



**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
AUGUST 24 , 2009**

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 fifty-eight other individuals.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Brown called the meeting to order at 6:04 P.M.

2. INVOCATION

Council Member Kinley led in the invocation.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Council Members Ferguson and Marcharia; seconded by Council Member Perry to approve the minutes of the special meeting of July 20, 2009 and regular meeting of August 10, 2009. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING

Fairfield County Community 2009 Needs Assessment - To Solicit Input On Community Needs And Priorities For Housing, Public Facilities, And Economic Development. At This Public Hearing, Fairfield County Will Provide The Results Of Its Draft Needs Assessment And The Activities Which Might Be Undertaken To Meet Identified Needs, Including The Estimated Amount Proposed To Be Used For Activities That Will Benefit Persons Of Low And Moderate Income. *Chairman Brown opened public hearing at 6:06 P.M.*

Ms. Cyndi Gawronski made the following comments:

- Have been working with Mr. Steven Gaither in preparing the Needs Assessment, which is a document created that gives the wants and wish lists of the county and prioritizes them. This is done annually.
- Highlights of 2009 Needs Assessment (Going Forward To 2010)
 - The document begins with census data. Don't have anything yet for 2010; therefore, the information does not change.
 - Priorities from last year changed slightly, i.e., the number one priority had been the Quick Jobs Center, which was funded through two different grants over the last year.

That dropped from the top and Quick Jobs Phase II option was created. If future funding is sought for increasing the building, that priority is there. Everything else moves up.

- Asking for input from the audience. Mr. Gaither distributed a survey to everyone in the room to solicit input. Asking the audience to check the boxes on how they rate different things in the community. This document will be collected at the end of the night. This is the draft versions. All comments will be factored into the final version.
- Identified Needs. Infrastructure: Middlesix community (installing three-phase sewer serving southeast Winnsboro); Jenkinsville (capacity problems and low yield groundwater wells. Wanted to see improvement there); West and south of Winnsboro (served by Mid County Water Company. Improvements would be new water lines and services). Would be addressing in the spring rounds next year; Greenbrier (water system upgrades in the form of a water tank); Mitford (extension of water lines); Ridgeway (improving the water around Highway 34 where there is excess water draining into the ground); Future Areas (Dawkins, Blackjack, Blackstock, Mood-Harrison, Shelton and South Winnsboro).
- Affordable Housing for LMI citizens. Work with groups such as Habitat for Humanity to upgrade housing in Jenkinsville, Dawkins, Blackjack, Blackstock, Greenbrier, Middlesix, Mitford, Shelton and South Winnsboro.
- Rehabilitation of existing building and construction and fire stations to prevent, protect, respond and recover from terrorists attacks and catastrophic natural disasters. These stations will improve response time and the ability to protect lives and property in the community.
- Quick Jobs Phase II for any future expansion on the building that is being constructed.

Questions from Council:

□ Brown: That covers most of the different areas in the county that Council has been concerned with for a number of years. This is an ongoing process where items go from the top of list and they rotate off, etc. This covers everything Council has discussed in the past.

Hearing no further comments, Chairman Brown closed public hearing at 6:17 P.M.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Brown stated that four (4) individuals signed to speak during public comment and that three of the four signed to speak about a petition that was mentioned in the local paper. Chairman Brown cited that he suspected a petition was going to be presented to the Council tonight and voiced that Council could accept it under advisement, without recommendation, etc. Further, he asked Attorney Jack James to address the issue of the legality of Council being involved and setting a non-binding referendum; specifically, does Council have the right to do that. Attorney James stated he had looked at the statute and was therefore, of the opinion that County Council does have the authority to have an advisory referendum—being said as advisory only and any real change could only be effected by the General Assembly. Subsequently, the following individuals who signed to speak on the matter of a petition were called to the podium: Mr. Marion Smith, Mr. William Gray, Mr. Thomas Armstrong and Dr. E. Sutton.

At this time, Chairman Brown recognized Mr. Aaron Bell of Central Midlands Council of Governments, who announced that the COG is updating the 2035 Rural Long range Transportation Plan and is inviting residents of the county to share their concerns about the transportation system at a public meeting Monday, August 31, 2009, 5:00 – 7:00 P.M., in the Council Chambers.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

6. OLD BUSINESS

None.

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution: Declaring The County's Intent To Purchase And Development Certain Real Property For The Purpose Of Incenting Economic Development Projects To Locate In Fairfield County; Authorizing The County Administrator To Negotiate For The Purchase And Development Of Real Property And Enter Into Necessary Agreements; And Other Matters Related Thereto. *It was moved by Council Member Robinson; seconded by Council Member Ferguson to approve the above-referenced Resolution as posted. The motion carried unanimously.*

B. Resolution: Declaring The County's Intent To Reimburse Itself For Certain Expenditures Made Prior To The County's Consummation Of A Federally Tax-Exempt Financing. *It was moved by Council Member Ferguson; seconded by Council Member Perry to approve the above-referenced Resolution as posted. The motion carried unanimously.*

C. First Reading (By Title Only): Ordinance No. 549 - Authorizing Fairfield County, South Carolina, To Purchase And Develop Approximately [__] Acres Of Real Property, To Be Used For Economic Development Projects; And Other Related Matters. *It was moved by Council Members Robinson and Ferguson; seconded by Council Member Kinley to approve First Reading (BY Title Only) of Ordinance No. 549. The motion carried unanimously.*

D. First Reading (By Title Only): Ordinance No. 550 - Providing For The Issuance Of Not Exceeding In The Aggregate Of \$6,750,000 Bonds Of Fairfield County, South Carolina, In One Or More Series, Tax-Exempt Or Taxable, To Be Used To Fund Economic Development Projects And Other Projects, Including The Purchase And Development Of Real Property; Authorizing The County Administrator To Prescribe The Form And Details Of The Bonds; Providing For The Payment Of The Bonds And The Disposition Of The Proceeds Thereof; Providing For Borrowing In Anticipation Of The Issuance Of Said Bonds; And Other Matters Relating Thereto. *It was moved by Council Member Ferguson; seconded by Council Member Kinley to approve First Reading (By Title Only) of Ordinance No. 550. The motion carried unanimously.*

E. Adoption Of Fairfield County Community Draft 2009 Needs Assessment. *It was moved by Council Member Robinson; seconded by Council Member Perry to approve the Draft 2009 Needs Assessment. The motion carried unanimously.*

F. Approval Of Building Inspection Agreement Between Fairfield County And Town of Jenkinsville. *It was moved by Council Member Marcharia; seconded by Council Member Perry to approve the Building Inspection Agreement Between Fairfield County and the Town of Jenkinsville. The motion carried unanimously.*

G. Appointments/Reappointments To Fairfield County Boards And Commissions. *It was moved by Council Member Robinson; seconded by Vice Chairman Trapp to approve the Appointment/Reappointment listing of August 24, 2009 as presented by the Clerk. The motion carried unanimously.*

8. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

a. Received letter from Acting Superintendent that the District is unable to fund the Teen Institute Program.

b. Secured ladder truck from York County.

c. Midlands Technical College @Fairfield Analysis

Construction	*\$2,058,758	Revenues	\$2,048,600
Other Expenses	\$ 864,842	Midlands Tech Revenues	<u>\$ 250,000</u>
Midlands Tech Equipment	<u>\$ 250,000</u>		
	\$3,173,600		\$2,298,600

*10,600 sq. ft. @ \$194 per sq. ft.)

Total Project Cost	\$3,179,600	Sources of County Money	\$ 125,000
Total Revenues	<u>\$2,298,600</u>	(CTC Contribution)	
Needed From County	\$ 875,000	Portion of Sale of Timber	\$ 50,000
		County Bond	<u>\$ 700,000</u>
			\$ 875,000

d. Ms. Heather Mitchell presented the revised Midlands Tech floor plan, which integrates additional space for Fairfield Hall.

Questions:

I think this is a welcomed addition because one of the things talked about was having it accessible to the public and having a meeting room that would give the county staff a room to have programs, etc. Now is a good time because of the cost factor (with the percentage down). I think it is going to be a welcome asset to Fairfield County and is something the county is going to be proud of when it becomes reality.

It was moved by Council Member Ferguson; seconded by Council Member Robinson to authorize the Administrator to secure the necessary funds needed from the county for the Midlands Tech building. The motion carried unanimously.

e. Secured federal money to fence the airport. Used to be 90% federal, 5% state and 5% local match. Currently is 95% federal, 2.5% state and 2.5% local match. Representatives will be here tomorrow to see what has been accomplished out there.

Mr. Marcharia voiced that when the Council met with the CTC, there was a road in his district that they wanted him to do the work and surveys. He set forth that there were people in the county who are paid to do this work and that he was not going to go out door knocking to do surveys and bringing information back to the Administrator, as was suggested. He also commented that there needs to be more mutual respect on how the county and boards and commissions deal with one another.

9. CLERK TO COUNCIL'S REPORT

None

10. BOARD AND COMMISSION MINUTES

Provided as information.

11. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Provided as information.

12. COUNTY COUNCIL TIME

Brown: Thanked everyone who expressed condolence via their kind thoughts, phone calls, cards, etc., to him and his family at his mother's passing.

Kinley: Inquired about the scheduling the Intergovernmental Council Meeting. Reported that she received good comments as it relates to the new recycling centers. Asked the Administrator to explain the mulching process to the citizens.

Ferguson: Asked for an update on the limbs and debris coming out of the waste stream and going to Cook Road. Also inquired of the status of the Town of Winnsboro taking their debris down there at their expense.

Marcharia: Commented that he does not know anyone in the county who has been hired to work with the census program. He also asked to receive a report on who is actually participating in the various programs in the county. Mr. Hinely stated that he has asked Mr. Steven Gaither to assist with the census project, along with Mr. Stowers.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Economic Development Matter And Contractual Matter.

At 7:02 P.M., it was moved by Council Member Marcharia; seconded by Council Member Ferguson to go in executive session to discuss an economic development matter and contractual matter. The motion carried unanimously.

At 7:58 P.M., it was moved by Council Member Ferguson; seconded by Council Member Robinson to come out of executive session and return to regular session. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Brown reported that the Council received information in executive session and there was nothing to bring forward.

14. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 P.M., upon the unanimous approval of Council.

SHRYLL M. BROWN
CLERK TO COUNCIL

RUSSELL DAVID BROWN
CHAIRMAN