

**RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL  
REGULAR SESSION  
October 2, 2001  
6:00 P.M.**

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:** T. Cary McSwain, Michielle Cannon-Finch, Monique Walters, Carrie Tolley, Larry Smith, Amelia Linder, Marsheika Martin, Ash Miller, Mike Byrd, Milton pope, Tony McDonald, Ralph Pearson, Michael Criss, Harry Huntley, Chief Harrell, Joseph Bochenek

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:00 p.m.

**INVOCATION**

The Invocation was given by the Honorable Jim Tuten

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Ms. Scott requested to add Owens Field Airport on the agenda for discussion as item-1.

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

**PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS**

**Keenan High School** – On behalf of Council, Ms. Tillis presented this resolution to Keenan for a significant increase in SAT scores.

**Sack Edge for retirement** – On behalf of Council, Mr. Pearce presented a resolution to Mr. Edge for his retirement and outstanding service to Richland County

**PRESENTATION**

- a. **Mr. Arthur Collier, Executive Director – Cooperative Ministries**

Mr. Collier thanked the Council for funds that are used to help the homeless and invited Council to visit the Ministries.

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**CITIZEN'S INPUT**

- Mr. James E. Clark spoke regarding the impact of the September 11<sup>th</sup> attacks on the Columbia Owens Field Airport
- Mr. Louis Ripley spoke regarding the impact of the September 11<sup>th</sup> attacks on the Columbia Owens Field Airport

**REPORT OF COUNTY ATTORNEY FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS**

Mr. Larry Smith, County Attorney, stated the following items were recommended for Executive Session:

- Land Purchase for Fire Station
- Personnel Matter – Motion made by Ms. Scott
- Personnel Matter – Evaluation of Clerk of Council
- Personnel Matter – Evaluation of County Administrator.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**September 18, 2001: Regular Session  
September 18, 2001: Special Called Meeting**

Ms. Brill moved, seconded by Ms. Brady, to approve the minutes as published. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**REPORT OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

**Finance Director**

Mr. McSwain introduced Ms. Carrie Tolley to Council.

**Assistant to the County Administrator**

Mr. McSwain introduced Ms. Ashley Jacobs to Council.

**Clarification of Newspaper Article**

Mr. McSwain clarified information printed in a newspaper article on sewer projects. He stated they are considering taking all of the grant money or revenue and put this toward sewer projects. He stated whatever money is left, the City and County will split the difference. Mr. McSwain further stated this is not finalized.

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**Agenda for the Mid-Year Retreat**

Mr. McSwain stated each Councilperson will have a copy of the planned agenda.

**Columbia Owens Field Airport**

Mr. McSwain reported he had met with the Airport Manager and the Airport Commission with regard to recent FAA restrictions and security issues.

**OPEN/CLOSE PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**3.d. Ordinance: Fee Agreement for SYSCO**

Ms. Smith opened the floor to a public hearing. No one signed up to speak to this item. The public hearing was closed.

**3.e. Ordinance: Multi-County Industrial Park Expansion for SYSCO**

Ms. Smith opened the floor to a public hearing. No one signed up to speak to this item. The public hearing was closed.

**3.f. Ordinance: Multi-County Industrial Park Expansion for Verizon**

Ms. Smith opened the floor to a public hearing. No one signed up to speak to this item. The public hearing was closed.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS**

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Ms. Brady, to approve the following items on the consent agenda:

- 3.b 02-014MA, Greg Lehman, P.W. Tracts, From RU to PDD, 02415-02-02(P), Dutch Fork Road – Second Reading Approval**
- 3.c 02-016MA, Donald Melton, J.P. Rogers, From RU to RS-1, 02600-04-28, 11214 Broad River Road - Second Reading Approval**
- 3.d. Ordinance: Fee Agreement for SYSCO – Second Reading approval**
- 3.e. Ordinance: Multi-County Industrial Park Expansion for SYSCO – Second Reading approval**
- 3.f. Ordinance: Multi-County Industrial Park Expansion for Verizon – Second Reading approval**

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- 4.f. Ordinance Amendment: Landfills & Composting Facilities**
- 5.a. Detention Center: Food Service Management** – authorized staff to enter into a contract with Food Service Management and provide Council members with menus and their costs.
- 5.b. Sheriff's Department** – Authorized the purchase of eight Fleet Crown Victorias and 33 Crown Victorias to replace old vehicles, in the budgeted amounts of \$202,400.00 and \$834,900.00
- 5.c. Legal: Ordinance Amendment – Discharge of Firearms** – First Reading approval of an amendment to Section 18-1 of the Richland County Code of Ordinances

The vote in favor was unanimous.

**1. Columbia-Owens Field Airport Discussion**

A discussion took place regarding an article in the newspaper, which stated the airport was closing. The discussion consisted of FAA requirements, security and how staff sent out proper notification of the matter.

Mr. Tuten moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to express confidence in Mr. Jim Hamilton as the airport manager and appreciates the withdrawal of his resignation. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**2. THIRD READING ITEM**

**FY 2001-02 Millage Rates**

Mr. Harry Huntley, County Auditor, briefed Council on the revised millage numbers.

Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Mr. McEachern, to approve the millage rates for Third Reading as amended. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**3. SECOND READING ITEMS**

- a. 02-013MA, Stewart Mungo, From RU to PUD-1, 02600-04-32, 35(P) and 49, Broad River Road**

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

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**4. REPORT OF DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICES  
COMMITTEE**

**a. Ordinance Amendment: Sec. 21-9. Road Closing**

Ms. Scott stated the committee recommended First Reading approval of the ordinance amending Sec. 21-9, road closing. The committee also recommended that Council decide between considering on a case by case basis or fair market value except for when there is a prescriptive easement or the property is zoning residential or rural with no plans for commercial use.

A discussion took place.

Mr. McEachern moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to give First Reading approval to an amendment to Sec. 21-9 of the County Code to consider compensation for relinquished easements on a case by case basis. The vote was in favor. Ms. Smith opposed.

**b. Quitclaim Deed: 632 Kentucky Street**

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Ms. Tillis, to grant the quitclaim deed with no charge. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**c. Quitclaim Deed: Peyton Street**

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Ms. Brill, to grant the quitclaim with no charge. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**d. Abandonment of Maintenance: Old Lorick Road**

Mr. Tuten moved, seconded by Mr. McEachern, to approve abandoning maintenance on Old Lorick Road with no charge. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**e. Feasibility Study: Longtown Connector**

Ms. Scott stated the committee forwarded this item to Council without recommendation and instructed the County Administrator to determine if a study had already been conducted and to determine the costs that would be associated with this project.

Mr. McSwain stated according to Ralph Pearson, County Engineer, a study has not been done. He stated there were certain unresolved questions. He went on to explain the concerns.

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Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, not to approve the study.

A discussion took place.

The vote was in favor. Mr. Tuten opposed.

**5. REPORT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**d. Carolina Carillon Holiday Parade**

Mr. McEachern stated the committee forwarded this item to Council with no recommendation.

Mr. Meetze moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to deny this request.

A discussion took place.

Ms. Brady stated if this request is denied Council will need to be consistent with denying any future requests as well.

The vote was in favor. Ms. Brill opposed.

**e. EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEM: Land Purchase for Fire Station**

Mr. McEachern moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to defer this item to the end of the agenda. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**6. Request by Council members Brill, Pearce & Smith**

Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Mr. McEachern, to defer this item to the next meeting. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**7. REPORT OF RULES AND APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE**

**a. Midlands Workforce Development Board**

Ms. Smith stated the board has requested for Council to approve the following nominations to the Youth Council: Mr. Kevin Brown and Ms. Angee Hastings.

Mr. McEachern moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to approve these nominations. The vote in favor was unanimous.

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**8. EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS**

**a. Personnel Matter: From Motion Period of September 18, 2001 (Councilwoman Scott)**

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Mr. McEachern, to defer this item to the next meeting. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ms. Smith stated the evaluations of the Clerk and Administrator are in draft form for Council to review. She stated if there are no major changes recommended by Council, the evaluations would be presented to the Clerk and Administrator, and subject to their agreement, it would then be released to the public.

Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Ms. Brady, to go into Executive Session to discuss the evaluations of the Clerk and the Administrator and Land Purchase for the Fire Station. The vote in favor was unanimous.

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**Council went into Executive Session at approximately 7:30 p.m. and came out at approximately 8:25 p.m.**  
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Ms. Tillis moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to come out of Executive Session. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**b. Personnel Matter: Evaluation of Clerk of Council and County Administrator**

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. McEachern, to authorize the Chair and the Vice-Chair to present the evaluation of Council to the Clerk and the Administrator, and with their concurrence, the evaluations will be made available to the public; if not, it will be discussed further with Council at the next meeting. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**c. Land Purchase for Fire Station**

Ms. Brady moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to authorize the Administrator to enter into negotiations with purchase of the land as discussed in Executive Session and bring back a report on financing. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**9. MOTION PERIOD**

- Ms. Scott requested for the Old Congaree Swamp Road to be paved. Ms. Smith stated this item would be placed on the Development and Services Committee for a report.

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- Ms. Brill questioned the opening of the new magistrates offices. Ms. Smith requested for staff to place this information in the Friday Report.

**10. CITIZEN'S INPUT**

No one signed up to speak at this time.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m.

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Kit Smith, Chair

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L. Gregory Pearce, Jr., Vice-Chair

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Joan Brady

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Susan Brill

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Paul Livingston

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Joseph McEachern

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J.D. "Buddy" Meetze

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Anthony G. Mizzell

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Bernice G. Scott

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Thelma M. Tillis

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James Tuten

The minutes were transcribed by Marsheika G. Martin