PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 19, 2020 – 5:30 PM
TELECONFERENCE

LIVESTREAM:
https://www.facebook.com/cityofgtown/

1. CALL TO ORDER

Notice of this meeting has been made in accordance with the South Carolina Code of Laws as amended.

MEMBERS PRESENT
Mayor Brendon M. Barber, Sr.
Council Member Tupelo Humes
Council Member Carol R. Jayroe
Council Member Al Joseph
Council Member Hobson H. Milton
Council Member Clarence C. Smalls

MEMBERS ABSENT
Mayor Pro Tempore Rudolph A. Bradley

ALSO PRESENT
Dr. Sandra E. Yúdice, City Administrator
Mrs. Elise Crosby, City Attorney
Ms. Stephanie Buccione, City Clerk
Mr. Orlando Arteaga, Engineer
Mrs. Debra Bivens, Interim Director of Finance
Mr. Tim Chatman, Streets and Sanitation Manager
Chief Charlie Cribb, Georgetown Fire Department
Mr. Will Gunter, Water Utilities Director
Mrs. Gladys Rutledge-Livingston, Human Resources/Risk Manager
Mr. Alan Loveless, Director of Electric Utilities
Ms. Angela Rambeau, Director of Planning and Community Development
Deputy Chief William Pierce, Georgetown Police Department
Mr. Isaac Williams, Fleet Superintendent

2. ANNOUNCEMENT CONCERNING ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Mayor Brendon M. Barber, Sr. called the Regular Meeting of City Council to order at 5:30pm and requested all cell phones or electronic devices be turned off or placed on mute, with the exception of first responders, so as to not interrupt the meeting.

3. ROLL CALL

4. INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Jayroe rendered the invocation. Council Member Humes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. PUBLIC HEARING

A. THE PURPOSE OF THE HEARING WILL BE TO RECEIVE CITIZENS INPUT CONCERNING AN AMENDMENT TO AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT A BUDGET AND RAISE REVENUE FOR THE CITY OF GEORGETOWN, SC FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2021 DUE TO NEWLY ESTABLISHED ASSESSED VALUES FOR PROPERTY TAXATION BASED UPON REASSESSMENT AND THE ROLLBACK OPERATING MILLAGE OF 103.3 MILLS FOR THE CITY OF GEORGETOWN, SC.

Mayor Barber opened the Public Hearing portion of the meeting and announced no one submitted any input. The Public Hearing portion was closed.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Barber opened the Public Comments portion of the meeting and announced no one submitted any comments. The Public Comments portion was closed.

7. INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

Mrs. Bivens introduced Ms. Katelyn Howard for the Finance Department. Major Pierce introduced Mr. Austin "AJ" Martin for the Police Department.

8. PRESENTATION

A. PRESENTATION OF THE COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT (CAFR) FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020 BY THE AUDIT FIRM OF GREENE FINNEY LLP.

Ms. Emily Sobczak from Greene Finney, LLP presented the 2020 financial audit. Ms. Sobczak said it is the City's responsibility to maintain effective internal controls. She said regular risk assessment is very important along with assessing the risk of fraud. Ms. Sobczak stated it is also the City's responsibility to fully complete financial statements with accuracy. She said their responsibility is to give an unmodified opinion and reasonable assurance that the financial states are materially correct. Ms. Sobczak reviewed the financial audit of the General Fund. She stated the total Fund balance increased from $8.1M to $9.2M as of June 30, 2020. She pointed out that a non-spendable Fund balance of $64,000 for prepaid expenses and inventory, a committed Fund balance of $1.1M for disaster recovery, and an assigned Fund balance of $3.5M for a new City Hall is included in the General Fund. Ms. Sobczak stated $4.5M is unassigned in the Fund balance, which is 48% of budgeted 2021 expenditures. Ms. Sobczak listed the important reasons to maintain an adequate Fund balance. She stated the General Fund revenues increased $971,000 (13%) from 2019 and did $750,000 (9%) better than budgeted. She said the General Fund expenditures increased $431,000 (5%) from 2019. Ms. Sobczak reviewed the Enterprise Funds and compared last year's numbers to each fund. Ms. Sobcazk

pointed out the Stormwater Fund has not been generating sufficient revenues for several years. Ms. Sobczak said she strongly encourages the City to increase their Stormwater fees in a quickly manner because it cannot support itself. She said if the City does not increase the fees, the General Fund will have to continue to support the Stormwater Fund and that is not in the best interest of the City. Ms. Sobczak said the City would not be a great candidate for a grant or long term finance if the Stormwater Fund cannot support itself. Ms. Sobczak said the total Capital assets increased $411,000 (1%) from 2019. She stated the total long-term obligations decreased $669,000 from last year. Ms. Sobczak said the changes in accounting principles that were to occur this year have been postponed until next year due to the pandemic. She said these changes are in reporting and would not affect day to day operations. Ms. Sobczak recognized Mrs. Bivens and her team for their dedication and accuracy during the audit.

9. PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

A. Motion to approve a contract with Waccamaw Regional Council of Governments for the update to the City of Georgetown Comprehensive Plan

Council Member Smalls moved, seconded by Council Member Joseph. Ms. Rambeau stated the state requires a Comprehensive Plan to be updated every ten years.

Mayor Barber called for the vote.

RESULT:	**APPROVED [5 TO 0]**
MOVER:	Clarence C. Smalls, Council Member
SECONDER:	Al Joseph, Council Member
AYES:	Barber Sr., Jayroe, Joseph, Humes, Smalls
ABSENT:	Bradley
AWAY:	Milton

B. Motion to approve first reading of an ordinance amending the City of Georgetown Zoning Ordinance Article XV, Section 1500, Establishment of Board of Zoning Appeals

Council Member Joseph moved, seconded by Council Member Smalls.

Mayor Barber called for the vote.

RESULT:	**APPROVED [5 TO 0] Next: 12/17/2020 5:30 PM**
MOVER:	Al Joseph, Council Member
SECONDER:	Clarence C. Smalls, Council Member
AYES:	Barber Sr., Jayroe, Joseph, Humes, Smalls
ABSENT:	Bradley
AWAY:	Milton

10. FINANCE

A. Motion to approve Second Reading to Amend an Ordinance to Adopt a Budget and Raise Revenue for the City of Georgetown for the FY Ending June 30, 2021 due to Newly Established Assessed Values for Property Taxation based upon Reassessment and Rollback for the City of Georgetown, South Carolina.

Council Member Joseph moved, seconded by Council Member Smalls.

Mayor Barber called for the vote.

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [5 TO 0]**
MOVER:	Al Joseph, Council Member
SECONDER:	Clarence C. Smalls, Council Member
AYES:	Barber Sr., Jayroe, Joseph, Humes, Smalls
ABSENT:	Bradley
AWAY:	Milton

B. Motion to approve first reading of FY2021 Budget Amendments.

Council Member Smalls moved, seconded by Council Member Humes.

Mayor Barber called for the vote.

RESULT:	**APPROVED [5 TO 0] Next: 12/17/2020 5:30 PM**
MOVER:	Clarence C. Smalls, Council Member
SECONDER:	Tupelo Humes, Council Member
AYES:	Barber Sr., Jayroe, Joseph, Humes, Smalls
ABSENT:	Bradley
AWAY:	Milton

11. POLICE

A. Motion to approve service and payment to Saint Frances Animal Center in the amount of $75,000 for fiscal year 2020 - 2021.

Council Member Joseph moved, seconded by Council Member Smalls.

Mayor Barber called for the vote.

RESULT:	**APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Al Joseph, Council Member
SECONDER:	Clarence C. Smalls, Council Member
AYES:	Barber Sr., Jayroe, Joseph, Humes, Milton, Smalls
ABSENT:	Bradley

12. ELECTRIC UTILITIES

A. Motion to Approve Assignment of Southern Coastal Cable Pole Attachment Agreement to Horry Telephone Cooperative (HTC).

Council Member Milton moved, seconded by Council Member Smalls.

Mayor Barber called for the vote.

RESULT:	**APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Hobson H. Milton, Council Member
SECONDER:	Clarence C. Smalls, Council Member
AYES:	Barber Sr., Jayroe, Joseph, Humes, Milton, Smalls
ABSENT:	Bradley

13. CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Dr. Yúdice stated Phase II of the Inner Harbor Study started on August 15, 2020. She said the focus has been to maintain the sensor network in and around the harbor to improve the numerical model. She stated students from Coastal Carolina University are working on this project. Georgetown County issued an RFP for the engineering services and they are scheduling a meeting with Dr. Till Hanebuth from Coastal Carolina and the engineers. Dr. Yúdice stated the Nature Conservancy requested the City's support for its "Large Scale Natural Defense for Shoreline Protection and Habitat Creation in Georgetown, South Carolina" project last spring. She said they identified the shoreline of East Bay and Morgan Park as a project site after conducting an in-depth analysis to build their first large scale living shoreline project to address erosion. She said the City was informed yesterday that the Nature Conservancy received a private foundation grant for $1M. She said there are no funding requirements from the City. Dr. Yúdice said the City has launched a strategic planning survey and has received 144 online responses as of today. She said the survey will be included in utility bills for residents who do not have internet access. She stated the survey will close on December 15th. Dr. Yúdice stated staff has been working diligently on promoting the City as a tourist destination. She said the City was featured in the eScapes newsletter from the South Carolina Parks, Recreation, and Tourism in October. She said there are 71,789 subscribers to the newsletter. Dr. Yúdice said an approval was made to include the City in the 2021 Discover SC Guide, in the December 2020 Charleston magazine, and in the winter issue of the Western North Carolina magazine. She stated the City has maintained and updated the discovergeorgetownsc.com website and a billboard on Highway 17 south in Myrtle Beach. She said the City has fulfilled requests for Discover Georgetown and African-American Heritage tour brochures from Fort Mills and Little River Welcome Centers. She said starting in January we will have an intern from Coastal Carolina to further assist with these efforts.

14. MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes of October 15, 22, and 29, 2020 Council Meetings.

Council Member Joseph moved, seconded by Council Member Humes.

Mayor Barber called for the vote.

RESULT:	**APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Al Joseph, Council Member
SECONDER:	Tupelo Humes, Council Member
AYES:	Barber Sr., Jayroe, Joseph, Humes, Milton, Smalls
ABSENT:	Bradley

15. OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business.

16. NEW BUSINESS

Council Member Jayroe asked if Morgan Park could be reopened. Mayor Barber said he would discuss with Chief Waites and make a decision tomorrow.

17. DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORTS

Mayor Barber announced the department monthly reports are included in the agenda for Council's review.

A. October 2020 Electric Utility Department Report
B. Engineering Monthly Report_October 2020
C. October 2020 Fire Report
D. October 2020 Fleet service Report
E. GPD October 2020 Monthly Report
F. Human Resource/Risk Management Monthly Report
G. October 2020 Municipal Court Report
H. October 2020 Planning & Community Development Report
I. October 2020 Public Works Department Report
J. October 2020 Water Utilities Report
K. October 2020 Finance and IT Report

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to adjourn Regular Meeting and enter into Executive Session pursuant to South Carolina Code Section 30-4-70(a)(1)(2) to provide an update on the Finance Director search; to discuss proposed sale or purchase of public property; and to discuss appointment/reappointments for the Architectural Review Board.

Council Member Joseph moved, seconded by Council Member Smalls.

Mayor Barber called for the vote.

RESULT:	**APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Al Joseph, Council Member
SECONDER:	Clarence C. Smalls, Council Member
AYES:	Barber Sr., Jayroe, Joseph, Humes, Milton, Smalls
ABSENT:	Bradley

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm.

Motion to adjourn Executive Session and reconvene Regular Meeting.

Council Member Milton moved, seconded by Council Member Humes.

Mayor Barber called for the vote.

RESULT:	**APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Hobson H. Milton, Council Member
SECONDER:	Tupelo Humes, Council Member
AYES:	Barber Sr., Jayroe, Joseph, Humes, Milton, Smalls
ABSENT:	Bradley

Executive Session adjourned and Regular Meeting reconvened at 6:50pm.

NO FORMAL ACTION WAS TAKEN IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

City Council may take action on items discussed in Executive Session.

19. APPOINTMENTS

Motion to reappoint Mrs. Kristina McManus, Mr. Lee Padgett, and Mr. Kevin Jayroe to the Architectural Review Board.

Council Member Milton moved, seconded by Council Member Joseph.

Mayor Barber called for the vote.

RESULT:	**APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Hobson H. Milton, Council Member
SECONDER:	Al Joseph, Council Member
AYES:	Barber Sr., Jayroe, Joseph, Humes, Milton, Smalls
ABSENT:	Bradley

20. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting of City Council.

Council Member Milton moved, seconded by Council Member Humes.

Mayor Barber called for the vote.

RESULT:	**APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Hobson H. Milton, Council Member
SECONDER:	Tupelo Humes, Council Member
AYES:	Barber Sr., Jayroe, Joseph, Humes, Milton, Smalls
ABSENT:	Bradley

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 6:53pm.

Stephanie Buccione
City Clerk

Date Approved: 12/17/20