



MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL  
MARCH 24, 2003

**Present:** Carnell Murphy, R. David Brown, David L. Ferguson, 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 twenty-two other individuals.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:13 P.M.

2. After which Council Member Ferguson gave the invocation.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*It was moved by Mr. Ferguson; seconded by Mrs. Robinson to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 10, 2003. The Clerk was asked to check the attendance record to ascertain if Mr. Ferguson's name should have been listed as present at the March 10, 2003 meeting, and if so, to correct the record as appropriate. The motion carried.*

**Public Hearings**

An Ordinance To Amend The Fairfield County Zoning Ordinance (Ordinance No. 335) To Provide For The Zoning Reclassification From RD (Rural Development District) To B-2 (General Business District), Of A Parcel Of Land Totaling Ninety One Hundredths (0.91) Acres, Owned By James And Cynthia McDonald, Tax Map No. 016-00-00-017, Located At

12827 U. S. Highway 321 N., Blackstock, SC, 29014. *The Chairman officially opened public hearing at 6:16 P.M. Hearing no comments from the public, the Chairman closed public hearing at 6:17 P.M.*

An Ordinance To Amend The Fairfield County Zoning Ordinance (Ordinance No. 335) To Provide For The Zoning Reclassification From R-2 (Inclusive Residential District) To B-2 (General Business District), Of A Parcel Of Land Totaling One And Six Hundredths (1.06) Acres, Owned By John Boyd and Frances Smoak, Tax Map No. 151-07-05-001, Located At NE Corner Of Columbia Road and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Winnsboro, SC, 29180.

The Chairman set forth that a letter has been drafted and sent to Council concerning this matter, and asked the Clerk to post it. So posted: "Mr. Carnell Murphy, Chairman. Dear Mr. Murphy, this correspondence is to inform you that I will not participate in any discussion or vote on any matters pertaining to the matters pertaining to the rezoning of property owned by John Boyd and Frances Smoak located at the NE corner of Columbia Road and Second Street, Winnsboro, South Carolina, due to a possible conflict of interest. Thank you for your attention to this matter. Sincerely, Russell David Brown, Vice Chairman. Copy to the remaining members of Council." Chairman Murphy asked Mr. Brown if this were his matter. Mr. Brown responded it was. The Chairman stated the Council will be governed by that.

*The Chairman officially opened public hearing at 6:18 P.M. Hearing no further comments on this matter, the Chairman closed public hearing at 6:19 P.M.*

An Ordinance To Amend The Fairfield County Zoning Ordinance (Ordinance No. 335) To Provide For The Zoning Reclassification From RD (Rural Development District) To R-1 (Single Family Residential District), Of A Parcel Of Land Totaling Nineteen And Thirty-Seven Hundredths (19.37) Acres, Owned By E. H. Brown, Tax Map No. 201-00-00-044, Located On Peach Road, Approximately 2500 Feet West Of The Intersection Of Peach Street And Coleman Highway, Ridgeway, SC, 29130. *The Chairman officially opened public hearing at 6:20. Hearing no comments, the Chairman closed public hearing t 6:21 P.M.*

An Ordinance To Amend The Fairfield County Zoning Ordinance (Ordinance No. 335) To Provide For The Zoning Reclassification From RD (Rural Development District) To B-1 (Limited Business District), Of A Parcel Of Land Totaling One And Thirty Hundredths (1.30) Acres, Owned By Lebanon Presbyterian Church, Tax Map No. 201-12-00-024, Located At 667 US Highway 21S, Ridgeway, SC, 29130. *The Chairman officially opened public hearing at 6:21 P.M.*

Al Hanna: "My name is Al Hanna, Clerk of Sessions from Lebanon Presbyterian Church in Ridgeway. We wish to have this land rezoned to have a medical facility constructed on this property in Ridgeway. That medical facility will consist of a family practitioner; pharmacy; as well as counseling service possibilities; ob/gyn; and dental. The facility will treat people on a sliding fee scale, regardless of their income. No one will be turned away. The picture of the facility which is planned to be constructed is a complete facility to be constructed there. This facility's plan is any where from \$300,000 to \$440,000 for construction."

*Hearing no further comments, the Chairman closed the public hearing at 6:23 P.M.*

#### **Installation Ceremony – Junior County Council**

The Honorable Walter Brown administered the pledge to the following representatives and alternates of the Junior County Council: Danielle Miller, Calvin Pearson, Jessica Hollis, Jennifer McGriff, Tanisha Westmoreland, Aleeyah Johnson, Alecia Thomas, Christa Branham, Shealy Broome, Boyd Brown, and Brandi Medlin.

#### **4. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

##### **A. Personnel and Justice**

(1). Longevity and Service Awards. This program will provide guidelines under which Fairfield County Council will sponsor a longevity bonus program to all employees who have accumulated a minimum of three years of service.

It was moved by Mrs. Robinson; seconded by Mr. Brown to approve the longevity and service awards policy. The motion carried.

(2). Change to Sick and Annual Leave Policy. Proposal to allow leave to be taken in thirty minute increments.

It was moved by Mrs. Robinson; seconded by Mr. Brown to approve the sick and annual leave policy. The motion carried.

(3). Request from Clerk of Court for position change. Employee in Family Court retired. The request is to replace that part-time position and make it a full-time position. The Clerk of Court has agreed to fund the percentage of

increase to accomplish this from IV-D funds.

It was moved by Mrs. Robinson; seconded by Ms. Kinley that a part-time position that has retired been placed as a full-time position, with the percentage of increase coming from IV-D funds. The motion carried.

(4). Support for Auditor's Office. One position not filled at the present time. Acting Auditor has requested that this position now be filled and that it be considered a full-time job.

It was moved by Mrs. Robinson; seconded by Mr. Ferguson that the position in the Auditor's office now be filled as a full-time position. The motion carried.

(5). Job Description – Accounting Technician, Finance Department. The main responsibility will be to track the fixed and non-fixed assets of the County, with additional responsibilities as outlined. The job has a grade assigned to it.

It was moved by Mrs. Robinson; seconded by Mr. Ferguson and Ms. Kinley to approve the Accounting Technician job description in the Finance Department. The motion carried.

(6). Summer Youth Program. Council doubled the amount of money going into the project, now allowing 50 youth, between the ages of 14-21, to work in various positions in the County this summer. The schedule was presented.

It was moved by Mrs. Robinson; seconded by the remainder of Council to accept the schedule for the summer youth program. The motion carried.

Council Member Marcharia asked if all the youth were from Fairfield County.

Chairman Murphy pointed out that the First Reading of the property dealing with Lebanon Church was inadvertently omitted from the agenda, and asked Council to consider addressing this matter as Item 6E, and change Item E to Item F. So moved by Mr. Ferguson; seconded by Mr. Marcharia to amend the agenda as stated. The motion carried.

## **B. Economic Development and Land Planning**

(1). The committee met for the purpose of information gathering; however, Mr. Richardson did give the committee an update of the Walter B. Brown Industrial Park.

(2). Clerk working on a letter to be sent to the Highway Commissioners, the Governor, and other interested parties regarding assistance with the I-77 Interchange and Road 30.

(3). Much anticipated funds coming from Multi-county Industrial Park Agreement with Richland County forthcoming in the very near future.

(4). Funding of Mitford Water Line for fire protection and economic development. No action was taken. The Administrator was asked to move forward with negotiating with Mitford Water Company.

It was moved by Mr. Brown; seconded by Mrs. Robinson to allow the Administrator to move forward with working out the disbursement of funding of this project as expeditiously as possible. Mrs. Robinson inquired if the MOU and everything was ready to sign and go forward. The motion carried.

(5). Fairfield County numbers eight in the State in unemployment.

**C. Health, Education, and Recreation**

(1). Fishing Tournament. The Chamber is requesting \$3,500 in seed money to underwrite this tournament called "CrappieThon USA". The committee is recommending approval of this request.

It was moved by Mr. Marcharia; seconded by Mrs. Robinson that Council approve the request, up to \$3,500, in seed money for the fishing tournament. The motion carried.

(2). American Legion Baseball. Seeking Council's assistance in of up to \$3,000.

The committee's recommendation to Council is to allow the American Legion to administer the youth baseball activity, with the restriction that the American Legion provides to Council a copy of how the program is laid out and how the money is spent. So moved by Mr. Trapp; seconded by Mr. Ferguson. Mr. Marcharia pointed out that the figures he is looking at doubles the figures stated. Mr. Trapp responded that it required approximately \$6,600 to run the program; however, the Legion is only asking Council for up to \$3,000. The motion carried.

(3). Portable Restrooms. The committee received information on cost of individual sites, but did not have a total financial picture for the entire County. Therefore, this matter was tabled, pending further information from the Administrator. Mr. Ferguson inquired about how many and what

areas were being considered. Mr. Marcharia asked if these portable restrooms were for landing sites specifically, rather than for recreation, and voiced that he has been requesting restrooms for the fourth district for two years. Chairman Murphy responded that information was in the package that outlined four sites, and of that, the committee was reminded that St. Matthews was the one in district four that was part of the survey. He set forth that it should be the consensus to not have approval on any until there is a proposal on all to make sure all were approved at the same time.

(4). Proposal for Walking Trail/Benches – Blair 99 Park. The committee reviewed a quote from a local paving company, as well as reviewed a quote to install park benches. The committee's recommendation was to ask the Recreation Commission Director to bring a proposal back to the HER Committee for further study.

(5). Fortune Springs Swimming Pool. The committee's recommendation is to authorize the County Administrator to look into options dealing with this property.

**5. OLD BUSINESS**

A. None-action item. Information Only.

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

**B. First Reading (By Title Only): Ordinance No. 455-** An Ordinance To Amend The Fairfield County Zoning Ordinance (Ordinance No. 335) To Provide For The Zoning Reclassification From R-2 (Inclusive Residential District) To B-2 (General Business District), Of A Parcel Of Land Totaling One And Six Hundredths (1.06) Acres, Owned By John Boyd and Frances Smoak, Tax Map No. 151-07-05-001, Located At NE Corner Of Columbia Road and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Winnsboro, SC, 29180. {The Chairman expressed that the same action that occurred during public hearing on this Ordinance was empowered (as far as the possible conflict of interest). The Chairman noted that Mr. Brown has removed himself from the podium}.

It was moved by Mrs. Robinson; seconded by Mr. Trapp to approve First Reading (By Title Only) of Ordinance No. 455. The motion carried.

At this point, Vice Chairman Brown returned to the podium.

**A, C, D, E, F. First Reading (By Title Only): Ordinance Nos. 454, 456, 457, 458, and 459.**

It was moved by Mr. Ferguson; seconded by Ms. Kinley to approve First Reading (By Title Only) of Ordinance Nos. 454, 456, 457, 458, and 459. The motion carried.

**7. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE**

The County Administrator reported on the following items:

- a. Noted that the Clerk has posted at the entrance doors the rules pertaining to signing up for public comment.
- b. Received letter from Jasper Adams, Chairman of the steering committee for the Men of Ridgeway Health, Education, and Leadership Program requesting \$1,000 to support their first annual community youth rally on April 12, 2003.

It was moved by Mr. Brown; seconded by Mr. Trapp to fund the Men of Ridgeway Health, Education, and Leadership Program, listed by the County Administrator, up to \$1,000.00. The motion carried.

**8. CLERK TO COUNCIL'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE:**

The Clerk to Council reported on the following items:

- a. Letter received from Senator Hollings noting he will keep Fairfield County in mind concerning the I-77 project.

**9. BOARD AND COMMISSION MINUTES**

Provided as information. The Chairman pointed out that our attorney is reviewing the enabling legislation that created each of the boards and commissions to make sure they are under the proper guidance of their respective covenants.

**10. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

None

**11. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No one signed.

12. COUNTY COUNCIL TIME

Brown:

Elderly individual's home was completely destroyed. In the past, as long as the insurance company gets the house torn down and delivered to the transfer station, Council would waive the cost of that.

It was moved by Mr. Brown; seconded by Mrs. Robinson that Council follow the tradition established of helping people in this situation (the name will be registered with the County Administrator). The motion carried.

Robinson:

Mr. Monroe Peay, a gentleman in District 2, reached the age of 100 in mid-December. He passed away within a month, which did not give Council an opportunity to recognize him.

*Chairman Murphy asked that the family be invited here, and placed this in the WCR Committee to accomplish this.*

Expounded on the Hog Bill, Local Land Use, and Bill Board Legislation.

*Mrs. Robinson was asked to formulate an appropriate letter to send to the Delegation. Mrs. Robinson was also asked to keep up with actions in the Legislature and the Friday Report and bring a report back to the Council.*

Marcharia:

Expressed that "one of the highest honors I have ever had was being elected to public office. I want to be in this position, and I hold it with pride and with dignity. It has come to my attention that when I ask questions on Council (and I have asked questions) that it appears to me that I get attacked by asking questions. I wrote a letter recently just asking questions, and I thought that issue was behind me. I was getting ready to drop it. It was not responded to in an appropriate way. When I am in the community...when I read a letter in confidence to someone, and that letter shows in the community, particularly in my district, and it is used to degrade me and to accuse me of trying to sabotage youth projects in this County, when I voted for it (you just said for increase in jobs), I really take offense to that. No one is going to intimidate me for asking questions on this Council in public. When I feel as though as I need to ask questions, I am going to ask questions. If people attack me in my community and try to belittle me, then I will take that on and I will follow up with this letter in the appropriate fashion to my attorney. I just need to say that. I think all members—Junior County; anybody on this Council has a right to ask questions without being attacked and belittled and your name drug through the mud simply because you ask questions about County business. I needed to say that. I am very disappointed in that kind of behavior."



**13. ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:23 P.M. upon the unanimous approval of Council.

	
SHRYLL M. BROWN	CARNELL MURPHY
CLERK TO COUNCIL	CHAIRMAN