

**REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF GEORGETOWN, SC
FEBRUARY 18, 2010**

Notices of this meeting have been made in accordance with the 1976 Code of Laws of South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

The Regular Meeting of City Council was held this date in the Council Chambers at City Hall with Mayor Jack M. Scoville, Jr. presiding.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Jack M. Scoville, Jr.
Council Member Jeanette Ard
Council Member Brendon M. Barber, Sr.
Mayor Pro Tem Rudolph A. Bradley
Council Member Paige B. Sawyer, III
Council Member Clarence C. Smalls
Council Member Peggy P. Wayne

ALSO PRESENT:

Mr. Chris Eldridge, City Administrator
Mrs. Elise Crosby, City Attorney
Ms. Ann Mercer, City Clerk

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Mr. Glen Dixon, Fleet Maintenance Superintendent
Mr. Paul A. Gardner, Chief of Police
Mr. Sterling Geathers, Public Works Director
Mrs. Cindy Kinder, Kaminski House Director
Mr. Alan Loveless, Electric Utility Manager
Mr. Lane Mixon, Public Water Utilities Director
Mr. Steve Stack, Assistant Director of Development
Mr. Joey Tanner, Fire Chief
Mr. Keith Wilson, Keep Georgetown Beautiful Executive Director

NEWS MEDIA

Georgetown Times – Mr. Scott Harper

Mayor Scoville opened the Regular Meeting of City Council at 5:30 PM.

Call to Order

Council Member Barber rendered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation and Pledge

Mayor Scoville stated Mayor Pro Tem Bradley requested Executive Session be moved to the beginning of the meeting. There were no objections from Council that this take place after the public comments.

Mayor Scoville requested all cell phones be turned off or placed on silent except for the emergency responders present.

Open Public Comments

Mayor Scoville opened the Public Comment Section at 5:32 PM and recognized Mr. Steven Lowe, President of the Board of Directors of the Outreach Farm, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization in Georgetown. Mr. Lowe told Council their mission is to feed the hungry and they raise beef cattle to provide quality beef for free to organizations that feed the hungry in Georgetown County. Outreach Farm is the only organization of its kind in the United States. After a brief slide show, he concluded by thanking Council for their attention.

**Mr. Steven Lowe
Outreach Farm**

Mayor Scoville recognized Ms. Helen Patricia Coakley of 229 South Congdon Street who expressed her concerns about a neighbor's tree limb hanging on her car garage. She asked if the City could speak with the neighbor about cutting the limb. Mayor Scoville asked Ms. Coakley for her phone number and said either he or the City Administrator would call her to discuss this matter.

**Ms. Helen P.
Coakley**

Mayor Scoville recognized Mr. Phillip Gibbs with the Georgetown Youth Tennis Program. Mr. Gibbs told Council that he would like to try and arrange for Serena and Venus Williams to come to Georgetown in April to see the new tennis courts. He said he would like to name the two courts after the sisters if they can finance some money for the program. Mr. Gibbs presented a tennis racket to Mayor Scoville and one to each of his two tennis students present.

Mr. Phillip Gibbs

COUNCIL MEMBER BRADLEY MOVED TO ADJOURN REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL AND ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PENDING AND THREATENED LITIGATION AND PERSONNEL MATTERS, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER BARBER. Mayor Scoville called for the question. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 7-0.

**Adjourn Regular
Mtg. & Enter
Executive
Session**

The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 5:45 PM.

COUNCIL MEMBER SAWYER MOVED TO ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION AND REOPEN REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER BARBER. Mayor Scoville called for the question. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 7-0.

**Adjourn
Executive
Session and
Reopen Regular
Meeting**

The Regular Meeting was reopened at 6:15 PM.

Mayor Scoville announced the character trait of the month is Resourcefulness. Finding practical uses for that which others would overlook or discard.

**Character Trait of
the Month**

Mayor Scoville recognized Mr. Bob Harper from Harper, Poston and Moree, P.A., Certified Public Accountants. Mr. Harper said the audit was conducted according to generally accepted auditing standards and the report was issued in accordance with GASB Statement #34. He presented a brief review of the Executive Summary of the City's finances ending June 30, 2009 which included the statement of net assets, statement of activities, governmental fund type revenues and expenditures and the enterprise funds. The City has unrestricted assets of \$16,764,707: these assets would be deemed what the City has available to operate on in economic challenged times. Mr. Harper asked if there were any specific questions. Council Member Barber stated, "for clarification, through the papers and through other citizens they believe that we have \$21 million that we can do exactly what we want to do with and you just cleared the air of that." Mr. Harper stated the City does not have \$21 million that they can do what they can to with; clearly the City does have a situation that lends itself to, from time to time, substantial changes in what's going on. Those changes are primarily related to a few large utility customers and when something drastic happens with those customers and reduces the amount of money coming in, the City has to use its reserves to help compensate. This year the extraordinary item was the mandated OPEB adjustment of \$1.2 million. He said the City is very sound, has a good reserve fund balance but from time to time there can be major changes and it is prudent for the City to maintain a very good equity position. Mr. Harper offered to answer any other questions and invited Council to contact him after they have had time to review the documents.

**Mr. Bob Harper –
Executive
Summary of
CAFR**

Mr. Morgan Armstrong with Planned Benefit Services addressed Council about the services his company provides cities and counties to help them reduce their cost of medical benefits as well as GASB 45. He told Council he would like the opportunity to update figures presented to them last year and present a revised proposal in March.

Planned Benefit Services

Mayor Scoville recognized Mr. Marty Tennant. Mr. Tennant asked if the City Attorney had researched the City's ability by ordinance to restrict trucks on the streets of the City. Mayor Scoville told Mr. Tennant if he had let us know in advance, she would have been prepared to respond. Mr. Tennant stated to Council Member Barber he wanted to talk about the \$21 million that Mr. Barber brought up. Council Member Barber told the Mayor that Mr. Tennant is supposed to be addressing Mayor and Council. Mr. Tennant left the meeting before addressing Council on city finances.

Mr. Marty Tennant

COUNCIL MEMBER WAYNE MOVED TO APPROVE A PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING FEBRUARY 2010 AS BLACK HISTORY MONTH IN THE CITY OF GEORGETOWN, SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM BRADLEY. Mayor Scoville called for the question. **THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 7-0.**

Proclamation – Black History Month

Mr. Steve Stack presented second reading on an ordinance to rezone approximately 18.06 acres owned by the City of Georgetown located on South Fraser Street from Residential (R-1) to Public Service (PS).

COUNCIL MEMBER SAWYER MOVED TO APPROVE SECOND READING ON AN ORDINANCE TO REZONE APPROXIMATELY 18.06 ACRES OWNED BY THE CITY OF GEORGETOWN LOCATED ON SOUTH FRASER STREET FROM RESIDENTIAL (R-1) TO PUBLIC SERVICE (PS), SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM BRADLEY. Mayor Scoville called for discussion. Council Member Wayne said before this is given second reading she would like to have a workshop to discuss the plans for this property. Council Member Sawyer said the vote is only to rezone the property, not for the actual use. Discussion followed. Council Member Ard said Council needs to get a plan and know what we are doing.

Postpone 1ST Reading – Rezone Approximately 18.06 Acres Owned by the City Located on South Fraser Street from Residential (R-1) to Public Service (PS)

Council Member Barber was excused from the meeting at 6:40 PM.

Council Member Barber was Excused from Meeting

Council Member Smalls asked if anything would change if second reading is not given tonight. Mr. Stack said if this is denied, it would be a year before rezoning could be reconsidered. He said the

ordinance being presented is only rezoning the dirt to meet Public Service. Discussions continued.

COUNCIL MEMBER SAWYER WITHDREW HIS MOTION. Mayor Scoville stated this would be postponed until the next meeting.

Mr. Stack presented a request for approval for staff to proceed with required steps for removal of unfit dwelling located at 1916 Legion Street, Tax Map #05-0008-147-00-00.

COUNCIL MEMBER SAWYER MOVED TO APPROVE REQUEST FOR STAFF TO PROCEED WITH REQUIRED STEPS FOR REMOVAL OF UNFIT DWELLING LOCATED AT 1916 LEGION STREET, TAX MAP #05-0008-147-00-00, SECONDED BY MAYOR SCOVILLE. Mayor Scoville asked for discussion. Mr. Stack noted the owner of record is Dora Small Jones. Mayor Pro Tem Bradley stated Ms. Jones is deceased and Mr. Stack said staff will begin looking for family members to contact. Some discussion followed. Mayor Scoville called for the question. MAYOR SCOVILLE AND COUNCIL MEMBER SAWYER VOTED IN FAVOR. MAYOR PRO TEM BRADLEY AND COUNCIL MEMBERS ARD, SMALLS AND WAYNE VOTED AGAINST. THE MOTION FAILED 2-4.

Motion Failed to Approve Request to Proceed with Required Steps for Removal of Unfit Dwelling

Mr. Stack presented a request for approval for staff to proceed with required steps for removal of unfit dwelling located at 111 Alex Alford Drive, Tax Map #05-0017-159-00-00.

COUNCIL MEMBER SAWYER MOVED TO APPROVE REQUEST FOR STAFF TO PROCEED WITH REQUIRED STEPS FOR REMOVAL OF UNFIT DWELLING LOCATED AT 111 ALEX ALFORD DRIVE, TAX MAP #05-0017-159-00-00, SECONDED BY MAYOR SCOVILLE. Mayor Scoville asked for discussion. Council Member Wayne asked if the owner of record has been notified about this building. Mr. Stack said a number of years ago there was a verbal conversation but until the unfit dwelling ordinance was in place staff has not addressed any owners. If Council approves the request to proceed with the required steps, staff will carry on with the 13 step checklist. Discussions followed. Mr. Stack clarified to Council that if they vote to support this request they are not voting to condemn the property immediately. It is to start the process. Discussions continued. Mayor Pro Tem Bradley said he understands that if Council gives the go ahead signal at this point and the Construction Board of Appeals decides to demolish the house, then Council has no more say so whether the house should stand or be

Motion Failed to Approve Request to Proceed with Required Steps for Removal of Unfit Dwelling

demolished. Mrs. Crosby said that is correct under this ordinance unless Council amends the text and sends it back to the Planning Commission. The consensus of Council was they want the owner of record to receive a courtesy call before the process to demolish begins. Mayor Scoville called for the question. **MAYOR SCOVILLE AND COUNCIL MEMBER SAWYER VOTED IN FAVOR. MAYOR PRO TEM BRADLEY AND COUNCIL MEMBERS ARD, SMALLS AND WAYNE VOTED AGAINST. THE MOTION FAILED 2-4.**

Mayor Scoville directed Mr. Stack to contact the property owners, discuss the matter with them and report back at the next meeting. He also wants the two items back on the agenda at the March Council meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Bradley asked that this ordinance to be placed on the next agenda to consider amending it. Mayor Scoville asked Mr. Bradley to get his proposed amendments to staff in time for Mrs. Crosby to review.

Mr. Chris Eldridge presented second reading on an Ordinance to amend the 2009/2010 Annual Budget for the City of Georgetown in the amount of \$50,400 to continue use of contract labor for recycling.

MAYOR PRO TEM BRADLEY MOVED TO APPROVE SECOND READING ON AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE 2009/2010 ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF GEORGETOWN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50,400 TO CONTINUE USE OF CONTRACT LABOR FOR RECYCLING, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER WAYNE. Mayor Scoville asked for discussion. Mayor Scoville called for the question. **THE MOTION CARRIED 6-0.**

2ND Reading - Budget Amendment in the Amount of \$50,400 to Continue Use of Contract Labor for Recycling

Mr. Eldridge presented second reading on an Ordinance to amend the 2009/2010 Annual Budget for the City of Georgetown in the amount of \$1,594,226 to include drainage project work.

MAYOR PRO TEM BRADLEY MOVED TO APPROVE SECOND READING ON AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE 2009/2010 ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF GEORGETOWN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,594,226 TO INCLUDE DRAINAGE PROJECT WORK , SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SMALLS. Mayor Scoville asked for discussion. Mr. Eldridge said DOT is wanting, \$3,000,000, for CE&I, construction, engineering and inspection, which he feels is totally unreasonable, and he has passed this along to the legislative delegation in hopes they can help out. Mayor

2ND Reading – Budget Amendment in the Amount of \$1,594,226 to Include Drainage Project Work

Scoville called for the question. **THE MOTION CARRIED 6-0.**

Mr. Eldridge presented a Resolution to approve interest rates for the \$309,882 General Obligation Note, Series 2010A and the \$110,118 General Obligation Note, taxable series 2010B of the City of Georgetown, South Carolina.

COUNCIL MEMBER SAWYER MOVED TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION APPROVING INTEREST RATES FOR THE \$309,882 GENERAL OBLIGATION NOTE, SERIES 2010A AND THE \$110,118 GENERAL OBLIGATION NOTE, TAXABLE SERIES 2010B OF THE CITY OF GEORGETOWN, SOUTH CAROLINA, SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM BRADLEY. Mayor Scoville asked for discussion. Mayor Scoville called for the question. **MAYOR SCOVILLE, MAYOR PRO TEM BRADLEY AND COUNCIL MEMBERS ARD, SAWYER AND WAYNE VOTED IN FAVOR. COUNCIL MEMBER SMALLS VOTED AGAINST. THE MOTION CARRIED 5-1.**

**Resolution
Approve Interest
Rates for the
\$309,882 General
Obligation Note,
Series 2010A and
the \$110,118 GO
Note, Taxable
Series 2010B**

Chief Joey Tanner requested Council approval to apply for FY 2011 Federal Appropriations from either Senator Graham or Congressman Brown for funding of a \$1.6 million dollar program to construct Station Two. Approval will require earmarking \$800,000 in the 2010/2011 budget for the project.

COUNCIL MEMBER SAWYER MOVED TO APPROVE REQUEST TO APPLY FOR FY 2011 FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS FROM EITHER SENATOR GRAHAM OR CONGRESSMAN BROWN FOR FUNDING OF A \$1.6 MILLION DOLLAR PROGRAM TO CONSTRUCT STATION TWO. APPROVAL WILL REQUIRE EARMARKING \$800,000 IN THE 2010/2011 BUDGET FOR THE PROJECT, SECONDED BY MAYOR SCOVILLE. Mayor Scoville asked for discussion. Council Member Smalls had questions about the \$800,000 the City would have to earmark. Mr. Eldridge said Council could issue a GO Bond or pay cash. Chief Tanner stated the match is required to be 50% of the grant; whatever that amount may be. Council Member Smalls stated his concerns with setting aside \$800,000 in the upcoming budget. Chief Tanner reiterated that the Maryville Fire Station is going down every day and something has to be done over there very soon. The deadline for Congressman Brown's grant is tomorrow and a deadline of March 1st for Senator Graham's grant. Council Member Ard asked why we would be earmarking money for a building that has no plan and said she would like to see a plan. She stated the budget process is

**Approve Request
to Apply for FY
2011 Federal
Appropriations**

beginning and this is the appropriate time to see if we have the money to earmark. Mayor Pro Tem Bradley concurred with Ms. Ard and Mr. Smalls. He said it is unwise to approve something like this not knowing where we stand financially; the budget process will reveal this to Council. Council Member Sawyer said he made the motion to approve the recommendation for this grant, "not because we're going to spend the money if we don't have it, this is just a recommendation to apply for the grant." If we do not have the money, we can't accept the grant. Discussions continued.

COUNCIL MEMBER SAWYER AMENDED HIS MOTION TO GIVE CHIEF TANNER THE APPROVAL TO APPLY FOR THE GRANT, PROVIDED THAT THE CITY OF GEORGETOWN CAN PROVIDE THE FUNDING FOR THE GRANT DURING THE NEXT BUDGET SESSION, SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM BRADLEY. Mayor Scoville asked for discussion. Mayor called for the questions. **THE MOTION CARRIED 6-0.**

Chief Tanner brought attention to an announcement he placed at each Council Members seat concerning an emergency management workshop for senior and elected officials that will be held on March 24, 2010 at Litchfield. He asked that any Council Member who would like to attend notify the City Clerk by Monday, March 1st.

Mr. Alan Loveless presented a request for approval of an Agreement between the City of Georgetown and Local Government Services, LLC for completion of joint use and pole attachment agreements. He explained this Agreement would contract this company to represent the City with the cable TV companies and the telephone company and finalize pole attachment agreements and the joint use agreement. This is not a budgeted item; however, Mr. Loveless said it could be covered in the current budget. The cost would be \$10,000 to execute the three agreements plus approximately \$2,000 for the pole count. All four companies would be represented to go out, count the attachments on every pole in the City and provide updated records in order that our billing would be accurate. This will result in increased revenue for the City through pole attachment fees.

MAYOR PRO TEM BRADLEY MOVED TO APPROVE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF GEORGETOWN AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES, LLC FOR COMPLETION OF JOINT USE AND POLE ATTACHMENT AGREEMENTS, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SMALLS. Mayor Scoville

**Amend Motion -
Approve Request
to Apply for FY
2011 Federal
Appropriations
for Funding of a
\$1.6 Million Dollar
Program to
Construct Station
Two Provided
Matching Funds
are Available**

**Emergency
Management
Workshop**

**Approve
Agreement
Between the City
of Georgetown
and Local
Government**

asked for discussion. Mayor Pro Tem Bradley asked what factors were negating expediting the agreements. Mr. Loveless said staff has not had the time to devote to this undertaking and he feels an outside party would be able to handle this and work out the differences in a more proficient manner. Referencing the \$2,000, Council Member Ard asked Mr. Loveless why his employees could not count the poles as they are inspecting them for damage. Mr. Loveless said it is very important that all four parties be represented during the pole attachment count. Mayor Scoville called for the question. **MAYOR SCOVILLE, MAYOR PRO TEM BRADLEY AND COUNCIL MEMBERS SAWYER, SMALLS AND WAYNE VOTED IN FAVOR. COUNCIL MEMBER ARD VOTED AGAINST. THE MOTION CARRIED 5-1.**

Services, LLC for Completion of Joint Use and Pole Attachment Agreements

Mr. Lane Mixon presented a request to purchase two (2) wastewater treat plant influent pumps from Pumps, Parts and Services in the amount of \$18,632.68 each for a total of \$37,265.36 tax included. These are budgeted items.

MAYOR PRO TEM BRADLEY MOVED TO APPROVE A REQUEST TO PURCHASE TWO (2) WASTEWATER TREAT PLANT INFLUENT PUMPS FROM PUMPS, PARTS AND SERVICES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$18,632.68 EACH FOR A TOTAL OF \$37,265.36 TAX INCLUDED, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SAWYER. Mayor Scoville called for discussion. Mayor Pro Tem Bradley asked for a description of influent pumps. Mr. Mixon said influent pumps are where all the wastewater from the West End goes into the wastewater plant and is pumped around to our bar screen structure. He noted these pumps are for the Wastewater Plant. Mr. Mixon answered Mayor Scoville's question by stating effluent is pumping out to the river; influent is pumping in to the treatment plant before treatment.

Approve Purchase of (2) Wastewater Treat Plant Influent Pumps from Pumps, Parts and Services in the Amount of \$18,632.68 Each for a Total of \$37,265.36 Tax Included

Mr. Keith Wilson presented a request for approval to submit a grant packet to Land Water Conservation Fund for Morgan Park in the amount of \$500,000. A 50% match would be required in the 2010/2011 budget. These funds will be used to implement Phase II of Morgan Park to include the boardwalk out from the waterways, trails and historic signs for the area. Mr. Wilson said the funds will be available in 2010/2011 timeframe and with the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism these grants are usually for a two year period.

MAYOR PRO TEM BRADLEY MOVED TO APPROVE A REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT PACKET TO LAND WATER CONSERVATION FUND FOR MORGAN PARK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500,000, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SAWYER. Mayor Scoville asked for discussion. Mayor Pro Tem Bradley asked if the City has two years to come up with the 50%. Mr. Wilson said, "The City would need to commit tonight to do the grant and then we would have two years to complete the project. We could work the project where we did \$250,000 one year and \$250,000 the next year. What we have to do is totally fund the \$1,000,000 project with a reimbursement of \$500,000." Discussions continued. Mayor Scoville called for the question. **THE MOTION CARRIED 6-0.**

Approve Request to Submit a Grant Packet to Land Water Conservation Fund for Morgan Park in the Amount of \$500,000. A 50% match would be required.

Mr. Eldridge announced the Safety Luncheon will be March 12, 2010 and the Fire Department will be preparing burgers on the grill again this year.

Safety Luncheon

Mr. Eldridge presented second reading on an ordinance authorizing a lease agreement between the City of Georgetown and Evening Post News d/b/a Harborwalk Marina for public parking at 525 Front Street.

MAYOR PRO TEM BRADLEY MOVED TO APPROVE SECOND READING ON AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF GEORGETOWN AND EVENING POST NEWS D/B/A HARBORWALK MARINA FOR PUBLIC PARKING AT 525 FRONT STREET, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SAWYER. Mayor Scoville asked for discussion. Mayor Scoville called for the question. **THE MOTION CARRIED 6-0.**

2nd Reading - Authorizing Lease Agreement Between the City and Evening Post News d/b/a Harborwalk Marina for Public Parking at 525 Front Street

Mr. Eldridge presented first reading on an ordinance authorizing a right-of-entry agreement to the South Carolina Department of Transportation for the construction phase of the US Route 17/Georgetown City Hall drainage project.

MAYOR PRO TEM BRADLEY MOVED TO APPROVE FIRST READING ON AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A RIGHT-OF-WAY ENTRY AGREEMENT TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION PHASE OF THE US ROUTE 17/GEORGETOWN CITY HALL DRAINAGE PROJECT, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SAWYER. Mayor Scoville asked for discussion. Mayor

1ST Reading Authorize a Right-of-Entry Agreement to SCDOT for the Construction Phase of the US Route 17/Georgetown

Scoville called for the question. **THE MOTION CARRIED 6-0.**

MAYOR PRO TEM BRADLEY MOVED TO APPROVE FIRST READING ON AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF GEORGETOWN WINYAH AUDITORIUM CORPORATION AND THE CITY OF GEORGETOWN, SOUTH CAROLINA, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ARD. Mayor Scoville asked for discussion. Mayor Scoville called for the question. **THE MOTION CARRIED 6-0.**

Mr. Eldridge presented a request to purchase playground equipment from General Recreation for Bayview Park in the amount of \$32,828.01. He noted this is a reduction of the original quote.

COUNCIL MEMBER SMALLS MOVED TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FROM GENERAL RECREATION FOR BAYVIEW PARK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$32,828.01, SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM BRADLEY. Mayor Scoville asked for discussion. Mayor Scoville called for the question. **THE MOTION CARRIED 6-0.**

Mr. Eldridge presented a request for \$7,000 in hospitality funds for the Harborwalk Festival. In the past, the organization has received A-tax funding from the City and Georgetown County; however, due in part to the current economic state, sponsorship funding has been reduced.

MAYOR PRO TEM BRADLEY MOVED TO APPROVE A REQUEST FOR \$7,000 IN HOSPITALITY FUNDS FOR THE HARBORWALK FESTIVAL, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ARD. Council Member Wayne recused herself because she is the director of the Harborwalk Festival. Mayor Scoville asked for discussion. Council Member Sawyer stated if this funding is designated for the Harborwalk Festival we will be opening a can of worms; possibly other festival organizers could come to the City asking for money for their festival. He named a number of groups that the City has turn down in the past and referenced an article in *UPTOWN*, the Municipal Association Magazine, 'when it comes to donations, just say no.' Mayor Scoville called for the question. **MAYOR SCOVILLE, MAYOR PRO TEM BRADLEY AND COUNCIL MEMBERS ARD AND SMALLS VOTED IN FAVOR. COUNCIL MEMBER SAWYER. THE MOTION PASSED 4-1.**

City Hall Drainage Project

1st Reading Authorizing a Lease Agreement Between The City Of Georgetown Winyah Auditorium Corporation and the City

Approve Purchase of Playground Equipment from General Recreation for Bayview Park in the Amount of \$32,828.01

Approve Request for \$7,000 in Hospitality Funds for the Harborwalk Festival

Ms. Cindi Howard announced the winner of the 2009 Department Annual Safety Award and presented the trophy to the City of Georgetown Electric Department.

2009 Department Annual Safety Award

Ms. Howard announced the City of Georgetown workforce took first place in Division Three of the 2009 SCMIT Occupational Safety Contest and as a result received \$2,000 that can be spent towards safety training or safety equipment.

1st Place – 2009 SCMIT Occupational Safety Contest

Mr. Eldridge reported 1) the **State's budget crisis** will continue. 2) The **Front Street Streetscape** is coming along and looks really nice. Bid opening for the tennis courts will be next week. 3) Staff is working to secure insurance for the **Winyah Auditorium Corporation Board**. The bylaws are to be changed to remove city employees and elected officials from the Board. 4) The **budget process** has begun. All departments met with Finance staff last week. 5) Council has received plans and designs for improvements to the **Harborwalk** and the engineer is ready to make a presentation. 6) **Maryville Water Project** - The Water Department will soon begin work on Brinkley and Whitton Streets. 7) The **Bridge to Bridge** Initiative groups continue to meet to formulate recommendations based upon the greatest impact for the least amount of cost. 8) Only two proposals were received on the **website rebuild**. Staff hopes to have a recommendation at the March council meeting. 9) No proposals were received for a qualified **touring/charter vessel** company to operate out of the City's docking facilities at Francis Marion Park. 10) Work has been completed on this year's contracted **sidewalk repair** projects. Public Works is adding ramps at several street intersections. 11) Safety improvements have been made to block off traffic in **Bayview Park**. 12) **East Coast Greenway** - SCDOT officials made a visit to look at the proposed extension of the trail system through Georgetown. 13) **Special Events** – 2/27/10 the 28th Annual Afro American Parade; 4/17/10 March for Babies; 4/24/10 5K Cervical Cancer Awareness Race.

City Administrator Report

Mayor Scoville noted the monthly department reports are located in the back of the binders.

Department Reports

COUNCIL MEMBER WAYNE MOVED TO APPROVE MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETINGS DATED JANUARY 7, 2010 AND JANUARY 14, 2010, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SAWYER. Mayor Scoville asked for discussion. Mayor Scoville called for the question. **THE MOTION WAS CARRIED 6-0.**

Approve Minutes Special Mtgs. 1/7/10 & 1/14/10

Mayor Scoville asked if Council had any old business. Council Member Ard asked about the status of televising council meetings. Mr. Eldridge said this would be a question for the IT Manager and Mayor Scoville asked for an update. Mr. Walt Ackerman said he would speak with Mr. Rapps tomorrow. Council Member Sawyer asked for an update on the paperless agendas. Council Members Wayne, Smalls and Ard indicated they did not want to go paperless. Council Member Sawyer said he agrees with the Council Members who want to go paperless. Mayor Scoville said this matter is still under consideration.

Old Business

Mayor Scoville asked if Council had any new business. Council Member Wayne complimented the Police Department on the fine job they did at the Diamond Collection. She also recognized Mr. Leroy Priest for the good job he is doing keeping the streets downtown clean with the new street sweeper. Mayor Scoville thanked the Police Department, Fire Department and all the utility crews who were out in the snow storm working very hard. Mayor Scoville wanted to schedule a workshop for the first Thursday in March to discuss the Harborwalk and any other matters.

New Business

COUNCIL MEMBER WAYNE MOVED TO ADJOURN THE REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SAWYER AND CARRIED 6-0.

Adjourn Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 7:56 PM.

Ann U. Mercer
City Clerk

DATE APPROVED: 03/18/10
VERIFYING INITIALS: _____