



**REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL
JULY 16, 2020 – 5:30 PM
TELECONFERENCE**

LIVESTREAM:

<https://www.facebook.com/cityofgtown/>

1. CALL TO ORDER

Notice of this meeting has been made in accordance with the South Carolina Code of Laws as amended.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Brendon M. Barber, Sr.
Mayor Pro Tempore Rudolph A. Bradley
Council Member Tupelo Humes
Council Member Carol R. Jayroe
Council Member Al Joseph
Council Member Hobson H. Milton
Council Member Clarence C. Smalls

ALSO PRESENT

Dr. Sandra E. Yúdice, City Administrator
Mrs. Elise Crosby, City Attorney
Ms. Stephanie Buccione, City Clerk
Mr. Orlando Arteaga, Engineer
Mr. Tim Chatman, Streets and Sanitation Manager
Chief Charlie Cribb, Georgetown Fire Department
Mr. Will Gunter, Water Utilities Director
Mrs. Gladys Rutledge-Livingston, Human Resources/Risk Manager
Mr. Alan Loveless, Director of Electric Utilities
Ms. Angela Rambeau, Director of Planning and Community Development
Chief Kelvin Waites, Georgetown Police Department
Mr. Isaac Williams, Fleet Superintendent

ABSENT

Mrs. Debra Bivens, Director of Finance

2. ANNOUNCEMENT CONCERNING ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Mayor Brendon M. Barber, Sr. called the Regular Meeting of City Council to order at 5:30pm and requested all cell phones or electronic devices be turned off or placed on mute, with the exception of first responders, so as to not interrupt the meeting.

3. ROLL CALL

4. INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Jayroe rendered the invocation. Council Member Humes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Barber opened up the public comments portion of the meeting and requested Ms. Buccione read public comments that was received through email or by telephone message. Ms. Buccione read an email from Mr. James Clements from Concerned Citizens of Georgetown. Mr. Clements referenced the agenda from the June 18th Executive Session that discussed amending the City Administrator's contract in regards to the requirement to live in the City of Georgetown. He stated the Concerned Citizens of Georgetown (CCOG) agree with the ordinance stating the City Administrator should live in the city that they are responsible for administering. Mr. Clements stated the residency requirement in ordinance Section 2-88 was violated. Mr. Clements asked that laws and ordinances be followed and to do what is best for the City and not individuals. Mayor Barber closed the portion of the Public Comments.

6. INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

No new employees.

7. PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

A. Motion to approve second reading of an ordinance rezoning approximately 4.16 Acres of Land, Owned by Georgetown County School District, from Residential (R2) to Public Service (PS).

Council Member Humes moved, seconded by Council Member Milton.

Mayor Barber called for the vote.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tupelo Humes, Council Member
SECONDER:	Hobson H. Milton, Council Member
AYES:	Milton, Barber Sr., Bradley, Jayroe, Joseph, Humes, Smalls

B. Motion to approve second reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 17, Planning, Article III, Economic Development Incentive Program, Sections 17-31 & 34 of the City of Georgetown Code of Ordinances.

Council Member Smalls moved, seconded by Council Member Joseph.

Mayor Barber called for the vote.

RESULT: **ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**

MOVER: Clarence C. Smalls, Council Member

SECONDER: Al Joseph, Council Member

AYES: Milton, Barber Sr., Bradley, Jayroe, Joseph, Humes, Smalls

C. Motion to Approve a Request to Demolish and Rebuild a Portion of the City Owned Wall Behind 918 Front Street.

Council Member Humes moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Bradley. Ms. Rambeau reminded everyone that the City authorized the demolition and rebuilding of the wall on the opposite side of the private parking lot last year. She said the City demolished the wall and the property owner paid to rebuild it. Ms. Rambeau stated three options for Council to consider which included authorizing the property owner to demolish and rebuild the 36 foot portion of the wall that is on their property and leaving the remaining section of the wall as it is currently; authorizing the wall to be demolished and rebuilt using the City's funds from the FY2020-2021 Parks Improvements appropriation to have a uniform design. She said the City's portion of the wall would cost \$20,000 excluding the electrical work; or do not authorize demolishing or rebuilding the wall at this time. She said staff recommends the first option because it would be an asset to both the property owner and the City. Ms. Rambeau said staff will move forward with whichever option is approved by Council. She said the property owner estimates that their portion of the wall will cost between \$5,000-\$6,000 to demolish and rebuild. She said the City's portion of the wall will cost approximately \$20,000 to demolish and rebuild according to the property owner. Discussions followed. Council Member Jayroe asked why this didn't go in front of the Architectural Review Board first since it is in the Historic District. Ms. Rambeau said Council can move forward to vote on it now and the design can go in front of the Architectural Review Board. Mrs. Crosby stated this item is not presented to Council as a building permit application. She said according to ordinance, it would be required to go in front of the Architectural Review Board before a building permit would be issued. She confirmed this motion is only for permission to tear down a wall owned by the City on private property. Dr. Yúdice restated the motion is only for the removal of the wall and the rebuilding plan would go to the Architectural Review Board when it is time. She said the underground electrical work will be presented to Council at next week's workshop. Mayor Pro Tempore Bradley asked if the public would be effected by this change and Ms. Rambeau and Dr. Yúdice both confirmed that it would not have any impact on the taxpayers. Council Member Humes suggested a proposal should be made for the property owner to rebuild the entire wall. Council Member Milton asked for confirmation of who owns the wall. Dr. Yúdice confirmed the wall is owned by the City.

Mayor Barber called for the vote.

RESULT:	DEFEATED [3 TO 4]
MOVER:	Tupelo Humes, Council Member
SECONDER:	Rudolph A. Bradley, Mayor Pro Tempore
AYES:	Barber Sr., Joseph, Smalls
NAYS:	Milton, Bradley, Jayroe, Humes

Motion to reconsider until information is provided to Council by Building and Planning, Administration, and Legal advice.

Mayor Pro Tempore Bradley moved, seconded by Council Member Humes. Mayor Barber asked Mrs. Crosby for confirmation if this is required to go before the Architectural Review Board before getting an approval from Council to demolish and rebuild the wall. Mrs. Crosby stated there are several steps to the process. She said in order to get a demolition permit in the historic district, the first step would be to take it to the Architectural Review Board to review to determine if it needs a Certificate of Appropriateness to demolish. The second step is to obtain a building permit and the same process would apply. Mrs. Crosby confirmed the City owns the wall and she does not see an easement. She stated she is unable to determine by looking at the Plat if the wall is on the City easement or private property. Mrs. Crosby said the reason this has been presented to Council prior to the Architectural Review Board is because the wall is owned by the City. She said the City could come up with a shared agreement with the property owner for a demolition permit and that would be presented to the Architectural Review Board for approval. Ms. Rambeau asked what additional information is needed. Mayor Barber said clarification is needed on if the wall is located on private property.

Mayor Barber called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Rudolph A. Bradley, Mayor Pro Tempore
SECONDER:	Tupelo Humes, Council Member
AYES:	Milton, Barber Sr., Bradley, Jayroe, Joseph, Humes, Smalls

8. ENGINEERING

- A. Motion to authorize staff to file a pre-approval application to request a grant with the CDBG- Mitigation Plans and Studies Program to help pay for engineering costs for three West End District Stormwater projects. There is no match requirements and the City will not be obligated to contribute towards this grant. The total amount requested in this application would be for \$671,730.**

Council Member Milton moved, seconded by Council Member Joseph. Mayor Pro Tempore Bradley asked for confirmation that this would be no cost for the City. Mr. Arteaga confirmed this would not require the City to match any funds.

Mayor Barber called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Hobson H. Milton, Council Member
SECONDER:	Al Joseph, Council Member
AYES:	Milton, Barber Sr., Bradley, Jayroe, Joseph, Humes, Smalls

9. CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Dr. Yúdice said signs have been distributed to businesses noting that face masks are required by City ordinance that went into effect on July 3rd. She stated traffic boards have also been setup on the main roads with this message. She said the City continues to receive special events permits applications but as previously mentioned, with the increasing number of COVID-19 cases in the region, unless directed otherwise, the City will continue with the suspension of event permit approvals. Dr. Yúdice stated they are exploring a grant opportunity with the Council of Governments under the state's CDBG program. The Community Enrichment Grant would help demolish dilapidated houses. She said a 10% local match is required and it can be cash or in-kind contributions. She said the application submission deadline is September 18th and it will be presented for approval at the August 20th Council Meeting. Dr. Yúdice stated County Council approved a \$10/ton increase in the landfill tipping fees for commercial solid waste and commercial construction demolition debris that goes into effect of August 1st. She said the fee will now be \$45/ton. She stated our commercial solid waste contractor informed us there will also be an increase of 8.5% effective August 1st. She said Council may want to consider an increase in our commercial solid waste collection rate to cover these added costs.

10. MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes of June 18 and June 25, 2020 Council Meetings.

Council Member Joseph moved, seconded by Council Member Milton.

Mayor Barber called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Al Joseph, Council Member
SECONDER:	Hobson H. Milton, Council Member
AYES:	Milton, Barber Sr., Bradley, Jayroe, Joseph, Humes, Smalls

11. OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business.

12. NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Barber stated because Georgetown is the 3rd oldest City in the state, there are many small lots, but the City requires 8,000 square feet to build. He said if the requirement was reduced to 6,000 square feet, this would allow the property owners to rebuild. He stated a similar thing was done in Charleston many years ago.

Mayor Barber said he has requested Building & Planning to review those areas and bring their information to a future Council workshop.

13. GEORGETOWN CO. CHAMBER REPORT

A. Georgetown Co. Chamber Designated Marketing Organization Report April-June 2020.

Mayor Barber announced the Georgetown County Chamber's report is included in the agenda for Council's review.

14. DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORTS

Mayor Barber announced the department monthly reports are included in the agenda for Council's review.

- A. June 2020 Electric Utility Department Report**
- B. Engineering Monthly Report-June 2020**
- C. June 2020 Fire Report**
- D. June 2020 Fleet service Report**
- E. GPD June 2020 Monthly Report**
- F. June 2020 Human Resources/Risk Management Report**
- G. June 2020 Municipal Court Report**
- H. June 2020 Public Works Department Report**
- I. June 2020 Planning & Community Development Report**
- J. June 2020 Water Utilities Report**
- K. June 2020 Finance and IT Department Reports**

15. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to adjourn Regular Meeting and enter into Executive Session pursuant to Section 30-4-70 a(1)(2)(5) to discuss appointments and reappointments for the Accommodations & Hospitality Tax Committee; to receive a quarterly legal update from the City Attorney on pending and adjudicated cases since last update, and to discuss matters relating to the proposed location, expansion, or the provision of services encouraging development in the area served by the public body. (Northgate Project)

Council Member Humes moved, seconded by Council Member Jayroe.

Mayor Barber called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tupelo Humes, Council Member
SECONDER:	Carol R. Jayroe, Council Member
AYES:	Milton, Barber Sr., Bradley, Jayroe, Joseph, Humes, Smalls

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 6:35pm.

Motion to adjourn Executive Session and reconvene Regular Meeting.

Council Member Joseph moved, seconded by Council Member Milton.

Mayor Barber called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Al Joseph, Council Member
SECONDER:	Hobson H. Milton, Council Member
AYES:	Milton, Barber Sr., Bradley, Jayroe, Joseph, Humes, Smalls

Executive Session adjourned and Regular Meeting reconvened at 7:24pm.

NO FORMAL ACTION WAS TAKEN IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

City Council may take action on items discussed in Executive Session.

Motion to authorize the City Administrator to enter into negotiations regarding an economic incentive agreement with Northgate Commercial Development.

Council Member Joseph moved, seconded by Council Member Humes.

Mayor Barber called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Al Joseph, Council Member
SECONDER:	Tupelo Humes, Council Member
AYES:	Milton, Barber Sr., Bradley, Jayroe, Joseph, Humes, Smalls

16. APPOINTMENTS

A. Motion to appoint Ms. Ginger Gray, Ms. Pam Toemmes, and Mr. Rodney Long to the Accommodations & Hospitality Tax Committee.

Council Member Humes moved, seconded by Council Member Smalls.

Mayor Barber called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tupelo Humes, Council Member
SECONDER:	Clarence C. Smalls, Council Member
AYES:	Milton, Barber Sr., Bradley, Jayroe, Joseph, Humes, Smalls

17. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting of City Council.

Council Member Humes moved, seconded by Council Member Milton.

Mayor Barber called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tupelo Humes, Council Member
SECONDER:	Hobson H. Milton, Council Member
AYES:	Milton, Barber Sr., Bradley, Jayroe, Joseph, Humes, Smalls

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

Stephanie Buccione
City Clerk

Date Approved: