

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

June 13, 2006

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

PUBLIC HEARING

Greer City Council held a public hearing on Ordinance Number 31-2006 with Mayor Rick Danner presiding. Council members present: Wryley Bettis, Wayne Griffin, Joseph Baldwin, Jay Arrowood and Belle Coxe Mercado. Councilwoman Sandra Anderson was absent. Also present: Ed Driggers City Administrator; Carole Rosiak and various other staff and media.

Mayor Danner called the Public Hearing to order at 6:30 p.m.

SUBJECT – ORDINANCE NUMBER 31-2006

**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 asked if anyone that would like to speak regarding Ordinance 31-2006 on three occasions and no one chose to speak.

The Public Hearing was adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

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 at 6:35 p.m. Also present: Ed Driggers City Administrator; Carole Rosiak and various other staff and media.

Mayor Danner called the Regular Session to order at 6:33 p.m.

Invocation was given by Mayor Rick Danner.

PUBLIC FORUM

No one spoke during the Public Forum.

MINUTES OF May 23, 2006

Councilman Bettis made a motion that the minutes of May 23, 2006, be received as written. Councilwoman Mercado seconded the motion.

Motion unanimously carried 6-0.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Ed Driggers

SCMIT & SCMIRF INSURANCE FUND – Chief Harvey and myself met with representatives from our insurance programs, we are involved with two programs with the Municipal Association, the South Carolina Municipal Insurance Trust Fund and the South Carolina Municipal Insurance Risk Financing Fund. SCMIT is the Workers Compensation and SCMIRF is the group that covers our liability. We are evaluated on an annual basis by these groups.

SCMIT - We have the lowest experience modifier for all municipalities that are members of this program statewide. This is the fund we award our safety program from. Our premium budgeted at two hundred seventy-three thousand seventy-seven dollars (\$273,077.00). With the experience modifier of .50 that modified premium is one hundred thirty-six thousand five hundred and thirty-nine dollars (\$136,539.00). We also received a guidelines adjustment for four thousand ninety-six dollars (\$4096.00). Our rating is 95.7%. The only area we did not score in compliance with is the use of inmate labor during the 2005 year. Now, we no longer use inmate labor and expect to be in 100% compliance as we go into the next year.

SCMIRF - We joined this fund in 2005 so there is no historical data. They maintain us with an experience modifier of 1, which means no credit, no penalty. We will maintain that for a three year period until they can evaluate our loss control in that area.

Leadership Greer Class 25 Gift - We received a gift of twenty-one (21) heavy duty picnic tables to be placed at our recreation facilities.

Police Department – The Police Department has received a grant of twenty-two thousand two hundred and forty dollars (\$22,240.00) under the state Victim Assistance Program for the purchase of a vehicle for our Victim's Advocate.

Public Arts Policy – Lindsay Ellis presented recommendations (attached) for the Public Arts Policy. Create an Arts in Public Places Commission/Board. The commission/board

would consist of seven (7) art minded members appointed by City Council with three (3) to four (4) year terms. The Commission/Board would make recommendations to Council and Council could choose to accept or reject the recommendation.

Discussion followed.

Mr. Driggers requested direction by Council. Mayor Danner stated Council will take this information under advisement.

PalmettoPride Participation – Lindsay Ellis shared a letter from the PalmettoPride Organization regarding our participation during PalmettoPride Week. For our participation, the City of Greer will receive a one thousand dollar (\$1000.00) beautification grant. The City of Greer won the County Award and we will also receive an additional two thousand dollar (\$2000.00) beautification grant.

Mr. Driggers stated he has one personnel matter and one contractual matter to discuss in Executive Session.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

AIRPORT ENVIRONS PLANNING COMMISSION

Spartanburg County Appointment
(Chris Aiken's term expires 6/30/06)

Councilwoman Belle Coxe Mercado nominated Chris Aiken for re-appointment to the Airport Environs Planning Commission. There was no second to the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

No recommendations were made to the BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS for district 4 (Michael Schleimer's term expires 6/30/06) or the at-large (Rob Lopez's term expires 06/24/06).

OLD BUSINESS

SECOND READING OF ANNEXATION ORDINANCE NUMBER 27-2005 AN ORDINANCE TO CHANGE THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY OWNED BY DORIS L. FOREST LOCATED AT 215 MEMORIAL DRIVE FROM R-12 (SINGLE –FAMILY, RESIDENTIAL) TO C-2 (COMMERCIAL).

Councilwoman Anderson made a motion that Second Reading of Ordinance 27-2006 be approved. Councilman Griffin seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

**SECOND READING OF ANNEXATION ORDINANCE NUMBER 28-2005
AN ORDINANCE TO CHANGE THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF
PROPERTY OWNED BY JOHNNIE H. & WALTER M. HENDERSON,
LOCATED AT 535 OLD CHICK SPRINGS ROAD FROM R-12 (SINGLE
FAMILY - RESIDENTIAL) TO PD-R (PLANNED DEVELOPMENT -
RESIDENTIAL).**

Councilman Arrowood made a motion that Second Reading of Ordinance 28-2006 be approved. Councilwoman Mercado seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

**SECOND READING OF ANNEXATION ORDINANCE NUMBER 29-2006
AN ORDINANCE TO CHANGE THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF
PROPERTY OWNED BY MARLENE GIFFORD, ETAL., LOCATED AT
513 HAMPTON ROAD FROM RM-1 (MULTI FAMILY - RESIDENTIAL) TO
C-3 (HIGHWAY - COMMERCIAL).**

Councilwoman Anderson made a motion that Second Reading of Ordinance 29-2006 be approved. Councilman Griffin seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

**SECOND READING OF ANNEXATION ORDINANCE NUMBER 31-2006
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.**

Councilman Griffin made a motion that Second Reading of Ordinance 31-2006 be approved. Councilwoman Mercado seconded the motion.

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

NEW BUSINESS

**PROPOSED PARKS AND RECREATION POLICY & PROCEDURE REVISIONS
Requested by Ann Cunningham**

Mrs. Cunningham proposed new hours of operation to be changed from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm to 8:00am to 9:00 pm. Also, rental hours and fees for Tryon and Needmore Recreation Centers to be changed from twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) to thirty-five dollars (\$35.00) per hour with a two hour minimum required for all rentals. Reservation forms have been created.

Discussion followed.

Mayor Danner at the request of Council asked Mrs. Cunningham to revisit the facilities structure and bring a recommendation back to Council.

Mrs. Cunningham also asked Council to implement a ten percent (10%) instructor fee for the use of our facilities for outside instructors.

MINORITY HIRING POLICE DEPARTMENT / CODES DEPARTMENT
Requested by Councilman Griffin

Councilman Griffin asked Chief Dan Reynolds to explain the Police Department's recruiting process. Chief Reynolds explained the Accreditation process relating to recruitment, he also explained the police department policy relating to recruitment. Chief Reynolds further stated the following statistics:

Police Department Employees	68	
Minorities	27	(40%)
African-Americans	9	(All 9 are in operational positions)
Women	21	(31%)

Population in 2000 was 16,000 people; the percentage of African American was 19.5%

Discussion followed.

The minority hiring line item was also discussed.

Councilman Griffin asked Phil Rhoads, Director of Building/Zoning if he had any plans of hiring any minorities ever. Mr. Rhoads stated "If they come in and they are qualified I do just like everybody else and hire them." All we get is the application, we don't know if they are White, Black, Hispanic or Asian. Human Resources keeps that information. I interview the most qualified.

Discussion followed.

FIRST READING OF ANNEXATION ORDINANCE NUMBER 32-2006
**AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ANNEXATION OF
PROPERTY OWNED BY GREENVILLE COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY AND LOCATED AT LOT 57 VALENTINE LANE BY ONE
HUNDRED PERCENT PETITION; AND TO ESTABLISH A ZONING
CLASSIFICATION OF R-12 (RESIDENTIAL – SINGLE FAMILY)
FOR SAID PROPERTY**

Phil Rhoads presented the ordinance.

Councilman Arrowood made a motion that First Reading of Ordinance 32-2006 be approved. Councilman Baldwin seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

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

Motion carries unanimously 7-0.

The Mayor stated that Council had discussed one personnel matter and one contractual matter in executive session with no action needed.

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

Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Richard W. Danner, Mayor

Tammela Duncan, Municipal Clerk