SPECIAL MEETING/WORKSHOP OF CITY COUNCIL
JULY 24, 2014 – 4:00 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.
Mayor Pro Tempore Peggy P. Wayne

MEMBERS ABSENT
Council Member Clarence C. Smalls

ALSO PRESENT
Mr. Chris Carter, City Administrator
Mrs. Elise Crosby, City Attorney
Ms. Ann U. Mercer, City Clerk
Mrs. Debra Bivens, Finance Director
Chief Paul Gardner, Georgetown Police Department
Mr. Jonathan Heald, Public Services Director
Mr. Rick Martin, Building Official/Zoning Administrator
Mr. Tee Miller, Economic Development Director

MEDIA
Georgetown Times - Ms. Taylor Griffith

2. ANNOUNCEMENT CONCERNING ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Mayor Jack M. Scoville, Jr. called the Special Meeting/Workshop of City Council to order at 4:00 PM and requested all cell phones or electronic devices be turned off or placed on mute so as to not interrupt the meeting.

3. USDA RURAL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE GRANT

Motion to approve USDA Rural Business Enterprise Grant Resolution.

Mr. Tee Miller said the City of Georgetown has made an application to USDA, Rural Development for a Rural Business Enterprise Grant in the amount of $44,000 for facilitating private business enterprises in the City through technical assistance and completion of feasibility studies and analyses. Mr. Miller referenced a Resolution that needs to be passed to receive the grant. This grant does not require a match. The City plans to conduct a retail gap analysis, a market analysis, a trade area analysis, a market study for the feasibility of a downtown hotel, an interpretive guide training workshop and a quick response walking tour. Council Member Bradley moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Wayne.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

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

4. DISCUSS MINING AS A CONDITIONAL USE UNDER THE LIMITED INDUSTRIAL (LI) AND HEAVY INDUSTRIAL (HI) ZONING DISTRICTS

Mr. Rick Martin stated several months ago DHEC approached the City about the possibility of allowing a landfill on a tract of land south of Georgetown that had been mined. His department was not aware of any areas that met that criteria. Council was provided a map of the area. After researching the matter, it was discovered approximately four acres of the 17.7 acre tract had been mined for topsoil, sand and silty clay approximately fifteen feet deep. The property was annexed into the City in 2009 as Limited Industrial. Mr. Martin stated mining is an allowable use in Georgetown County and apparently the information concerning the mining permit was sent to the County and a permit was issued by DHEC. The City contacted DHEC and was informed they are only required to notify the County and it is the County's responsibility to notify the municipality. Mining is not an allowable use in the City's Zoning Ordinance. The owner of the property requested the Ordinance be changed and he was informed the text amendment would have to be presented to the City of Georgetown Planning Commission for consideration. Staff presented this on June 24, 2014 at which time the applicant informed the board and staff he wanted to renew his current DHEC mining permit and apply for two additional permits being five acres each. After lengthy discussions, the Planning Commission decided the maximum standard of allowable use of mining should be 60 percent of a minimum 15 acre tract in Limited Industrial and requested City Council review their recommendation. Later, during a weekly staff meeting it was brought to Mr. Martin's attention that the City has an active underground well in the vicinity of this tract of land. Staff contacted the Water Division of DHEC and informed them of the City's concerns with the underground well in the close proximity. Following extended discussions, there were concerns this could be detrimental to the surrounding properties. Mr. Martin said if DHEC issues a permit it will be denied by the City because it is not an allowable use. The consensus was not to allow mining in the City. The City Attorney was going to confirm if City Council has to address the issue after it has been before the Planning Commission.

5. UPDATE ON STATUS OF CONSENT ORDER FOR THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Mr. Jonathan Heald reviewed the history of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The City operates a 12 million gallon per day wastewater treatment facility. He explained the process in detail. In 2003 the plant was upgraded from a 4 million gallon per day aerated lagoon to a 12 million gallon per day SBR plant. In 2007 we were under our first Consent Order for entrococcus, pH, DO. In 2008 we received a Consent Order for TSS and in 2011 a Consent Order for pH. In 2013 we received the current Consent Order for fecal coliform, entrococcus, pH and DO. In May 2013 the Preliminary Engineering Report was submitted to DHEC for their review agreeing to construct the acid fee system and segregate the 22-acre holding lagoon. In August 2013 DHEC changed the rules and came up with a new NPDES permit (1) eliminating the treatment of coliform and (2) moving the sampling point for entrococcus from the current discharge point at the end of the pond to the end of the chlorine contact chamber at the beginning of the pond. Mr. Heald met with DHEC September through December and expressed his concern that the City is preparing to spend a lot of money segregating a pond that doesn't have a problem because of their new NPDES permit. They agreed and in April the City submitted a Supplemental Preliminary Engineering report. In July DHEC notified the City the report looks good and they asked for a revised implementation schedule. A PowerPoint presentation provided Council with the proposed improvements. There are a total of nine projects over the next nine years totaling $13.5 to $14 million dollars. Mr. Heald outlined the proposed improvements and said the deadline for submitting this to DHEC is the end of the month. He wanted to brief Council and make sure they are all on board with the projects. If DHEC accepts this, we are obligated. Under the terms of the agreement the City owns and operates the Plant and the partners are obligated to pay their fair share of the cost of the improvements and this information has been shared with them.

Council Member Bradley left the meeting at 5:00 PM.

6. DISCUSS BUS STOP PROJECT

Mr. Matt Millwood reported on the bus shelters Waccamaw Regional Council of Governments has acquired from Coast RTA. The COG has offered several of the shelters to the City at no cost. Council was provided a map of the Coast RTA stops in the City, along with four suggestions of where to locate the bus shelters. The shelters are roofed and have three sides enclosed with a metal mesh type material. The City will need to install a pad for each shelter. Mr. Millwood said he spoke with Mr. Nat Kaminski of the Rotary lunch Club about the possibility of them assisting in setting up the shelters. Mr. Kaminski indicated that would be a great project for their Club. When questioned, Chief Paul Gardner stated the store owner is very upset and the Board of Elections is extremely upset with RTA's hub location on Exchange Street. They have asked for the location to be reconsidered. Mr. Carter said this stop is a transfer point. Discussions followed. Logistics are to be worked out. Council was in favor of the City receiving and installing the bus shelters.

7. UPDATE ON 2014-2015 CAPITAL PROJECTS (INCLUDING DRAINAGE PROJECTS)

Mr. Chris Carter updated Council on the capital projects and said they have been spaced out during the year so the demand on our cash would not happen all at once. Upcoming projects include Broad Street, Cherry Street, street resurfacing and East Bay Park. Mr. Carter suggested removing the lighting at the East Bay Park ball fields right away. He is going to check with the County to ensure they don't have any plans but said those lights have not been used in two years. The parking lot improvements may take place in November. Mr. Carter thinks GSATS is going to require the City to add more mileage on the East Coast Greenway to receive the $625,000. Discussions followed. Mayor Scoville wanted staff to continue work on that project for discussion at a later date. When questioned about the $15,000 grant received from International Paper Company to enhance Morgan Park, Mr. Heald said the project has not been completed. Council Member Wayne asked about the Oakley Street drainage. Mr. Carter said this was discussed in January. Funds for the infrastructure program this year are budgeted for the Cherry Street project. Council Member Jayroe asked if staff could provide Council with a list of the dilapidated houses targeted for removal. Mr. Martin said a book is being compiled and will be delivered to Council before the meeting. Council Member Jayroe asked if the property has been transferred to Habitat for Humanity. Mrs. Crosby stated she was instructed not to handle the transfer; that Mr. Swinnie would need to have the deed prepared to the City. When questioned Mrs. Crosby said she could easily take care of the deed to the City and then to Habitat. Council Member Kimbrough asked about plans for fire protection on the boardwalk. Mr. Carter suggested an amount can be estimated and Council can authorize this for the next fiscal year. After discussions, Mayor Scoville wanted the Fire Chief to prepare an update for Council.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Scoville adjourned the Special Meeting/Workshop at 5:32 PM.

Ann U. Mercer
City Clerk

Date Approved: 09/18/14