

**RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
JANUARY 4, 2000
6:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul Livingston, Stephen Morris, Kit Smith, Tony Mizzell, L. Gregory Pearce, J.D. "Buddy" Meetze, Joseph McEachern, Susan Brill, James Tuten, Bernice Scott, Thelma Tillis

OTHERS PRESENT: T. Cary McSwain, Larry Smith, Michielle Cannon-Finch, T. Cary McSwain, Milton Pope, Marsheika Washington, Mullen Taylor, Sharon Lee-White, Ash Miller; Pam Davis, Sack Edge, Tony McDonald, Rodolfo Caldwell, Sherry Wright, Sheriff Leon Lott, Jocelyn Jennings, Robert Smith, Judy Carter, Stephanie Thompson, Lisa Collins

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:06 p.m.

INVOCATION

The Honorable Jim Tuten gave the Invocation.

ELECTION OF CHAIR

Mr. Livingston opened nominations for the Chairperson of Richland County.

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to nominate Kit Smith.

Mr. Tuten moved, seconded by Mr. Meetze, to nominate L. Gregory Pearce.

Ms. Tillis moved, seconded by Mr. McEachern, to nominate Joseph McEachern.

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Mr. Meetze, for nominations to come to a close. The vote in favor was unanimous.

After discussion, Mr. McEachern withdrew his name from the nomination.

The vote for Chairperson of Council was as follows:

<u>Pearce</u>	<u>Smith</u>
Morris	
Pearce	
Meetze	
Brill	
Tuten	

Mr. Pearce withdrew his name from the nomination.

Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to elect Ms. Smith as Chairperson of Council by acclamation. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ms. Smith was elected as Chairperson of Council.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

Ms. Smith opened nominations for Vice-Chair of Council.

Ms. Brill moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to nominate Mr. Pearce as Vice-Chair of Council

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Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Ms. Tillis, to waive the rules of Council to and elect two Vice-Chairs and nominate Mr. Mizzell for Co-Vice Chair.

The vote was as follows:

<u>In favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>
Smith	Morris
Mizzell	Pearce
McEachern	Meetze
Scott	Tuten
Tillis	Brill
Livingston	

The motion failed due to a lack of unanimous consent.

After discussion, Mr. Mizzell withdrew his name from the nomination.

Ms. Tillis moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to nominate Mr. McEachern for Co-Vice Chair.

The vote was as follows:

<u>Mr. McEachern</u>	<u>Mr. Pearce</u>
Livingston	Morris
McEachern	Mizzell
Scott	Pearce
Tillis	Meetze
	Brill
	Tuten
	Smith

Mr. Pearce was elected as Vice-Chair of Council.

After discussion, Ms. Smith recommended referring the issue of electing two Vice-Chairs of Council to the Rules and Appointment Committee.

SELECTION OF SEATS

Council selected seats according to seniority and alphabetical order. The selection of seats was as follows:

Morris, Livingston, Mizzell, Meetze, Pearce, Smith, McEachern, Brill, Tuten, Scott, Tillis

CITIZEN'S INPUT

Mr. Bagnell spoke regarding concerns of the Gerald Steele issue.

Mr. Jay Case spoke "in opposition" of the Gerald Steele issue.

Mr. Davis, President of White Rock Association, spoke in opposition of the Gerald Steele issue.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

December 20, 1999: Special Called Meeting

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to approve the minutes as submitted. The vote in favor was unanimous.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Ms. Tillis recognized her family in the audience.

Mr. Livingston wanted to add a Point of Personal Privilege after the Adoption of Agenda.

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

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Mr. Livingston thanked Council members for the opportunity to serve as the Chairperson of Richland County Council. He also thanked his wife for her support.

EMPLOYEE SERVICE CERTIFICATES

Mr. McSwain stated that there were no employee certificates to be presented at this time.

REPORT OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Y2K

Mr. McSwain stated that a report would be given to Council regarding Y2K. He commended the IT Department and Department Heads of the County for developing a Contingency Plan for the year 2000.

SCANA

Mr. McSwain stated that SCANA has provided the County with a check for \$150,000.00 for assistance with funding the Siemens Diesel Technology Inc.'s road improvements, and thanked SCANA for their generosity and willingness to contribute to the County's economic development efforts.

Eau Claire Presentation

Mr. McSwain updated Council on his negotiations with the Eau Claire Health Center and Palmetto Health Alliance.

FEMA Appeal Process

Mr. McSwain stated that he is working with FEMA to organize a round table discussion on the flood map appeal process. He stated that the meeting would be held on either January 24th or 26th.

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Council Retreat

Mr. McSwain stated that Mr. Todd Davidson of FEMA, would like to attend the retreat on the 15th to go over the issue of FEMA maps if Council is interested.

Eastover Magistrate Office

Mr. McSwain announced that the County closed on the property today. He stated that a ribbon cutting ceremony would be held in the near future.

Employee Grievance

Mr. Morris moved, seconded by Mr. Tuten, to accept the Administrator's recommendation. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Sub-contract for Solid Waste Collection – Area 7

Mr. Rodolfo Caldwell, Procurement Director, updated Council on the contracts. He explained the evaluation process.

Mr. McSwain reported that because the proposed sub-contractor for Area 7 meets all County requirements, he would authorize Cloud Sanitation's request to sub-contract with Johnson's Garbage Service.

Ms. Smith recommended placing this issue on the Development and Services Committee Agenda for further discussion.

A discussion took place.

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to move the agenda. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ms. Smith stated that this item was received as information.

REPORT OF COUNTY ATTORNEY FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS

Mr. Larry Smith, County Attorney, stated that no item on the agenda needed to be discussed in Executive Session.

THIRD READING ITEMS

Budget Amendment for vehicle tax relief – PUBLIC HEARING

Ms. Smith stated that no one signed up to speak for the Public Hearing.

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to approve for Third Reading an ordinance amending the FY 99-00 General Fund Budget to add \$20,160.00 from undesignated, unreserved General Fund Balance to provide additional funding needed to re-program the Auditor's Office computer

system to comply with the new state car tax credit legislation. The vote in favor was unanimous.

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SECOND READING ITEMS

99-047MA, Gerald Steele, From RU to C-3, Dutch Fork Road, TMS 02500-09-01

Mr. Smith recommended for Council to defer this item until he reviews allegations contained in the lawsuit filed by residents dealing with public notification of this rezoning request.

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to defer this item. The vote in favor was unanimous. (Ms. Tillis was away during the vote.)

CITIZEN'S INPUT

Ms. Smith stated that no one signed up to speak at this time.

MOTION PERIOD

Ms. Smith requested for everyone to stay on current Committees for a couple of more weeks.

Ms. Scott moved to direct Mr. McSwain to schedule a meeting with interested Council members and Tarmac to discuss re-routing the truck traffic away from the Olympia Mills.

Mr. Meetze moved to refer to the Development and Services Committee the issue of the recent apartment fires and whether inspections needed to be tightened in order to prevent further incidents.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Smith adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:05 p.m.

Kit Smith, Chair

L. Gregory Pearce Jr., Co-Vice Chair

Susan Brill

Paul Livingston

Joseph McEachern

J.D. "Buddy" Meetze

Anthony G. Mizzell

Stephen F. Morris

Bernice G. Scott

Thelma M. Tillis

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James Tuten

Marsheika G. Washington transcribed the minutes