



**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
MARCH 26, 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 thirty four 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 Vice Chair Goins to approve the Agenda. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

3. INVOCATION

Council Member Trapp 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 March 12, 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.

- Randy Bright - Hospital

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A.** An Ordinance by Fairfield County Establishing Procedures to Expend Funds Appropriated by Fairfield County in its Annual Fiscal Budget for Collaborative Public Works Projects. Chairman Smith opened the public hearing at 6:04 p.m.

Mr. Cal Harrison signed to speak in reference to this matter. Documents were given to the Clerk to be distributed to Council. By motion of Council Member Douglas and seconded by Council Member Robinson, Chairman Smith closed the public hearing at 6:06 p.m. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

8. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND ORDERS

A. Third and Final Reading: Ordinance No. 691 – An Ordinance by Fairfield County Establishing Procedures to Expend Funds Appropriated by Fairfield County in its Annual Fiscal Budget for Collaborative Capital Public Works Projects. It was moved by Council Member Douglas and seconded by Council Member Robinson to approve the Third and Final Reading of Ordinance No. 691. Chairman Smith made a motion to amend the ordinance by adopting amendment #1, which had been distributed to Council. Council Member Ruff seconded Chairman Smith's motion. Chairman Smith explained the amendment pertains to Section 4 of the ordinance and will replace "fifteen (15%) percent" with "twenty (20%) percent" and replace "total project budget" with "County funding requested". As the ordinance is currently written, it requires matching funds of 15% of the overall project budget. Chairman Smith believes basing this on the overall project budget was an inadvertent error in the drafting of the ordinance, and this was never the intent of the Administration and Finance Committee. Rather the intent was to require a certain percentage of match of the County funding requested as opposed to the overall budget. Additionally, the amendment would bring the match requirement to 20%. For example, the Town of Ridgeway is requesting \$57,000 from the County for a match for a sidewalk project, with the overall cost of the project around \$500,000. As the ordinance is currently written, the Town of Ridgeway would not need to ask the County for anything as the requirement would be for the Town to put at least \$75,000 toward the project, which exceeds the amount being asked from the County. By adopting the amendment and passing the ordinance, Town of Ridgeway would only be required to put forth \$11,400 to have this request considered by the County. ***The motion for passage of Amendment #1 carried 6-1 with Council Member Trapp voting nay. With no further discussion concerning the main motion for passage of Ordinance No. 691, this motion carried 6-1 with Council Member Trapp voting nay.***

B. First Reading (By Title Only): Ordinance No. 695 - An Ordinance to Amend that Certain Master Agreement Governing the I-77 Corridor Regional Industrial Park Between Richland County and Fairfield County so as to Enlarge the Park (Colite International Ltd., Formerly Project Lite). It was moved by Council Member Trapp, seconded by Vice Chair Goins and Council Member Pauley to approve the First Reading (By Title Only) of Ordinance No. 695. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

9. BOARD AND COMMISSION MINUTES

Aeronautics Commission. It was moved by Council Member Trapp and seconded by Vice Chair Goins to approve the minutes as presented. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

10. BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

None.

11. OLD BUSINESS

None.

12. NEW BUSINESS

None.

13. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- A.** Introduction of Mr. Chris Timmers, Interim Director, Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Taylor introduced Mr. Timmers, who was present in the audience and spoke briefly. He currently lives in Columbia and has been in the state for over 20 years. He looks forward to working with the Council and has already reached out to many of the members.
- B.** Introduction of Beverly Mozie, Grants Coordinator. Mr. Taylor introduced Ms. Mozie who was present in the audience.
- C.** Keith Branham, Director Building Maintenance - Department Overview. Mr. Taylor introduced Mr. Branham who then gave the following presentation:
- Building Maintenance staff consists of: Director, Supervisor, HVAC Tech, two Maintenance Techs, two maintenance helpers/litter crew, five custodians, one administrative assistant and 18 inmate laborers. The inmate labor accounts for approximately 58% of the department work force, and Mr. Branham depends on them a great deal.
 - Functions of the department include: General repairs to County buildings, maintenance of the HVAC units, cleaning of County buildings and grounds and clearing of recycling bins.
 - The department covers 23+ buildings, 91 HVAC units, 11 recycling centers and 8 recreational parks. Also, litter is picked up along the County south side roadways (28 streets).
 - HVAC units. In previous years, service has been contracted out resulting in a cost to the County of around \$30,000. Most of this service is now performed in-house. If more than 2 of the 91 units are down, a call can be made for assistance, but the department handles most of these issues now.
 - Walter Brown/Commerce Center grass cutting and landscaping. Contractors have been used in the past with grass cutting and landscaping costs in upward of \$50,000. Presently, upkeep is done primarily by the inmate labor resulting in additional savings.

- Lawn equipment. A new program was implemented in 2016 for all equipment to be repaired in-house. This has resulted in a savings to the County in upward of \$50,000. With in-house repair, around \$10,000 is spent on parts.
- Landscaping equipment. The department is presently servicing 18 riding mowers, 7 push mowers, 30 weed eaters and 20 back pack blowers.
- From July 1, 2017, to present, the department has completed 350+ work orders.

Mr. Branham then presented slides consisting of some of the maintenance projects the department has performed, such as the small buildings for the recycling centers, improvements to the family court office, several projects at Department of Social Services, ball fields including Drawdy Park and Garden Street, landscaping in the Forest Hills area and litter collection. Currently, 1,060 bags of trash are being picked up on a weekly basis. Mr. Branham gave the number to call for litter problems: 635-6331. Custodial services, including cleaning of carpet, tile, etc., occur nightly Monday through Thursday. In the future, Mr. Branham reports the overall department objectives are to continue to cut costs and achieve further savings on the budget, continue the upkeep of County buildings, continue the upkeep of the HVAC units, continue maintaining the grounds and continue to keep recycling bins and roads clear of trash. Council Member Ruff is very impressed with the Building Maintenance Department's overall performance and the use of inmate labor. The savings to the County is very impressive. Council Member Robinson also thanked Mr. Branham for his efforts and asked if the Sheriff's Department assists with the litter control. Per Mr. Anderson, if litter is seen containing a name, the Sheriff's Office/Code Enforcement is then called so as not to tamper with the prima facie evidence. The Sheriff's Department will then come out to get the evidence so as not to break the chain of custody. Code Enforcement would handle this because they are level 3. Vice Chair Goins also thanked Mr. Branham for the many projects the department handles, but especially saving money for the County. Mr. Anderson commented he feels Mr. Branham is being modest concerning the inmate labor, as this has been a tremendous program for the County. Chairman Smith feels that Administration and Mr. Branham along with his staff have done a fantastic job in saving money for the County by doing more in-house maintenance.

- D. Comments Concerning Service of Remembrance Conducted by Fairfield County Coroner's Office.** Mr. Taylor recognized the County Coroner, Mr. Chris Hill, for organizing a wonderful remembrance program for the unclaimed bodies that have been housed at the Coroner's office for many years. Everyone who attended the ceremony stated it was very moving and respectful.
- E. Solid Waste:** This item is not on the agenda, but Mr. Taylor wanted to alert Council to an issue. One of the transfer stations will be closed, and material will be hauled to Chester temporarily. The schedule will be sent out to Council, but per Mr. Anderson, this time period will be April 2 through April 9. The email concerning this matter was received late this past Friday. Appropriate action was taken to contact Chester to implement a back-up plan. The recycling centers will be closed on Sunday because Chester will not be open on Monday. Chairman Smith asked if these were requirements the County did not meet or new requirements, and per Mr. Anderson and Mr. Taylor, the responsibility is

solely with Waste Management and DHEC and does not involve the County. Mr. Taylor has looked into the cost, which is a bit cheaper in Chester because they have their own landfill, but the County will have the manpower and hauling costs. Waste Management may be approached with the increased cost since this was an issue they caused. Chairman Smith feels this would be appropriate.

14. CLERK TO COUNCIL'S REPORT

The Clerk referred to the updated 2018 Meeting Dates. The County is about to begin the budget process with the following important dates:

- April 9: Regular Council Meeting with 1st reading of the budget
- April 10: Budget work session for agencies, if needed
- April 17: Budget work session for departments
- April 23: Regular Council Meeting with 2nd reading of the budget and public hearing
- April 24: Work session for departments, if needed
- May 14: Regular Council Meeting with 3rd and final reading of the budget

Per Mr. Taylor, the Council has received tonight the budget packet for the various outside entities funded by the County. The budget work session for these entities is scheduled for April 10. Council can peruse this packet and notify Administration of any entities Council wishes to speak with on April 10. Most are consistent with the prior year. If there are no questions, this budget work session will not be needed. Chairman Smith inquired if there will be any recommended increases. Per Mr. Taylor, at this point there are no anticipated increases. However, the Administration team is still in the budget process, and he will be looking at all the numbers to match up with the revenue. Chairman Smith will speak with the other Council members and notify Mr. Taylor if any entity should be invited to attend the April 10 session.

The Clerk also reported two additional dates that have been added to the calendar:

- May 4: Volunteer Firemen & Rescue Squad Recognition Banquet
- June 27: Intergovernmental Meeting hosted by Fairfield County Council

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.

- Shirley Greene - Build Something
- Randy Bright - Budget

16. COUNTY COUNCIL TIME

Douglas: An email was received concerning the Mitford Recycling Center. After making some calls concerning this, the problem was handled by Administration. Council Member Douglas asked for the Clerk to read a letter received from Ms. Judith Marshall in praise of Mr. Jake Gaston and the Public Works Department.

Robinson: Congratulated Mr. Timmers and Mrs. Mozie for their new positions. Also, on April 4 the public is invited to a Walkable Winnsboro event, which will be held at the Administration Building from 12:00 to 2:00 for implementation of a pedestrian plan.

Ruff: Although the bookmobile comes to Ridgeway a couple days a week, the community has been missing a permanent library. Council Member Ruff is in the process of talking with Administration to hopefully locate a new home for the Ridgeway branch library. The Town of Ridgeway has also applied for some grants that may incorporate a library building, but this could be far into the future. Council Member Ruff is hopeful this can be accomplished soon.

Goins: Also welcomed Mr. Timmers and Mrs. Mozie to the Fairfield County Team.

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 6:40 p.m., it was moved by Vice Chair Goins and seconded by Council Member Pauley 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 and (b) Proposed Contractual Matter - Discussion Regarding the Potential Purchase of Real Property Identified as Fairfield County TMS #126-03-01-001-000. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

At 7:18 p.m., it was moved by Council Member Trapp and seconded by Council Member Ruff to come out of executive session and return to open session.

No action was taken in Executive Session.

18. ADJOURN

At 7:19 p.m., it was moved by Council Member Trapp, properly seconded by Vice Chair Goins to adjourn. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

PATTI L. DAVIS
CLERK TO COUNCIL

WILLIAM B. SMITH, JR.
CHAIRMAN