PRESENT: Mayor Barbara Blain-Bellamy; Council Members Thomas Anderson II, William M. Goldfinch IV, Ashley Smith, Jean M. Timbes, and Larry A. White; and Council Member-Elect Shane Hubbard

STAFF: Adam Emrick, City Administrator; Vicky LeFler, Deputy City Administrator; Kevin Chestnut, Public Works Director; Robert Cooper, Building Official; James Friday, Public Utilities Director; Le Hendrick, Fire Chief; Mary Catherine Hyman, Planning Director; Reggie Jenerette, Solid Waste Director; Lynn Smith, Human Resources Director; Allison Williams, Finance Director; Timmy Williams, Grounds and Maintenance Director; Police Department and Debbie F. Smith, City Clerk

OTHERS: Charlton A. Butler, Hillary Howard, Kathy Ropp and others

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

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Blain-Bellamy called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Blain-Bellamy recognized Rev. William Miller of Bethel AME Church who gave the invocation. City Council and those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS OF OFFICE: Oaths of office were administered during the swearing-in ceremonies for Council Members elected/re-elected in the November 2017 election.

A. Council Member William M. Goldfinch IV was sworn into office by Municipal Judge Andy Hendrick. He was accompanied by his wife, Sally, and children, Mack and Sam.

B. Council Member Shane Hubbard was sworn into office by Municipal Judge Andy Hendrick. He was accompanied by his wife, Becky.

C. Council Member Jean M. Timbes was sworn into office by her son, Attorney Michael Timbes. She was accompanied by her grandchildren, Walker and Sawyer.

BRIEF RECESS AND RECEPTION: The meeting briefly recessed for a reception in honor of Council Members Goldfinch, Hubbard and Timbes. The meeting reconvened at approximately 6:05 pm.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion: Anderson made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch, to approve the agenda as presented. Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

A. Final reading of Ordinance #ZA2018-01-02 (A) An Ordinance to annex three parcels of property totaling approximately 113 acres located on Highway 501 and Four Mile Road (TMS #109-00-
B. Final reading of Ordinance #ZA2018-01-02 (B) An Ordinance to rezone two parcels of property totaling approximately 0.37 acres located at the corner of 10th Avenue and Burroughs Street (TMS #137-01-24-001 | PIN 33814020057 & TMS #137-01-24-002 | PIN 33814020058) from Low Density Residential (R-1) to Professional (P) 

C. Final reading of Ordinance #ZA2018-01-02 (C) Amending Article 2 and Article 5 of the Unified Development Ordinance to allow book exchange boxes as an accessory structure in front and side yards 

D. Purchase of backup pump for Crabtree Sewer Lift Station for Public Utilities Department 

E. Acceptance of bid for replacing water meters in the downtown area 

F. Adoption of resolution honoring Randle L. Alford for his service on City Council, 2014-2017. 

G. Special event request: Laurel Street community yard sale – Saturday, April 21, 2018 – Hillary Howard, Conway Downtown Alive 

H. City Council meeting minutes – November 20, 2017, and December 4, 2017 

Motion: Timbes made a motion, seconded by Smith, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried. 

ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO TEM FOR 2018: Motion: Anderson made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch, to elect Council Member Larry White as Mayor Pro Tem for 2018. Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried. 

PUBLIC INPUT: Charlton Butler spoke in opposition to the rezoning of the property at the corner of 10th Avenue and Burroughs Street which had been approved under the consent agenda. 

Motion: Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by White, to close public input. Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried. 

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS: Employee Longevity Bonus Award was presented to Vicky Leifler, Deputy City Administrator, 10 years. Gavin Rowe, Public Works Department, 5 years, was recognized but was unable to attend the meeting. The presentation was made by the City Administrator. 

PUBLIC HEARING AND ORDINANCE FOR FIRST READING: Public hearing and first reading of Ordinance #ZA2018-01-16 (A) An Ordinance to annex four parcels of property totaling approximately 9.3 acres located on Highway 544 and Edwards Lane (TMS #150-00-06-154 | PIN 38205010009; TMS #150-00-06-084 | PIN 38205010008; TMS #150-00-06-100 | PIN 38205010007; TMS #150-00-06-114 | PIN 38205010006) and to rezone the property from Horry County Single-Family Residential (SF20) to City of Conway Institutional (IN). This request is being made to allow for development of multi-family student housing on the subject property and was discussed during the workshop at the last Council meeting. The City of Conway Comprehensive Plan identifies TMS #150-00-06-154 | PIN 38205010009 as Highway Commercial, and the remaining parcels as Low Density Residential on the Future Land Use Map. The Planning Commission has recommended approval of the request. Staff recommended first reading approval. Public Hearing: There was no input from the public.
Motion: White made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to close the public hearing. Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.  Motion: Anderson made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch, to approve first reading of Ordinance #ZA2018-01-16 (A). Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING:

A. Ordinance #ZA2018-01-16 (B) accepting the petition of Rodolfo S. Moreno to annex approximately .9 of an acre of property located at 364 Bethel Drive (TMS #122-07-01-018 / PIN 33703020041) and to rezone the property to Low Density Residential (R-1) upon annexation. This request is being made to allow the residential structure on the property to tie onto the City’s water service. The City of Conway Comprehensive Plan identifies the parcel as Low Density Residential. Staff recommended first reading approval.  Motion: Anderson made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch, to approve first reading of Ordinance #ZA2018-01-16 (B). Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

B. Ordinance #ZA2018-01-16 (C) accepting the petition of C & R Builders LLC of SC to annex approximately 7.4 acres of property located on Sellers Road (TMS #123-12-01-022 / PIN 33906020004; TMS #123-12-01-009 / PIN 33906030002; TMS #123-12-01-031 / PIN 33906030033; TMS #123-12-01-041 / PIN 33906030008; TMS #123-12-01-021 / PIN 33906030002; TMS #123-12-01-013 / PIN 33906030015; TMS #123-12-01-035 / PIN 33906030016; TMS #123-12-01-039 / PIN 33906030006; TMS #123-12-01-042 / PIN 33906030009; TMS #123-12-01-043 / PIN 33906030007; TMS #123-12-01-005 / PIN 33906030018; TMS #123-12-01-004 / PIN 33906030026; TMS #123-12-01-030 / PIN 33906030034) and to rezone the property to Low Density Residential (R-1) upon annexation. This request is being made to allow 14 residential structures to tie onto the City’s water service. The City of Conway Comprehensive Plan identifies the parcels as Low Density Residential. Staff recommended first reading approval.  Motion: Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Timbes, to approve first reading of Ordinance #ZA2016-01-16 (C). Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

A. Acceptance of bid for the engineering of a six-inch water main in Langston Heights Subdivision. During the October 2, 2017 meeting, Council approved a budget amendment of $90,000 to extend this water line in order to add a fire protection water line to the back of the Langston Heights Subdivision. The following bids were received: Mead Hunt - $26,335; Castles - $14,250; Wall - $9,500; and MBD - $2,250. Staff recommended acceptance of the low bid.  Motion: Timbes made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to accept the low bid in the amount of $2,250 which was submitted by MBD. Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

B. Acceptance of bid for painting in certain areas of the Public Safety Facility.  Motion: White made a motion, seconded by Smith, to defer this item until budget discussions as requested by the City Administrator. Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

C. Revised proposed 2018 schedule for City Council meetings. The proposed schedule has been revised to reflect two meetings every month as requested by Council at its last meeting.  Motion: Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by Anderson, to approve the revised schedule as presented. Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

D. Presentation of recent Supreme Court Order and its requirements of the City by Judge Andy Hendrick. Municipal Judge Andy Hendrick gave a brief summary of two recent rulings by the State Supreme Court: (1) Indigent defendants in municipal court who face charges that carry the possibility of imprisonment must be informed of their right to court-appointed defense counsel before trial. Funds
for representation of indigents must be provided by the municipal court and state funds cannot be used for this purpose. Without being appointed or waiving Counsel, an indigent defendant cannot be sentenced to jail time if convicted; judges may only impose a reasonable fine with consideration given to the defendant’s ability to pay. (2) Bench warrants cannot be issued for non-payment of fines. Noting the extra expense that may result from these rulings, Hendrick asked Council to consider how it would likely to proceed on these issues.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:

- Update on 2nd annual Celebration of Lights – Total revenue was down approximately 15% from 2016 (vehicles - $43,609 Concessions - $3,694 Total - $47,303). Emrick thanked all of the employees who assisted in the light show, particular David Williams, June Wood, and James Hucks.
- Interviews for the Public Information Officer position will begin this week.
- Interviews for the Parks, Recreation and Tourism Director will begin within the next two weeks.
- City Hall will be closed on Wednesday, January 3rd, due to expected inclement weather.
- Horry County is requiring all municipalities to use the same software as the county for evidence from police department cameras (dash and body worn) that is shared with the solicitor’s office. The cost of this software can be absorbed by the current budget. Emrick also advised Council that the existing body worn cameras are not of good quality and discussions should be held at the budget retreat on their replacement.
- Budget Retreat will be held March 8-10, 2018, in Pinopolis.
- A budget workshop will be held on Thursday, January 18th, beginning at 3:30 p.m. at 5th & Main.
- Announced that any person seeking shelter during the winter weather may go to the lobby of the City’s Public Safety Building and assistance will be given to help them find appropriate shelter.

COUNCIL INPUT:

Mayor Blain-Bellamy and City Council welcomed newly elected Council Member Shane Hubbard and congratulated Council Members Timbes and Goldfinch on their re-election to City Council.

Smith requested that City Council discuss the Conway Youth Play program, particularly the fees and times offered at the Recreation Center, at its next meeting.

Anderson thanked staff for their assistance with the 2017 Celebration of Lights.

Timbes:
- Thanked staff for their assistance in installing Christmas decorations throughout the City.
- Requested that City Council send a note of congratulations to Brian Edwards, Conway High School graduate and University of South Carolina football player, on being named MVP of the Outback Bowl game.

White requested use of the City’s public address system during the upcoming Martin Luther King Jr. celebration.

Hubbard thanked Council and staff for the welcome he has received on his election to Council.

Blain-Bellamy:
- Reiterated Council Member Smith’s request for discussing the Conway Youth Play program.
- Thanked staff for treating residents and visitors with fairness and kindness.

Mayor Blain-Bellamy and Council Member Timbes requested that the recreation vehicle parking ordinance be enforced as written and not only on a complaint-driven basis.
WORKSHOP: Discussion on possible franchise agreements for mobile food trucks on public property and a proposed UDO amendment and pilot program for mobile food trucks on private property. Hyman requested that this item be deferred to the January 16, 2018 meeting, due to the absence of mobile vending truck owners Drew Basilicato and Laura Fauvreau. **Motion:** White made a motion, seconded by Timbes, to defer this item until a later meeting. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried. Anderson requested that all restaurant owners within the City be notified that this topic will be discussed at the January 16th meeting and be sent a copy of the proposed amendment. He also requested that this information be posted on the City’s website and access channel.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** **Motion:** Goldfinch made a motion, seconded by White, to enter into executive session to consider appointments to boards, commissions and committees and to discuss the employment for the position of Police Chief. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

**RECONVENE FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION:** **Motion:** Smith made a motion, seconded by Goldfinch, to come out of executive session. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

**ACTION ON MATTERS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**Consideration of appointments to boards, commissions and committees [pursuant to SC Code §30-4-70(a)(1)]:** **Motion:** White made a motion, seconded by Timbes, to approve the following appointments as discussed in executive session. **Vote:** Unanimous. Motion carried.

Community Appearance Board: Reappointed Heather A. Whitley and appointed Troy Roehm to four-year terms ending December 31, 2021.

Construction Board of Appeals: Appointed Anna Seville Barnhill and John Gaddy to three-year terms ending December 31, 2020.

Lakeside Cemetery Committee: Reappointed Vivian Chestnut, Robin Sasser, Deborah Vrooman, Ben Burroughs and appointed Mandy Pate to three-year terms ending December 31, 2020.

Planning Commission: Reappointed Chris Sansbury and appointed Alex Hyman to three-year terms ending December 31, 2020.


Rose Hill Memorial Gardens Committee: Reappointed Patricia Gaither-King and Yolanda Robinson-Myers to three-year terms ending December 31, 2020.


Water Quality & Drainage Commission: Appointed Angela Marie-Even to a three-year term ending December 31, 2019.

Zoning Board of Appeals: Appointed Charles Byrd and George Ulrich to three-year terms ending December 31, 2020.
Motion: Goldfinch made a motion, seconded Hubbard, to approve a 12% salary increase for Police Captain Tammy Carter as compensation for added responsibilities until such time as a Chief of Police is employed. Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes approved by City Council this 16th day of January, 2018.

Debbie F. Smith, City Clerk