



**MINUTES  
WORK SESSION  
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL  
APRIL 17, 2018**

**Present:** Billy Smith, Douglas Pauley, Neil Robinson, Jimmy Ray Douglas, Dan W. Ruff, Mikel Trapp, Bertha Goins, Council Members; Jason Taylor, County Administrator; Davis Anderson, Deputy County Administrator; Patti L. Davis, Clerk to Council.

**Other Staff:** Laura Johnson, Comptroller; Anne Bass, Deputy Comptroller

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 thirty four other individuals.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Smith called the Work Session to order at 6:00 p.m.

**II. INVOCATION**

Council Member Robinson led the invocation.

**III. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

**A. FY 2017-2018 Budget:**

Chairman Smith began this session with the agencies the Council had requested to attend the meeting. The individual agencies will be discussed by Council at the end of the Work Session:

- Olde English Tourism, Mrs. Jayne Scarborough: Brochures passed out to Council by Mrs. Scarborough followed by a presentation about Olde English Tourism, which includes counties of Chester, Chesterfield, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lancaster, Union and York. Promotion techniques were discussed. The board consists of 21 members with three members from each county. Currently, Fairfield County has two members on the board with one vacant spot left by Mrs. Vickers. The County representatives are Ms. Frankie O'Neal who is appointed by the Council, Henry Nechemias who is appointed by the Chamber and the empty seat to be held by the representative chosen by the delegation. The Visitor Center is at I-77 exit 65 in Richburg, in the center of the seven counties, which is open seven days a week from 9-5. Information had been provided to Council concerning funding from other counties. Also discussed the future use of mobile Geo-fencing. Council Member Douglas inquired concerning updating and reprinting of the brochures, and he would also like more information concerning Lake Wateree to be included. Vice Chair Goins also inquired concerning the promotion of Lake Monticello. The designer is working on the brochures, and Mrs. Scarborough would love to sit down with any Council Member to discuss further improvements to the brochures. Chairman Smith inquired about the basis for the funding request. This is based on the amount of money received by the county from

accommodations tax, which varies from year to year. The request is 10% of the accommodations tax received. Chairman Smith also asked if the brochures are being checked for accuracy before being printed and the method of distribution. The Chamber is contacted for any additions/corrections. Individual listings are also contacted, with editing rights reserved by Olde English Tourism due to space availability. Distribution locations include all S.C. Welcome Centers, Olde English District attractions, Chamber, Museum, S.C. Railroad Museum, area hotels and also at other partner locations including York County Visitor Center, Lake Murray Visitor Center, PeeDee Tourism Visitor Center, etc. These are distributed statewide and also are sent in response to inquiries that have been received. Chairman Smith also inquired of the events Olde English is involved in, and per Mrs. Scarborough, the Ag and Art Tour is the only true event they are involved with; however, at other times, they are helping to promote events handled by other agencies. Vice Chair Goins inquired the process of determining where the brochures are distributed. Mrs. Scarborough discussed this process and would be happy to discuss with Ms. Goins further distribution areas. Council Member Pauley inquired of Mr. Taylor the amount of the accommodations tax. Per Mr. Taylor, \$178,289.10 is received, and this does vary from year to year.

- Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Chris Timmers. Mr. Timmers reported he recently joined the Chamber as the new Executive Director. Some events the Chamber is involved with include the S.C. Railroad Museum, the Big Grab Yard Sale, Arts on the Ridge and Ag and Art. McMaster Enterprises allows the Chamber rent free office space. The funding request for the County has not increased. Chairman Smith requested the breakdown of funding from the Chamber and would like to see this. Also, Chairman Smith discussed the funding from the Town of Winnsboro, and this was discussed further with Mr. Harper Shull. The amount was \$35,000, a one-time deal that can be revisited in the next fiscal year. This includes events such as the summer movies, Spirit Fest and other programs that take place in downtown Winnsboro. Chairman Smith inquired concerning future events for the Chamber, including the recurring events or any new events being planned. Mr. Shull expressed the Chamber's desire to continue with the possibility of some changes. There are concerns with Rock Around the Clock with possible changes to the car show and the possibility of charging an entrance fee. Chairman Smith also asked concerning the golf tournament and if this will be continued. Per Mr. Shull, this would be difficult with not having a golf facility in Winnsboro, and this will depend on participation. Council Member Pauley inquired as to the number of employees of the Chamber, and per Mr. Shull the Chamber has 2 employees.
- Chameleon Inspirations Learning Center, Ms. Vanessa Hollins. Ms. Hollins reported this is a nonprofit organization which began back in 2008. After school and summer camp services have been provided to over 460 students. Ms. Hollins listed several projects the Center has been involved in. The Center partners with local agencies such as the Library. Meals are provided for the students and emphasis is placed on academics and enrichment activities. Council Member Pauley inquired if there is a tuition fee, and according to Ms. Hollins, when the Center began, a state grant was awarded for seven consecutive years and once the grant ended, payment then fell to

the parents. The Center participates in the ABC voucher program for qualified families. Base tuition is the same across the board except for ones who qualify for the ABC voucher. Chairman Smith inquired of the rate that is charged, and per Ms. Hollins, \$45 per week is charged during the school year and \$60 per week for the summer. After school hours are 2:30 to 6:00 p.m. with summer camp hours of 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

- Disabilities and Special Needs, Mrs. Laura Collins. Mrs. Collins gave an overview of the agency and services offered. Council Member Pauley inquired concerning the vehicles used by the agency. Per Mrs. Collins, last year was the first year the agency requested a vehicle from the County. The Clerk passed out information to Council concerning the vehicles used by the agency, with a total of 12 vehicles. These vehicles are stationed at the 410 West Washington Street Day Program facility. Each residential facility has their own vehicle, and if one of these vehicles is in the shop, one of the 12 vehicles must then be used.
- Fatherhood Coalition, Mr. Rudolph Walker. Mr. Walker gave an update of the program and had sent documentation beforehand which Council had requested. Council Member Ruff commended him for his work, and Mr. Walker stated he has a wonderful staff. Vice Chair Goins asked how people are attracted to enter the program on a volunteer basis. Per Mr. Walker, much of this is through word of mouth.
- Midlands Technical College, Dr. Ron Rhames, Debbie Walker, Sheila Smith. Dr. Rhames reviewed the Midlands Tech program and feels there is a significant presence of Fairfield County residents at the Columbia campuses. Council Member Douglas inquired if it would be possible to offer courses locally that are needed by County students attending out of County. Dr. Rhames stated advertising has been done in the past with billboards and also with previous papers located in the County. Also, a County-wide advisory committee is working on getting more people to take advantage of the campus. Certain courses are offered and sometimes a hybrid course is developed. Chairman Smith inquired the reason for the requested increase. This was discussed further by Mrs. Walker and includes the difference in the in-county and out of county rate for students. There are a total of 532 students, 135 dual enrolled students, 320 from Fairfield taking classes at other campuses and 127 students take classes in Fairfield. The increase is requested for a slight increase in tuition and the number of credit hours that Fairfield County students take. Dr. Rhames also added that this is calculated in arrears. Chairman Smith inquired if the School District is providing any funding. Per Dr. Rhames, they are not contributing. However, by having this available locally at the high school, other amounts which would typically be charged are saved. The amount of students who are not in the dual enrollment program is 320, and the request was based on this. This number has slightly increased. In some cases, the School District provides the faculty unless they must be certified, in which case the faculty is provided by Midlands Tech. Chairman Smith asked if the County funding is subsidizing the dual enrollment program. Per Dr. Rhames, in general this could be said; however, the idea is to get more citizens of Fairfield County educated. Chairman Smith agrees and would like to see some assistance from the School District.

- Railroad Museum, Mr. Henry Nechemias. Mr. Nechemias reported the Museum has been located in Fairfield County for 35 years, beginning in 1983. In the past few years, a local employee has been hired as an administrative coordinator allowing the museum to be open Wednesday through Saturday. The Museum is the only operating tourist Museum in the State of South Carolina, including 5 miles of renovated track, 5 diesel locomotives, 8 coaches and other equipment. This is an all volunteer operation with the exception of the one administrative coordinator. About 10,000 riders are carried per year, which includes school groups of about 2000 for charters. The others are paying riders. Last year, a study was done of rider location, and over 85% of riders came from outside of the County. Mr. Nechemias feels they are doing a good job as a tourist attraction and getting people into the County. They work closely with other County organizations such as the Rotary Club, local caterers and everything possible is purchased locally. They work with the School District with the Beta Club working as extra volunteers during special events. Many of the volunteers attend model train shows and distribute brochures and children's tickets. Shows are attended in Northeast Columbia at the Sparkleberry Fair and train shows are also attended in Charleston and Charlotte. The same amount of money is being requested this year, and Mr. Nechemias reports they are very diligent about submitting their report every quarter which bears out how the money is being used. The goal for this next year is to add additional track at the far western end along Lake Rion. Charles Weber, also in attendance, has personal knowledge of the track work and track repairs. There is also another money source that has been allocated over the years specifically for the first mile of track to keep the track leading to the old Guardian factory in good shape for future buyer prospects. The Museum and property have an agreement with Norfolk Southern. Both sides of the track are accessible by Norfolk Southern. A few years ago, transformers were delivered for SCANA, and Norfolk Southern transported these for the easiest access and then moved onto a flatbed truck for delivery. Chairman Smith reported that the other allocation was something the Council members did not know about and asked staff to report on this once again. Per Mr. Taylor, it is a lengthy contract with the highlights being that the County grants the Museum \$15,000 per year for the maintenance of a mile of track that essentially serves the Guardian building to make sure it is a viable rail service. This fund can accumulate until needed, and currently the balance is \$46,957. Again, it is restricted based on the contract for maintenance of that one mile of track. Mr. Nechemias had no idea how much money was in the account. He also reported that two types of tourist railroads exist in this country, connected and unconnected. Fairfield is connected to the National Rail System through the connection with Norfolk Southern and must follow all of the Federal Railroad Administration rules at a much higher level than an unconnected railroad. One requirement is to have a licensed mechanical organization to handle the gait operation and regular inspections, which is \$7,000, one of the items being submitted for payment. Electricity for the gait is about \$500 a year, and this bill is submitted at the end of the year. Last year, a large order of railroad ties was submitted for \$30,000. Recently a bill was submitted for a contractor for rebuilding rail switches. The money asked of the County is for bigger projects and to keep the railroad running.



They are also working on a mobile friendly website. Council Member Pauley inquired how much maintenance is done per year on the 1 mile of track. Per Mr. Nechemias, the amount changes from year to year. Per Mr. Taylor, additionally all liability insurance is taken care of by the Museum out of this fund. Council Member Douglas inquired if the track and switches are in working order, and per Mr. Nechemias they are. He requested if anyone has a concern to please let him know. Track inspection is required once a week and is to be performed by qualified volunteers. A gentleman is brought down from Charlotte once a month for track inspection. Last July and March, the track was inspected by the State track inspector, and last Thursday by the Federal Railroad Administration Inspector. Mr. Nechemias asked Mr. Weber to answer any track questions. Per Mr. Weber, last Thursday the FRA inspected the entire track, and one fault was found which is not unusual. The 1 mile in question is always in proper operational status.

- Solicitor, Mr. Randy Newman. Mr. Newman has requested \$29,123 in additional funding for a career ladder for the current three positions. When he took over, Fairfield County had 1.5 prosecuting attorneys which then was raised to three FT attorneys. This was done across the circuit thereby doubling the staff. They then realized they were unable to maintain these employees with the current salary. A law clerk position with the S.C. Judicial Department, which is a first year attorney fresh out of law school, pays \$48,500. The starting salary in the Solicitor's office has been around \$40,000. York and Union County has a starting salary of \$51,000 with a guaranteed increase. The 5<sup>th</sup> Circuit starting salary is \$52,000 up to \$95,000 for Assistant Solicitor, to \$115,000 for Deputy Solicitor. He suggested a pay scale last year to raise the starting salary up to \$49,000. Last year this was presented and not accepted in Fairfield or Chester. It was funded by Lancaster last year at \$80,000 and it was approved by Chester this year at \$24,000. The cost to Fairfield County is \$29,000. This would not affect any support staff or Mr. Newman's salary. Vice Chair Goins agrees it is not right to train people and then lose them. Chairman Smith inquired if the state increased the Solicitor's allocation last year. Per Mr. Newman, they did not. The State funded the third position 2-3 years ago.

**{Recess: 7:25 - 7:35 p.m.}**

Mr. Taylor then read his FY 2018-2019 Budget letter into the record {attached hereto as Exhibit A}. The Administrator reported that despite the setbacks, the fiscal state of the County remains solid. The setbacks should be used to help focus the County to be even more efficient and effective in the use of County dollars. The County has great potential but must focus its budgetary resources not only on its core function of public safety, but also on critical infrastructure needs, including water and sewer, quality of life services and public services, which are all necessary to reverse population loss and recruit new industry. The most recent audit finds the County has been prudent in its spending practices with revenues exceeding expenditures by \$2m. Therefore, no tax millage increase is being recommended. A breakdown was given in order to better understand where the money budgeted is spent {attached hereto as Exhibit B}. This year, the total budget being presented totals \$39,748,964 which represents a 3% increase over last year.

Some things that will affect each department is a potential 2% COLA with a merit based additional 2% that could be achieved for an employee who has demonstrated they are particularly valuable, with justification coming from the department head. Retirement increases are reasonably minor this year.

Per Mrs. Johnson, page 1-4 will be brought up at a later time so as to get to the departments. Mrs. Johnson directed Council to remove section 2 {attached hereto as Exhibit C} and section 4 {attached hereto as Exhibit D} from their budget binders, which represents the analysis of the expenditures from the prior year and the capital requests. As the departments are discussed, the capital requests will be discussed also.

- County Council. Decrease of 1.3%.
- County Attorney. Decrease of 14.39%. The County Attorney was on payroll but now is on contract which eliminated the salary and fringe from the previous budget.
- County Administrator. Increase of 0.57%.
- Finance. Decrease of 6.53% with the Grants Coordinator position being placed in Community Development. Also, requesting a Capital Assets Associate. This is requested due to the audit recommendation. Some additional duties may be added to this person with a total of 29 hours per week.
- Line 5213, expected decrease of \$15,000 (concerning audits). Decreases were not at the same amount for the two entities, and this may be adjusted after the agency discussion. Also, a bid document has been prepared to put the auditing out for bid.
- Human Resources. Increase of 10.4%. Per Mr. Harlan, line 5205 medical services, these funds are collected from other departments that currently participate with the drug testing program, the safety sensitive departments. These are collected and reallocated to Human Resources. Operating costs have decreased. Unemployment insurance is an ongoing battle with filing appeals and contesting decisions made by the state, but the County is paying on average about \$7,500 per quarter toward unemployment insurance. The record check fee was increased due to an increase in volume consisting of pre-employment record checks and more extensive checks for managers. The department is also receiving more record checks from recreation. Also, employee assistance program has performed training, and Mr. Harlan is asking to continue this with manager and employee training sessions. Line 5157 is reduced because the department consists of 2 employees. Mr. Harlan took over from the prior Manager who utilized County insurance, and this was budgeted at midline which includes employee/spouse. Mr. Harlan does not utilize the County insurance.
- Purchasing. Increase of 1.84%.
- Data Processing. Increase of 14.7%. Three main areas of increase are software maintenance agreements, contractual services and equipment maintenance agreements. No additional equipment or agreements are in place, instead, in the past this was under budgeted. Mr. Allen was available for questions. These were reduced a while ago, and it was discovered this was in error and that they had been budgeted correctly in

the past. This would include 5225 and 5232 along with 5227. Question concerning 6.77% pay increase, and adjustments were made in the salaries, which also includes call pay to cover departments that work 24/7. Line item 5318 would cover supplies, hardware components, toner, etc. This also was under budgeted. Line item 5614 represents Sheriff's Department laptops (\$25,421). These are replaced on a rotational basis every year.

- General operating. Increase of 4.45%. This represents the mobile radios that were purchased with cost of \$100,000 annually. Line item 5301 and 5326 both increased. These are emergency supplies that are kept on hand if needed. Line item 5428, administration fees and charges, this is a payroll item, a money plus fee that is charged for everyone who is on the payroll and is the County's obligation to pay. This is based on the number of people on payroll at any given time.
- Tax Assessor. Decrease of 1.39%. Mobile WiFi device, Chairman Smith would like the mobile plans to be investigated to see if a hot spot can be added without purchasing another piece of equipment. Line item 5320, fuel cost, this would entail the 2020 reassessment.
- Delinquent Tax Collector. Increase of 3% representing COLA and salary adjustment. 6.70% increase and temporary fill-in, pay rate had fallen below on pay scale.
- Building Maintenance. Mr. Branham was not able to attend the meeting, and Mr. Anderson went over this budget. Request for an additional maintenance mechanic. The County has been maintaining the County buildings and the maintenance staff is stretched to the maximum. Also an increase in the temp line item, the litter supervisor was reporting to the Detention Center, and this was moved over to Building Maintenance. This position was filled with two temporary part-time employees eliminating the benefit costs. Capital request for a service truck for the new maintenance mechanic. Once purchased, one vehicle will be given to the Airport. Also requesting 17 HVAC systems that are more than 20 years old, four at the Judicial Center, one at the Library, one at the Airport, eight at DSS and three at Recreation. Also, request for a Genie Boom with the old piece of equipment being past life and unsafe. Per Mr. Anderson, a maintenance standard is being followed on all County vehicles/machinery due to risk management criteria and with the County being a public entity. Line item 5225, equipment maintenance agreement – under budgeted in the past. Line item 5304, 20% increase – this was consolidated to this line item instead of being spread to the different departments.
- Returning to General Operating, other contractual services, line 5232. Mr. Taylor reported this was not included in the budget but needs to be included. This is an issue with an old Great Falls contract for sewer services for the Mitford area. This has been a problematic process. An agreement will be brought to Council for this item, and attempts are being made to secure the new capacity and end the old contract with spreading this over a three year period, \$166,667 per year, totaling \$248,667.
- Community Development. Increase of 23.94%. The Grants Coordinator was moved to this department. Mr. Clauson was available for questions. Also included is additional training, professional services for grants,

changes to land ordinance and paid summer internship. Mr. Clauson is looking at the Planning Program at Clemson or other schools for a graduate level intern. Also, check the Wifi device. Other contractual services, line item 5232, includes the professional services in support of grants (architectural renderings that may be required, etc.), amendments to the land management ordinance and the internship. Line item 5316, communication supplies, possible technology to be used in public hearings to poll the audience. Line item 5403, dues and membership fees. This has increased as in the past only one person in the department had been certified. Council Member Douglas requested a list of the memberships. Line item 5503 represents the staff training. Capital requests: The department has one 4WD and is requesting another 4WD. The existing vehicle will be switched over to the Fire Service, one of several vehicle swaps.

- Vehicle Maintenance. Decrease of 2.49%. Salary increase to Director, whose salary was substantially below the average. Chairman Smith requested Mr. Anderson to recirculate the salary study to Council. Mr. Mozie was available for questions. Line item 5105, eliminating a temporary position. 5204 Vehicle services has increased. There were several vehicles that had to be painted, and this was done through Maaco. Council Member Ruff inquired if this could be done through the Vocational School. Per Mr. Anderson, this is time sensitive because the vehicles are constantly in use, and Maaco can have the vehicles done in one day. 5212.02 cell phone increase, under budgeted and increased after historical analysis. 5401 increase in rental fee for welding gas and oxygen tank for torches. 5419 increase represents data on all vehicles (fleet analysis). This will be an ongoing expense. Chairman Smith requested subscriptions versus premise modules (hosting in-house) be investigated. In addition, Mr. Mozie stated the department does need a forklift to aid in lifting the engines.
- Economic Development. Increase of 3.6% in salary due to probationary period agreement (line 5101). Mr. Davenport was available for questions. Also, capital request of a 4WD vehicle and existing vehicle would go to Community Development. Request made that Mr. Anderson distribute a flow chart concerning the vehicles going into different departments. 5401.05 – copier lease. Attempts are being made to end some of these contracts.
- Detention Center. Decrease of 3.54% due to medical supplies, inmate supplies, medical services in anticipation of a contract with Southern Health Partners out of Georgia. The staff has a food budget of \$1875 each week. The medical management is improved and being better managed by working with the local pharmacies and working with the judges in attempts to release inmates when applicable. Ms. Lawson was available for questions. Line 5225 increase of 5% represents maintenance on the locks. This cannot be maintained locally. There was a 3-year warranty, which has expired. 5232 increase represents the savings from the food service and other sources, and this has been put into an account for Southern Health Partners for medical services. This is a state contract recommended by SCAC and will be presented to Council through ROA/contract and can be explored more thoroughly at that time.

Food supplies have been reduced due to hiring a cook and being able to use fresh food instead of prepared food, which is more expensive. Capital request for a Ford Explorer to replace a 2004 Crown Victoria with high miles, and this vehicle will be sold at auction. Chairman Smith asked for further research to be done with the difference in car prices between Detention Center and Community Development.

- Road Maintenance. Increase of 0.60%. Mr. Gaston and Mr. Caulder were available for questions. Major decreases were fuel and road maintenance supplies. Salaries include 3% COLA. Mid-year there was a shortage of heavy equipment operators, and the pay had to be adjusted to fill these positions. Capital requests: One front end loader to replace a 1990 John Deere. Vehicle service is increased representing having to send diesel vehicles out for service to Cummings for repair. Hopefully, this cost will remain in the County more in the future. The mechanic can do more with the equipment; however, the roll-off trucks have to be sent out for repair. This was under budgeted the current fiscal year. The fuel expense reduction of 20%, 5325.01 maintenance supplies, some changes were made hauling rock back and forth to the quarry representing the majority of this savings and also with the pavement of more roads. Council Member Douglas inquired concerning purchasing a new dozer, and per Mr. Gaston, the demo model is currently being used in Charlotte under a rental contract. In order for the County to get this piece of equipment, there will need to be a contract in place for purchase. There will be an ROA presented for this in the near future.
- Solid Waste – Salary increase (3%) due to removing two PT and having one FT person. Temporary and fill-in positions representing one more temp for bailing cardboard. In-mates were being used, however, all sorts of items are put in these containers; therefore, in-mate labor is not used for this anymore. 5224 – solid waste disposal cost, everything is increased right now according to the surrounding counties. Also, more code enforcement is being handled along with the Town's code enforcement. Capital requests of replacement of one international truck (repair costs are increased), 13 roll-off containers (replaced every year-most were used when purchased), one trash compactor to Mitford (cannot be repaired) and one Chevy P/U truck replacing a Chevy extended cab.
- Animal Control. Increase of 18.15% primarily due to a request for a veterinary assistant, also increase in medical supplies and services. Mr. Innes was available for questions. Per Mr. Anderson, Mr. Innes is requesting the veterinary assistant and has done a tremendous job at the shelter, which is now virtually a no-kill shelter. With this, more veterinary services are being done. Revenue has also been increased with \$12,000 being budgeted for fees; however, as of August, \$28,000 has been collected and a little over \$16,000 in donations. The PT veterinary assistant has been budgeted at \$28,700, but according to Mr. Innes, it will be difficult to find a PT assistant. With the volume of animals being picked up or surrendered, there is an increase in the number of injured animals, and he feels this position could accommodate a FT staff person. The temporary fill-in position is for the intake shelter for cleaning and feeding; however, the need is really for two PT positions, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, which would be cheaper than one FT



person. 5205.01 medical services is the spay and neuter program for County residents. There is no charge for the spay and neuter, but the vaccinations are charged. A picture ID is required as proof of County residence. 5232 – other contractual professional services represents services, such as autopsies, which must be done for legal cases and housing of the animal until released by the Judge. The majority of this represents Town of Winnsboro animals, around 50%. Request made to have the Association of Counties do a small scale study on this going forward. Food supplies reduced by 25% attributable to donations. Clothing supplies are increased. 5326 other supplies has increased including cat litter and feed for farm animals. Inquiry if this is categorized correctly. Non-capitalized equipment/tools represents trapping cages. Chairman Smith requested the cage prices be investigated. Council Member Pauley inquired as to the number of employees, which are four FT and three temporary staff. The FT staff is on-call including weekend shifts. All four FT employees have a vehicle. The on-call is a rotational basis; however, sometimes a second person is required to go out. Council would also like to see the prosecution numbers. Capital request of \$75,000 for land purchase near the adoption center. Mr. Innes has developed a business plan with a possible grant and possibly getting involvement by an animal society such as the Humane Society. This would be just under 10 acres and is in negotiation. Also, the County presently leases the land. This can be allocated and come back before Council for discussion when appropriate.

- Probate Judge. Decreased by 10.4%. A retirement was projected with having a temporary employee to be trained. This has been accomplished, so the temporary employee has been removed.
- Tax Auditor. Increase of 1.29%.
- Treasurer. Decrease of 1.38%, bonus was zeroed out and decreasing the temporary fill-in position.
- Clerk of Court. Increase of 1.82%.
- Family Court. Increase of 0.95%.
- Coroner. Decrease of 2.29%. Mr. Hill was available for questions. 5232 is being requested in the amount of \$3,000 for accreditation. Meals and lodging, each member is required to complete a minimum of 16 hours of continuing education yearly and this will meet these costs. Per Mr. Hill, many things have changed, especially dealing with drugs and diseases, and the continuing education hours are state mandated. The certification is through the International Association of Coroner's and Medical Examiners with very strict criteria. Once received, the County will be one of only seven counties in South Carolina to have this accreditation. Salary increase should be changed to 2.917%. Clothing supplies – According to Mr. Hill, there was no uniform policy in place. The whole department is now in uniform. Mr. Hill is also requesting a salary increase. When he took this position, he feels he was overly qualified with 16 years at the Sheriff's Department. In addition, he will be completing his mortuary degree from Piedmont Tech. He took a 10% salary decrease, and this money, which was already in his budget, was distributed among the department employees. Chairman Smith requested staff to explain the policy of newly elected officials. Per Mr. Anderson, in 2010, the Council at

that time voted to have an Elected Officials Compensation Procedure to include the Probate Judge, Tax Auditor, Treasurer, Clerk of Court, Coroner and Sheriff. This policy states the salary of the newly elected official will be 10% less than the former official in the same position, thereby assuring the next person coming into the position would not be compensated at the rate of the official leaving the position. The Coroner's office is supplemented by the State by \$1575 per year. Additionally, the department had a mass burial ceremony recently for 14 unclaimed bodies. Mr. Hill reported that three were veterans and two are eligible to be placed at Ft. Jackson. This process is in place, and the American flags that would have been presented to the families will come to the County.

- Sheriff's Office. Increase of 6.02% including a new position for courthouse security. Sheriff Montgomery and Ms. Smith were available for questions. Clothing supplies is up due to being down seven deputies, so \$6,180 was added to cover the new hires. Line 5315 represents specialized supplies. The road deputy vests must be replaced with an attempt to replace 5-7 per year. The SRT Vests must also be replaced along with the annual ammunition order, ballistic helmets for the SRT team, replacing holsters, badges, cuff cases, etc. The canine needs a fight suit and vest. 5614 computer software is the driver's license scanner and printers for every on patrol deputy. Capital requests include six replacement vehicles and one vehicle for the courthouse security person. Council requested a possible cost share on the SRO from the School Board. Council Member Robinson inquired if the vacancies are due to money or advancement. Sheriff Montgomery stated the vacancies are due to money. He then discussed the salary increase contained in his budget. He is requesting an increase from \$35,000 to \$38,000 base pay. Discussion concerning other counties and Highway Patrol. Per Sheriff Montgomery, currently Richland is at \$37,500 and jumps to \$40,000 in a year. Our deputies do not have the opportunity to move up like this. Council Member Robinson feels that \$35,000 is a decent starting salary but would like to see pay increases for certifications and degrees. Council would like to get a list of salary information from other counties and revisit this discussion.
- Victim's Assistance. Decrease of 2.67% – allocations to Sistercare.
- Magistrate's Office. Increase of 2.08%.
- Voter Registration. Increase with election year with temporary salaries increased.

***{Council Member Douglas left the meeting at 9:55 p.m.}***

- DSS. No change.
- Veteran's Administration. Decrease of 2.3%. Mr. Hair was available for questions. Transportation costs increased due to FT employee being credentialed and attending training conferences. Per Mr. Hair, the department is seeing around 80 visits per month now and handling just over \$3,500 veterans, 3,000 active claims in the County and bringing in about \$400,000 a month in revenue.
- Delegation. Decrease of 7.09%.

- Airport. This department has been reorganized to a full County department with salary and fringe, office supplies, etc. Mrs. Bryan was available for questions. Line 5326 represents tie downs, chalk, mini blinds, computers, etc., anything that does not fall under office supplies.
- Emergency Management. Increase of 2.49% represents the COLA. Mrs. Watkins was available for questions. Clothing is increased due to significant turnover.
- County Allocations. This has been previously reviewed in the prior Budget Work Session and will be revisited.
- Recreation. Increase of 8.92% which includes the 3% COLA, recreation specialist being moved from temporary to FT position, fence repair and items to be purchased for football and baseball. Mr. Price was available for questions. 5232 is up \$20,000, this represents fence repair. Council Member Pauley inquired concerning the Recreation Specialist position. Per Mr. Price, the employee is already a temporary employee and will be moved to the FT position. This employee will be working with the sports along with programs during the summer, in addition to assisting with the increased duties resulting from the pool. Mr. Price has begun working with Kershaw County, who also has an outdoor pool, for future programming. There has also been an increase in participation with the Recreation Department. Council Member Pauley stated he has heard many good comments concerning the Recreation Department. Mr. Price also commended the maintenance crew/public works for all their help and commended the Council for all their assistance to improve the Recreation Department. 5326 other supplies represents updating with different standards concerning safety. Mr. Price also reported the County is one of the few that provides uniforms to the kids. Questions concerning equipment being returned by the coaches, and the department sets up all the equipment and takes it down, in addition to having a list of inventory. 5613 would include benches, water fountains and concrete trash cans. The parks are being upgraded at Mr. Taylor's request. In addition, Mr. Price has implemented sponsorships with a tremendous response, which will help to offset the cost of All Stars. Sponsorship is presently up to 24 sponsors. Chairman Smith questioned if some of the non-capitalized equipment and tools could be categorized as a capital request. Capital requests include resurfacing of six tennis courts and upgrade of the infield at Rufus Belton. There are four tennis courts at the Recreation Center and two at Fortune Springs Park. There may possibly be money available to help with this. The tennis courts at the Recreation Center are in desperate need of repair. On the upgrading, the dugouts were repaired instead of rebuilding, fields were redone along with the batting cages using the money set aside for rebuilding the dugouts. The AB Force grooming machine totaling \$21,000, there was money left over, and Mr. Price purchased a Toro Sand Pro with the spike and drag mat included, which will eliminate a lot of work for maintenance with the growing number of recreation sites. Chairman Smith would like about \$15,000 to be budgeted for a fence at the Middlesix mini-park. There has been a quote obtained for this in the past year. Council Member Trapp inquired if Mr. Price is planning to do the Back to School Bash this year, and Mr. Price has not thought this far ahead but will make note of this. Chairman

Smith feels that recreation is very important and thanked Mr. Price for making these requests. If Council does not know the need, they are not able to address it.

- General Fund Distribution. These are funds going from the general fund to other capital accounts, and the specifics will be discussed as the other funds are discussed.
- EMS. Increase of 12.92% represents the wage increases and the associated fringe. Anna Beth Rhodes was available for questions. Chairman Smith asked concerning the overtime pay, which was discussed by Mrs. Bass. 5225 reduction discussed by Ms. Rhodes. Capital request for 5 power lift systems and a rescue vehicle to replace the Captain's vehicle. Discussion concerning the stretchers which were purchased last year, and these lift the patient up, then the power lift system reaches out, lifts the stretcher up completely and slides it into the ambulance. The department buys the same type of stretchers, and these can be modified if needed to work with this system. Discussion concerning the purchase of the ambulance.

***{Recess: 10:37 p.m. - 10:45 p.m.}***

- Fairfield County Fire Service. Increase of 28.33%, requesting two additional FT firefighters, breathing apparatus, physicals for fire staff and volunteers, clothing supplies for turn out gear and air cylinders. Mr. Pope was available for questions. The FT positions will possibly be on the eastern side of the County. Will attempt to have four new employees with the application of the FEMA Safer Grant. The deadline for this grant is the end of this month. It is up for discussion as to where the employees will be based. Council Member Ruff questioned placing additional people in certain areas. Council Member Pauley and Chairman Smith asked about the Feasterville area. Chairman Smith also questioned if there could be a rotational basis based on call volume at specific times. Mr. Pope and his staff have discussed this. One limiting factor for this would be some of the current fire stations that are inadequate unless they are retrofitted. Per Mr. Taylor, it is possible there may be grants available from CDBG for infrastructure as sometimes they will focus on certain things, but that has not been a focus recently. Chairman Smith requested a cost estimate to retrofit the inadequate stations and looking into a rotational system. Mr. Pope has also thought about having part-time staff during the day, which would have coverage for the volunteers who are working. Council Member Pauley questioned a possible group effort with EMS. Mr. Pope has not discussed cross-training with EMS, but this can be discussed in the future. Mr. Anderson suggested if we have a volunteer in the Feasterville area where the station is not conducive to staying, the engine can be parked at the nearby EMS station. When a call comes in, EMS and fire could then be dispatched together. Per Mr. Pope, the Blair and Feasterville fire stations cannot accommodate having the worker to stay on site due to not being adequately equipped. The EMS substation is nearby with living quarters, bathroom and kitchen, which would be available to the fire personnel and they could respond to the calls together. Chairman Smith also inquired concerning incentive ideas. Per

Mr. Pope, the call pay policy is in place and discussions have been had concerning a possible vehicle tax exemption for one vehicle. Mr. Taylor will check into this to see if this is possible. Some small operational changes have been implemented by Mr. Pope, and he has seen a change in the esprit de corps. He is pleased to see this as motivation does have to come from the inside because of what the firefighters are required to do. Conversation concerning training incentives (150-200 hours of training needed) and the Fire Academy has come up with a program that has not been used in the County yet, the 1700 series, which breaks the training down into smaller pieces. The training staff is looking into this. A policy such as this would need to be approved. 5203 increased to cover annual ladder testing which has not been done before. 5205 represents the annual firefighter physicals. 5313 represents the additional turn out gear. The shelf life is 10 years on this gear. 5316 represents purchase of pagers, batteries and portable radios (lapel mics). 5613, 5615 and 5616 represents equipment needed for the new fire stations, which includes the fire station Council Member Douglas is seeking. Capital requests include two pickup trucks and two fire apparatus tanker replacements. Also, per Mr. Pope, firefighters have a 40% higher chance of contracting cancer than the general population. This is due to contaminants on turn out gear at fire scenes. Regular washing of the gear should be done after every fire call; however, the County only has one washer. More washers are needed to distribute throughout the County.

- Museum: Increase of 2.49%. Ms. Lyles was available for questions. 5232 represents improvements to the County website and 5303 represents signage for exhibits and displays. There will also be Saturday hours in the future. Capital includes repairs for windows and roof with water infiltration.
- Soil and Water Conservation District. Increase of 1.13%.
- Tourism promotion and tourism relation. Revenue and expenditures pass through these accounts.
- Sheriff's Child Support. One person working in this area.
- Fairfield Transit System. Introduction of new Transit Director, Demetria Holmes. Mr. Anderson and Mrs. Johnson presented this budget. Under administration, increase of 13.99%, this item will be reduced due to personnel changes. In operations, two FT drivers are requested to start January 2019 for implementation of an on-demand program. Per Mr. Anderson, this has been discussed for a while and will now be implemented. A rate schedule will be produced before third reading of the budget. Item 5232 represents training for the new director and some other additional changes. Council would like further information on this. Per Ms. Johnson, if the on-demand service is implemented, it may be possible to get additional funds from federal and state for these routes. Capital request is route match software, and this may possibly be covered by the grant as well. This should not be a recurring cost. Capital requests (inaudible).
- WIOA. This is covered under a Federal grant and separated into three sections, including adult, dislocated worker and youth.




Further discussion concerning allocations:

- Olde English: Remain at current funding level, but Council would like more updates done to the materials.
- Chamber of Commerce: Council was concerned about the discussion with the Chamber and would like further information prior to final decision. At this time, the allocation will be \$25,000 pending further information.
- Chameleon Inspirations: Remain at current funding level.
- Disabilities and Special Needs: Remain at current funding level less the vehicle, which will possibly be looked at next year.
- Fatherhood Coalition: Remain at current funding level.
- Midlands Tech: Remain at current funding level.
- Railroad Museum: Remain at current funding level.
- Solicitor: Remain at current funding level.
- Behavioral Health: Addition of audit and maintenance.
- Council on Aging: Addition of audit.
- Good Samaritan House: Discussion concerning a possible contract on buildings.
- Sheriff's salaries: Pending further information.
- Coroner's salary request: Mr. Anderson is reviewing elected official salaries and will forward this to Council. This particular position was made FT when Mr. Pope was with the County.

#### IV. Adjourn

At 12:07 p.m., it was moved by Council Member Trapp, properly seconded by Council Member Robinson to adjourn. ***The motion carried unanimously 6-0.***

  
 PATTI L. DAVIS  
 CLERK TO COUNCIL

  
 WILLIAM B. SMITH, JR.  
 CHAIRMAN