



CITY OF GREER, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the FORMAL MEETING of GREER CITY COUNCIL
November 26, 2019**

MEETING LOCATION: Greer City Hall, 301 East Poinsett Street, Greer, SC 29651

I. CALL TO ORDER OF THE REGULAR MEETING Mayor Rick Danner – 6:32 P.M.

The following members of Council were in attendance:
Jay Arrowood, Kimberly Bookert, Lee Dumas, Wryley Bettis, and Judy Albert.

Councilmember Wayne Griffin arrived at 6:59 pm.

Others present: Ed Driggers, City Administrator, Mike Sell, Assistant City Administrator, Tammela Duncan, Municipal Clerk, Steve Owens, Communications Manager, Police Officer Joel Galli and various other staff and media.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Mayor Rick Danner

III. INVOCATION Mayor Rick Danner

IV. PUBLIC FORUM No one signed up to speak

V. MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING November 12, 2019

ACTION – Councilmember Wryley Bettis made a motion that the minutes of November 12, 2019 be received as written. Councilmember Kimberly Bookert seconded the motion.

VOTE - Motion carried unanimously.

VI. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

- A.** Building and Development Standards, Finance, Fire Department, Municipal Court, Parks & Recreation, Police Department, Public Services and the Website Activity Reports for **October 2019** were included in the packet for informational purposes.

Finance

Susan Howell, Budget and Audit Manager presented the Financial Report for the period ending October 31, 2019. (Attached)

General Fund Cash Balance: \$9,697,023.

General Fund Revenue: \$2,758,754.
General Fund Expenditures: \$8,049,816.
Revenue Benchmark Variance: (\$396,130.)
Expenditure Benchmark Variance: (\$61,633.)
Overall Benchmark Variance: (\$457,763.)

The City is 4% under budget during this time period.

Hospitality Fund Cash Balance: \$2,015,211.
Storm Water Fund Cash Balance: \$1,377,601.

VII. PRESENTATION

- A. Deputy Fire Chief Josh Holzheimer presented highlights from the Fire Departments October 2019 Activity Report.

VIII. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Ed Driggers, City Administrator presented the following:

Calendar:

Tree Lighting Ceremony will be held Friday, December 6th at City Park.

Breakfast with Santa will be held Saturday, December 7th.

Chamber of Commerce will sponsor a special presentation by Dr. Bruce Yandle on the Economic Forecast for 2020, December 11th from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm at the Thornblade Club. If you would like to attend please let me know.

Annual Employee Appreciation Breakfast will be held Friday, December 13th at 7:30 am at City Hall.

Christmas Gathering at Mr. and Mrs. Driggers' home is scheduled for Tuesday, December 17th at 6:30 pm.

Swearing-In Ceremony will take place during the regularly scheduled Council Meeting Tuesday, January 14, 2020.

Hometown Legislative Action Day is scheduled for Tuesday, February 4th in Columbia. If you would like to attend please let us know.

South Carolina Municipal Elected Officials Institute is scheduled for Wednesday, February 5th.

Center G – the project is going extremely well. We are ahead of schedule at this point. We are working in the School Street area and continue to work on Victoria Street. We will move over to Depot Street soon. As we go into the first of the year, we will move toward

Poinsett Street once we finish there we will move to Main Street. We are moving along very well.

Notice to Proceed issued to Triangle Construction for the construction of the Parking Garage. We are wrapping up the mandatory challenge period, the next step will be to execute an agreement for that construction.

Hotel - we have been notified the Hotel Project will mobilize in mid-December, with construction beginning in January and we will follow that schedule as well. We will be conducting a meeting between the general contractor for the parking garage and the general contractor for the hotel project next week. As we finalize those plans, we will make sure we are working in concert to make sure it is a smooth process.

Mr. Driggers – as you are aware June 1st of 2020 will mark my 20th Anniversary here as the City Administrator for the City of Greer. During that period of time we have faced a number of challenges but we have far exceeded those challenges with the number of opportunities that have been presented to us over this past 20-year period. I want you to know I owe a huge debt of gratitude to each of you on city council for the relationship that you have provided to me during this time. You've treated me with great respect, you've treated me with professionalism and for that I am most appreciative. You have provided a safe harbor for me and my family during my tenor here and working with you and it has been exceptionally beneficial to me in the role I have to play as your city administrator. We've experienced some great times and for that again I want to say that I am most appreciative and that I am most thankful. Any successes that we achieved over the last 20 years have been because of the leadership that you have provided to the process that we go through in identifying opportunities funding those opportunities and executing those opportunities as we move forward. Tonight again, I want to say thank you for the leadership that you have provided during this period of time. Tonight, I want to come before you to make a public announcement that I will be retiring at the end of July 2020. After 30 plus years of public service and 13 years of in the private sector I am extremely looking forward to the next chapter of my life. You have enabled me to be able to prepare for that, I am excited about that opportunity, my family is excited about that opportunity but I'm excited about the opportunity that we have between now and July 2020 to prepare for the transition for a new city administrator to come to this city and to work with you as we continue to grow, prosper and face challenges and opportunities in 2020 and beyond. I stand ready to assist City Council in any way that I can during this transitional period. I am here at your service in however I can assist you in doing that, but for now it's business as usual. We've got a lot of work to accomplish in the coming months I look forward to that work we will continue to do I am most appreciative for the team members we have here at Team Greer you know we absolutely have a remarkable staff. Our team is the best that I have encountered anywhere in my travels, in this profession truly across this globe. I would put our team against any others, anywhere. You are in great hands with the people that are here and they will be here to assist in this transition. It's a privilege to lead Team Greer and I will do that with all of my heart and all of my zest and all of my effort as we move through this time of transition. Thank you very, very, much for this opportunity.

IX. APPOINTMENTS TO BOARD AND COMMISSIONS

A. Housing Authority of the City of Greer Board of Commissioners

Harold Power's term expired 10/31/2019

ACTION – Councilmember Wryley Bettis nominated Alison Rauch to serve on the Housing Authority of the City of Greer Board of Commissioners. Councilmember Jay Arrowood seconded the motion.

VOTE – Motion carried unanimously.

B. Planning Commission

District 3 Mark Hopper has tendered his resignation effective 12/31/2019 his term expires 6/30/2021.

No action was taken.

X. OLD BUSINESS

A. Second and Final Reading of Ordinance Number 43-2019

AN ORDINANCE TO CHANGE THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTIES OWNED BY WILLIAM WILLIAMS & RONALD BREWTON TRUSTEES; MEHRGAN SOKHANDAN & SEID YAZDY LOCATED ON MEMORIAL DRIVE EXTENSION AND BECKY DON DRIVE FROM R-M1 (MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT) TO DRD (DESIGN REVIEW DISTRICT).

Brandon McMahan, Planner stated there was no new information.

ACTION – Councilmember Jay Arrowood made a motion to approve Second and Final Reading of Ordinance Number 43-2019. Councilmember Lee Dumas seconded the motion.

VOTE – Motion carried unanimously.

B. Second and Final Reading of Ordinance Number 44-2019

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF GREER ZONING CODE OF ORDINANCE BY AMENDING ARTICLE 6 REQUIRED OPEN SPACE.

Brandon McMahan, Planner stated there was no new information.

ACTION – Councilmember Wryley Bettis made a motion to approve Second and Final Reading of Ordinance Number 44-2019. Councilmember Kimberly Bookert seconded the motion.

VOTE – Motion carried unanimously.

X. NEW BUSINESS

A. First Reading of Ordinance Number 45-2019

AN ORDINANCE TO CHANGE THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY OWNED BY QUADSONS, LLC. LOCATED AT 211 SCHOOL STREET FROM I-1 (INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT) TO S-1 (SERVICE DISTRICT).

Brandon McMahan, Planner presented the request. Mr. McMahan stated the Planning Commission held a Public Hearing November 18, 2019 and recommended approval. The owner was present, he introduced the occupant of the building Darren Anderson, 628 Driftwood Drive, Greer. Mr. Anderson spoke regarding the use of the building.

ACTION – Councilmember Jay Arrowood made a motion to approve First Reading of Ordinance Number 45-2019. Councilmember Judy Albert seconded the motion.

Councilmember Wayne Griffin arrived in Council Chambers at 6:59 pm.

Discussion held.

VOTE – Motion carried unanimously.

B. First Reading of Ordinance Number 46-2019

AN ORDINANCE TO CHANGE THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY OWNED BY CARLOS AND MEGAN CORONA LOCATED AT 500 WEST POINSETT STREET FROM R-12 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT) TO C-2 (COMMERCIAL DISTRICT).

Brandon McMahan, Planner presented the request. Mr. McMahan stated the Planning Commission held a Public Hearing November 18, 2019 and recommended approval. The owner/representative was present.

ACTION – Councilmember Judy Albert made a motion to approve First Reading of Ordinance Number 46-2019. Councilmember Wryley Bettis seconded the motion.

VOTE – Motion carried unanimously.

C. First Reading of Ordinance Number 47-2019

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUSINESS LICENSE ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GREER

David Seifert, Chief Financial Officer presented the request.

Brief discussion held.

ACTION – Councilmember Kimberly Bookert made a motion to approve First Reading of Ordinance Number 47-2019. Councilmember Judy Albert seconded the motion.

VOTE – Motion carried unanimously.

D. First Reading of Ordinance Number 48-2019

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 22 CITY-OWNED CEMETERIES, SECTION 22-2 THROUGH SECTION 22-16 OF THE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCE TO CLARIFY, STRENGTHEN AND EXPRESSLY STATE CERTAIN RULES AND REGULATIONS.

David Seifert, Chief Financial Officer presented the request.

ACTION – Councilmember Judy Albert made a motion to approve First Reading of Ordinance Number 48-2019. Councilmember Wryley Bettis seconded the motion.

Discussion held.

VOTE – Motion carried unanimously.

E. 2020 Council Meeting Schedule

ACTION – Councilmember Kimberly Bookert made a motion to approve the 2020 Council Meeting Schedule. Councilmember Judy Albert seconded the motion.

VOTE – Motion carried unanimously.

F. Project Carl

Mr. Driggers requested this be held over until after Executive Session.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION – In (7:17 p.m.)

- (A) Economic Development Matter – Project Carl**
- (B) Economic Development Matter – Project Greer Mill**
- (C) Economic Development Matter – Project Homecoming**
- (D) Personnel Matter - Administration**

Councilmember Lee Dumas made a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss an Economic Development matter pertaining to Project Carl; as allowed by State Statute

Section 30-4-70(a)(5), an Economic Development Matter pertaining to Project Greer Mill; as allowed by State Statute Section 30-4-70(a)(5), an Economic Development Matter pertaining to Project Homecoming; as allowed by State Statute Section 30-4-70(a)(5) and a Personnel Matter pertaining to Administration Department; as slowed by State Statute Section 30-4-70(a)(1) Councilmember Judy Albert seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Danner stated during Executive Session they considered the above matter and no action was taken.

ACTION - Out (8:55 p.m.) – Councilmember Lee Dumas made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Councilmember Wryley Bettis seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Action After Executive Session – Project Carl


ACTION – Councilmember Lee Dumas made a motion to authorize the City Administrator to enter into an agreement relative to purchase and acquire a property for recreational purposes as discussed in Project Carl. Councilmember Wryley Bettis seconded the motion.

Comments.

VOTE – Motion carried 5-2 with Councilmembers Jay Arrowood and Rick Danner voting in opposition.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

8:59 P.M.


Tammela Duncan, Municipal Clerk


Richard W. Danner, Mayor

Notifications: Agenda posted in City Hall and email notifications sent to The Greenville News, The Greer Citizen, GreerToday.com and the Spartanburg Herald Journal Friday, November 22, 2019.



Financial Performance Summary

As of Month End October, 2019

Quick Look Indicators	This Month	This Year	Balance
General Fund Cash Balance	↓	↓	\$ 9,697,023
General Fund Revenue	↑	↑	\$ 2,758,754
General Fund Expenditures	↓	↑	\$ 8,049,816
Budget Percentage (Over) / Under	↑	↓	4%
Revenue Benchmark Variance	↓	↓	\$ (396,130)
Expenditure Benchmark Variance	↑	↓	\$ (61,633)
Overall Benchmark Variance	↑	↓	\$ (457,763)
Hospitality Fund Cash Balance	↑	↑	\$ 2,015,211
Hospitality Fund Revenue	↑	↑	\$ 835,926
Hospitality Fund Expenditures	↓	↓	\$ 29,502
Storm Water Fund Cash Balance	↓	↑	\$ 1,377,601
Storm Water Fund Revenue	↓	↑	\$ 25,967
Storm Water Fund Expenditures	↓	↑	\$ 288,860