

**RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL  
REGULAR SESSION  
MAY 9, 2000  
6:00 P.M.**

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Milton Pope, Tony McDonald, Michielle Cannon-Finch, Tonya Dunham, Marsheika Martin, Monique Walters, Stephanie Thompson, Mullen Taylor, Ash Miller, Andy Metts

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:15 P.M.

**INVOCATION**

The Invocation was given by the Honorable James Tuten.

**PRESENTATION: Status Report Public Health Services**

Ms. Smith announced that she and Mr. Pearce met with the committee of the Palmetto Health Alliances requesting their support. She stated they have concurred with the Richland Memorial Board support of the engagement of professional services to help facilitate an operational agreement between the two entities. Ms. Smith stated they received as information the County's request for funding.

Dr. Sue Haddock, Carolina Research Institute, gave a brief status of the negotiations of the two healthcare organizations of the County. She stated they have met with both of the community health agencies and also met with some of the other parties who have an interest in the situation. She stated that all parties are really interested in moving forward, having certain strengths and weaknesses on both sides. Dr. Haddock stated another meeting was held with representatives from the two agencies and they have agreed to spend the next week in doing information sharing. She stated they are also signing a confidentiality statement so that as they share the information it would stay with the respected parties.

Dr. Haddock stated they also agreed that financial information would be provided that they are both comfortable with. Audits are being arranged that would be comparable for both parties. She stated they would also be working on an agreement before them that would outline the planning process that would go forward between the present date and August 31, 2000.

**CITIZEN'S INPUT**

The following persons spoke in opposition of 1-E (Robert Fuller zoning issue): John Fogle, Chris Cowan, Peggy Corbin, Dora K. Brown, Robert Fuller, Sharon Bookard, Leon Babridge

The following persons spoke in favor of 1-E (Robert Fuller zoning issue): Brandon Wellford

Ms. Evelyn Bush spoke in opposition of 7-a (Lease Agreement with BellSouth for Columbia Cellular Telephone Lease).

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The following persons spoke "in opposition" to 4-a (Olympia Redevelopment):  
Ms. Amy Koon, Mr. William Hilliard.

The following persons "in favor" of 4-a (Olympia Redevelopment):  
Mr. Bob Guild, Mr. William Davis, Mr. Doug Hartley, Larry Gates

Ms. Beatrice Willis spoke "in opposition" of a nightclub being built in her neighborhood off of Hwy 321.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**April 18, 2000: Regular Session**

**April 25, 2000: Special Called Meeting**

**April 25, 2000: Zoning Public Hearing**

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to approve all of the minutes.  
The vote in favor was unanimous.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

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

Ms. Scott introduced Mr. Patrick Gibbon, a new Council member in the Town of Eastover.

Ms. Smith informed Council and citizens that Mr. McSwain has been released from the hospital and is doing well. She announced that Mr. Milton Pope and Mr. Tony McDonald, Assistant County Administrators, are handling things.

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

Mr. Larry Smith, County Attorney, stated there are no items on the agenda to be discussed in Executive Session.

**REPORT OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

**Administrator's Recommended Budget FY 2000-2001**

Ms. Tonya Dunham, Finance Director, gave an overview of the upcoming to the budget and the process taken with coming up with recommendations. She stated areas of concentration were mainly more citizen involvement early on in the process and having a responsible budget which required no tax increase. She informed Council there would be no tax increase for FY 00/01 assuming a 3% growth rate. Millage estimates that are adjusted for the expected growth have not been received.

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Revenue: She brought to Council's attention of three different sessions pertaining to revenue: revenue definition of every Richland County revenue code, a detailed comparison of current fiscal year and two prior years, and a comparison of department generated revenue compared to departmental recommended budget to show which departments are generating revenue.

Expenditure: With revenues being flat, the Administrator is recommending new costs in the budget by cutting existing costs without harming existing services. She stated the major new cost is the \$2.4 million for the County evaluation process, pay for performance plan.

Additional new items:

- 8% increase in group health insurance
- 20 positions to be absorbed in county's general operating budget in the Sheriff's Department; 40 replacement vehicles in budget for Sheriff's Department. (absorbed by cutting existing costs).
- New millage agency/enterprise fund for the required storm water management program
- Fire trucks replacement. (funding strategy was to move the cost for Forest Acres Fire Station to the recommended bond)

Items recommended by Administrator but not funded in the recommended budget: (forwarded to Council for consideration). The costs for these items are not included in the balance:

- 16 new positions costing \$573,475.00
- 24 new positions costing \$879,763.00
- new grant match requests from various departments costing \$210,650.00
- Non-Discretionary Grant Program
- Discretionary Grant Program (not detailed)
- Accommodations funding request does not have a detailed recommendation from the A-Tax Advisory Committee.

Ms. Dunham requested dates for a work session. Ms. Smith stated this would be decided during the Motion Period.

The following are dates for approval of the budget:

May 16<sup>th</sup> – Public Hearing

May 23<sup>rd</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Budget

June 6 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading

June 15<sup>th</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading.

**Report of Register of Deeds Office**

Mr. John Norris, Director of the Register of Deeds, gave a brief report of the office. The department is the Year 2000 winner of the S.C. Department of Archives Management Innovation Award which recognizes Richland County for complete overall operation of the office with the installation of an automated system for recording deeds.

He also stated there are three counties which have bought the computer system: Richmond County, Georgia; Lexington, S.C.; Delaware County, Pennsylvania.

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He stated a vendor, Team Information Advantage, has presented a check for \$5,000.00 to the County for sale of the system to other counties.

**THIRD READING ITEMS**

**Ordinance authorizing Quit Claim to R. Michael Baker-PUBLIC HEARING**

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

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

**Ordinance authorizing deed to water lines for HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital-PUBLIC HEARING**

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

Mr. Morris moved, seconded by Ms. Brill, to approve this item for Third Reading. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Ordinance authorizing Quit Claim Deed to Richland School District One -PUBLIC HEARING**

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

Mr. Pope stated representatives from District One requested a deed of the property to the district or receive an offer of \$21,000.00. He requested a deferral in order for staff to draw up the paperwork.

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Mr. Livingston, to defer this item and deed the property over to the district. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Ordinance authorizing deed to the City of Columbia for certain water lines for Spring Valley drainage improvements along Maingate Drive and upper Pine Lake in Greengate Subdivision-PUBLIC HEARING**

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

Mr. Morris moved, seconded by Ms. Brill, to approve this item for Third Reading. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**99-055MA, Robert Fuller, From RU to M-1, Wilson Blvd. (U.S.21 @ I-77) Business Park**

Mr. Morris moved, seconded by Mr. Livingston, to approve this item for Third Reading.

Mr. McEachern moved, seconded by Mr. Tuten, to deny this item for Third Reading.

Mr. Ken Knudsen, Planning Department, gave a brief overview of what has happened over the last few months.

A discussion took place.

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Ms. Smith stated for the record this zoning issue has not been held illegally and it is up to Council to decide if this zoning issue is in the best interest of the community.

After discussion, Mr. McEachern moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to call for the question. The vote in favor was unanimous.

The vote for the substitute motion was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

**SECOND READING ITEMS**

**00-24MA, Kevin Meetze, From RU to M-1, TMS 04100-04-32(P), E/S  
Howard Coogler Road**

**00-25MA, Stewart Mungo, From RU to PUD, TMS 04100-04-01, Koon  
Road**

**00-26MA, Stewart Mungo, From RU to PUD, TMS 04100-03-07 & 08,  
Kennerly Road**

**Ordinance authorizing an assignment from Lamson to Quatro of  
Lamson's interests in the County-Lamson Inducement Agreement and  
the County-Lamson FILOT Lease as to the real property portion of the  
project; a County-Quatro FILOT Lease; and related amendments to the  
County-Lamson Inducement Agreement, FILOT lease and Escrow  
Agreement.**

Mr. McEachern moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to approve all items for Second Reading. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**REPORT OF DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**Budget Amendment for the Atlas Road Sewer Project**

Ms. Scott stated the committee recommended to give First Reading approval to the appropriation of \$48,900.00 from the fund balance to provide cash match for the Atlas Road Sewer Project grant.

Mr. Morris requested minutes of when this was originally approved.

The vote in favor of the committee's recommendation was unanimous.

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**Additional Funding for MS4/NPDES Permit**

Ms. Scott stated the committee recommended that Council approve abandoning the Stoops Creek Detention Project and use part of the available funds to provide the needed additional funding for the FY 99/00 implementation of the County's MS4/NPDES' permit. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Broad River Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade**

Ms. Scott stated the committee recommended that Council approve the Broad River Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade along with the funding strategy as recommended by the Manager of Utilities. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**REPORT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Olympia Redevelopment**

Mr. McEachern stated the committee recommended approval giving First Reading approval to the implementation of a TIF district in the Olympia neighborhood and directed the Administrator to finalize the Assistance Agreement between the County, City, Tarmac, and Diversified Development by Third Reading of the TIF ordinance.

Mr. Morris requested a map furnished to Council before proceeding.

Ms. Scott stated she received a letter from School District One informing her of a TIF discussion at the present moment.

A discussion took place.

Mr. Meetze stated entities such as the University of South Carolina should not be included the map because they do not pay taxes.

Mr. Tuten also requested a map identifying the specific TIF area.

The vote in favor of the committee's recommendation was unanimous.

**Detention Center's Produce and Eggs Contract**

The committee recommended that Council renew the contract with the Senn Brothers Company for one year. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Detention Center's Milk and Milk Products Contract**

The committee recommended that Council approve the renewal of the contract with Coburg Dairy for one year. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Detention Center's Bread Contract**

The committee recommended that Council approve the renewal of the contract with Merita for one year. The vote in favor was unanimous.

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**Maintenance of the Bluff Road Facility Housing and Energy Plant**

The committee recommended the renewal of the contract with W.B. Guimarin & Company in the amount of \$78,984.00. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Amendment to Central Midlands' Creating Agreement**

The committee recommended that Council approve the amendment establishing ex-officio membership by the legislative delegation. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**"Project Harvey" Procurement**

The committee recommended that Council authorize the Procurement Department to enter into contracts with the lowest responsible bidder, contingent upon the State's approval of the necessary additional funds. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Haskell Heights Sewer Project**

Mr. McEachern stated the committee recommended approving \$49,700.00 in grant matching funds for Phase II of this project.

Mr. Morris requested past minutes on this particular issue.

A discussion took place.

Mr. Morris moved, seconded by Mr. McEachern, to place this item in next year's budget. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**REPORT OF RULES AND APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE**

Mr. Livingston recommended for staff to advertise for vacancies on the following boards and commissions:

Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee  
Board of Assessment Appeals  
Community Relations Council  
East Richland Public Service  
JTPA Private Industry Council (PIC)  
Richland Memorial Hospital

Mr. Morris requested a list of applicants ineligible to re-run.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

**CITIZEN'S INPUT**

The following persons spoke during Citizen's Input:

- Ms. Mary Louise Carter, Dutch Fork area, spoke regarding an ordinance passed in 1998; asking reconsideration of towers.
- Mr. Robert Parnell spoke regarding zoning ordinances.
- Ms. Tara Linton spoke regarding Olympia redevelopment.

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**MOTION PERIOD**

**Worksession for Water/Sewer**

Mr. Livingston requested the Work Session for the water/sewer issue to be rescheduled for Tuesday May 16<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m.

**Worksession for Budget**

Ms. Smith recommended reviewing the Administrator's recommended budget on Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> and Monday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 4:00 p.m.

**Lease Agreement with Bell South for Columbia Cellular Telephone Lease**

Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to give First reading approval and refer to Administration and Finance Committee and authorize Columbia Cellular Telephone to operate at their own risk. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Proclamation re: Mental Health Month (PEARCE)**

Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to place this Proclamation on the May 16<sup>th</sup> agenda. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Genesis Cable Company**

Ms. Brill requested staff to seek a resolution to the Genesis Cable Company issue by July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Legal Briefing**

Ms. Smith stated the Legal Department would give a legal briefing at next Tuesday's meeting.

**Grants Committee**

Ms. Smith stated a volunteer is needed from Council to serve on the Grants Committee. Ms. Scott and Ms. Tillis said they would serve.

**Citizen's Forum**

Ms. Smith announced the Citizen's Forum needs to be planned for May 30<sup>th</sup> and October 31<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Mizzell and Mr. Pearce requested for the forum to be held at Hand Middle School on May 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Mayfest in Eastover**

Ms. Scott announced on the Mayfest and the grand opening of the new magistrate's office on May 13<sup>th</sup> and invited Council members to attend.

Mr. Pearce stated May 13<sup>th</sup> is the Republican State Convention.

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**River Zoo Issue**

Mr. Livingston stated a letter from the Lexington County Council was received requesting to appoint a vacant position to serve out a term and then it would rotate between counties. An agreement needed to be reached in terms of how long that person might serve and to agree to allow Lexington County to appoint the person at this time.

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to inform Lexington County that Richland County concurs and would like to see amendments to the intergovernmental agreement with specific years. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:25 p.m.

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Kit Smith, Chair

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L. Gregory Pearce, Jr. Vice-Chair

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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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Stephen F. Morris

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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