



**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
JANUARY 22, 2018**

Present: Billy Smith, Doug Pauley, Neil Robinson, Jimmy Ray Douglas, Dan W. Ruff, Mikel Trapp, Bertha Goins, Council Members; Jason Taylor, County Administrator; Davis Anderson, Deputy County Administrator; Tommy Morgan, County Attorney; Patti L. Davis, Clerk to Council.

In accordance with the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80 (e), as amended, the following persons and/or organizations have been notified of the time, date and location of this meeting: The Independent Voice of Blythewood and Fairfield, The Country Chronicle, and one hundred twenty seven other individuals.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Smith called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Council Member Trapp and seconded by Council Member Pauley to approve the Agenda. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

3. INVOCATION

Vice Chair Goins led the invocation.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Council Member Trapp and seconded by Vice Chair Goins to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 8, 2018. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

5. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

None.

6. 1ST PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES): All public comments made during this session must pertain to items on the agenda for which no Public Hearing is scheduled. Each speaker is allocated three (3) minutes for comment. The total time allocated for the public comment portion of the meeting is thirty (30) minutes. Those wishing to make public comment must sign to do so prior to the Council Chair calling the meeting to order. The Clerk to Council will make a public comment sign-up sheet available at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to the scheduled start time of the meeting.

- Shirley Greene - Mt. Zion
- Renee Green - Mt. Zion
- Pat Curlee - Mt. Zion
- Randy Bright - I-77 Alliance

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

8. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND ORDERS

A. First Reading (By Title Only): Ordinance No. 692 - An Ordinance to Amend the Fairfield County Land Management Ordinance, Ordinance No. 599, to Provide for the Zoning Reclassification from RD-1 (Rural Residential District) to B-1 (Limited Business District) of 18.22 Acres Owned by Wendy Bracewell, Tax Map No. 138-00-02-045-000, Property is Located at 5264 State Hwy 215 South, Jenkinsville, SC 29065. It was moved by Council Member Douglas and seconded by Council Member Pauley to approve First Reading (By Title Only) of Ordinance No. 692. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

B. First Reading (By Title Only): Ordinance No. 693 - An Ordinance to Amend the Fairfield County Land Management Ordinance, Ordinance No. 599, to Provide for the Zoning Reclassification from R-1 (Single Family Residential District) to RD-1 (Rural Residential District) of 0.036 Acres Owned by Angela Young, Tax Map No. 186-02-04-007-000, Property is Located at 229 Bishop Squirewell, Ridgeway, SC 29130. It was moved by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Ruff to approve First Reading (By Title Only) of Ordinance No. 693. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

9. BOARD AND COMMISSION MINUTES

Chamber of Commerce. It was moved by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Pauley to approve the minutes as presented. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

10. BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

A. I-77 Alliance - Todd Warren. It was moved by Council Member Ruff and seconded by Vice Chair Goins to replace the County's current representative on the I-77 Alliance with Mr. Todd Warren. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

11. OLD BUSINESS

A. Mt. Zion Deed Agreement with the Town of Winnsboro. Motion made by Council Member Douglas and seconded by Vice Chair Goins to approve the Mt. Zion Deed Agreement with the Town of Winnsboro as presented. Council Member Trapp requested that Mr. Taylor clarify what the Council is voting on tonight. Per Mr. Taylor, the vote before Council tonight is having the deed transferred to 1st & Main, but there is a caveat contained in the deed which says if the plan does not proceed with using the building for administrative purposes, then the deed would refer ownership to the County. Council Member Trapp also inquired concerning the documentation on the monument. The County and Town are

both committed to moving the monument. The Monument Review Act will need to be dealt with and if someone protests the moving of the monument, the matter would have to go before a judge. As of right now, there is nothing in writing, but the Town has given its word concerning moving the monument. To clarify, Chairman Smith referred to a citizen comment that the County would be purchasing something with an unknown price, that the Council would make this agreement and then figure out the price later. This could not be further from the facts. Tonight, the vote is on whether to approve the deed agreement as presented by the Town. A proposal will be forthcoming from 1st & Main, and at that time, the price will be known. Voting on whether to proceed with the project will take place at that time. This is indeed economic development in the way of community development for the Town of Winnsboro and Fairfield County. Council Member Trapp inquired concerning procurement codes and how 1st & Main became the sole company to have a chance to remodel/renovate. Per Mr. Taylor, sole source comes from the fact that they are one of the few companies who are capable of this type of venture along with taking advantage of tax credits. Per Mr. Morgan, Mr. Taylor is correct in that due to the nature of this particular project, the sole source provisions in the current code do apply inasmuch as the developer is specialized to handle this type of acquisition and can take full advantage of all available tax credits. Council Member Trapp further questioned if the County was following the Town's procurement code. Per Mr. Morgan, the procurement code for the County has been followed by virtue of the selection of 1st & Main as being the developer for the property. If the County goes forward after the 180 days, 1st & Main would be allowed to look at the property and determine whether it is a viable project, at which point and time the County would receive a presentation from 1st & Main. So, for the purposes of the County approval, the provisions tonight comply with the County procurement. Council Member Ruff would like language put into the deed agreement that the monument will be moved. Mr. Taylor will ask for something in writing from the Town as they have committed to allowing removal of the monument. Chairman Smith added that this Council has come in following a former Council who did not always work well with counterparts. If the Town has made the assurance that if the County moves forward with the project after 1st & Main presents their proposal that they would absolutely do everything they can to get the monument moved, and if the current Council is going to hold itself out as being able to work together with our municipalities and other governmental entities, this matter needs to be moved upon. Council Member Ruff feels if there is a way to compromise and everyone be happy, he doesn't see where there would be a problem. The Council could be an example to others showing that it is trying to work together with everybody to make something good happen. Chairman Smith agrees, and the Council needs to show people that they can work with others. Also, a majority of Council has said they would do everything possible before voting for the proposal to remove the monument rather than going forward with the project. Council Member Trapp asked if the County is in possession of a copy of the deed. The Town brought the deed to Mr. Taylor to sign, and he did not feel he had the authority to sign once the addendum had been added without Council voting on it, so the Town held the deed. Mr. Taylor has the MOU but the Town has the deed. A copy can be sent to everyone. Council Member Trapp feels there are too many ifs and the Council is voting blindly. Seeing that a motion has been made and properly

seconded, Chairman Smith called for the vote. Motion carried 5-2 with Council Member Robinson and Council Member Trapp voting nay. Council Member Trapp requested a hand vote. Chairman Smith called for the hand vote, which resulted again in the 5-2 vote with Council Member Robinson and Council Member Trapp voting nay.

12. NEW BUSINESS

None.

13. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- A.** Introduction of Chris Clauson, Community Development Director: Mr. Taylor introduced Mr. Clauson as the new Community Development Director. The search to fill this position took quite some time. Chris comes from the Town of Chapin as the Planning Director and previously worked for the Santee-Lynches COG and has a Master's Degree from both Clemson and USC. Mr. Clauson grew up in Maine, went into the military and eventually ended up in South Carolina where he has been living for 8 years, along with his wife and 3 children. He has regional and local level planning background and is now excited for the County opportunity. The Council welcomed Mr. Clauson.
- B.** Introduction of Jason Pope, Fire Chief: Mr. Taylor introduced Mr. Jason Pope as the new Director of Fire Services. Mr. Pope greeted the Council and stated after 17 years of leaving the County every day to go to Columbia to work for the State Fire Service at the State Fire Academy and State Firefighter's Association, it is a privilege and honor to come back home to work. He is very excited as he was born and raised in the Lebanon Community. The Council welcomed Mr. Pope.
- C.** Jennifer Stevens - 4H Update: Ms. Stevens reported 4H continues to provide hands-on learning opportunities for children and youth in the County. They partner with schools for afterschool programs, community organizations as well as families. Ms. Stevens prepared a detailed report of 4H involvement over the past 3 months, which was distributed to the Council. Some highlights are as follows:
- October 2017: In addition to regular activities, 4H participants volunteered at local community events such as Harvest Fest in Ridgeway and Pumpkin Fest in Winnsboro. They also made blankets for veterans and local nursing homes, with these activities teaching our youth to be more civic-minded and involved in the community.
 - November/December 2017: Two 4H participants from Fairfield County were selected to attend the Youth Maker Summit in Washington, DC, which is a national event of participants across the country who came together to showcase creativity and technology. Our County and State were represented well by Hannah Earhart and Jeffrey Feaster. 4H partnered with Fairfield County School District to provide training on the Google Virtual Reality equipment grant, which was provided to 14 states and 4H was chosen as the grant administrator. This provided an opportunity for students across the State to have access to activities that

strengthen computer skills and knowledge. Because of this program, in the month of December 160 youth from Fairfield County had the opportunity to participate in the Google Virtual Reality field trip where they were able to visit places such as the inside of a volcano, the bottom of the ocean, the ancient ruins of Greece, the North Pole, etc. Students participated from Geiger, Kelly Miller Elementary School, Fairfield Central High School and Chameleon Learning Center. In response to flooding after Hurricane Maria, the 4H Tri-County Leadership team consisting of youth leaders from Fairfield, Kershaw and Richland County donated over 400 lbs of supplies.

- January 2018: Four students will be sent to the Healthy Lifestyle Summit this weekend. They will not only gain culinary arts skills but will also be tasked to coordinate a summer camp for younger children in Fairfield County. In addition to this camp, other camps are planned with more information to follow.

In addition to the above, 4H also has a variety of individual projects for the youth. Ms. Stevens introduced Madilyn and Alex Rambo along with their mother, Mrs. Julia Rambo. Madilyn and Alex then spoke to the Council concerning their 4H involvement. Mrs. Rambo also thanked Ms. Stevens for her ongoing support. Ms. Stevens also introduced the County Coordinator, Marlene Walker, and closed by stating 4H attempts to reach as many children as possible and could do even more with additional volunteers, program space, club leaders, etc. If anyone has time or resources to help, please do so. Chairman Smith and Vice Chair Goins thanked Ms. Stevens for her diligent work and also to the children for attending the meeting tonight to share their experience.

- D. Jennifer Leaphart, Director WIOA - Department Overview:** Mr. Taylor introduced Ms. Leaphart and reported the agency will be receiving a considerable amount more money to put into the program, which is definitely a vote of confidence. Ms. Leaphart gave a brief overview of the department:
- WIOA is a federal US Department of Labor program focused on increasing the skills and employability readiness within the community.
 - Fairfield, Lexington and Richland Counties are served by WIOA. The majority of the participants are from Fairfield County, serving out of school youth ages 17-24 and adults and dislocated workers with eligibility requirements. Currently, 80 adults/dislocated workers and 45 youth are served.
 - Services: Resume/interview preparation assistance, career planning, job search assistance, financial assistance for classroom training, on the job training, paid work experience for the youth and support services to minimize barriers to employment.
 - Supportive Services: Uniforms for work/training, books and supplies for training, expungement costs, travel reimbursements for training, medical fees for training (vaccinations, drug screens, etc.) and post training exam fees.
 - New budget modifications: Youth grant increased by \$162,400. Adult grant increased by \$21,500. Dislocated worker grant increased by \$2,500. These changes were put into place to accommodate supportive service policy revisions and full-time resource room operation expenses.

- Recent changes/highlights: Resources available 5 days a week in Winnsboro for the first time in years; increase in free workshops offered and additional resources offered through partner agencies such as Wel-Vista, Fatherhood Coalition and Goodwill SCSEP.
- Application procedure: View WIOA orientation at www.midlandsworks.org and speak with a WIOA representative who will go over the next steps.

Council Member Pauley asked if placement is mostly found in the County or outside of the County. Per Ms. Leaphart, right now placement has been outside of Fairfield County. However, there have been several placements with the work experience for the youth in the County. This gives the youth with not much job experience an opportunity for 10 weeks to get paid work experience.

- E.** Chief Mike Good, Mitford Volunteer Fire Department - Presentation of Grants: Chief Good was not able to attend the meeting tonight. However, Mr. Taylor reported two grants had been received, one for extrication equipment and one for air packs.

14. CLERK TO COUNCIL'S REPORT

None.

- 15. 2ND PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES):** All public comments made during this session must pertain to items not on the agenda or under Council's consideration. Each speaker is allocated three (3) minutes for comment. The total time allocated for the public comment portion of the meeting is thirty (30) minutes. Those wishing to make public comment must sign to do so prior to the Council Chair calling the meeting to order. The Clerk to Council will make a public comment sign-up sheet available at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to the scheduled start time of the meeting.

- Peggy Swearingen - Fire Department
- Randy Bright - A Health Suggestion

16. COUNTY COUNCIL TIME

Douglas: The I-77 Alliance consists of York, Chester, Fairfield and Richland County. They cannot be faulted for not supplying jobs to the County because the County does not have the water and sewer necessary for industry on the 77 corridor.

Goins: Thanked the administrator and 1st & Main for coming together and putting the citizens and the County first in trying to develop a project for now and the future. She had the privilege of living two lives, one in Jenkinsville (Fairfield County) and the other in Richland County where she went to school. She graduated from Booker T. Washington High School that sat in the midst of a community where one side was supposedly one shade and the other side another shade. During her life's journey, she found that if she kept her character intact and kept respect for others, things change for the better. Character is not in color, rock

or a stone, it's what God has placed inside of you. The stone in front of the school can be moved or not, but if the stone in the heart of humanity does not move, things will not change. Maxcy Gregg Park was located in her neighborhood, and as time went by and the mindset of humanity changed and compassion came in with recognition that if we are going to make it, this must be done together, now all the part is being utilized by many cultures. For Fairfield County, she thanks the County, the Town and all others who came to the table and decided to learn from history, grow through history and move toward the future. There are too many great minds in the County with young people who need to see great examples of working together, good examples of collaboration. Love is sacrificial, not superficial. If it comes down to the point that the monument cannot be moved, but the benefits of the future of this community and our children outweigh the rock that sits there, she will vote yes.

Ruff: Inquired concerning the process of replacing the tax assessor. Per Mr. Taylor, the assistant tax assessor has moved into the interim position and the position is being advertised.

Trapp: Inquired if V.C. Summer has advised when they would be bringing the tax check. Per Mr. Taylor, this has been received. It sat on someone's desk and Mr. Taylor called SCE&G and was advised the check had been sent. Chairman Smith asked if this was on a staff member's desk to which Mr. Taylor responded yes.

Robinson: In the past 3-4 weeks, he has received emails in reference to being for and against the Mt. Zion project. The ones for have far outweighed the ones against, but tonight he had to vote his conscious because of too many unwritten variables. He is definitely for the Mt. Zion project because he sees the potential and must move forward. The administration building is about to fall apart and preparations must be made. The potential is there, but he wanted a few more questions answered before he voted his conscious on moving forward.

Smith: Chairman Smith will assume the responsibility for not making sure everyone reviewed the deed. He did see the deed and thought it had been distributed to everyone. He apologized for not getting these questions answered prior to this evening's meeting.

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION (The following statement is provided in compliance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act: Subsequent to Executive Session, Council may take action on matters discussed in Executive Session.)

At 6:57 p.m., it was moved by Council Member Trapp and seconded by Vice Chair Goins to go into executive session for (a) Legal Matter - Update on Litigation Against SCANA/SCE&G in Reference to the Abandoned V.C. Summer New Nuclear Project. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

At 7:18 p.m., it was moved by Council Member Douglas and seconded by Vice Chair Goins to come out of executive session and return to open session. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

There was no action taken in executive session. Council took information for advisement purposes only.

18. ADJOURN

At 7:20 p.m., it was moved by Council Member Ruff, properly seconded by Council Member Robinson to adjourn. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

PATTI L. DAVIS
CLERK TO COUNCIL

WILLIAM B. SMITH, JR.
CHAIRMAN