



CITY OF GREER, SOUTH CAROLINA

**MINUTES of the FORMAL MEETING of GREER CITY COUNCIL
June 23, 2020**

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

I. CALL TO ORDER OF THE PUBLIC HEARING Mayor Rick Danner – 6:35 P.M.

The following members of Council were in attendance:
Jay Arrowood, Mark Hopper, Lee Dumas, and Wryley Bettis.

Councilmembers Wayne Griffin and Judy Albert were absent.

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

Subject: ORDINANCE NUMBER 26-2020
CITY OF GREER BUDGET ORDINANCE FISCAL YEAR 2020 - 2021
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 opened the Public Hearing for public comment. No one chose to speak.

The Public Hearing adjourned 6:37 P.M.

II. CALL TO ORDER OF THE REGULAR MEETING Mayor Rick Danner – 6:37 P.M.

The following members of Council were in attendance:
Jay Arrowood, Wayne Griffin arrived at 6:59 pm, Mark Hopper, Lee Dumas, and Wryley Bettis.

Councilmember Judy Albert was absent.

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

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Councilmember Jay Arrowood

- IV. INVOCATION** Councilmember Jay Arrowood
- V. PUBLIC FORUM** No one signed up to speak
- VI. MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING** June 9, 2020 and June 13, 2020

ACTION – Councilmember Wryley Bettis made a motion that the minutes of June 9, 2020 be received as written. Councilmember Jay Arrowood seconded the motion.

VOTE - Motion carried unanimously.

ACTION – Councilmember Wryley Bettis made a motion that the minutes of June 13, 2020 be received as written. Councilmember Jay Arrowood seconded the motion.

VOTE - Motion carried unanimously.

VII. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

- A.** Building and Development Standards, Finance, Fire Department, Municipal Court, Parks & Recreation, Police Department, Public Services and the Website Activity Reports for **May 2020** were included in the packet for informational purposes.

Finance

Susan Howell, Budget and Audit Manager presented the Financial Report for the period ending May 31, 2020. (Attached)

General Fund Cash Balance: \$15,210,545.
General Fund Revenue: \$26,292,249.
General Fund Expenditures: \$24,062,407.
Revenue Benchmark Variance: \$999,584.
Expenditure Benchmark Variance: \$1,913,359.
Overall Benchmark Variance: \$2,912,943.

The City is 8% under budget during this time period.

Hospitality Fund Cash Balance: \$946,147.
Storm Water Fund Cash Balance: \$1,396,399.

VIII. PRESENTATION

- A. Greer Golf Update** – Red Watson, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation and Steve Owens, Communications Manager presented the update. (Attached)

IX. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Ed Driggers, City Administrator presented the following:

CenterG – we are in the final stages. All paving has been completed. There will be quality control and we expect to do touch up work as part of the process. We are looking forward to the ribbon cutting and dedication of this project. That is scheduled for Sunday, July 12th from 6:30 pm until 9:30 pm. We will invite our downtown merchants and business owners to join us. We had certainly hoped it would be a much larger community celebration but circumstances require that we keep that number smaller. We look forward to you joining us that evening. We will continue to do punch list items and cleanup as well as way finding signage. The lights are going up and the medallions will be going into the intersections soon.

Garage – Our garage project is moving forward. If you go by the site you may not see movement right now as Covid19 has had interaction with what is happening. A subcontractor on site had to pull their entire crew off of the project and we are at a critical junction for the concrete work. They mobilized and were on site for one day and three members of their team tested positive for Covid19 so they removed their employees from that site. We are expecting about a two week delay at this point because we can't do the next phase of the work until that is completed.

Hotel – continuing to move forward, footers are being installed. Met with Cotransco our project engineers who worked with us on the downtown construction and will work with us in Phase 2, I expect that to be a smooth transition and will not require them to remobilize. They will move down to Main Street, Cannon Street, Jason Street and Arlington. As we develop schedules for that project we will bring that information to you as well.

Covid 19 - we continue to respond as an organization as well. We are very, very proud of our parks and recreation department and all of our departments as they work very hard to get our facilities open and making sure we are providing for social distancing, hand wash stations, hand sanitizer stations all of the things we are encouraging folks that visit our facilities to participate in. We do have a couple of incidents that we continue to monitor very closely, we have not had any direct positive testing for any of our team members but do be aware we've had members of our team that we've needed to place on quarantine because they've become in mediate contact with folks that have been diagnosed as a result of that we are following CDC (Center for Disease Control) guidelines for quarantine. So far we've been able to provide work from home opportunities for employees that have been impacted. We have contingency plans in place.

Employee Meetings – beginning tomorrow I go on tour, I will be meeting with all of our employees over the next three days in onsite meeting in all of our departments. I have thirteen meetings scheduled Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. I'm looking forward to getting to meet with our employees to share information about our budget, some challenges we have moving forward as well as some great opportunities. I've also added two additional Zoom Meetings for our employees that prefer not to meet in a group setting. I find those challenging because I get really good questions about what we are doing and how we are doing and what the impacts are to them.

X. APPOINTMENT TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

**A. Board of Zoning Appeals
District 3 Thomas McAbee's term expires 6/30/2020.**

No action was taken.

XI. OLD BUSINESS

**A. Second and Final Reading of Ordinance Number 22-2020
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF GREER ZONING ORDINANCE
BY AMENDING ARTICLE 5 ZONING DISTRICT REGULATIONS, SECTION
18 DT DOWNTOWN GREER OVERLAY DISTRICT.**

Ed Driggers, City Administrator presented the request.

Discussion held.

ACTION – Councilmember Mark Hopper made a motion to hold over Second and Final Reading of Ordinance Number 22-2020. Councilmember Jay Arrowood seconded the motion.

VOTE – Motion carried unanimously.

**B. Second and Final Reading of Ordinance Number 25-2020
AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL
OBLIGATION BONDS, IN ONE OR MORE SERIES, TAX-EXEMPT OR
TAXABLE, TO FUND VARIOUS INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS;
AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO PRESCRIBE THE FORM
AND DETAILS OF THE BONDS; PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE
BONDS AND THE DISPOSITION OF THE PROCEEDS OF THE BONDS;
PROVIDING FOR BORROWING IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF
THE BONDS; PROVIDING FOR THE DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY
RELATED TO THE BONDS; PROVIDING AUTHORITY FOR THE CITY TO
REIMBURSE ITSELF FOR EXPENDITURES PRIOR TO BORROWING; AND
OTHER RELATED MATTERS.**

David Seifert, Chief Financial Officer presented the request.

ACTION – Councilmember Wryley Bettis made a motion to approve Second and Final Reading of Ordinance Number 25-2020. Councilmember Jay Arrowood seconded the motion.

Discussion.

VOTE – Motion carried unanimously.

**C. Second and Final Reading of Ordinance Number 26-2020
CITY OF GREER BUDGET ORDINANCE FISCAL YEAR 2020 - 2021**

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.

David Seifert, Chief Financial Officer presented the request.

ACTION – Councilmember Wryley Bettis made a motion to approve Second and Final Reading of Ordinance Number 26-2020. Councilmember Jay Arrowood seconded the motion.

Discussion.

VOTE – Motion carried unanimously.

**D. Second and Final Reading of Ordinance Number 27-2020
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 18 BUSINESS LICENSE, ARTICLE II LICENSING, SECTION 18-35 TO CLARIFY THE REQUIREMENT OF PROVIDING PROOF OF GROSS INCOME.**

David Seifert, Chief Financial Officer presented the request.

ACTION – Councilmember Wryley Bettis made a motion to approve Second and Final Reading of Ordinance Number 27-2020. Councilmember Mark Hopper seconded the motion.

Discussion.

VOTE – Motion carried unanimously.

XII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Seeking Approval of Grant Application Recommendations
The Greer Accommodations Tax Committee met Thursday, June 11, 2020, to discuss the reallocation of a portion of State Accommodations Taxes received for fiscal year June 30, 2019. The committee recommends to award Greer Cultural Arts Council \$3,500.00 for its art gallery lighting, \$500.00 to Foothills Philharmonic 2020-21 Season, \$500.00 to Greater Greer Chamber of Commerce - Greer Family Fest 5K Fun Run, and \$500.00 to The Edge Skate School - Learn to Figure Skate for Council's consideration and approval. (Attached)**

Presented by David Seifert, Chief Financial Officer

Discussion held.

ACTION – Councilmember Wayne Griffin made a motion to award the funds as follows; Greer Cultural Arts Council \$3,500.00 for its art gallery lighting, \$500.00 to Foothills Philharmonic 2020-21 Season, \$500.00 to Greater Greer Chamber of Commerce - Greer

Family Fest 5K Fun Run, and \$500.00 to The Edge Skate School - Learn to Figure Skate. Councilmember Jay Arrowood seconded the motion.

VOTE – Motion carried unanimously.

**B. First Reading of Ordinance Number 28-2020
**APPROVING A PROJECT AGREEMENT WITH PROJECT HOMECOMING;
AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF ADDITIONAL
DOCUMENTS; AND RELATED MATTERS.****

Reno Deaton, Executive Director of Greer Development Corporation presented the request.

ACTION – Councilmember Wryley Bettis made a motion to approve First Reading of Ordinance Number 28-2020. Councilmember Jay Arrowood seconded the motion.

Discussion.

VOTE – Motion carried unanimously.

**C. First and Final Reading of Resolution Number 18-2020
**A RESOLUTION CERTIFYING CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF
GREER AS AN ABANDONED BUILDING SITE****

Reno Deaton, Executive Director of Greer Development Corporation introduced the request and Kurt Price, owner of Namaste Fitness spoke regarding the request.

Discussion.

ACTION – Councilmember Jay Arrowood made a motion to approve First and Final Reading of Resolution Number 18-2020. Councilmember Wayne Griffin seconded the motion.

VOTE – Motion carried unanimously.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION – In (7:51 p.m.)

(A) Economic Development Matter – Project Homecoming

(B) Personnel Matter – Administration

(C) Personnel Matter – All City Departments

Councilmember Lee Dumas made a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss an Economic Development Matter pertaining to Project Homecoming; as allowed by State Statute Section 30-4-70(a)(5), a Personnel Matter pertaining to the Administration Department; as allowed by State Statute Section 30-4-70(a)(1) and a Personnel Matter

pertaining to All City Departments; as allowed by State Statute Section 30-4-70(a)(1). Councilmember Wryley Bettis seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

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

ACTION - Out (9:44 p.m.) – Councilmember Lee Dumas made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Councilmember Mark Hopper seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

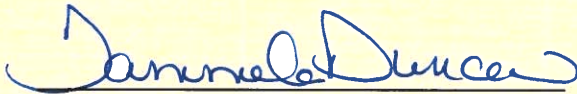
ACTION TAKEN AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION – Councilmember Jay Arrowood stated "I move that the City of Greer Appoint Andrew Merriman as City Administrator effective August 3, 2020. And, the City Council authorizes the Mayor to negotiate and execute an Employment Contract on behalf of the city." Councilmember Wayne Griffin seconded the motion.

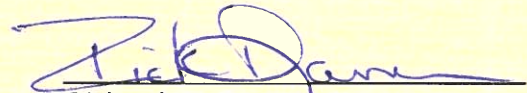
VOTE – Motion carried unanimously.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

9:46 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 Thursday, June 19, 2020.



Financial Performance Summary

As of Month End May, 2020

Quick Look Indicators	This Month	This Year	Balance
General Fund Cash Balance	↓	↓	\$ 15,210,545
General Fund Revenue	↓	↑	\$ 26,292,249
General Fund Operational Expenditures	↓	↑	\$ 24,062,407
Budget Percentage (Over) / Under	↑	↑	8%
Revenue Benchmark Variance	↑	↓	\$ 999,584
Expenditure Benchmark Variance	↑	↑	\$ 1,913,359
Overall Benchmark Variance	↑	↑	\$ 2,912,943
Hospitality Fund Cash Balance	↓	↓	\$ 946,147
Hospitality Fund Revenue	↑	↑	\$ 2,265,644
Hospitality Fund Expenditures	↑	↑	\$ 2,475,893
Storm Water Fund Cash Balance	↑	↑	\$ 1,396,399
Storm Water Fund Revenue	↑	↑	\$ 1,049,180
Storm Water Fund Expenditures	↑	↑	\$ 1,287,565