



**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
MAY 14, 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 Pauley 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 Budget Work Session of April 17, 2018, Regular Meeting of April 23, 2018, Budget Work Session of April 24, 2018, and Budget Work Session of May 7, 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.

- Shirley Greene - Budget
- Randy Sick - Budget
- Randy Bright - SCANA

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A.** An Ordinance Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of an Amendment to a Fee Agreement Between Fairfield County and Element TV Company, LP; an Amendment to a Special Source Revenue Credit Agreement Between Fairfield County and Element Real Estate Holdings, LLC; an Amendment to a Lease Agreement Between Fairfield County and Element Real Estate Holdings, LLC; the Execution and Delivery of Such Other Documents as may be Necessary to Effect the Intent of this Ordinance; and Other Matters Related Thereto. Chairman Smith opened the public hearing at 6:08 p.m. Mr. Randy Bright signed to speak in connection with the public hearing. By motion of Council Member Pauley and second by Council Member Douglas, Chairman Smith then closed the public hearing at 6:10 p.m. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

8. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND ORDERS

- A. Third and Final Reading: Ordinance No. 696** – An Ordinance to Establish Operating and Capital Budgets for the Operation of the County Government of Fairfield County for the Fiscal Year Commencing July 1, 2018; to Provide for the Levy of Taxes for Fairfield County for the Fiscal Year Commencing July 1, 2018; 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 Douglas and seconded by Council Member Pauley to approve Third and Final Reading of Ordinance No. 696. Council Member Ruff made a motion that the budget be amended by allocating \$87,507 to the Fairfield County Chamber of Commerce and stipulate that the funding be granted only in the case that the Chamber allows the County Council Chair to appoint a Council Member to the Chamber Board as a voting, non-office holding member. This motion was seconded by Council Member Robinson. ***The motion to amend carried unanimously 7-0.*** Vice Chair Goins appreciates the amendment being in place. Chairman Smith feels this would be appropriate and requested Mr. Taylor give an overview of the plan that has been provided by the Chamber. Per Mr. Taylor, the Chamber provided a detailed list of events, activities and programs the community has come to expect, such as Rock Around the Clock, to help promote Winnsboro and the County. This plan also included a mix of revitalizing downtown with new direction. Chairman Smith appreciates the Chamber providing the information that was requested. Council Member Ruff also added that the Chamber is a great asset to the County and would be greatly missed. He is glad to see Mrs. Vickers back to assist in moving the Chamber forward. ***The original motion carried unanimously 7-0.***
- B. Third and Final Reading: Ordinance No. 697** - An Ordinance Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of an Amendment to a Fee Agreement Between Fairfield County and Element TV Company, LP; an Amendment to a Special

Source Revenue Credit Agreement Between Fairfield County and Element Real Estate Holdings, LLC; an Amendment to a Lease Agreement Between Fairfield County and Element Real Estate Holdings, LLC; the Execution and Delivery of Such Other Documents as may be Necessary to Effect the Intent of this Ordinance; and Other Matters Related Thereto. It was moved by Council Member Pauley and seconded by Vice Chair Goins to approve Third and Final Reading of Ordinance No. 697. Chairman Smith requested this matter be explained further by Mr. Taylor or the Economic Development staff. Per Mr. Taylor, Element TV has been deemed by the County as being a valuable member of the corporate community, and the County appreciates the jobs the company has created. Incentives were put into place when Element originally located in the County. Due to unforeseen circumstances, such as the recent tariffs that were put into place, the company was not able to meet the original thresholds in order to access the incentives, including both investment and job creation. These amendments are now being made to lower the incentives so as to not penalize the company for not meeting the thresholds which was beyond their control. Hopefully, the company will continue to be prosperous and eventually expand in the future. Chairman Smith inquired of the number of workers employed by Element. Per Mr. Davenport, employees at Element total 225. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

- C. First Reading (By Title Only): Ordinance No. 698** - An Ordinance to Amend the Fairfield County Land Management Ordinance No. 599 to Provide for the Zoning Reclassification from RD-1 (Rural Residential District) to B-1 (Limited Business District) of 150.32 Acres Owned by Sharpe Recreational Properties, Applicant is Fairfield County Council, Tax Map No. 203-00-01-157-000, Property is Located at 3248 US Hwy 21 South, Ridgeway, SC. It was moved by Council Member Ruff, seconded by Vice Chair Goins to approve First Reading (By Title Only) of Ordinance No. 698. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***
- D. First Reading (By Title Only): Ordinance No. 699** - An Ordinance to Regulate Construction and Development of Flood Hazard Areas in the Unincorporated Areas of Fairfield County and to Repeal Ordinance No. 586. It was moved by Council Member Trapp and seconded by Council Member Pauley to approve First Reading (By Title Only) of Ordinance No. 699. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***
- E. Resolution No. 2018-03** - A Resolution Authorizing the Assignment of Both a Fee in Lieu of Ad Valorem Taxes Agreement and an Infrastructure Credit Agreement Between Fairfield County and Caterpillar Inc. to a Company Known to the County as Project Tea; and Providing for Related Matters. It was moved by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Ruff to approve Resolution No. 2018-03. Chairman Smith asked Mr. Taylor to discuss this matter

to the extent that he is able for the benefit of the public. Per Mr. Taylor, Caterpillar is no longer with the County and attempts are being made to entice other companies to inhabit the building. Once an interested business is located, the incentives can be transferred from Caterpillar to the new company. {Council Member Douglas had a question concerning Item D above, and Chairman Smith stated this could be entertained during County Council Time.) ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

9. BOARD AND COMMISSION MINUTES

Aeronautics Commission, Hospital Board and Disabilities and Special Needs Board. It was moved by Council Member Robinson 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. Jennifer Leaphart - WIOA - Additional Grant Funds. Mr. Taylor invited Ms. Leaphart to come to the podium to discuss the additional funding to assist with the workforce programs. Per Ms. Leaphart, two of the existing contracts were modified, including the dislocated worker contract and the youth contract. This modification included additional funding of \$60,000 for training and supportive services and \$44,894 for the youth for assessment, instructional training, supportive services and work experience. Both of these modifications were put into place to accommodate the increased demand. The youth increase also includes an additional youth case manager. The goal is to get the new person on board and trained before the new fiscal year begins. To reiterate, Mr. Taylor stated a new staff person is being added but this position is grant funded. Chairman Smith asked Ms. Leaphart to give more information concerning the youth scholarship funding. Per Ms. Leaphart, vocational training is the primary focus, referencing the SC Path website, which contains the list of eligible providers for the Midlands. Qualifications are dependent upon the following: Address (if high poverty level), single parent, SNAP or other benefits, etc. Most of the youth, if staying within the Midlands and attending a 2-year school, will likely qualify for the program. The amount available for the youth is around \$14,000 with \$8,500 being available for adults. Ms. Leaphart encouraged the citizens to come in to learn more about the program. Vice Chair Goins asked how this information is reaching the community. Per Ms. Leaphart, the information is passed to the citizens by the use of flyers and brochures being distributed to County agencies, attendance to different youth and business committee meetings and also by reaching out to the high school seniors.

- B.** Request of Action: Purchase of Approximately 8.5 Acres of Land Adjacent to Wood Chipping Site on Airport Road - Administration and Finance Committee Recommends Approval. Per Mr. Taylor, this has been discussed in the 2017-2018 budget with a presentation bearing out the fact that burning or incinerating would save the County money as opposed to chipping. Funds were budgeted in order to move forward with an incineration program. The situation arose concerning the smoke associated with the incineration in which the County did not have enough land to meet the DHEC requirements to handle the smoke. Therefore, the additional 8.5 acreage was investigated with a cost of \$19,295 (\$2270 per acre). The Finance Committee has recommended this go before full Council for approval to purchase this land. It was moved by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Ruff to approve the Request of Action as stated above. Council Member Pauley inquired if this purchase of additional property is necessary in order for the incineration project, and per Mr. Taylor, this purchase is necessary to move forward. Chairman Smith inquired if the funding will come from the current budget or the next budget. Per Mr. Taylor, the funding will come from the current budget. For clarification, Chairman Smith stated there were also some savings discovered in the purchase of the incinerator which will cover the purchase of the land. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***
- C.** Request of Action: Purchase of Ambulance to Replace 10-year-old Ambulance with 175,000 Miles - Administration and Finance Committee Recommends Approval. Per Mr. Taylor, the County was looking to purchase an ambulance earlier than originally planned with the hospital situation and transition. In the current year, the County replaced an engine in one ambulance, which is now back in service. A new ambulance was to be purchased in the next budget year; however, it was deemed that this purchase was needed earlier as it takes two to three months for the ambulance to arrive. If approved by Council, the ambulance will be ordered now. It was moved by Council Member Pauley and seconded by Vice Chair Goins to approve the purchase of the ambulance. Per Mr. Taylor, the amount is \$216,256 which will be taken from the vehicle replacement fund. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***
- D.** Update on Clean-up of Martin Property (Formerly), Jenkinsville. Per Mr. Taylor, this property was purchased and the land has now been cleared. Mr. Anderson presented slides representing before, during and after the land clearing. Landscaping will be performed and then the monument, which was recently found in Jenkinsville, will be moved to this area. Vice Chair Goins also stated in further keeping with the memorial, she would also like to have bricks for individuals, families or businesses to purchase by anyone who has contributed to the community or wishes to contribute. She is also hoping, in the future, to possibly have a building to house a police substation or a multi-use building for possibly a store, etc. Per Mr. Anderson, he has received a phone call from a surrounding landowner who is willing to sell further property to the County if needed.
- E.** Update on Clean-up Resulting from EF1 Tornado in April at Lake Wateree. Per Mr. Taylor, there was a lot of debris left from the tornado that the County is

having to deal with. Per Mr. Anderson, DOT has bids ranging from \$14,000 to \$50,000 to actually remove the debris. The debris will be moved to a piece of property owned by DOT and they will chip the wood.

14. CLERK TO COUNCIL'S REPORT

The Clerk reported the next Regular Meeting is scheduled for May 28 which falls on the Memorial Day Holiday and inquired if Council would be amenable to moving the May 28 meeting to May 29. Chairman Smith further explained this is a County holiday and staff will be out of the office. Motion made by Council Member Robinson to move the next Regular Meeting to May 29 and seconded by Council Member Pauley. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

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.

- Laura Willingham - Rehab
- Randy Bright - Accountability for Progress

16. COUNTY COUNCIL TIME

Douglas: A prepared statement was read, which included a question concerning Ordinance No. 699. Council Member Douglas would like for this Ordinance to be explained to him. Per Mr. Taylor, as this is First Reading only, he is not fully prepared to discuss it; however, with Council's permission, Mr. Clauson could comment. Chairman Smith stated if Mr. Clauson is prepared to do this, he would agree; however, this is patently why there are three readings. Per Mr. Clauson, the Federal Government has updated the FIRM (Flood Insurance Rate Map) maps, which is done about every 10-15 years. The maps become official in September. As part of this process, the County has to adopt the changes by ordinance. Other than the map number, there are not many other changes. Council Member Douglas further made a recommendation that any organization requesting the County pay for audits, they should supply the Council with the full audit including salary amounts and expenditures. Any organization that receives a sum of money for a specific reason should not be reimbursed until receipts are supplied. When all surrounding counties have completed their budget process, our Administration should ask the counties similar to Fairfield for the opportunity to review their budget in order to look for ways to save money and lower expenditures. In addition, Fairfield County spent a lot of money building Midlands Tech with money needed each year to run it. Council Member Douglas feels the college should offer courses to the local students so these students would not have to travel to the Columbia campuses. Tech has a list of County students who would benefit if more subjects were offered locally. In addition, he encouraged everyone to attend the next Wings and Wheels festival.

Ruff: Recognized Laura's Tea Room, which was recently in USA Today and compared to New York and Paris Tea Rooms. This is outstanding recognition for this business. He is witness to the fact that ladies are bused in from various places, and this is a real boom to Ridgeway and Fairfield County. Chairman Smith also stated if there was an honorable mention, he would bet Cornwallis Tea House would have received this, and the County is very fortunate to have two great tea rooms. Council Member Ruff also echoed the sentiment of other Council members concerning Rehab.

Pauley: Thanked the Rehab representatives for attending the meeting. He feels they are truly dedicated to keeping Rehab in the County. He also feels Rehab is essential for the County and will do his best to make sure it remains.

Goins: Has personal knowledge of the Rehab process in her family, and she is definitely in support of it. She feels this is needed in the County right next to primary care. Also, Vice Chair Goins wants to thank the Town for reaching out to the County concerning the park and the swimming pool. She commended the Town for having the wisdom and insight to realize they were at a point that they needed help and showed willingness to work with the County for the greater good. She commended the County Team for accepting this request from the Town.

Robinson: Thanked the Rehab staff as well as he also has personal knowledge of this service. He also believes this is needed in the County, and he feels each and every Council member is thinking of this.

Smith: Appreciates the Rehab representatives for coming tonight and thinks this was very brave in asking some of the same type questions of the hospital administration that Council has asked in the past. Council's interest in the Rehab facility is not just in owning a piece of property but to continue to provide Rehab services in the County. However, the need is to have someone to carry this forward.

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 6:50 p.m., it was moved by Council Member Ruff and seconded by Council Member Robinson 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, (b) Proposed Contractual Matter - Discussion Regarding the Potential Purchase of Real Property Identified as Fairfield County TMS #126-03-01-001-000, (c) Economic Development - Update and Discussion of Potential Contracts. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

At 7:25 p.m., it was moved by Council Member Ruff and seconded by Vice Chair Goins to come out of executive session and return to open session. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

No action was taken in Executive Session.

Chairman Smith referred back to County Council Time and asked Mr. Taylor to give information concerning the option given to elected officials concerning raises. Per Mr. Taylor, a meeting was held with the elected officials, and they were offered the option of the merit based system, which would give 0 to 4% budgeted at 3% with the elected official not receiving a raise, or the 2% across the board and the elected official would get the 2% along with the employees. With the exception of the Election Commission, all chose the 2% as opposed to the merit. Therefore, no elected official was willing to take the sacrifice to implement the merit based system.

18. ADJOURN

At 7:32 p.m., it was moved by Council Member Ruff, properly seconded by Council Member Douglas to adjourn. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

PATTI L. DAVIS
CLERK TO COUNCIL

WILLIAM B. SMITH, JR.
CHAIRMAN