

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

**March 10, 2009**

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

**PUBLIC HEARING**

2009 Annual Action Plan and Funding Amounts for CDBG and HOME Funds

Greer City Council met in a Public Hearing session regarding the 2009 Annual Action Plan and Funding Amounts for CDBG and HOME Funds with Mayor Rick Danner presiding. Council members present: Jay Arrowood, Wayne Griffin, Lee Dumas, 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 Public Hearing to order at 6:35 p.m.

Martin Livingston, Executive Director of the Greenville County Redevelopment Authority introduced Billy McCullough the District 18 (Greer) representative on the GCRA Board. Mr. McCullough is leaving the board after eighteen (18) years of service. Mayor Danner thanked Mr. McCullough for his years of service. Joe Wilson will serve as his replacement.

Mr. Livingston presented Council with 2009 Annual Action Plan and Funding Amounts for CDBG and HOME Funds. He stated the City of Greer will be receiving the Community Development Block Grants (CDBG Funds) in the amount of \$422,000.00 and HOME Funds of \$536,000.00 for a total of \$958,000.00 for projects and activities. Mr. Livingston presented Council with a projected budget for July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010 (Attached). Mr. Livingston stated these funds are projected; GCRA has not received word from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development on the final budget.

Discussion followed.

Mayor Danner asked three times if there was anyone there that would like to speak in regards to the 2009 Annual Action Plan and Funding Amounts for CDBG and HOME Funds no one indicated a desire to speak.

The Public Hearing adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

## **REGULAR SESSION**

Greer City Council met in regular session with Mayor Rick Danner presiding. Council members present: Jay Arrowood, Wayne Griffin, Lee Dumas, 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 6:55 p.m.

## **INVOCATION**

Invocation was given by Mayor Danner.

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

No one signed up to speak.

## **MINUTES OF February 24, 2009**

Councilman Wryley Bettis made a motion that the minutes of **February 24, 2009** be received as written. Councilman Jay Arrowood seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

## **PETITIONER**

**Jamie Graham, Greer Cab**

Jamie Graham from Greer Cab expressed her concerns with Yellow Cab of Greenville taking passengers in and out of Greer. She stated there were people (Bobby Fowler) doing \$5.00 rides at the first of the month to anywhere in the City limits of Greer. She contacted the police department and Lt. Hamby tried to handle it. She stated Yellow cab steals rides from Greer Cab. She stated she was not allowed in Greenville because they do not need another cab company. She wants Council to keep Yellow Cab out of Greer. She stated she has had to move out of Greer to Taylors and drop three (3) of her cabs because she cannot afford it.

Brief discussion followed.

## **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

**Ed Driggers, City Administrator**

## **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

**Council Planning Retreat** – Mr. Driggers stated we are compiling the information Council provided to us during the Council Strategic Planning Retreat. Mr. Sell is working on that now, we expect to bring that back to you in very shortly printed form to confirm the information we

received. It ultimately will be incorporated in our Strategic Plan as we move forward for the adoption of our July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010 plan.

**Staff Planning Retreat** – As a result of the Council Strategic Planning Retreat our staff will also be meeting onsite here in Greer in April. We haven't determined exactly how and when that will be done. We will spend some time looking at developing our work plans and finalizing budget issues related to your work and your strategic plan.

**UPDATE:**

**Stimulus Funds** - We are continuing to monitor stimulus funds, potential availability of funds. We are participating in an audio conference on a national level next week, department heads and my self are participating. We are looking for all possible avenues of use of stimulus funds. The areas we are aware of now that we are pursuing are in our police and fire departments. We will be moving forward with applying for the COPS program. There is a new acronym in the COPS program that deals with funding positions that either needed to be eliminated due to budget constraints or were planned for and are not being able to be funded because of budget constraints and we meet those qualifications so we will be applying for those funds. We've also learned that the fire department is eligible to apply under the Safer program; we applied last year that is also a personnel grant and they are forgiving the match on the first two years of the program. This is very similar to the COPS program. We will continue to look at those grant possibilities. We will make those applications on the latter part of March. We are also looking for funding availability in our Courts Administration and we are also looking for available funding on road work and local programs.

**Construction of Pond** – We are continuing to monitor the work on the pond. Tom Lockhart with Craig, Gauden and Davis will join us. After the last meeting there were several questions inquiring about additional information it was becoming more technical in nature so we invited the expert to come. Mr. Lockhart shared and update on how we are handling the pond issue. Mr. Lockhart stated the pond is not holding water and they have been monitoring the situation for the past several weeks trying to determine the source of the issue. We have consulted with Geotechnical engineers, civil engineers and also our design team. Over the past week we had some tests done on the pond site to determine how much water we were losing, it looks like we are losing about six (6) inches a day which is beyond what you would normally see lost to evaporation. We have had a consultant from a pond liner manufacturer from out of state come in who specializes in doing this type of thing and give us a recommendation on how to line the bottom of the pond. We spent time with the geotechnical engineer looking at possible ways water might be escaping the pond. The issue you have is the things that happen below the surface are hardest things to pinpoint. We have some very good ideas where the water might be going right now but, short of getting underground and seeing those things there is no way to tell one hundred percent (100%) certainty where the water is going. The best thing we have determined to get the situation solved is to work from the inside of the pond to make sure the water does not get out. We have a proposal for a liner manufacturer who has told us the best way he feels like to line the pond and seal off any avenue there might be for water to escape. Our contractor is prepared to prepare the site for this to take place. We are very aware of the City's time table for upcoming events; we are very sensitive to that. We are working with the goal in mind to get this put together and finished for the events that ya'll have planned coming up for the spring.

Lengthy discussion followed.

Mr. Driggers stated he had two contractual matters and one personnel matter to discuss in **Executive Session**.

**APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**  
**Planning Commission**

No nominations were made for the District 4 seat.

**Recreation Association Board of Trustees**  
**District 3**

No nominations were made for the District 3 seat.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ANNEXATION ORDINANCE NUMBER 3-2009**

**AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ANNEXATION OF PROPERTY OWNED BY CAROLYN COLLINS AND LOCATED AT 108 WOODHAVEN DRIVE BY ONE HUNDRED PERCENT PETITION; AND TO ESTABLISH A ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF R-12 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) FOR SAID PROPERTY**

Councilman Bettis made a motion to receive Second and Final Reading of Ordinance Number 3-2009. Councilman Arrowood seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0.

**SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 4-2009**

**AN ORDINANCE TO CHANGE THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY OWNED BY NILS ROGER STJERNVALL LOCATED AT 211 NORTH MAIN STREET FROM RM-1 (MULTI FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO C-1 (CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT).**

The owner of the property was present but did not speak.

Councilman Bettis made a motion to receive Second and Final Reading of Ordinance Number 4-2009. Councilman Arrowood seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0.

**SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 5-2009**  
**AN ORDINANCE TO CHANGE THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION**  
**OF PROPERTY OWNED BY CAROLYN W. AND THOMAS M.**  
**CHAPMAN LOCATED AT 116 PLEASANT DRIVE FROM R-15**  
**(SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO S-1 (SERVICE DISTRICT)**

Councilman Bettis made a motion to receive Second and Final Reading of Ordinance Number 5-2009. Councilwoman Mercado seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0.

**SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 6-2009**  
**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 5:7.3 USES PERMITTED**  
**BY SPECIAL EXCEPTION, C-1, CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT**  
**BY ADDING BED & BREAKFAST TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE.**

Councilman Griffin made a motion to receive Second and Final Reading of Ordinance Number 6-2009. Councilman Arrowood seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0.

**SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 7-2009**  
**APPROVING A FIRST SUPPLEMENT TO GROUND LEASE**  
**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF GREER AND BRANCH**  
**BANKING AND TRUST COMPANY AND A SECOND**  
**SUPPLEMENT TO LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN BRANCH**  
**BANKING AND TRUST COMPANY AND THE CITY OF GREER;**  
**AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.**

Councilwoman Mercado made a motion to receive Second and Final Reading of Ordinance Number 7-2009. Councilman Bettis seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**REQUEST TO ADD AN ITEM TO THE AGENDA**

**Taxicab Service in the City of Greer**

Councilman Bettis made a motion to add an item (Taxicab Service in the City of Greer) to the agenda for discussion under new business. Councilman Griffin seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

**FIRST AND FINAL READING OF RESOLUTION NUMBER 6-2009**  
**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREER, SOUTH CAROLINA (Application to South Carolina Water Quality Revolving Fund Authority for State Water Pollution Control Revolving Loan Fund – 2009A)**

Chuck Reynolds with Commission of Public Works presented the resolution.

Discussion followed.

Councilwoman Mercado made a motion to receive First and Final Reading of Resolution Number 6-2009. Councilman Bettis seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0.

**FIRST AND FINAL READING OF RESOLUTION NUMBER 7-2009**  
**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREER, SOUTH CAROLINA (Application to South Carolina Water Quality Revolving Fund Authority for State Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund – 2009B)**

Chuck Reynolds with Commission of Public Works presented the resolution.

Councilwoman Mercado made a motion to receive First and Final Reading of Resolution Number 7-2009. Councilman Arrowood seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0.

**FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 8-2009**  
**AN ORDINANCE TO CORRECT A SCRIVENER'S ERROR IN ORDINANCE NUMBER 22-2008**

Mr. Driggers presented the ordinance.

Councilwoman Mercado made a motion to receive First Reading of Ordinance Number 8-2009. Councilman Dumas seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0.

**FIRST READING OF ANNEXATION ORDINANCE NUMBER 9-2009**  
**AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ANNEXATION OF PROPERTY OWNED BY ACPS, LLC AND LOCATED AT 1200 WOODS CHAPEL ROAD BY ONE HUNDRED PERCENT PETITION; AND TO ESTABLISH A ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF I-1 (INDUSTRIAL) FOR SAID PROPERTY**

Phil Rhoads and Reno Deaton presented the ordinance.

Brief discussion followed.

Councilman Arrowood made a motion to receive First Reading of Annexation Ordinance Number 9-2009. Councilman Bettis seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0.

**ITEM ADDED TO THE AGENDA**  
**Taxicab Service in the City of Greer**

Councilman Bettis stated he would like to see a free and open market in town. He feels we need to take a more active role in supporting a local cab service since we do have one now and we didn't when we established the ordinance. It is proper that we go back and revisit that and require other cab companies to come to us for certification, acceptance of their certification, then make that decision since we do have an existing company now.

Discussion followed.

Mayor Danner asked that this item be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Danner stated an Executive Session was needed to discuss two contractual matters and one Personnel matter.

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

Motion carried unanimously 6-0. (8:03 p.m.)

Mayor Danner stated during Executive Session they considered two contractual matters and one personnel matter and they will take no action.

Councilman Griffin made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Councilman Arrowood seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 6-0. (8:40 p.m.)

The meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

---

Richard W. Danner, Mayor

---

Tammela Duncan, Municipal Clerk