

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF GREER  
SOUTH CAROLINA**

**November 13, 2007**

**MEETING LOCATION: 1306 West Poinsett Street  
Greer, SC 29650**

**REGULAR SESSION**  
**6:30 PM**

Greer City Council met in regular session with Mayor Rick Danner presiding. Council members present: Wryley Bettis, Wayne Griffin, Joseph Baldwin, Jay Arrowood and Belle Coxe Mercado. Councilwoman Sandra Anderson was absent. Also present: Ed Driggers, City Administrator, Mike Sell, Assistant City Administrator, Tammela Duncan, Municipal Clerk, Steve Owens Communications Manager and various other staff and media.

Mayor Danner called the Regular Session to order at 6:31 p.m.

Invocation was given by Mayor Rick Danner.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

Ron Rich of 210 Hammett Bridge Road spoke in opposition to Ordinance Number 38-2007.

Paul Lamb of 119 Cotter Lane spoke in favor of Ordinance Number 38-2007.

Carol Tarwater of 216 Big Fox Lane spoke in favor of Ordinance Number 38-2007.

**MINUTES OF October 23, 2007**

Councilman Bettis made a motion that the minutes of October 23, 2007 be received as written. Councilman Arrowood seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

During the October Employee Recognition ceremony Sergeant Randle Ballenger was serving our Country in Iraq on his second tour of duty. Sergeant Ballenger was asked to appear before Council tonight to receive recognition for his ten years of service to the Police Department.

Sergeant Marcus O'Shields was recognized by City Council and Chief John J. O'Conner, Chief of Patrol for Amtrak Police Department for his heroic efforts on October 16, 2007. Sergeant O'Shields rescued Betsy DeVall of Williamston from her stalled vehicle as it sat on the tracks of an on coming Amtrak passenger train.

**PETITIONER**  
**Carm Hudson**

Seeking Council's support to use the Allen Bennett Hospital facility as a Veteran's Hospital.

Carm Hudson did not appear.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**  
**Ed Driggers, City Administrator**

**Priority Investment Act** – As we launched our participation in the Priority Investment Act we joined many of our governmental intensities that surround us in a meeting this morning at the Village of Pelham Campus. We had representatives from many of our special purpose districts, both counties were represented, both school districts that we feed into and all of the political subdivisions that we come into on a regular basis in planning for this community. This is a step forward for us as we begin an eighteen month process of revising our comprehensive plan. I am very pleased to report to you that was very well received by our partners that we work with on a regular basis. We look forward to continued communications as we continue to enthusiastically be involved in the guidelines of the Priority Investment Act. We will keep you informed as we move forward.

**Construction Projects** – Are continuing to move forward at a rapid pace. There is a great amount of activity taking place there on a day-to-day week-to-week basis. We continue to be ahead of schedule on the Police and Courts Building on the corner of Main and Poinsett Streets. We are about six weeks ahead of schedule. We are on schedule for the City Hall Building. We have also extended our work on the Park site with a great deal of work on the sanitary sewer line and relocation for a stormwater line as we prepare for the pond on that site. The project remains under budget. We are planning a topping-out ceremony for the City Hall building on Friday, November 30<sup>th</sup>. We are confirming the time and will advise you at a later date.

**Christmas Tree Lightning** – Will be November 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in front of the Police Department in Poinsett Street due to construction. Poinsett Street will be closed at 4:00 pm that evening.

**Greer Station** – We are continuing to install signage in the downtown area. You will now see two welcome signs both on Main Street as you approach the downtown area that state "Welcome to Greer Station". We are receiving favorable comments on the signs. We have also continued to make improvement to our parking signage and some of our parking issues in downtown. We have placed sandwich board signs, reflective

signs in front of all of our parking lots. We've included walking maps at each location. Last week we were able to open the Depot Street Parking Lot with one hundred and twenty (120) spaces.

Mr. Driggers stated he had two legal issues, one contractual issue, three employee related issues and one economic development issue to discuss in executive session.

Mayor Danner added one item of economic development to the executive session.

**APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**  
**Construction Board of Adjustment and Appeals**

Councilwoman Belle Coxe Mercado made a motion to reappoint George McCall to serve on the Construction Board of Adjustments and Appeals. Councilman Bettis seconded the motion.

Motion unanimously carried 6-0.

No nominations were made for the **Greer Recreation Association Board of Sports Representative** (All Seats) or the **Planning Commission** At-Large seat.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**SECOND READING OF ANNEXATION ORDINANCE NUMBER 38-2007**  
**AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ANNEXATION OF**  
**PROPERTY OWNED BY FRED O. PLEMMONS AND LOCATED AT**  
**203 HAMMETT BRIDGE ROAD BY ONE HUNDRED PERCENT**  
**PETITION; AND TO ESTABLISH A ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF**  
**C-2 (COMMERCIAL) FOR SAID PROPERTY**

Glenn Pace stated he had no new information.

Councilwoman Mercado made a motion to approve Second Reading of Annexation Ordinance Number 38-2007. Councilman Bettis seconded the motion.

Andy Sharred with Site Design representing Walgreen's spoke briefly and disseminated a copy of the landscaping plan to Council. Mr. Sharred stated the detention for this facility will be underground in the rear parking lot and it is their intention to maintain the Oak trees along the property line adjoining the Greer and Jones property. He also stated they will provide additional buffer in addition to the six foot fence required by the ordinance. They will provide additional landscaping along the property line. Mr. Sharred stated Walgreen's has verbally and financially committed to this project. It has been approved by their real estate committee and they are anxious to move forward with this project.

Brief discussion followed.

Motion carried 5-1 with Councilman Griffin voting in opposition.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **City of Greer 2008 Council Meeting Schedule** **Tammy Duncan, Municipal Clerk**

Tammy Duncan, Municipal Clerk explained the schedule.

Brief discussion followed.

Councilman Bettis made a motion to adopt the schedule as presented. Councilman Arrowood seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

### **BID SUMMARY – CITY COMPLEX FURNITURE** **David Seifert, Finance Director**

Mr. Seifert stated this furniture bid is for items that are not available on state bid contract. Specific chairs, outdoor products etc.

Brief discussion followed.

Councilwoman Mercado made a motion to accept the bid from Workspace for the City Hall items in the amount of \$56,374.62 and accept the bid from Miller's for the Court and Police items in the amount of \$35,418.60. (Attached) Councilman Arrowood seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

### **FIRST AND FINAL READING OF RESOLUTION NUMBER 11-2007** **A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING GREER CITY COUNCIL'S** **SUPPORT FOR THE CONVERSION OF ALLEN BENNETT** **HOSPITAL TO ALLEN BENNETT VETERAN'S HOSPITAL.**

Councilman Baldwin presented the resolution and stated he was bringing the resolution at the request of Senator Lewis Vaughn. Councilman Baldwin also stated he agreed with the resolution.

Councilman Baldwin made a motion to approve First and Final Reading of Resolution Number 11-2007. Councilman Arrowood seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

**FIRST READING OF ANNEXATION ORDINANCE NUMBER 51-2007**  
**AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ANNEXATION OF PROPERTY OWNED BY BELINDA A. MCKINNEY AND LOCATED AT 141 DILLARD DRIVE BY ONE HUNDRED PERCENT PETITION; AND TO ESTABLISH A ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF PD-R (PLANNED DEVELOPMENT-RESIDENTIAL) FOR SAID PROPERTY**

Glenn Pace stated he would like to address Ordinance Number 51-2007 and 52-2007. He stated these properties are an extension of a current project.

Neither the owner of the property nor a representative was present.

Councilman Bettis made a motion to approve First Reading of Annexation Ordinance Number 51-2007. Councilwoman Mercado seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-1 with Councilman Wayne Griffin voting in opposition.

**FIRST READING OF ANNEXATION ORDINANCE NUMBER 52-2007**  
**AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ANNEXATION OF PROPERTY OWNED BY BELINDA A. MCKINNEY AND LOCATED ON DILLARD DRIVE BY ONE HUNDRED PERCENT PETITION; AND TO ESTABLISH A ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF PD-R (PLANNED DEVELOPMENT-RESIDENTIAL) FOR SAID PROPERTY**

Glenn Pace stated he would like to address Ordinance Number 51-2007 and 52-2007. He stated these properties are an extension of a current project.

Neither the owner of the property nor a representative was present.

Councilman Bettis made a motion to approve First Reading of Annexation Ordinance Number 52-2007. Councilwoman Mercado seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-1 with Councilman Wayne Griffin voting in opposition.

**FIRST READING OF ANNEXATION ORDINANCE NUMBER 53-2007**  
**AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ANNEXATION OF PROPERTY OWNED BY JUNE T. GRANT AND LOCATED AT 304 BRANNON AVENUE BY ONE HUNDRED PERCENT PETITION; AND TO ESTABLISH A ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF PD (PLANNED DEVELOPMENT) FOR SAID PROPERTY**

Glenn Pace presented the ordinance.

Jeff Howell, representative of the owner was present and spoke briefly.

Councilman Bettis made a motion to approve First Reading of Annexation Ordinance Number 53-2007. Councilman Arrowood seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-1 with Councilman Wayne Griffin voting in opposition.

**FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 55-2007**  
**AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL AND REPLACE THE CITY OF  
GREER PARKS AND RECREATION ORDINANCE  
CHAPTERS 66-31 THROUGH 66-33.**

Ann Cunningham, Director of Parks and Recreation presented the ordinance.

Paul Lamb, Chairman of the Greer Recreation Board of Trustees spoke in favor of the ordinance.

Discussion followed.

Councilwoman Mercado made a motion to approve First Reading of Ordinance Number 55-2007. Councilman Griffin seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

**FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 56-2007**  
**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREER,  
SOUTH CAROLINA, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 19-2007 SO AS  
TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF A TAXABLE TAX  
ANTICIPATION NOTE; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND  
DELIVERY OF VARIOUS DOCUMENTS AND CERTIFICATES; AND  
OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO.**

David Seifert, Director of Finance presented the ordinance.

Councilwoman Mercado made a motion to approve First Reading of Ordinance Number 56-2007. Councilman Bettis seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-1 with Councilman Joseph Baldwin voting in opposition.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Danner stated an Executive Session was needed to discuss two legal matters, one contractual matter, three employee related matters and two economic development matters.

Councilman Arrowood made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the matters as stated by the Mayor. Councilwoman Mercado seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

Mayor Danner stated that Council had discussed two legal matters, one contractual matter, three employee related matters and two economic development matters in Executive Session with no action needed.

Councilman Bettis made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Councilwoman Mercado seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

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Richard W. Danner, Mayor

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Tammela Duncan, Municipal Clerk