



**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
DECEMBER 23, 2013**

Present: David L. Ferguson, R. David Brown, Mary Lynn Kinley, Kamau Marcharia, Dwayne Perry (arrived 6:03 p.m.), Carolyn B. Robinson, Mikel R. Trapp, Council Members; J. Milton Pope, County Administrator; Davis Anderson, Deputy County Administrator; Jack James, County Attorney; Shryll Brown, 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 Herald-Independent, The State, and Winnsboro Cablevision, and ninety-five other individuals.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ferguson called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*It was moved by Council Member Brown; seconded by Council Member Trapp to approve the agenda. **The motion carried unanimously.***

3. INVOCATION

Following a moment of silent prayer, Council Member Kinley led in the Invocation.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*It was moved by Council Member Brown; seconded by Council Member Robinson to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of December 9, 2013; Regular Meeting of December 9, 2013 and Work Session of December 11, 2013. **The motion carried unanimously.***

5. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

None.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES): INPUT MUST PERTAIN TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA, FOR WHICH NO PUBLIC HEARING IS REQUIRED OR HAS BEEN SCHEDULED

No one signed to speak.

7. PUBLIC HEARING

None.

8. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND ORDERS:

None.

9. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS MINUTES

Provided as information.

10. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS APPOINTMENTS

*It was moved by Council Member Robinson; seconded by Council Member Brown to approve the Appointment Ratification as presented for the Fairfield County Fire Commission. **The motion carried unanimously.***

The Clerk announced the following appointment: Mr. Jerry Nealy (Dutchman's Creek VFD Representative).

11. OLD BUSINESS**A. Eau Claire Cooperative**

Mr. Pope was asked to give Council some history of the request from Eau Claire Cooperative, which he did as follows:

- The Eau Claire Health Cooperative Director, Dr. Stuart Hamilton, provided back-up documentation to the Fairfield County Council on December 11, 2013 at a work session regarding the "over-run" cost on the Eau Claire Medical Facility that is currently under construction in the Jenkinsville area of Fairfield County.
- Once constructed this facility will enhance the delivery of medical services to rural residents of the County and have a special emphasis on various "underserved" populations in that geographic area. Dr. Hamilton mentioned in his presentation that the County Council had encouraged the construction of this facility previously because of an awareness of the need for the medical facility.
- Based on a financial plan presented by Dr. Hamilton, a \$50,000.00 contribution from Fairfield County would be a major component in satisfying the outstanding construction over-run debt on the facility.
- Lastly Dr. Hamilton was also flexible to accepting recommendations from County Council in regards to naming the medical facility.

Options to the \$50,000.00 Construction funding request:

1. Appropriate \$50,000.00 from the general fund by budget amendment
2. Appropriate \$25,000.00 in February of 2014 from the general fund by budget amendment and budget the remaining \$25,000.00 for February of 2015
3. Appropriate a lower funding amount to this request by budget amendment
4. Do not fund this request

*It was moved by Council Member Marcharia; seconded by Council Member Trapp to approve Option #2 above as outlined above (appropriate \$25,000.00 in February of 2014 from the general fund by budget amendment and budget the remaining \$25,000.00 for February of 2015). **The motion carried unanimously.***

B. Fairfield Memorial Hospital

- The Fairfield Memorial Hospital gave a presentation on December 11, 2013 to the County Council regarding the status of the medical facility.
- The Hospital Administrator provided financials and an overview of the negotiations that are occurring between the hospital and Palmetto Richland Hospital in Columbia South Carolina. In regards to the dialogue with Palmetto Richland, Fairfield Memorial's goal is to establish a long-term contract that will stabilize long-term quality health care for citizens of Fairfield County through a contractual relationship. In order to establish the terms of an agreement, Palmetto Richland has required various data and statistics from Fairfield Memorial that will require the assistance of a consultant which the staff of Fairfield Memorial is currently working on.

- Lastly, the hospital has continued to experience cash flow challenges and the County Council has worked with Fairfield Memorial by "fronting" budgeted appropriations earlier than normally scheduled through quarterly payments. Based on their continued cash flow challenge, the Fairfield Memorial Hospital Board, by way of its Administrator, has requested an immediate payment of \$245,000.00 from Fairfield County Council to assist with their cash flow challenges.
- If Fairfield Memorial's request is granted, this will fulfill County Council's annual appropriation to the hospital.

Options:

1. Grant the \$245,000.00 request and direct the Administrator to forward an appropriation to Fairfield Memorial Hospital
2. Grant a lower amount of funding to Fairfield Memorial Hospital
3. Deny or refuse any action on the request at this time

*It was moved by Council Member Robinson; seconded by Vice Chairman Perry to approve Option #1 as outlined above (grant the \$245,000.00 request and direct the Administrator to forward an appropriation to Fairfield Memorial Hospital). **The motion carried unanimously.***

12. NEW BUSINESS

None.

13. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

a. Mentioned that Mrs. Clowney had death in her family, and Mr. Bonds' brother passed away. Asked that these families be in our prayers.

b. Asked that the County Spotlight be deferred until the first of the year.

c. Request of Action: Purchase Of 2014 Ford F250 Crew Cab Truck

Mr. Pope delineated this request is for a 2014 Ford 250 crew cab truck, in the amount of \$28,791.00, for the Emergency Management Department. Mr. Pope set forth that all of these funds is actually coming from a grant that was awarded to the County. He stated the vehicle is to be used for mobilization of the Fairfield County Decontamination Trailer in an emergency. Staff is asking Council's favorable approval of this request.

*It was moved by Council Member Brown; seconded by Vice Chairman Perry to approve and proceed with the purchase of the vehicle for the Emergency Management Department. **The motion carried unanimously.***

d. Unnamed Roads To Be Named

Mr. Pope set forth that the Planning Commission has forwarded to Council for consideration five (5) roads to be named. All of them came with a unanimous recommendation from the Planning Commission.

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Road To Be Named</u>
Mark Hughes	Praise Valley Road
Andrew Green	Natalie Lane
Andrew Green	Arden's Drive
Josephine R. Holley	Mitt Bee Circle
Christian Hendricks	Horizon Drive

*It was moved by Council Member Robinson; seconded by Vice Chairman Perry to name the unnamed roads as presented above. **The motion carried unanimously.***

e. Temporary Closure Of Portion Of Debutary Road

Mr. Pope brought forth that citizens who have property on Debutary Road had requested the closing of a portion of Debutary Road, as they have experienced increase in dumping and other illegal activity since the washing out of the bridge at Crooked Creek. They are asking that this portion be temporarily closed so that such activity can be stopped. This matter has been sent to the County Attorney, who has drafted an agreement. Staff is asking Council's approval to temporarily close the portion of Debutary Road that adjoins the lands of the property owners that runs from Wateree Road in a westerly direction to a washed out bridge that formerly ran across Crooked Creek. *It was moved by Council Member Brown; seconded by Vice Chairman Perry to temporarily close that portion of Debutary Road as set forth. **The motion carried unanimously.***

14. CLERK TO COUNCIL'S REPORT

Thanked the Council for a very productive year, and wished Council and their families a Merry Christmas.

15. 2ND PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES): INPUT CAN BE TO INTRODUCE AN ITEM NOT CURRENTLY UNDER COUNCIL'S CONSIDERATION OR BRING A CONCERN TO COUNCIL'S ATTENTION

No one signed to speak.

16. COUNTY COUNCIL TIME

Council Member Brown, Council Member Marcharia and Chairman Ferguson all gave their perspective on the Eau Claire facility.

Council Member Marcharia acknowledged friends of his who were visiting from Boston. He also commented that he had received phone calls about an alleged contradiction in the starting salary that was announced by the Element Electronics Company. *Mr. Pope was asked to follow up on this matter and report the validity of the information as appropriate.*

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION

*At 6:30 P.M., it was moved by Council Member Brown; seconded by Council Member Marcharia to go in executive session to discuss a personnel contractual matter. **The motion carried unanimously.***

*At 8:08 P.M., it was moved by Council Member Robinson; seconded by Council Member Trapp to come out of executive session and return to open session. **The motion carried unanimously.***

In open session, Chairman Ferguson reported no votes were taken in executive session.

*It was moved by Council Member Brown; seconded by Vice Chairman Perry that Council move forward with the extension of the existing contract for Mr. Milton Pope for an additional six (6) months, with the terms to be exactly as they are in the original contract. **The motion carried unanimously.***

Chairman Ferguson announced that he would like to schedule an Economic Development Committee meeting for next Monday night, December 30, 2013, at 6:00 P.M.

17. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 P.M., upon unanimous approval of Council.

SHRYLL M. BROWN
CLERK TO COUNCIL

DAVID L. FERGUSON, SR.
CHAIRMAN