



**SPECIAL MEETING/WORKSHOP OF CITY COUNCIL
MAY 10, 2016 – 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.
Mayor Pro Tempore Brendon M. Barber, Sr.
Council Member Sheldon A. Butts
Council Member Carol R. Jayroe
Council Member Al Joseph
Council Member Edward S. Kimbrough, Jr.
Council Member Clarence C. Smalls

ALSO PRESENT

Mr. Chris Carter, City Administrator
Ms. Ann U. Mercer, City Clerk
Miss Suzanne Abed-El-Latif, HR Manager
Mr. Orlando Arteaga, Engineer
Mrs. Debra Bivens, Director of Finance
Mr. Will Cook, Water Utilities Director
Chief Charlie Cribb, Georgetown Fire Department
Mr. Glen Dixon, Fleet Superintendent
Chief Paul Gardner, Georgetown Police Department
Mr. Sammy Green, Interim Streets and Sanitation Manager
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

MEDIA

Georgetown Times - Mr. Max Hrenda

2. ANNOUNCEMENT CONCERNING ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Mayor Jack M. Scoville, Jr. called the Special Meeting/Workshop 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. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to adjourn Special Meeting and enter Executive Session pursuant to Section 30-4-70 (a) (5) Discussion of matters relating to the proposed location, expansion, or the provision of services encouraging location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the public body, specifically the Georgetown Steel Mill Site.

Mayor Scoville moved, seconded by Council Member Kimbrough.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jack M. Scoville Jr., Mayor
SECONDER:	Edward S Kimbrough, Council Member
AYES:	Scoville Jr., Barber Sr., Butts, Jayroe, Joseph, Kimbrough, Smalls

The Special Meeting/Workshop was adjourned at 4:00 PM.

Motion to adjourn Executive Session and reconvene Special Meeting.

Mayor Scoville moved, seconded by Council Member Joseph.

Mayor Scoville called for the question.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jack M. Scoville Jr., Mayor
SECONDER:	Al Joseph, Council Member
AYES:	Scoville Jr., Barber Sr., Butts, Jayroe, Joseph, Kimbrough, Smalls

Executive Session was adjourned and the Special Meeting/Workshop was reconvened at 4:27 PM.

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

4. REVIEW OF ANTICIPATED REVENUES AND PROPOSED EXPENDITURES FOR FY 2016/2017 BUDGET.

Mr. Chris Carter recognized Mr. Sammy Green. Mr. Sterling Geathers resigned earlier this month and Mr. Green has been named the interim Streets and Sanitation Manager. Mr. Carter announced the Planning Commission meeting will be held Tuesday, May 24. Possible changes to the R5 district will be discussed.

Mr. Carter provided updated handouts and recapped discussions from the April 28 meeting which resulted in the following: examine the requested positions, consider a lease purchase for the ladder truck rather than capital outlay, add \$20,000 to ATAX/HTAX for Sea Grant Consortium for abandoned derelict boat removal, add commitment to Winyah Auditorium for \$35,000 for three years, remove request for police boat and add \$10,000 for the control of Phragmites. By removing the new fire truck and police boat the amount of funds used in the Capital Projects Fund will drop from 44% to 17%. With the cost of the fire truck and the interest rate, \$90,000

per annum will have to be added for debt service over a period of 10 years, or \$168,000 per annum for 5 years. Mr. Carter told Council they have the option to reduce expenditures in the General Fund to provide for the debt service for 5 or 10 years, or have a debt service levy for the term of the loan. This would be set out separately on the tax bill. Mrs. Debra Bivens said by financing \$800,000, property taxes on a \$150,000 home would increase by \$32.16 a year for a five-year period; for 10 years it would increase \$17.16 annually. If \$200,000 is used from the Capital Projects Fund and \$600,000 is financed, the tax increase for a five-year period would be \$24 annually and for 10 years it would increase \$12.90 annually. After extended discussions, the consensus was to move forward with a proposed ten year tax levy for a lease purchase price of \$800,000. A required public hearing will be held to receive citizen input prior to second reading of the budget.

At the request of Council staff prepared a cost estimate for funding the requested but not recommended new positions. Mr. Carter referred Council to the updated handout addressing estimated costs to fund three firefighters, one animal control officer, a risk manager, a vehicle mechanic I and one sanitation worker. The budgetary impact to the General Fund would be \$264,680 and \$28,891 to the Waste Management Fund. In order to fund these positions, cuts would be required. Mrs. Bivens prepared a graph of the General Fund fund balance analysis for the next five years. Funding the six additional positions in the General Fund and moving vehicles back into the operating budget from the Capital Projects Fund (as Mr. Carter suggested in a previous workshop), there will be \$264,947 at the beginning of 2020. This will not be enough to fund that year's budget and have a zero fund balance. Council Member Kimbrough stated for the record, at this point and time he supports no additional positions other than the engineering technician and line technician in the Electric Department. The consensus among Council was to leave these two positions in the Electric Department's budget. The remaining positions requested in Waste Management and General Fund were not approved. Council Member Kimbrough stated for the record he was not in favor of the risk manager position.

Mr. Carter stated there are not major increases in the utility funds. The Storm Water Fund runs breakeven on operating costs. When we took over the depreciation expense on the storm water drainage pond the depreciation expenses rose to approximately \$415,000 a year. The revenue is approximately \$500,000. Without depreciation, expenses are \$470,000. The upcoming Phase I drainage project has estimated costs of \$1.5 million. We have a \$1 million CDBG grant; the unmet portion is about \$527,000. The Phase II Project, Congdon to Palm Streets, is estimated to cost \$293,000. The Rural Infrastructure Grant is \$160,000. He said we have \$670,000 in local costs for both phases. If we are going to perform construction for storm water projects, much like Oakley Street and Phase I and II of the Highmarket-Duke-Congdon Streets project, fees and rates will need to be re-examined.

Mayor Scoville asked about support for the \$15,000 request for the Veterans Memorial. Council Members Jayroe, Joseph and Kimbrough were in favor.

Mayor Scoville, Mayor Pro Tempore Barber and Council Members Butts and Smalls were against.

Mr. Carter said salary adjustments could not be discussed until decisions are made concerning the requested new positions. This budget item will be addressed at the May 26 workshop.

Council Member Butts asked for clarity on 'other operating expenses.' Mrs. Bivens stated the larger expenses are credit card charges allocated to each department. Bank charges and credit card fees are assessed monthly by the bank. This is also a catch-all for miscellaneous expenses that do not fit in another category. Mrs. Bivens referred to the budget workbook and pointed out there is an explanation for all 'other operating expenses' for each department.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The Special Meeting/Workshop adjourned at 5:25 PM.

Ann U. Mercer
City Clerk

Date Approved: 06/16/16