



**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 8, 2014**

Present: David L. Ferguson, Sr., R. David Brown, Mary Lynn Kinley, Kamau Marcharia, Dwayne Perry, Carolyn B. Robinson, Mikel R. Trapp, Council Members; J. Milton Pope, County Administrator; Davis Anderson, Deputy County Administrator; Jack James, County Attorney; Shryll 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 ninety-six other individuals.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ferguson called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*It was moved by Council Member Robinson; seconded by Vice Chairman Perry to approve the agenda. **The motion carried unanimously.***

3. INVOCATION

Council Member Kinley led in The Invocation.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*It was moved by Council Member Trapp; seconded by Vice Chairman Perry to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 25, 2014. **The motion carried unanimously.***

5. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

None.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES): INPUT MUST PERTAIN TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA, FOR WHICH NO PUBLIC HEARING IS REQUIRED OR HAS BEEN SCHEDULED

The following individuals signed to speak:

- Mr. Randy Bright - Walking After Midnight
- Ms. Jackie Workman - Recreation
- Mr. Jeff Schaffer - Mr. Pope's Report
- Ms. Cheryl Workman - Recreation

7. PUBLIC HEARING

None.

8. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND ORDERS:

A. Third And Final Reading: Ordinance No. 639 - An Ordinance Authorizing The Addition Of Mekra Tool & Mold, Llc As A Sponsor Affiliate To The Existing Fee In Lieu Of Property Tax Arrangement Between Lang-Mekra North America, Llc ("Company"), As Sponsor, Lang Mekra North America Properties, Llc, As Sponsor Affiliate, And Fairfield County, South Carolina ("County"); Authorizing And Providing The Consent And Approval Of The County To The Transfer Of Economic Development Property From The Company To Mekra Tool & Mold, Llc; And Other Related Matters.

*It was moved by Council Member Brown; seconded by Council Member Robinson to approve Third and Final Reading of Ordinance No. 639. **The motion carried unanimously.***

9. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS MINUTES

Provided as information.

10. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS APPOINTMENTS

None.

11. OLD BUSINESS

A. Community Enhancement Grant Recommendation

Mr. Pope reported that he had previously forwarded out his recommendation to the Council in their agenda package; however, he wanted to bring forth the recommendation below for Council's consideration:

As a first step of the "re-vamped" process, I believe that the process went fairly well and we have learned several things that will improve the program significantly in the future if Council votes to support this initiative prospectively in the future. Staff advertised the program on the County website, local media, through the Chamber of Commerce's distribution list, through the County Council Agenda Distribution Mailing List and through other sources to make sure everyone had an equal opportunity to actually to be able to apply for the Enhancement Grants. Out of the submission, there were a total of 15 submissions. Officially, District 1 had one application; District 2 did not have any applications; District 3 did not have any applications; District 4 had two applications; there were five in District 5; six in District 6; one actually in District 7 and a Lion's Club application.

Mr. Pope set forth additional information about the applications as follows:

District 1. Family Literacy Program. Category of the grant came under youth programs and initiatives. The objective will sponsor three free-choice book distributions in the communities of Ridgeway, Simpson, Longtown, Centerville and Lake Wateree area. They will purchase 250 books and give away and promote personal home libraries for children to become life-long readers and to increase reading among boys between the ages of 3 and 10 years of age.

District 4. Had two submissions. One was for the St. Luke Baptist Food Pantry. The requested funds will be allocated toward purchase of food and distribution of food to citizens that qualify within the Fairfield community. Mt. Zion AME Church is requesting funding for individuals and families in Fairfield County. This includes three programs: Back-to-School Bash to be held in September; Thanksgiving initiative and a Christmas Gift Bag Project.

District 5. St. Mark Baptist Church is requesting funding for individuals and families in Fairfield County to fund two programs: Back-to-School Bash and Food Pantry Program. The Fairfield Memorial Foundation came under the qualification of a community improvement grant. The Foundation is requesting to update the walking track area to install water foundations, post-health tip signage and lighting and landscaping. Black Jack Baptist Church is requesting funding for Back-to-School Bash. New Hope A.M.E. Church is requesting funding for Back-to-School Bash and an Angel Tree Program. River of Life Church is requesting funding for Back-to-School.

District 6. Church of the Nazarene. Two projects: one for Back-to-School and Judgment House Program that provides for community education. Fairfield Behavioral Health Services is requesting funding to educate the community on the negative impact of tobacco use. Fairfield Medical Associates is requesting funding for a Health and Wellness Fair program to reach 2,200 citizens in the community with additional health and community information. St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church submitted an application under the category of elderly, youth and health and wellness initiative. Their outcomes were to target 24 elderly and youth participants.

Girl Scouts of America is a youth initiative. The final one was from the Lion's Club, who requested funds to furnish eye exams and glasses for indigent citizens of Fairfield County.

The Girl Scouts and Lions Club would not have been funded under staff's recommendation based on the criteria; however, Council Member Trapp agreed to sponsor those projects under his district in order to provide a recommendation of funding for those.

Funding Recommendations:

District 1. \$500 for Family Literary Program.

District 2. Continue funding for lighting program.

District 3. \$500 for Girl Scouts. \$500 for Lions Club.

District 4. \$500 for St. Luke Baptist Church Food Pantry. \$500 for Mt. Zion A.M.E.

District 5. \$500 for St. Mark Baptist Church; \$500 for FMH Foundation; \$500 for Black Jack Baptist Church; \$500 for New Hope A.M.E. Church; \$500 for River of Life Church

District 6. \$500 for Fairfield Behavioral Health Services; \$500 for Fairfield Medical Associates; \$500 for St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church; \$500 for Church of the Nazarene

District 7. Continue funding for lighting program.

Staff did not provide a scoring sheet to the Council, as out of the fifteen submissions, staff had anticipated the receipt of more. Therefore, all of the programs were able to fit within the district allocation amounts. Staff's recommendation would be to finalize all policy requirements with the applicants and all funds have to be expended and receipts turned in to the County by December 28, 2014, and if Council were to continue the program, it is staff's recommendation to start on the front end of the budget process, along with the other budgetary items.

Council Member Kinley pointed out that the Fairfield Medical Associates is District 5; not District 6; however, she did not have a problem with agreeing to sponsor it.

Questions and Comments

- ❖ Organizations who may be considering applying should have some type orientation.
- ❖ Have the different organizations to come to present the request to the Council to explain more about the organization.
- ❖ Mr. Pope will send Council his notes of the descriptive portion of what was covered.
- ❖ When the advertisement went out to groups, some churches and organizations have the ability and expertise to complete the application in a timely manner; however, there are some churches that may not even have a computer and not up to par to understand all the tax information, etc.

*It was moved by Council Member Marcharia; seconded by Council Member Trapp to accept the Community Enhancement Grant applications. **The motion carried unanimously.***

*It was moved by Council Member Marcharia; seconded by Council Member Trapp that Council have a work session to look at the remaining funds, i.e., to give each Council Member the opportunity for their constituency to apply for remaining funds until the total funds have allocated. **The motion carried unanimously.***

B. Recreation Proposal Recommendation

In the introduction to the process, Mr. Pope pointed out that this matter was brought to the County Council, used existing documentation and plan information that the consultants look at, looked at pricing, met numerous time internally as staff members, met with Council Members numerous times in going over the information, and all of this stems from a public vote based upon a master list of projects that the Council asked the staff to go back and look at as to potentially if those things could be funded. The estimated budget that was in the bond of \$3.5 million dollars for these recreational activities.

At this point, Mrs. Lori Schafer came forward and covered the following topics in her presentation:

- Definition of Recreation
- Mini Parks
- Ball Parks
- Walking Trails
- Recreation Facility (Program Room and Gym)
- Programs/Athletic Programs
- Council of Governments
- Rentals
- Concerns

Mr. David Brandes, Genesis Consulting Group, covered the following topics:

- Background: How were these costs prepared, How precise are these costs, Cost of Public Projects, Total Costs, Operation and Maintenance, Staffing, Replacement
- What are the items budgeted: Community Centers, Recreational Items (Playground, Picnic Shelters, Basketball Courts)
- Infrastructure Cost **Estimates:**
 - District 1: \$617,017
Land Acquisition, Buildings (Community Center), Site Improvements (Parking, Grading, Sidewalks), Basketball Court (Outdoor), Landscaping and Amenities
 - District 2: \$573,333
Land Acquisition (Include space for future EMS/Recycling Combination), Buildings, Site Improvements (Parking, Grading, Sidewalks)
 - District 3: \$499,337
Land Acquisition, Site Improvements (Parking, Grading, Sidewalks), Basketball Court (Outdoor), Swing, 2 Playgrounds (5-12 year olds), 2 Playgrounds (5 and younger), Landscaping and Amenities
 - District 4: \$619,660
Buildings, Site Improvements (Parking, Grading, Sidewalks), Basketball Court (Outdoor), Walking Trails, Landscaping and Amenities
 - District 5: \$641,930
Land Acquisition, Site Improvements (Parking, Grading, Sidewalks), Basketball Court (Outdoor), Swing, 2 Walking Trails, 2 Playgrounds (5-12 year olds), 2 Playgrounds (5 and younger), 3 Picnic Shelters, Landscaping and Amenities
 - District 6: \$509,629
Community Center (Convert Maintenance Facility), Site Improvements, Soccer/Football Field Lighting, Walking Trails, Picnic Shelters, Landscaping and Amenities
 - District 7: \$644,440
Land Acquisition, Genealogy Building, Site Improvements, Basketball Court (Outdoor with Restroom), Baseball/Softball Field Combination, Picnic Shelters, Landscaping and Amenities

- Summary Costs: Capital costs will fit under the voted-on bond. Staffing impacts, operation and maintenance will not be paid under the bond.
- Why are we not at \$3.5 million? Buildings have not been designed, some of the sites have not been chosen. Want ability to take out some contingencies that are built in, as the numbers have a 10% contingency built in, along with engineering and architectural fees. If contingencies are not needed, will be right at budget.

Mr. Pope set forth, that if Council desired to move forward, he would recommend that Council authorize the County Administrator to amend the contract with Genesis and Ken Simmons and Associates to allow the Administrator to develop a contract that would be one, single contract to be able to move forward on all the items to avoid multiple logistical parts to the project, which will help with cost savings as well as when the County gets into the bidding process itself, where is when it will be known what the final costs will be, and at that particular time, the County will have the opportunity to make those decisions as to whether or not the projects need to be further defined.

Further, Mr. Pope recommended to Council to accept this initial plan, and allow staff to move forward; as a part of that, to approve and authorize the Administrator to amend the contract with the consultants, allowing them to put together everything for the bidding purposes.

*It was moved by Vice Chairman Perry; seconded by Council Member Trapp to accept the presentation as it was presented by the Genesis Consulting Group (the first part of that action plan), and to instruct the Administrator to negotiate the bidding process as he stated it. **The motion carried unanimously.***

12. NEW BUSINESS

None.

13. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

A. Lake Wateree Flood Study - Phase I.

Have partnered with Kershaw County in looking at the Base Flood Elevation around Lake Wateree. There may be new data to look at as it relates to Base Flood Elevation on Wateree that may give more positive indication to FEMA that would help to lower flood insurance premiums, based upon the study. Kershaw has issued an RFP, and an Evaluation Committee has been established. ESP Consultant from Fort Mill, South Carolina has been recommended to handle this study. This documentation will be placed on the Fairfield County website.

- B. Have had several communication with people inquiring about political signs and the removal of such. If someone decides to place political signs on person's private property, they have to have that consent. The government can remove signs if they are improperly in the right-of-way. Signs cannot be vandalized, as the State statute covers that.

Council Member Marcharia asked to comment on the issue of the employee snow days, in terms of taking away their time. Asked to *make a motion that Council revert to where the policy was prior to giving those snow days or give some comprehensive information as to why that would be detrimental.*

Mr. Pope opined that, based upon the motion and in view of the fact that Council Member Robinson having mentioned this several Council meetings ago, he would

recommend this item be moved to committee and to be able to receive the history and existing policy information.

*It was moved by Council Member Marcharia; seconded by Council Member Brown to take the Inclement Weather Policy discussion to committee for discussion. **The motion carried unanimously.***

Council Member Marcharia also inquired about the employment data for Enor Corporation. Mr. Pope responded that all of the data is not available at this particular time; however, as soon as the wage and hour information is available, it will be shared with Council.

Mr. Pope reported he did have the information available as it relates to what requirements of funding was available in the event of a nuclear disaster.

*It was moved by Council Member Marcharia; seconded by Council Member Trapp to take the hiring a Public Information Officer to committee for discussion. **The motion carried unanimously.***

14. CLERK TO COUNCIL'S REPORT

None.

15. 2ND PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES): INPUT CAN BE TO INTRODUCE AN ITEM NOT CURRENTLY UNDER COUNCIL'S CONSIDERATION OR BRING A CONCERN TO COUNCIL'S ATTENTION

The following individuals signed to speak:

- Mr. Jeff Schaffer - Old Matter
- Mr. Walter Larry Stewart - Cooperation And Working Together
- Mr. Billy Smith - Results
- Mr. Randy Bright - Questions And Answers

Mr. Pope asked Council for a point of privilege to address the matter of the report that was provided to Council that was done by the Institute of Public Service and Policy Research, citing since Mr. Schaffer and Mr. Bright both referred to it as "Mr. Pope's Report".

16. COUNTY COUNCIL TIME

Brown: Thanked Superintendent Green for his role in allowing the children of Fairfield County to utilize the public schools' gymnasiums for basketball.

Marcharia: Disrespect of Mr. Pope; threats.

Perry: Comments made about "truce"; Saving Fairfield brochure; Hospital; Infrastructure

Trapp: Status of statistics relating to statements made about drug drops at mini parks.

Kinley: Disrespect; Town Hall meetings; lawsuit; brochure about money from SCANA; unemployment rate; recreation.

Ferguson: Half truths being told by people; new companies and jobs.

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION

*At 8:14 P.M., it was moved by Council Member Marcharia; seconded by Vice Chairman Perry to go in executive session to receive legal advice and discuss an economic development matter. **The motion carried unanimously.** {Council Member Trapp did not attend executive session}.*

*At 9:25 P.M., it was moved by Council Member Robinson; seconded by Council Member Marcharia to come out of executive session and return to open session. **The motion carried unanimously.***

In open session, Chairman Ferguson reported that Council received information in executive session.

18. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 P.M., upon unanimous approval of Council.

SHRYLL M. BROWN
CLERK TO COUNCIL

DAVID L. FERGUSON, SR.
CHAIRMAN