



MINUTES

FORMAL MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL

City Hall, 206 S. Main Street, Council Chambers

Monday, February 13, 2023 - 5:30 p.m.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
Mayor Knox H. White

2. **INVOCATION**
Brian Habig, Pastor of Downtown Presbyterian, provided the invocation.

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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**
January 23, 2023; Approved as submitted

6. **COMMUNICATIONS / ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL**
None.

7. **CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

Allen Ethridge, Executive Director of Metropolitan Arts Council, provided a funding update and expressed his thanks the city of Greenville support for the arts and culture.

Lorain Crowl, CEO/SC Upstate Continuum of Care Chair, provided an update on the Homeless Outreach Program.

Susan Crooks, Walt's Waltz (Non-Profit for Suicide Prevention), requested to make Greenville a stigma free zone.

Bill Holt, 105 Rockingham Road, spoke in support of resolution to adopt a Sustainability Plan (Item 16b).

Jodi Hajosy, Green Ribbon Advisory Committee Chair, spoke in support of resolution to adopt a Sustainability Plan (Item 16b).

Taylor Speer, Green Ribbon Advisory Committee member, spoke in support of resolution to adopt a Sustainability Plan (Item 16b).

8. **PRESENTATION**

a. Public Safety Update
(Presented by Police Chief Howie Thompson)

Police Chief Howie Thompson provided a public safety update that is favorable for city of

Greenville. Police Chief Thompson noted that aggravated assault, negligent homicide, murder, robbery, and sexual assaults are lower than last year.

- b. Cultural Corridor Update
(Presented by Engineering Services Director Clint Link and Assistant City Engineer Nick DePalma)

Engineering Services Director Clint Link provided how motorists are presently using College Street. Mr. Link stated the project goals are to revitalize economic growth along the corridor, encourage through traffic to utilize Academy Street as a “downtown by-pass”, provide and enhance pedestrian mobility and safety between Main Street and Heritage Green, and implement recommendations from the Downtown Master Plan and Downtown Transportation Master Plan.” Mr. Link stated the Project would include College Street between Main Street and Heritage Green.

Assistant City Engineer Nick DePalma stated recommendations for Academy Street and Elford Street are removal of an existing signal, converting Elford Street to right turn in and right turn out access, removal of pedestrian crosswalks across Academy Street, and road diet implemented on Elford Street between Academy Street and Church Street to create on-street parking. Mr. DePalma stated a proposal for Academy Street and Church Street is extending the turn lane on Academy Street and to modify the right turns from E North Street onto Academy Street. Mr. DePalma provided a timeline and coordination of the project. Mr. DePalma stated the estimated construction cost for Academy By-Pass is \$500,000.

Councilmember Flemming questioned the addition of more wayfinding signage. Mr. DePalma stated the wayfinding signage would be visuals in the sidewalk.

Councilmember Gibson questioned the safety of pedestrian crossings with the increased traffic on Academy Street. Mr. DePalma stated the signals will be timed to enable pedestrian crossing.

9. PUBLIC HEARING

None

10. APPOINTMENTS – Boards and Commissions

- a. Design Review Board – Urban

Councilmember Dowe recognized and appreciated service provided by Carmella Cioffi who served on the Design Review Board – Urban from July 2015 through January 2023.

Councilmember Stall recommended Edward Zeigler to complete an unexpired term on the Design Review Board - Urban ending April 30, 2023. There being no further nominations, the appointment was approved by unanimous consent.

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.

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – (Ordinances – Second and Final Reading)
None

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)

- a. Ordinance to enter into a Development Agreement between the City of Greenville and 660 S. Main QOZB, LLC for the design and construction of public improvements at 660 South Main Street along River Street and to appropriate \$310,606 in the Capital Projects Fund

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

- b. Ordinance to annex approximately 3.14 acres of real property and 0.48 acre of adjacent right-of-way located at 150 Executive Center Drive and to provide the zoning designation of C-3, Regional Commercial District (Tax Map Number 0547020103500) (AX-2-2023) (REVISED)

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

15. NEW BUSINESS – (Ordinances – First Reading)

- a. Ordinance to appropriate \$197,136 in the Greenville Convention Center Fund and \$280,353 in the Hospitality Tax Fund to adjust for the OVG 360 Contract in FY2023 (*Presented by Interim Office of Management and Budget Director Karen Crawford*) (Roll Call)

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

Interim Office of Management and Budget Director Karen Crawford stated this is a budget ordinance amendment for the new mid-year agreement. Ms. Crawford stated the average transfer in for the Greenville Convention Center over the past six years from Hospitality Tax funds ranges between \$500,000 to \$998,000.

Councilmember Dowe questioned if the bulk of the transfer for professional contractual services and salaries and benefits. Ms. Crawford stated that is the change in how the contract is formatted and it is for the services provided by the contractor.

The motion carried unanimously.

- b. Ordinance to convey surplus city property located on Meadow Street in the vicinity of Unity Park to the Greenville Housing Fund, LLC for purposes of affordable housing (Tax Map Numbers 0052000501000 and 0052000501001)
(Presented by Assistant City Manager Shannon Lavrin)
(Roll Call)

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

Assistant City Manager Shannon Lavrin stated in a previous meeting the property was part of a land swap. Ms. Lavrin stated this allows for a more developable area.

The motion carried unanimously.

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

- a. Resolution to designate \$10,000 from City Council's Reserve in the State Accommodations Tax Fund for the purpose of providing financial assistance to Varna International Music Academy for "MUZIKA! THE GRAND MUSIC FESTIVAL"
(Presented by Interim Office of Management and Budget Director Karen Crawford)

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

Ms. Crawford stated this is outside of the cycle. Ms. Crawford stated there is a \$50,000 contingency and the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee, ATAX, met on January 5, 2023, to review this request and was approved by ATAX.

The motion carried unanimously.

- b. Resolution to adopt a Sustainability Plan
(Presented by Principal Development Planner Michael Frixen and Development Planner Hannah Slyce)

Councilmember Stall moved, seconded by Councilmember Dowe, to approve first and final reading.

Ms. Lavrin stated a year ago the sustainability coordinator position was transferred to the planning department. Michael Frixen serves at the City's long-range planner and Hannah Slyce was hired in November 2022 as the first sustainability planner for the City.

Principal Development Planner Michael Frixen stated the City partnered with the Shi Institute for Sustainable Communities at Furman University.

Development Planner Hannah Slyce stated Sustainable Greenville has six focus areas: built environment, climate and energy, air and water, transportation and mobility, goods and services, and community engagement.

Mr. Frixen stated the plan is a high-level overview. Mr. Frixen stated next steps are collecting data and providing detailed metrics for sustainability projects, establishing interdepartmental working groups to coordinate on sustainability projects and initiatives, building a City sustainability website, partnering with sustainability organizations on educational programming, applying for grants to support energy efficiency projects, hiring a consultant to prepare detailed climate action plan, and aligning the Green Ribbon Advisory Committee mission and purpose to support and enhance the City's sustainability efforts.

Councilmember Dowe stated the GVL2040 comp plan in five years with a requirement to incorporate a resilience element. Councilmember Dowe would like to see the City pursue state and federal grants in this area.

Councilmember Stall stated the Green Ribbon Advisory Committee was created 13 years ago for the purpose of a climate action plan. Councilmember Stall added that he hopes the future plan includes specific and measurable goals.

The motion carried unanimously.

17. STAFF REPORTS

City Manager John McDonough provided information on the following items:

- a. Airport District Planning Study
(Presented by Assistant City Manager Shannon Lavrin)

Ms. Lavrin stated Airport District Planning Study includes commercial, industrial, and residential areas around the airport. Ms. Lavrin stated the consultant team has conducted two steering committee meetings to date. Ms. Lavrin stated during the week of January 16, 2023, the consultants conducted stakeholder interviews with business and property owners in the area. Ms. Lavrin stated by Friday of this week, the website for this project will be launched and available at greenvillesc.gov/airport. Ms. Lavrin stated interested persons are encouraged to visit the website and complete the survey.

- b. Swamp Rabbit Trail Update
(Presented by Engineering Services Director Clint Link and Senior Mobility Coordinator Calin Owens)

Senior Mobility Coordinator Calin Owens provided an update on the Swamp Rabbit Trail Green Line Extension completion schedule for the County paving schedule.

Mr. Link provided an update on the Paperclip, Laurens Road Bridge, Haywood Road Bridge, Verdae at-grade, Verdae grade separated, and neighborhood spurs.

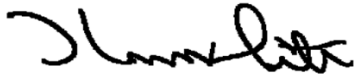
Councilmember Dowe questioned if the feasibility report would include an estimate. Mr. Link stated yes. Councilmember Dowe questioned if that would be included in the upcoming budget cycle. Ms. Crawford nodded yes.

Councilmember Brasington stated he continues to receive concerns about the at-grade crossing because of the curve. Mr. Link stated there are signals to advise drivers in the pedestrian crossing.

Mr. Owens stated there will be notices in March for meetings pertaining to the neighborhood connectors.

Mayor Knox White congratulated Councilmember Dorothy Dowe for completing the Municipal Association of South Carolina's Advanced Municipal Elected Officials Institute and he added Councilmember Dowe is the first elected official with the city of Greenville to graduate from the Advanced Institute.

18. ADJOURN. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.



KNOX H. WHITE, MAYOR

ATTEST:



CAMILLA G. PITMAN, MMC, Certified PLS
CITY CLERK

MEETING NOTICE POSTED AND MEDIA NOTIFIED ON FEBRUARY 10, 2023.