

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

**July 14, 2009**

**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, 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 6:35 p.m.

**INVOCATION**

Invocation was given by Councilman Wayne Griffin.

**MINUTES OF June 9, 2009**

Councilman Wryley Bettis made a motion that the minutes of **June 9, 2009** be received as written. Councilman Jay Arrowood seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

**MINUTES OF June 16, 2009**

Councilman Jay Arrowood made a motion that the minutes of **June 16, 2009** be received as written. Councilman Wryley Bettis seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

**Jamie Graham, Greer Cab Co.**, spoke in opposition of Yellow Cab of Greenville applying for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity.

## **SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

### **Employee Recognition Certificate Presentation**

Mayor Danner recognized the following employees for their service to the City of Greer. Each employee received a resolution, a certificate of achievement and a personal day off with pay.

Vickie Adams has served in the Finance Department for five years;  
Chad Martin has served in the Parks and Recreation Department for five years;  
Chuck Cunningham has served in the Police Department for five years;  
Brandon McMahan has served in the Police Department for five years;  
David Sherbert has served in the Police Department for five years;  
Brenda Veach has served in the Police Department for five years;  
Norman Carter has served in the Public Services Department for ten years;  
Bill Ryman has served in the Public Services for ten years;  
Barry Davis has served in the Fire Department for twenty years.

## **SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

### **Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting**

Mayor Danner presented Bob Urness, Accountant with the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting awarded by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting.

## **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

Building and Development Standards, Engineering and Stormwater, Finance Report, Fire Department, Municipal Court, Parks & Recreation, Police Department and Public Services May 2009 Monthly Activity Reports were included in packet for informational purposes.

Bob Urness presented the **Financial Report** for the period ending May 30, 2009.

Revenues: \$745,000.

Expenditures: \$880,000.

## **PRESENTATION**

### **Kirsten Pressley, Clerk of Court**

Kirsten Pressley presented her annual report.

## **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

### **Ed Driggers, City Administrator**

**Freedom Blast 2009** – Was held on the grounds of Greer City Park Saturday, July 4<sup>th</sup> it began at 12:00pm and ended at 10:00pm. The event ended with a tribute to the men and women of

the military and was followed by a fireworks extravaganza. We have received considerable positive public response to the event. We had no problems during the day, no arrests or issues. We could not be more pleased. We hope this becomes an annual event.

**Election Information** – Districts open for the November 3, 2009 elections are Districts 2, 4 and 6 and a Commissioner of Public Works. Filing will begin Wednesday, July 15<sup>th</sup> at Noon and end at Noon Monday, August 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Transparency in Government** – We had a request from one of our media sources asking our intent to comply with a request by the Controller General Office on transparency in government. We have not received any information from that office asking us to participate in transparency in local government program. I am personally familiar with it but we have not received any type of request or information about what would be requested of us to participate in that. Our response certainly to our media source was that we believe that much of our information is currently available to the general public. Copies of our annual report are always posted on line and our financial reports are always posted online. We have the ability to post additional information but it will require that do some software updates and if it's a matter of do we do that and at what expense. It is our desire and intent to make as much of the business of the City available to the public as possible. We receive very few inquiries each year. Those inquiries are always complied with and we provide documentation for "Freedom of Information" request for specific information.

Discussion followed.

We will continue to provide the information we currently provide and we will bring back the cost to comply/honor requests for additional information.

Mr. Driggers stated he had one contractual matter and two personnel matters for consideration during **Executive Session**.

## **APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

### **Board of Zoning Appeals District 4 and At-Large**

Mayor Rick Danner nominated Benjamin G. Rogers for appointment to the At-Large seat on the Board of Zoning Appeals. Councilman Wryley Bettis seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0.

Councilman Lee Dumas nominated Marvin E. Robinson Jr. for appointment to the District 4 seat on the Board of Zoning Appeals. Councilwoman Belle Coxe Mercado seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0.

**Planning Commission  
District 2 and District 3**

Councilman Wayne Griffin nominated Judy O. Jones for appointment to the District 2 seat on the Planning Commission. Councilman Jay Arrowood seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0.

No nominations were made for the District 3 seat.

**Recreation Association Board of Trustees  
District 3**

No nominations were made for the District 3 seat.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE  
AND NECESSITY FOR TAXICAB SERVICE**

**Yellow Cab of Greenville, Inc., John Bacot, Owner**

Mr. Bacot addressed Council. He stated over the past five (5) years his company has provided service to the City of Greer and continues to do so. He stated he has a business license. He was given notice on the 28<sup>th</sup> of April Section 94-75 of the Code of Ordinance was repealed, that particular section was an exemption for taxi companies within a 30 mile radius who preciously operated with a certificate of public convenience and necessity had to reapply and that is what I am here to do.

Council had no questions.

Councilman Jay Arrowood made a motion to open the discussion of the request for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for Taxicab Service from Yellow Cab Company of Greenville, Inc. Councilwoman Belle Coxe Mercado seconded the motion.

Discussion followed.

Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

**2009 Council Meeting Schedule – Modification**

The 2009 Council Meeting Schedule has been modified to reflect two furlough days (Tuesday, November 24<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>) as approved in the 2009-2010 Budget Ordinance (attached).

Councilman Wryley Bettis made a motion to approve the 2009 Council Meeting Schedule as presented. Councilwoman Belle Coxe Mercado seconded the motion.

Motion carried 6-0.

**First and Final Reading of Resolution Number 12-2009**  
**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A LEASE/PURCHASE AGREEMENT, SERIES 2009 IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT EXCEEDING \$558,750 RELATING TO THE FINANCING OF VARIOUS ITEMS OF EQUIPMENT FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF VARIOUS DOCUMENTS INCLUDING THE LEASE AGREEMENT; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO.**

Mr. Driggers presented the resolution.

Councilman Bettis made a motion to receive First and Final Reading of Resolution Number 12-2009. Councilman Dumas seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

**Adoption of Strategic Plan**  
**Presented by Mike Sell**

Mike Sell, Assistant Administrator presented the Strategic Plan (attached).

Councilman Wayne Griffin made a motion to adopt the Strategic Plan as presented. Councilwoman Belle Coxe Mercado seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

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

Motion carried unanimously 6-0. (8:06 p.m.)

Mayor Danner stated during Executive Session they considered one Contractual matter and two Personnel matters.

Councilwoman Belle Coxe Mercado made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Councilman Jay Arrowood seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 6-0. (8:47 p.m.)

Councilman Wryley Bettis made a motion to empower the City Administrator to enter into an agreement with Insite Consulting regarding the Allen Bennett Hospital property. Councilman Jay Arrowood seconded the motion.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

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Richard W. Danner, Mayor

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Tammela Duncan, Municipal Clerk