



MINUTES

FORMAL MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL

Monday, December 14, 2020 - 5:30 p.m.

Greenville City Hall - Closed to the Public
Virtual Meeting Viewing: <https://www.greenvillesc.gov/meeting>

Remote Viewing Location:
Greenville Convention Center, 1 Exposition Drive

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Knox H. White

2. **INVOCATION** (Suspended)

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** (Suspended)

4. **ROLL CALL**

The following members of City Council were in attendance: Mayor Knox White, John DeWorken, Lillian Flemming, Ken Gibson, Wil Brasington, Russell Stall, and Dorothy Dowe

5. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

November 23, 2020; Approved as submitted

6. **COMMUNICATIONS / ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

- a. 25th Anniversary – Recognition of Mayor Knox White

Mayor Pro Tem Lillian Flemming recognized Mayor White for his 25 years of service as Mayor with the city of Greenville and introduced a video prepared by City staff honoring his 25th anniversary. Councilmembers individually thanked Mayor White for his service and commented on the opportunity of working with him.

7. **CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

Tonjalyn Cokley, 14 Ladson Street, spoke on behalf of Southernside Block Partnership regarding property at 846 W. Washington Street and referring to an agreement with the City involving the demolition of the structure and transfer of the property to Southernside following the demolition. Ms. Cokley stated the demolition occurred on November 14, 2019, and the transfer has not taken place. Ms. Cokley petitioned Council for the property transfer.

Rev. J.M Flemming, 398 Oscar Street, spoke on behalf of Southernside Block Partnership referring to a letter from the City on August 14, 2018, which stated after the demolition of the property at 846 W. Washington Street, the site would be turned over to Southernside. Rev. Flemming stated the Partnership's intent is to use the property for low income housing. Rev. Flemming requested a formal meeting to discuss the issue privately. Mayor White thanked Rev. Flemming for the request and suggested addressing the matter the first of next year.

Lorain Crawl, 135 Edinburgh Court, Chief Executive Officer of United Housing Connections and Upstate Continuum Care, shared how her organization has received funding to build Church Street Place at Poe Mill. Ms. Crawl stated the South Carolina Housing Authority has approved a \$3.8 million project and, with other funding, the total amount raised is \$6.28 million. Ms. Crawl commented on work being done to address veterans' homelessness and families residing in hotels as well providing rental and utilities assistance to persons facing issues due to the COVID crisis. Mrs. Crawl recognized the following individuals to provide testimonies of the assistance received.

Brooks Allen, 17 Elmwood Avenue, a Veteran, spoke on the Fellow Countrymen organization and how it has helped him after returning home from deployment.

Edwin Edwards, 17 Elmwood Avenue, a Veteran, spoke of how Fellow Countrymen has provided him a home, helped him with his struggles, and treated him with respect.

Richard Brazell, 17 Lane Avenue, thanked SHARE for providing him a place to live after he and his two daughters had been homeless. Mr. Brazell stated there is a lack of programs for single fathers and their children.

8. PRESENTATION

a. COVID-19 Update

Dr. Marcus Blackstone with Bon Secours provided an update on the current COVID-19 conditions in the City and surrounding area. Mayor White stated the information provides a wake-up call for more that should be done across the County and the State.

Councilmember Stall stated from what he has seen, 80% percent of the cases are located outside of the City and in the County. Councilmember Stall asked if there are any plans to encourage the County and other municipalities to be bolder with their mask mandates. Dr. Blackstone responded there are plans to have another conversation with the County, and he encouraged City Council to provide support and pressure on the County with putting a mask ordinance in place.

9. PUBLIC HEARING

None

10. APPOINTMENTS – Boards and Commissions

a. Public Safety Citizen Review Board

Councilmember Stall recommended Horace Butler and Angela Rodriguez-Sawyer each to a full four-year term each ending December 31, 2024. There being no further nominations, Mr. Butler and Ms. Rodriguez-Sawyer were appointed by unanimous consent.

b. Board of Zoning Appeals

Councilmember Gibson recommended Freddie Turner, Stephanie Gates and Christopher Price to a full three-year term each ending December 31, 2023. There

being no further nominations, Mr. Turner, Ms. Gates, and Mr. Price were appointed by unanimous consent.

- c. Firefighter's Pension Fund Board of Trustees
Councilmember Flemming recommended Brian Barker to a full four-year term ending December 31, 2024. There being no further nominations, Mr. Barker was appointed by unanimous consent.
- d. Greenville Health Authority Board of Trustees
Mayor White stated the Greenville County Legislative Delegation has selected Fred Carpenter (At-Large) for reappointment to the Greenville Health Authority Board of Directors. As a resident of the city of Greenville and in accordance with Act 102 of 2015, the Legislative Delegation is requesting concurrence from City Council. There being no further nominations, the motion was approved.

CONSENT AGENDA

There will be no discussion of Consent Agenda items unless a Council member so requests in which event the item in question will be considered separately.

Councilmember Brasington moved, seconded by Councilmember Gibson, to approve second and final reading of agenda items 11a, 11b, 11c, and 11d of the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – (Ordinances – Second and Final Reading)

- a. Ordinance approving amendments to the City of Greenville Firefighters' Pension Fund Plan
(Presented by Fire Chief Stephen Kovalcik)
- b. Ordinance to rezone approximately 0.34 acre of real property located on Ridge Road from R-9, Single-family residential district, to S-1, Service district (Parcel 1A) and approximately 0.26 acre from S-1, Service district, to R-9, Single-family residential district (Parcel 1B) (Tax Map Numbers M012020100109 and M012040300406)(Z-7-2020)
(Presented by Planning and Development Services Director Jay Graham)
- c. Ordinance to appropriate \$27,229 in the Miscellaneous Grants Fund for the FY2020 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance (JAG) Program
(Presented by Captain Greg Smith)
- d. Ordinance to enter into a Development Agreement between the city of Greenville and Flournoy Development, Inc. for infrastructure improvements at the intersection of Woods Crossing Road and Congaree Road and to appropriate \$258,289 for the project
(Presented by Real Estate Development Manager Mary Douglas Hirsch)

12. NEW BUSINESS – (Ordinance – First Reading)

None

13. NEW BUSINESS – (Resolutions – First and Final Reading)

None

REGULAR AGENDA

14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – (Ordinances – Second and Final Reading)

None

15. NEW BUSINESS – (Ordinances – First Reading)

- a. Ordinance to rezone approximately 0.07 acre located on North Vance Street from R-6, Single-family residential district, to RM-1, Single-family and Multifamily residential district (Tax Map Number 0123000100101) (Z-12-2020)
(Presented by Planning and Development Services Director Jay Graham)

Councilmember Stall moved, seconded by Councilmember Brasington, to approve first reading.

Councilmember Dowe asked about the owner's intentions for the property. Planning and Development Services Director Jay Graham responded no plans have been submitted, however, it is his understanding the owner may put three homes on the site. Mr. Graham stated the owner had initially requested other adjacent properties to be rezoned, but the request was denied. Councilmember Dowe asked if there would be a buffer between a home further down the street and this property, and Mr. Graham responded he believes there will be.

After discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

- b. Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Article III, Division 6 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Greenville as it relates to the Public Safety Citizen Review Board
(Presented by City Attorney Mike Pitts)

Councilmember Dowe moved, seconded by Councilmember DeWorken, to approve first reading.

Councilmember Dowe then moved, seconded by Councilmember Gibson, to amend the Ordinance by striking the reference requiring a majority vote of the Public Safety Citizen Review Board, Section 2-313(e).

The motion to amend the Ordinance carried unanimously.

After discussion, the motion, as amended, carried unanimously.

- c. Ordinance to appropriate \$10,000 in the Miscellaneous Grants Fund for the Energy Office Competitive Demonstration Projects Mini-Grants Program
(Presented by Business and Projects Manager Megan Young)

Councilmember Flemming moved, seconded by Councilmember Gibson, to approve first reading. The motion carried unanimously.

- d. Ordinance to approve a License Agreement between the city of Greenville and B-Cycle, LLC and to rescind certain prior actions concerning operation of the B-Cycle Stations
(Presented by Mobility Coordinator Calin Owens)

Councilmember Dowe moved, seconded by Councilmember DeWorken, to approve first reading.

Mobility Coordinator Calin Owens presented an overview of the B-Cycle Stations and stated the bikes are pedal assist bikes and not throttle based. Councilmember Dowe asked if the City receives any revenue from it, and Mr. Owens responded the stations will be operating as a private business. Mr. Owens state the ordinance provides B-Cycle with the opportunity to house and operate the stations within the City's right of way. Councilmember Dowe questioned liability, and City Attorney Mike Pitts responded he feels confident with his staff's review of the agreement.

Councilmember DeWorken asked if the agreement could result in scooters in the downtown area. Mr. Pitts responded the City has an Ordinance prohibiting scooters in downtown.

After discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

- e. Ordinance to approve a real estate contract between the city of Greenville and CAP Railroad, LLC for the acquisition of land consisting of approximately 0.72 acre of property located between Field Street and Main Street and to appropriate \$1,750,000 from the Parking Fund for said acquisition and related parking lot improvements (Tax Map Number 0088000101300)
(Presented by City Manager John McDonough and Assistant City Manager Shannon Lavrin)

Councilmember Brasington moved, seconded by Councilmember DeWorken, to approve first reading.

City Manager John McDonough stated this Ordinance is in support of Council's priority to locate additional parking in the West End. Mr. McDonough also stated the \$1,750,000 represents a purchase price of \$1.6 million with an additional \$150,000 to make improvements to the property. Assistant City Manager Shannon Lavrin explained the location of the property and the plans for the parking lot.

After discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

- f. Ordinance to enter into a Development Agreement between the city of Greenville and West End Stadium, LLC for the design and construction of public improvements on Field Street adjacent to Fluor Field and to appropriate \$2,550,000 for the Project and to approve a Third Amendment to the Stadium Development Lease Agreement
(Presented by Real Estate Development Manager Mary Douglas Hirsch)

With no opposition from Council, Mayor White postponed this item for further review.

16. NEW BUSINESS – (Resolution – First and Final Reading)

- a. Resolution to approve a Fire Services Agreement with Parker Sewer and Fire Subdistrict
(Presented by Fire Chief Stephen Kovalcik)

Councilmember Brasington moved, seconded by Councilmember Gibson, to approve first and final reading.

Chief Kovalcik stated the agreement is a continuation of a service agreement the City has had with Parker Sewer and Fire Subdistrict for the past 10 years. Mr. Pitts stated the current agreement expires on December 31, 2020. Mr. Pitts advised that Parker requested an automatic renewal of the agreement, but the City chose to consider a new one-year agreement due to the current issues between sewer special purpose districts and Greenville County.

After discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

- b. Resolution to authorize acceptance of the transfer of County-owned property located along the Reedy River between South Hudson Street and the Eastern right-of-way for the Norfolk and Southern Railroad
(Presented by Engineering Services Manager Dwayne Cooper)

Councilmember Brasington moved, seconded by Councilmember DeWorken, to approve first and final reading.

Engineering Services Manager Dwayne Cooper stated the property is being given to the City as part of the Unity Park project and it will be the location of bank restoration work on the Reedy River.

After discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

- c. Resolution to approve a structural air rights encroachment permit for Avant Greenville, LLC to allow balconies to encroach on the City's sidewalk at 702 S. Main Street (Tax Map Numbers 0070000202500, 0070000202600, and 0070000202700)
(Presented by Engineering Services Manager Dwayne Cooper)

Councilmember Gibson moved, seconded by Councilmember Flemming, to approve first and final reading.

Councilmember Gibson questioned the need for the encroachment permit. Mayor White responded it occurs commonly with projects that have received approval by the City.

After discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

17. NEW BUSINESS -- (Emergency Ordinances – Final Reading)

- a. Emergency Ordinance requiring individuals to wear face coverings in certain circumstances, and matters related thereto
(Presented by City Attorney Mike Pitts)

Councilmember Flemming moved, seconded by Councilmember Gibson, to approve second and final reading. The motion carried unanimously.

18. STAFF REPORTS

Mr. McDonough provided information on the following items:

- a. TD Saturday Market – Season completed and averaged over 2,000 attendees per week. The season was considered a major success.
- b. Social Media – Communications staff worked to increase the City’s following on items of importance to the community. The City now has over 125,000 accounts that follow the City on numerous platforms.
- c. Tree Giveaway – Over 200 trees were given away and over 36,000 people were reached by social media coverage for this event.
- d. Neighborhoods – A virtual meeting with Mr. McDonough, senior staff leadership and the Neighborhood Association Presidents was recently held. Mr. McDonough looks forward to hosting the next meeting in person in the spring.
- e. Grant – The City received a grant from the South Carolina Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department for Nicholtown in the amount of \$50,000 which will allow for upgrades to Skyland Park.
- f. Traffic Engineering – Neighborhood improvements are occurring including speed hump installation on Bennett Street and the addition of turn lanes and traffic light signal extensions in the Stone Avenue and Rutherford Road area.

Mr. McDonough wished everyone a Merry Christmas and happy holidays and thanked city staff for their work in 2020.

Mayor White thanked Mr. McDonough and city staff for their continued work and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

19. ADJOURN. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

KNOX H. WHITE, MAYOR

CAMILLA G. PITMAN, MMC, Certified PLS
CITY CLERK

MEETING NOTICE POSTED AND MEDIA NOTIFIED ON DECEMBER 14, 2020.