



**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
JULY 9, 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 six 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 Robinson led the invocation.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Council Member Douglas and seconded by Vice Chair Goins to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 25, 2018, and the Special Meeting of June 27, 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.

- Randy Bright - COG

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A.** An Ordinance Authorizing Fairfield County to Add New Fees for the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year. Chairman Smith opened the public hearing at 6:02 p.m. Mr. Randy Bright signed to speak. At conclusion of comments, Chairman Smith then closed the public hearing at 6:03 p.m.

- B.** An Ordinance to Amend the Budget Ordinance for Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2018, and ending June 30, 2019, and Authorizing the Supplemental Appropriation of Funds. Chairman Smith opened the public hearing at 6:04 p.m. Mr. Randy Bright signed to speak. At conclusion of comments, Chairman Smith then closed the public hearing at 6:05 p.m.

8. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND ORDERS

- A. Second Reading: Ordinance No. 700** - An Ordinance Authorizing Fairfield County to Add New Fees for the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year. It was moved by Council Member Douglas and seconded by Vice Chair Goins to approve Second Reading of Ordinance No. 700. Council Member Ruff requested Mr. Taylor to further explain this ordinance. Per Mr. Taylor, administration is restructuring how fees are handled in the budget. In the past, fees were scattered and attempts are being made for consolidation to one fee schedule, which should make the process easier to make adjustments in the future. The specific fees that are being added are not blanket fees and are only charged to those citizens using the particular service. This includes animal control for a dog running at large fee of \$25. If someone's dog is picked up, this fee will be charged at the time the animal is reclaimed. Also, several new fees are added in connection with the wood chipping facility, which is aimed more so at commercial use. These fees include a permit fee and per load fees as listed. Council Member Robinson also inquired concerning the recreation rental fees, which are not included in the new fees. Mr. Taylor could gather this information. Council Member Robinson was asked concerning this prior to the start of tonight's meeting. Some citizens want to use the recreation facilities for actual recreation, and some are concerned the fees may not be high enough due to the facilities being tied up with other functions. Chairman Smith believes the fee is \$25/hour. Council Member Robinson realizes the Recreation Department is in the middle of rebuilding, and this is something to keep in mind for the future. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***
- B. Second Reading: Ordinance No. 702** - An Ordinance to Amend the Budget Ordinance for Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2018, and ending June 30, 2019, and Authorizing the Supplemental Appropriation of Funds. It was moved by Vice Chair Goins and seconded by Council Member Pauley to approve Second Reading of Ordinance No. 702. Council Member Ruff requested Mr. Taylor to further explain this ordinance. Per Mr. Taylor, this is an amendment to the budget to add the fees that were just discussed. In order to accept these fees, they must be in the budget recognized as both revenue and expenditures. Therefore, the budget is being modified to accomplish this. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

C. Second Reading: Ordinance No. 703 - An Ordinance to Amend the Master Agreement Governing the I-77 Corridor Regional Industrial Park by and Between Richland County, South Carolina, and Fairfield County, South Carolina, to Expand the Boundaries of the Park to Include Certain Real Property Located in Richland County (Project Reign); and Other Related Matters. It was moved by Council Member Douglas and seconded by Vice Chair Goins to approve Second Reading of Ordinance No. 703. Vice Chair Goins requested Mr. Taylor to further explain this ordinance. Per Mr. Taylor, this directly follows an economic incentive program the state has designed, which includes a fee-in-lieu of taxes arrangement available for counties to offer businesses to reduce the assessment ratio from 10.5% to 6%. The beginning of this process requires a multi-county park arrangement between counties. The fee-in-lieu cannot be utilized unless the business is a part of a multi-county park agreement. Fairfield County has an agreement with Richland County for shared revenue; therefore, when they have an interested business, the process for approval is begun in Richland County and Fairfield County must also go through the process of approval. In this instance, they are expanding the park to include another piece of property, to which the incentive will be offered. Fairfield County would then, typically, receive a 1% fee from this. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

D. First Reading (By Title Only): Ordinance No. 704 - An Ordinance Authorizing an Amendment to the Master Agreement Governing the I-77 Corridor Regional Industrial Park by and Between Richland County, South Carolina, and Fairfield County, South Carolina, to Expand the Boundaries of the Park to Include Certain Real Property Located in Richland County (Lorick Place Apartments Project); and Other Related Matters. It was moved by Council Member Pauley and seconded by Council Member Robinson to approve First Reading (By Title Only) of Ordinance No. 704. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

E. First Reading (By Title Only): Ordinance No. 705 - An Ordinance Authorizing the Execution of the Amended and Restated Master Agreement Governing the I-77 Corridor Regional Industrial Park by and Between Fairfield County, South Carolina, and Richland County, South Carolina; Confirming the Boundaries of the I-77 Corridor Regional Industrial Park; and Other Related Matters. It was moved by Council Member Douglas and seconded by Vice Chair Goins to approve the First Reading (By Title Only) of Ordinance No. 705. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

9. BOARD AND COMMISSION MINUTES

Board and Commission minutes were provided from the Library Board and the Hospital Board. It was moved by Council Member Ruff and seconded by Vice Chair Goins to approve the minutes as presented. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

10. BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

- A.** Olde English Tourism Board - Charles (Rowdy) Harris, District 2. It was moved by Council Member Douglas and seconded by Council Member Pauley to approve the appointment of Mr. Charles (Rowdy) Harris to the Olde English Tourism Board representing District 2. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

11. OLD BUSINESS

None.

12. NEW BUSINESS

None.

13. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- A.** Gregory Sprouse, Central Midlands Council of Government. Mr. Taylor introduced Mr. Sprouse who stated that he will provide an overview of the COG, what they do and, more specifically, to discuss CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) and the 208 water plan. Mr. Sprouse thanked Council for allowing him to attend and looks forward to informing the Council of some things the COG has done with Fairfield County over the past year.
- The COG is a regional planning agency serving the four counties around Columbia to include Richland, Fairfield, Newberry and Lexington. Each county has voting seats at the Board of Director's meetings, and the mission is to try to address issues that go beyond regional jurisdictions and individual jurisdictions. The COG serves as a conduit between federal government programs, state government programs and then the local governments. The COG is broken into 10 different planning areas with a range of programs organized around the federal and state programs.
 - Primary program areas of the COG include workforce development services, economic development, aging services under the Older Americans Act, transportation planning, local government planning services and community development. These programs come together under the idea of regional coordination and collaboration. Some direct services provided in Fairfield County include in-home care for the aging, home assisted meals and working closely with the Fairfield Council on Aging. Transportation is a big program area including the federal dollars for transportation planning from the federal gas tax. This comes to the State of South Carolina through SCDOT and then goes through the COG for both urban and rural planning areas to assist in guiding prioritization of investments around transportation.
 - CDBG: This is a federal program administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development authorized under the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. The objectives are to benefit low and moderate income population, aid communities in the elimination of slum/blight areas and address urban community needs which pose a general health and safety hazard or threat to public health and safety. In the Midlands area, Fairfield and Newberry County are under the state CDBG being competitive with the other areas in the state that do not receive funds

directly from HUD. Each year, the state program, operating under the S.C. Department of Commerce, gets an annual allocation which then goes to local governments through the competitive grant process. This year, the Department of Commerce had about \$18.4M with the largest share of this being for infrastructure type projects. The grant applications for infrastructure projects occur in the spring, and the fall grants are for the community enrichment and neighborhood revitalization projects. The COG is working directly with Fairfield County to identify possible projects. Recent CDBG projects that have been awarded in the four county area include the City of Newberry water and sewer upgrades, the Winnsboro sewer transmission line project and water upgrades in the Town of Whitmire.

- **Economic Development Administration:** This is a program through the U.S. Department of Commerce designed to provide assistance to distressed communities for economic development related projects which are geared toward providing investments in infrastructure to help create jobs or retain jobs. One issue with this type of assistance is that it is a 50/50 match. One of the regional planning projects done each year related to EDA programs is to develop a comprehensive economic development strategy, which is done by working with the economic development professionals in Fairfield County and the other three counties to identify the priorities for economic development.
- **208 Water Quality Management Planning:** This is a federal program under section 208 of the Clean Water Act that was enacted in the late 1970s. This allocates federal funding for large water and sewer infrastructure projects. To be eligible for this funding, a regional plan must be developed to demonstrate how the investments will be made. The COG is the state designated regional water quality management planning agency with the purpose being to provide a regional planning framework primarily for sewer infrastructure investments. DHEC cannot issue a permit for construction related to sewer infrastructure unless it is determined to be in conformance with this plan. The COG works with all of the regional sewer providers and is able to bring multiple entities to the table.

In closing, over the past year, the COG has been working directly with the Planning Commission to update the Comprehensive Plan, worked on the Winnsboro sewer project, is currently working to develop project ideas for both CDBG and EDA and is working with DHEC through the transportation planning program to coordinate pedestrian planning activities. Mr. Sprouse stated the COG looks forward to continuing to work with the County. Chairman Smith thanked Mr. Sprouse for his presentation.

B. Jennifer Stevens - Quarterly 4-H Report. Mr. Taylor introduced Ms. Stevens, who thanked Council for the opportunity to share information about the 4-H Program in Fairfield County. A more detailed report will be handed out for Council to peruse. Ms. Stevens gave the following highlights:

- Continued partnership with the School District, Chameleon Learning Center, Midlands Stem School, the Barclay School, Magestic Academy and others to provide programming in healthy lifestyles, natural resources, leadership, agriculture and personal development. Community service is

a main focus of importance for the youth. The latest community service program involved making dog toys for the animal shelter. Ms. Stevens thanked the animal shelter staff for being so welcoming.

- New partnerships are underway with the Girl Scouts and Junior Achievement of the Midlands. More to come on this in the future.
- Youth from Fairfield County have been participating in many South Carolina State 4-H programs. Some programs are the 4-H Ambassador Program, 4-H Healthy Lifestyles Youth Summit, 4-H Engineering Challenge, 4-H Garden Project, 4-H Rabbit Project, 4-H Goat Project, 4-H Senior Weekend, S.C. 4-H Club Camps, 4-H Legislative Day, 4-H State Congress, National Youth Makers Conference and the 4-H Pinckney Leadership Conference. Fairfield County had six students selected again this year to attend the Pinckney Leadership Conference. Gerrell Lawhorne was asked to return this year as a junior counselor. This invitation is given only to those who show tremendous leadership skills, and the 4-H community is very proud of him. Students who attended the conference this year were asked to write an essay. Ms. Stevens introduced Antwan Chambers, who was in attendance to share a portion of his essay. Antoine moved to Fairfield County from another state two years ago and joined 4-H as a means to get involved in the community. Today, he is an ambassador for 4-H and is involved in many 4-H activities. Research shows that more children return to their communities to serve after they have been involved in 4-H.

In closing, Ms. Stevens asked for everyone's help with volunteers, program space, etc. The organization is more than happy to serve the community in any way. She also thanked the Council for their support and continued belief in 4H. Chairman Smith thanked Ms. Stevens for her presentation and also thanked Mr. Chambers. Council Member Ruff and Vice Chair Goins also thanked Ms. Stevens for her continued efforts for the young people.

14. CLERK TO COUNCIL'S REPORT

None.

- 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.

- Mrs. Linda Haslett with introduction of Lions Club International Exchange Students:
 - Ella Roosa Mantysalo - Finland
 - Berenika Poplerova - Czech Republic
 - Maria Clara Annes - Brazil
 - Ida Marie Lorensten - Denmark
- Randy Sisk - Economy

- James McGraw - Alarming Trend
- Shirley Greene - Ridgeway Library
- Jeff Schaffer - Reality
- Randy Bright - Goal

16. COUNTY COUNCIL TIME

Goins: Thanked Mr. Chambers for speaking on behalf of 4-H. She loves to see young people grow up, mature and become good leaders. A senior's season is at a certain level, and now it's the young people's time. She is proud of the exchange students and to all, keep being strong, resilient and focused. She thanked the Hasletts for opening their heart and home to others. She also thanked the 4-H community for all the efforts to help better Fairfield County.

Ruff: He is proud of all the young people who spoke tonight. Also concerning the library, the County has been working toward getting the building ready for opening and hopefully an update will come soon. This process began months ago concerning this building, and he was surprised the owner did not contact the County prior to the deposit. However, this was the owner's choice, and with so many failed lease agreements in the past, she believed the County would be a better source for the lease.

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 6:59 p.m., it was moved by Council Member Douglas and seconded by Vice Chair Goins 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) Personnel Matter - Discussion Regarding the Annual Review of the County Administrator and Clerk to Council, (d) Economic Development - Update and Discussion of Potential Contracts, (e) Contractual Matter - Discussion of Funding in Accordance with the County's Contract on Emergency Room Services with Providence/LifePoint and Fairfield Memorial Hospital and (f) Contractual Matter - Update on Potential Water and Sewer Authority Agreement. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.*** Council Member Trapp left the meeting at this time and was not present for Executive Session.

At 10:24 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 6-0.***

No action was taken in Executive Session.

Motion made by Vice Chair Goins, seconded by Council Member Robinson to amend the terms of the employment contract with the County Administrator as follows: To extend the employment contract effective date by one year, to amend the terms for

the termination without cause of the administrator's employment contract by increasing the period of compensation due and owing to two (2) years and increasing the administrator's annual salary by 3.44%. Chairman Smith stated he feels Mr. Taylor does a great job, and he will miss working with him. ***The motion carried unanimously 6-0.***

Motion made by Vice Chair Goins, seconded by Council Member Ruff to increase the Clerk to Council's annual salary by 4%. Chairman Smith stated he feels Mrs. Davis does a great job, and he will also miss working with her. ***The motion carried unanimously 6-0.***

18. ADJOURN

At 10:25 p.m., it was moved by Council Member Douglas, properly seconded by Council Member Robinson to adjourn. ***The motion carried unanimously 6-0.***

PATTI L. DAVIS
CLERK TO COUNCIL

WILLIAM B. SMITH, JR.
CHAIRMAN