

**CITY OF HARTSVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA
PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 14, 2009**

Present: Mayor Holt

**Mayor Pro-Tem McFarland
Councilmember Andrews
Councilmember Braddock
Councilmember Graham
Councilmember Shirley
Councilmember Wilson
City Attorney Driggers**

Staff:

**City Clerk/Admin Services Director Skipper
Deputy Clerk McDonald
DEEPS Director Clemons
Fire Chief Heathman
Parks & Leisure Services Director Gardner
Police Chief Kemp**

Press

Absent: City Manager Pennington

PURSUANT TO FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT SC CODE 30-4-80: WRITTEN NOTICE WAS DELIVERED TO THE PRESS BY EMAIL ON APRIL 13, 2009 AND DULY POSTED IN CITY HALL. PURSUANT TO CITY CODE SECTION 2-36 AND 2-47 UPON MOTION(S) MADE TO WAIVE THE READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN THEIR ENTIRETY; THEY ARE READ BY TITLE ONLY. APPROVED ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS ARE FILED WITH ORIGINAL MINUTES AND NOT REPRINTED HEREIN.

Mayor Michael S. Holt called the meeting to order and requested Mayor Pro-Tem McFarland lead in the invocation and pledge to our flag.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER ANDREWS TO WAIVE READING OF AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF MARCH 10, 2009 AND THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF APRIL 7, 2009; SECOND: GRAHAM; CARRIED: ALL AYES.

PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Holt presented proclamations declaring “A National Day of Prayer”, “Administrative Professionals Week”, “Silver Star Banner Day” and “The Thursday Study Club Centennial Day”.

The Black Creek Arts Council is sponsoring a Blue Jeans and BBQ Festival on May 1st and 2nd, 2009. Judy Haenni distributed festival information and tickets to Council. Organizers were told by the SC BBQ Association six teams will be a good turnout; at this time they have ten teams signed up with twelve others showing interest. On Friday evening you can sample food of the “Anything Butt BBQ” contestants, Nicki & DaBlooze band will play in Burry Park from 7pm until 10pm , and a “I love my blue jeans” contest will be held. On Saturday there will be a BBQ tasting and judging, people can sample food from SC BBQ sanctioned teams and buy bulk BBQ. She invited everyone out for a fun weekend in downtown Hartsville.

Chief Tim Kemp introduced the newest full time officer, Brandon Hodge. Brandon was employed with us previously and stayed on part time while helping with a family business. We are happy to have him back with us full time.

The Planning Commission presented information on a land use map action request and on the annexation request from Council.

Dick Boiteau, Planning Commissioner, a zone of influence map is recommended in the land use segment of the 2020 Plan. The Commission has shaded in an area five miles around the City limits, avoiding Pine Ridge, for potential future annexation. The map shows the suggested land use for these areas. Planning Commissioners will meet with the Darlington County Planning Commission to hopefully coordinate with their land use plans as they finalize their map. The City Planning

Commission would like to work with the County Planning Commission to have this area approved as a City of Hartsville Zone of Influence so we can enforce zoning and signage in these areas.

Ricardo Ellison, Planning Commissioner, annexation is the key to the City's growth and the life of the downtown area. Annexation adds new residents, businesses, revenues, etc. The Commission would like a list of objectives, input on land use, previous annexation information, and the assistance of a professional script writer among other things. Where is annexation on Council's priority list? Due to economic issues do we table this issue for now? The Commission is willing to roll up their sleeves but need to know Council's position on annexation. The Commission strongly recommends a worksession with Council, the Planning Commission and staff.

Mayor Holt suggested a meeting that includes MASC staff be held in the next 30 days.

Vern Myers, Planning Commission Chair, the Pee Dee Council of Governments is willing to help us but they need more information.

Councilmember Andrews suggested meeting with the City of Darlington to find out how they're progressing with their annexations on Hwy 151.

A retreat will be scheduled for the month of May.

Calvin & Dolly Wright, 616 & 617 Howard Street, are concerned citizens of Howard Street. There is an alley at the end of the street where kids park, litter, sell drugs, play loud music, and other disturbing behaviors that keep them up at night. They asked if Council can have the alleyway closed.

Councilmember Wilson this wasn't always an alleyway, it was a dead end. I don't know who owns this property but it should be blocked off.

Mayor Holt we will look into it. Thanked them for coming and asked them to please keep in touch with Council about this situation.

Evelyn Alsbrooks, 1318 South Sixth Street, asked if there are any negative impacts of annexation.

Will anyone be required to sell their property?

Mayor Holt there are people who do not want to annex. Annexation does not require anyone to sell their property. The Planning Commission has been given charge of this issue. Please keep in touch with staff for information on annexation.

Evelyn Alsbrooks wants everyone to be treated fairly. She has been working with Mike Welch on getting the ditch at the end of Sixth Street cleaned out.

MANAGEMENT UPDATE

The presentation on the Butler-Clemson project has been made; we are waiting for Clemson's final report.

Painting for the Paint the Town project should start in May.

The stormwater study is underway and ahead of the curve.

The DEEPS department met with local landlords and drafted a revised version of the rental housing ordinance. The revision will be to Council soon.

The Cargill/Vista area is looking good. We hope to have the road paved soon; we're waiting on the removal of telephone poles. The work on the street lights and landscaping is moving forward.

Council received a report from Mike McConnell, Building Official, on ten properties for demolition. We hope to move on these in approximately 60 days. We can't take care of all properties but these are the top ten using specific criteria.

Council will hold a budget retreat on April 21st at 4pm at the Coach T.B. Thomas Sports Center

CONSENT AGENDA – Received as Information Only

Monthly Financial Statements

Committee Minutes/Reports

Hospitality and Accommodations Tax Reports

Development Report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

FINAL READING ORDINANCE 3078: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE HARTSVILLE CITY CODE BY ADOPTING CHAPTER 11 “RESIDENTIAL RENTAL LICENSING PROGRAM” – TABLED UNTIL THE MAY 2009 MEETING.

Reading by Title and Presentation - Mayor: staff is composing a new ordinance. At a future meeting we will probably vote this ordinance down and bring a new ordinance for consideration.

Teresa Mack asked if the public will have access to the new version of the ordinance.

Mayor Holt stated that the public will have access to and input on the new ordinance. The ordinance will require a first reading, public hearing and final reading for adoption and we will make more time for input if needed. DEEPS Director Clemons has a draft of the ordinance available. Please understand this is a draft and comments are welcome.

Motion to table until the May 2009 meeting: Wilson; Second: Graham; Carried: All ayes.

PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL READING ORDINANCE 3087: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING OF THE VISTA PROPERTY, 101 SOUTH FOURTH STREET, TAX MAP #056-06-02-070, FROM INDUSTRIAL (M-1) TO CENTRAL BUSINESS (B-1) AND TO AMEND THE ZONING OF THREE ADJACENT PROPERTIES ALONG RAILROAD AVENUE, TAX MAP # 056-06-02-049, 056-06-02-081, 056-06-02-082, FROM PROFESSIONAL (P-1) TO CENTRAL BUSINESS (B-1) – APPROVED.

Reading by Title and Presentation – City Clerk Skipper: this ordinance rezones the Vista from Industrial to Central. The Planning Commission recommends this action.

Open/Close Public Hearing (State name and address for record) – Mayor: No public input.

Approval of Final Reading and Waiving of Complete Reading: Motion: Andrews; Second: McFarland; Carried: All ayes.

PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL READING ORDINANCE 3088: AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE A NEW MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND PROGRESS ENERGY – APPROVED.

Reading by Title and Presentation – City Clerk Skipper: this ordinance approves renewing the electric service agreement for five years and increases the fee from three percent to five percent.

Open/Close Public Hearing (State name and address for record) – Mayor: No public input.

Approval of Final Reading and Waiving of Complete Reading: Motion: Graham; Second: Braddock; Carried: All ayes.

PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL READING ORDINANCE 3089: AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL THE HARTSVILLE CITY CODE CHAPTER 86 “VEGETATION” ARTICLE III “TREES” DIVISION 2 “TREE COMMITTEE” AND TO AMEND AND ADOPT CHAPTER 86 “VEGETATION” ARTICLE III “TREES” DIVISION 2 “PLANTING, MAINTENANCE AND REMOVAL” – APPROVED.

Reading by Title and Presentation – City Clerk Skipper: this ordinance repeals the code section relating to the Tree Committee and amends the section on planting, maintenance and removal.

Several years ago Council eliminated the Environmental Committee and the portion of the code related to the Tree Committee, a sub-committee of the Environmental Committee, was overlooked. An agreement of cooperation between the City and Trees for Tomorrow Committee has been reached. The changes to the section on planting, maintenance and removal bring us into compliance with SCDOT regulations.

Open/Close Public Hearing (State name and address for record) – Mayor: No public input.

Approval of Final Reading and Waiving of Complete Reading: Motion: McFarland; Second: Wilson; Carried: All ayes.

NEW BUSINESS

FIRST READING ORDINANCE 3090: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE VII, SECTION 8(E) OF THE HARTSVILLE ZONING ORDINANCE TO ALLOW INTERNALLY LIGHTED WALL MOUNTED SIGNS – APPROVED.

Reading by Title and Presentation – City Clerk Skipper: The Planning Commission recommends this change.

Dick Boiteau, Planning Commissioner, in the B-1 District internally lighted signs are allowed but only the business name can be lit. There are many signs in the B-2 District that do not comply with this requirement. This takes the B-1 requirements and extends them to the B-2 District. Any existing signage will be grandfathered but if a new business opens they must comply with the new requirement.

Approval of First Reading and Waiving of Complete Reading: Motion: Andrews; Second: Graham; Carried: All ayes.

FIRST READING ORDINANCE 3091: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 74 "STREETS, SIDEWALKS, AND OTHER PUBLIC PLACES" ARTICLE IV "STREET NAMES AND PROPERTY ADDRESSES" DIVISION 3 "ADMINISTRATION AND IMPLEMENTATION" SECTION 74-156 "NAMING OF NEW STREETS" OF THE HARTSVILLE CITY CODE – APPROVED.

Reading by Title and Presentation – City Clerk Skipper: the current code states the Planning Commission "may" name streets and cites a section of the state code that is non-existent since implementation of the Planning Act. This ordinance corrects the code citation and requires the Planning Commission to name streets, which complies with the current state code.

Approval of First Reading and Waiving of Complete Reading: Motion: Andrews; Second: Braddock; Carried: All ayes.

RES 13-09: ESTABLISHING AN IDENTITY THEFT POLICY IN COMPLIANCE WITH RECENT FEDERAL AND STATE LEGISLATION AND REGULATION – APPROVED.

City Clerk Skipper: the City falls under the requirements of the "Red Flag Rule" because we have utility accounts. We must be in compliance by May 1, 2009. This helps us protect people's identity.

Motion: Wilson; Second: Andrews; Carried: All ayes.

RES 14-09: APPROVAL OF BID AWARD FOR MOWING SERVICES AT THE HARTSVILLE MUNICIPAL AIRPORT – APPROVED.

City Clerk Skipper: last year was the first time we awarded this contract. This bid is from the same contractor who was awarded the bid last year and was the only bid we received. The cost is less than last year.

Motion: McFarland; Second: Braddock; Carried: All ayes.

RES 16-09: APPROVAL OF FEES FOR FINGERPRINTING SERVICES – APPROVED.

City Clerk Skipper: The HPD does not currently charge for fingerprinting services. All other agencies around us charge and SLED recommends a fee be set. Due to not charging a fee, the HPD staff has been bombarded with fingerprinting requests recently.

Motion: Andrews; Second: Braddock; Carried: All ayes.

RES 17-09: TO REQUEST THE PLANNING COMMISSION TO RENAME THE STREET ON THE VISTA – APPROVED.

City Clerk Skipper: this resolution requests the Planning Commission to rename the street on the Vista.

Motion: Wilson; Second: Braddock; Carried: All ayes.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Shirley the Planning Commission does a great job; he does not see why the County would not agree to the land use zone of influence map.

Councilmember Graham commended the Planning Commission for their hard work; the City needs to move ahead with annexations. She thanked Ms. Teresa Mack and Ms. Evelyn Alsbrooks for coming to the meeting. She thanked staff for working on demolitions and hopes the top ten offenders can all be demolished.

Mayor Pro-Tem McFarland thanked the Planning Commission and the citizens for coming.

Councilmember Andrews is glad Renofest was a success. It seems that the County would be in favor of people annexing into the City because they collect the same amount of taxes and reduce the services they provide. He thanked the Planning Commission for their work on the Certified Local Government status.

Councilmember Braddock there are numerous projects underway. He commended Chief Kemp for the HPD's work with the County Task Force. He thanked the Planning Commission for their work; we will get you the information you require. The Budget Retreat on April 21st will not be pleasant but we have to get it done. Please remember the Southeastern Baseball Classic starts tonight!

Councilmember Wilson thanked everyone in attendance. The Planning Commission does an outstanding job. He appreciates Planning and Zoning Administrator Kelley's work. Recognizes Ms. Alsbrooks has a real issue with the ditches on Sixth Street, there is a low section and water just sits there. He appreciates everything everyone is doing. Keep up the good work.

Mayor Holt thanked Planning and Zoning Administrator Kelley for her work. The DHEC representatives toured the Vista and were impressed; this has been a long process; thanks everyone who worked on this from the very beginning. He thanked DEEPS Director Clemons and staff for their work on the Rental Housing Ordinance; hopes the revised ordinance captures the intent and addresses the concerns of the citizens. There is a lot of exciting stuff going on in Hartsville. We really need another hotel.

MOTION TO ADJOURN – APPROVED.

Motion: Andrews; Second: Shirley; Carried: All ayes.

Adjournment at 7:35pm.

David L. McFarland, Mayor Pro-Tem

ATTEST:

Sherron L. Skipper, CMC
City Clerk