REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL
MARCH 19, 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
Mr. Glen Dixon, Fleet Superintendent
Chief Paul Gardner, Georgetown Police Department
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. 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. INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Fire Chief Joey Tanner rendered the invocation. Service over Self student participants led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Scoville recognized Ms. Nancy Cave, North Coast Office Director of the Coastal Conservation League. She addressed Council concerning a proposed ordinance on the agenda which would conditionally allow excavation and encouraged Council to pass the ordinance with no amendments.

Mr. Dan Stacy, representing Georgetown Hospital System, asked to be recognized for a special request when agenda Item 7A is discussed.

Council Member Barber spoke on behalf of Mrs. Virginia Skinner. Her mother, Mrs. Reba Bruorton, served as the first female Council Member for the City of Georgetown. Mrs. Bruorton who died while in office, was stoic in the community and an advocate of children. She is being nominated for the County's Hall of Fame and Mr. Barber is seeking support from Mayor and Council. The Sheriff's Office and Farm Bureau are supporting this nomination. After conferring with the members, Mayor Scoville announced City Council unanimously supports the nomination.

5. INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

No new employees.

6. RESOLUTION

A. Motion to approve Resolution declaring April 2015 as Fair Housing Month in the City of Georgetown, South Carolina.

Council Member Kimbrough moved, seconded by Council Member Bradley.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

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

7. HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

A. Motion to approve first reading of an ordinance to rezone the Georgetown Memorial Hospital campus from Medical Residential (MR) & Residential (R1) to a Planned Development (PD).

Council Member Bradley moved, seconded by Council Member Barber. Mr. Rick Martin explained the hospital requested the rezoning to allow for more uses such as doctors' offices, blood banks, dialysis centers, medical and dental labs, nursing and personal care facilities, etc. If approved, this would also help with signage and rebranding of the hospital. Staff recommends approval. Council Member Kimbrough asked about two private residences located in the area. Mr. Stacy stated one parcel has been acquired by the Georgetown Hospital System and the other is under contract to be acquired. The third parcel would not impact any plans. Mayor Scoville asked for questions or comments.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

RESULT:	**APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] Next: 3/26/2015 4:00 PM**
MOVER:	Rudolph A. Bradley, Council Member
SECONDER:	Brendon M. Barber Sr., Council Member
AYES:	Scoville Jr., Barber Sr., Bradley, Jayroe, Kimbrough, Smalls, Wayne

Mr. Stacy addressed Council and asked if they would consider second reading of this ordinance at their workshop next week. The hospital will be changing its name to Tidelands Health on April 6th. There was no objection.

B. Motion to approve second reading of an ordinance to amend the City of Georgetown Zoning Ordinance Article VIII: Area, Yard, and Height Requirements, to amend the maximum height of structure requirement in the Core Commercial (CC) District from thirty-five (35) feet to forty-five (45) feet.

Council Member Smalls moved, seconded by Council Member Bradley. Mr. Martin stated this height increase in the Core Commercial District would help in the rebuilding of the 700 block of Front Street. He said this is a good jester to allow 45 feet in the 700 block; however, he is concerned this blanket ordinance would encompass the entire Core Commercial District. Staff recommends working with the property owners to meet their needs. If Council adopts the ordinance, the Architectural Review Board would have to approve any development plans because Core Commercial is in the heart of the Historic District. Discussions followed.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

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

C. Motion to approve second reading of an ordinance to amend The City of Georgetown Zoning Ordinance Articles III: Sec. 371, Article IV: Sec. 439 & 440, and Article VII: Sec. 703 to conditionally allow Campgrounds and Excavation for Development in the Limited Industrial (LI) zoning district; Furthermore, to eliminate Landfill in both the Heavy & Limited Industrial (HI & LI) districts.

Council Member Bradley moved, seconded by Council Member Jayroe. At the direction of City Council, staff has proposed amendments to the ordinance after first reading. Maximum length of stay at campgrounds would be 90 days, total allowable excavation area shall not exceed 60% of the developable land and/or zoning area, and an applicant requesting excavation for development and campgrounds must submit a development plan to be approved by the Zoning Administrator. Allowing animal shelters as a permitted use in Limited Industrial was removed from the ordinance. After first reading, staff met with DHEC at the parcel of land owned by Mr. Perry Collins. At that time Mr. Martin was given a map that indicated the mining area and the wetlands. He was not aware of this information and it changed the thoughts of development in general. Because of the wetlands issue, approving development on this site would be difficult. Due to the fact this tract of land is located adjacent to a City well, Council instructed Mr. Jonathan Heald to investigate source water protection. He spoke with DHEC and reviewed what it would take to actually sink a well. A brief list of contamination sources was presented. There are two deep wells in the City which are around 6,800 feet deep. Surface mining generally would not jeopardize the water; however, all activities do present a potential risk to our drinking water supply. He recommends the City investigate and begin to establish a source water protection for both wells. Although it is low, mining on this parcel does have the potential to impact the well. Deliberations continued.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [5 TO 2]**
MOVER:	Rudolph A. Bradley, Council Member
SECONDER:	Carol R. Jayroe, Council Member
AYES:	Scoville Jr., Bradley, Jayroe, Kimbrough, Wayne
NAYS:	Barber Sr., Smalls

Mayor Scoville invited Mrs. Cindy Thompson and Mrs. Janet Grant to come forward. He announced the South Carolina Litter Control Association awarded the group Leadership Award to Mrs. Thompson with Keep Georgetown Beautiful and Mrs. Grant, the City's Code Enforcement Officer.

8. FINANCE

A. Motion to approve second reading of an Ordinance amending Chapter 13, Article II, Business Licenses, Section 13-20 Registration Required of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Georgetown, SC.

Council Member Kimbrough moved, seconded by Council Member Jayroe. Mrs. Debra Bivens stated this will add additional language to the existing ordinance to ensure all State regulations and laws are followed before a business license is issued. Mayor Scoville asked for comments.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

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

9. PUBLIC WORKS

A. Motion to approve the repair, replacement and installations of sidewalks, handicapped ramps and other associated work and payment to Linen Landscaping and Trucking in the amount of $70,000.

Council Member Barber moved, seconded by Council Member Bradley. Mr. Chris

Carter noted the spreading roots from Live Oak trees are the cause for regular replacement and repair of sidewalks to eliminate trip hazards. Because of the wide range in the bids received, staff verified references of the low bidder and received high recommendations.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

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

B. Motion to approve purchase from Triple T Freightliner and payment of a Freightliner Truck with Pac Mor Body in the amount of $163,142.

Moved by Mayor Pro Tempore Wayne, seconded by Council Member Bradley. This is a budgeted item. This rear loading truck will replace a side loader and will require a three man crew. There are currently two backup trucks that require a three man crew. Brief discussions followed.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

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

10. ELECTRIC UTILITIES

A. Motion to approve payment of invoice to Utility Technology Engineers-Consultants in the amount of $22,936.35 for engineering services related to the Peak Shaving Generation Project.

Council Member Bradley moved, seconded by Council Member Jayroe. Mr. Alan Loveless explained this is for engineering services in February which culminated with the installation of the second temporary generator at the Water Treatment Plant. With two units now operational, we can benefit from the savings. When there is a lower purchase power cost the savings will automatically be passed back to our customers.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

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

B. Motion to approve payment of invoice to Shealy Electrical Wholesalers in the amount of $18,656.00 for street light globes.

Council Member Bradley moved, seconded by Council Member Kimbrough. These white globes are for the Front Street lighting project. The old discolored globes will be replaced as the conversion is made to the LED lamps. A limited crew will be working on this project in a timely manner; however, there will be times when they will need to work on other jobs. Mr. Loveless explained new light fixtures will be prepared with the new LED lamps and globes at the shop. Then, in the early mornings before traffic increases on Front Street, the change-out will take place. Another purchase of globes may be needed to complete the project. When asked, Mr. Loveless said he did not know of any use for the old globes but would see if they could be recycled.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

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

C. Motion to approve purchase order and payment to Thomasson Lumber Company of Philadelphia, MS in the amount of $19,635.00 for a quantity of seventy (70) 45 ft wood utility poles.

Council Member Barber moved, seconded by Council Member Jayroe. These poles will be placed in inventory to be used for various projects on our distribution system. This price represents the lowest of three bids.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

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

D. Motion to approve first amendment of the Pole Attachment Agreement with Southern Coastal Cable, LLC

Council Member Barber moved, seconded by Council Member Bradley. Mr. Loveless stated Southern Coastal Cable approached the City and requested a change in terms of the existing agreement due to their financing situation. The existing agreement that was executed five years ago is due to be reviewed for a rate adjustment and any other charges this year. This amendment will extend the length of the agreement to 23 years, which is what the lender of the loan to SCC required…that the agreement be in effect as long as the term of the loan. It will give us the ability to update the rates and add the ability to review the rates after five years.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

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

11. ADMINISTRATION

A. Follow-up on Insurance Presentation

Chris Carter reviewed the presentation previously provided to City Council. The City has a quote of 13% (increase) from Blue Cross Blue Shield for the current 80/20 Plan, $2,000/$4,000 deductible. Since 2011 the City continues to absorb the full cost of renewals which compounds every year. This year dependent care coverage is 44% of the City's total annual health insurance cost.

Questions that need to be addressed include: What health insurance plan will the City elect for the 2015-2016 Fiscal Year? Is the City interested in starting to decrease the dependent care subsidy and move towards 100% coverage of Employee Only Coverage? How can we use health insurance cost savings towards creating a progressive compensation plan to retain talented and long-time employees?

Staff's recommendation is to switch to the State Health Plan and save $300,000 annually while keeping current employee paycheck premiums the same as the past four years. Employees will still have the same take-home pay with some net savings to the City. Develop a three year plan to eventually cover employee only and dependent care at the existing standard state premium rates. This will increase the City's savings each year to fund a consistent compensation plan. Premium increases will not be as drastic to employees because it will be implemented over a period of time and salaries can be increased to offset any reduction in take-home pay.

Discussions and questions followed regarding type of coverage and the cost to employees for non-covered charges. Miss Suzanne Abed-El-Latif stated there are no pre-existing condition provisions for children under 19. There is a 12 month waiting period for anyone over 19 years old; however, this can be reduced if the person has creditable coverage prior; which all City employees do have. Council expressed concerns with coverage of pre-existing conditions. Mayor Scoville asked staff to obtain clarification on this matter.

Council Member Barber asked staff to provide numbers on the Workers Compensation savings on the premium, rather than percentages.

Mayor Scoville asked if action is required tonight. Mr. Carter stated an application needs to be submitted by the end of the month. Submitting the application does not mean a commitment.

Mayor Scoville directed staff to submit the application and be prepared at the March 26, 2015 Special Meeting/Workshop with answers to questions and concerns City Council voiced regarding pre-existing conditions. He stated this would be an action item at the Meeting.

12. CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Carter said he spoke with Kyzer and Timmerman and the drawings have been completed on the Fire Station and City Hall project. Now we need to obtain concise estimates from the contractor.

Waccamaw Regional Council of Governments will hold a public hearing in Council Chambers next week to receive input on a CDBG application for drainage improvements.

13. MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes of Regular Meetings dated December 18, 2014 and January 15, 2015 and Special Meeting dated January 8, 2015.

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

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

14. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

15. NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Scoville said he was informed today by Attorney Doug Baxter the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed the Summary Judgement in favor of the City in the long-pending Tennant lawsuit.

16. DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORTS

Mayor Scoville noted the department monthly reports are included in the agenda packet.

A. February 2015 GPD Report

B. February 2015 Fire Report

C. FEB. 2015 PUBLIC WORKS DEPT REPORT

D. February 2015 Fleet Services Report

E. February 2015 Electric Utility Department Report

F. February 2015 Water Utilities Report

G. February 2015 Housing & Community Development Report

H. February 2015 Finance and IT Report

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to enter Executive Session to seek advice from the City Attorney regarding a proposed contractual agreement between the City, individual property owners and the State of South Carolina Dept. of Commerce.

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

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., Bradley, Jayroe, Kimbrough, Smalls, Wayne

The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 7:16 PM.

Motion to adjourn Executive Session and return to Regular Session.

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

Executive Session was adjourned and the Regular Meeting was reopened at 8:06 PM.
Mayor Scoville announced no formal action was taken in Executive Session.

18. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting of City Council.

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

The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 8:06 PM.

Ann U. Mercer
City Clerk

Date Approved: 05/21/15