

**RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
APRIL 9, 2002
6:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Joseph McEachern, Chair; Anthony Mizzell, Vice-Chair; Joan B. Brady; Susan Brill; Paul Livingston; J.D. "Buddy" Meetze; L. Gregory Pearce, Jr.; Bernice G. Scott; Kit Smith; Thelma M. Tillis; James Tuten

OTHERS PRESENT: T. Cary McSwain, Michielle Cannon-Finch, Milton Pope, Tony McDonald, Larry Smith, Mike Byrd, Chris Eversmann, Janet Claggett, Monique Walters, Stephany Snowden, Ashley Jacobs, Pam Davis, Marsheika Martin, Amelia Linder, Michael Criss, Rodolfo Callwood, Daniel Driggers

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:05 p.m.

INVOCATION –The Invocation was given by Mr. Pearce.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Two representatives for Eagle Scouts led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mr. Larry Smith, County Attorney, stated a contractual matter: Memorandum of Understanding regarding the Vulcan Project under Report of County Attorney. He stated a report would be coming out of the Economic Development Committee regarding this and no action need to be taken at this time.

Mr. Livingston requested the addition of an Economic Development item regarding working with the City and Lexington County in a cooperative effort to come up with an economic development plan. Mr. McEachern stated a Report of the Economic Development Committee would be placed on the agenda as item-5, renumbering the agenda thereafter.

Ms. Brady moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to adopt the agenda as amended. The vote in favor was unanimous.

CITIZEN'S INPUT

Ms. Evelyn Bush spoke of concerns regarding items 3-c.1 – 3-c.3 being on the agenda as Consent items.

REPORT OF COUNTY ATTORNEY FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS

Mr. Smith stated the Memorandum of Understanding regarding the Vulcan Project need to be discussed in Executive Session.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Regular Session: March 19, 2002

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Mr. Meetze moved, seconded by Ms. Smith, to approve the minutes as corrected. The vote in favor was unanimous.

REPORT OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. T. Cary McSwain, County Administrator, reported on the following items:

Budget – Mr. McSwain stated the second budget forum was held Monday night during the first night of the Richland 101 class. He stated this was the largest class since the three years the classes have been held. He stated there would be a follow-up meeting after the millage agencies meet.

Millage Agencies – Mr. McSwain stated staff would begin setting up millage agency meetings. He stated the Council liaisons would be contacted once the meetings are scheduled.

HUD Entitlement Status – Mr. McSwain asked Council to review the draft consolidated plan for the five year Entitlement Program. He requested to inform staff of any questions or input. Mr. McSwain reported this plan is currently under a 30-day public comment period, which will end May 5th. He stated Sherry Wright-Moore would be receiving comments from the public. An additional public hearing is scheduled before the Administration and Finance Committee meeting on April 23rd at 6:00 p.m. Mr. McSwain reported the plan must be improved at the May 7th meeting in order to be submitted to HUD by May 15th.

Time Warner Renewal – Mr. McSwain stated staff is pressing to finalize the renewal of the franchise process with Time Warner Cable. He stated the renewal is due by October. He stated there is an option to do either a formal or informal process.

Joint Council/City Meeting – Mr. McSwain reminded Council of the meeting on April 30th from 8-10:00 a.m.

Inter-City Visit with Chamber of Commerce to Riley – Mr. McSwain reminded Council of the visit to Riley on April 21– 23.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Mr. Pearce stated he is impressed with the two budget meetings held thus far. He commended Stephany Snowden, Senior Public Information Officer, on a job well done in getting the word out to the public.

OPEN/CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

Coroner's Office Budget Amendment

Mr. McEachern opened the floor for public hearing. No one signed up to speak. He closed the floor to public hearings.

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Pawn Shop Business License Ordinance

Mr. McEachern opened the floor for the public hearing. No one signed up to speak. He closed the floor to public hearings.

Bond Ordinance regarding HVAC for Judicial Center

Mr. McEachern opened the floor for the public hearing.

The following persons expressed concern: Mr. Bill McClanahan, Ms. Kay McClanahan and Ms. Hattie Fruester and Ms. Lillie Bates.

The floor was closed to the public hearing.

Bond Ordinance regarding fire service

Mr. McEachern opened the floor to the public hearing.

Ms. Hattie Fruester spoke of concerns to this item.

Mr. McEachern closed the floor to the public hearing.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

Ms. Brady moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to approve the following consent items:

**Coroner's Office Budget Amendment [Third Reading]
Pawn Shop Business License Ordinance [Third Reading]
Community Care Homes: Policy and Information
Abandoned Cemeteries**

The vote in favor was unanimous.

1. THIRD READING ITEMS

a. Zoning Amendments regarding Landfills Chapter 26

Mr. Meetze moved, seconded by Mr. Tuten, to approve this item for Third Reading. The vote was in favor. Mr. McEachern opposed.

b. Bond Ordinance regarding HVAC for Judicial Center

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Brill, to approve this item for Third Reading.

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Mr. Mizzell made a substitute motion, seconded by Ms. Scott, to defer the HVAC bond until staff can get all of the facts and figures added which would include EMS and re-advertise for a public hearing.

A discussion took place.

The vote for the substitute motion was in favor. Mr. Tuten opposed.

c. Bond Ordinance regarding fire service

Ms. Brady moved, seconded by Mr. Meetze, to approve a bond ordinance for 5.2 million.

Mr. Mizzell made a substitute motion, seconded by Ms. Tillis, to defer this item for the same date the countywide HVAC/EMS Bond is taken up.

The vote was not in favor of the substitute motion. The motion failed.

Ms. Brady amended her motion, seconded by Mr. Meetze, to approve the bond ordinance at \$3.4 million dollars, which would be for Gillscreek, Two Notch Road, two pumpers and the two tankers.

A discussion took place.

Ms. Smith made a substitute motion, seconded by Ms. Scott/Mr. Livingston/Ms. Tillis, to authorize the County Administrator to contract for the on Forest Drive, enter into that contract with this agreement; if discussions fall apart at some time, then the decision would be not to build the fire station and defer the bond issue in order for staff to work on the countywide and fire bonds.

A discussion took place.

Mr. Meetze requested a stipulation for staff to inform Council when the land has been purchased. Ms. Smith stated staff should give an update in the Friday Report or at the next Council meeting.

The vote in favor of the substitute motion was unanimous.

d. BellSouth Easement

Mr. McSwain requested deferral because of ongoing negotiations with Bellsouth.

Mr. Mizzell moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to defer this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

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2. REPORT OF DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICES COMMITTEE

a. Community Care Home: 531 Folkstone Road

Ms. Brill stated the committee sent this item forward without a recommendation.

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Tillis, to approve this item. The vote was in favor. Mr. McEachern opposed.

b. Sanitation Contracts

Ms. Brill stated the committee forwarded this item without a recommendation.

Mr. McSwain reported the two contractors have accepted the negotiated offer. The vote was in favor to approve this item.

3. REPORT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

a. Ordinance Amendment: Conflict of Interest for Boards and Commissions

Mr. Mizzell stated the Committee recommended Council give Second Reading approval to this ordinance amendment prohibiting the appointment of any individual who has or may have an economic conflict of interest with that board or commission.

A discussion took place. Mr. McEachern requested staff to clearly define "economic conflict".

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to approve the ordinance with the language clearly defined by Third Reading. The vote in favor was unanimous.

b. Internal Audit/Performance Management Functions

Mr. Mizzell stated the Committee recommended that Council authorize staff to issue an RFG to seek qualified consultants to develop the scope of services in FY 2003 to plan for implementation in FY 2004 and approve the membership of the Audit Committee as recommended by the Council Chair which would include the Council Chair, two Committee Chairs and the Finance and Budget Directors.

A discussion took place. Mr. McEachern wanted the record to clarify that implementation would start January of 2003.

Ms. Smith moved, and it was seconded, to approve the committee's recommendation as clarified. The vote in favor was unanimous.

c-1. IT/GIS Multi-Spectral Imagery

Mr. Mizzell stated the committee recommended that Council authorize staff to negotiate and award a contract to DigitalGlobe in an amount not to exceed \$75,000.00 for the acquisition of multi-spectral imagery for land cover mapping projects. The vote in favor was unanimous.

c.2. IT/GIS Geodetic Control Monumentation

Mr. Mizzell stated the committee recommended that Council authorize staff to negotiate and award a contract to Woolpert, LLP in amount not to exceed \$265,000.00 for surveying services to establish County Geodetic Control Monumentation. The vote in favor was unanimous.

c.3. IT/GIS Parcel Mapping Consulting

Mr. Mizzell stated the committee recommended that Council authorize staff to negotiate and award a contract to NovaLIS Technologies in an amount not to exceed \$85,000.00 for consulting services related to implementing a system to maintain parcels digitally. The vote in favor was unanimous.

E. InterCity Visit to Raleigh

Mr. Mizzell stated a visit to Raleigh is scheduled for Tuesday, April 23rd, the same day as the April Committee meetings. He stated the committee forwarded this item to full Council for discussion.

A discussion took place. This item was accepted as information.

4. REPORT OF RULES AND APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE

a. Notification of vacancy for Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee-1

Mr. Livingston notified Council of the vacancy to this board.

b. Rules Changes

Mr. Livingston gave a brief report on the rule changes.

Ms. Smith requested striking "By Title Only" on Page 81, item-12.

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. Brady, to approve this amendment. The vote in favor was unanimous.

A discussion took place.

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Mr. McEachern offered an amendment, seconded by Mr. Meetze, to strike the language not allowing citizens to speak to items requiring a public hearing on page 82, item-13. The amendment was not accepted.

The motion to approve the Committee's recommendation with the amendment was in favor. Mr. McEachern opposed.

5. REPORT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

a. Economic Development Plan with the City and Lexington County

Mr. Livingston briefed Council on this issue. He stated the committee has requested Council to direct the Administrator to move forward with locating \$5,000.00 move forward with the partnership for economic development in the region. The vote in favor was unanimous.

6. CITIZEN'S INPUT

No one signed up to speak at this time.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to go into Executive Session to discuss the Vulcan project. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Council went into Executive Session at approximately 8:00 p.m. and came out at approximately 8:26 p.m.

Mr. Meetze moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to come out of Executive Session. The vote in favor was unanimous.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Ms. Scott recognized Mrs. Marguerite Meetze, (Mr. Meetze's wife) in the audience.

Mr. Mizzell moved, seconded by Mr. Meetze, to accept the item discussed in Executive Session as information.

Ms. Smith stated the attorneys are continuing negotiations on the Memorandum of Understanding at this time.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

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8. MOTION PERIOD/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Mizzell requested a resolution without reference for Mary Shivers as a community servant.

Mr. Pearce requested a resolution without reference for Major Fred Riddle who is retiring from the Sheriff's Department as Commander of the Uniform Division.

Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to allow Ms. Vi Hendley to make a presentation regarding Olympia. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ms. Brill informed Mr. Livingston, Mr. Pearce and Ms. Smith of the need for them to make appointments to the Conservation Commission.

Ms. Smith requested a resolution without reference for Mr. Pat Connelly for his work as the Director of Parks and Recreations.

Ms. Smith informed Council of a conference in Miami Beach on June 14th regarding new urbanism and smart growth.

Mr. Mizzell/Ms. Smith and Mr. Pearce requested a resolution without reference for Dreher High School winning the State SAT Championship.

Mr. Meetze informed Council that Mr. Pope would be writing a letter to Dr. McMann, Superintendent of District 5, regarding concerns of the land use issues.

Ms. Scott requested a resolution for Mr. E.C. Nelson.

9. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:35

Joseph McEachern, Chair

Anthony M. Mizzell, Vice-Chair

Joan Brady

Susan Brill

Paul Livingston

J.D. "Buddy" Meetze

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L. Gregory Pearce, Jr.

Bernice G. Scott

Kit Smith

Thelma M. Tillis

James Tuten

The minutes were transcribed by Marsheika G. Martin