down by 14% from 2018 to 2019; bench warrant service is up by 250%; self-generated reports have increased by 49%, which means if officers are not out on a preexisting call, they can go out and be proactive instead of reactive which means they are able to get out and do more work. Chief Roscoe stated in 2019 Community Relations consisted of the Police Department's first annual Hot Pursuit 5K; wrapping one of their vehicles for community relations; they helped Habitat For Humanity to build a house in less than 36 hours; National Night Out turned out 500-800 people; Breast Cancer Awareness in October and officers were allowed to wear pink shoe laces for a \$20.00 fee and they ended up raising \$1,000 and that money went to the Susan G. Komen Foundation; they had their first Trunk or Treat and they found it to be an overwhelming success, she cooked over 500 hot dogs; and in December they did the first annual Shop With a Badge and there was a great turnout. Councilmember McSwain inquired what her department's biggest challenges were that they face. Chief Roscoe stated they still have challenges they face with the State's Police Academy just getting people trained and getting them out on the road. She stated they have made some improvements to try and expedite that process, which has helped considerably, but that would be their biggest challenge within the Police Department. There was a brief discussion on the various topics Chief Roscoe reviewed in her report, Mayor Habib and City Council thanked Chief Roscoe for her report.

IX. City Administrator's Report:

- a) **Crowfield Golf Course – Request to Enter into Golf Cart Lease**

Mr. Broom presented City Council with a request and supporting documentation from Mr. Bobby Donnellan, Head Golf Professional, to enter into a new golf cart lease agreement with EZ-GO, the low bidder, for the annual cost of \$90,000, and is included the FY 2020 Golf Department budget. Councilmember Harmon inquired about the quality amongst the three (3) proposed companies and was it wise to go with the low bidder. Mr. Donnellan stated a golf cart is pretty much the same, just different designs and names, but quality wise they were all the same. Councilmember McClary inquired what the difference was between leasing and buying golf carts. Mr. Broom stated it may save the City money; however, by the time the City rotates them out after four (4) years with 35,000 rounds and growing, per year, they are not in great shape and the City's customers and residents expect decent golf carts and by year five (5), they begin to look pretty rough.

Councilmember Harmon made a motion to approve the request to enter a new golf cart lease with EX-GO, as stated by Mr. Broom. Mayor Pro Tem Condon seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

b) Police Department – Request to Purchase Body Cameras (x58) and Dash (Fleet) Cameras (x58)

Mr. Broom presented City Council with a request and supporting documentation from Chief Roscoe to purchase fifty-eight (58) body and dash cameras from the low bidder, Axon, located in Scottsdale, Arizona, in the total amount of \$202,916.19, and is included in the FY 2020 Police Department budget. Councilmember Harmon inquired about Chief Roscoe's opinion of the equipment and the companies who bid. Chief Roscoe stated Axon is who she prefers and who she used in Metro Atlanta. She stated they are the company who produces the Police Department's electronic weapons (Taser); and that Taser and Axon were the same company, they've been in business since the early 90's under that name and their service after the sale is impeccable, she doesn't know anyone who can beat their pricing; plus they're a cloud based system which allows them to eliminate internal servers and she believes it's a better product.

Mayor Pro Tem Condon made a motion to approve the purchase of body and dash cameras from Axon, as stated by Mr. Broom. Councilmember Green-Fletcher seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

c) Recreation Department – Request to Hire Contractor – New Fencing at Foster Creek Park

Mr. Broom presented City Council with a request and supporting documentation from Mr. TJ Rostin, Director of Recreation, to hire a contractor to build a new fence at Foster Creek Park from the low bidder Maner Fence, located in North Charleston, SC, in the total amount of \$32,284, and is included in the FY 2020 Recreation Department budget. Mayor Pro Tem Condon inquired if the bid request included any netting to go up along Foster Creek Road. Mr. Rostin stated City staff felt the fence should be enough and the two (2) sections that are thirty (30) feet wide and twelve (12) feet high will help because they are right behind the goals.

Councilmember Green-Fletcher made a motion to approve the purchase of new fencing at Foster Creek Park from Maner Fence, as stated by Mr. Broom. Councilmember Harmon seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

X. Mayors Report:

Mayor Habib thanked Mr. Rostin and Ms. Alison Carter from the City's Recreation Department, Police Chief Roscoe and Fire Chief Chapman and all of their departments for their efforts; to include Mr. Chuck Denson and the City's Sanitation Department and for the City's Christmas Parade on December 14th. He stated it was a resounding success and more room will have to be made for the number of people expected to attend in 2020. He thanked everyone for their efforts in bringing the community closer and for making Goose Creek a wonderful place to live.

XI. Adjourn:

Mayor Pro Tem Condon made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Green-Fletcher seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Date: February 11, 2020

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.