

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

June 10, 2008

**MEETING LOCATION: 100 South Main Street
Greer, SC 29650**

PUBLIC HEARING

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

Mayor Danner called the Public Hearing to order at 6:38 p.m.

Subject: **ORDINANCE NUMBER 13-2008**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GREER, SOUTH CAROLINA
ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE FEE SCHEDULE FOR
ADMINISTRATION; BUILDING AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS
DEPARTMENT; ENGINEERING AND STORMWATER DEPARTMENT;
FINANCE DEPARTMENT; FIRE DEPARTMENT; MUNICIPAL COURT;
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT; POLICE DEPARTMENT
AND PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT.**

Dean Kruger, 202 Ridgecrest Circle, Greer (an employee of Leon Hix) – Requested Council to consider adding a waiting time fee of twenty-five cents (\$.25) per minute up to fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per hour to the taxi rates stated in the Comprehensive Fee Schedule. He also requested Council consider increasing the fee to the airport.

No one else spoke during the Public Hearing.

The Public Hearing was adjourned at 6:43 pm.

REGULAR SESSION

Greer City Council met in regular session with Mayor Rick Danner presiding. Council members present: Wryley Bettis, Wayne Griffin, Sandra Anderson, Joe Baldwin, Jay Arrowood and Belle Coxe Mercado. Also present: Ed Driggers, City Administrator, Mike Sell, Assistant City Administrator, Carole Rosiak, Executive Administrative Assistant,

Steve Owens, Communications Manager and various other staff and media. Tammela Duncan, Municipal Clerk was absent.

Mayor Danner called the Regular Session to order at 6:43 p.m.

Councilman Bettis encouraged everyone to attend the Vietnamese Ceremony at the Veteran's Park this Saturday at 11:00 am.

INVOCATION

Invocation was given by Councilman Wryley Bettis.

PUBLIC FORUM

No one spoke during the Public Forum session.

MINUTES OF May 27, 2008 and June 3, 2008

Councilman Bettis made a motion that the minutes of **May 27, 2008** be received as written. Councilman Arrowood seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Councilman Bettis made a motion that the minutes of **June 3, 2008** be received as written. Councilman Arrowood seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

David Seifert, Director of Finance and Information Technology presented his annual report. (Attached)

PRESENTATION

Mike Sell, Assistant City Administrator 2008 Strategic Plan

Mike Sell presented the 2008 Strategic Plan to Council. The Strategic Plan was disseminated and explained to Council. Mr. Sell requested Council review the plan and provide input as needed. He informed Council he will bring the Strategic Plan back to Council at the next meeting for a questions and answer period. He also stated he will request Council's consideration of approval and adoption of the plan in July.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT
Ed Driggers, City Administrator

UPDATE

Greenville County Redevelopment Authority – Periodically, about every three years we are asked by GCRA if it is our intent to continue to work with them in the administration of our HUD Funds. In 2005 we entered into a continuous cooperative agreement with GCRA through the Community Development Block Grant program and the Home Funds partnership program. In that continuous cooperative agreement it provides us with an opt out every three years. We are at that point where we would need to make that decision either to continue that relationship or to opt out. Based on our earlier working with Martin and his staff it is certainly our belief that the intent was to move forward. Action would be to opt out; no action would be for us to continue moving forward for the next three year period.

Discussion followed.

Councilman Bettis stated "We should leave it with them." No discussion to the contrary was held.

Construction Projects Update – Court / Police building – We are continuing to work on some punch list items in this building. This will continue for a couple of months as our employees' work in this building. **City Hall** – continuing to move ahead of schedule. We anticipate receiving our certificate of occupancy on June 23rd. We will accept the building for occupancy July 10th. We will have normal operations for those moving into that building through the end of the business day Thursday, July 10th. We will then transition from 5:00 pm on Thursday through 8:00 am on Monday, July 14th to make that move. We are still six weeks ahead of schedule for this project. The **Park** project is continuing to move ahead. We are on schedule for this site. We anticipate taking possession of the Park site around mid to late September depending on the weather. Based on your earlier instructions it is our intent to hold the Grand Opening until the Park is completed, possibly in mid October.

Mr. Driggers had one personnel matter to discuss in **executive session** if time permits.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Board of Zoning Appeals

No nominations were made for the District 1 seat.

OLD BUSINESS

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 13-2008

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GREER, SOUTH CAROLINA ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE FEE SCHEDULE FOR ADMINISTRATION; BUILDING AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS DEPARTMENT; ENGINEERING AND STORMWATER DEPARTMENT; FINANCE DEPARTMENT; FIRE DEPARTMENT; MUNICIPAL COURT; PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT; POLICE DEPARTMENT AND PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

Councilman Bettis made a motion to open Ordinance Number 13-2008 for discussion. Councilman Baldwin seconded the motion.

Discussion followed.

Building Permit Fees

Councilman Bettis made a motion to change the following under Building Permit Fees - Moving of buildings or structures \$100.00 and Demolition of buildings or structures \$100.00 to Moving or Demolition of buildings or structures - builder or contractor must post a bond of 125% of the contract price. Councilman Arrowood seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Yard Sale Permit Fee

Councilwoman Mercado made a motion to eliminate the yard sale permit fee. Councilman Arrowood seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Mayor Danner noted that this does not affect the yard sale regulations.

Resident and Non-Resident Fee for Parks and Recreation

Councilman Bettis made a motion that the Resident and Non-Resident Fee for Parks and Recreation have at least a fifteen percent differential.

Discussion followed.

Councilwoman Mercado seconded the motion.

Councilman Bettis amended his motion to state a minimum of fifteen percent differential for Non-Residents on the rental of facilities. Councilwoman Mercado amended her second.

Motion carried 6-1 with Councilman Baldwin voting in opposition.

Towing Fee relating to vehicles associated with Criminal Charges

Councilman Griffin made a motion to change the towing fee relating to vehicles associated with criminal charges to \$125.00. Councilwoman Anderson seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-3 with Councilman Baldwin, Councilwoman Mercado and Mayor Danner voting in opposition.

Taxi Rates

Mayor Danner made a motion to amend the Taxi Rates to include a Wait Time charge of \$.25 per minute and change the Flat Fee for transportation to the Greenville/Spartanburg Airport within the City limits for one to four people to \$17.00. Councilman Baldwin seconded the motion.

Brief discussion followed.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

First Reading of Ordinance Number 13-2008

Mayor Danner called the question on the First Reading of Ordinance Number 13-2008.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 12-2008
AN ORDINANCE TO CHANGE THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY OWNED BY JLN INVESTORS, INC., LOCATED AT 1467 AND 1501 HIGHWAY 101 SOUTH FROM I-1 (INDUSTRIAL) TO C-3 (HIGHWAY - COMMERCIAL).

Phil Rhoads, Director of Building and Development Standards requested Council table Ordinance 12-2008.

Councilwoman Anderson made a motion to table Ordinance Number 12-2008. Councilman Griffin seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 15-2008
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF GREER CODE OF ORDINANCE, CHAPTER 22, CITY OWNED CEMETERIES BY ADDING SECTION 22-1(a), SECTION 22-2(a), AND SECTION 22-6 THROUGH SECTION 22-17 AND AMENDING SECTION 22-2(b) AND SECTION 22-3.

Councilman Bettis made a motion to approve Second and Final Reading of Ordinance Number 15-2008. Councilwoman Anderson seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 16-2008

AN ORDINANCE TO CHANGE THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY OWNED BY JOHN GOUGH, LOCATED AT 703 EAST POINSETT STREET FROM RM-1 (RESIDENTIAL – MULTI FAMILY) TO O-D (OFFICE DISTRICT).

Councilwoman Anderson made a motion to approve Second and Final Reading of Ordinance Number 16-2008. Councilman Baldwin seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 17-2008

AN ORDINANCE TO CHANGE THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY OWNED BY CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH, LOCATED AT 100 DUKE STREET FROM R-12 (RESIDENTIAL – SINGLE FAMILY) TO I-1 (INDUSTRIAL).

Councilman Griffin made a motion to approve Second and Final Reading of Ordinance Number 17-2008. Councilman Arrowood seconded the motion.

Mr. Driggers stated the property can be rezoned. A recommendation can be made from Council or through Staff to rezone the property. You do not have to wait a year.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 18-2008

AN ORDINANCE TO CHANGE THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY OWNED BY ERICK AND EILEEN SWANSON, LOCATED AT 305 WEST POINSETT STREET FROM RM-1 (RESIDENTIAL – MULTI FAMILY) TO C-2 (COMMERCIAL).

Councilman Arrowood made a motion to approve Second and Final Reading of Ordinance Number 18-2008. Councilman Bettis seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 19-2008
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 90, UTILITIES BY ADDING
ARTICLE 6, STORM SEWER SYSTEM ILLICIT DISCHARGE AND
CONNECTION TO ESTABLISH STANDARDS TO PROTECT AND
ENHANCE SURFACE WATER QUALITY AND PROHIBIT ILLICIT
CONNECTIONS AND DISCHARGES TO THE MUNICIPAL
SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM

Councilman Griffin made a motion to approve Second and Final Reading of Ordinance Number 19-2008. Councilman Bettis seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 20-2008
AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL
CODES RELATING TO INSPECTION ACTIVITIES OF THE CITY
OF GREER, GREENVILLE COUNTY AND SPARTANBURG
COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AND ENFORCEMENT OF
BUILDING PROVISIONS AS PROVIDED IN SAID CODES

Phil Rhoads, Director of Building and Development Standards requested Council hold over Ordinance Number 20-2008 until the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

BID PROPOSAL FOR BLEACHERS / STEVENS FIELD
Requested by Ann Cunningham, Director of Parks and Recreation

Ann Cunningham presented bids received for the bleachers at Stevens Field (Attached). Mrs. Cunningham recommended the lowest bidder, Bliss Products and Services, Inc. at \$40,338.00.

Councilwoman Anderson made a motion to accept the bid from Bliss Products and Services, Inc. at \$40,338.00. Councilman Griffin seconded the motion.

Brief discussion followed.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Mayor Danner stated Council would take a break and reconvene to discuss the budget. (8:03 pm)

Council reconvened at 8:16 pm.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 21-2008
**AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE FISCAL AFFAIRS OF THE CITY OF GREER,
SOUTH CAROLINA, MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFORE, LEVYING TAXES,
AND TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Mayor Danner and Mr. Driggers introduced the 2008-2009 Budget Ordinance. Mr. Driggers stated the budget is currently \$641,000.00 out of balance. Due to an adjustment in revenue of \$15,000.00 the above amount can be reduced to \$626,000.00.

Councilman Bettis made a motion to open Ordinance Number 21-2008 for discussion. Councilman Arrowood seconded the motion.

Lengthy discussion followed.

Land Field Fee

Mayor Danner made a motion to institute a two dollar and fifty cent (\$2.50) per month land field fee to be collected in a monthly fashion and placed into an enterprise fund. Councilwoman Mercado seconded the motion

Councilman Griffin stated for the record "This is a tax and I vote no".

Motion failed 3-4 with Councilman Griffin, Councilwoman Anderson, Councilman Baldwin and Councilman Arrowood voting in opposition.

Road Paving Fund

Mayor Danner made a motion to reduce the Road Paving Fund recommendation from \$225,000.00 to \$175,000.00. Councilman Griffin seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

General Fund /Stormwater Fund

Councilman Arrowood made a motion to do away with the fund transfer out of the General Fund /Stormwater Fund of \$25,000.00. Councilman Bettis seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Mayor Danner stated Council would take a break. (10:25 pm)

Council reconvened at 10:35 pm.

Mayor Danner thanked the Department Heads for staying at the meeting.

Mr. Driggers recommended placing the \$169,000.00 from the sale of vehicles in this years proposed budget under sale of equipment and increase that line item by

Sale of Vehicles

\$169,000.00 that is \$169,000.00 off of \$551,000.00 which leaves us with a \$382,000.00 difference. If Council would agree that 2% of the fund balance be transferred to satisfy expenses in this proposed budget this amount is right at \$382,000.00. With what you have already agreed on this would satisfy the \$551,000.00 remaining. This would create a balanced budget and you would not have to make any more cuts.

Councilman Griffin made a motion to approve the designation of the \$169,000.00 from sale of vehicles be utilized as an additional revenue item for the new budget. Councilwoman Mercado seconded the motion

Brief discussion followed.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Reserve Funds

Councilwoman Anderson made a motion to utilize Reserve Funds in an equal amount to 2% of our expenditures which would generate approximately \$382,000.00 which would allow us to balance the budget. Councilman Griffin seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

First Reading of Ordinance Number 21-2008

Mayor Danner called the question on the First Reading of Ordinance Number 13-2008 with amendments as suggested.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Mr. Driggers stated this would amend the budget ordinance amount to \$18,840,121.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session was not held.

The meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Richard W. Danner, Mayor

Tammela Duncan, Municipal Clerk