



**MINUTES  
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING  
JUNE 15, 2023  
10:00AM**

**Present:** Peggy Swearingen, Douglas Pauley, Clarence Gilbert, Dan Ruff (Council Members); Laura Johnson (Interim County Administrator); Synithia Williams (Deputy County Administrator); Tommy Morgan (County Attorney); Dr. Kimberly Roberts (Clerk to Council).

**Absent:** Cornelius Robinson, Timothy Roseborough, Shirley Greene

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 forty-two other individuals.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Pauley called the Special Meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion made by Councilman Gilbert, seconded by Councilman Ruff, to approve the agenda. ***The motion carried 4-0.***

**3. INVOCATION**

Vice Chair Gilbert led the invocation.

**4. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTION AND ORDERS**

**A. Second Reading Ordinance No. 812:** An Ordinance To Establish Operating and Capital Budgets for the Operation of the County Government of Fairfield County for the Fiscal Year Commencing July 1, 2023; to Provide for the Levy of Taxes for Fairfield County for the Fiscal Year Commencing July 1, 2023; to Establish Fees and Service Charges for Fairfield County for the Fiscal Year Commencing July 1, 2023; to Provide for the Expenditure of Tax Revenues and Other County Related Funds; and to Provide for Certain Fiscal Matters and Other Matters Related to County Government. Motion made by Vice Chair Gilbert, seconded by Councilman Ruff to approve. Vice Chair Gilbert made a motion to reduce the request from Transitions by 10%, seconded by Councilwoman Swearingen. Mr. Morgan stated the motion was made and seconded in proper order. ***The motion carried 4-0.*** Mr. Ruff asked if all agencies were cut by 10% and Mrs. Johnson said yes with the exception of the

solicitor, public defender and indigent care. Motion made by Vice Chair Gilbert to approve the ordinance as amended, seconded by Councilman Ruff. ***The motion carried 4-0.***

- B. Second Reading Ordinance No. 813:** An Ordinance of Fairfield County Council So As To Provide for the Creation of the County Road Maintenance Fund, the Recurring Imposition of a Road Maintenance Fee and the use of the Revenues Collected From the Road Maintenance Fee and Other Matters Related Thereto. Motion made by Councilman Ruff, seconded by Vice Chair Gilbert to approve. Mr. Morgan stated the ordinance did not create a new road maintenance fee. The road maintenance fee was enacted by Fairfield County in 2015. The ordinance only addressed some legal issues that came up due to a Supreme Court decision in 2020 and other litigation that took place across the State as well as the Enactment Act 236 of the general assembly last year. The proposed ordinance kept the fee and established a separate fund so they could be more easily tracked for future budget purposes. It would establish the fee to only be used on the maintenance, creation and upkeep of County roads, bridges, and the associated drainage and made the fee uniform across the board. The fee initially had a graduated level for residential and commercial vehicles. The changes would provide the fee to be \$10 for all vehicles. Mrs. Swearingen asked how much money went into and how much was spent from the fund since 2015. Mrs. Johnson said she would need to get a report because those funds were kept in a separate account. Mrs. Swearingen asked if it was all used in one year and Mrs. Johnson said no ma'am. ***The motion carried 4-0.***

## 5. ADJOURN

At 10:10a.m., it was motioned by Vice Chair Gilbert, seconded by Councilman Ruff to adjourn. ***The motion carried unanimously 4-0.***

  
KIM W. ROBERTS, Ed. D.  
CLERK TO COUNCIL

  
DOUG PAULEY  
CHAIRMAN