



**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
JUNE 14, 2021**

Present: Moses Bell, Shirley Greene, Mikel Trapp, Timothy Roseborough, Doug Pauley, Cornelius Robinson, Clarence Gilbert, Council Members; Brad Caulder, Interim County Administrator; Kenneth Davis, County Attorney; 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 Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by Council Member Trapp, seconded by Vice Chair Greene, to approve the agenda. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

3. INVOCATION

Council Member Pauley led the invocation.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Vice Chair Greene, seconded by Council Member Trapp, to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting of May 24, 2021, the Special Meeting of June 1, 2021, and the Special Meeting of June 3, 2021. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

5. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

None.

6. 1ST PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES): INPUT MUST PERTAIN TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA, FOR WHICH NO PUBLIC HEARING IS REQUIRED OR HAS BEEN SCHEDULED. THE TOTAL TIME ALLOCATED TO THIS PUBLIC COMMENT SEGMENT IS 30 MINUTES.

- Jeffrey Morris - Budget Matters
- Randy Bright - Old Hospital Property

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. An Ordinance Authorizing Amendments to a Redevelopment Agreement Providing for a New County Administration Building so as to Provide Support for the Erection of a Monument to Honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., or a Similar Historic Figure, and to Provide Support for the Use of the Teacherage as a Museum Memorializing African American Heritage in the County. Council Member Trapp requested for Chairman Bell to further explain the "similar historic figure" verbiage. Per Chairman Bell, the MLK monument was thought of initially, and when this was introduced to Dominion, they bought into the MLK monument. This remained during the course of the negotiations. Chairman Bell then opened the public hearing at 6:09 p.m. The following individuals signed to speak:

- Yvette Howard
- Jeffrey Morris
- Randy Bright

Chairman Bell closed the public hearing at 6:17 p.m.

B. An Ordinance to Establish the Millage Rate for Fairfield County for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2021. Chairman Bell opened the public hearing at 6:17 p.m. The following individuals signed to speak:

- Jeff Schaeffer
- Randy Bright

During the first speaker's time slot, Council Member Trapp called for a Point of Order. Chairman Bell then instructed the speaker that no names are to be used and no derogatory remarks. Chairman Bell closed the public hearing at 6:24 p.m.

C. An Ordinance Authorizing Fairfield County to Add New Fees for the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year. Chairman Bell opened the public hearing at 6:24 p.m. The following individual signed to speak:

- Randy Bright

Chairman Bell closed the public hearing at 6:26 p.m.

8. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND ORDERS

A. Third and Final Reading Ordinance No. 771: Authorizing Amendments to a Redevelopment Agreement Providing for a New County Administration

Building so as to Provide Support for the Erection of a Monument to Honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., or a Similar Historic Figure, and to Provide Support for the Use of the Teacherage as a Museum Memorializing African American Heritage in the County. Motion made by Council Member Trapp, seconded by Council Member Roseborough, to approve Third and Final Reading of Ordinance No. 771. Chairman Bell requested for IT to show the picture of the monument on the screen. The reason Council tried to do this is so the Mt. Zion building would be acceptable to a community that did not find the building itself acceptable. The County made the decision to move forward with the Mt. Zion project, even though Chairman Bell at the time voted against it, and according to the Voice and the Saving Fairfield group, the contract was iron clad. It is iron clad, but complaints are already coming in about the building having offices that are too small, the Sheriff's Department not wanting to relocate, the community disruption and many other facets. We have to take this and try to do the best we can with the situation we find ourselves in. Chairman Bell stated he visited a county last Thursday trying to look at how they did this work. They will be adding listings under Community and Government (shown on the visual) to pay tribute to those who contributed to the county in such a way that they should be honored. This is an approach adopted by a very progressive county. Council Member Robinson stated when he was Chair, this was always a consideration of offsetting the monument with a possible Martin Luther King statue, and he did put in for an Ad Hoc Committee. However, he received information from the NAACP and members of the community that this would not be good enough. As his constituents say they do not want it there, he will still be voting no to place the monument by the administration building. Chairman Bell believes it is good enough. ***The motion carried 4-3 with Council Members Pauley, Robinson and Gilbert voting nay.***

- B.** Second Reading Ordinance No. 769: To Establish the Millage Rate for Fairfield County for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2021. Motion made by Vice Chair Greene, seconded by Council Member Trapp, to approve Second Reading of Ordinance No. 769. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***
- C.** Second Reading Ordinance No. 770: An Ordinance Authorizing Fairfield County to Add New Fees for the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year. Motion made by Council Member Trapp, seconded by Council Member Roseborough, to approve Second Reading of Ordinance 770. Council Member Pauley requested for someone to explain the new fees. Mr. Caulder requested for

Mrs. Bass to further explain. Per Mrs. Bass, the general fee schedule is available online, with the following new fees:

- Animal Control: Adding a transport fee for surrender. This is a \$25 fee to be paid when an animal is handed over to the department and the department has to pick it up. They are also adding a second offense impound fee because of repeat occurrences.
- Coroner's Office: Adding a fee for transport from a long term care facility. This occurs when there is a death and the Coroner's Office is called versus the funeral home. This is for the Coroner's Office to pick up the body and hold it until the long term care facility can locate the next of kin. This is a fee of \$125.
- Parks and Recreation: These new fees are in connection with the renting of their facilities, use of the ballfield, lights, concession stand and a couple of parks have electricity available which would entail an additional fee for electric outlets. Council Member Pauley inquired if a Recreation Department employee would need to be present. Per Mr. Caulder, he knows with park rentals, they do not have an employee, but anytime the ballfield is rented out, there would need to be an employee present. Council Member Pauley also inquired concerning security. Chairman Bell instructed Mr. Caulder to get the answer to Council Member Pauley's question, but this would not concern the fees.

With no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously 7-0.

- D.** Resolution No. 2021-06: A Resolution to Replace Resolution No. 2021-05 Authorizing Fairfield County to Purchase Certain Real Property in Fairfield County, South Carolina, Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of an Option Agreement, Approving the Form of the Proposed Sales Contract and Other Related Matters. Motion made by Council Member Trapp, seconded by Vice Chair Greene, to approve Resolution No. 2021-06. ***Motion carried 4-3 with Council Members Pauley, Robinson and Gilbert voting nay.***
- E.** Resolution No. 2021-07: A Resolution to Replace Resolution No. 2021-04 Authorizing Fairfield County to Purchase Certain Real Property in Fairfield County, South Carolina, Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of an Option Agreement, Approving the Form of the Proposed Sales Contract and Other Related Matters. Motion made by Council Member Trapp, seconded by Council Member Roseborough, to approve Resolution No. 2021-07. Council Member Robinson requested a brief description be given for the

public. Per Mr. Davis, this is a Resolution to revise a Resolution that was previously adopted to address a change in the terms after the discussions with the particular seller. Chairman Bell believes the change is 18 months to six months. Per Mr. Clauson, this Resolution is just dealing with the terms of the agreement. ***Motion carried 4-3 with Council Members Pauley, Robinson and Gilbert voting nay.***

9. BOARD AND COMMISSION MINUTES - Received as information

- A. Chamber of Commerce
- B. Disabilities and Special Needs Board

10. BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

None.

11. OLD BUSINESS

None.

12. NEW BUSINESS

None.

13. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- A. Pastor Ted Belton: Bridging the Gap Between the African American Community and Law Enforcement. Mr. Caulder stated we are glad to have Pastor Belton tonight, who is from Zion Pilgrim Baptist. He has volunteered his efforts as a community leader to be working with SLED to bridge the gap between the African American community and Law Enforcement. Pastor Belton stated he is honored to be at the meeting and thanked Chairman Bell and Vice Chair Greene and the other board members for allowing him to come tonight. Several weeks to months ago, he received a call from Special Agent Eric Rosdail, who is also present at the meeting, and is a part of the Community Relations Division. He informed Pastor Belton that SLED was trying to build a better relationship between the African American community, which is called Bridging the Gap. We did not hesitate to join this effort. Pastor Belton inquired what he could do and how he could assist to serve Fairfield County along with law enforcement. Thinking about the climate we are living in, not just on the national level but right here in the State of South Carolina, the black community represents less than 1/3 of the State of South Carolina's population. However, the black community accounts for almost half of the shootings by law enforcement. There must be a change of the narrative between African

Americans and law enforcement. If we want change in this narrative, we must change our mindset, both law enforcement and the community, of how we treat one another and how we look at one another. Ghandi stated "you must be the change you wish to see in the world". The first thing that was done was to reach out to local law enforcement, both the Sheriff's Department and also the Public Safety Department. Both Sheriff Montgomery and Chief Seibles were willing to listen and help because both understand what is taking place in our nation and in our state and that something needed to take place and happen both on the law enforcement side and the community side. The Fairfield County School Superintendent was also contacted as well as the S.C. House Representative Annie McDaniel. We requested for them to be a part of a town meeting, and they agreed. This was held on April 15, 2021, and from this town hall meeting, the support has been overwhelming. There are many who want to partner with us in this endeavor, and we are heading in the right direction. We all know that change will not happen overnight. Change does begin by coming together and working for a common cause, which is bridging the gap between our communities and law enforcement. A meeting was held on June 8 with SLED, the Sheriff's Department and Public Safety, and a plan of action was presented to actively help and improve this relationship. There is another planned meeting, and Pastor Belton is asking for Council's help in this endeavor. In closing, Theodore Roosevelt stated "do what you can with what you have and where you are". Council Member Robinson thanked Pastor Belton for presenting and, coming from law enforcement, he knows this is a tough hill to climb. If anything is needed from him, he asked Pastor Belton to please reach out to him, and he would be happy to help. Vice Chair Greene appreciates the involvement of a lot of the local pastors and others in the community. Chairman Bell thanked Pastor Belton for being at the meeting tonight, and the work that is being done will be beneficial to the County as a whole. Chairman Bell also thanked Agent Rosdail for attending tonight, and stated this was discussed during the walk against guns and violence some weeks ago. Council Member Robinson inquired if this is Agent Rosdail's only assignment currently. Agent Rosdail stated he is the Community Relation Agent for the entire Midlands covering from Aiken – the Georgia line to the North Carolina line. Pastor Belton has a passion and has taken this on along with Sheriff Montgomery and Chief Seibles and several of the elected leaders in the County. There is a huge opportunity to make great strides in these relationships and bridge that gap back to where everyone wants it on all sides.

- B. Request of Action:** To Prequalify Engineers for Small Construction Projects with Design Fees under \$50,000. Mr. Caulder read the purpose of this

request, which is to recommend the selection of pre-qualified firms to satisfy the engineering services contract in providing professional services in connection with small construction projects. Total professional fees for these types of projects will be \$50,000 or less. Engineering services will be on an as needed or as assigned basis and allow a contract to be extended to those firms selected. Motion made by Council Member Trapp, seconded by Council Member Roseborough, to approve the Request of Action. ***Motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

- C. Request of Action: Installation of Multiple Roof-Top Antennas and Cabling/Accessories for the 9-1-1- Data Room at the New Administration Building/Future 9-1-1- Call Center Located at 250 Walnut Street, Winnsboro, SC (\$35,968.46 eligible from the 9-1-1 Special Revenue Account). Per Mr. Douglas, this request is for the antennas and cabling that goes from the rooftop into the call center/data room for the dispatchers. This is what connects all the radio traffic into the call centers. Motion made by Council Member Trapp, seconded by Council Member Roseborough, to approve the Request of Action. ***Motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

- D. Request of Action: Items/Services Associated with the Proposed New 9-1-1 Call Center Located at the New Administration Building Located at 250 Walnut Street, Winnsboro SC (\$731,763.42 eligible from the 9-1-1 Special Revenue Account). Per Mr. Douglas, these are the other parts, excluding the wiring and antennas, for the radios, the 9-1-1 center consoles, the 9-1-1 Vista system down to the furniture. The current 9-1-1 call center is in this building, and this is not something that can be shut down during the upcoming move. While this call center is still running, a new call center will be created and run simultaneously until the new call center is up and running. Some of the systems are outdated and would not have been supported past December of 2021, so even if the move was not planned, upgrading of equipment would still have to be done out of necessity. Council Member Trapp made a motion to approve the Request of Action, seconded by Vice Chair Greene. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

- E. Mr. Caulder stated there was one additional item to make mention of, which is Mr. Gene Stephens from the Chamber of Commerce concerning the Ag and Art Tour and the Farm to Table dinner coming up this week and weekend. Per Mr. Stephens, the Ag and Art Tour is this weekend. Agriculture Tourism is a big thing in the State of South Carolina. This Tour will be in 11 different counties, but Fairfield County is the only county being represented this weekend. There will be four different farms showcased

throughout the County along with the Farmers' Market with a lot of vendors. For more information, there is a map and addresses for the farms, and this can be accessed on Facebook through the Ag and Art Fairfield County or the Chamber site. Also, the kick-off dinner is this Thursday night. Mayor Cookendorfer reached out to Mr. Stephens about possibly hosting this in Ridgeway this year, and Dogwood will be shut down right in front of the Century House with the table in the middle of the road. The dinner will be very nice and tickets are still available. Council Member Trapp inquired how much the meal is costing and if it will be coming out of the Chamber budget. Per Mr. Stephens, this is covered through the price of the tickets and sponsorships. Chairman Bell inquired of the ticket amounts. Per Mr. Stephens, the tickets are \$40 for an individual and \$75 for a couple.

14. CLERK TO COUNCIL'S REPORT

None.

15. COUNTY COUNCIL TIME

Trapp: Council Member Trapp would like for the Attorney to check on the reimbursements referred to by one of the speakers tonight, to include cell phones, to make sure Council is in line with the mileage, etc. Also, he would like a report concerning all lawsuits that have been settled on behalf of any Council Member for the past four to five years and the amount paid out either by the County or the insurance company.

16. 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.)

At 6:55 p.m., motion made by Council Member Trapp, seconded by Vice Chair Greene, to go into executive session concerning the below listed items. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

- A.** Contractual Matter – Discussion concerning Possible Sale of Hospital Property and Existing Leases Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. §30-4-70(a)(2).
- B.** Personnel Matter - Discussion Concerning the Position of County Administrator as it Relates to Selection of the Executive Recruiting Consultant Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. §30-4-70(a)(1).

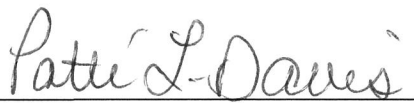
- C.** Receipt of Legal Advice – Discussion Regarding Two Pending Legal Actions Involving Roadways in Fairfield County Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. §30-4-70(a)(2).

At 7:47 p.m., motion made by Council Member Trapp, seconded by Council Member Roseborough, to come out of executive session and return to regular session. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***


Council Member Trapp made a motion to authorize the Chairman and Vice Chair to handle interviewing of the position of County Administrator and to bring a recommendation back to full Council at that point. Chairman Bell stated this is to select the firm, and the motion was seconded by Vice Chair Greene. Chairman Bell again reiterated the Chair and the Vice Chair will speak with the consulting firm and bring back a selection to full Council. ***The motion carried 5-2 with Council Members Pauley and Gilbert voting nay.***

17. ADJOURN

At 7:50 p.m., it was moved by Council Member Trapp, seconded by Council Member Roseborough, to adjourn. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***



PATTI L. DAVIS
CLERK TO COUNCIL



MOSES BELL
CHAIRMAN