



**PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING
OF CITY COUNCIL
OCTOBER 22, 2015 – 5:30 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
GEORGETOWN, SOUTH CAROLINA**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Notice of this meeting has been made in accordance with the 1976 Code of Laws of South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Jack M. Scoville, Jr.
Council Member Brendon M. Barber, Sr.
Council Member Carol R. Jayroe
Council Member Edward S. Kimbrough, Jr.
Council Member Clarence C. Smalls
Mayor Pro Tempore Peggy Wayne

MEMBERS ABSENT

Council Member Rudolph A. Bradley

ALSO PRESENT

Mr. Chris Carter, City Administrator
Mrs. Elise Crosby, City Attorney
Ms. Ann U. Mercer, City Clerk
Mrs. Debra Bivens, Director of Finance
Mr. Will Cook, Water Utilities Director
Mr. Glen Dixon, Fleet Superintendent
Chief Paul Gardner, Georgetown Police Department
Mr. Sterling Geathers, Public Works Director
Mr. Alan Loveless, Director of Electric Utilities
Mr. Rick Martin, Building Official/Zoning Administrator
Mr. Tee Miller, Assistant to the City Administrator for Economic Development
Chief Joey Tanner, Georgetown Fire Department

MEDIA

Georgetown Times - Ms. Taylor Griffith

2. ANNOUNCEMENT CONCERNING ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Mayor Jack M. Scoville, Jr. called the Regular Meeting of City Council to order at 5:30 PM and requested all cell phones or electronic devices be turned off or placed on mute so as to not interrupt the meeting.

3. PUBLIC HEARING

- A. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to receive citizen input regarding an ordinance amending 2015/2016 budget due to newly established assessed values based on reassessment.**

Mrs. Debra Bivens reported the County Assessor's office previously indicated the City would have an approximate 10% reduction in assessed values, based on the citywide reassessment. Once all numbers were compiled by the County, it was determined the assessed values were virtually the same overall throughout the City. The City calculated its rates, based on numbers provided by the County, and determined the millage rate would remain the same at 87 mills. The "look back" was approved by Council in June which set the millage rate at 93 mills. There is no need to consider the amendment because the millage rate will remain the same with no changes. No one appeared in support of or in opposition to the proposed ordinance and the Public Hearing was concluded.

4. INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Carol Jayroe rendered the invocation. Mayor Scoville led the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Scoville opened the Public Comments section of the meeting and recognized Ms. Loxi Capell. Ms. Capell expressed her concern with drainage at 912 ½ Front Street. She stated when the tide rises on the drain down from New Beginnings it bubbles up the drain rather than down. She spoke with Jonathan Heald when he was the City Engineer and he suggested french pots, which the City installed. Ms. Capell said this has kept her property from flooding. Bucky Watkins claimed this caused flooding in his building; however, she does not agree. She wants to know who made the decision to change what worked to something that isn't going to work. She asked Council to have someone study it and find out what is right and requested a written copy of the report.

Mayor Scoville recognized Miss Alma White. Miss White, along with her neighbors Ms. Linda Brown and Ms. Sandra Winslow, addressed City Council concerning Congdon Street drainage. Ms. White stated the recent rain/flood event was excessive but noted when that is not the case, water still collects in their yards. When the City embarked on the main City Hall drainage project she was told it would help the neighborhood behind Piggly Wiggly. When Miss White purchased her house she had it raised and has a four foot crawl space. The City has an easement across her property and three other properties which is supposed to be a drainage ditch beginning on Palm Street, across Congdon and behind the apartments near Piggly Wiggly. Miss White said she found out much later the cost of the project had to be reduced and work in their area was cut. She has recently learned the City has a grant for another project in that same area and asked that their neighborhood be included. Ms. Winslow questioned why she has a 5x2 drain in her yard, which has a sink hole on one end. Ms. Brown concurred with Miss

White and asked that they not be left out of the project again. Miss White provided pictures of damage and flooding caused by the recent event. Council Member Smalls asked this to be included on the next workshop agenda.

6. INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

Mr. Sterling Geathers introduced Mr. Burnice Canty.

7. PRESENTATION

A. Brian Piascik, General Manager/CEO of Coast RTA

Mr. Piascik updated Council on changes being implemented over the last five months. He became General Manager in May and since that time, the fleet is being upgraded which has greatly reduced the number of 'break downs.' Their service increases between June and September due to tourism; however, a later evening trip from the beach to Georgetown is still offered. There was a 23% increase in ridership from July - September 2015 compared to the same period last year. Data indicates a more moderate level of service could be offered year round, ramping down December - February. Coast RTA is planning to convert to an October - September fiscal year. Mr. Piascik said this would help the cash flow. Council Member Jayroe asked about the bus shelters given to the City. Chris Carter said we have three of the four pad locations and are waiting for a location on 701. Mr. Piascik said the shelters are important to their ridership and thanked the City for help with this matter. Mayor Scoville asked how many Georgetown residents use the service. Mr. Piascik did not have the numbers with him but said he would provide the City with an answer.

8. HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

A. Motion to Approve Contract and Payment to Linen Landscaping and Trucking for the Demolition of One (1) Dilapidated Property in the Amount of \$17,000.

Council Member Barber moved, seconded by Council Member Kimbrough. The structure is located on the corner of Church and Screven Streets. Mr. Rick Martin stated Elise Crosby has been working on this for over a year. Council Member Kimbrough thanked staff for their efforts.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Brendon M. Barber Sr., Council Member
SECONDER:	Edward S Kimbrough, Council Member
AYES:	Scoville Jr., Barber Sr., Jayroe, Kimbrough, Smalls, Wayne
ABSENT:	Bradley

9. FINANCE

A. Motion to approve second reading of an Ordinance Amending the 2015 Series Ordinance dated August 20, 2015 to revise the Purpose in order to allow a

portion of the 2011 Bond to be refunded with the proceeds of the 2015B Bonds.

Council Member Smalls moved, seconded by Council Member Barber. The City's bond attorney, Mr. Lawrence Flynn, presented a summary of the ordinance at the September 24, 2015 meeting. This will achieve some additional savings on refinancing of the Bond.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Clarence C. Smalls, Council Member
SECONDER:	Brendon M. Barber Sr., Council Member
AYES:	Scoville Jr., Barber Sr., Jayroe, Kimbrough, Smalls, Wayne
ABSENT:	Bradley

Mayor Scoville announced Moody's Investors Service has assigned a credit rating of A1 to the City of Georgetown, South Carolina. He thanked the Finance Department for being a good steward of the City's finances.

B. Motion to Approve a Resolution on Post-Issuance Tax Compliance Policies and Procedures for Tax-Exempt Bonds.

Council Member Kimbrough moved, seconded by Council Member Jayroe. Mrs. Bivens stated this was suggested by the City's bond attorney and approved by our auditors. This will ensure compliance with the Internal Revenue Service Code of 1986, as amended, and the Treasury Regulations promulgated in order to maintain the tax-exempt status of the City's debt. Mayor Scoville asked for comments or questions.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Edward S Kimbrough, Council Member
SECONDER:	Carol R. Jayroe, Council Member
AYES:	Scoville Jr., Barber Sr., Jayroe, Kimbrough, Smalls, Wayne
ABSENT:	Bradley

C. Motion to approve first reading of 2015/2016 Budget Amendments as follows: Electric Fund - For Temporary and Permanent Peak Shaving Generation - \$677,852 Waste Management Fund - Purchase of Garbage Truck vs Grapple Truck - \$28,142 Hospitality Fund - MASC Main Street Dues - 2 years - \$17,500.

Council Member Smalls moved, seconded by Council Member Barber. Mrs. Bivens summarized each by fund. **Electric Fund** - There will be \$307,852 in additional cost for the permanent peak shaving generation project engineering/surveying than was budgeted. Lease payments and fuel expense totaling \$370,000 for the temporary peak shaving generation were not budgeted. Ms. Bivens noted the savings we will realize from Santee Cooper for the project is approximately \$650,000 annually. **Waste Management Fund** - The current budget includes \$135,000 for a grapple

arm knuckle boom truck. Last month City Council approved the purchase of one garbage truck, in lieu of the grapple truck, in the amount of \$163,142. The additional cost is \$28,142. **Hospitality Fund** - MASC Main Street dues for the first year were \$10,000, the second year, \$7,500. These expenses were not included in the budget; however, an invoice was received. This amount will come from the fund balance in the Hospitality Fund. Council Member Jayroe asked to receive an update on the Main Street program during the next workshop.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] Next: 11/19/2015 5:30 PM
MOVER:	Clarence C. Smalls, Council Member
SECONDER:	Brendon M. Barber Sr., Council Member
AYES:	Scoville Jr., Barber Sr., Jayroe, Kimbrough, Smalls, Wayne
ABSENT:	Bradley

D. Motion to Adopt a Reimbursement Resolution associated with improvements to the City's Water, Wastewater and General Funds.

Council Member Kimbrough moved, seconded by Council Member Smalls. Mrs. Bivens noted this is a housekeeping matter. The Resolution will allow the City to be reimbursed for costs associated with the Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant modifications, Fire Station II design and other improvements expense incurred prior to the completion of financing. Mayor Scoville asked for comments or questions.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Edward S Kimbrough, Council Member
SECONDER:	Clarence C. Smalls, Council Member
AYES:	Scoville Jr., Barber Sr., Jayroe, Kimbrough, Smalls, Wayne
ABSENT:	Bradley

E. Motion to Authorize Spending of General Fund Disaster Recovery Committed Funds for the City's recent 'Rain and Flood Storm Event', not to exceed \$150,000.

Council Member Kimbrough moved, seconded by Council Member Barber. The City has committed \$1.5 million for disaster recovery. Staff requests approval from Council for permission to use an amount not to exceed \$150,000 for expenses associated with the flood. A Disaster Declaration was issued for the City; therefore, federal disaster aid will be available to supplement recovery efforts. The City will file a claim with FEMA for 75% reimbursement and once the funds are received the money will be deposited back into the disaster recovery committed funds. Mayor Scoville asked for comments.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Edward S Kimbrough, Council Member
SECONDER:	Brendon M. Barber Sr., Council Member
AYES:	Scoville Jr., Barber Sr., Jayroe, Kimbrough, Smalls, Wayne
ABSENT:	Bradley

Mayor Scoville took a point of personal privilege. On behalf of City Council and the citizens of Georgetown, he thanked staff, the Police Department and Fire Department for a tremendous job during the flood event. He also extended thanks to county employees, County Fire, EMS, highway patrol and state agencies. Some people worked around the clock. Will Cook and Chris Caines spent two nights in the pump house near City Hall to ensure the pumps worked. Mayor Scoville said rumors that the pump system failed were completely untrue.

F. Motion to Approve the Accommodations & Hospitality Tax Committee Recommendation of second half of FY 2015/2016 Accommodations Tax Funds and payment to Nine (9) Applicants.

Mayor Pro Tempore Wayne moved, seconded by Council Member Jayroe. Council Member Barber questioned the \$1,000 recommended for the Steeltown Shootout and stated in the past the IP Baseball Classic and Basketball Steeltown Shootout programs were both supplemented by corporate sponsors. The Baseball Classic continues to be sponsored; unfortunately due to economics, the basketball program is not sponsored by any corporation. He said along with the boys' athletic programs the girls' athletic programs should be considered. Usually, in athletics, the girls' programs are always underfunded...they don't receive the corporate sponsors. He asked Council to consider modifying the amount to \$2,800. They have a four night tournament and bring in four teams from outside the County.

Mayor Pro Tempore Wayne moved to amend the main motion and change the amount awarded to the 22nd Annual Steeltown Shootout to \$2,800, seconded by Mayor Scoville. Mrs. Wayne said the girls have to apply for funding to receive the funds. Council Member Barber said a lot of the female coaches don't know they can apply and we need to inform them. Council Member Jayroe said we have a volunteer A Tax committee that researches all requests and based on the information they make the decisions. She asked where the additional \$1,800 would come from. Mrs. Bivens noted Steeltown Shootout requested \$4,970. The awards are based on promotions and promoting the City and the number of participants within and outside of the area. The presentation provided by the applicant to the Committee is considered when basing an award. Ms. Bivens was informed most of the applicants are local. The \$1,000 was awarded to help with tee shirts and bags. According the Eliza Jagger of the Finance Department they were awarded \$2,640 in January 2015. Mayor Scoville stated if the amount is increased, we have to decrease another award. Council Member Jayroe disagreed and said this should go back to the A Tax Committee. Council Member Kimbrough said it would be difficult at this point to take \$1,800 from any of the other recipients. After further discussions,

Mrs. Bivens said Council could make a recommendation to go back to the A Tax Committee and request another recommendation or \$1,800 can be used from the local Hospitality Fund. **Mayor Pro Tempore Wayne moved to change her amended motion to include the additional \$1,800 be funded from the local Hospitality Fund, seconded by Council Member Smalls.**

Mayor Scoville called for the question on the motion to amend.

RESULT:	APPROVED [5-1]
MOVER:	Peggy P. Wayne, Mayor Pro Tempore
SECONDER:	Clarence C. Smalls, Council Member
AYES:	Scoville Jr., Barber Sr., Kimbrough, Smalls, Wayne
NAYS:	Jayroe
ABSENT:	Bradley

Mayor Scoville called for the question on the main motion as amended.

RESULT:	APPROVED [5-1]
MOVER:	Peggy P. Wayne, Mayor Pro Tempore
SECONDER:	Carol Jayroe, Council Member
AYES:	Scoville Jr., Barber Sr., Kimbrough, Smalls, Wayne
NAYS:	Jayroe
ABSENT:	Bradley

G. Discussion on Property Tax Reassessment for the City

This was discussed during the Public Hearing.

10. ADMINISTRATION

A. Motion to approve a Resolution authorizing the City Administrator to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with the SC Department of Transportation for debris pickup.

Council Member Smalls moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Wayne. As a result of the widespread flooding in early October, our area was declared a major disaster area. This agreement will allow South Carolina Department of Transportation to effect the timely removal of debris associated with the damage caused by Hurricane Joaquin and resulting flooding that took place from October 1-11, 2015 with no charge to the City. Discussions followed.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Clarence C. Smalls, Council Member
SECONDER:	Peggy P. Wayne, Mayor Pro Tempore
AYES:	Scoville Jr., Barber Sr., Jayroe, Kimbrough, Smalls, Wayne
ABSENT:	Bradley

11. CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Chris Carter reported during the recent flood event the Fire Department responded to 101 calls which included rescues from stranded vehicles and flooded homes, the Police Department responded to 40 calls for assistance, the Housing and Community Development Department Building Inspection section inspected 23 commercial buildings that experienced water damage, 57 residential units were inspected and 7 remain uninhabitable as of today. Public Works collected 18 tons of mainly household debris from October 4-11. Water Utilities reported 45 sewer backups, 10 sewer cave-ins, 4 sewer spills at pump stations, 3 manhole lids were lost and Merriman Road was damaged. Staff spent over 100 hours on site monitoring the storm water pumps and pond, 160 extra hours were spent for sewer pump station checks and responses as a result of the heavy load, 1 fire hydrant was lost after being clipped with a few exceptions by a car, 1 storage building behind the Fire Department was damaged by rising water.

With a few exceptions, the City's portion of the 17/701 project has ended. Electric line, cable and telephone work on private property needs to be completed, abandonment of a water main has to be accomplished, Duke Street repaving, replace landscaping on private property. He hopes DOT will resurface the road, in the interim period between when the City finishes and when the white topping is performed, which they (DOT) hope to rebid September 2016. There will be no heavy traffic disruptions until next fall. Council Member Smalls asked about Merriman road. Mr. Carter said there has to be more installation of additional line; all the sewer line that needs to be replaced was not completed before the storm. The road is being monitored to ensure the gravel is there, one portion has been paved. Once all the line is installed, it will all be paved.

Council Member Kimbrough asked about the fire protection for the boardwalk. Chief Tanner stated the specifications have been given to the purchasing department to create the RFP and proposals will be presented to Council in December. It will be installed in the first quarter of 2016. Council Member Jayroe asked for an update on the Fire Station timeline at the next workshop.

Mr. Carter reported the Sea Grant Consortium has expressed an interest to partner with the City to remove 10 abandoned vessels in the Georgetown harbor, two on north side of Goat Island and eight on the south side. They selected this project and have asked the City for a match, which is yet to be determined. Because the grant will not be available until after July 2016 this could be discussed during the budget

process. They need an indication from the City if we will be a partner. Mr. Carter said this is the same organization that recently removed vessels from the Ashley River in Charleston. A workshop will be held on October 29, 2015.

12. MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes of Council Meetings dated August 27, 2015, September 17, 2015 and September 24, 2015.

Mayor Pro Tempore Wayne moved, seconded by Council Member Barber. Mayor Scoville asked for comments.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Peggy P. Wayne, Mayor Pro Tempore
SECONDER:	Brendon M. Barber Sr., Council Member
AYES:	Scoville Jr., Barber Sr., Jayroe, Kimbrough, Smalls, Wayne
ABSENT:	Bradley

13. OLD BUSINESS

Council Member Barber recognized Mrs. Bivens and her department for the high credit rating the City received from Moody's Investors. He thanked her for a job well done on the annual budgets and annual audits.

14. NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Scoville stated, "It has come to my attention that there has been a very coordinated effort to suppress the African American vote in this upcoming election. I have been in contact with the United States Department of Justice, and I'm calling for a full investigation of this matter and I certainly hope that the parties involved in this, this violates very substantial and numerous federal and state laws against voter suppression and intimidation. And I am pursuing that and have every intention of bringing that to a full and appropriate resolution. I wanted to announce that..." Council Member Jayroe asked if he was pursuing this on behalf of City Council or.... Mayor Scoville said whoever the Justice Department says. He stated part of his duties as Mayor is to enforce the law and this would apply and he would certainly expect the City Council to support that.

15. DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORTS

- A. Georgetown PD September 2015**
- B. September 2015 Fleet Services Report**
- C. September 2015 Electric Utility Department Report**
- D. September 2015 Housing & Community Development Report**
- E. September 2015 Finance and IT Departments Report**

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to enter Executive Session pursuant to Section 30-4-70(a)(2) to receive legal advice as it relates to the General Sessions case State v. Carmen David, and property damage claim number SF-11-1042 on the SC Municipal Insurance Reserve Fund.

Mayor Pro Tempore Wayne moved, seconded by Council Member Jayroe.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Peggy P. Wayne, Mayor Pro Tempore
SECONDER:	Carol R. Jayroe, Council Member
AYES:	Scoville Jr., Barber Sr., Jayroe, Kimbrough, Smalls, Wayne
ABSENT:	Bradley

The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Motion to adjourn Executive Session and return to Regular Session.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Peggy P. Wayne, Mayor Pro Tempore
SECONDER:	Edward S Kimbrough, Council Member
AYES:	Scoville Jr., Barber Sr., Jayroe, Kimbrough, Smalls, Wayne
ABSENT:	Bradley

Executive Session was adjourned and the Regular Meeting was reconvened at 7:12 PM.

Mayor Scoville announced no action was taken in Executive Session.

17. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting of City Council.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Peggy P. Wayne, Mayor Pro Tempore
SECONDER:	Brendon M. Barber Sr., Council Member
AYES:	Scoville Jr., Barber Sr., Jayroe, Kimbrough, Smalls, Wayne
ABSENT:	Bradley

The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 7:12 PM.

Ann U. Mercer
City Clerk

Date Approved: 11/19/15