



**SPECIAL MEETING/WORKSHOP OF CITY COUNCIL
MAY 30, 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
Mrs. Elise Crosby, City Attorney
Ms. Ann U. Mercer, City Clerk
Mrs. Debra Bivens, Finance Director
Chief Paul Gardner, Georgetown Police Department
Mr. Alan Loveless, Electric Utility Manager
Mr. Rick Martin, Building Official/Zoning Administrator
Mr. Tee Miller, Economic Development Director
Chief Joey Tanner, Georgetown Fire Department

MEDIA

Georgetown Times - Ms. Eileen Keithly
WGTV/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. REVIEW OF ANTICIPATED REVENUES AND PROPOSED EXPENDITURES FOR THE FY 2014/2015 BUDGET

Council Members had expressed an interest in hearing from the individual departments. Prior to further review of the proposed 2014/2015 budget, Department Heads answered City Council's questions concerning their budget requests.

Council Member Bradley said he agreed to the purchase of the former Eagle Electric property to create an industrial park to generate revenues and create jobs. He said there will be no revenues if a fire department and electric department are located on the property. While the electric department has a problem with equipment storage, he stated the fire department in Maryville can be rebuilt. We are giving up an opportunity for prime real estate to generate income and serve as a good service to the public. Mr. Bradley said he cannot in clear conscious support funding the fire department being built on the former Eagle Electric property.

Motion not to include funding for the new Maryville Fire Station.

Council Member Bradley moved, seconded by Council Member Smalls.

Mayor Scoville asked for discussion. Mayor Pro Tempore Wayne said the existing Fire Station in Maryville is not sufficient. She said the property was purchased for the Electric Department to use for storage and with the intention of locating the Fire Department there. Council Member Bradley asked the record to reflect when the property was bid, he was the only one to give a reason why to buy it, and it was for jobs. At that time, he said there was no emphasis or reference made to the Fire Department or Electric Department; it came later. Mayor Scoville stated his recollection was we looked at a piece of property near the water tank in Maryville and talked with Mr. Ron Charlton about a piece of property he had available. We had been looking for a site for a new fire station for a long time and this property came up. He recalled that was one of the things we considered. Mayor Scoville acknowledged that Mr. Bradley has been consistent from day one about the property. He said Council has repeatedly determined to move forward with the Eagle Electric site to eventually move Public Works...the Electric Department where everything will be centralized. We will have a Fire Station that will be manned 24/7 providing additional security for the other City facilities located on the property. Hopefully there will be enough space left that we can sell it for commercial and industrial use. Council Member Jayroe said she has visited the Fire Department in Maryville and cited the location being in the middle of a residential area, mold issues and no climate control area for the fire trucks. She is in favor of a new facility. Mr. Kimbrough agreed the Fire Station does not need to be located in a residential neighborhood. Council Member Barber said he was against the purchase of the property. There was an issue with departments not being able to respond in a timely manner if roads and bridges were down. He stated for the record, when it was discussed the primary purpose of the land was for an industrial park. Mayor Scoville stated for the record, his recollection was entirely different. Mayor Scoville asked for further comments or questions. Council Member Bradley said he did not recall any presentation to Council concerning the use of the property, how it would be allocated and how much will remain when it is completed. We have an opportunity to add revenues to the City, perhaps alleviate the amount of money being assessed to the general public and create jobs for our youth who are our future. Council Member Barber said there was a conceptual plan. According to the first phase of the first plan there was supposed to be allocation for industrial

(business) acreage on the front part of the site. The wetlands delineation eliminated the land on the front that was set aside to develop and create jobs. Mr. Carter said URS presented a second conceptual site plan on September 26, 2013 which included the addition of the Electric Department and Public Services. Mayor Pro Tempore Wayne said we have to have property to develop in order to create jobs in the future. The pole yard was relocated to the Old Eagle Electric property which allowed a splash park to be installed at Ben Cooper Park. Also the new water tank is being constructed on the property. Georgetown will continue to grow and we need property for our equipment and for businesses.

Mayor Scoville called for the question. After further discussion, Mr. Bradley withdrew the motion with the understanding that *we will compromise to see how we could utilize the property for public services and for the purpose of revenue.*

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to adjourn Special Meeting/Workshop and enter Executive Session to discuss personnel matters and contractual relations involving Economic Development.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

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

The Special Meeting/Workshop was adjourned at 4:41 PM.

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

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Clarence C. Smalls, 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 5:10 PM.

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

5. BUDGET ORDINANCE

Mr. Carter asked for any additional issues that Council would like to discuss before first reading of the budget is considered. Council Member Kimbrough said the health care issue has to be discussed. Three separate options were prepared for consideration: the City absorbing the 24% increase, the City paying 18% and the employee paying 6%, and employees absorbing the 24% increase. Examples were

given of the net effect on employees' pay. It has been three to four years since employees had an increase in their premiums. The total cost of \$372,397 is budgeted, which includes continuing with the present Plan. Council Member Jayroe said she has never seen a decrease in the cost of health insurance and is concerned what the increase may be next year. Council Member Barber said the City has experienced some higher than usual claims which caused the increase in premiums. Council Member Smalls said there was no mention of a cost of living raise in the budget. Mr. Carter said there will be a ½ % increase for the employee contribution to the SC Retirement System effective July 1, 2014. This was discussed at the first budget meeting and he included a ½ % salary increase to offset this cost to employees. Also, about 68 employees will be brought up to the minimum of their salary range adopted by Council last October, effective July 1st. Mr. Kimbrough said he could not vote on a budget if the employees did not share on some level, with the increase. Council Member Barber said the savings we have experienced annually after the City changed to Blue Cross Blue Shield is back in the budget along with savings in the workers comp premiums...these line items offset the other. He said an employee earning \$21,000 a year and trying to maintain health insurance premiums and a family is a hardship. Sometimes effective leadership has to think about the human part of employment instead of just the financial. Substantial cuts were made throughout the City. By not implementing the Class and Comp Plan for all employees until July 1st, we saved a significant amount of money. Mr. Barber stated since he has been on Council we have been asking the employees to work hard and for years they have not received a dime as far as a raise. Council Member Jayroe stated since the last meeting she has received over 25 calls from residents concerning the health insurance. The City paid a company to research and recommend an insurance company that would save the City and the taxpayers money. She said she will not vote on a budget without the employees paying the increase. Also, she recommended starting at the top to determine how to trim the cost and suggested City Council set an example by paying their health insurance premium or at least drop or pay for dependent coverage. Mrs. Jayroe said this is a lot of money being paid for City Council Members and she is happy to pay for her health insurance with the City. Mr. Bradley said it is sad we are going to put a dollar above a human being. Council Member Wayne said all the employees she has spoken with prefer the Blue Cross Blue Shield Plan. She agreed with Mr. Bradley that employees are not in the top salary range. Mayor Scoville pointed out in the last several years our employees have done a great job. He no longer receives the complaints he did at one time. After lengthy discussions Mayor Scoville stated the budget includes \$372,397. He said now is the time if anyone wants to amend.

Motion to amend the budget to delete \$372,397 (as an expense to the City) and have the employees bear the cost increase of the health insurance. (Option 3)

Council Member Jayroe moved, seconded by Council Member Kimbrough.

Mayor Scoville asked for discussion. Mayor Scoville called for the question.

RESULT:	FAILED [2 TO 5]
MOVER:	Carol Jayroe, Council Member
SECONDER:	Edward S Kimbrough, Council Member
AYES:	Jayroe, Kimbrough
NAYS:	Barber Sr., Bradley, Scoville, Jr., Smalls, Wayne

Motion for City Council Members to pay for their dependents' health insurance coverage.

Council Member Jayroe moved, seconded by Council Member Kimbrough.

Mayor Scoville asked for discussion. Mayor Scoville called for the question.

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

A. Motion to Approve an Ordinance to Adopt a Budget and Raise Revenue for the City of Georgetown, South Carolina for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2015.

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

Mayor Scoville asked for discussion. Mayor Scoville called for the question.

RESULT:	APPROVED [5 TO 2]	Next: 6/19/2014 5:30 PM
MOVER:	Peggy P. Wayne, Mayor Pro Tempore	
SECONDER:	Brendon M. Barber Sr., Council Member	
AYES:	Scoville Jr., Barber Sr., Bradley, Smalls, Wayne	
NAYS:	Jayroe, Kimbrough	

Mayor Scoville asked for any further business. In reference to an unpaid vendor on the Rainey Park project, Mr. Carter asked for approval to pay Ram Jack in the amount of \$17,300. Mayor Scoville asked for any objections; there were none.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Special Meeting/Workshop of City Council

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

RESULT: **APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**

MOVER: Carol R. Jayroe, Council Member

SECONDER: Brendon M. Barber Sr., Council Member

AYES: Scoville Jr., Barber Sr., Bradley, Jayroe, Kimbrough, Smalls, Wayne

The Special Meeting/Workshop was adjourned at 5:34 PM.

Ann U. Mercer
City Clerk

Date Approved: 08/21/14