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

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; Captain Tammy Carter, Police Department and Debbie F. Smith, City Clerk

OTHERS: Kathy Ropp and other media representatives

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.

The following is Council input on discussion items for the FY 2018-2019 budget and future budgets:

Smith:
- Discuss the staff’s proposal for the Conway Youth Play program.
- Construction of an ADA playground.
- City Council should sponsor a Highway 378 litter clean-up.
- Increase police officers’ salaries.
- Build a bridge over the water from one peninsula to the other at Riverfront Park.
- Erect a large “Welcome” sign over the Main Street Bridge.
- Re-pave driveway at Fire Station #2.

Goldfinch:
- Establish policy for responding to employee life events (ex: deaths, births, retirements, etc.)
- Discuss direction for annexations in the future.
- Create a plan for maintenance and upkeep of the Recreation Center
- Hire Medicaid recipients
- Establish policy for cell phone communications between Council members.
- Initiate discussions with Coastal Carolina University representatives regarding coverage by CCU officers of areas adjacent to CCU (student housing complexes, etc.).
- Encouraged Council and staff to be conservative in budget decisions.

Anderson:
- The City should lead the concept of an ADA playground and allow the community an opportunity to get financially involved.
- Build a Community Life Center.
• The Mayor, City Administrator and several City Council members should meet monthly with CCU President DeCenzo to discuss needs of the City that CCU students could assist in meeting.
• Take a tour of the city to view issues.
• Consider welcome signs in the shape of City Hall with the year of incorporation.
• Order lapel pins shaped like an oak tree to give away.

Timbes:
• Facilitate the clean-up of Lake Busbee.
• Purchase the building beside City Hall
• Suggested the Community Life Center be housed in the former Whittemore School building should the property be donated to the City.
• Work on a TIF plan for the riverfront area.
• Revisit the current annexation policy for both residential and commercial properties.
• Increase landscape budget and staff.
• Add attractive lighting and/or shade sails to Riverfront Park.
• Implement ideas previously discussed for Highway 378.
• Create a committee to establish policy for responding to employee life events.
• Purchase voting machines.
• Work on Council communications – website, access channels, city cell phones.
• Consider an offer from The Theater of Republic to stage a summer production in Riverfront Park which could employ local youth.
• Discuss a way for the City to market Conway (magnets, T-shirts, coasters, etc.) in a single location and during festivals.

White:
• Allow children to trade in-kind work on “Community Clean-up” days for free play at the Recreation Center.
• No “spot” annexations.
• Upgrade additional street lighting where needed.
• Place a “Suggestion Box” in each city department.
• Landscaping on Highway 501 needs attention.
• Address the potholes and dead weeds near/on the bridge on Highway 501.

Hubbard:
• Replace the missing shingles on the annex building.
• Maintain and afford the current parks before constructing new ones.

Blain-Bellamy:
• Promote private and corporate sponsorships to employ local youth at minimum wage for approximately 25 hours a week, 6 weeks a year.
• Develop a Youth Council.
• Offer free concerts of local talent at Riverfront Park.
• Revisit employee salary scales.
• Make Highway 378 corridor a source of pride for Conway.
• Schedule a Town Hall meeting with property owners on Highway 378 to get ideas.
• Work on plans for a new Town Hall.
• Invite interns from Horry Georgetown Technical College, Coastal Carolina University, and Miller-Motte for each department.
• Provide training on the role of the Public Information Officer for City Council and Department Heads.
• Department heads to name one person in their departments to continuously survey building and grounds maintenance needs.
• Purchase voting machines.
• Look into displaying colored scenes of downtown on billboards on thoroughfares.

Staff had on display for Council’s review the Inovo Think pad as a possible replacement of the iPads Council is currently using.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes approved by City Council this ______ day of ________, 2018.

Debbie F. Smith, City Clerk