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

   No action was taken.

XII. **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

   Greer City Council Meeting Minutes
   June 23, 2020
   Page 4 of 7
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.

Richard W. Danner, Mayor

Tammela Duncan, Municipal Clerk

Public Forum
Sign in

June 23, 2020
6:30 pm

(a) **Public Forum.** During a period of thirty (30) minutes at the beginning of each city council meeting, referred to as a public forum, the presiding officer may recognize citizens of the municipality or others who have standing in the municipality, such as business owners, who wish to address council on matters pertaining to items on that meeting’s agenda.

**Sign-up for Public Forum.** At least fifteen (15) minutes prior to the commencement of a city council meeting, a potential speaker, who is not already a petitioner appearing on the agenda and is not a previous petitioner speaking on the same subject, wishing to appear before council must place his or her name, address, and whether he or she is for or against an agenda item on the public forum list. This list shall be maintained by the municipal clerk. Sign ups for public forums will be on a first come, first served basis. The municipal clerk shall make the public forum list available for council and public inspection. No names will be added to the list once the list is given to the presiding officer and the public forum has begun. The presiding officer will give equal time to those for and against the agenda items that are to be discussed during a public forum.

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# Financial Performance Summary

### Quick Look Indicators

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