SPECIAL MEETING/WORKSHOP OF CITY COUNCIL
JUNE 26, 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.
Council Member Clarence C. Smalls
Mayor Pro Tempore Peggy P. Wayne

ALSO PRESENT
Mr. Chris Carter, City Administrator
Ms. Ann U. Mercer, City Clerk
Mrs. Debra Bivens, Finance Director
Assistant Chief Charlie Cribb, Georgetown Fire Department
Chief Paul Gardner, Georgetown Police Department
Mr. Jonathan Heald, Public Services Director
Mr. Alan Loveless, Electric Utility Manager
Mr. Rick Martin, Building Official/Zoning Administrator
Mr. Tee Miller, Economic Development Director

MEDIA
Georgetown Times - Ms. Taylor Griffith
WGTN/WLMC - Mr. Rod Stalvey

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. UPDATE ON REGULATION OF ABANDONED BOATS IN THE SAMPIT RIVER BYPASS - CHIEF PAUL GARDNER

Police Chief Paul Gardner noted in August 2013 the City received DNR authority, under our own ordinance, to enforce abandoned vessels and take some action in our own maritime enforcement field from the Kaminski House to the new boat landing (East Bay Park). First addressed were the illegally moored boats on Goat Island. The

majority was cleared; however, they located to the opposite side of the Island where the City has no authority. The ordinance states: *abandon or abandoned describes any nuisance watercraft that has been anchored, moored, stranded, wrecked, sinking or sunk, or that is no longer functional for its primary purpose, or has been left unattended for longer than forty-five (45) days. A watercraft is not abandoned if it is legally moored or is legally and permissively on private property*. After it is determined to be abandoned for 45 days the City has a right to take action. A survey conducted in April 2014 showed one houseboat, one fishing boat and 27 sailboats. GPS coordinates were conducted to determine, at a later date, if the boat had been moved or attended. Law enforcement was in the waterway day and night contacting and educating the public about anchor lights, which are required. Four boats had United States Coast Guard approved lights, nine boats had dim or not approved lights and sixteen boats had no lights. *No vessel shall be anchored within the Corps of Engineers established channel.* Chief Gardner's staff has worked with the City's GIS department to secure accurate GPS readings on vessels anchored in the channel. Chief Gardner outlined the enforcement plan. Identify any boats within the established channel and notify the owner that the vessel must be moved; place a notice to seize placard on every boat that still holds the same position at the time of the April survey; notify all boat owners with improper lighting that they have until July 7th to come into compliance; after July 7th obtain courtesy summons for owners of any boats without proper anchor lighting and/or moored within the channel; begin seizure notification. If a vessel is not removed by the owner within sixty days of the day the placard is posted, the City may then affect seizure. The Police Department had been using a boat given by the United States Marine Corp Air Station in Beaufort; however there was a setback when the boat just about sank. Presently the Fire Department's boat is being used; however, they would prefer to trade in the old boat and purchase a used one.

4. KYZER AND TIMMERMAN REPORT

Motion to adjourn the Special Meeting/Workshop and enter Executive Session to discuss pending litigation and receive legal advice

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

RESULT:	**APPROVED [6 TO 0]**
MOVER:	Brendon M. Barber Sr., Council Member
SECONDER:	Clarence C. Smalls, Council Member
AYES:	Scoville Jr., Barber Sr., Jayroe, Kimbrough, Smalls, Wayne
AWAY:	Rudolph A. Bradley

The Special Meeting/Workshop was adjourned at 4:11 PM.

Council Member Bradley arrived at 4:23 PM.

Motion to adjourn Executive Session and reopen the Special Meeting/Workshop

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

Executive Session was adjourned and the Special Meeting/Workshop was reopened at 6:00 PM.

Mayor Scoville announced no business was conducted in Executive Session.

5. REFURBISH DAY DOCKS

Motion to approve bid from Seven Seas not to exceed $114,000 for refurbishment of two day-docks

Council Member Bradley moved, seconded by Council Member Barber.

Mr. Jonathan Heald said the City operates two transient boater day-docks which are in need of repair. Before leaving the City, Ms. Cindi Howard secured a $71,000 Boating Infrastructure Grant to help offset the cost of the repairs. Initially the City advertized this project and received one bid that was above the project estimate. In order to expedite, the City requested quotes. Of the three quotes received one was deemed unresponsive for refusing to submit the requested unit price sheet. After reviewing the two remaining quotes and interviewing the apparent low quote, Mr. Heald's recommendation is to award the project to Seven Seas and replace the decking with Ipe, matching the Harborwalk. One day-dock is located at the foot of Screven Street and the other is at the foot of Broad Street. He is not aware of any problems with the Ipe on the Harborwalk. It is more expensive but lasts much longer than the Southern Yellow Pine and does not burn easily.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

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

6. COUNCIL REVIEW OF AMENDED PROPOSAL FROM LS3P FOR REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE 700 BLOCK OF FRONT STREET

Mr. Carter said at the request of City Council, LS3P has narrowed the scope of their proposal for the redevelopment plan of the 700 block of Front Street. The project will include two phases, a discovery phase and a conceptual design phase with a cost of $75,000. He said there were no willing participants interested in helping fund the plan. Council Member Bradley does not think the City should procure LS3P because

it is private property and the private property owners don't want to help foot the bill. It is not the City's responsibility to hire a designer for private property owners. They can hire their own architect, bring their design to the City and if staff needs assistance then we can hire someone. He will not support any money being spent to hire LS3P. Council Member Smalls agreed with Mr. Bradley. Mayor Scoville said if the property owners are not willing to participate, we shouldn't be doing it. Council Member Jayroe said she thought when Mrs. (Vida) Miller was hired by the City her job was to procure the necessary steps needed for the property owners to be able to build back. She understood the intent was for the City to assist the private property owners with a way to 'marriage' private property with public property and help secure funds from governmental agencies. Mayor Scoville said that was the point of hiring LS3P. He added that because of the confusion and rumors after the fire, the City needed one contact person and Mrs. Miller was hired as a facilitator to keep people informed. Her job was not to seek funding. Meetings were held with the property owners who asked for guidance and help in moving forward. The idea was to bring this group in, meet with the property owners, work out an arrangement for a joint foundation which would save the owners a lot of money, help with funding sources, etc. The original proposal was pared down to $75,000 and the City thought this is what the property owners wanted. The Mayor said he does not feel there is any point in going forward unless they change their minds. Council Member Smalls said if the property owners need help with engineering and staff is not equipped in-house to assist, then we probably should consider the proposal. Council Member Kimbrough agreed with Mr. Smalls and said the prudent thing to do is pursue an engineering study that would give the City an idea on what it will take to build back so we can issue the proper permits. Council Member Barber said Mrs. Miller was hired to be the go-to person to bring the property owners together to decide if they wanted to build back jointly or pursue other avenues. He said he learned from Mrs. Miller the Governor had promised funding to be used to help the property owners. Mr. Barber spoke with the engineering department at Clemson University and learned that their interns, along with assistance from the professors, work with communities which could help lower the costs. He does not think the City should move forward if the property owners do not want to participate. Mayor Scoville thought the money the Governor spoke of was a Municipal Infrastructure Grant. It would not be given to the private property owners. Discussion continued. Property owner Dwayne Christian spoke out and disagreed, saying the property owners conveyed they would like to be involved if they are going to be spending money. They want to have some involvement with LS3P and make a decision in the process. Mayor Scoville said that was part of the whole process. In the beginning they were going to meet with the property owners. Council Member Bradley addressed Mr. Christian (for the record) and said "My disagreement is that's your property, not the City's. My other comment was, since it's your property, standard procedure is when you're building something, you come with your architectural design to our staff who will determine if it should be approved. I'm saying since it's your property you should hire one architect to do what you want to do with it and not the City." Mr. Christian attempted to speak out and Mayor Scoville announced he was out of order. Mr. Christian asked how the property owners can consult with an architect when

they do not know what the City wants to do with the sidewalks. Mayor Scoville reiterated the very first item the proposal stated was to sit down with the property owners and find out what y'all wanted to do, how you were going to pay for it…things of that nature. So then we could move forward with a collaborative effort. This was designed with the property owners being involved. Mr. Christian interjected: there's a hole in your Front Street, we own four properties there, and it can sit there until the cows come home. There's no incentive for us to build…put that on the record. Mayor Scoville said a copy of the new proposal will be given to the owners to review.

7. DISCUSS DECORATIVE LIGHTING IN DOWNTOWN AREA - TEE MILLER

Mr. Tee Miller said this issue was discussed at a Georgetown Partnership meeting. After the meeting, a proposed amendment to the Code was suggested which would allow tree lights to encroach for noncommercial purposes. The City would have the discretion to develop guidelines for exercising this privileged encroachment to maintain uniformity for a district and to uphold the intent of the ordinance. The lights will not be maintained by the City. When asked, Mr. Rick Martin said he wants to ensure the lights are uniformed and that Mayor and Council are aware electricity would be provided 24/7 at no charge. The outlets are at the base of the tree. He is concerned with life safety issues: that proper lighting is used. Mr. Alan Loveless said he is more comfortable with the lights around the tree trunks and not in the trees. Mr. Miller said the merchants will bear the cost of purchasing the lights and provide the manpower. Discussions followed. Mayor Scoville asked for further comments or questions. There were none.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn City Council Special Meeting/Workshop

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

The Special Meeting/Workshop of City Council was adjourned at 6:31 PM.

Ann U. Mercer
City Clerk

Date Approved: 08/21/14