

**PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF GEORGETOWN, SC
JUNE 28, 2007**

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

A Public Hearing was held this date in the Council Chambers at City Hall with Mayor Lynn Wood Wilson presiding.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

	Mayor Lynn Wood Wilson	
Councilmember Brendon M. Barber, Sr.		Councilmember Jack M. Scoville, Jr.
Councilmember Rudolph A. Bradley		Councilmember Clarence C. Smalls
Councilmember Paige B. Sawyer, III		Councilmember Peggy P. Wayne

ALSO PRESENT:

Mr. Steven E. Thomas, City Administrator
Mrs. Elise Crosby, City Attorney
Mrs. Ann U. Mercer, City Clerk

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Mr. Glen Dixon, Fleet Maintenance Superintendent
Major Johnnie Deas, Georgetown Police Department
Mrs. Katrina Lawrimore, Director of Kaminski House Museum
Mrs. Jessica Miller, Director of Finance
Mr. Lane Mixon, Manager of Water/Wastewater/Stormwater
Mrs. Sabrina Morris, Director of Development
Chief Joey Tanner, Georgetown Fire Department

NEWS MEDIA

Georgetown Times – Scott Harper

Call to Order

Mayor Wilson opened the Public Hearing at 5:00 PM and stated the purpose of the Public Hearing is to receive citizen input regarding the proposed operating budget for the City of Georgetown for upcoming Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2007.

Mayor Wilson recognized Mr. Jim Ralston who addressed Council concerning the proposed water rate increase. He said he heard from the City Administrator the only reason for the increase was, it might encourage Belle Isle to become part of the City. He stated he has not heard anybody suggest that this is what they wanted to do. He asked Council to change their minds and don't double the rate.

Mayor Wilson recognized Ms. Viola Holmes Greene who asked Council to reconsider raising the water rates 100 percent for residents on Aviation Boulevard. She said they live one mile north of Belle Isle and receive City water because the County allowed the steel mill to dump toxic waste on their road. DHEC became involved when the families across from that toxic site had documentation of severe health problems. The steel mill's only solution was to have the city supply water to the residents. After the mill filed bankruptcy, their responsibility became that of the neighborhood. She said this is too great of a burden on them and asked for Council's help.

Mayor Wilson recognized Mrs. Jean Askew who addressed Council and questioned the fairness of raising the water rates by 100 percent.

Mayor Wilson recognized Mrs. Margie Bullock who addressed Council and asked them if they think the 100 percent proposed water rate increase is fair.

Mayor Wilson recognized Ms. Laure Buss who addressed Council and said a 100 percent increase is outrageous. She said she lives in Wedgefield. Mayor Wilson told her this did not affect Wedgefield.

Mayor Wilson recognized Mr. Marvin Rogerson who addressed Council. He said he paid \$3,020 six months ago to have city water and asked Council to consider Belle Isle residents and not raise the water rates.

Mayor Wilson recognized Mr. Jim Muns who addressed Council concerning the proposed water rates and asked them to consider not approving the 100 percent increase.

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**COUNCILMEMBER BRADLEY MOVED TO ADJOURN THE
PUBLIC HEARING, SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM BARBER
AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 7-0.**

**Adjourn Public
Hearing**

The Public Hearing was adjourned at 5:23 PM.

Ann U. Mercer
City Clerk

DATE APPROVED: 07-19-07
VERIFYING INITIALS: _____

