

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

November 25, 2008

**MEETING LOCATION: 301 East Poinsett Street
Greer, SC 29651**

REGULAR SESSION

Greer City Council met in regular session with Mayor Rick Danner presiding. Council members present: Jay Arrowood, Wayne Griffin, Joe Baldwin, Wryley Bettis 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 6:33 p.m.

INVOCATION

Invocation was given by Mayor Danner.

PUBLIC FORUM

Dr. Roy Patch, Veterinarian, 1601 Lake Cunningham Drive, spoke in favor of the proposed changes to the animal ordinance. He encouraged Council not to weaken the ordinance.

Jenna Gutierrez, 206 Big Fox lane, spoke in favor of the proposed changes to the animal ordinance.

MINUTES OF November 11, 2008

Councilman Wryley Bettis made a motion that the minutes of **November 11, 2008** be received as written. Councilman Jay Arrowood seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Building and Development Standards, Engineering and Storm Water, Finance Report, Fire Department, Municipal Court, Parks & Recreation, Police Department, Public Services

September 2008 Monthly Activity Reports and the November 17, 2008 Planning Commission Minutes were included in packet for informational purposes.

Finance Report for the period ending October 31, 2008.

Revenues: \$1,855,765.

Expenditures: \$5,739,440.

The City is currently 2% under budget for this time period.

Brief discussion followed.

PETITIONER

**Miss Greater Greer, Elizabeth Tate and
Miss Greater Greer Teen Ashleigh Williams**

Camilla Pitman introduced Miss Greater Greer, Elizabeth Tate and Miss Greater Greer Teen, Ashleigh Williams. Miss Greater Greer, Elizabeth Tate presented Council with a plaque inducting the City of Greer into the Miss Greater Greer Hall of Honor.

PRESENTATION

Strategic Plan Update

Mike Sell, Assistant City Administrator

Mike Sell updated Council on the 2008-2009 Strategic Plan.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Ed Driggers, City Administrator

Introduction: Mr. Driggers introduced Scott Slatton, Field Services Manager with the Municipal Association of South Carolina. Mr. Slatton spoke briefly offering his assistance if needed.

Calendar Reminders:

11/27-28/2008 – City offices will be closed this Thursday and Friday in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday.

12/5/2008 - Official Tree Lighting Ceremony will take place on Friday, December 5th at 6:00 pm in the Park in the amphitheater. The Christmas Tree will be located at the corner of Poinsett Street and Cannon Street.

12/6/2008 – Breakfast with Santa will be held here at 8:00 am, 9:30 am and 11:00 am. Parents will be able to take personal photos with Santa.

12/7/2008 – Annual Christmas Parade on Sunday at 3:00 pm on the usual parade route on Poinsett Street and Trade Street.

Information:

Strategic Plan – We are continuing to work on our Strategic Plan, both the Citizens Committee and the Advisory Committee continue to work on the project. Mike is doing an excellent job of keeping it moving forward along with staff members like Glenn Pace and his crew is continuing to work diligently. This document will help shape us over the next ten years.

Budget – We are continuing to work with our budget. We are running two percent (2%) under budget as of the end of October. Over the last several days during ten different meeting I have met with every employee in the City. We have had great communications between me and our employees on several of the objectives that we are approaching over the next several months. We want to make sure we recognize we are in some very tough financial times as an economy not Greer, South Carolina but our Country is in a recession and we are receiving cut backs from the State and we are having to monitor what we do very, very, closely. Our development numbers are down a little bit but we are watching that and making adjustments for it. I wanted to report to you our employees have made a commitment to the City and a commitment to you that we are going to work together to make sure anything we need to do to make sure we maximize our efficiency and our effectiveness in delivering service to our residents and the visitors of this City. Our employees have made that commitment.

Mr. Driggers stated he had no items for discussion in **Executive Session**.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS **Board of Zoning Appeals**

Councilwoman Mercado nominated Dewey Tarwater for reappointment to the District 6 seat on the Board of Zoning Appeals. Councilman Bettis seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

No nominations were made for the District 3 seat on the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Elections Commission

No nominations were made.

Recreation Association Board of Trustees

Mayor Danner nominated Tracy Farrington for reappointment to the At Large seat on the Recreation Association Board of Trustees. Councilman Arrowood seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

No nominations were made for the District 1 seat, the District 3 seat or the District 5 seat.

OLD BUSINESS

REQUEST TO ADD AN ITEM TO THE AGENDA

Mayor Danner asked Council to consider adding one item of old business to the agenda for discussion in regards to an item that had been tabled.

Councilman Bettis made that motion. Councilman Baldwin seconded the motion.

Councilman Griffin asked "What is the item you want to add?"

Mayor Danner stated "I ask that we reconsider the sprinkler ordinance that was tabled at the last meeting."

Motion carried 6-0.

SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 47-2008 **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF GREER CODE OF ORDINANCE, CHAPTER 10, ANIMALS BY ADDING SECTION 10-6 AND SECTION 10-7, AMENDING SECTION 10-31(c), REPEALING AND REPLACING SECTION 10-64, AMENDING SECTION 10-102, REPEALING AND REPLACING SECTION 10-104, AMENDING SECTION 10-107(a)(1), ADDING SECTION 10-116 AND AMENDING SECTION 10-214.**

Lengthy discussion followed.

Mayor Danner made a motion to adopt Sec. 10-6 in its entirety the way it is right now, Sec. 10-7 in its entirety the way it is written right now, Sec. 10-31 in its entirety as it is written now, Sec. 10-64 **Deleting** item (2) (all components), section (3) shall read "Any animal confined within a fenced yard must have an adequate space for exercise. **Deleting** *"of a dimension of at least one hundred fifty (150) square feet."* **Keeping** "Provided further that where animals are kept or housed on property without a fenced yard, the owner of such animals or persons having custody of such animals shall provide an enclosure for such animals." **Deleting** *"meeting the one hundred and fifty (150) square feet dimension. Only one animal (with the exception of a female with young less than 3 months old) may be kept in an enclosure. Such enclosures shall be constructed of chain link or similar type materials with all four sides enclosed and of adequate height to prevent the escape of the animal. The top of such enclosure. The enclosure shall be covered with materials to"* **Keeping** " The animal shall be provided with shade and protection from the elements. Enclosures shall be maintained in a sanitary condition. Properly installed electronic dog containment systems may be utilized provided the public is visually advised of its existence from the street and/or sidewalk." Items (a) and (b) will be kept in its entirety also the section starting with "Persons found in violation." Sec.10-102 **Keeping** "No

dog shall be permitted off the premises of the owner or the person keeping or harboring such dog unless such dog shall be on a leash." **Deleting** " *held by a person who shall have complete control of the dog.*" **Keeping** "Such leash shall not exceed eight feet in length. A dog deemed dangerous by the court shall not be on a leash held by a person under the age of 18 years and will be muzzled at all times while off the owner's or keeper's property." as is. Adopt Sec. 10-104 in its entirety, Sec. 10-107 in its entirety, Sec. 10-116 in its entirety and Sec. 10-214 in its entirety. Councilman Baldwin seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-1 with Councilwoman Mercado voting in opposition.

SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 49-2008
AN ORDINANCE TO REQUIRE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS AND/OR WATER QUALITY
DEVICES

Councilman Bettis made a motion to approve Second and Final Reading of Ordinance Number 49-2008. Councilman Arrowood seconded the motion.

Mr. Driggers stated there was no additional information.

Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

Item added to the Agenda

Councilman Baldwin made a motion to bring back for consideration at the next scheduled meeting the sprinkler ordinance that came before you at the last meeting and was tabled. Councilman Bettis seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-1 with Councilwoman Mercado voting in opposition.

NEW BUSINESS

Business License Penalty Appeal
Requested by Carrie Medlin of
Diversified Systems, Inc.

Mr. Driggers stated Ms. Medlin was again unable to appear and has requested an additional date to be allowed to appear before Council.

Discussion followed.

Councilman Baldwin made a motion to carry over this matter. Councilman Bettis seconded the motion.

Motion failed 3-3 with Councilman Arrowood, Councilman Griffin and Councilwoman Mercado voting in opposition.

Mr. Driggers explained the appeal process. He also explained Diversified Systems, Inc. situation.

Councilwoman Mercado made a motion to deny the appeal. Councilman Griffin seconded the motion.

Motion failed 3-3 with Councilman Baldwin, Councilman Bettis and Mayor Danner voting in opposition.

First Reading of Ordinance Number 50-2008

AN ORDINANCE TO CHANGE THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY OWNED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF GREENVILLE COUNTY, LOCATED AT 206 WEST CHURCH STREET FROM R-12 (RESIDENTIAL – SINGLE FAMILY) TO O-D (OFFICE DISTRICT).

Glenn Pace presented the ordinance. Mr. Pace stated Staff recommended denial of the request and the Planning Commission recommended denial unanimously.

Neither the owner nor a representative was present.

Discussion followed.

Councilman Baldwin made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission regarding Ordinance Number 50-2008. Councilman Arrowood seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Danner stated there were no items for discussion in Executive Session.

The meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Richard W. Danner, Mayor

Tammela Duncan, Municipal Clerk