



**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
MAY 12, 2014**

Present: David L. Ferguson, Sr., R. David Brown, Mary Lynn Kinley, Kamau Marcharia (arrived 6:03 p.m.), Dwayne Perry, 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-six 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 Vice Chairman Perry; seconded by Council Member Kinley to approve the agenda. {Prior to the adoption of the Approval of the Agenda, Mr. Pope asked for Council's consideration of the following: Under the County Administrator's Report, Item 13D should state: "Proposed Purchase/Sale of County Property."}. Council Member Kinley rescinded the second to the motion; Vice Chairman Perry rescinded the motion.

*Subsequently, it was moved by Vice Chairman Perry; seconded by Council Member Kinley to approve the agenda, with the amendment as set forth above by Mr. Pope. **The motion carried unanimously.***

3. INVOCATION

Council Member Kinley led in the Invocation.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*It was moved by Council Member Trapp; seconded by Council Member Marcharia to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 28, 2014 and Work Session of April 16, 2014. **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

The following individuals signed to speak:

- Mr. Randy Bright - Fire
- Ms. Dorothy Brandenburg - Quarry
- Mr. Billy Smith - Budget; Quarry
- Mrs. Pat Williams - Discretionary Funds
- Mrs. Selwyn Turner - Discretionary Funds
- Mrs. Lisa Brandenburg - Against Quarry

7. PUBLIC HEARING

None

8. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND ORDERS:

A. Third And Final Reading: Ordinance No. 629 - To Establish Operating And Capital Budgets For The Operation Of The County Government Of Fairfield County For The Fiscal Year Commencing July 1, 2014 To Provide For The Levy Of Taxes For Fairfield County For The Fiscal Year Commencing July 1, 2014; 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.

Prior to receiving the motion for Third and Final Reading of Ordinance No. 629, Mr. Pope set forth that Council had requested some information from the last budget work session, and he wished to publicly follow up on some of those items. He added that most of the information has already been emailed out to the Council:

- a) Enrollment statistics from Midlands Technical College (students that attend Technical College here as well as on the Columbia campuses). That information was sent out to the Council.
- b) Eau Claire Health Care. The discussion was, out of the \$20,000.00 increase that the County provided, whether or not \$10,000.00 of that \$20,000.00 could be earmarked for dental care services. Staff spoke with Dr. Hamilton last week, and Dr. Hamilton indicated that was amendable with him.
- c) The Mayor of the Town of Ridgeway had contacted the office regarding additional hours for the Library in the Town of Ridgeway. In speaking with the staff at the Library, they are reviewing that information and will be researching specifically what is needed to ascertain if the hours can be adjusted within the budgeted dollars.
- d) Central SC Alliance. Reduced that amount from \$75,000.00 to \$72,000.00.
- e) Mobile Home. Staff needed to take more due diligence. Staff forwarded to Council the information process. Met with Mr. Roseborough to confirm that these items are in place as it pertains to manufactured homes in the County.
- f) Ridership at Transit. In fiscal year 2011-2012, Medicaid ridership was 15,356. Non-Medicaid ridership was 10,672. 2012-2013, Medicaid ridership was up to 16,142; non-Medicaid ridership was down to 8,125. This year, Medicaid ridership is 11,733; non-Medicaid ridership is 6,319.
- g) The General Fund Budget that was proposed was a non-tax increase budget based upon using figures from last year.
- h) Backlog of cases in Solicitor's Office. As of today, there are 430 cases pending in General Sessions Court, a number of those are warrants and uniform traffic tickets that are pending. Some people have multiple charges, which seem to push the numbers up. The Solicitor stated the County is in pretty good shape.
- i) A question that has come up with some of the FOIA's that have been sent to the County was regarding the County's reserve fund. Staff will be bringing this back to the Council to establish a Fund Balance Policy. This was one of the recommendations in the last County audit, and will be brought back to committee before the end of the fiscal year. This Policy will allow the County to accomplish a number of things: (1) if there are any emergencies, they can be addressed through the fund balance where there would be no increase in taxes for those things that may come about; (2) when bond rating companies look at the fiscal health of the County, having an appropriate fund balance helps with the bond rating.

- j) Administrator asked Council's consideration to add the following as proviso #17 in the Budget Ordinance: to allow the County Administrator to appropriate up to \$3,000.00 of Special Revenue Victims Assistance funds to SCVAN (South Carolina Victims Assistance Network) during the 2014-2015 fiscal year. Victims Assistance funds can only be used specifically for notification of victims of crime. This would allow the Administrator to provide up to this amount of funding for this request and would not change the numbers in the budget.
- k) Discretionary spending. Administrator has recommended to Council that the process be changed on how to distribute the discretionary spending. The amount of funding that was recommended in the budget is \$2,500.00. Based upon the policy, the dollar amount is approved in the budget; however, there will be no distribution of funds until the new policy is approved, which will go through the committee process. Staff will come up with recommended criteria, based upon what those funds could be used for.
- l) Issuance of Bonds. This process was adopted by three readings and a public hearing. Council has agreed to have a stand-alone presentation where this information will be revisited, and to also review the long-term plan; refocus on that information and reacquaint the public with that information.

Council Member Marcharia expressed his views about the discretionary spending program and had questions concerning what the criteria would be.

*It was moved by Council Member Trapp; seconded by Vice Chairman Perry to approve Third and Final Reading of Ordinance No. 629. **The motion carried unanimously.***

B. Second Reading: Ordinance No. 630 – An Ordinance To Amend The Fairfield County Land Management Ordinance (Ordinance No. 596), To Provide For The Zoning Reclassification From R-1 (Single Family Residential District) To R-2 (Inclusive Residential District) Of Sixty-Eight Hundredths (.68) Acre, Owned By Thomas And Paula Gaston, Tax Map No. 107-03-12-014-000, Located At 785 Peays Ferry Road, Winnsboro, SC. *It was moved by Vice Chairman Perry; seconded by Council Member Kinley to approve Second Reading of Ordinance No. 630. **The motion carried unanimously.***

C. First Reading (By Title Only): Ordinance No. 631 - Authorizing Fairfield County, South Carolina To Restore The Fairfield County School Board District Lines To The Proper Configuration As Originally Ordained By The General Assembly.

Mr. Pope gave an overview of the purpose of the Ordinance. He set forth that Mr. Bobby Bowers' office, which assisted the County with the 2010 Redistricting Plan, was contacted about this concern. He acknowledged that the geocodes of that information actually caused the anomaly in the voting lines, and was not anything done by the County Council. Mr. Bowers' office ruled and suggested that the maps and lines could be corrected by adoption of an Ordinance. This information was forwarded to the County Attorney, who drafted the information. Ms. Stidham at Voter Registration was provided the draft information to ensure this was clear and corrected all the anomalies. She confirmed that the information was clear and sufficient. The adoption of the Ordinance will be accomplished well before July 15th. Out of an abundance of caution, Mr. James forwarded a letter to the Department of Justice, outlining the changes that were made to move everything back as it should as was intended when the Redistricting Plan was approved.

The Clerk to Council was asked to present a schedule of readings to the Council as follows:

First Reading (By Title Only)	Regular Meeting of May 12, 2014
Second Reading/Public Hearing	Regular Meeting of May 27 , 2014 (Tuesday)
Third And Final Reading	Regular Meeting of June 9, 2014 OR a Special Meeting on Thursday, June 5, 2014

*Chairman Ferguson recommended to Council, and so moved to schedule the Third and Final Reading at a Special Called Meeting on Thursday, June 5, 2014. **The motion was seconded by Council Member Brown and unanimously approved by Council.***

*It was moved by Council Member Robinson; seconded by Vice Chairman Perry to approve First Reading (By Title Only) of Ordinance No. 631. **The motion carried unanimously.***

9. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS MINUTES

Provided as information.

10. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS APPOINTMENTS

None.

11. OLD BUSINESS

None.

12. NEW BUSINESS

None.

13. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

A. County Spotlight. Fairfield County Fire Marshal (Mr. Tony Hill)

Prior to the County Spotlight, Mr. Pope presented an "Outstanding Safety Achievement Award" to the Fairfield County Fire Service, which was given at the SCAC Workers' Compensation Trust meeting in January, 2014.

B. Drawdy Park Update. Moving forward; by the next Council meeting, should report there should be activity occurring. The final engineering drawings are about to be signed, which will be made public, once it is. Want to be sure from the engineering side that everything is correct with the remedy that needs to occur.

C. Intent To Mine Application Update. The County was notified on May 7, at 1:34 p.m. There has been absolutely no other communications with the County about this mining application. Received the information from DHEC that afternoon, and forwarded it to Council. Some citizens have asked about this application, and that information has been shared with them. This will be placed on the County website. A link was provided in the application that lists all of the documentation that DHEC has on this matter. Staff is encouraging Council to direct the office to send a letter to DHEC for the County to request a public hearing on the matter. *It was moved by Council Member Kinley; seconded by Vice Chairman Perry to direct Mr. Pope to follow up with DHEC on requesting a public hearing on the mining application matter; also to ensure that the County is very clear and explicit on any zoning requirements. **The motion carried unanimously.***

D. Proposed Purchase/Sale Of Property. The proposed purchase of property deals with an executive session matter regarding purchasing property for public safety matters; the sale of property deals with the County-owned property that was brought forth publicly with some contractual information to be shared with Council in executive session.

14. CLERK TO COUNCIL'S REPORT

1. May 13, 2014 - Clemson Extension's 100th Anniversary
2. May 16, 2014 - Christ Central Mission Ridge Leadership Training Center Dedication

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 following individuals signed to speak:

- Mr. Randy Bright - Yes
- Mrs. Angela Harrison - Safety
- Mr. Cal Harrison - Safety
- Rev. Hannie Milling, Jr. - Thanks
- Mr. Eugene Holmes - \$24 Million Loan
- Ms. Cheryl Workman - Recreation

16. COUNTY COUNCIL TIME

- Brown - Addressed the Truck Study.
- Perry - Truck Study. Thanked the Harrisons for coming out.
- Marcharia - Thanked Ms. Workman for coming and speaking tonight.
- Robinson - Unfunded Mandates.
- Kinley - Unfunded Mandates and Senate salary increase.
- Ferguson - Brought forth a draft letter of support for the Hospital.

Mr. Pope was asked to read the draft letter. Members of Council commented on several matters and offered the following critiquing points: don't think we need to put a timeframe in there in building a new Hospital and request that the reference to the number of years be removed; was that a request from anyone that the County has talked to about a merger; if someone wants the County to build a new facility at an unbelievable cost, is the County obligating itself to that; think the County needs to clarify a couple of things, specifically, the amount of money; suggestion that also, during the long range planning, the County would consider a plan to build a new facility, and will work with a partner; not to bind the County to any commitment, but to show continued support for the Hospital; consider working with whoever the partner is on the possibility of building a new Hospital sometime in the future; think the County needs to be very specific with the verbiage in the letter; what is the contingency in terms of building a new Hospital; the Hospital's position as a Critical Access Hospital.

Council recessed at 8:00 p.m. to make allow Mr. Pope to make the necessary and appropriate edits to the letter of support.

Council returned to open session at 8:20 p.m.

Having received the edited version of the letter of support for the Hospital, it was moved by Council Member Trapp and Council Member Kinley; seconded by Council Member Robinson to approve the letter as edited. **The motion carried unanimously.**

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION

*At 8:21 P.M., it was moved by Council Member Kinley; seconded by Council Member Brown to go in executive session for a proposed purchase of property dealing with a potential public safety piece of property; proposed sale of property, which is existing County property that could be under a contractual situation and an economic development matter. **The motion carried unanimously.***

*At 9:10 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 that Council received information in executive session.

18. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 P.M., upon unanimous approval of Council.

SHRYLL M. BROWN
CLERK TO COUNCIL

DAVID L. FERGUSON, SR.
CHAIRMAN