

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

**March 13, 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, Sandra Anderson, Joseph Baldwin, Jay Arrowood and Belle Coxe Mercado. 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 Wayne Griffin.

Mayor Danner introduced Andy Rohret with Boy Scout Troop 260. He led everyone in the pledge of allegiance.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

No one requested to speak.

**MINUTES OF February 27, 2007**

Councilman Bettis made a motion that the minutes of February 27, 2007 be received as written. Councilwoman Mercado seconded the motion.

Motion unanimously carried 7-0.

**INTRODUCTION**

Mayor Danner asked Councilman Bettis to introduce Reno Deaton the new Executive Director of the Greer Development Corporation. Mr. Deaton spoke briefly to Council.

**PETITIONERS**

Irby Shealy, 301 Britton Drive, Greer – Mr. Shealy spoke to Council and shared his concerns regarding the fees associated with low income rental property.

## **PRESENTATION**

Mayor Danner read the proclamation declaring March 11-17, 2007 as "Sunshine Week". The theme for the week is "Closed Doors; Open Democracies"

### **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

**Ed Driggers**

**FOIA** – Mr. Driggers reminded Council included in their agenda packets along with the Sunshine Week information are three additional pieces of information: The Freedom of Information Act, Frequently Asked Questions regarding the FOIA and information provided by the Office of the Attorney General Henry McMasters. This Thursday there will be a teleconference and webcast provided by the Press Association and the Municipal Association regarding the Freedom of Information Act.

**Municipal Complex / Police-Courts Projects** – The construction documents were completed last week and given to SYS Construction. They are reviewing those documents. We will negotiate with Greer Trust for a guaranteed maximum not to exceed price for that project. We expect to complete that work in the next two weeks. We will mobilize on site on schedule however our official grand opening date will change to Monday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am to accommodate everyone.

**April 24<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting Cancellation** – Mayor Danner and I have discussed moving that meeting and we are unable to do so, I am asking Council's consideration to stay on regular schedule and cancel the April 24<sup>th</sup> meeting and encourage everyone to attend the Program we will be involved in, in Clemson that evening. Council took a voice vote and was in favor of canceling the meeting no one was in opposition.

**Leatherheads** - Leatherheads will be filming in Greer this Thursday from 6:00 am to 12:00 Noon on Poinsett Street with minor interruptions to traffic. Sunday, Poinsett Street, Main Street, Randall Street and Trade will be blocked all day.

**County Councilman Tony Trout** – I received information this week from County Councilman Tony Trout; he had been working very closely with the Greenville Transit Authority for transportation in the Greer area. Councilman Trout has made arrangements for limited service in our area. He is taking compensation for that out of a discretionary account that he has for County business. This is a pilot project to see what interest we may have. He would like to know where this would best be done. With your permission I would like to forward that information to Greer Relief and have them coordinate with GTA.

Discussion followed.

Councilwoman Mercado stated "she did not have an objection but wanted to make sure it was kept in mind that bus service isn't just for those that might rely upon the services of Greer Relief. A lot of times you have people that do not have a driver's license or in particular older people that aren't comfortable driving anymore."

Mr. Driggers stated what he recommended when he spoke with Councilman Trout was our communities and neighborhoods with lower socioeconomic conditions may be at a prime situation needing public transportation. The other was our elderly for shopping and medical visits. We hope to identify certain stops and sites that we can bring the bus service into and promote it to let folks know what is happening and determine what the usage of that may or may not be. It is a pilot project. I think it is a good opportunity for us.

Discussion followed.

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

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **ORDINANCE NUMBER 4-2007**

**AN ORDINANCE TO CHANGE THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY OWNED BY GREENVILLE COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, LOCATED AT 230 BIBLEBROOK DRIVE FROM RM-1 (RESIDENTIAL - MULTI-FAMILY) TO R 7.5 (RESIDENTIAL - SINGLE FAMILY).**

Glenn Pace stated he had no new information.

Councilman Bettis made a motion to approve Second Reading of Ordinance Number 4-2007. Councilman Griffin seconded the motion.

Motion unanimously carried 7-0.

#### **ORDINANCE NUMBER 5-2007**

**AN ORDINANCE TO CHANGE THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY OWNED BY BUNCOMBE PROFESSIONAL PARK LLC, LOCATED ON BUNCOMBE ROAD AND JONES AVENUE FROM O-D (OFFICE DISTRICT) TO RM-2 (RESIDENTIAL - MULTI FAMILY).**

Glenn Pace requested Council table Ordinance Number 5-2007.

Councilman Baldwin made a motion to Table Second Reading of Ordinance Number 5-2007. Councilman Arrowood seconded the motion.

Motion unanimously carried 7-0.

**REQUEST TO ADD ITEM TO THE AGENDA**

Councilwoman Mercado made a motion to add one item of Old Business (Ordinance Number 7-2007) to the agenda. Councilman Bettis seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

**ORDINANCE NUMBER 7-2007**  
**AN ORDINANCE ADOPTED TO PROVIDE FOR  
THE ACCEPTANCE OF A NEWLY CONSTRUCTED  
ROAD NEAR THE INTERSECTION OF HIGHWAY  
14 AND WESTMORELAND ROAD BY THE CITY  
OF GREER, SOUTH CAROLINA**

Mr. Driggers stated we have been provided with documentation from Spartanburg Regional Health Care System concerning their commitment for the construction of the road and that is what we were requesting from them. They have also provided to copies of the construction plans. We are comfortable at staff level of their commitment for the construction of the road.

Councilwoman Mercado made a motion to approve Second Reading of Ordinance Number 7-2007. Councilman Bettis seconded the motion.

Motion unanimously carried 7-0.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**ORDINANCE NUMBER 10-2007**  
**AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL AND REPLACE  
ORDINANCE 8-6 TO CHANGE FROM  
THE PETITION METHOD TO THE REGISTRATION METHOD  
FOR NOTIFICATION OF INTENTION TO RUN FOR OFFICE.**

Tammy Duncan presented the ordinance.

Discussion followed.

Councilman Bettis made a motion to approve First Reading of Ordinance Number 10-2007 with changes to the dates being July 15<sup>th</sup> through August 15<sup>th</sup> and the filing fee to coincide with state statute. Councilwoman Mercado seconded the motion.

Councilman Griffin stated he wanted the Department of Justice to be aware that he voted in opposition to this ordinance as it relates to the increase in filing fees.

Motion carried 5-2 with Councilman Griffin and Councilwoman Anderson voting in opposition.

After receiving an opinion from the City of Greer City attorney (Andrew Culbreth) it was determined that the state statute regarding filing fees did not apply to municipalities. With the approval of Councilman Bettis this ordinance will read "applicable filing fee" for second reading.

**ORDINANCE NUMBER 11-2007**  
**AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL AND REPLACE**  
**ORDINANCE 8-7 TO CHANGE FROM**  
**THE PETITION METHOD TO THE REGISTRATION METHOD**  
**FOR NOTIFICATION OF INTENTION TO RUN FOR OFFICE.**

Tammy Duncan presented the ordinance.

Councilman Bettis made a motion to approve First Reading of Ordinance Number 11-2007. Councilwoman Mercado seconded the motion.

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

**IMPACT FEES**  
**Requested by Council Griffin**

Councilman Griffin requested that Council consider looking into Impact Fee.

Lengthy discussion followed.

Council directed Mr. Driggers to locate someone to lead Council in a workshop involving impact fees.

**COMMUNITY CONCERNS**  
**Requested by Councilman Griffin**

Councilman Griffin did not wish to discuss this item.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

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

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

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

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

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

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Richard W. Danner, Mayor

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Tammela Duncan, Municipal Clerk