CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
229 MAIN STREET, CONWAY, SC
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2019 – 5:30 PM

PRESENT: Mayor Blain-Bellamy, William Goldfinch, Mayor Pro Tem, and Council Members Tom Anderson, Jean Timbes, and Larry White ABSENT: Shane Hubbard (illness)

STAFF: Adam Emrick, City Administrator; Dale Long, Police Chief; Reggie Jenerette, Solid Waste Director; Ashley Smith, Recreation Director; Timmy Williams, Director of Parks and Ground Maintenance; Braxton Fleming, Public Works Superintendent; Lynn Smith, Human Resources Director; Le Hendrick, Fire Chief; James Friday, Public Utilities Director; Kent Bitting, Public Utilities Superintendent; Mary Catherine Hyman, Deputy Administrator/Planning & Development Director; John Rogers, Deputy Administrator/Grants & Special Projects Director; Kevin Chestnut, Public Works Director; David Crotts, Assistant Finance Director; Jessica Hucks, Planner; Taylor Newell, Public Information Officer; and Barbara Tessier, City Clerk

OTHERS: Alex Hyman, Barb Eisenhardt, Ben Burroughs, Kathy Ropp

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Blain-Bellamy called the meeting to order. Rev. Jamie Collins of Jamestown Baptist Church gave the invocation and City Council and those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

The requirements for posting notice of this meeting under South Carolina’s Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) were met.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion: White made a motion, seconded by Timbes, to approve the November 4, 2019 meeting agenda. Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Final Reading of Ordinance #2019-11-4 (A) to revise Title 3, Chapter 1, Article D, Section 3-1-36 of the City of Conway Code of Ordinance relative to the special event permit application process.

B. Final Reading of Ordinance #2019-11-4 (B) an amendment to the City of Conway Code of Ordinance 9-3-3 Obscenity generally; communication to women and children

C. Final Reading of Ordinance #ZA2019-11-04 (C) An Ordinance to annex approximately 0.49 acres of property located at Langston Heights, Lot 45 on Sellers Road (TMS 123-12-01-002 | PIN 339-06-03-0028) and request to rezone from Horry County Residential (SF40) to City of Conway Low/Medium Density Residential District (R-1)
D. Acceptance of bid for the purchase of a compact excavator (budgeted)

E. Approval of engineer for Marina Pump Station project

F. Request from Teague Hopkins to certify property at 317 Main Street (TMS# 137-02-02-023 / PIN 36701010023) eligible for special tax assessment under the Preservation Tax Incentive Program

G. Minutes of City Council meeting –October 21, 2019

Motion: White made a motion, seconded by Timbes, to approve the Consent Agenda. Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT: There was no public input. Motion: Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to close Public Input. Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

A. Special Event Request - Under the Lights 5k. A. Smith informed Council that this event would take place during the Celebration of Lights on Wednesday, December 11 from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Staff anticipates approximately 150 participants. The race will also serve as advertisement for the Celebration of Lights. The Recreation Department has requested street closures during the event and assistance with traffic control. Standby medical assistance is also requested.

The race route will be closed for one hour (from 6-7 p.m.) for the runners to compete; however, local traffic will be allowed to utilize the streets when there is adequate spacing between race participants so that safety will not be jeopardized. Walkers, etc., will use the sidewalks and obey normal traffic regulations along the route. Standby medical assistance will be provided by on-duty Fire Department personnel.

B. Employee Longevity Awards – Bess Harry – Building Department – 10 years; James Friday – Public Utilities - 5 years

FIRST READING:

A. First reading of Ordinance #ZA2019-11-18 (A) An Ordinance to annex approximately 0.56 acres of property located at Langston Heights, Lot 26 on Sellers Road (TMS 123-12-01-020 | PIN 339-06-03-0003) and request to rezone from Horry County Residential (SF40) to City of Conway Low/Medium Density Residential District (R-1). Hyman informed Council that this request is being made to allow a single family residence to tie into City services. Staff recommends approval of the first reading. Motion: White made a motion, seconded by Timbes, to approve first reading of Ordinance #ZA2019-11-18 (A). Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.
B. First reading of Ordinance #ZA2019-11-18 (B) An Ordinance to annex approximately 0.46 acres of property located at 895 Highway 905 (TMS 123-16-01-061 | PIN 339-12-01-0003) and request to rezone from Horry County Residential (SF20) to City of Conway Low/Medium Density Residential District (R-1). Hyman advised Council that this request is being made to allow a single family residence to tie into City services. Staff recommends approval of the first reading. **Motion:** Blain-Bellamy made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to approve first reading of Ordinance #ZA2019-11-18 (B). **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

C. First reading of Ordinance #ZA2019-11-18 (C) An Ordinance to annex approximately 0.45 acres of property located at 107 Erskine Drive (TMS 151-21-02-002 | PIN 382-13-04-0005) and request to rezone from Horry County Residential (SF10) to City of Conway Low/Medium Density Residential District (R-1). Hyman informed Council that this request is being made to allow a single family residence to tie into City services. Hyman indicated that there were some concerns about this being the only house in the City on this street and issues that may arise from a public safety standpoint as to who would respond to calls for assistance. **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by White, to deny the annexation into the City of 107 Erskine Drive, Ordinance #ZA2019-11-18 (C). **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

**ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**Consideration of Lakeside Cemetery decorative brick wall.** T. Williams informed Council that the Lakeside Cemetery Committee wished to remove the shrubbery at the entrance of the cemetery and replace it with a brick wall. This would provide long-term beautification and decrease the amount of maintenance required by staff. An RFP was sent out for the masonry wall and gate improvements. Only two bids were received. The low bid from Daniel Stalvey was $140,906.54.

The City also requested quotes for a boundary survey for the cemetery. Three bids were received. K&R Land Services submitted the low bid at $1,500.00. The funds from the City of Conway maintenance account will pay for the surveyor.

The monument sign depicted on the map will go through the City's procurement process at a later date and will be reviewed and approved by the Planning Department to assure it meets City specifications prior to installation.

The Lakeside Cemetery Committee will be seeking donations to help fund the project. The committee has agreed to use the Bryan’s Lakeside Improvement funds to assist in the funding as well.

Staff asks for approval of the Lakeside Cemetery decorative brick wall. **Motion:** Anderson made a motion, seconded by Timbes, to approve the request as presented. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.
RESOLUTION

Request for reconfiguration of a portion of an existing access easement located at the corner of Mill Pond Road and Highway 501 Church Street (PIN 33810010002 / TMS# 123-00-01-009). Hyman informed Council that Benton Rentals, LLC has submitted development plans and an access easement survey for the parcel located on the corner of Mill Pond Road and Highway 501 Church Street. There is an existing City of Conway access easement to the pump station. Due to utility conflicts, the developer is proposing to move the existing driveway, which will align with the driveway across Highway 501 per the SCDOT. This requires the approval of the reconfiguration of the access easement by City Council. Motion: Anderson made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch, to approve the request to reconfigure a portion of an existing access easement located at the corner of Mill Pond Road and Highway 501 Church Street. Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:

- FEMA and SCEMD have given approval to proceed with all 28 of the alternates. Twelve still need approval from SHPO, but the City can proceed up to the point of closing with the anticipation that they will be approved. There are still three properties remaining from the original approved.
- Riverfront Playground construction has begun. There should be no problem meeting the December opening unless the remainder of November is subject to inclement weather.
- Proposals for a stormwater infrastructure project near Trinity Church will be reviewed this week. This is grant-funded from the Nature Conservancy. Clemson has expressed an interest in working with the City on this project as well.
- The RFQ Statements of Qualification for the Kingston lot have been received, but they have not been reviewed at this time.
- The Main Street Bridge is fully open. The light poles are back up, but without globes, and they are not yet lit. It will take approximately 3-4 weeks to install the conduit that provides the power. Staff is working toward the wreaths being on by Christmas.
- There is a Land Use Committee meeting scheduled for November 14th.
- The Governor’s Task Force on Flooding is holding a community cleanup day this Friday, November 8th at the Conway Marina. Registration is at 8:30 a.m. and the event begins at 8. City Staff will participate.
- Staff will have a workday to help with the installation for the Celebration of Lights on Monday, November 11th.
- The Tree Lighting is scheduled for Thursday, December 5th at 7:30 p.m. There will be a better sound system and visibility as well as a few new tricks.
- The City of Conway election for mayor and three City Council seats is tomorrow, November 5th.
- There is a home game at Coastal on Thursday, November 7th at 7:30. It will be nationally televised on ESPNU. A late request for fireworks is currently being reviewed.
COUNCIL INPUT:

Anderson asked Emrick if staff could be given the authorization to approve fireworks without Council voting. Emrick replied that it was a repetitive event and he could sign off on it, but that he would be in touch with each Council member before doing so.

Anderson then praised the girls’ tennis team for their 2019 season and commented that they would be the State champions of the future. He urged Council to look into the Dream Center in Greenville and the work they are doing.

Timbes urged people to vote in the election.

White mentioned the City of Florence permitting tiny houses for homeless people and suggested the City consider tiny houses. Attended the Coastal Carolina Realtors Picnic and spoke with Council member Baldwin from North Myrtle Beach about the river flooding. Baldwin has sent him information from North Carolina and some South Carolina legislators that he would like to share with other City Council members.

Blain-Bellamy spoke of the Floodwater Commission and the clean-up on Friday. She encouraged Conway citizens to participate in the clean-up if they could. She encouraged everyone to get out and vote for the candidates of their choice at the election tomorrow because every single vote is important.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion: White made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch to adjourn the meeting. Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes approved by City Council this 18th day of November, 2019.

Barbara A. Tessier, City Clerk