

**CITY OF HARTSVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JULY 13, 2010**

**Present: Mayor Pennington IV
Mayor Pro-Tem Andrews
Councilmember Braddock
Councilmember Graham
Councilmember James
Councilmember Shirley
Councilmember Wilson
City Attorney Driggers**

**Staff: City Manager (Interim) Myers
City Clerk/Admin Services Director Skipper
Deputy Clerk DuBose
Finance Director Douglas
Fire Chief Heathman
Parks & Leisure Services Director Gardner
Police Chief Kemp
Public Service Director Clemons**

Press

PURSUANT TO FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT SC CODE 30-4-80: WRITTEN NOTICE WAS DELIVERED TO THE PRESS BY EMAIL ON JUNE 4, 2010 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 Pennington called the meeting to order and asked Councilmember Wilson lead in the invocation and pledge to our flag.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER ANDREWS TO WAIVE READING OF AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF JUNE 8, 2010; SECOND: GRAHAM; CARRIED: ALL AYES.

PRESENTATIONS

Kenny Stratton and Dwayne Braddock, Darlington County Fire District & citizens of Darlington County, addressed Council. On Saturday, May 29th, he played golf at Fox Creek Golf Course. When a storm came up, he went to the clubhouse to eat and wait for it to pass. After storm cleared, they heard a lightning strike and the golf pro informed them someone had been struck by lightning at tee box number three. They immediately got into a pickup truck, headed to the tee box and called 911. When they arrived on the scene, the victim was breathing because Sarah Norwood got to him quickly and began doing CPR. Due to Mrs. Norwood's quick response, the man is alive, home and doing okay. Mayor Pennington presented the first ever City of Hartsville Medal of Valor to Sarah Norwood.

Mayor Pennington presented a proclamation declaring Tuesday, August 3rd as National Night Out. The 27th Annual National Night Out celebration to heighten community awareness will be at the Coach T.B. Thomas Sports Center at Byerly Park on Tuesday, August 3 at 6pm.

Corporal Almus Rose presented the nine 2010 HPD Boys Youth Academy Cadets.

Police Chief Kemp introduced new police officer, Josh Daniels, who graduated SCCJA on Friday, July 9. Officer Daniels graduated from Coker College on a Friday and started at the SCCJA on Sunday. He completed 3 months at SCCJA and was distinguished at the academy for being able to run 3 miles in 25 minutes. Officer Daniels begins work with a field-training officer the next day, Wednesday, July 14.

Debbie Myers, owner of rezoned property on Heatley Drive, thanked Council for allowing her to present her vision for Myers Crossing. She met today with the City Manager, staff and city attorney to discuss her proposals for the property and allowed uses for the property. She acquired the property one year ago with intentions of selling it but soon had a vision. Myers Crossing is a community with a vision of being a 21st century green urban renewal community. This will be a walking and biking community. Currently people cannot walk to the store within their neighborhood to get a loaf of bread, in Myers Crossing this will be doable. The project, which is in line with the 2020 Comprehensive Plan, will be completed phases. Phase one allows for jobs; it is a commercial mixed-use town plaza with upper story living for business owners. It will have fountains, ponds, benches, and big sidewalks. Phase two is completion of the Habitat for Humanity houses being built now. The third phase is single-family homes. She hopes to have police officers, firefighters, and other professionals living there. The gated community will have swimming pools, many open spaces, parks, and allows for walking & biking. When you build a community, you will not burn the community. South Hartsville has become a blighted area; she hopes this process will help bring South Hartsville alive, inspire residents to rebuild and this will continue

throughout the rest of the Hartsville community. There are always hurdles to projects. The first hurdle is annexing the remainder of the property into the city limits but also want to make sure the projects ability to continue if annexed. She believes all parties can come to some kind of agreement on the hurdles and help make Myers Crossing an asset to the community.

Councilmember Braddock asked her timeframe for completion.

Debbie Myers is aggressive with the project planning and estimates a 2½ to 3 year timeframe. HUD contacted her when the rezoning passed, she has not responded in depth until after meeting with city staff. The development will be upscale and she hopes it spreads to surrounding community. There are ditch and drainage issues on the property to be resolved. She is working with an economic development person to seek grants and other funding for the project. She displayed a map of the project; a complete set of maps is in city offices.

Nancy McGee, Parks Committee Chair, gave the annual update. She thanked Council for the opportunity to work with staff and the Councilmember ex-officio. These have been an exciting seven months. The schedule says the committee meets quarterly but members are so excited they met monthly except for May. The committee is a facilities committee only – grounds & buildings only – they do not work with programs. They focus on Burry Park, Centennial Park, Pride Park, Byerly Park and Lawton Parks. They focus on improvements that are reasonably significant but low cost. Recently playground equipment donated to Lawton Park was unveiled; it took time of city staff and paint to refurbish it. The sets are quite expensive and we are grateful to have them. The committee has been working on a kayak launch at Lawton Park; instead of constructing an expensive launch kayaks will launch from the existing beach; the City will purchase approximately \$50 in signs to direct people. The building and gazebo at Lawton Park need paint. She thanked Parking and Beautification Commission for the wonderful job they did in Centennial Park. Pride Park is getting a lot of attention; we did not get the grant but staff is working on another funding source for improvements. The first priority is a bathroom similar to one at Lawton Park; second is lighting, they hope to re-use lighting to save money; fencing similar to Lawton Park is the third project. The committee would like paved and accessible parking. Burry Park is in use almost every weekend and currently hosts Hartsville Idol. Byerly Park is used daily by walkers, tennis players, and others; it is currently hosting the Dixie Youth AA State Tournament. Lawton Park is in use daily; she witnesses it as she lives in the area. Pride Park hosts neighborhood picnics, gatherings, and gospel sings. The Parks Committee plans to continue meeting monthly; they appreciate support of staff and council ex-officio.

Mayor Pennington thanked her and the other committee members for their hard work and dedication. He also thanked Councilmember Braddock for his work at Byerly Park as umpire for the Dixie Youth tournament. There are 600 families in town for the tournament. He hated the weather did not work out for Idol this past weekend.

Sharman Poplava, Chamber of Commerce President gave a quarterly update. There is so much going on. She noted former chamber president McGee and former HDDA director Elvington attendance at the meeting and their work in the community. Approximately 8,000 people at the July Fourth Festival at Emmanuel Baptist Church on the Friday before the fourth; they will consider this day for future events also. The festival added a professional carnival with rides and gave tickets to children at the Billy Hardee Home for Boys. She thanked the city for their support. The Darlington County Tourism Director position is well posted and looking for replacement, deadline for resumes is Friday; they hope to introduce new director at the August meeting. The Chamber facilities will undergo renovations in August; they are committed to staying in historic building. During the renovation, Chamber staff will work across the hall from current offices and will have phone access.

Mayor Pennington thanked for her the update and for the hard work on festival.

MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Annual Budget Books distributed to Council. The City Manager position is budgeted to begin September 2010. By end of July when all monies posted we will end up on positive ledger for closing fiscal year.

The MASC Annual Meeting is July 15 – 18, 2010, Charleston, SC. He reminded Council to be sure to get confirmations and directions from City Clerk before leaving night's meeting.

A Boots & Badges Blood Drive will be held at the Coach T.B. Thomas Sports Center on July 22nd from 1pm to 6pm.

Mayor Pennington thanked Finance Director Douglas for her hard work with the city finances & budgets. He spoke to mayors forced to cut employees, raise taxes and increase fees; he is thankful we did not have to do any of those things.

CONSENT AGENDA – Received as Information Only

Monthly Financial Statements

Committee Minutes/Reports

Monthly Revenue Report

Hospitality and Accommodations Tax Reports
Development Report
Monthly Airport Report
Quarterly Airport Report
Motion: Andrews; Second: James; All ayes.

NEW BUSINESS

FIRST READING ORDINANCE 4018: AN ORDINANCE TO ANNEX AN APPROXIMATELY 0.17 (+/-) ACRE PARCEL OF LAND CONSISTING OF TWO LOTS, TAX MAP NUMBERS 057-06-03-079 AND 057-06-03-102, LOCATED AT 1211 AND 1213 MYRTLE STREET AND THE ADJOINING PUBLIC ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY INTO THE CITY LIMITS OF HARTSVILLE – APPROVED.

Reading by Title and Presentation – City Manager – this ordinance annexes two Habitat for Humanity homes being built on Myrtle Street.

Approval of First Reading and Waiving of Complete Reading: Motion: Wilson; Second: Shirley; Carried: All ayes.

FIRST READING ORDINANCE 4019: AN ORDINANCE TO LEASE THE PROPERTY AT 149 WEST CAROLINA AVENUE TO THE HARTSVILLE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION FOR A TERM OF THREE YEARS – APPROVED.

Reading by Title and Presentation – City Manager – this ordinance leases the former building located just down from planning offices, previously housed Edward Jones, to Hartsville Downtown Development Association.

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

RES 47-10: APPROVAL FOR THE CITY OF HARTSVILLE’S PRE-APPLICATION FOR A GRANT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA) RURAL DEVELOPMENT FOR A PUBLIC WORKS FACILITY AND METER REPLACEMENT – APPROVED.

City Manager Myers would like to file for a grant for an automatic water meter reading and monitoring system. Statistically water companies not on this type of equipment lose about 20% of their water income annually. The grant would also build a facility to house all public service locations, equipment and personnel in one location; part of this funding will be grants and part a 40-year loan at 3.5 percent. The City will gain efficiencies, water, and make us work much more effectively and efficiently.

Motion: Andrews; Second: Graham; Carried: All ayes

Mayor Pro Tem Andrews asked if this would convert all water meters in town.

City Manager Myers yes.

Mayor Pro Tem Andrews what is the swap out time?

Public Service Director Clemons estimated 6 months; current City staff can install meters. The new meters will allow accurate instantaneous reading of monthly water use for accounts. It will also detect leaks 24/7.

Mayor Pennington this would be great for employees on Poole Street; the building is in awful shape.

RES 48-10: APPROVAL TO ACCEPT A GRANT UNDER THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY HIGHWAY SAFETY GRANT PROGRAM – APPROVED.

City Manager Myers this is an \$87,003 grant with no matching funds to address alcohol and alcohol related issues for DUI team. He complimented Chief Kemp on this grant application.

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

RES 49-10: APPROVAL OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE 2010 LAW ENFORCEMENT GRANT APPLICATION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT VEHICLE – APPROVED.

City Manager Myers this is self-explanatory and has no matching funds. He again applauded Chief Kemp for reaching out for grant funds.

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

RES 50-10: AUTHORITY TO SUBMIT A PARKS AND RECREATION DEVELOPMENT (PARD) GRANT REQUEST TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS RECREATION AND TOURISM FOR PRIDE PARK RE-DEVELOPMENT – TABLED UNTIL THE AUGUST MEETING.

City Manager Myers request approval to apply for a PARD grant of up to \$25,000 with matching funds of up to \$5,000. Parks and Leisure Services Director Gardener is working with legislative delegation on this issue.

Mayor Pennington the local delegation asked to meet with us before we apply. He would like to table until the August meeting.

Motion to table until the August meeting: Andrews; Second: James; Carried: All ayes

RES 51-10: APPROVAL OF USER FEES FOR USE OF BURRY PARK – APPROVED.

Mayor Pennington this resolution is self-explanatory.

City Clerk Skipper we need an effective date for the resolution.

Mayor Pennington asked if this is for private use of the Park.

Nancy McGee the city manager can waive fees. This doesn't mean you can't take the family to Burry Park for a picnic but it does set a fee for an organized event to reserve the park.

City Attorney Driggers asked if two groups could use the park at the same time.

McGee the committee does not anticipate that issue. The fee covers reservation of the entire park.

Mayor Pro Tem Andrews asked how many events already scheduled the change would effect.

Mayor Pennington this would not affect already scheduled events.

Councilmember Braddock asked whom people reserve park with so we do not stretch our resources.

McGee all events complete a special event permit.

Motion to amend the resolution to state the resolution is effective immediately and to provide the fee will not apply to currently reserved events: Wilson; Second: Andrews; Carried: All ayes.

Motion to approve as amended: Andrews; Second: Wilson; Carried: All ayes.

RES 52-10: AUTHORIZING THE PLACEMENT OF PORT-A-JONS AT PRIDE PARK – APPROVED.

Motion: James; Second: Graham; Carried: All ayes.

RES 53-10: TO APPROVE FINANCING TERMS AND AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE LEASE DOCUMENTS FOR PUBLIC SERVICE EQUIPMENT – APPROVED.

City Manager Myers this resolution approves leasing a front- end loader commercial truck and side loader garbage truck. The final number is less than budgeted so saving money.

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

Motion to amend the agenda to hear Resolution 54-10 after Executive Session: Andrews; Second: James; Carried: All ayes.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Graham thanked Finance Director Douglas for her hard work with the budget. She thanked staff for getting grants, especially those with no matching funds. She thanked HPD for having youth academy; thinks kids will learn a lot and hopefully one day will want to be an officer. Glad to see the information on Myers Crossing project.

Councilmember Shirley staff did good work on budget, it is always a burden but staff had creative ways to get things done. People in Hartsville come up with creative and innovative ways to meet needs, which has a lot to do with the Hartsville community working on projects.

Councilmember Wilson staff did outstanding work on the budget. The Myers property is across from him, lucky to see it and hopes it grows and grows and grows. He thanked Nancy McGee for revitalizing the Parks Committee. He thanked all those who work so hard, we have a fine city. Friday at Byerly Park, he saw so many young people with such enthusiasm. It is amazing to hear the good things people say about Hartsville.

Mayor Pro Tem Andrews read comments on downtown vandalism in the Design Review Board minutes; hopes to see something done. People from out of town comment on downtown Hartsville; we need to make sure it stays a gem. The Veterans Memorial brochures are out and he is excited; will be great asset to Hartsville.

Councilmember James continuously month after month we see leadership moving Hartsville forward. The young youth cadets who sat at the front are what it is about and where it starts. She thanked Finance Director Douglas. On July 23rd. Stand 2010 for youth leadership will launch. Organizers are trying to raise awareness in our community and want to focus on positive things kids are doing and raise awareness of things they are facing.

Councilmember Braddock agrees with other comments. He is imagining South Hartsville with Myers project and the Clemson-Butler project completed; it is a wonderful vision

Teresa Mack thanked everybody for hard jobs you do in trying to better Hartsville. It is always so refreshing to see someone come in excited about doing something in South Hartsville. She thanked Council for allowing the Census workers to use city office space; their work completed today. She recognized members of the South Hartsville Neighborhood Association attending meeting.

Mayor Pennington Fire Marshall Crowley was present and will be Interim Chief in two months. This has been an incredible week in Hartsville. Everyone hated to cancel Idol but with the information available, it was the best decision; we are looking forward to Idol this weekend. Hartsville made it to the second round of broadband

application process. We have commercial opportunities coming into Hartsville. He is excited about what we've done and where we are going.

MOTION: TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO SC CODE FOIA 30-4-70(a)(1)(2) FOR RECEIPT OF LEGAL ADVICE, TO DISCUSS LEGAL UPDATES ON OUTSTANDING LEGAL ISSUES AND PENDING LAWSUITS, TO DISCUSS CONTRACTUAL MATTERS AND TO DISCUSS APPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS – APPROVED.

Motion: Andrews; Second: James; Carried: All ayes

MOTION: TO VERIFY THAT ONLY THE ITEMS STATED IN THE MOTION TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION WERE DISCUSSED DURING EXECUTIVE SESSION – APPROVED.

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

RES 54-10: TO APPROVE FINANCING TERMS AND AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE LEASE DOCUMENTS FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT – APPROVED.

City Manager Myers this approves the lease purchase of a new ladder truck and rolls over financing of existing equipment. A lower interest rate gives us a savings. The ladder truck should be here July 27th.

Motion: Andrews; Second: James; Carried: All ayes

RES 39-10: APPOINTMENTS TO CITY AD-HOC COMMITTEES – TABLED UNTIL THE AUGUST 2010 MEETING – TABLED UNTIL THE AUGUST MEETING.

Motion to table until the August meeting: Braddock; Second: Andrews; Carried: All ayes.

RES 55-10: APPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS CITY BOARDS, COMMITTEES, AND COMMISSIONS – APPROVED.

Motion to appoint Mary Bailey to the Parks Committee with a term expiring June 30, 2012: Andrews; Second: James; Carried: All ayes.

Motion to amend the agenda to add Resolution 56-10: Andrews; Second: James; Carried: All ayes.

RES 56-10: AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY MANAGER TO HAVE RECYCLING DISCUSSIONS WITH SONOCO PRODUCTS COMPANY – APPROVED.

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

MOTION TO ADJOURN

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

Adjournment at 9:30pm.

Carl M. (Mel) Pennington IV
Mayor

ATTEST:

Sherron L. Skipper, CMC
City Clerk