

RICHLAND COUNTY GOVERNMENT



**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
COUNCIL ACTIONS REPORT
COUNCIL MEETING
October 15, 2013
6:00 p.m.**

Call to Order: Washington

Invocation: Rush

Pledge of Allegiance: Boy Scouts Troop #397 and Mr. Rush

Presentation of Resolutions:

- a. **National Friends of the Library Week Proclamation [MANNING].** Mr. Manning, Mr. Rose and Ms. Dixon, on behalf of the Council, presented the Resolution.
- b. **Resolution honoring EAA Chapter 242 for their completion of 10,000 flights in the Young Eagles program [PEARCE, ROSE and RUSH].** Mr. Rose and Mr. Rush, on behalf of the Council, presented the Resolution.

Approval of Minutes:

- a. **Regular Session: October 1, 2013.** Approved as published.

Adoption of Agenda: A motion was unanimously approved to move the Water Shed poster contest winners from the Report of the County Administrator to immediately precede the Report of the Attorney. The Agenda was adopted as amended.

- a. **Richland County Soil and Water Conservation District's "Where Does Your Water Shed" poster contest winners:**
 - **First Place: Jacintha Ravindran, 5th grade, Pontiac Elementary School;**
 - **Second Place: Fiona Aldighieri, 8th grade, Longleaf Middle School;**
 - **Third Place: Joseph Ravindran, 2nd grade, Pontiac Elementary School.**

Chanda Cooper gave an overview of the contest and introduced its winners. Jacintha Ravindran and Joseph Ravindran, first and third place winners respectively, were each presented with a certificate from Mr. Washington, Mr. Rush and Ms. Cooper.

Report of the Attorney for Executive Session Items:

- a. **Proposed Property Purchase**
- b. **Carolina Walk/Serrus Litigation Update.** Outside counsel appeared on this item; the item was discussed during the Report of the Attorney section of the meeting. No action was taken.
- c. **Personnel Matter**

Citizens' Input: No one spoke.

Report of the County Administrator:

- b. **Bond Rating Upgrade.** Mr. McDonald stated the bond rating agency, Standard & Poor's, has increased the County's bond rating from AA1 to AAA, which is a tremendous financial success for the County.

Additionally, \$50 million in bond anticipation notes generated from the Penny Sales Tax were sold on the market today at an interest rate of .19%, another reflection of the County's excellent bond rating.

- c. **Transportation Penny Disbursement.** Mr. McDonald indicated the first disbursement of \$12.3 million was received from the Department of Revenue last week. The share is being split with CMRTA; disbursements are now coming from the State on a quarterly basis.
- d. **Budget Book and Pamphlet.** Mr. McDonald presented Council an FY13-14 budget book and accompanying pamphlet prepared by the Finance and Budget department. The pamphlet is a brief snapshot of the budget with several highlights to educate constituents and share with others at community meetings.

Report of the Clerk of Council:

- a. **REMINDER: Charleston County Transportation Program Site Visit, October 16th.** Ms. Onley stated participants will depart from the Administration Building at 8:00 a.m.
- b. **Internal Audit Work Session: October 22nd, 4:00 PM.** Ms. Onley reiterated the details of the session.
- c. **Hospitality Tax Review Committee Meeting: October 28th, 12:00 P.M.** Ms. Onley reiterated the details of the meeting.
- d. **Proposed 2014 Retreat Dates:**
 - **January 23-24, 2014**
 - **January 30-31, 2014**

Ms. Onley offered two potential dates for the annual retreat. A motion was unanimously approved to hold the retreat on January 23rd and 24th, 2014.

The Chair requested council members send proposed retreat sites to Ms. Onley by October 25, 2013.

Report of the Chairman:

- a. **Planning Commission: Appointee's Absences.** Mr. Washington stated the Commission recommended removal of an appointee who did not meet the attendance requirements.

A motion was unanimously approved to accept and uphold the Commission's recommendation. Staff was directed to repost the position. **ACTION: CLERK OF COUNCIL, PLANNING, ADMINISTRATION**

- b. **Fuel Cell Collaboration-County Participation.** Mr. Washington stated EngenuitySC in partnership with Hyundai and USC will issue 20 vehicles available for lease in the Midlands area. This initiative is a great opportunity for the County to partner with USC in showcasing its fuel cell collaboration and to increase the County's sustainability efforts by utilizing alternative fuel and energy technologies in the County's activities. He stated the item would be going to committee soon. **ACTION: SUSTAINABILITY, CLERK OF COUNCIL, ADMINISTRATION**
- c. **ComingSoonSC.** Mr. Washington stated this item was sent to the Economic Development Committee. Mr. Livingston will work with staff to initiate this project. **ACTION: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ADMINISTRATION**
- d. **SC Equality's "Through the Looking Glass of Equality" Inaugural Gala Sponsorship Request.** Mr. Washington stated this item is being forwarded to Committee for an appropriate finding and added to the motions list.
- e. **Bible Way Church of Atlas Road's "Year of Jubilee" 50th Anniversary Banquet Sponsorship Request.** Mr. Washington stated this item is being forwarded to the motions list.
- f. **Famously Hot New Year's Celebration.** Mr. Washington stated this item is being forwarded to the motions list.
- g. **"The Sustainers: Builders and Preservers of Civil Rights sites in the United States" Funding Request.** Mr. Washington stated this item is being forwarded to the motions list.
- h. **SICA Funding Request.** This funding request was withdrawn.
- i. **Sewer Ad Hoc Committee Appointees:** Council members Rush, Jeter, Rose, Washington and Jackson were appointed to this committee. **ACTION: CLERK**

OF COUNCIL, ADMINISTRATION

1. Consent Items:

- a. **An Ordinance Amending the Richland County Code of Ordinances; Chapter 21, Roads, Highways and Bridges; Article I, In General; so as to create a new section to handle roadway improvements in the Town of Irmo, South Carolina; and Amending Chapter 21, Roads, Highways and Bridges; Article I, In General; Section 21-6(A); so as to accommodate the new section [SECOND READING]. Council unanimously gave second reading approval to the item. ACTION: PUBLIC WORKS, LEGAL, ADMINISTRATION**
- b. **An Ordinance Amending the Richland County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 6, Building and Building Regulations; Article III, Building Codes; Section 6-84, Boarded-Up Structures; so as to provide regulations for commercial boarded-up structures, as well as residential boarded-up structures; and to reference the "Property Maintenance" Division rather than the "Unsafe Housing" Division [SECOND READING]. Council unanimously gave second reading approval to the item. ACTION: BUILDING & INSPECTIONS, LEGAL, ADMINISTRATION**
- c. **An Ordinance Amending the Richland County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 6, Buildings and Building Regulations; Article II, Administration; Division 4, Licensing and Bonding of Builders, Contractors and Craftsmen; Section 6-66, so as to delete the requirement of Craftsmen Qualification Cards [SECOND READING]. Council unanimously gave second reading approval to the item. ACTION: BUILDING & INSPECTIONS, LEGAL, ADMINISTRATION**

2. Second Reading Items:

- a. **An Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Hospitality Tax Budget to appropriate \$100,000 of Hospitality Tax Unassigned Fund Balance for the EdVenture - Next Exhibit Capital. Council gave second reading approval to the item. ACTION: GRANTS, FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION, LEGAL, CLERK OF COUNCIL**
- b. **An Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Transportation Tax Fund Budget to add one full time position. Council gave second reading approval to the item. ACTION: TRANSPORTATION, ADMINISTRATION, FINANCE, HUMAN RESOURCES**

3. Report of Development and Services Committee:

- a. **Bagging of Yard Debris in Solid Waste Collection Service Areas 2 and 6.** Mr. McDonald stated the information requested by Council at the October 1, 2013 meeting was included in the evening's agenda. A motion to defer was withdrawn.

Dr. James Atkins, Director of the Conservation Department, gave a brief summary of the environmental impact of bagging yard waste versus allowing waste to remain non-containerized.

Staff was directed to specify the number and geographical locations of municipalities and counties that require bagging and containerizing of yard waste, how water quality and drinking water sources are protected and the degree to which turbidity affects water quality. Dr. Atkins will follow up with Mr. Malinowski to address additional questions and provide the requested information to Council.

A motion was made for Administration to negotiate with haulers to pick up trash and allow residents the option of voluntarily bagging their yard waste without being penalized. Staff was requested to explore a temporary funding mechanism to cover the costs of removing all trash from residences, so there will not be an immediate financial impact on taxpayers. Mr. McDonald stated the cost is \$23 per year, per household, which will be paid by taxpayers gradually over the next three years once all households are under the renewed contracts.

A substitute motion was approved to defer to the November 5, 2013 Council meeting. **ACTION: CONSERVATION, SUSTAINABILITY, PLANNING, UTILITIES, ADMINISTRATION, CLERK OF COUNCIL**

- b. An Ordinance Amending the Richland County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 12, Garbage, Trash and Refuse; Article I, In General; and Article II, Collection and Disposal; Section 12-12, Definitions, and Section 12-16, Conditions for Residential and Small Business Solid Waste Collection-Yard Trash and Other Household Articles; so as to remove reference to "Franchise" and so as to require trash to be bagged in a phased-in manner [FIRST READING].** A motion was approved to defer to the November 5, 2013 Council meeting. **ACTION: ADMINISTRATION, CLERK OF COUNCIL, PLANNING, UTILITIES**

4. Citizens' Input: No one spoke.

5. Executive Session:

- a. Proposed Property Purchase.** This item was discussed in Executive Session. The following motion was unanimously approved:

“Proceed as discussed in Executive Session with the advice of our attorney relative to a property acquisition.”

ACTION: FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION, LEGAL, CLERK OF COUNCIL

- b. **Carolina Walk/Serrus Litigation Update.** This item was discussed during the Report of the County Attorney.
- c. **Personnel Matter.** This item was discussed in Executive Session for information only.

6. Motion Period:

- a. **Place "Hopkins SC" on the water tower in Hopkins community [WASHINGTON].** This item was forwarded to the D&S Committee. **ACTION: CLERK OF COUNCIL, ADMINISTRATION**
- b. **ComingSoonSC County Council Ad [WASHINGTON].** This item was discussed during the Report of the Chairman (Item C).
- c. **SC Equality's "Through the Looking Glass of Equality" Inaugural Gala Sponsorship Request [WASHINGTON].** This item was forwarded to the A&F Committee. **ACTION: FINANCE, CLERK OF COUNCIL, ADMINISTRATION**
- d. **Bible Way Church of Atlas Road's "Year of Jubilee" 50th Anniversary Banquet Sponsorship Request [WASHINGTON].** This item was forwarded to the A&F Committee. **ACTION: FINANCE, CLERK OF COUNCIL, ADMINISTRATION**
- f. **Famously Hot New Year's Celebration Sponsorship Request [WASHINGTON].** This item was forwarded to the A&F Committee. **ACTION: FINANCE, CLERK OF COUNCIL, ADMINISTRATION**
- g. **"The Sustainers: Builders and Preservers of Civil Rights sites in the United States" Funding Request [WASHINGTON].** This item was forwarded to the A&F Committee. **ACTION: FINANCE, CLERK OF COUNCIL, ADMINISTRATION**
- h. **I move that the Council Meetings scheduled for January 2014 only include - the January 7th meeting to Select the Chair, Vice Chair and Seats, Time Sensitive Items and Motions; the Annual Council Retreat and the January 28th Development & Services, Administration & Finance and Zoning meetings [MANNING, WASHINGTON, and MALINOWSKI].** This item was forwarded to the D&S Committee. **ACTION: CLERK OF COUNCIL, ADMINISTRATION**
- i. **SICA Funding Request [WASHINGTON].** This funding request was withdrawn.

7. Adjournment: Council adjourned at 8:08 p.m.