



**PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING OF
CITY COUNCIL
MAY 21, 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 Rudolph A. Bradley
Council Member Carol R. Jayroe
Council Member Edward S. Kimbrough, Jr.
Council Member Clarence C. Smalls
Mayor Pro Tempore Peggy Wayne

ALSO PRESENT

Mr. Chris Carter, City Administrator
Mrs. Elise Crosby, City Attorney
Ms. Ann U. Mercer, City Clerk
Miss Suzanne Abed-El-Latif, HR Manager
Mrs. Debra Bivens, Director of Finance
Mr. Will Cook, Water Utilities Director
Chief Paul Gardner, Georgetown Police Department
Mr. Sterling Geathers, Public Works Director
Mr. Jonathan Heald, City Engineer
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. PUBLIC HEARING

- A. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to receive citizens input regarding an Ordinance to Adopt a Budget and Raise Revenue for the City of Georgetown, South Carolina for the FY ending June 30, 2016.**

Mayor Jack M. Scoville, Jr. called the Regular Meeting of City Council to order at 5:30 PM and opened the Public Hearing to receive citizens input. No one appeared in

support of or in opposition to the ordinance and the Public Hearing was concluded at 5:31 PM.

3. ANNOUNCEMENT CONCERNING ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Mayor Scoville requested all cell phones or electronic devices be turned off or placed on mute so as to not interrupt the meeting.

4. INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Carol Jayroe rendered the invocation. Members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary led the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Scoville opened the Public Comments section of the meeting and recognized Ms. Betsy Havens. Ms. Havens, owner of the building located at 631 Front Street, expressed her concerns with the new lighting to be installed on Front Street and urged Council to reconsider. She stated the integrity of the Historic District will be jeopardized.

Mayor Scoville recognized Mr. Lee Padgett. Mr. Padgett addressed Council concerning an item on the agenda that would allow electronic signs in the General Commercial zoning districts along the main corridors. He requested Council revisit the original ordinance and not carve out special exceptions.

Mayor Scoville recognized Council Member Barber. At the March Regular Meeting, Council supported the nomination of Mrs. Reba Young Bruorton to the Georgetown County Womens Hall of Fame. In November 1960 she was the first woman to be elected to City Council. Mr. Barber read a note addressed to City Council from her daughter, Mrs. Virginia Bruorton Skinner, expressing appreciation and gratitude for their unanimous support. A journal composed of City Council activities and her family and community was presented to the City, which will be preserved in its archives.

Mr. Barber reminded everyone that today is Red Nose Day, celebrating Nationwide and across the globe we are against poverty for children and young people.

6. INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

There are no new employees.

7. PROCLAMATIONS

A. Motion to approve Proclamation proclaiming May 2015 as Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month.

Council Member Bradley moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Wayne. Mayor Scoville asked for discussion. He noted the rate has declined in several areas of the State.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

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

B. Motion to approve Proclamation proclaiming May 16-23, 2015 as National Safe Boating Week.

Council Member Kimbrough moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Wayne. Mayor Scoville asked for comments. He said with Georgetown being such a boat intensive community, boating safety is of paramount importance.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

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

8. HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

A. Motion to Approve an Ordinance to Amendment the Text to Article X, Sections 1007, 1009, & 1014.3, to Conditionally Allow Electronic Message Board Signs in the General Commercial (GC) Zoning Districts Along the Main Corridors of Highmarket, Church, North and South Fraser Streets.

Council Member Smalls moved, seconded by Council Member Bradley. Mr. Rick Martin stated Marshall's Marine requested this text amendment. The Planning Commission held a public hearing and meetings/workshop in March and April concerning this request, after which they voted to deny the request. Staff also recommends denying request to add electronic message boards to General Commercial zoning. Currently message boards are allowed for banks. LEDs are allowed at gas stations. Mayor Scoville asked Council to vote against the amendment. He said there is enough clutter now and this would be a step backwards. Mayor Pro Tempore Wayne said this company should be able to advertise their business and she does not have a problem with the request. Council Member Bradley said he spoke with several members of Planning. He agrees a business should have the right to advertise; however, they do not need to use electronic message boards. He encouraged Council to vote no and adhere to the wishes of the Planning Commission. Council Member Jayroe agreed. Council Member Barber said electronic signs are a distraction.

Council Member Smalls called for the question.

RESULT:	DEFEATED [1 TO 6]
MOVER:	Clarence C. Smalls, Council Member
SECONDER:	Rudolph A. Bradley, Council Member
AYES:	Wayne
NAYS:	Scoville Jr., Barber Sr., Bradley, Jayroe, Kimbrough, Smalls

B. Motion to approve the Addendum 1.0 to the Operations Agreement for the Kaminski House and Stewart-Parker House.

Council Member Jayroe moved, seconded by Council Member Kimbrough. Mr. Martin stated the Friends of the Kaminski House are requesting a one year extension to the current Operations Agreement for the 2015/2016 budget year in the amount of \$190,000. Mr. Chris Carter said this is included in the budget, funded with local accommodations tax.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

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

9. PUBLIC WORKS

A. Motion to authorize staff to enter into a contract and make payment to Palmetto Paving Corporation, for an amount not to exceed thirty-thousand, eight-hundred dollars (\$30,800.00) for the repaving of Seaboard Street from Highmarket to Front.

Council Member Barber moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Wayne. Mr. Sterling Geathers stated the street is in dire need of repairs and funds are budgeted for this project. Council Member Bradley requested we ask the County to reimburse the City for this with the \$30 Road User Fee city tax payers are charged each year.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

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

10. WATER UTILITIES

A. Motion to approve Purchase Order and payment to Coastal Asphalt, LLC for Asphalt Paving Services on Church Street in the Amount of \$23,336.36.

Council Member Smalls moved, seconded by Council Member Jayroe. Mr. Will Cook stated earlier this year the City installed a six inch water main on Church Street near

Georgetown High School as part of the Transmission Main Improvements project. The DOT encroachment permit requires the City to repair the damaged asphalt. The work will be completed by the ended of June 2015.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

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

11. ENGINEERING

- A. **Motion to authorize staff to enter into a contract with IPR Southeast LLC, and approve payment for an amount not to exceed one-hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000.00) for the repair and lining of wastewater mains and services in Broad, Church, Duke, Highmarket and Prince Streets.**

Council Member Barber moved, seconded by Council Member Bradley. Mr. Jonathan Heald stated this work is being performed in advance of the Broad Street Streetscape project and will be completed prior to July 1, 2015.

Mayor Scoville called for the vote.

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

12. ADMINISTRATION

- A. **Motion to approve a Resolution amending the Pay and Classification to institute Medical Insurance Reimbursement (MIR), address wage compression and institute longevity to avoid future wage compression.**

Council Member Kimbrough moved, seconded by Council Member Jayroe. Chris Carter stated this Resolution was based on the consensus during the budget workshop. Medical Insurance Reimbursement (MIR) was instituted that would, over the course of the next three fiscal years, initially offset the increased employee share and then gradually decrease the City's subsidy dependent care cost for those employees carrying dependent coverage. Addressing wage compression, eighteen employees were identified, who irrespective of the years of service in the current position were still at the beginning salary. A plan was devised, based on five year increments of service, to ensure a 14-year employee is not at the beginning step of the salary grade and earning the same as an employee recently hired. A method of longevity pay was developed and explained at the workshop. This would begin with a .5% and gradually increase on five years of service. For the record, Council Member Bradley stated he could not support the wage compression. When asked, Mr. Carter said with the MIR pay, anyone who is on the City's insurance plan will be

held harmless against any decrease in take home pay. A portion of revenue that will be saved by changing insurance plans will be used to cover this. As proposed, after a period of three years the state rates and the subsidy state employees pay will be the same as the City of Georgetown would be paying. Mayor Scoville said if employees receive raises over the next three years, this will make up the difference. Lengthy discussions followed. For the record, Council Member Bradley said he believes staff deserves a raise and questioned how we should go about getting it. He does not see the fairness and equity in this proposed system and feels the positions are not adequately defined monetarily.

After further discussion, Mayor Scoville called for the question.

RESULT:	DEFEATED [3 TO 4]
MOVER:	Edward S Kimbrough, Council Member
SECONDER:	Carol R. Jayroe, Council Member
AYES:	Scoville Jr., Jayroe, Kimbrough
NAYS:	Barber Sr., Bradley, Smalls, Wayne

B. Motion to authorize the City Administrator to enter contract negotiations with Waste Industries Inc. for collection of solid waste containers currently serviced by the City of Georgetown.

Council Member Kimbrough moved, seconded by Council Member Jayroe. Mr. Carter stated several years ago the City decided not to service dumpsters any longer, keeping a certain number for the larger apartment units and our own use. Currently the City's annual savings is \$47,990. Staff considered privatizing these pickups and received bids for the service. The recommended bid is \$60,742, a cost savings to the City of \$24,000. Discussions followed. The current equipment was replaced in 2005. Council Member Bradley stated the City must spend money on equipment; however, over the years with this type of contract we will spend more money with the contractor than what would be spent on replacing equipment.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

RESULT:	DEFEATED [3 TO 4]
MOVER:	Edward S Kimbrough, Council Member
SECONDER:	Carol R. Jayroe, Council Member
AYES:	Scoville Jr., Jayroe, Kimbrough
NAYS:	Barber Sr., Bradley, Smalls, Wayne

13. CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Carter asked Mr. Jonathan Heald to update Council on ongoing projects. The City has contracted with Jacobs Engineering to provide services related to the DHEC Consent Order. They have been the City's engineer for a number of years. Mr. Heald said Jacobs is refocusing their clients and will be closing their Charleston office. Currently staff is negotiating with W. K. Dickson to move all work with Jacobs to their Company. Mr. Heald said he understands the entire (Jacobs) Charleston office

is going to work for W. K. Dickson. The team that staff has been working with has been very good, they have a great deal of experience and expertise and are very familiar with the City's work. A revised contract may be presented to Council for approval in the future. This does have implications to our Consent Order. The current timeline is, 90 days after receiving a permit to operate we need to be under construction. Mr. Heald realized, after the fact, that on May 8th the permit to operate was issued. He is working with Jacobs, DHEC and W. K. Dickson to make sure the timeline is met. DHEC indicated this change is a legitimate reason to ask for an extension of time.

The Cherry Street project is under design. He met with Stantec Engineers last month for a 30 percent review meeting. Construction could begin in the fall of 2015.

The bike path project is being pursued. John Duron of Duron Engineering was in Georgetown recently looking at alternates and they (Duron and Heald) discussed some ideas he is going to pursue with DOT. Mr. Duron predicts he will present a master plan for the East Coast Greenway through Georgetown in the summer or early fall.

14. MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes of Regular Meeting dated March 19, 2015 and Special Meeting/Workshop dated March 26, 2015.

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

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

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

15. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

16. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

17. DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORTS

- A. April 2015 Georgetown Police Department Report**
- B. March 2015 Fire Report**
- C. April 2015 Fire Report**
- D. April 2015 Public Works Department Report**
- E. April 2015 Fleet Services Report**

- F. April 2015 Electric Utility Department Report
- G. April 2015 Water Utilities Monthly Report
- H. April 2015 Housing & Community Development Report
- I. April 2015 Finance & IT Reports

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to enter Executive Session to discuss A/H Tax Committee board appointments, discuss personnel related to the 2015/2016 budget, discuss matters relating to the proposed location, expansion, or the provision of services encouraging location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the public body - ArcelorMittal, and receive legal advice.

Council Member Kimbrough moved, seconded by Council Member Jayroe.

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., Bradley, Jayroe, Kimbrough, Smalls, Wayne

The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Motion to adjourn Executive Session and reconvene to Regular Session.

Mayor Pro Tempore Wayne moved, seconded by Mayor Scoville.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

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

Executive Session was adjourned and the Regular Meeting was reconvened at 7:08 PM.

Mayor Scoville announced no formal action was taken in Executive Session.

19. APPOINTMENTS

Motion to appoint members to the Accommodations & Hospitality Tax Committee.

Mayor Scoville moved to appoint Ms. Teri Holland and Ms. Meg Tarbox to the Accommodations and Hospitality Tax Committee, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Wayne.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

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

Having voted against Item 12 A, Council Member Bradley made a **motion to reconsider the Resolution amending the Pay and Classification to institute Medical Insurance Reimbursement (MIR), address wage compression and institute longevity to avoid future wage compression**, seconded by Council Member Smalls.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

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

Mr. Bradley made a **motion to strike the language referring to wage compression and longevity**, seconded by Mayor Scoville.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

RESULT:	APPROVED [6-1]
MOVER:	Rudolph A. Bradley, Council Member
SECONDER:	Jack M. Scoville, Jr., Mayor
AYES:	Scoville Jr., Barber Sr., Bradley, Kimbrough, Smalls, Wayne
NAYS:	Jayroe

Mr. Bradley made a **motion to approve the Resolution as stricken**, seconded by Council Member Smalls.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

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

20. FINANCE

- A. **Motion to Approve an Ordinance to Adopt a Budget and Raise Revenue for The City of Georgetown, South Carolina for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2016.**

Mayor Scoville moved, seconded by Council Member Bradley. Mrs. Debra Bivens stated the budget ordinance as presented is for \$36,375,049 which includes the Resolution presented by Mr. Carter. Based on further budget discussions, those amounts for wage compression and longevity pay for employees will be removed as identified. The budget includes 87 mills for tax assessment. This is a reassessment year and the prediction is the assessment values will decrease. Potentially the City will have the same issue as five years ago. Prior to tax notices being mailed, staff will review adjusting the mills to possibly account for the shortfall of reassessed values. When the last budget proposal was submitted to Council, there was a shortfall of \$594,000 in the General Fund. Based on the establishment of the Capital Projects Reserve Fund, capital projects were moved from the General Fund to this newly created fund. Based on the auditors' comments in January, it was decided to move half of the fund balance in the General Fund, approximately \$3.3 million, into the Capital Projects Fund. Using \$664,000 out of the newly established fund, leaves a balance of \$2.6 million in that fund.

Council Member Jayroe stated she could not vote on first reading tonight due to the complexity of the budget, changes and shortfalls and asked for a special meeting to discuss the budget further. Council Member Barber agreed. He questioned the \$15,000 funding for the veteran's memorial. Mrs. Bivens stated it was decided at a Council Workshop to allocate the funds. Mr. Barber said he very offended and could not vote for this. "As a minority, when it comes to the Confederate soldiers and the Confederate flag, they didn't fight for me. They fought, actually, for my oppression and for the oppression of my ancestors." He stated he would support the \$15,000 being used to recognize the United States veterans, past, present and future. Council Member Bradley made a motion to remove the \$15,000 funding from the budget, no audible second.

Mayor Scoville noted there was a property reassessment five years ago. Due to the recession, land values greatly decreased. As a result, in order to maintain a neutral cash flow, we were required to raise the millage rate in the City. Council voted against that, which gave the effect of a tax cut to citizen property owners of \$400,000 a year. This has carried over and as a result we have lost \$2 million in total revenue. County Council and the School Board voted to raise their millage rate in order to have a zero net revenue and they are not in this situation. He said Council needs to give some thought to restoring some sort of balance to the budget and discuss this at the next meeting. Council Member Smalls expressed concern with the Keep Georgetown Beautiful part time position. He supports this position as full time. For the record, Council Member Bradley withdrew his motion, seconded by Council Member Smalls, to remove \$15,000 from the budget.

Motion to defer first reading pending a workshop scheduled for Tuesday, June 2, 2015 at 4:00 PM.

Council Member Jayroe moved, seconded by Council Member Kimbrough.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

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

21. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting of City Council.

Mayor Scoville moved, seconded by Council Member Smalls.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

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

The Regular Meeting of City Council was adjourned at 7:37 PM.

Ann U. Mercer
City Clerk

Date Approved: 08/20/15