



**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
MAY 22, 2017**

Present: Billy Smith, Douglas Pauley, Neil Robinson, Jimmy Ray Douglas, Dan W. Ruff, Mikel Trapp, Bertha Goins, Council Members; Jason Taylor, County Administrator; Davis Anderson, Deputy County Administrator; Jack James, County Attorney; Patti Locklair, 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 twenty seven 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 Pauley and seconded by Vice-Chair Goins to approve the agenda. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

3. INVOCATION

Vice-Chair Goins led the invocation.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Council Member Pauley and seconded by Vice-Chair Goins to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 8, 2017. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

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.

Mr. Randy Bright signed to speak but was not present in the Chambers.

7. PUBLIC HEARING

None.

8. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND ORDERS

A. Third and Final Reading: Ordinance No. 679 - An Ordinance to Amend the Fairfield County Land Management Ordinance (Ordinance No. 599) to Provide for the Zoning Reclassification from RD-1 (Rural Residential District) to RC (Rural Community District) of Four and Forty Four Hundredth (4.44) Acre Owned by R & V Storage, LLC, Part of Tax Map No. 077-00-00-017-000 Portion of, Property is Located at 221 Wateree Road, Winnsboro, SC. It was moved by Council Member Douglas and seconded by Council Member Ruff to approve the Third

and Final Reading of Ordinance No. 679. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

B. Resolution No. 2017-03: Authorizing County Approval of a Memorandum of Understanding between Fairfield Memorial Hospital, Providence Hospital, LLC and Fairfield County Council. It was moved by Council Member Robinson to carry this matter over until after executive session. The motion was seconded by Council Member Ruff. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

9. BOARD AND COMMISSION MINUTES

Chamber of Commerce: It was moved by Council Member Ruff and seconded by Vice-Chair Goins to accept the minutes from the Chamber of Commerce. ***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. Central South Carolina Alliance: Mr. Taylor introduced Mr. Mike Briggs, President and CEO of Central South Carolina Alliance, who gave a presentation on the history of the Central South Carolina Alliance and an update for the future. Mr. Briggs highlighted the accomplishments from 1994 (with Fairfield County being a founding member of the CSCA) to 2014 and expounded on the process of actively marketing the County. This process includes marketing trips (8 countries visited in 2016), lead generation, customized material, E-blasts, among others. Going forward, Mr. Briggs reported the CSCA is embracing a global marketing strategy with the creation of a global introduction seminar and exploring the possibility of developing this as a webinar. This is currently being designed and should be in place this year. Emphasis will be placed on automotive and aerospace suppliers in the future. Mr. Briggs explained the importance of having a "product", and in the past, the County historically has worked to create a pipeline of product, parks, sites or spec buildings. Also, the workforce must be a constant thought, and the County has a very strong technical college system in place in conjunction with the high school programs. Council members thanked Mr. Briggs for the presentation and the continued work on behalf of the County.

B. Mr. Taylor introduced Mrs. Shaneequah (Nikki) Morant, Administrative Assistant, replacing Mrs. Sandy Clowney, who retired on May 19. Council welcomed Mrs. Morant who was present in the audience.

14. CLERK TO COUNCIL'S REPORT

None.

15. 2ND PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES): INPUT WILL BE FOR ITEMS NOT

CURRENTLY ON COUNCIL'S AGENDA OR UNDER COUNCIL'S CONSIDERATION. THE SUBJECT MATTER SHALL BE RELATED TO AND LIMITED TO ITEMS, ISSUES AND TOPICS REGARDING FAIRFIELD COUNTY. THE TOTAL TIME ALLOCATED TO THIS PUBLIC COMMENT SEGMENT IS 30 MINUTES.

- Terry Vickers - Ag & Art
- Shirley Greene - Invitation
- Randy Sisk - Aviation
- Randy Bright - Ag & Art

16. COUNTY COUNCIL TIME

Goins: Asked Ms. Greene to clarify when and where the Fairfield United group meets which is 6 p.m. at St. John AME Church every 3rd Monday of the month.

Smith: Asked for Council to remain after the meeting for signing of documents. Also, encouraged everyone to attend the Ag & Art event.

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION (SUBSEQUENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION, COUNCIL MAY TAKE ACTION ON MATTERS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION).

At 6:30 p.m., it was moved by Council Member Ruff, seconded by Council Member Robinson to go into executive session for (a) a proposed legal matter regarding Fairfield Memorial Hospital Update and (b) a proposed contractual matter regarding due diligence on property. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

At 7:20 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. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

There was no action taken in executive session.

Chairman Smith referred back to Section 8 of Ordinances, Resolutions and Orders, Item B, Resolution No. 2017-03. The Clerk read the Resolution into the record, which is attached and made a part of this document. It was moved by Council Member Trapp and seconded by Council Member Douglas to approve Resolution No. 2017-03.

Chairman Smith gave additional background information for the citizens on the Memorandum of Understanding that the Resolution approves and why the Council is approving this. In recent years, challenges such as decreasing population, increasing overhead costs and South Carolina's position not to expand Medicaid have significantly impacted Fairfield Memorial Hospital and many similar hospitals across the state, with the closing of 5 rural hospitals in the last 2 years and, in some cases, leaving the communities they served without any nearby 24-hour emergency room services. Fairfield County is fortunate to have not been included in this number. However, despite the best efforts of Fairfield Memorial Hospital, it's current model is not sustainable for the long term. Because of this, Fairfield Memorial Hospital, Fairfield County and Providence Health are partnering through this Memorandum of Understanding to ensure that Fairfield County residents

continue to have access to critical 24-hour emergency room services. Through this partnership, Providence Health will build a new free-standing, state of the art emergency services facility in Fairfield County. The new facility will take 2-4 months to design and approximately 12 months to build. The project is made possible in part by South Carolina's Hospital Transformation Program which supports rural access to healthcare resources and has contributed \$3.8m to this project. One of Council's primary concerns was a centralized location. Although the Council is not able to give the location at this time, assurance has been made in executive session tonight that the selected location is central to Fairfield County residents. This information will be released as soon as possible. Emergency services as well as radiology and lab services will be offered at the new facility. The inpatient hospital and emergency room will remain open at the current location until the new facility opens. As a part of this transformation plan, Fairfield Memorial Hospital and Fairfield County are committed to developing a cost effective plan that would hopefully allow outpatient rehab and other currently provided outpatient services to remain at the current site. Providence will offer employment opportunities to current Fairfield Memorial Hospital employees who satisfy Providence's customary pre-employment screening requirements and are qualified for comparable positions in the new facility to the extent that these positions are available. More information about this process will be shared as construction of the new facility is completed and details are finalized. Providence Health is committed to providing needed emergency care to all residents of Fairfield County. Providence has a charity care policy that provides support for community members who lack the ability to pay for needed healthcare services. Fairfield County is proud to be partnering with Providence Health, who recently tied for the second best hospital in the State of South Carolina according to U.S. News and World Report. Providence is also the only hospital in Columbia to make the Best of South Carolina Hospital List. In addition, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services awarded Providence Health a 4 star rating which is the highest rank issued to any Columbia area healthcare entity. Providence also consistently ranks highest in patient experience and has received the Society of Thoracic Surgeons highest overall rating of 3 stars 20 times in a row. This innovative partnership between Fairfield Memorial Hospital, Fairfield County and Providence Health ensures consistent, uninterrupted access to critical 24-hour emergency room services in Fairfield County. A new state of the art free standing emergency services facility with cutting edge equipment and technology is certainly a win-win for all Fairfield County residents and Fairfield County is proud to be a partner in this process.

Council Member Ruff feels this is a blessing for Fairfield County. It has appeared at times in the past that this opportunity was going to slip away. The transformation funds were extended and the County thought the opportunity was lost. This is outstanding for Fairfield County and a blessing for all our citizens and Council Member Ruff thanked everyone involved. Vice-Chair Goins also agreed and this will benefit the community greatly. Providence Hospital has a longstanding support system in the area and this will be an awesome opportunity for our citizens. It will also allow opportunity for better things to come in the future. She is very appreciative of Providence Hospital, also Fairfield Memorial Hospital and the Council team for diligently working together and being so committed to the citizens of Fairfield County. Chairman Smith echoed his appreciation of everyone involved in this process, specifically the board and senior staff of Fairfield Memorial Hospital

and Providence Hospital, all past and present Council members who have been involved in this and County staff. Also, a deadline was extended from the State level to make this possible, and this would include the folks with the House Ways and Means Healthcare Subcommittee and their staff, Chairman Murrell Smith and Christian Soura, the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services who were instrumental in getting the deadline extended for the County and their assistance in the process.

The motion to approve Resolution No. 2017-03 carried unanimously 7-0.

18. ADJOURN

At 7:30 p.m., it was moved by Council Member Ruff, properly seconded by Vice-Chair Goins to adjourn. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

PATTI LOCKLAIR
CLERK TO COUNCIL

WILLIAM B. SMITH, JR.
CHAIRMAN