

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

January 9, 2007

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

REGULAR SESSION

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 arrived a 6:40 pm. Also present: Ed Driggers, City Administrator, Tammela Duncan Municipal Clerk and various other staff and media.

Mayor Danner called the Regular Session to order at 6:32 p.m.

Invocation was given by Councilman Jay Arrowood.

PUBLIC FORUM

No one spoke during public forum.

MINUTES OF December 12, 2006

Councilman Bettis made a motion that the minutes of December 12, 2006 be received as written. Councilman Arrowood seconded the motion.

Councilman Griffin requested a correction. Correct the minutes of November 28, 2006 to reflect Councilman Griffin did not vote.

Motion unanimously carried 6-0. Councilwoman Anderson was absent.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Ann Cunningham, Director of Parks and Recreation, gave her annual report. Documents attached.

Discussion followed.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Ed Driggers

Reminder:

Statement of Economic Interest – Mr. Driggers reminded Council of the deadline (April 15, 2007) for remitting their forms. He noted it was Council's responsibility to make sure their forms were complete and submitted to the South Carolina Ethics Commission.

Mayor Danner voiced concerns that everyone's social security number was listed in full on this document.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - MLK Luncheon will be held Monday, January 15th at the First Presbyterian Church.

Comparison of Commercial Construction 2005 & 2006 –

Commercial Investment 2005	\$24 Million
Commercial Investment 2006	\$66 Million

Residential

Housing Starts 2005	460
Housing Starts 2006	417

Nuisance Abatement

Nuisance Abatement Cases Reviewed 2005	3137
Nuisance Abatement Cases Reviewed 2006	3899

Old Department of Motor Vehicle Property – I do have an inquiry from an interested party in purchasing a piece of property from the City. I am asking permission of Council to get an appraisal of that property. Once we have an appraisal I will come back to Council and have some discussion on whether or not you would be interested in entertaining and offering on that property or if we would like to put that out for proposals. There was no objection from Council.

Property Purchases – We do have signed contracts on our property purchases approved by Council. Tonight we have first reading on a bond for the Pennsylvania Avenue property and we are completing some inspections at the Victor Baptist Gymnasium site. We are waiting on a Structural Engineer inspection to be done by the end of this week. We should have all reports by the end of next week. We anticipate those being favorable and us being able to proceed with closing on that property in late January or early February.

Municipal Complex Project - Continuing to move forward. We meet weekly as a team. Tomorrow at our meeting we should have a good idea when we will mobilize on the site. We are expecting that to be in early March.

Community Meeting – I am asking for Council's approval to hold a community meeting, a town hall type public meeting to share with the community the approved designs on January 30th. We will have representatives from the design team available and people can come in at any time during that meeting and look at the designs and ask questions and provide input. We would suggest we meet in a place like Commission of Public Works conference room from 5:30 to 7:30 on that Tuesday evening, again inviting everyone to come in and look at what we have and provide feedback and input. If there is no objection we will move forward with that date. No objection was noted.

Mr. Driggers requested permission to discuss two personnel matters and one contractual matter in Executive Session.

Councilwoman Anderson updated Council on the Victor Mill issue. Spartanburg County Administrator Glen Breed stated Spartanburg County Forfeited Land Commission has the Victor Mill property now. The Spartanburg County Housing Authority will seek grant money for the clean up. They would like to develop that property into a residential neighborhood.

Discussion followed.

David Seifert introduced the new Human Resources Manager Allison Shirk.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

RECREATION ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DISTRICT / AT LARGE TRUSTEES

Councilman Baldwin nominated Suzette Durre for appointment to the Recreation Association Board of District / At Large Trustees for District 4. Councilwoman Anderson seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 73-2006 AN ORDINANCE TO CHANGE THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY OWNED BY KAREN UPTON, LOCATED AT 106 CONNECTICUT AVENUE FROM RM-1 (MULTI- FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO O-D (OFFICE DISTRICT)

No new information was presented.

Councilwoman Anderson made a motion that Second Reading of Ordinance Number 73-2006 be approved. Councilman Griffin seconded the motion.

Motion unanimously carried 7-0.

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 75-2006
**AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE CONVEYANCE
BY QUIT-CLAIM DEED OF PROPERTY OWNED BY
THE CITY OF GREER LOCATED ON JASON STREET
TO THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPARD**

No new information was presented.

Councilman Griffin made a motion that Second Reading of Ordinance Number 75-2006 be approved. Councilman Arrowood seconded the motion.

Motion unanimously carried 7-0.

Councilwoman Anderson made a motion to add an item of New Business to the agenda (Resolution Number 1-2007). Councilwoman Mercado seconded the motion.

Motion unanimously carried 7-0.

Councilman Baldwin made a motion to add an item of New Business to the agenda (Vacancy on the Planning Commission). Councilman Arrowood seconded the motion.

Motion unanimously carried 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 1-2007
**TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF A NOT EXCEEDING ONE
MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,500,000) CITY OF GREER,
SOUTH CAROLINA, GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND, SERIES 2007; TO
PRESCRIBE THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH THE PROCEEDS SHALL BE
EXPENDED; TO PROVIDE FOR THE PAYMENT THEREOF; AND OTHER MATTERS
RELATING THERETO.**

Mr. Driggers presented the ordinance.

Councilman Baldwin made a motion that First Reading of Ordinance Number 1-2007 be approved. Councilwoman Anderson seconded the motion.

Brief discussion followed. David Seifert stated this is non-bank qualified tax exempt rate.

Motion unanimously carried 7-0.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 2-2007

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ANNEXATION OF PROPERTY OWNED BY MARION P. LEONARD, JR. AND LOCATED AT 220 & 222 JOE LEONARD ROAD BY ONE HUNDRED PERCENT PETITION; AND TO ESTABLISH A ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF R-S (RESIDENTIAL – SUBURBAN) FOR SAID PROPERTY

Mr. Driggers presented the ordinance.

Councilwoman Mercado made a motion that First Reading of Ordinance Number 2-2007 be approved. Councilman Arrowood seconded the motion.

Motion unanimously carried 7-0.

FIRST READING OF RESOLUTION NUMBER 1-2007

A RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO SECTION 4-1-170(C), CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA 1976, AS AMNEDED, CONSENTING TO THE CREATION OF A JOINT INDUSTRIAL AND BUSINESS PARK BY SPARTANBURG AND UNION COUNTIES WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF GREER.

Councilwoman Mercado made a motion that First Reading of Resolution Number 1-2007 be approved. Councilman Arrowood seconded the motion.

Motion unanimously carried 7-0.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

PLANNING COMMISSION

Councilwoman Anderson nominated James Vogan for appointment to the Planning Commission for District 4 to fulfill the unexpired term and upcoming term for March 2007. Councilman Baldwin seconded the motion.

Mr. Vogan was present.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

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

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Mayor Danner stated that Council had discussed two personnel matters and one contractual matter in Executive Session with no action needed.

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

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Richard W. Danner, Mayor

Tammela Duncan, Municipal Clerk