

**RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL-CALLED MEETING  
JUNE 10, 2004  
6:00 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Bernice G. Scott, Chair; Joan B. Brady, Vice-Chair; Susan Brill; Paul Livingston; Doris M. Corley; Joseph McEachern; Anthony Mizzell; L. Gregory Pearce, Jr.; Kit Smith; James Tuten, Thelma M. Tillis

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

T. Cary McSwain, Daniel Driggers, Larry Smith, Milton Pope, Michelle Cannon-Finch, Tony McDonald, Ashley Bloom, Pam Davis, Roxanne Matthews, Carrie Neal, Chief Harrell, Marsheika Martin, Stephany Snowden, David Adams, Michael Byrd, Kendall Johnson, Michael Criss, Harry Huntley

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**INVOCATION**

The Invocation was given by the Honorable James Tuten.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Special Called Meeting: May 27, 2004**

Mr. Mizzell moved, seconded by Ms. Brady, to approve the minutes.  
The vote in favor was unanimous.

**ITEMS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Ms. Scott stated Council needs to go into Executive Session to receive a legal briefing on the Reassessment Cap; and if there was time, the personnel and contractual matters would be discussed as well.

**Legal briefing regarding 20% Reassessment Cap**  
**Personnel Matter**  
**Contractual Matter**

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. Brady, to go into Executive Session to receive a legal briefing. The vote in favor was unanimous.

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**Council went into Executive Session at approximately 6:05 p.m. and came out at approximately 6:45 p.m.**  
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Mr. Mizzell moved, seconded by Ms. Tillis, to come out of Executive Session. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. McEachern, to authorize the administrator and legal staff to continue their due diligence and give Council further guidance and adopt by title only First Reading of an ordinance postponing the current reassessment for one year. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ms. Scott stated the Personnel and Contractual Matters will be discussed at the end of the agenda.

## **REPORT OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

### **FY 04 Budget Amendment for the Sheriff's Department FY 04 Budget Amendment for the Detention Center**

Mr. McSwain gave a brief report on FY 04 budget for the Sheriff's Department and the Detention Center. He reported that a budget amendment is not needed at this time because there is still some uncollected revenue and there will be some expenditures during the month of June. He requested authorization to pull unexpended money and redistribute to these departments (Sheriff's Department - \$816,010.00 and \$413,000 for the Detention Center) on June 30<sup>th</sup>, the end of the fiscal year.

Mr. McEachern moved, seconded by Ms. Corley, to authorize the Administrator to fund the budget items at the end of the fiscal year.

Ms. Smith offered an amendment to direct administration to work with elected officials regarding a policy recommendation dealing with holiday pay that would prevent this from happening in the future. Mr. McEachern/Ms. Corley accepted the amendment.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – Mr. Mizzell moved, seconded by Mr. Livingston, to add an ordinance regarding local option sales tax before Motion Period. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mr. McEachern moved, and it was seconded, to bring down the Personnel and Contractual Matters to 3-a before the Motion Period to be discussed in Executive Session. The vote in favor was unanimous.

It was moved and seconded by Ms. Corley, to adopt the agenda as amended. The vote in favor was unanimous.

## **1. THIRD READING ITEMS**

### **2005 Budget – Motion List**

#### **Revenue – Amend SRO revenue to cover 12 months or \$505,650.00**

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. Smith, to place revenue back at \$505,650.00 and credit the revenue to the General Fund, using half of it to fund the salaries in the Sheriff's budget for School Resource Officers. The vote in favor was unanimous.

### **Millage Agencies**

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to approve funding of the following items:

- **School District One – approve funding level # EIA or \$133,462,374**
- **School District Two – approve funding level @ EIA or \$64,,675,993**
- **Midlands Technical College – approve funding level @ \$3,486,096**
- **MTC (capital) – approve funding level @ \$1,085,598**
- **Riverbanks Zoo – approve funding level @ a tax amount = FY 04 + 2.3% or \$1,404,998**
- **Mental Health – approve funding level @ a tax amount = FY 04 + 2.3% or \$1,201,514**

The vote in favor was unanimous.

### **Recreation Commission**

Mr. Mizzell moved, seconded by Mr. Livingston, to approve \$6.8 million that was approved on Second Reading with a proviso that last year there were programs (JUMPS, Fighting Back, and Tutorial Program) that were funded at \$73,200 and requested for those programs to stay intact for FY 04. The vote in favor was unanimous.

### **Library**

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Livingston, to appropriate a one-time \$100,000 from the hospitality tax funds (not out of the grant program) for FY 04/05. The vote in favor was unanimous.

### **ENTERPRISE FUNDS**

#### **Solid Waste – amend funding level @ \$16,255,989 to include the add-back capital through use of Post closure funds**

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

#### **Lower Richland Sewer System – amend funding level to \$215,313 through revenue on attachment**

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to adopt the Administrator's recommendation to increase revenue and expenditure to \$215,000. The vote in favor was unanimous.

## **SPECIAL REVENUE**

### **Victim Assistance – approve funding level equal to available revenue**

Mr. Milton Pope, Assistant County Administrator, reported on the impact of what was done at Second Reading. He stated a thorough audit of the Victim's Assistance Program will be conducted and completed possibly by October 1<sup>st</sup>. This audit will be free of charge to the County.

A discussion took place.

Mr. Mizzell moved to add 300,000 in revenue from the commercial plan review fee and appropriate it to the Victim's Assistance Program to offset the cost to operate the recommendation. (The motion died for a lack of a second.)

The discussion continued.

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to authorize a month to month loan to fund the existing personnel and operations of Victim's Assistance and receive a report on October 1<sup>st</sup> in order to decide whether to continue the program for the remainder of the year.

Ms. Smith requested to know how other comparable counties are handling this issue.

The discussion continued.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

### **Fire Service – discuss priority list of reduction and operational impact**

A discussion took place.

Mr. Mizzell moved, seconded by Ms. Corley, to cut their budget by \$963,109 and place Council on notice that this can't be done next year and to approve \$355,000 to get radios and necessary equipments for volunteer firefighters. The vote was in favor.

### **Hospitality Tax – approve H-Tax operating and Debt Service plan**

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Livingston, appropriate the money and put it in a line item for expenditure and defer the plan. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mr. McSwain informed Council that they are not deferring the operating part but the debt service plan only.

**Owens Field – amend rental rates as stated in attachment effective 7/1/04**

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Livingston, to adopt the recommended hangar rental rates as reflected on the summary of the administrator's motion list. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**GENERAL FUND**

**Policy – Fund Balance: amend policy as stated in attachment**

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. McEachern, to adopt the policy. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Policy – Grant Acceptance: amend policy as stated in attachment**

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to continue grants that are only in place as of the end of this FY; any new grants that would require new money would need to come back before Council. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Policy – Probate Court Ad Fee: Amend fee from \$25 to \$35**

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. McEachern to approve the amendment. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Policy – Owens Field Debt Repayment**

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. McEachern, that revenues from Owens Field be used to repay the debt on the bond issued. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**General Fund – Amend Capital Budget to be FY 2004, plus 2.3% or \$2,981,534; reductions of \$130,486**

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. McEachern, to approve the amendment. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Project Pet**

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. Brady, to add \$25,000 to the Animal Care's budget and continue Project Pet. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**General Fund – Carry Forward**

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to carry forward to the Planning Department \$25,000 in order to do the complete land impact study in Richland County. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ms. Smith moved, instructed the administrator to make sure the 1% cut (that has been directed by Council) not be applied in any way that would affect the state's law (example: public defender's office, and others, prohibits reduction of a prior year's budget).

A discussion took place.

### **Public hearings for agencies that exceed the CPI**

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to set a public hearing for any agency (fire and recreation) that exceeds the FY 04 plus growth in CPI (in September) prior to 3<sup>rd</sup> reading of the millage and adopt it as a Resolution as part of the millage ordinance. The vote in favor was unanimous.

### **BUDGET ORDINANCE**

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to adopt the budget ordinance as amended for Third Reading. The vote was in favor.

### **LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX**

Mr. McSwain informed Council that an ordinance would have to be enacted prior to August 16<sup>th</sup> in order for the item to be placed on the November ballots.

### **Local Options Sales Tax Ordinance**

Mr. Mizzell moved, seconded by Mr. Livingston, to pass an ordinance by title only that Richland County Council initiates placing a 1% local options sales tax referendum on the November ballots. The vote was in favor.

Mr. Mizzell moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to give First Reading to an ordinance that would give 100% of funds received from levies applied to reduce all property taxes levied.

A discussion took place.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Ms. Scott stated Council would go in Executive Session to discuss the following items:

- **Personnel Matter**
- **Contractual Matter**

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**Council went into Executive Session at approximately 8:38 p.m. and came out of Executive Session at approximately 9:35 p.m.**  
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It was moved and seconded to come out of Executive Session. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Personnel Matter**  
**Contractual Matter**

Ms. Scott stated these items were taken for information.

**ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:37 p.m.

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Bernice G. Scott, Chair

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Joan B. Brady, Vice-Chair

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Susan Brill

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Doris M. Corley

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Paul Livingston

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Joseph McEachern

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Anthony G. Mizzell

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L. Gregory Pearce, Jr.

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Kit Smith

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Thelma M. Tillis

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James Tuten

The minutes were transcribed by Marsheika G. Martin