

Minutes Committee of the Whole September 17, 2019 5:10 p.m.

County Square – Conference Room D 301 University Ridge Greenville, South Carolina 29601

#### **Council Members**

Mr. Butch Kirven, Chairman
Mr. Willis Meadows, Vice Chairman
Mrs. Xanthene Norris, Chairman Pro Tem
Mr. Joe Dill
Mr. Mike Barnes
Mr. Sid Cates
Mr. Rick Roberts
Mr. Bob Taylor
Mrs. Liz Seman
Mr. Ennis Fant, Sr.
Mr. Lynn Ballard

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting date, time, place and agenda was posted on the bulletin board at the County Square and made available to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned Citizens.

Mr. Dan Tripp

## **Council Members Absent**

Dan Tripp, District 28

#### **Staff Present**

Joe Kernell, County Administrator
Mark Tollison, County Attorney
John Hansley, Deputy County Administrator
Regina McCaskill, Clerk to Council
Nicole Wood, Assistant to the County Administrator
Bob Mihalic, Governmental Relations Officer

# **Others Present**

None

<u>Call to Order</u> Chairman Kirven

Invocation Councilor Joe Dill

### Item (3) Approval of Minutes

Action:

Councilor Seman moved to approve the minutes of the September 3, 2019, Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Motion carried unanimously by Council Members present.

### Item (4) Community Heroes Presentation

Presented by: Katrice Hardy, Executive Editor

The Greenville News

Ms. Hardy stated The Greenville News planned to launch a new program called "Community Heroes." Once a month, a local resident would be honored for their willingness to serve or help others in the community.

Ms. Hardy stated they would like to form a committee to select the recipients; nominations would be submitted by the community. The Greenville News would like for County Council to partnership with them in the endeavor; a member of Council would be appointed to serve on the committee to help select the honorees. Ms. Hardy stated they would like to have the individuals recognized by Council on a monthly basis; the recipient would receive a gift basket, a certificate or a proclamation honoring them for their service.

At the end of each year, one of the recipients would be chosen as the best community hero and honored at a banquet; all twelve (12) recipients would be honored at the banquet. Ms. Hardy stated the Montgomery, Alabama, paper had a very similar program; that city's mayor was very involved. She felt that Greenville was the perfect community to launch the program.

Councilor Cates asked if there was any financial commitment involved.

Ms. Hardy stated there was no financial expectation; Council's role would be to help judge the nominees and honor them. Greenville Federal Credit Union had signed on as primary sponsor of the program.

Councilor Taylor asked if there were any examples of the individuals who would be considered for the award.

Ms. Hardy stated the nominees should be a combination of individuals involved in non-profits, business, military veterans, etc. She added they should be those who were going "above and beyond." An article would be written about the nominees, both online and in print, along with videos outlining their contributions.

Councilor Ballard inquired about how and where Council would recognize the recipients; would it occur during a Council meeting.

Ms. Hardy stated she would like for the recipient to be honored during a Council meeting; they would receive a framed certificate and a gift basket. Either Ms. Hardy or Steve Bruss would make a short speech about why the person was chosen.

Councilor Seman stated it sounded like a great idea.

Councilor Roberts asked how many people would be on the committee.

Ms. Hardy stated 5-7 individuals; one from The Greenville News, one from County Council, one from Greenville Federal Credit Union, one from the business sector and one from a non-profit.

**Action:** Councilor Dill moved to support the "Community Heroes" program.

Motion carried unanimously by Council Members present.

# Item (5) Adjournment

**Action:** Councilor Dill moved to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously by Council Members present and the meeting was adjourned at 5:19 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Regina G. McCaskill

Clerk to Council