



**City Council Meeting
City Council Chambers
145 West Broad Street
Spartanburg, SC
Monday, October 14, 2013
5:30 p.m.**

**(These minutes were approved at the
October 28, 2013 City Council meeting.)**

City Council met this date with the following members present: Mayor Junie White, Councilmembers Linda Dogan, Cate Ryba, Robert Reeder, Jan Scalisi, and Councilmember W. Sterling Anderson II. Mayor pro tem Rice was absent due to a family illness. City Manager Ed Memmott and City Attorney Cathy McCabe were also in attendance. Notice of the meeting was posted with the Media 24 hours in advance according to the Freedom of Information Act. All City Council meetings are recorded for a complete transcript.

I. Moment of Silence - observed

II. Pledge of Allegiance - recited

III. Approval of Minutes of the September 30, 2013 City Council Meeting –
*Councilmember Dogan made a motion to approve the minutes as received.
Councilmember Ryba seconded the motion, which carried unanimously 6 to 0.*

IV. Approval of Agenda of the October 14, 2013 City Council Meeting –
*Councilmember Scalisi made a motion to approve the agenda as received.
Councilmember Ryba seconded the motion, which carried unanimously 6 to 0.*

V. Public Comment - none

**Citizen Appearance forms are available at the door and should be submitted to the City Clerk*

VI. Consent Agenda

**A. Accepting the Property Owned by Michael and Velma Session, and Being Located at 409 Ransdell Drive, and that Portion of Ransdell Drive and Harrell Drive Abutting Said Property, as a Part and Parcel of the City of Spartanburg and Declaring said Property Annexed to and a Part and Parcel of the City of Spartanburg, Said Parcel to be Zoned R-15, Single Family Residential Upon Annexation (Second Reading)
Presenter: Joshua T. Henderson, Planning Coordinator**

Councilmember Dogan made a motion to approve the consent agenda as received. Councilmember Anderson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously 6 to 0.

VII. Discussion of Green Waste, Leaf, and Bulk Item Collection Programs

Presenter: Mark Ford, Grounds and Green Waste Supervisor

Mr. Ford presented the information to Council as follows:

A few months ago, Mr. Memmott asked an interdepartmental group of employees to assess the City's bulk (furniture, appliances) item collection program. His challenge to the group was to determine how this service might be improved and/or made more efficient. The employees working on this assessment team were Mark Ford, Donnita Smith, Tim Atkins, Sonya Culbreth, Sidney Ferguson, and Demian Carpenter. Fairly early in our analysis, the assessment team determined that, due to the similarities with other collection services, it would be better to conduct a full assessment of the City's green waste and leaf collection programs in conjunction with bulk item collection. The City expends approximately \$1 million annually on the collection of bulk items, green waste, and leaves. These are important services which are highly valued by our residents. Our goal for this assessment was to make sure the City was providing these services as efficiently as possible and that we have the right configuration of equipment. Staff visited other communities to observe their collection programs and gather information. We observed other equipment being used and conducted research on equipment costs. We have determined that the City may benefit from making changes in our collection methods. The next step in the process will be to conduct some experimentation and field testing of alternative equipment and collection methods to determine if we can improve our services.

Council received the report as information.

VIII. Park Plan Improvement Plan Presentation

Presenters: Ed Memmott, City Manager

Mitch Kennedy, Community Services Director

A summary of the information in the presentation follows:

Total Project Funding – Approximately \$2.580 million

- \$1.0 million loan for park and recreation projects(annual debt service from Swim Center savings)
- \$330,000 in one time revenue from sale of property
- \$250,000 from FY 13 year end operating surplus
- \$250,000 from Hospitality Tax Reserves
- \$750,000 from FY15-19 Swim Center savings

Recommendations and Suggested Budget Framework

- Complete Work at CC Woodson Community Center
- Complete Work at Stewart Park
- Designate Funding for Westside Neighborhood Park
- Neighborhood Park Improvements
- Designate Funding for Bike/Pedestrian/Trails Improvements (FY15-19)
- Designate Additional Funding for New TK Gregg Center

CC Woodson Community Center

- Overflow parking lot and athletic field improvements
- Estimated Cost - \$150,000

Stewart Park Activity Center

- \$500,000 estimated cost

Westside Neighborhood Park

- Park would include playground equipment, picnic shelter, restrooms (depending on size), paved walking trail, outdoor exercise equipment, open playfield/youth athletic field, parking lot
- Estimated Cost - \$400,000

Neighborhood Park Improvements

- These facilities need a variety of upgrades
- New playground equipment for Duncan Park, Hillcrest, Happy Hollow, Summerhill, and Priscilla Rumsley
- New signage at all locations
- New benches, trash receptacles, bike racks, picnic tables, grills, misc. sidewalk, fencing, lighting, play pads, and landscaping
- Estimated costs: \$580,000
- * Funding is not recommended for Adams Park, Irwin Park, and Duncan Park Lake

Bike/Pedestrian/Trail Funding

- Staff anticipates that approximately \$150,000 would be available annually for FY15-19.
- Estimated Funding \$750,000

TK Gregg Center

- Committed to start construction of new center by 2017
- Currently reserving \$100,000 per year in capital sinking fund
- Staff is requesting a commitment of the \$172,000 in annual debt service now going to CC Woodson debt service for TK Gregg debt service starting in FY2018

Proposed plan will require a \$1.0 million loan. Staff anticipates a five year term. Annual debt service of approximately \$225,000. Loan closing would occur in Spring 2014.

Goal is to complete CC Woodson Community Center, Stewart Park, and miscellaneous park improvements during 2014.

Budget Summary

\$ 150,000	CC Woodson Community Center
\$ 500,000	Stewart Park Activity Center
\$ 400,000	Westside Neighborhood Park
\$ 580,000	Neighborhood Park Improvements
\$ 200,000	Contingency

<u>\$ 750,000</u>	Bike/Pedestrian/Trails (FY15-19)
\$2,580,000	Total uses of funds
\$1,000,000	Loan(paid with Swim Center savings)
\$ 330,000	Sale of property
\$ 250,000	FY14 year-end operating surplus
\$ 250,000	Hospitality Tax Reserve
<u>\$ 750,000</u>	FY15-19 Swim Center Savings
\$2,580,000	

Councilmember Anderson made a motion to accept staff recommendations for the Park Improvement Plan as presented with any expenditures to return to Council as needed. Councilmember Reeder seconded the motion, which carried unanimously 6 to 0.

IX. City Council Updates

Councilmember Anderson thanked Council for recognizing that District 1 has no parks and appreciated them realizing all citizens should be allowed parks and recreation facilities. He stated that he was excited about the trails aspect. He shared that he believed all the improvements that could be made showed that closing the Swim Center was a good move.

He reminded everyone that the neighborhood walk in his district would take place October 15 beginning at Hatcher Gardens at 6:00 p.m.

Councilmember Scalisi seconded a lot of what Councilmember Anderson said. She stated that the park improvement plan would add to the ability to attract business, contribute to physical fitness, and economic development. She shared that she thought an effort to reignite with partners to put a pool at the TK Gregg Center would be a good thing.

She commented that International Festival was a great success with 20,000 plus people attending.

She shared with everyone that a kite collection would be displayed in early 2014 that would be of interest to many.

Councilmember Ryba shared that Converse College has won the B/Cycle challenge over Wofford. She reminded everyone that the neighborhood walk in her district would be on Saturday beginning at Bull Hawks Restaurant.

She mentioned that economic development in downtown was evidenced by the opening of Growler Haus, The Local Hiker, Olive and Then Some and the Upstairs Bar.

She also mentioned that she attended the final pitch event for the Iron Yard project.

Councilmember Reeder stated that he was glad to be moving forward with park improvements since they were in such bad shape when the City took the parks back from the County.

He shared that the walk in his neighborhood would be on November 9 beginning at Ricky's.

He reminded everyone of the Spartanburg County Municipal Association meeting on October 24 at 6:30 at Billy D's Restaurant.

He thanked everyone for their prayers and concern at the birth of his grand-twins, Zoe and Zion on Thursday morning. He shared that they were doing well even though they were premature.

Councilmember Dogan shared that International Festival was a real treat. She mentioned that the Piedmont Interstate Fair was in town and had had great success due to the good weather.

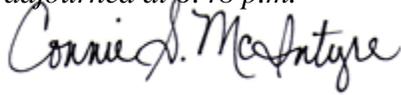
She reminded everyone that closing the Swim Center was something that had to be done to bring about change and improvements in other areas. She stressed that Council was doing the best it could with the funds available.

She reminded everyone that there would be a wall-raising for Habitat for Humanity on October 23 at 8:30 a.m. on Centennial Street.

Mr. Memmott shared that the Healthy Food Hub contracts had been signed and work would soon be visible there. He also added that the Forest Park project would soon be out for bid.

X. Adjournment

Councilmember Dogan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Anderson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously 6 to 0. The meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.



Connie S. McIntyre, City Clerk