

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL  
MAY 24, 2010**

**Present:** R. David Brown, David L. Ferguson, Mary Lynn Kinley, Kamau Marcharia, Dwayne Perry, Carolyn B. Robinson, Mikel R. Trapp, Council Members; Philip L. Hinely, County Administrator; Shryll M. 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 forty-nine individuals.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Brown called the meeting to order at 6:09 P.M.

**2. INVOCATION**

Council Member Kinley led in the invocation.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*It was moved by Council Member Ferguson; seconded by Vice Chairman Trapp to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 10, 2010. The motion carried unanimously.*

*At this time, Chairman Brown expressed that he has a possible conflict of interest in the rezoning matter, and turned the meeting over to Vice Chairman Trapp.*

**PUBLIC HEARING**

• An Ordinance To Amend The Fairfield County Zoning Ordinance (Ordinance No. 498) To Provide For The Zoning Reclassification From RD (Rural Development) To B-2 (General Business) For Two Properties: (1). Nine (9.0) Acres, Tax Map No. 192-00-00-013, Located On The South Side Of The Intersection Of SC Hwy. 213 And Jenkinsville Road, Jenkinsville, SC, And (2). Thirty One And Forty Three Hundredths (31.43) Acres, Tax Map No. 192-00-00-004, Located On South Side Of SC Hwy. 213, 1000 Ft. East Of Intersection Of SC Hwy. 213 And Jenkinsville Road, Jenkinsville, SC. Applicant Is Christ Central Ministries, Inc. *Vice Chairman Trapp opened public hearing at 6:13 P.M.*

*The following individuals spoke on the public hearing matter:*

1. Michael Christian
2. Jill Christian
3. Deborah Gunter
4. Barbara B. Mann
5. Jimmy P. Jones

*No other individuals signed to speak; therefore, Vice Chairman Trapp closed public hearing at 6:21 P.M.*

- 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, 2010; To Provide For The Levy Of Taxes For Fairfield County For The Fiscal Year Commencing July 1, 2010; 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. *Vice Chairman Trapp opened public hearing at 6:22 P.M.*

*The following individual spoke on the public hearing matter:*

1. Mary Gail Douglas

*No other individuals signed to speak; therefore, Vice Chairman Trapp closed public hearing at 6:25 P.M.*

#### 4. PUBLIC COMMENT

The following individuals spoke during public comment:

1. Mary Gail Douglas spoke concerning general expenditures.
2. Bill Haslett spoke about taxes and millage.
3. Oliver Johnson spoke concerning taxes.
4. Dave Spainhour addressed Council on the matter of Monticello tax assessments.
5. Elsbeth Brown spoke concerning tax appraisals.

#### 5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

##### A. Public Facilities And Transportation

Committee Chairman Marcharia reported that the committee met today in reference to a request to close a portion of a certain road (Harden Road). We instructed our attorney to meet with the landowners and to review the easements and rights and come back to the committee to consummate the decision as it relates to closing the road.

#### 6. OLD BUSINESS

**A. Third And Final Reading: Ordinance No 564** – 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, 2010; To Provide For The Levy Of Taxes For Fairfield County For The Fiscal Year Commencing July 1, 2010; 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 Ferguson; seconded by Council Member Kinley to approve Third and Final Reading of Ordinance No. 564.* During discussion, Council Member Robinson inquired about the new law with the motor vehicles. She asked how is that going to affect the budget or has it been decided how what impact it will have. Mr. Hinely responded that this is one of the mandates that the state has passed down to the counties and that he has talked with the auditor several times and in several meetings it is still yet to be determined. He added that there are other cuts to be made in this year's budget and the county will absorb those costs, which will be included in the budget.

Council Member Marcharia expressed that he was only "one vote; one voice and several years I did not vote for the budget, but I will vote for this budget whether or not I have some disagreements in it because the parliamentary procedures that the public doesn't understand that if I don't vote for this budget and I don't like something in it, I can never bring it back for the public. That's my understanding of parliamentary procedure. So, if there is something in there that I don't like for future debate or argument to bring this back for the citizens, I likely would have to vote for this budget if I want to argue the points or change something in this budget. So, I just want to make that statement so the people understand the nature of the parliamentary procedure." *Hearing no additional comments, the motion carried unanimously.*

## 7. NEW BUSINESS

**A. First Reading (By Title Only): Ordinance No. 565** – An Ordinance To Amend The Fairfield County Zoning Ordinance (Ordinance No. 498) To Provide For The Zoning Reclassification From RD (Rural Development) To B-2 (General Business) For Two Properties: (1). Nine (9.0) Acres, Tax Map No. 192-00-00-013, Located On The South Side Of The Intersection Of SC Hwy. 213 And Jenkinsville Road, Jenkinsville, SC, And (2). Thirty One And Forty Three Hundredths (31.43) Acres, Tax Map No. 192-00-00-004, Located On South Side Of SC Hwy. 213, 1000 Ft. East Of Intersection Of SC Hwy. 213 And Jenkinsville Road, Jenkinsville, SC. Applicant Is Christ Central Ministries, Inc. *It was moved by Council Member Ferguson; seconded by Council Member Robinson to approve First Reading (By Title Only) of Ordinance No. 565. The motion carried 6-1 (Chairman Brown abstained from voting).*

### **B. Naming Of Shelter At Chappelltown Park "Mary And Freat Miller" Shelter**

Council Member Ferguson set forth that a young lady allowed the county to use her property to put a small park on some years ago in Chappelltown. This past year, he added, the landowner asked the county to put a small shelter on it and asked that the dedication to that shelter be named after her and her daughter. They were they two folks that the county worked with in securing. Council Member Ferguson pointed out that the county is leasing the three-acre property for one dollar for twenty-five years and *moved that the county name the shelter "Mary and Freat Miller Shelter". The motion was seconded by Council Member Marcharia and unanimously approved by Council.*

## 8. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

a. Mr. Hinely offered to address some of the statements that were made during public comment. He did so by saying every year at budget time there are a lot of people that say things that are true and some that are rumors. He stated some of the people that have made some of these statements have left and that he would like to correct some things that were said. Mr. Hinely addressed the fact about Fairfield being the highest taxpayer in the district. He said he didn't know where this information came from but it is not correct. Mr. Hinely also then pointed out the tax comparison based on a home value of \$100,000. The second thing he addressed was the allegation that the Council makes \$260.00/hour. He presented a slide showing a total of 76 meetings that the Council was involved in at approximately two and one half hours each; also showing other hours of commitment to boards and commissions, committee meetings and meetings other than regular meetings, time committed to training and presentations, totaling more than 872 hours, which equates to \$17.40 per hour. He thanked Council for the opportunity to present accurate information.

b. Ms. Kinley asked Mr. Hinely to address the amount of grant money received in the last year. Mr. Hinely reported the county received approximately \$546 million dollars in grants.

**9. CLERK TO COUNCIL'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE:**

a. No report.

**10. BOARD AND COMMISSION MINUTES**

Provided as information.

**11. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

Provided as information.

**12. COUNTY COUNCIL TIME**

Brown: Reported he had a request from the town of Winnsboro for some matching funds for water line study. *Moved that the Council have a meeting with the Town of Winnsboro Council to discuss this matter. The motion was seconded by Council Member Ferguson and unanimously approved by Council.*

Perry: Thanked everyone, especially Mrs. Douglas, for coming out to the county worksessions. He opined that it takes up a lot to be involved in the process.

Marcharia: Thanked everyone from Jenkinsville, Monticello, Blair and Dawkins communities and all citizens who came out tonight about the concern that is going on in the Jenkinsville area. He maintained that he was broadsided with this project and found out the same day the Christ Central group was coming to build in that area. He stated he had a discussion with Council just a few hours prior to this and indicated he had questions. He set forth that it is his responsibility to receive adequate information. He asked what does it really mean to the land owners? What is going to be the infrastructure? Are you going to develop the roads? How are you going to build that type of complex without having a sewer? He maintained this has not been explained to him.

Ferguson: Commented that every year at budget time the Council begins its debate about taxes, other counties and salaries. He set forth that no one bothers to come and check the records to see what County Council makes and no one bothers to call these other counties to see what their tax base is. He concluded saying he does not mind anybody speaking on that but that he totally detests people who use false information to get people all jacked out of shape that don't know the true information.

Kinley: Set forth that the Council had Mr. Irby come last week to go over that whole process. She maintained that a couple of months ago she asked Mr. Hinely if he were comfortable with the assessment process and asked him tonight if he would share anything about the process that he used in comparison to other counties. Mr. Hinely stressed that this is an opportunity for to educate. He stated that Mr. Irby learned the process of doing the re-evaluation and the amount of appeals are really low based upon the percentages. He added that these things are to be approved by the state; however, he would be willing to get a notepad and have people sign up to have a meeting with him and Mr. Irby. He concluded saying he feels comfortable about the system in general but it

may be some errors so they may have to meet with some people. Secondly, she asked to give the Council an update on her meeting with the Sheriff and Chief Lewis. She set forth that they all met to talk about landlords and matters such as domestic violence and disturbing the peace. The Sheriff's Office asked that representatives sit down with landlords and discuss some of these guidelines relating to sub-standard housing so people are not renting property where the floors are not solid, no heat, walls not up, etc. She maintained the report was positive from that meeting.

Robinson: Spoke in reference to the millage rate. She cited "if you take a \$100,000.00 house and reduce it a certain amount by 1 mil, what taxpayers pay compared to what VC summer pays is equal to .00008." This number is how much of the taxes that the taxpayers are paying for the services of this county versus VC summer. She added if it is reduced 1 mil, many services would have to be cut. She addressed the fact that there is a big reduction in this year's budget over last year, so hopefully some relief will be seen in the tax notice. She addressed the citizens of Jenkinsville about a major buffer between the property line and the water. Mrs. Robinson concluded saying it is a joy to serve because Council Members have the knowledge and resources to find information to help the citizens.

Brown: Thanked Mr. Hinely and the finance staff for presenting the budget this year. getting helping us with the budget for this year. He set forth that Fairfield County is in a very strange situation this year, as was mentioned, one mil in Fairfield County on a \$100,000.00 house to an individual is \$4.00; for VC Summer, it is \$51,000.00. He talked about suggestions from people to cut millage ten to twenty percent; however, if this were done, services like EMS, fire departments and trash stations would have to be cut quickly. He talked about legislation that was passed where the county cannot go up but so much per year in taxes (whatever the CPI is plus growth). He also talked about the status of the fund balance, infrastructure and economic development.

Mr. Hinely was wished a happy birthday.

Ferguson: Inquired about the status of the proposal with SCANA for the waste system.

Marcharia: Informed those in the Monticello-Jenkinsville area that on Thursday, 1:00 PM, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is meeting with citizens about any concerns in reference to the nuclear power plant.

### 13. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 P.M., upon the unanimous approval of Council.

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SHRYLL M. BROWN  
CLERK TO COUNCIL

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RUSSELL DAVID BROWN  
CHAIRMAN