

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

June 26, 2007

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

Mr. Driggers stated Mayor Danner, the presiding officer is on vacation this week, and Mayor Pro-Tem Joe Baldwin is at a work function and intends to join the meeting later but suspects his schedule may have him coming in after the meeting has concluded. Council will need to elect a member of the body to serve as the presiding officer for tonight's meeting. According to Robert's Rules of Order it does not indicate how that is to be done other than the fact it is done. It is to your discretion how you would like to select the presiding officer for tonight's meeting.

Councilwoman Mercado stated "Everyone in favor of Councilman Bettis raise your hand." Councilwoman Mercado, Councilman Arrowood and Councilman Griffin all raised their hands. Councilman Bettis stated "In all honesty he appreciated it but felt Councilman Griffin should because he was the senior member." Councilman Griffin stated "This is one time seniority doesn't matter." Councilman Bettis stated he humbly accepted.

REGULAR SESSION

6:30 PM

Greer City Council met in regular session with Councilman Wryley Bettis presiding. Council members present: Wayne Griffin, Jay Arrowood and Belle Coxe Mercado. Mayor Rick Danner, Mayor Pro-Tem Joe Baldwin and Councilwoman Sandra Anderson were absent. Also present: Ed Driggers, City Administrator, Tammela Duncan, Municipal Clerk and various other staff and media.

Councilman Wryley Bettis called the Regular Session to order at 6:34 p.m.

Councilman Bettis recognized Boy Scout Troop 527 and its leaders Barry Westmoreland and Mark Steadman.

Invocation was given by Councilman Jay Arrowood.

PUBLIC FORUM

No one spoke during the Public Forum.

MINUTES OF June 12, 2007

Councilman Arrowood made a motion that the minutes of June 12, 2007 be received as written. Councilwoman Mercado seconded the motion.

Motion unanimously carried 4-0.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Building and Development Standards, Fire Department, Court, Police Department, Public Services, and Parks and Recreation reports for May 2007, Planning Commission Minutes for May 21, 2007 and the Surplus and Confiscated Items Auction for May 17, 2007 were included in packet for informational purposes.

David Seifert, Director of Finance and Information Technology, stated the following:

Finance Department: Finance Report for the period ending May 31, 2007.

Revenues: \$ 13,349,574.00

Expenditures \$ 13,726,574.00

The City is currently 6% under budget for this time period.

Mr. Driggers stated in the last week of June we are concluding the last week of our physical year and we will be spending a substantial amount of time in the remainder of this week and next week finalizing the transactions that need to be posted to this physical year. The second meeting in July we will be much better prepared to present a printed financial statement as of year end June 30th. This would not reflect any adjustments the audit will incur. The only uncertainty we are aware of is the transfer from the Municipal Association on the collections program.

PRESENTATION

Chief Chris Harvey

SCMIT and SCMIRF updates

SCMIT – South Carolina Municipal Insurance Trust (Workers Compensation)

The City funds the premium at one hundred percent (100%). Due to our modifiers (meeting the guidelines) in 2006 we met one hundred percent (100%) of the guidelines. We were able to receive a reduction in premium. The unmodified premium was (\$273,070.) and the modified was (\$136,538.). The saving will go back to the City. The City retains half and the other half is divided between the employees equally as a safety bonus. We had a very good year with a total of six (6) loses. After our deductions, credits and adjustments our final premium was (\$104,353.)

Brief discussion followed.

SCMIRF – South Carolina Municipal Insurance Risk Financing Fund. (Property Liability Insurance)

This is only our second year participating in this program. After the third year we will have modifiers applied to our premium. We have had a total of four (4) claims. Our total premium was \$20,141. We are in compliance with all guidelines. The loss ratio was 38.23%. Most of the claims were damage to vehicles. Mr. Driggers stated we need to be conscience of the fact that next year we will be insuring an additional twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000.) of public property that is not covered this year.

Brief discussion followed.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

**Eloise Barton
Retirement**

Councilman Bettis read the proclamation and thanked Mrs. Barton for her service to the City. Mrs. Barton was presented with a gift.

Lengthy discussion followed.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Ed Driggers

Reminder:

Municipal Association of South Carolina Annual Meeting – July 12 – 15, 2007 we will be going to Greenville for the MASC Annual Meeting. We will be presenters at a couple of sessions. Reno Deaton and I will participate in a panel group on economic development. Also, I will be participating with some of my colleagues on downtown redevelopment and strategies for bringing back your downtown.

Southern Living Magazine – We have been featured in this month's edition of Southern Living Magazine. In that magazine there is a featured article titled "Day trip to downtown Greer". The last time we had an article in Southern Living many of our merchants reported an increase in activity with a large number of folks visiting from outside of the area, showing that our efforts downtown are paying off.

Greer Now Magazine – In the most recent magazine we have a feature story on the revitalized city park project. If you are not subscribing to Greer Now please let us know and we will try to make sure it is delivered to you.

Construction Projects – We are ahead of schedule and under budget and moving forward. The steel erection was scheduled for the first week of September; we have now moved that up to mid July. We are about six weeks ahead of schedule.

Mr. Driggers stated he had no items for Council to consider in Executive Session.

Councilman Griffin thanked Commission of Public Works for resurfacing the street he was concerned with.

NEW BUSINESS

Audit Services Contract Renewal

David Seifert

David Seifert informed City Council, McKinley, Cooper & Company, LLP. has asked us to exercise their option to extend their contract for the next three years. There is a slight increase in the audit fee from \$15,000, to \$20,000. due to the number of audit hours required.

Brief discussion followed.

Councilwoman Mercado made a motion to renew the contract for McKinley, Cooper & Company, LLP. Councilman Arrowood seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

FIRE DEPARTMENT COMPRESSOR AND CASCADE BID

Chief Chris Harvey

Chief Harvey stated this item is in the new budget, the reason he is coming to you so soon is this is a critical need. The current system is on borrowed time. This is a complete compressor and fill system. This is our breathing air. We mailed out five bid packets and received two back. One was a no bid because they do not have a distributorship in South Carolina; the other bid was from Safe Air Systems in the amount of \$39,997.13. It is our recommendation that we approve this bid.

Brief discussion followed.

Councilman Arrowood made a motion to accept the bid from Safe Air Systems in the amount of \$39,997.13. Councilman Griffin seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Bettis stated there were no items to discuss during Executive Session.

The meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Richard W. Danner, Mayor

Tammela Duncan, Municipal Clerk