



MINUTES  
CITY OF GOOSE CREEK, SOUTH CAROLINA  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, MAY 11, 2021 – 6:00 PM  
CITY HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
519 N GOOSE CREEK BOULEVARD

**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

**CITY STAFF:**

City Administrator Natalie Zeigler  
Assistant City Administrator Brian Cook  
City Clerk Kelly J. Lovette  
Chief Financial Officer Tyler Howanyk  
Director of Planning & Zoning Mark Brodeur  
Chief of Police LJ Roscoe  
Fire Chief Mike Nixon  
Director of Public Works Chuck Denson  
Public Information Officer Frank Johnson

**PRESS PRESENT:**

None

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

None

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PURSUANT TO THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT SC CODE 30-4-80: WRITTEN NOTICE WAS DELIVERED TO THE PRESS BY EMAIL ON FRIDAY, MAY 7, 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 and requested Councilmember Corey McClary to lead in the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

**II. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Note: All comments sent to the City Clerk by 12:00 noon on the date of this meeting, via US Mail or Email, as stated on the meeting Agenda, were forwarded to City Council.

Ms. Marsha Hassel stated to City Council she was very much interested in doing good things for the City by continuing to serve on the Cultural Arts Commission.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- a. City Council Meeting – April 13, 2021
- b. City Council Workshop – April 22, 2021

Motion: Councilmember Enos; Second: Councilmember Cox  
Discussion: None.  
Carried: All ayes.

**IV. PRESENTATIONS & PROCLAMATIONS:**

- a. Proclamation - National Public Works Week - May 16-22, 2021 (Department of Public Works)

Mayor Habib read and presented the proclamation to Mr. Chuck Denson and members of his department.

- b. Proclamation - Fair Housing Month, April 2021

Mayor Habib read and presented the proclamation to Mr. Rusty Hughes and Ms. Kateshia Breland.

- c. Mothers Against Drunk Driving Presentation (MADD) - Compassionate Hero Award

Police Lieutenant Joshua Battista was presented with the MADD Compassionate Hero Award by Mr. Steven Burritt, Regional Executive Director of Mothers Against Drunk Driving for North Carolina and South Carolina, and Attorney Mark Bringardner, of the Bringardner Law Firm, a sponsor for MADD's Law Enforcement Support Program. In addition to the Compassionate Hero Award, MADD also commended the GCPD for being named one of the state's DUI Agencies of the Year.

- d. Goose Creek Police Department Citizen Police Academy - Recognition of Graduates

Each graduate was recognized and awarded a certificate for completion of the academy.

- e. FY2020 Audit Delivery and Presentation

Mr. Howanyk introduced Mr. Grant Davis of Mauldin & Jenkins CPA's. Mr. Davis presented City Council with a briefing of the City's financial audit report and stated his firm issued an unmodified opinion on the City's financial statements, which is the best results you can get in a financial statement audit, a clean report. Mayor Habib thanked Mr. Davis, as well as Mr. Howanyk and the City's staff for the great job they do and pointed out the results of the audit show how the City does things the right way and City Council, as well as everyone, should be proud of the way the City goes about conducting business.

## **V. OLD BUSINESS & PUBLIC HEARINGS**

- a. AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE 2021 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE FOR THE CITY OF GOOSE CREEK, PURSUANT TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING ENABLING ACT 1994, AS AMENDED (Second and Final Reading of a Public Hearing)

Mayor Habib recognized a gentleman from the audience who inquired if the Comprehensive Plan was online. Mayor Habib stated it was on the City's website. There was a brief discussion about greenspace opportunities and the City's desire to create greenspace throughout the City.

Motion: Councilmember Green-Fletcher; Second: Councilmember Enos

Discussion: None.

Carried: All ayes.

## **VI. NEW BUSINESS & PUBLIC HEARINGS**

- a. 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 235-13-02-053, LOCATED AT 108 STEPHANIE DRIVE, INTO THE CITY OF GOOSE CREEK, A

SOUTH CAROLINA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (Introduction and First Reading of a Public Hearing)  
There were no comments from the audience.

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Tekac; Second: Councilmember McClary  
Discussion: None.  
Carried: All ayes.

- b. 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 235-13-02-019, LOCATED ON LIZ LANE, INTO THE CITY OF GOOSE CREEK, A SOUTH CAROLINA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (Introduction and First Reading of a Public Hearing) There were no comments from the audience.

Motion: Councilmember Cox; Second: Councilmember McClary  
Discussion: None.  
Carried: All ayes.

- 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 THE CORNER OF SASS DRIVE AND OLD MONCKS CORNER ROAD, FURTHER IDENTIFIED AS TMS# 234-08-00-084, FROM GENERAL COMMERCIAL (GC) TO LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (R-1) (Introduction and First Reading of a Public Hearing) There were no comments from the audience.

Motion: Councilmember McSwain; Second: Councilmember Cox  
Discussion: Councilmember McClary inquired if the parcel of land was next to JW Aluminum. Mayor Habib stated the property was located behind the municipal complex.  
Carried: All ayes.

- d. AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GOOSE CREEK, SOUTH CAROLINA, TO PROVIDE FOR CHANGES TO TITLE III, CHAPTER 34: FINANCE AND TAXATION, BY REPEALING IN ITS ENTIRETY THE CURRENT SECTION "PURCHASING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES" AND ADOPTING IN LIEU THEREOF A NEW SECTION "PURCHASING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES" MADE A PART HEREOF AND SET OUT HEREIN (Introduction and First Reading of a Public Hearing) There were no comments from the audience.

Mayor Habib stated how the City purchases items is very spelled out and very clear. He stated the proposed Ordinance allows City staff to carry out the budget that City Council approved without coming back to them to gain approval for a second time.

Motion: Councilmember Green-Fletcher; Second: Councilmember Enos

Discussion: Councilmember McSwain moved to amend the proposed ordinance so as to add the following language to Section 34.40 APPROVAL BY CITY COUNCIL OF CONTRACTS OVER \$25,500; EXEMPTIONS AND PRIOR APPROVALS, by adding the following subsection: (F) All contract authorized by City staff, pursuant to this section, shall be subject to all forgoing sections of this ordinance. The City Administrator shall make a report of all such contracts to City Council at its regular public meetings and at other meetings, as appropriate.

Second on the amended motion: Mayor Pro Tem Tekac  
Carried: All ayes.

Mayor Habib inquired if there was any discussion on the original motion for the proposed purchasing ordinance itself amongst City Council. Hearing none, Mayor Habib call for the vote.

Carried: All ayes.

- e. AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL THE FOLLOWING EXISTING ORDINANCES IN THEIR ENTIRETY: "ORDINANCE #20-009 AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE TO PERMIT AND ALLOW FOR ELECTRONIC MEETINGS OF CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO; ORDINANCE #20-016 AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE EXTENDING ORDINANCE 20-009 AND TO REAUTHORIZE AND EXTEND THE AUTHORIZATION FOR ELECTRONIC MEETINGS OF CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED TO COVID-19; AND, ORDINANCE #20-028 TO REQUIRE FACE COVERINGS IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES; TO REAUTHORIZE AND AMEND THE AUTHORIZATION FOR ELECTRONIC MEETINGS AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO" OF THE CITY OF GOOSE CREEK, SOUTH CAROLINA A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (Introduction of First and Final Reading of a Public Hearing) There were no comments from the audience.

Mayor Habib stated the proposed Ordinance would take City Operations back to pre-emergency standards by repealing the emergency order that was voted on by City Council back in November 2020.

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Tekac; Second: Councilmember Cox

Discussion: Councilmember McSwain moved to amend the proposed Ordinance to repeal only Ordinances 20-009 and 20-016 in their entirety; but, to repeal Ordinance 20-028 only partially so as to leave in place the requirement to wear a facemask in public places when social distancing of six (6) feet cannot be met. Mayor Habib inquired if there was a second.

Second on the amended motion: Councilmember McClary

Discussion: Councilmember McSwain stated based on the current statistics she wished to leave the portion in the Ordinance about facemasks for at least a few more months so that others could become vaccinated. Councilmember McClary stated he agreed with Councilmember McSwain and felt that a few more months of wearing facemasks was well worth it to getting the numbers down even further and to give even more time for others to become vaccinated. There was some discussion wherein Ms. Lovette cited a section of the proposed Ordinance that addresses social distancing. Mayor Pro Tem Tekac stated he was in favor of the current proposed Ordinance in its entirety. Mayor Habib stated his reasons of support for the current proposed Ordinance.

Hearing no further discussion. Mayor Habib called for a vote on the motion to amend the proposed Ordinance, made by Councilmember McSwain.

Motion failed: Ayes – Councilmember McSwain; Councilmember McClary. Nays – Mayor Habib, Mayor Pro Tem Tekac; Councilmember Enos; Councilmember Cox; Councilmember Green-Fletcher.

Councilmember Enos requested comment by stating if you do not feel comfortable or safe by not wearing a mask, by all means, wear a mask. If a business requires you to wear a mask to enter their establishment, please respect that business and wear a mask; if you do not feel it is a safe environment to go in a business, it is your right to not enter that business. Mayor Habib stated private businesses have the right to require a mask be worn in their establishment and we are expected to recognize what they require.

Mayor Habib called for a vote to the original motion.

Carried: Ayes - Mayor Habib, Mayor Pro Tem Tekac; Councilmember Enos; Councilmember Cox; Councilmember Green-Fletcher. Nays – Councilmember McSwain; Councilmember McClary.

## **VII. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

### a. Appointments/Reappointments to Boards and Commissions (CAC & ZBA)

Mrs. Zeigler stated she was seeking approval for appointments to the Cultural Arts Commission (CAC) as presented, wherein City staff was recommending a two (2) year term for Ms. Sharina Haynes, to expire December 31, 2022 and a two (2) year term for Mr. Taylor Clyde to expire December 31, 2023. Ms. Zeigler stated there were two (2) people who were unable to make those interviews and City Council wanted to hear what those excuses were as to why, and Mrs. Hassel stated she had an office emergency and Mr. Michael Owens stated he had to assist with an auto accident, both have stated they are still interested.

Mayor Pro Tem Tekac made a motion to table the proposed appointments to the CAC until City Council has had an opportunity to interview Mrs. Hassel and Mr. Owens. City Council will then make a decision to appoint candidates, all at once, at an upcoming City Council Meeting. Mrs. Zeigler stated the current CAC members will continue to serve until a successor is appointed by City Council.

Second to the motion to table: Councilmember Enos

Discussion: None.

Carried: All ayes.

It was recommended to City Council Mr. Larry Monheit, Mr. Jason Dillard and Mr. Jackson Bakari be reappointed to the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) for three (3) year terms to expire December 31, 2023; and Ms. Sharina Freinkle be appointed for a three (3) year term to expire December 31, 2023.

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Tekac; Second: Councilmember Enos

Discussion: None.

Carried: All ayes.

### b. 2021 Water System Improvements project - Tammie Ave and Vine Street

Mrs. Zeigler presented a request from the Director of Public Works to approve a contract with Palmetto Utility Group LLC, of Branchville, SC, as the low bid, in the total amount of \$271,330.00, and the South Carolina Rural Infrastructure Authority has awarded the City a basic infrastructure grant to cover 75% of the cost.

Motion: Councilmember Enos; Second: Councilmember Cox

Discussion: There was a brief discussion regarding the incredibly low bid. Mr. Denson stated in comparison to the other bids, he himself felt it was a very low bid, and a great price. He stated they are insured, licensed and he could not find any reason to disqualify the company and he and his staff will make sure they do the job right.

Carried: All ayes.

### c. Lease of a portion of 132 Gibson Avenue from the Berkeley County School District (BCSD).

Mrs. Zeigler presented a request from the Director of Recreation for the approval of a lease for a portion of 132 Gibson Avenue, from the Berkeley County School District. She stated this is to create

a new park. Mayor Habib stated the property is actually located over by Sedgefield Middle School, owned by BCSD, and although it is not located inside the City limits, it is located inside our recreation district and the City will pay only \$1.00 per year for thirty (30) years).

Motion: Councilmember Enos; Second: Councilmember McClary

Discussion: None.

Carried: All ayes.

d. Parks Strategic Plan

Mrs. Zeigler presented the Parks Strategic Plan for approval. Mayor Habib stated at the City Council Strategic Planning Workshop, City Council spent a lot of time specifically on parks whereby City Council came up with a strategic plan for the City's entire park system.

Motion: Councilmember Green-Fletcher; Second: Councilmember McClary

Discussion: None.

Carried: All ayes.

e. 2021 Strategic Plan

Mrs. Zeigler presented the 2021 Strategic Plan for approval. Mayor Habib stated at the City Council Strategic Planning Workshop, City Council came up with a strategic plan for our City which should extend over the next one (1) to three (3) years.

Motion: Councilmember McSwain; Second: Councilmember Enos

Discussion: None.

Carried: All ayes.

**VIII. MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Habib invited everyone to the upcoming Spring Concert at the Crowfield Golf Course, concert two (2) of three (3). He briefly spoke on the following: the Little Library Program instituted by the Cultural Arts Commission and wherein he thanked them for coming up with the idea; an upcoming art contest being promoted by the City for the public to participate and wherein eleven (11) winners will be selected to have their artwork hung along St. James Avenue on a pole banner; and, Chief Roscoe's "5K Hot Pursuit" on June 12<sup>th</sup>, is a fund raiser and it goes to support her "Shopping With a Badge Program".

**IX. ADJOURN**

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Tekac; Second: Councilmember Enos

Discussion: None.

Carried: All ayes. 7:32 p.m.

Date: June 8, 2021

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Kelly J. Lovette, MMC  
City Clerk