



**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
JANUARY 24, 2011**

Present: David L. Ferguson, Dwayne Perry, R. David Brown, Mary Lynn Kinley, Kamau Marcharia, Carolyn B. Robinson, Mikel R. Trapp, Council Members; Philip L. Hinely, County Administrator; Shryll M. 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 fifty individuals.

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. INVOCATION

Council Member Kinley led in the invocation.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Council Member Trapp; seconded by Council Member Marcharia to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 18, 2011. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Dan Vismor was asked to give a summary of the update to the Comprehensive Plan, which he did as follows:

- Comprehensive Plan comprised of nine elements: Population, Housing, Community Facilities, Transportation, Economic, Natural Resources, Cultural Resources, Land Use and Priority Investment.
- The Priority Investment Element was added in 2007.
- The Plan includes 93 action recommendations. The following priority list is included in the Capital Improvement Budget: Housing (Targeted Code Enforcement Winnsboro fringe areas); Economic Development (Industrial park Development, Park Entrance Protection and Enhancement; Industrial Zone Protection and Web Site Redevelopment); Land Use (Revise Zoning and Land Development Regulations to Implement Recommendations Contained in Comprehensive Plan).
- Next Step: Reassess and update Land Use and Zoning Plan and include documents to move forward.

Relating To The Approval Of The Update To The Fairfield County Comprehensive Plan 2010 – 2021
Chairman Ferguson opened public hearing at 6:31 P.M. No one signed to speak. The public hearing was closed at 6:32 P.M.

Chairman Ferguson expressed that he would like to bring the Plan before the Council for a vote the first meeting in February. In the interim, a work session will be scheduled for February 2, 2011 for continued discussion. He asked that the Plan be made available through the county website or the county library.

PRESENTATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

Fairfield County Disabilities and Special Needs Board

County Council presented Board Chairman, Shirley Greene and Director, Laura Collins with a "big" check in the amount of \$125,000 for meeting the challenge grant.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

6. OLD BUSINESS

None

7. NEW BUSINESS

None

8. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE**a. Presentation of The FY 2009-2010 Audit**

Mr. Tom McNeish gave a report of the 2009-2010 Audit as follows:

- Purpose of financial statement audit are funding related; specifically, what the users of the financial statement want to know is can the firm give an opinion that the statements are presented fairly in accordance with GAAP.
- In making a credit decision, it is important to ascertain whether the county is able to repay debt.
- As a separate audit, the firm looked at the major grant programs and tested them for compliance with the grant document.
- The audit performed is not a fraud audit and is not an examination of internal controls.
- By audit standards, the firm is obligated to make the audit process unpredictable. After several audits, the firm gets better and better at identifying what the county's risk areas are.
- Financial Statement Audit. There were no findings that would have to be reported as significant deficiencies or material weaknesses.
- Fund Balance. Is it sufficient? The revenue source is largely predicated on the property taxes. As of 2010, the county has approximately six months' fund balance. The county should be commended on maintaining a healthy fund balance and fiscal discipline and needs to properly maintain that fund balance so as to become less obligated to enter into a short-term debt situation.
- Prior to issuing debt, Comptroller proactively contacted the audit firm for input in terms of how to record transactions.

It was moved by Council Member Brown; seconded by Council Member Robinson to accept the fiscal year 2009-2010 audit as information as presented by the audit firm of Elliott Davis. The motion carried unanimously.

b. Commented on the opportunity he had to purchase a permanent home in the county and shared his feelings on the fire that destroyed the Tavern.

9. CLERK TO COUNCIL'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE:

a. February 2, 2011 Work Session.

b. Acknowledged the group of young people from Jesus Christ Church who came to observe the proceedings of the Council meeting.

10. BOARD AND COMMISSION MINUTES

Provided as information.

11. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Provided as information.

12. COUNTY COUNCIL TIME

Brown: Expressed his appreciation to Council for having served as Chairman the past two years and welcomed Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Perry as Chairman and Vice Chairman, respectively.

Perry: Commented on the fire that destroyed the Tavern and offered to reach out to Mr. Hinely for any help that he needed.

Ferguson: Thanked the volunteer firemen for their invaluable service. *Asked Mr. Hinely and Mr. Anderson to work on a schedule to meet with the CTC about the road index.* Commented on moving the fire department in the Jenkinsville area.

Kinley: Commented on the trees that were taken down on Maple Street and for the sidewalks and new trees planned for that area.

13. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 P.M., upon the unanimous approval of Council.

SHRYLL M. BROWN
CLERK TO COUNCIL

DAVID L. FERGUSON, SR.
CHAIRMAN