

MINUTES OF



RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2009 6:00 p.m.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, a copy of the agenda was sent to radio and TV stations, newspapers, persons requesting notification, and was posted on the bulletin board located in the lobby of the County Administration Building.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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|------------|-------------------------|
| Chair | Paul Livingston |
| Vice Chair | Damon Jeter |
| Member | Gwendolyn Davis Kennedy |
| Member | Joyce Dickerson |
| Member | Valerie Hutchinson |
| Member | Norman Jackson |
| Member | Bill Malinowski |
| Member | Jim Manning |
| Member | L. Gregory Pearce, Jr. |
| Member | Kit Smith |
| Member | Kelvin Washington |

OTHERS PRESENT – Michielle Cannon-Finch, Milton Pope, Tony McDonald, Sparty Hammett, Roxanne Ancheta, Stephany Snowden, Tamara King, Larry Smith, Daniel Driggers, Srinivas Valavala, Gary Watts, Rodolfo Callwood, Geo Price, Monique Walters, Michelle Onley

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:07 p.m.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was given by the Honorable L. Gregory Pearce, Jr.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Honorable L. Gregory Pearce, Jr.

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTION

Resolution Honoring L. Gregory Pearce, Jr. for his service to the SC Association of Counties – Mr. Manning presented a resolution to Mr. Pearce in recognition of his service to the SC Association of Counties.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE – Ms. Dickerson recognized the Cub Scout in the audience.

PRESENTATIONS

The Therapy Place, Dawn Darby, Director – Ms. Darby gave a brief presentation regarding the services provided by The Therapy Place and expressed appreciation for the funding provided by the County. Mr. Davis, whose child utilizes the services of The Therapy Place, also expressed his gratitude to the County.

Joint Land Use Study – Ms. Liz Drake gave a brief overview of the Joint Land Use Study.

CITIZENS' INPUT

No one signed up to speak.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Session: September 1, 2009 – Ms. Kennedy moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to approve the minutes as distributed. The vote in favor was unanimous.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mr. Pope requested that Whitaker Container be added under the Report of the County Administrator and that an inmate commissary contract be added as an item for action. Mr. Pope further stated that Ashford vs. Richland County needed to be deleted from the Report of the County Attorney.

Mr. Jeter moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to adopt the agenda as amended. The vote in favor was unanimous.

REPORT OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS

The following items were potential Executive Session items:

- a. **Richland County vs. Crossings Development**
- b. **HBA vs. Richland County**
- c. **Benedict College Update**
- d. **Township Property Purchase Update**

- e. **Personnel Matter**
- f. **Whitaker Container**

REPORT OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Coroner's Report – Mr. Watts reported on the autopsy determination process and the number of autopsies conducted by the County. Mr. Watts also requested assistance with the Carolina Care autopsy situation.

Detention Center Holding Report – Mr. Ronaldo Myers, Director of the Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center, reported to Council on the release process at the Detention Center.

Sewer Extension Policy – Mr. Hammett requested that a work session be scheduled regarding this matter.

BRWWTP Update – Mr. Hammett updated Council on the Broad River Waste Water Treatment Plant project.

Farmers' Market Update – Mr. Pope stated that no additional proposals have been received by staff.

Transportation/CMRTA Update – Ms. Ancheta stated that the Joint County/City Transportation Ad Hoc Committee met on September 10th and long term funding option of the Transportation Sales Tax, up penny is being pursued. The next meeting has tentatively been scheduled for October 1st.

Tax Study Committee – Mr. Pope stated that he will provide information to Council as it becomes available. a system assessment until they make their decision.

Carolina Clear Presentation – Mr. Valavala and Ms. Mary Nevins made a brief presentation regarding the stormwater project.

Recycling Pilot Program Update – Mr. McDonald stated that the County will be enhancing its curbside recycling pilot program. Approximately 2,000 homes in the pilot area will utilize the 95-gallon rollcart for the additional recyclable materials. There is the potential for the program to be expanded Countywide if successful. Mr. McDonald further stated that the Richland County C&D Landfill will now be accepting yard waste from resident for composting. The compost will be used for County projects.

Voter Registration/Election Commission Sub Committee Report – Ms. Snowden reported to Council that at the September 9th meeting of the Subcommittee on Voter Registration and Election Commission staff was instructed to further research two structures. One based on the Charleston model in which a single director reports to the Board of Elections and Voter Registration and the other in which the Legislative Delegation appoints an Executive Director in which the Director of the Election Commission and the Director/Chair of Voter Registration would report to this person.

McEntire Air Show – Ms. Snowden stated that the South Carolina Air National Guard will be hosting an air and ground show at McEntire Air Force Base on October 10th and 11th. The free event is the first of its kind in ten years.

REPORT OF THE CLERK OF COUNCIL

Flu Shots – Ms. Finch stated that flu shots would be available for County employees and their dependents at the Administration Building on October 20th from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. in the 4th Floor Conference Room.

Fall Meeting of Coalition – Ms. Finch stated that the fall meeting of the Coalition will be held October 16th at the Embassy Suites.

Employee Handbook Disclaimer – Ms. Finch stated that HR has requested that Council sign and return the disclaimers that were handed out with the employee handbook.

SC Minority Enterprise Development Week – Ms. Finch stated that Council received an invitation to attend the SC Minority Development Week event being held on September 29th at 12 p.m. The County has been provided four seats. Council members wishing to attend this event should contact the Clerk's Office.

Mayor's Corporate Citizen Luncheon – Ms. Finch stated that the Mayor's Corporate Citizen Luncheon will be held October 6th at 12 p.m. and the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church.

Renaissance Foundation – Ms. Finch stated that Council received invitations from the Renaissance Foundation to attend Sweet Honey in the Rock on September 26th at 8 p.m. at the Koger Center.

2009 Global Vision Award Gala – Ms. Finch stated that the 2009 Global Vision Award Gala will be held October 27th at the Columbia Marriott, 6:30 p.m.—Reception, 8:00 p.m.—Dinner.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN

Columbia Renaissance Redevelopment Plan Update – Mr. Livingston stated that a letter expressing his concerns had been forward to the City of Columbia on his behalf and he is awaiting a response from them.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEM

- **A Budget Amendment to adjust the budgets for Richland County School District 1 and Richland County School District 2 to the amount which will be yielded by an assessment of the millage cap pursuant to Act 388 [SECOND READING]**

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to approve the consent item. The vote in favor was unanimous

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Request to approve the establishment of a list of qualified engineering and surveying firms with whom Richland County may negotiate and award contracts on an “as-needed” basis – Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Hutchinson, to give the Administrator the authority to establish a qualified list with the understanding that more names may be added at any time. A discussion took place.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

A Resolution authorizing Richland County’s consent to an amended agreement re-creating a Regional Transit Authority within the geographic area of Richland County and the municipalities therein to be known as the Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority – Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to approval with the amendment of the date from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2010.

| <u>For</u> | <u>Against</u> |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Pearce | Malinowski |
| Jackson | Manning |
| Hutchinson | Kennedy |
| Jeter | |
| Livingston | |
| Dickerson | |
| Washington | |
| Smith | |

The vote was in favor.

REPORT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Project South – Mr. Pearce stated that the committee recommended First Reading by title only to an ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of special revenue credit agreement and to approve the corresponding SSRC documents. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Recreation Property MCIP – Mr. Pearce stated that the committee recommended First Reading to an ordinance authorizing an amendment to the master agreement governing the I-77 Corridor Regional Industrial Park between Richland and Fairfield Counties. A discussion took place.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Village at Sandhill Improvement District Roll – Mr. Pearce stated the committee recommended approval of this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

REPORT OF RULES AND APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

I. RULE CHANGES

- a. **Motion for Presentations on 3rd Tuesdays of the Month** – This item was retained in committee.

II. DISCUSSION FROM RULES AND APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

- a. **Draft for Uniform Countywide Letterhead for all County Departments** – This item was retained in committee.

OTHER ITEMS

Council Motion (Jackson, Malinowski, & Kennedy): To remove from the D&S Committee and present to full Council the funding of Alternate Paving with \$2 million from the Road Maintenance Fee and \$1 million from the CTC bond to fund paving roads in three years max (starting in 2009) – Mr. McDonald presented options for Council consideration regarding this item.

Ms. Smith moved, seconded Mr. Jeter, to authorize the staff to enter into a contract on the roads outlined in option #3. A discussion took place.

Mr. Malinowski made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to defer this matter until an analysis of how many residents wish to have their roads paved has been conducted and the number of miles calculated. A discussion took place.

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| <u>For</u> | <u>Against</u> |
| Malinowski | Pearce |
| Jackson | Hutchinson |
| Jeter | Livingston |
| Washington | Dickerson |
| | Manning |
| | Kennedy |
| | Smith |

The substitute motion failed.

Ms. Smith withdrew her motion.

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Hutchinson, to proceed with Option #3, ask the staff to analyze the impact of dispersing the contracts over the County before the contract is finalized.

Mr. Jeter made a substitute motion, Mr. Washington, to deny all three requests and to direct council members to bring back suitable options before December 1st. A discussion took place.

| <u>For</u> | <u>Against</u> |
|------------|----------------|
| Malinowski | Pearce |
| Jackson | Hutchinson |
| Jeter | Livingston |
| Manning | Dickerson |
| Kennedy | |
| Washington | |
| Smith | |

The vote was in favor of the substitute motion.

FY09-10 Annual Action Plan for Community Development – Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Mr. Manning, to approve this item. A discussion took place.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

A Resolution to appoint and commission Curtis Edward Hopkins as a Code Enforcement Officer for the proper security, general welfare, and convenience of Richland County – Mr. Washington moved, seconded by Mr. Jeter, to approve this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Lobbyist Contract Award – Mr. Jeter moved, seconded by Ms. Hutchinson, to defer this item until the October 6th meeting. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center Commissary Contract Approval – Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Jeter, to approve this item. A discussion took place.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

CITIZENS' INPUT

Mr. Hardy King spoke regarding Sease Road.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS

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Council went into Executive Session at approximately 10:05 p.m. and came out at approximately 11:49.m.
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- a. **Richland County vs. Crossings Development** – No action was taken.
- b. **HBA vs. Richland County** – No action was taken.
- c. **Benedict College Update** – Mr. Jackson moved, seconded by seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to direct the Administrator to proceed as directed in Executive Session. The vote in favor was unanimous.
- d. **Township Property Purchase Update** – Ms. Dickerson moved, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to direct the Administrator to proceed as directed in Executive Session. The vote in favor was unanimous.
- e. **Whitaker Container** – No action was taken.

MOTION PERIOD

To negotiate the purchase of the 1400 Atlas (Boozer Lumber site) property for the purpose of maintaining a local Farmers' Market [WASHINGTON] – This item was referred to the A&F Committee.

To request the Administrator to provide by September 22nd the projected obligations, projected collections and projected fund balance from Hospitality Tax [WASHINGTON] – This item was referred to the A&F Committee.

Richland County to investigate the adoption of an Ordinance which results in the enforcement of expired Commercial Vehicle tags, animals and overgrown business properties etc. that parallels that which applies to residential properties in neighborhoods like Woodfield Park [MANNING] – This item was referred to the D&S Committee.

Since Richland County already has several acres of land at the sight where a farmers market was to be built in conjunction with the State, I would like staff to look into the feasibility of Richland County utilizing this land for the same purpose in the future. This will be a tremendous cost savings in the event Richland County decides to build such a market [MALINOWSKI] – This item was referred to the D&S Committee.

Any Executive Session item involving an attorney hired outside the normal scope of a regular contract by Richland County will be taken up first so that attorney is

not waiting for other matters and receiving unnecessary compensation
[MALINOWSKI] – This item was referred to the Rules & Appointments Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:55 p.m.

Paul Livingston, Chair

Damon Jeter, Vice-Chair

Gwendolyn Davis Kennedy

Joyce Dickerson

Valerie Hutchinson

Norman Jackson

Bill Malinowski

Jim Manning

L. Gregory Pearce, Jr.

Kit Smith

Kelvin E. Washington, Sr.

The minutes were transcribed by Michelle M. Onley