



**SPECIAL MEETING/WORKSHOP OF CITY COUNCIL  
MAY 5, 2015 – 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 Rudolph A. Bradley  
Council Member Carol R. Jayroe  
Council Member Edward S. Kimbrough, Jr.  
Council Member Clarence C. Smalls  
Mayor Pro Tempore Peggy Wayne

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Council Member Brendon M. Barber, Sr.

**ALSO PRESENT**

Mr. Chris Carter, City Administrator  
Ms. Ann U. Mercer, City Clerk  
Mrs. Debra Bivens, Director of Finance  
Mr. Glen Dixon, Fleet Superintendent  
Mr. Jonathan Heald, City Engineer  
Mr. Alan Loveless, Director of Electric Utilities  
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 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.

Mayor Scoville announced the second payment of \$35,000 from Santee Cooper has been received for the Kaminski House improvements.

**3. REVIEW OF ANTICIPATED REVENUES AND PROPOSED EXPENDITURES FOR THE FY 2015/2016 BUDGET.**

As a follow-up from the April 23, 2015 meeting Mr. Chris Carter noted 1) a

personnel plan was discussed and agreed upon that would, by Resolution, adopt medical insurance reimbursement, wage compression and longevity pay. 2) Additional money was included in stormwater management to install inlets into areas on the west side of Highway 17 that seemed to inadequately drain. 3) Funds were appropriated for \$15,000 for the Veterans memorial. 4) A request was made to review the General Fund to come up with enough costs to abate the need for use of fund balance. An additional \$174,000 was eliminated. A list of additional deductions was provided. A fund balance appropriation of \$453,960 remains. 5) It was requested that representatives from the Winyah Auditorium be present to discuss their request for an appropriation, not currently included in the budget for \$35,000 for their work next year.

Dr. Jerry Crosby addressed Council concerning the Winyah Auditorium. When the new Board was formed in September 2014 there were minimal funds, a delinquent tax notice for \$10,000, no office and minimal records. The Auditorium had been non-functional for almost a year and the Board had resigned five months before. The new Board's goal was to stabilize the finances and raise the awareness in the Georgetown community. To raise awareness they planned to produce a schedule of events and the results were satisfying. A listing of accomplishments the Board has achieved include: 1) paid delinquent tax bill; 2) established an office complete with computers, working spaces, corporate records and a constant point of contact; 3) re-curtained the Auditorium; 4) repaired the projector; 5) replaced the stage lights; 6) repaired sound cables; 7) trained/oriented additional sound technicians; 8) overhauled both main AC units; 9) held First Annual Winyah Music Festival; 10) established Facebook page; 11) twitter account and 12) website. The website lists upcoming events, handles on line contributions and online ticket sales. The estimate for attendance at all events through June 2015 is over 7,000. Surveys suggest that as many as 54% of attendees purchased a meal before, during or after an event which projects an impressive financial impact in the Georgetown area. Dr. Crosby reviewed the 2014/2015 budget to date noting over \$17,000 of in kind donations have been received. In November the Board applied to the South Carolina Department of Revenue for exemption of property taxes, the exemption was received and they are relieved from that expense going forward. The Board is being reorganized and expanded and plans are being formulated for next year which include promotions, branding and fund raising. They expect the summer to be slightly slower which will allow them and consultants to develop a Strategic Plan. The Winyah Auditorium Board is requesting \$35,000. Council Member Bradley commented that a cultural entity, as such, could not be totally free of government support. He does not have a problem approving their request. Mr. Carter said this would come from the Hospitality Tax budget. For the record Council Member Kimbrough commended the Winyah Auditorium Board for "turning this around so quickly." He said the events are multicultural and cover all aspects of our society. The consensus of Council was to include \$35,000 in the proposed budget.

Mayor Pro Tempore Wayne asked if special events are an expense to the City. Mr. Carter said most permitted events pay for sanitation and police services. He

referred to a list of events (in the budget) which the City waives fees.

Discussions followed concerning expenses to be deleted from the proposed General Fund budget. Overtime and personnel were reviewed. Council Member Bradley cautioned Council and staff not to be too quick. He asked if the overtime per year is equivalent to a salary, how many years does that overtime occur. We could hurt ourselves by hiring someone and still lose. Budget deliberations continued. Mayor Scoville pointed out during the County's reassessment, the total assessed value of the County property was reduced. The School District and County Council raised their millage rates equating to a net zero difference. City Council decided not to raise the millage which decreased revenues by \$500,000 to \$600,000. This is now catching up with us. The Mayor would like to explore a one-time millage increase to pay for big ticket items. He asked staff to look into this option before the next meeting. Council Member Smalls was against removing \$20,360 from the Housing and Community Development budget for the KGB Coordinator to move from part time to full time. Repairs to City Hall and Fire Station 1 are included in the budget. Staff is still waiting to hear from Kyler and Timmerman with a final cost on both buildings. Fire Station 2 is not budgeted. Council Member Bradley asked for an Executive Session to discuss personnel at the May Council Meeting.

**4. ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Scoville adjourned the Special Meeting/Workshop at 4:57 PM.

Ann U. Mercer  
City Clerk

Date Approved: 07/23/15