



**MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 18, 2021**

Present: Moses Bell, Shirley Greene, Mikel Trapp, Timothy Roseborough, Doug Pauley, Clarence Gilbert, Cornelius Robinson, Council Members; Jason Taylor, County Administrator; Laura Johnson, Assistant County Administrator; 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 forty-two other individuals.

Due to COVID-19 (Coronavirus), the meeting is being live-streamed through the County's YouTube page in order to keep citizens informed.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bell called the Special Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by Council Member Trapp, seconded by Vice Chair Greene, to approve the Agenda. ***The motion carried 4-3 with Council Members Pauley, Robinson and Gilbert voting nay.***

3. INVOCATION

Council Member Pauley led the invocation.

4. 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.)

A. Executive Session to Discuss Proposed Contractual Arrangements Involving the Selection of the Fairfield County Attorney Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. §30-4-70 (a)(2).

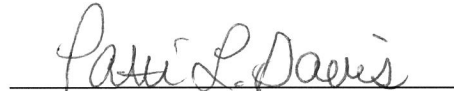
At 7:02 p.m., it was moved by Council Member Trapp, seconded by Vice Chair Greene, to go into Executive Session for (a) Executive Session to Discuss Proposed Contractual Arrangements Involving the Selection of the Fairfield County Attorney Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. §30-4-70 (a)(2). ***The motion***


carried 4-3 with Council Members Pauley, Robinson and Gilbert voting nay. At 7:34 p.m., it was moved by Council Member Trapp, seconded by Vice Chair Greene, to come out of executive session and return to open session. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

Motion made by Council Member Trapp, seconded by Vice Chair Greene, to hire Mr. Charles Boykin as the Fairfield County Attorney. Council Member Pauley stated he has nothing against the candidate some of Council wants to hire; however, he feels the standard process the County has always followed when it comes to hiring a new County Attorney should continue. It is not within Council's purview to hire anyone except the Administrator and the Clerk, and he feels Council should do the right thing. Also, the process needs to be done the right way. So far, this process has been conducted every way but right. Council must be transparent about what it is doing. A number of Council Members, the new Council Members included, ran on a platform of transparency. Now is a prime opportunity for those of us who campaigned on transparency to show our constituents who was being honest and who was saying anything to get elected. This process has been shrouded in secrecy and has been everything but transparent. Regardless of how the vote happens, there is going to be some transparency today. Council Member Pauley further stated there was never any fairness in identifying a favorite candidate for this position. The Chairman instructed the County Administrator to interview his handpicked candidate before the current attorney even submitted his resignation. The State Representative was also asked by the Chairman to submit a letter of recommendation a week prior to the interviews of other candidates. Last week, the Chairman formed an Ad Hoc Committee which met to interview candidates. These meetings occurred a few days ago, and the FOIA law was not followed. There was no meeting agenda made public as required by law, and no members of the public were permitted any access to those meetings. To the new Council Member from District 2, Chairman Pauley stated "this is your opportunity to make good on your campaign promise of transparency." Council Member Pauley then held a rubber stamp stating "It's not the same one you brought into the Chamber a couple of years ago when you told Council Members we needed to do our own homework and not rubber stamp whatever the Chairman wanted." Council Member Pauley stated it does, however, serve the same purpose. He agrees with what was said at the time, and he did not vote with the Chairman on that matter that it was in reference to. He then questioned, "what will you do"? ***Motion carried 4-3 with Council Members Pauley, Robinson and Gilbert voting nay.***

5. ADJOURN

At 7:39 p.m., it was moved by Council Member Trapp, seconded by Vice Chair Greene, to adjourn. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***


PATTI L. DAVIS
CLERK TO COUNCIL


MOSES BELL
CHAIRMAN