



**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 9, 2013**

Present: David L. Ferguson, R. David Brown, Mary Lynn Kinley, Kamau Marcharia, Dwayne Perry, Carolyn B. Robinson, Council Members; J. Milton Pope, County Administrator; Davis Anderson, Deputy County Administrator; Jack James, County Attorney; Shryll Brown, Clerk to Council

Absent: Mikel R. Trapp

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 eighty-nine other individuals.

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. INVOCATION

Council Member Kinley led in the invocation.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*It was moved by Vice Chairman Perry; seconded by Council Member Robinson to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 26, 2013. **The motion carried unanimously.***

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

The following individuals signed to speak to Council during public comment:

Mr. Randy Bright – Taxes/Efficiency

Ms. Betty Scott Frazier – Transparency

Mr. Jeff Morris – Council Focus

Mr. Jeff Schaffer – Old News

Mr. Bob Carrison – Return Of Funds

Mr. Vernon Pylant – Respect

Mr. Clyde McFadden – Council

Ms. Beth Jenkins – Funds/Spending

Mr. Bill Haslett – Helping Kids

6. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Senator Creighton Coleman gave a presentation on the Flow Control Legislation.

7. PUBLIC HEARING

None.

8. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND ORDERS:

None.

9. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS MINUTES

Provided as information.

10. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS APPOINTMENTS

None.

11. OLD BUSINESS

None.

12. NEW BUSINESS

None.

13. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

A. Update On Purchasing And Developing Approximately One Acre Of Real Property To Be Used As Recreational Mini Park. Mr. Pope pointed out that this was an item that Council had placed on the agenda up to Second Reading; however, Council decided to defer this item, as there was information that was provided at the last citizens' input session that there could be the possibility of land that may be donated or provided to the County. He indicated he is waiting on that information, and has not received any information to date. Further, Mr. Pope also stated he has communicated with Council Member Trapp on this item, and he is of the opinion that he has established to move forward with the Council on this item at the next regular scheduled meeting of September 23rd, at such time the item will be brought up for Third and Final Reading.

14. CLERK TO COUNCIL'S REPORT

None.

15. COUNTY COUNCIL TIME

Ferguson: Brought forth that the Council will schedule a work session on Wednesday, September 18, 2013, 6:00 P.M., in the Council Chambers, on recreation as well as discuss a proposal from Christ Central Ministries regarding usage of the Old Voter Registration Building. He asked that all members of Council bring proposals from each respective district so that it can be discussed. Mr. Pope will have his staff available for discussion. Council will also discuss the manner in which Council selects recreation for each individual district—meaning, will it be left up to that Council representative from that district or will it be left up to the entire Council body. He asked that Council be prepared in the next regular Council meeting night to take a vote on how that is to be decided (with the funding that came from the bond issue). Chairman Ferguson also asked if Council members have anything in advance of that night, that Mr. Pope or Mrs. Brown receive a copy to be sent out to all members of Council.

Perry: Mentioned that the Delegation has scheduled a forum for September 16, 2013. Asked that the Local Option Sales Tax be scheduled as soon as possible.

Marcharia: Requested cost analysis of center and any figures or numbers that he might need. Requested legal opinion from attorney whether or not it could be prioritized/earmarked the monies from the old budget (the \$500,000)/moved to another area within the budget: whether or not the Council is supposed to vote on that, or can it be taken and put it where you want to spend it--does it come back before Council for appropriation. He inquired what will be the criteria or structure for the recreation proposals? Once the money is delegated out to the individual, can the individual take that money (if they want EMS); put that money in EMS; if they want a fire station, to put it on it, or simply give the money back to the citizens?

Robinson: Asked Mr. Pope to provide the Council with the newest executed documents that are available from SCANA or SCE&G in regard to the two parks over on the western side of the County, so that Council can have those to review as well at that time. Commented that she has not had a chance to meet with District 2 to discuss recreation. She set forth the demographics of District 2 and opined that a plan should have been in place before voting on the funding for recreation. Further, she voiced that it distresses her to think how she or Council will have to provide for recreation in District 2. Council Member Robinson also commented on fire protection and EMS problems. She asked that anyone in District 2 to email her or contact her for suggestions.

Kinley: Commented on the disrespect shown. Voiced that she has tried to make good decisions; talked with people in her district; tried to work for recreation county-wide. Stated she and Council Member Brown have met with Mrs. Lori Schaeffer and with Mr. Anderson to get ideas. Commented on the clean audit that the County has received. Set forth that Mr. Ferguson was elected by the Council to be the Chairman and added that there has to be order and protocol within the Council. She added that Council has adopted bylaws on how meetings are conducted.

Brown: Thanked everyone for coming out and want to make sure that no one is being disenfranchised.

Perry: Commented that he was happy to see the people coming out. ***So moved; seconded by Council Member Robinson, that Council's next regular scheduled meeting be held at this facility or at a facility of this capacity; and when the date is scheduled for the Local Option Sales Tax, that it be held at a facility of this size to accommodate the people. The motion carried unanimously.***

Ferguson: Commented on response time for EMS. Also addressed the comments he keeps hearing about a one million dollar building at Lake Wateree.

Mr. Pope was asked to respond to the public apology ad that was spent from County tax dollars. He set forth that after he came on board, this matter was looked in to, and an invoice was sent to the former County Administrator; and these funds have since been repaid to the County by the former Administrator. He was also asked to clarify the comments made from the public previously about \$26 million dollars and also addressed the concerns brought forth about transparency.

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None.

17. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 P.M., upon unanimous approval of Council.

SHRYLL M. BROWN
CLERK TO COUNCIL

DAVID L. FERGUSON, SR.
CHAIRMAN