



**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
APRIL 13, 2015**

Present: Carolyn B. Robinson, Mary Lynn Kinley, Kamau Marcharia, Marion B. Robinson, Dan W. Ruff, Billy Smith, Walter Larry Stewart, Council Members; J. Milton Pope, County Administrator; Davis Anderson, Deputy County Administrator; Shryll M. Brown, Clerk to Council; Jack James, County Attorney

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-seven other individuals.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Carolyn Robinson called the meeting to order at 6:03 P.M.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

3. INVOCATION

Council Member Ruff led in the invocation.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*It was moved by Council Member Kinley; seconded by Vice Chairman Marcharia to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 23, 2015 and minutes of the Special Meeting of March 23, 2015. **The motion carried unanimously.***

5. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

None.

6. 1ST PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES): INPUT MUST PERTAIN TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA, FOR WHICH NO PUBLIC HEARING IS REQUIRED OR HAS BEEN SCHEDULED. THE TOTAL TIME ALLOCATED TO THIS PUBLIC COMMENT SEGMENT IS 30 MINUTES.

The following individual signed to speak:

- Mr. Jeff Schaffer - Bylaws
- Mr. Randy Bright - Budget

7. PUBLIC HEARING

None.

8. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND ORDERS

A. First Reading (By Title Only): Ordinance No. 649 - To Establish Operating And Capital Budgets For The Operation Of The County Government Of Fairfield County For The Fiscal Year Commencing July 1, 2015 To Provide For The Levy Of Taxes For Fairfield County For The Fiscal Year Commencing July 1, 2015; To Provide For The Expenditure Of Tax Revenues And Other County Funds; To Provide For Other County Purposes; To Provide For Certain Fiscal And Other Matters Relating To County Government; And Other Matters Related Thereto. *It was moved by Council Member Kinley; seconded by Vice Chairman Marcharia to approve First Reading (By Title Only) of Ordinance No. 649. **The motion carried unanimously.***

B. Resolution No. 2015-04: Fair Housing Resolution. *It was moved by Vice Chairman Marcharia; seconded by Council Member Smith to approve Resolution No. 2015-04. During discussion, Council Member Kinley asked Mr. Pope to give an explanation of the Resolution. {Council Member Stewart inquired if the County were having problems with housing discrimination}. **The motion carried unanimously.***

C. Resolution No. 2015-05: Supporting State Efforts To Find Solutions to The Funding Needs For State Maintained And Operated Roads And Bridges Without Transferring The Burden To Local Governments And Opposing Any Actions Taken By The General Assembly That Through Lack Of State Funding Will Lead to Increased Taxes On The Citizens Of Fairfield County. *It was moved by Council Member Kinley; seconded by Vice Chairman Marcharia to approve Resolution No. 2015-05. **The motion carried unanimously.***

9. BOARD AND COMMISSION MINUTES

Provided as information.

10. BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS**A. Construction Board of Adjustments**

*It was moved by Council Member Ruff; seconded by Council Member Robinson to approve the Appointment Ratification as presented for the Construction Board of Adjustments. **The motion carried unanimously.***

B. Zoning Board of Appeals

*It was moved by Council Member Smith; seconded by Council Member Ruff to approve the Appointment Ratification as presented for the Zoning Board of Appeals. **The motion carried unanimously.***

The Clerk announced the following appointments: Construction Board of Adjustments: Mr. James Crooks (representing District 1); Zoning Board of Appeals: Mr. Robert (Bob) Carrison (representing District 7).

11. OLD BUSINESS

None.

12. NEW BUSINESS**A. Midlands Area Workforce Innovation And Opportunity Act (WIOA) Designation Petition**

Chairman Robinson set forth that this is a matter that has to be submitted by March 31, 2015, as presented at the last Council meeting. Many changes will be made in this program. Three (3) individuals from Fairfield County are members of the Board. *It was*

moved by Council Member Smith; seconded by Council Member Kinley to approve the Midlands WIOA Designation Petition documents.

{Council Member Smith asked for more information on exactly what the Council will be doing tonight in regard to this, and what exactly is the Designation Petition}.

Mr. Pope gave an explanation of the program and requirements therein.

{Council Member Kinley requested that the Board members be asked to come before Council at least once or twice a year to give a report}.

{Vice Chairman Marcharia asked for confirmation on the number of members appointed from Fairfield County, and what category are they representing}.

The motion carried unanimously.

13. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

A. Responded to a comment that was mentioned from a member of the public regarding continuing resolutions and the requirement to adopt a balanced budget.

B. Announced that Council has the first meeting, in a series of work sessions, that the Council has placed on the calendar. The work will begin with going through all of the recommendations and primarily covering the revenue and expenditures of the general fund budget, along with the County allocations (outside departments funded by the County). Staff is prepared to go through that information with Council, which was sent via thumb drives, hard copies, organizational charts and structures, all of the budget detail line items and allocation information.

C. Thanked Mrs. Workman for the well attended, successful job fair that was held last Friday. Approximately forty plus vendors were present and 170 participants; several in-County business and organizations were present, as well as some organizations outside the County.

D. Fairfield County has received \$150,000.00 grant of **Notice of Award** to update the Airport Master Plan. This allows the County to make the long-term planning arrangements based upon the existing footprint of the airport.

E. Industry Appreciation. Last year, the County moved or changed the date. Staff is suggesting to the Council to look at the possibility of having the Industry Appreciation in mid-May. Because of the type of event that it is, staff would like to offer for consideration to use The Farm at Ridgeway. Mr. Sharpe will contact the County tomorrow with some specific dates.

F. Employee Appreciation. Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Clowney informed the Administrator that historically, the County has done this in the month of October, and from staff planning, would like to stay consistent with that. This will be added to the calendar and will be administrative planning.

G. Plantation Pointe. Have had information and documentation on this, including the information from the gentleman who came from Plantation Pointe who came and spoke to Council at the last meeting. This matter will go to the committee that Vice Chairman Marcharia chairs, and once he schedules that meeting, staff will provide any other additional information or answer any questions.

H. Noise Ordinance. The committee has met twice regarding some concerns in the County with noise. Also associated with that, there has been some concerns with firearms happening in the same location. Council has bifurcated the issue and wanted to deal with the noise portion of the complaint first. Two citizen input sessions have been held and the committee will be making some recommendations for Council's consideration. This information is placed on the County's website.

I. County Bylaws. The committee met regarding this item. There were some recommendations made; primarily, for the second public input section. There was some recommended language and staff understood what the gist of the statements were and was given authority to put that language in written form. That information was provided to Council, as well as placed on the County's website. This recommendation will be forwarded to full Council for consideration.

J. Park Improvements. In reference to Drawdy Park, one of the things that staff made Council aware of several months ago, was that Administration had met with the Director of the Recreation Department and put together a Phase I plan on renovating and updating all of the County parks: Relocated entrance signs by attaching to the fence at the park entrance; County staff removed the old press box; relocated the main breaker switch; cut-welded and prefabricated handrails on the stairwells; added a step to the bottom of each stairwell to prevent any type of safety hazards; planted additional grass seeds in those areas of renovation; used inmate labor to repaint almost everything at the park. Have plans for all of the parks. Will go through in detail all of the funding that is scheduled for all of the parks. Have made some organizational changes with the staff; i.e., new lead supervisory roles with existing staff.

K. Motion Period Process. Mr. Pope reminded Council that this item was added in the Bylaws for the purpose of items that an individual Council Member wanted to bring to the attention of full Council, or if there were some item from the public that Council wanted to undertake and assign it to committee. This, he said, is a standing item under the Administrator's Report.

{Council Member Smith set forth that he went out the County Procurement site earlier today and saw that the County has already put out solicitations for pre-qualification on the recreation projects. He stated he did not see a problem with the County necessarily putting out pre-qualifications on that specifically at this time; however, he opined that some of the new Council Members (he and Council Member Stewart) asked to discuss the recreation plan again, as it was passed when the previous Council was in session. He asked that this be brought up at the next meeting to ascertain if there is anything the new Council Members want to change or look at}.

{Vice Chairman Marcharia inquired of Council Member Smith if he were speaking specifically of each Council Member's district, as Council Member Smith's district, for instance, things were voted on prior to him coming on Council, and if there was something that Council Member Smith wanted to change within his district or each Council Member looking at their respective district, and want to make some recommendations. Vice Chairman Marcharia asked is that what Council Member Smith is addressing, or is he saying the entire Council needs to change}?

{Council Member Smith responded that he thinks Council needs to start the discussion to see where that might go, since there is a new Council seated, and said he is talking about the plan in whole}.

Chairman Robinson replied that this subject was discussed at the Planning Session; however, Council Member Stewart was not officially on Council at that time, and that she has no problem with Council bringing back that same presentation and showing everyone, as well as the public, what is out there for recreation.

14. CLERK TO COUNCIL'S REPORT

None.

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. THE TOTAL TIME ALLOCATED TO THIS PUBLIC COMMENT SEGMENT IS 30 MINUTES.

The following individuals signed to speak:

- Mr. Allen Gantt - Excavator
- Mr. Jeff Schaffer - First Amendment
- Ms. Beth Jenkins - Procurement
- Mr. Randy Bright - Who Needs Procurement?
- Ms. Wanda Carnes - WIA/Midlands Tech
- Mr. Darreyl Davis - Fun Day

16. COUNTY COUNCIL TIME

Stewart: Roofing Proposal. Question to the Council and to Mr. Pope: Did we follow the process to the letter in requesting the proposal, and do we need to revisit or rebid that because of all of the concerns the County has received from the community?

Asked for a review of the budgeting timeline and the budgeting process, and asked if there will be a time period where citizens can make comments.

Smith: New Council has not addressed the Procurement policy, and hoped that the Council can work on at some time. Question: Anything over \$10,000.00 was supposed to be bid. They were bid to the folks that were on the list, but do not know that is in accordance with the spirit of what the policy said in regard to that. He asked if there were anything else in there that he might have missed, and was that followed to the letter?

Commented in regard to Council asking staff questions on the budget. Desired to let everybody know that Council received its first packet on the budget last week, including a list of capital items. He stated he sent in six pages worth of question, and in less than a week, 99% of them were answered that Mr. Pope had forwarded on to staff. Commended Mr. Pope and staff on the quick responses. He asked that citizens attend the committee meetings and budget meetings and encouraged citizen input.

Addressed a comment that was made about the welding program at Midlands Tech, citing he does not know anything about staff not reaching out and hoped that was not the case. Mentioned there is a Midlands Tech staff member who is at the School District.

C. Robinson: In the past, without the Procurement Code update, a lot went on without the Council's knowledge. She referenced page 2 of the Code, which speaks about acquisition of all supplies, equipment, services and construction. She asked Council if it desired to delve into the document and go back through the 50-something pages, it can be placed in committee at the appropriate time for review.

Commented on the meeting with the Midlands Technical College staff and board and the group discussions held at that meeting. One of the questions raised at that meeting was what can be done to improve the services of Midlands Tech in Fairfield County and how can the word get out to get more students to enroll at the Fairfield Campus.

M. Robinson: Inquired if the way procurement is done, can the County not do anything without going out for sealed bids? He opined that this is not the way companies operate, as they have bidders' list that are approved, etc. Stated he was a little confused as to what would be done differently going out to get engineering services to do the job, as there probably is structural damage at the jail. Commented that the \$20,000.00 that was actually brought to Council did not actually have to be brought before committee or Council.

Confirmed that while Mr. Pope may be the one who presents a recommendation, the only thing he is doing is passing forward the committee's vote that has to come before the entire Council.

Kinley: Commented that a citizen approached her in regard to handicapped accessibility at the Post Office. Asked that this matter be added to the list of topics to discuss with the Congressional Delegation.

Marcharia: Commented on the accusations of stopping people from having their First Amendment rights, and that he raised the question of whether or not Council should be responsible for things Council had no authority over. Subsequently, the committee took that issue up and did an excellent job of rendering that recommendation of putting it in the bylaws. Expressed his concern that when he was out of the County several weeks ago, he heard negative comments about Fairfield County. Also commented about the time frame, the requirements and cost of the welding program.

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION

*At 7:28 P.M., it was moved by Vice Chairman Marcharia; seconded by Council Member Robinson to go in executive session to discuss a pending delinquent tax case and an economic development matter **The motion carried unanimously.***

*At 8:45 P.M., it was moved by Council Member Kinley; seconded by Council Member Robinson to come out of executive session and return to open session. **The motion carried unanimously.** {Council Member Ruff, Council Member Smith and Vice Chairman Marcharia were not present in Chambers when Council returned to open session}.*

18. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 P.M., upon the unanimous approval of Council.

SHRYLL M. BROWN
CLERK TO COUNCIL

CAROLYN B. ROBINSON
CHAIRMAN