



**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
JULY 24, 2017**

Present: Billy Smith, Doug Pauley, Neil Robinson (arrived at 6:15 p.m.), 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 Trapp and seconded by Vice Chair Goins to approve the agenda. ***The motion carried unanimously 6-0.***

3. INVOCATION

Council Member Douglas led the invocation.

Chairman Smith announced that Council Member Robinson would be arriving shortly. (Council Member Robinson arrived at 6:15 p.m.)

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Vice Chair Goins and seconded by Council Member Ruff to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 10, 2017. ***The motion carried unanimously 6-0.***

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.

- Ms. Lisa Brandenburg – Progress and Land Use
- Mr. Randy Bright – Ordinance #683 and #686

7. PUBLIC HEARING

None.

8. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND ORDERS

- A. First Reading (By Title Only): Ordinance No. 683** – An Ordinance Authorizing Fairfield County to Purchase and Develop Approximately 508 Acres of Real Property (Tax Map No. 057-00-00-003 [part]; Tax Map No. 058-00-00-017; Tax Map No. 041-00-00-024; Tax Map No. 041-00-00-023), to be Used for Economic Development Projects, and Other Related Matters. It was moved by Council Member Ruff and seconded by Council Member Douglas to approve the First Reading (By Title Only) of Ordinance No. 683. ***The motion carried 5-1 (Council Member Trapp voted nay and Council Member Robinson was not present for the vote).***
- B. First Reading (By Title Only): Ordinance No. 684** – An Ordinance Adopting the 2015 Edition of the International Building, Residential, Plumbing, Mechanical, Fuel Gas and Fire Codes as the Mandatory Building Codes for Fairfield County, South Carolina. It was moved by Council Member Ruff and seconded by Council Member Douglas to approve the First Reading (By Title Only) of Ordinance No. 684. ***The motion carried unanimously 6-0.***
- C. First Reading (By Title Only): Ordinance No. 685** – An Ordinance Adopting the 2014 Edition of the National Electric Code (NEC) as the Mandatory Electrical Code for Fairfield County, South Carolina. It was moved by Council Member Pauley and seconded by Council Member Douglas to approve the First Reading (By Title Only) of Ordinance No. 685. ***The motion carried unanimously 6-0.***
- D. First Reading (By Title Only): Ordinance No. 686** – An Ordinance Adopting the 2009 Edition of the South Carolina Energy Conservation Code, Regulating and Governing Energy Efficient Building Envelopes and Installation of Energy Efficient Mechanical, Lighting and Power Systems in Fairfield County, South Carolina: Providing for the Issuance of Permits and Collection of Fees Therefor. It was moved by Council Member Ruff and seconded by Council Member Douglas to approve First Reading (By Title Only) of Ordinance No. 686. ***The motion carried unanimously 6-0.***

9. BOARD AND COMMISSION MINUTES

- A. Behavioral Health Services:** It was moved by Council Member Trapp and seconded by Vice Chair Goins to accept the minutes from Behavioral Health Services. ***The motion carried unanimously 6-0.***

10. BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

None.

11. OLD BUSINESS

None.

12. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Agreement Between Town of Ridgeway and Fairfield County - Code Enforcement - Public Services and Development Committee Recommends Approval.** It was moved by Council Member Ruff and seconded by Council Member Douglas to approve the request as stated. Chairman Smith asked Mr. Taylor for further information concerning this matter for the benefit of the citizens. Mr. Taylor and Mr. Tim Roseborough of Planning and Zoning met with the Mayor and reviewed the volume. This should not adversely affect our services in any way for the County. ***The motion carried unanimously 6-0.***
- B. Agreement Between Town of Winnsboro and Fairfield County - Building Inspection - Public Services and Development Committee Recommends Approval.** It was moved by Council Member Douglas and seconded by Council Member Ruff to approve the request as stated. Mr. Taylor reiterated that this will not be a burden on the County. There will be some revenue generated with building inspections, and the burden of zoning will still be on the Town. Once approved, the County will simply do the building inspections. ***The motion carried unanimously 6-0.***

13. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- A. Report by Mr. Bob Innes, Animal Control Director -- Overview of Services:** Mr. Taylor introduced Mr. Innes, who gave a presentation concerning the Animal Control Department. Mr. Innes reported on the time that has elapsed since taking over the position in October 2016. An overview was given of the staff and services and that Fairfield County has taken in 1,411 animals of which 1,318 were transferred out. Numbers were reviewed including animals who left the shelter either by adoption, owner reclaiming, release to various rescue organizations, release to the wild through DNR or euthanasia/illness related deaths. Revenue received by the Department was reviewed. Fairfield County Animal Control and Adoptions joined with the No Kill South Carolina organization which will enable far greater networking possibilities for advice/training with education programs, etc. The organization is part of the Charleston Humane Society and has very strict criteria, so this is a major achievement for the County. Mr. Innes reported the department also has a very close relationship with the local organization, Hoof & Paw Society. This organization has been very instrumental in financing spay and neuter clinics every month and they have pledged to carry on with this in the future. In speaking with other animal control personnel across the state, an investment must be made in spaying and neutering which can dramatically improve the current problem. Fairfield County will be hosting four rabies clinics over the next 12 months. Mr. Innes is hopeful the Animal Control Ordinance will be updated very soon. Council Member Ruff thanked Mr. Innes for the outstanding job.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROBINSON ARRIVED AT 6:15 P.M. DURING MR. INNES' REPORT.

- B. Introduction of Mr. Frank Gravely – Salkehatchie Group:** Mr. Taylor introduced Mr. Gravely, who attended the meeting at the request of Council Member

Robinson, in order to get further information about the organization. Mr. Gravely introduced his wife Dee, who assists him to organize the Salkehatchie Camp in Fairfield County. The organization was started around 1978 in the low country by Rev. John Cole. The idea has grown and now there are 50+ camps throughout the state. The Fairfield camp was started in 1991. Mr. Gravely and his wife started with the organization as volunteers in 1997. In 2011, he was asked to assume the role of handling the camp. Mr. Gravely stated that the community in Fairfield is outstanding, including the County, the City and the schools, and the community is always willing to help in any way needed. First and foremost, the organization spreads God's love, and then the goals are warm, safe and dry, helping families to work on their homes. Council Member Ruff asked Mr. Gravely to elaborate on the workers. The camps are administered by the United Methodist Conference and volunteers range in age from 14 with the oldest camper at Fairfield this year age 90. The campers pay \$230 to sacrifice their time to assist people. Council Member Pauley inquired about the process for an individual to get assistance. Mr. Gravely receives recommendations from organizations, home health care, DSS, local churches, etc. and he keeps a running list. Starting in February or March, he will begin to reach out to folks to meet them and get the particulars of their situation and from there make decisions for the following July. One would just need to reach out to Mr. Gravely if they are in need of assistance. Council Member Robinson thanked Mr. and Mrs. Gravely for attending the meeting tonight and providing information on the organization. He suggested the County may be able to help the organization in other ways and would like Mr. Gravely to contact Mr. Taylor for next year. Mr. Gravely also informed the Council there is another camp in Jenkinsville and will provide the contact information to Mr. Taylor. Vice Chair Goins also thanked Mr. Gravely and she is familiar with the great work being done in Jenkinsville. She will also be in contact to assist in the future. She feels this is an excellent way for our young people to learn skill sets, how to work, how to care for others.

- C. Introduction of Ms. Denise Bryan – Interim Airport Manager: As discussed previously with Council, the FAA has required changes and updates to the airport. Mr. Taylor introduced Ms. Denise Bryan, our new Interim Airport Manager accomplishing the first of many goals for the airport. Ms. Bryan has 12+ years in aviation and has worked in Columbia Metro, Augusta Regional and Birmingham International. She is also a private pilot and is very familiar with the aviation community. Ms. Bryan has worked for two years at the Fairfield County Airport and is very familiar with this environment. She has a 4-year Bachelor Degree in Aviation from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Professional Aeronautics and Airport Management. Her goal is to put a professional face on the airport and make it very popular for the flying community. Council welcomed Ms. Bryan.

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.

- Shirley Greene – Communication Clarification
- David Brandenburg - Rezone
- Randy Bright - Everything Old is New Again

16. COUNTY COUNCIL TIME

Douglas: Commented that Ordinance #683 is property near I-77. Business growth in the Chester and Richburg direction is headed this way, and this property is needed for industry for Fairfield County. Also, anyone 65 years and older who owns property, file for homestead exemption.

Goins: Deputy Administrator Anderson took Vice Chair Goins on a tour of the County last week into the BOMAG/Commerce Center area and other areas. Sometimes it is hard to understand the process but one must look to the future. Progress is moving toward Fairfield County which is in the center of everything, and choices have to be made now for the future. When opportunity opens, one must take advantage of it. There are no guarantees, but decisions must be made for the good of all and for the future. The parcel referenced in Ordinance No. 683 is awesome and she encouraged everyone to visit it and see the possibilities for the potential impact to the County. It won't be soon, but it will happen. The items for Town of Ridgeway and Town of Winnsboro, this speaks to the fact that the County and the Towns are working together. The Jenkinsville site which was discussed, some years back there was an opportunity, but the companies coming in were denied water. Opportunities with water and sewer will be happening in the future and the door may be open again. That particular parcel possibly could have a law enforcement substation, which is greatly needed. In speaking on communication, Vice Chair Goins would like to place billboards to advertise business, annual events, inform the community of upcoming events. Possibly put a memorial giving the history of the Jenkinsville area along with the school monument. This can all be placed into the small parcel and improved upon. Things will grow because change is inevitable. It has to happen, and it is consistent. SCANA has been gracious to Fairfield County, but western Fairfield County has something other areas do not, a great lake, a great recreational facility that people don't boast about. Boasting should be done about the positive things and let the other things pass. Vice Chair Goins encourages the citizens and the team to not be afraid to fail and don't be afraid to live to the highest advantage allowed to us. Finally, Vice Chair Goins' reason for voting against the zoning issue at last meeting, in the future, sometimes property changes hands with new generations, and the new owner would be unknown with an unknown impact on the community. This was her reason for opposing this particular Ordinance.

Trapp: Ordinance 683, Council Member Trapp opposed this and will continue to oppose for the remaining two readings. He feels the County doesn't need to spend this amount of money when there are already two sites still under construction. Concerning the previous zoning Ordinance, Council Member Trapp traveled to the area in question, and he felt the manufactured home would have blended in with the current property and did vote to try to get it to the second reading.

Ruff: Commented on "you have to try to fail" and agrees with this wholeheartedly. Council Member Ruff will be out of town September 11 and will not be in attendance for the Council meeting. Inquired of Mr. Taylor concerning the Town of Ridgeway sidewalk project and when this would be going to Committee. Per Mr. Taylor, this will be moving forward by the next Council meeting. Finally, no one contacted Council Member Ruff concerning the zoning issue and he is sympathetic to owners wanting to put what they want on their property, but our Planning and Zoning Commission board members have put forward a number of items that have gone through. Until there is evidence of a problem, he feels he must entrust their judgment on this matter. Also, his opinion will never be swayed by race.

Smith: In an effort to share information concerning the conceptual rendering for the proposed Mt. Zion project which will be discussed in executive session with Town of Winnsboro representatives and 1st & Main Development, there has been a lot of talk about Mt. Zion in the past, different projects including housing, recreation, etc. Mr. Taylor came up with this idea in discussing the potential for the property. With this Memorandum of Understanding, which is not a contract but merely a statement of intention, attempts will be made to secure the property from the Town of Winnsboro, the developer will have 180 day exclusive rights to pursue working on a purchase and development agreement to submit back to the County performing due diligence, property inspections, evaluations, etc. Both parties will cooperate and exchange information. The County will make all attempts to obtain funds held by the Town of Winnsboro received from the Friends of Mt. Zion Institute. The County will perform reasonable site maintenance and stabilization during the MOU period. The final outcome is to possibly prepare the building for a new County Administration Building as the current building is in need of extensive repair. This is all said to inform the public as much as possible at this time with some details still to be discussed in executive session. Council Member Trapp asked if the Confederate monument on the property has been removed. Chairman Smith has no knowledge of this and Mr. Taylor said he believes this is on the front of the property that the Town will retain. Council Member Trapp would like this information before a vote is taken.

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

At 7:02 p.m., it was moved by Council Member Trapp, seconded by Vice Chair Goins to go into executive session for (a) Contractual Matter –Behavioral Health Services and (b) Contractual Matter - Proposed MOU with Town of Winnsboro and 1st & Main Development, LLC. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

At 8:10 p.m., it was moved by Council Member Douglas and seconded by Vice Chair Goins 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.

18. ADJOURN

At 8:11 p.m., it was moved by Council Member Robinson, properly seconded by Council Member Douglas to adjourn. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

PATTI LOCKLAIR
CLERK TO COUNCIL

WILLIAM B. SMITH, JR.
CHAIRMAN