



RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Paul Livingston
District 4

Greg Pearce
District 6

Kit Smith, Chair
District 5

Mike Montgomery
District 8

Damon Jeter
District 3

October 23, 2007
6:00 PM

Richland County Council Chambers
County Administration Building
2020 Hampton Street

Call to Order

Approval of Minutes

- A. September 25, 2007: Regular Meeting [Pages 3 – 6]

Adoption of Agenda

I. Items for Action

- A. Request to approve a contract for property insurance (\$262,069) [Pages 7 – 8]
- B. Request to negotiate and award a contract to Siemens for the development of an energy proficiency, solutions, development and implementation plan [Pages 9 – 10]
- C. Request to negotiate and award a contract with First Vehicle Services for fleet maintenance and management services [Pages 11 – 12]
- D. Amendments to an agreement between Richland County and the Historic Columbia Foundation for the management of the Woodrow Wilson Home and Hampton Preston Mansion [Pages 13 – 18]
- E. Ordinance amending the fiscal year 2007-08 budget ordinance to unappropriate undesignated hospitality tax funds in the budget ordinance to reflect a decrease in available funds [Pages 19 – 22]

- F. An ordinance amending the Richland County Code of Ordinances; Chapter 23, Taxation; Article VI, Local Hospitality Tax; Section 23-69, Distribution of Funds; and Section 23-71, Oversight and Accountability [Pages 23 – 27]
- G. Sheriff Department: Request to approve a Financial Crimes Victims Assistance Program grant (Personnel required, no match) [Pages 28 – 33]
- H. SC State Military Department Funding Request (\$10,000) [Pages 34 – 39]
- I. Request for Funding: Palmetto Center for Advocacy (\$50,000) [Pages 40 – 43]

II. Items for Discussion / Information

- A. Review of CMRTA Audit
- B. Work session on municipal incorporations [Pages 44 – 45]

Adjournment

Staffed by: Joe Cronin

MINUTES OF



RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2007 6:00 P.M.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, a copy of the agenda was sent to radio and TV stations, newspapers, persons requesting notification, and was posted on the bulletin board located in the lobby of the County Administration Building.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chair: Kit Smith
Member: Damon Jeter
Member: Paul Livingston
Member: Mike Montgomery
Member: L. Gregory Pearce, Jr.

ALSO PRESENT: Joseph McEachern, Michelle Cannon-Finch, Milton Pope, Tony McDonald, Roxanne Matthews, Joe Cronin, Larry Smith, Amelia Linder, Jennifer Dowden, Daniel Driggers, Sherry Wright-Moore, Jennie Sherry-Linder, Monique Walters, Michelle Onley

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting started at approximately 6:01 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

July 24, 2007 (Regular Session) – Mr. Jeter moved, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, to approve the minutes as submitted. The vote in favor was unanimous.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The agenda was unanimously approved as published.

ITEMS FOR ACTION

Request to negotiate a contract with Wachovia insurance services to assist Richland County in an RFP for employee health insurance and supplemental products – Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, to forward this item to Council with a recommendation for approval. A discussion took place.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Request to advertise, publish and solicit a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) from qualified law firms, companies or attorneys to assist the County with outside legal counsel services – Mr. Jeter moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to forward this item to Council with a recommendation for approval. A discussion took place.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mr. Montgomery moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to have the County Administrator and the County Attorney look at a set of rules and regulations and agreement that counsel would enter into and bring back a report back to the committee. The vote in favor was unanimous.

An Ordinance establishing policies and procedures to be followed in connection with conduit financings – Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to forward this item to Council with a recommendation for approval. A discussion took place.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Resolution authorizing a Notice to Levy and Collect general obligation bonds not to exceed \$5,000,000 for the purchase of vehicles for use by the Sheriff's Department for fiscal year 2007-2008, construction of a public safety facility, and a portion of the design procurement, design, construction procurement and construction of the expanding of the City of Columbia Animal Shelter Facilities:

1. **Ordinance authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$1,600,000 general obligation bonds for the purchase of land and constructing a public safety facility**
2. **Ordinance authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$2,000,000 general obligation bonds for the purchase of vehicles for use by the Sheriff's Department for fiscal year 2007-2008**
3. **Ordinance authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$1,400,000 general obligation bonds for the expansion of the City's Animal Shelter**

Mr. Montgomery moved, seconded by Mr. Jeter to forward this item to Council with a recommendation for approval. A discussion took place.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Resolution authorizing a Notice of Levy and Collect for debt service on not to exceed \$6,975, 000 general obligation bonds, the proceeds of which will be used for the payment of the outstanding Bond Anticipation Notes including accrued interest and issuance cost for the Innovista Project:

1. **Ordinance authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$6,975,000 general obligation bonds or bond anticipation notes for the payment of the outstanding Bond Anticipation Note issued for the Innovista Project**

Mr. Montgomery moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to forward this item to Council with a recommendation for approval. A discussion took place.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Register of Deeds: Request for approval of Historical Records Regrant Program (SC SHRAB) to improve the quality of pre-1959 microfilm of Deeds (No personnel, in-kind match of \$2,695) – Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to forward this item to Council with a recommendation for approval.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Sheriff Department: Request to approve an Office of Violence Against Women Training & Technical Assistance grant (No match, no personnel) – Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to forward this item to Council with a recommendation for approval.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Sheriff Department: Request to approve a Financial Crimes Victims Assistance Program grant (Personnel required, no match) – A discussion took place.

Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, to defer this item to the October committee meeting. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Request for Funding: Palmetto Center for Advocacy (\$50,000) – Mr. Jeter moved, seconded Mr. Montgomery, to defer this item to the October committee meeting. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Request for Funding: Benedict College/2007 Pioneer Bowl (\$25,000) – Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Mr. Livingston, to forward this item to Council with a recommendation for approval. A discussion took place.

The vote was in favor.

Ordinance amending the fiscal year 2007-08 budget ordinance to unappropriate undesignated hospitality tax funds in the budget ordinance to reflect a decrease in available funds – Mr. Montgomery moved, seconded by Mr. Livingston, to forward this item to Council with a recommendation for approval. A discussion took place.

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The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ordinance amending the fiscal year 2007-08 general fund annual budget to increase the Auditor's Office budget by one hundred then thousand nine hundred thirty (\$110,930). This includes funding two additional full-time staff positions for a senior revenue analyst and administrative assistant – Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. Jeter, to forward this item to Council without a recommendation. A discussion took place.

Mr. Montgomery moved to defer this item to the October committee meeting. The motion died for lack of a second.

The vote was in favor.

Resolution authorizing a policy on municipal incorporations – Mr. Montgomery moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to defer this item to the October committee meeting and hold a work session. The vote in favor was unanimous.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

Animal Care Update – Mr. Pope gave a brief update regarding this item. A discussion took place.

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to move this item to the action agenda. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, to forward to Council with a recommendation for first reading approval a bond ordinance, by title-only, to construct a no-kill animal shelter in conjunction with Lexington County. A discussion took place.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:52 p.m.

Submitted by,

Kit Smith, Chair

The minutes were transcribed by Michelle M. Onley

Richland County Council Request of Action

Subject: Property Insurance

A. Purpose

County Council is requested to approve the purchase of property insurance.

B. Background / Discussion

The county has annually purchased property insurance to protect it from large losses due to unanticipated events. Council is asked to approve a request to purchase property insurance to protect the county for the 2007-08 fiscal year.

C. Financial Impact

The financial impact for 2007-08 is \$262,069. This is a 4% increase from the \$252,074 paid in 2006-07. This cost increase is the result of an increase in property valuations.

D. Alternatives

1. Approve the request to permit the purchase of property insurance.
2. Do not approve the request and have no property insurance coverage.

E. Recommendation

It is recommended that Council approve the request to purchase property insurance.

Recommended by: David Chambers **Department:** Administration **Date:** 8/20/2007

F. Reviews

Finance

Reviewed by: Daniel Driggers

Date: 9/14/07

Recommend Council approval

Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation: Item is an annual insurance premium where one half of the premium has already been paid therefore we recommend approval.

Procurement

Reviewed by: Rodolfo Callwood

Date: 9/17/07

Recommend Council approval

Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation:

Legal

Reviewed by: Amelia Linder

Date: 9/17/07

Recommend Council approval

Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation: Both alternatives appear to be legally sufficient; therefore, this request is at the discretion of County Council.

Administration

Reviewed by: Tony McDonald

Date: 10/12/07

Recommend Council approval

Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation:

Richland County Council Request of Action

Subject: Energy Savings Performance Consultant Contract

A. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to request County Council's to grant permission to the Procurement Director to negotiate and award a contract to assist with our implementation of the energy proficiency, solutions, development and implementation plan.

B. Background / Discussion

Richland County, solicited Request for Qualifications (RFQ) # RC-015-Q-0607, for Energy Savings Performance Consultant from qualified energy savings performance Consulting firms, to assist the County with our implementation of the energy proficiency solutions development and implementation project. The RFQ was solicited in December 2006. Responses were received in the Procurement Department in January 23, 2007. We received four qualifications, which were subsequently reviewed, evaluated and a recommendation made by a selection, and evaluation team composed of three evaluators.

- SIEMENS
- JOHNSON CONTROLS
- AMERESCO
- TRANE

The respondents are shown above and arranged in descending order of their evaluation standings. Siemens is recommended as the highest qualified firm to provide the requested services, Siemens as been determined as the most advantageous energy consulting firm for the County. The Director of Procurement may negotiate with the highest qualified firm. If those negotiations fail, the Director may negotiate with the second highest qualified and so on in a descending order of precedence. Should all negotiations fail, the Procurement Director will request the "Best and Final Offer" from each respondent for the energy audit, conservation services, monitoring and verifying energy savings; energy study; planning, development and evaluation of the solicitation process.

C. Financial Impact

Structure for the County's payment obligation for needed equipment and services shall be on an energy performance contracting basis. Under a performance contract, the selected firm shall provide a written guarantee that the total project cost shall be 100% covered by guarantee savings for the life of the project. Therefore, no funding is requested.

D. Alternatives

1. Approve the Procurement Director to negotiate and award a contract to Siemens allowing them to assist with implementation of the energy proficiency, solutions, development and implementation plan.
2. Award no contracts
Under this alternative, initiation of the energy consultant for this project would require a formal Request for Proposal (RFP), appointment of a selection team, the evaluation and selection of the most qualified firm and approval of the selection by County Council. This is approximately a four month process.

E. Recommendation

It is recommended that Council approve alternative number one.

Recommended by: Rodolfo Callwood **Department:** Procurement **Date:** 9/11/2007

F. Reviews

Finance

Reviewed by: Daniel Driggers Date: 9/14/07
 Recommend Council approval Recommend Council denial
 Comments regarding recommendation: We would recommend that prior to approval the County be clear on what would be included in the County commitment? What “equipment and services” would be included in the contract evaluation? What is the “life of the project”? How and by whom would the “savings” be calculated, monitored and applied against the additional costs for the equipment or service? If the costs are offset by the “savings for the life of the project” will there be a cash outlay by the County upfront with the expectations of future year savings?

Procurement

Reviewed by: Rodolfo Callwood Date: September 11, 2007
 Recommend Council approval Recommend Council denial
 Comments regarding recommendation: Recommend that council approve alternative one.

Legal

Reviewed by: Amelia Linder Date: 9/11/07
 Recommend Council approval Recommend Council denial
 Comments regarding recommendation: Both alternatives appear to be legally sufficient; therefore, this request is at the discretion of County Council.

Administration

Reviewed by: Tony McDonald Date: 10/12/07
 Recommend Council approval Recommend Council denial
 Comments regarding recommendation: Concur with Finance Director’s comments.

Richland County Council Request of Action

Subject: Fleet Maintenance and Management Services

A. Purpose

County Council is requested to grant permission to negotiate with First Vehicle Services (FVS) the top ranked Proposer with the most responsive, responsible offer that provides the best overall value and a fair and reasonable cost and is most advantageous to the County. Also, permission to award a contract to First Vehicle Services if, we reach a win – win agreement.

B. Background / Discussion

Request for Proposal (RFP) RC-036-P-0607 was issue on March 8, 2007 for Fleet Maintenance and Management Services. This action was taken because the current contract will expire after five years of First Vehicle Service providing the County with our maintenance requirements. Proposals were received from three companies shown below in the order of ranking:

1. First Vehicle Services,
2. Penske
3. All Star Services

The selected company is required at a minimum to provide preventive maintenance; towing, remedial repairs, overhaul, motor pool operations, fleet management, and such other allied services as may be required to assure the continuity of effective and economical operation of the County's vehicles and equipment. This company will also furnish all necessary supervision, labor, tools, parts and supplies required to maintain the fleet in a state—of—repair and service consistent with generally accepted fleet practices and as defined in the County's Statement of Work.

C. Financial Impact

Funds required for this contract is budgeted as a line item in each department budget (commodity 5217) with vehicles and equipment requiring this type of maintenance. This request is a negotiated process and divulging the budgeted amount will place the County at a disadvantage in the negotiations.

D. Alternatives

List the alternatives to the situation. There will always be at least two alternatives:

1. Approve the request to negotiate and award a contract
2. Approve the request to negotiate and return to Council for award of a contract (This alternative will delay the process)

3. Do not approve and re-solicit

E. Recommendation

It is recommended that Council approve the request to negotiate and award a contract.

Recommended by: Rodolfo A. Callwood **Department:** Procurement **Date:** 10/2/2007

F. Reviews

Finance

Reviewed by: Daniel Driggers

Date: 10/12/07

Recommend Council approval

Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation:

Procurement

Reviewed by: Rodolfo Callwood

Date: 10/2/2007

Recommend Council approval

Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation: It is recommended that Council approve the request to negotiate and award a contract.

Legal

Reviewed by: Amelia Linder

Date:

Recommend Council approval

Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation:

Administration

Reviewed by: Tony McDonald

Date: 10/18/07

Recommend Council approval

Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation:

Richland County Council Request of Action

Subject: Amendment to Agreement with Historic Columbia Foundation

A. Purpose

The County Council is being asked to consider an amendment to the County's agreement with the Historic Columbia Foundation to reflect recent developments relating to the County's two historic homes.

B. Background / Discussion

For several years a legal battle has existed over the ownership of the Woodrow Wilson Home, the Hampton Preston Mansion, the Robert Mills House and the Mann-Simons Cottage, all located in downtown Columbia. Ownership of the Woodrow Wilson Home and the Hampton Preston Mansion were believed to be that of the Richland County Historic Preservation Commission, while the Robert Mills House and Mann-Simons Cottage were believed to be owned by the City of Columbia and managed by the Historic Columbia Foundation.

In the late 1990s, there was an effort by the County Council and the Columbia City Council to consolidate the management of all four facilities under one management agreement. To facilitate this effort, the Historic Preservation Commission turned the ownership of its two facilities over to Richland County and dissolved itself as an active body. The County, in turn, attempted to enter into an agreement with the City and the Historic Columbia Foundation for the management of all four facilities.

This effort was stopped, however, when certain members of the Historic Preservation Commission sued, claiming that their organization could not be dissolved without an act of the State Legislature since it had been created by such, nor could the organization relinquish ownership of its facilities. After reaching the State Supreme Court, the Court ruled in favor of the Commission, and the ownership of the properties was awarded back to the Commission.

In May 2006, legislation that dissolved the Commission and transferred ownership of the Woodrow Wilson Home and the Hampton Preston Mansion back to Richland County was adopted by the State of South Carolina. The completion of the transaction is expected by the end of the calendar year, at which time the County will regain full ownership of the two facilities.

As such, an amended agreement has been drafted to reflect the changes outlined above. The amendments remove the Historic Preservation Commission and the City of Columbia as parties and simply retain the County and Historic Columbia Foundation. The agreement continues to provide that Historic Columbia Foundation will manage the Woodrow Wilson Home and Hampton Preston Mansion, as has been the case for the better part of 30 years.

C. Financial Impact

There should be no financial impact relating to the proposed amendments. The only effect is that the language in the agreement will be clarified to reflect recent decisions relating to the ownership of the Woodrow Wilson Home and Hampton Preston Mansion.

D. Alternatives

The following alternatives should be considered:

1. Approve the proposed amendments as outlined above.
2. Do not approve the proposed amendments. Selection of this alternative will mean that the agreement does not adequately reflect the status of the two facilities now owned by Richland County.

E. Recommendation

It is recommended that the Council approve the amended agreement as proposed.

Recommended by: Tony McDonald **Department:** Administration **Date:** 10/10/07

F. Reviews

Finance

Reviewed by: Daniel Driggers

Date: 10/15/07

Recommend Council approval

Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation:

Legal

Reviewed by: Amelia Linder

Date: 10/15/07

Recommend Council approval

Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation:

Risk Management

Reviewed by: David Chambers

Date: 10/15/07

Recommend Council approval

Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation: The present draft needs changes to address the liability and insurance requirements.

Administration

Reviewed by: Tony McDonald

Date: 10/15/07

Recommend Council approval

Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation: Recommend approval of the agreement subject to the changes recommended by the Risk Manager.

of capital campaigns as needed in conjunction with the County; the commencement of educational programs involving the Properties at a quality level commensurate with existing Foundation educational offerings; the revitalization and enhancement of the volunteer recruitment and training program to a level comparable with the highest previously experienced; and all other matters reasonably incident to fulfilling these services. For the purposes of this Agreement "Capital Repairs" include any work necessary to maintain the historic house museum to the Department of Interior Standards for Historic Structures and may include but is not limited to physical improvements to existing structures and equipments such as HVAC and security necessary to properly maintain the Properties.

3. Annually, the Foundation will submit to the County annual appropriation requests which the County will fund in such amounts as the County determines in accordance with existing customary County budget practices.

4. Annually, as part of the appropriation request, the Foundation will submit to the County a proposed budget for the operation of and the capital repairs to the Properties for the forthcoming fiscal year, showing the expected sources and applications of funds.

5. The County will render such assistance to the Foundation in the management of the Properties as the parties may agree.

6. a. The County will provide property and liability insurance coverage for the Properties and deliver to the Foundation certificates of insurance in amounts to be agreed upon.

b. The Foundation will provide workers' compensation coverage and, upon request, deliver to all parties appropriate certificates of insurance.

7. The Foundation shall pay all water, sewage and waste disposal charges for the Properties.

8. The Foundation may permit individuals and civic, charitable or eleemosynary organizations and entities to use the Properties for public and/or semi-public appropriate events. The Foundation may make such charges for admission to the Properties for tours, special events and for rent for use of the Properties as are reasonable in comparison with charges made by comparable house museums. Net proceeds of these charges shall be expended by the Foundation in connection with historic preservation. Buildings on the sites other than those utilized for historic house museums may be rented for private events.

9. The Foundation at all times will be an independent contractor and will not be an agent, servant or employee of the County. The Foundation will designate an Executive Director who will be available at all reasonable times to confer with the County Council or its representative with respect to the management services rendered under this contract.

10. This Agreement may be terminated by any party with respect to it upon one hundred eighty (180) days written notice by registered mail to the other parties.

11. During the existence of this Agreement, the County Council may designate two (2) representatives to serve on the Foundation Board of Trustees in compliance with Foundation Bylaws.

12. This agreement supersedes and replaces all Management Agreements which the Foundation had with the City of Columbia, County and Richland County Historic Preservation Commission.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed by their duly authorized officers as of the date first above written.

Signed and Sealed Before
the Undersigned:

RICHLAND COUNTY

By: _____

Name: _____
Its: County Administrator

By: _____

Name: _____
Its: Council Chair

HISTORIC COLUMBIA
FOUNDATION

By: _____

Name: _____
Its: President

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Richland County Council Request of Action

Subject: Budget Amendment to Reflect Undesignated HTAX Dollars as Unappropriated Reserve Funds

A. Purpose

Council is requested to consider an amendment to the 2007-08 budget that would reclassify Hospitality Tax funds currently budgeted as “undesigned.” If approved, these funds would instead be “unappropriated reserve funds” in the Hospitality Tax account.

B. Background / Discussion

During second reading of the budget on May 24, 2007, council referred to the A&F Committee consideration of a request to change the classification of hospitality tax funds currently budgeted as “undesigned” to “unappropriated reserve funds.”

Currently, any funds in the county’s Hospitality Tax fund not appropriated for a specific purpose during the budget process are classified as “undesigned.” These funds may be appropriated by council outside the budget process with one vote of approval. Changing the classification of these funds from “undesigned” to “unappropriated reserve funds” would require any off-year expenditures using these funds to be made by ordinance, which would require three readings and a public hearing.

If approved, the \$966,482 currently budgeted as undesigned in the 2007-08 budget would instead be unappropriated reserve funds. This budget amendment would not have any impact on \$25,000 currently set aside in the county promotions fund as “undesigned.” These funds may continue to be used to fund off-year expenses, and the appropriation of these funds will continue to require only one approval from council.

C. Financial Impact

There is no financial impact associated with this request, as unappropriated reserve funds will still be available for use upon three readings and a public hearing.

D. Alternatives

3. Approve the budget amendment.
4. Do not approve the budget amendment.

E. Recommendation

This request is at the discretion of County Council.

Referred by: Staff

Department: Administration

Date: 06/11/2007

F. Reviews

Finance

Reviewed by: Daniel Driggers

Date: 6/20/07

Recommend Council approval

Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation:

Legal

Reviewed by: Amelia Linder

Date: 6/25/07

Recommend Council approval

Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation: Both alternatives appear to be legally sufficient; therefore, this request is at the discretion of County Council.

Administration

Reviewed by: Tony McDonald

Date: 6/25/07

Recommend Council approval

Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation:

In addition to the proposed hospitality tax ordinance amendment, staff recommends the following amendments: amend quarterly disbursements to annual disbursements; and insert an annual reporting mechanism for agencies / organizations receiving hospitality tax disbursements in excess of \$10,000.

Currently, the hospitality tax ordinance states that funds allocated to agencies / organizations will be distributed quarterly. Staff recommends a once per year disbursement of these funds. This amendment will decrease the efforts of both Richland County staff and the staff of the requesting agencies / organizations. Discretionary Grants are disbursed once per year, and Accommodations Tax grants are disbursed quarterly, per internal procedure.

Per the current hospitality tax ordinance, "Any organization or agency receiving Hospitality Tax funds must submit a report of expenditures and the impact on tourism for the preceding calendar year and a plan for the upcoming year to the Richland County Administrator on or before March 1 of each year. Such report shall be on a form provided by the County." In previous years, staff has enforced this reporting mechanism on the largest recipients of hospitality tax funds (Columbia Museum of Art, Historic Columbia, and EdVenture) but has allowed more leniencies via reporting information contained in the hospitality tax funds applications for agencies / organizations receiving lesser allocations. Per Council direction, it is now recommended that an annual reporting mechanism for all agencies / organizations receiving hospitality tax disbursements in excess of \$10,000 be enforced. The annual reporting mechanism will include a report of how Richland County hospitality tax funds were spent, and the impact on tourism associated with the project / agency / organization that received funding.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY COUNCIL FOR RICHLAND COUNTY
ORDINANCE NO. __-08HR

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2007-2008 BUDGET ORDINANCE TO UNAPPROPRIATE UNDESIGNATED HOSPITALITY TAX FUNDS IN THE BUDGET ORDINANCE. THIS WILL AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR 2007-2008 HOSPITALITY TAX BUDGET TO REFLECT A DECREASE IN AVAILABLE FUNDS.

Pursuant to the authority granted by the Constitution and the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina, BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL FOR RICHLAND COUNTY:

SECTION I. The Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Special Revenue Fund Annual Budget is hereby amended as follows:

REVENUE

Revenue appropriated July 1, 2007 as amended:	\$ 5,700,000
Reduce Available Revenue:	<u>(966,482)</u>
Total Hospitality Tax Revenue as Amended:	\$ 4,733,518

EXPENDITURES

Expenditures appropriated July 1, 2007 as amended:	\$ 5,700,000
Reduction in Available Funds:	<u>(966,482)</u>
Total Hospitality Tax Expenditures as Amended:	\$ 4,733,518

SECTION II. Severability. If any section, subsection, or clause of this ordinance shall be deemed to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, the validity of the remaining sections, subsections, and clauses shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION III. Conflicting Ordinances Repealed. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION IV. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be enforced from and after _____, 2007.

RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

BY: _____
Joseph McEachern, Chair

ATTEST THIS THE ____ DAY

OF _____, 2007

Michielle R. Cannon-Finch
Clerk of Council

RICHLAND COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Approved As To LEGAL Form Only.
No Opinion Rendered As To Content

First Reading:
Second Reading:
Public Hearing:
Third Reading:

Richland County Council Request of Action

Subject: Hospitality Tax Ordinance Amendment: Distribution of Funds and Oversight and Accountability

A. Purpose

Council is requested to consider an amendment to the Hospitality Tax ordinance with regards to the distribution of funds, as well as oversight and accountability.

B. Background / Discussion

Currently, the hospitality tax ordinance states that funds allocated to agencies / organizations will be distributed quarterly. Staff recommends a once per year disbursement of these funds. This amendment will decrease the efforts of both Richland County staff and the staff of the requesting agencies / organizations.

Per the current hospitality tax ordinance, “Any organization or agency receiving Hospitality Tax funds must submit a report of expenditures and the impact on tourism for the preceding calendar year and a plan for the upcoming year to the Richland County Administrator on or before March 1 of each year. Such report shall be on a form provided by the County.” In previous years, staff has enforced this reporting mechanism on the largest recipients of hospitality tax funds (Columbia Museum of Art, Historic Columbia, and EdVenture) but has allowed more leniencies via reporting information contained in the hospitality tax funds applications for agencies / organizations receiving lesser allocations. Per Council direction, it is now recommended that an annual reporting mechanism for all agencies / organizations receiving hospitality tax disbursements in excess of \$10,000 be enforced. The annual reporting mechanism will include a report of how Richland County hospitality tax funds were spent, and the impact on tourism associated with the project / agency / organization that received funding.

The proposed ordinance amendments are attached.

C. Financial Impact

There is no financial impact associated with this request.

D. Alternatives

1. Approve the ordinance recommendations as attached.
2. Approve other amendments, as directed by Council.
3. Do not approve any amendments at this time.

E. Recommendation

It is recommended that Council approve the hospitality tax ordinance amendments as presented.

Referred by: Staff

Department: Administration

Date: October 18, 2007

F. Reviews

Finance

Reviewed by: Daniel Driggers

Date: October 18, 2007

Recommend Council approval

Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation: Approval would create an annual one-time payment in July of approximately \$1.5 million which equates to a little over 3 months of revenues. Currently with a healthy fund balance this would not create an undue burden on the cash flow requirement at the beginning of the fiscal year. It is not required but in order to address potential cash flow concerns, Council may want to consider as a financial policy to designate an amount up to the projected payments (\$1.5 million). This would not be a cash outlay but only ensure that cash is available at the beginning of the year for the annual payments.

Legal

Reviewed by: Amelia Linder

Date: 10/15/07

Recommend Council approval

Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation: All of the alternatives appear to be legally sufficient; therefore, this request is at the discretion of County Council.

Administration

Reviewed by: Tony McDonald

Date: October 18, 2007

Recommend Council approval

Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation: It is recommended that Council approve the hospitality tax ordinance amendments as presented.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY COUNCIL FOR RICHLAND COUNTY
ORDINANCE NO. ___-07HR

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE RICHLAND COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES; CHAPTER 23, TAXATION; ARTICLE VI, LOCAL HOSPITALITY TAX; SECTION 23-69, DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS; AND SECTION 23-71, OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY.

Pursuant to the authority granted by the Constitution and the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina, BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL FOR RICHLAND COUNTY:

SECTION I. The Richland County Code of Ordinances: Chapter 23, Taxation; Article VI, Local Hospitality Tax; Section 23-69, Distribution of Funds; is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 23-69. Distribution of Funds.

- (a) (1) The County shall distribute the Local Hospitality Tax collected and placed in the "Richland County Local Hospitality Tax Revenue Fund" to each of the following agencies and purposes ("Agency") in the following amounts during fiscal year 2003-2004:

Columbia Museum of Art	\$650,000
Historic Columbia	250,000
EdVenture Museum	100,000
County Promotions	200,000

- (2) The amounts specified above shall be paid ~~quarterly~~ **annually beginning October 1, 2003 July 1, 2008.**
- (3) As a condition of receiving its allocation, each Agency must annually present to the County an affirmative marketing plan for the inclusion of all citizens of Richland County and must also annually offer some "free" or discounted services to Richland County citizens. If an Agency fails to comply with these requirements, its portion of the Local Hospitality Tax shall be retained in the Richland County Local Hospitality Tax Revenue Fund and distributed as provided in subsection (d) below.
- (4) In the event Local Hospitality Tax revenues are not adequate to fund the Agencies listed above in the prescribed amounts, each Agency will receive a proportionate share of the actual revenues received, with each Agency's share to be determined by the percentage of the total revenue it would have received had the revenues allowed for full funding as provided in subsection (a)(1) above.

(b) In each of fiscal years 2004-2005 and 2005-2006, the Local Hospitality Tax shall be distributed to each Agency named above in the same amounts and on the same terms and conditions, together with a three percent (3%) increase in each of fiscal year 2004-2005 and 2005-2006.

(c) In fiscal year 2006-2007, the amount of Local Hospitality Tax to be distributed annually to each Agency named above shall be established in the County's FY 2006-2007 Budget Ordinance.

(d) Beginning in fiscal year 2007-2008 and continuing thereafter, the amount of Local Hospitality Tax to be distributed annually to each Agency named above shall be increased based on the revenue growth rate as determined by trend analysis of the past three years, but in any event not more than 3%.

(e) All Local Hospitality Tax revenue not distributed pursuant to subsections (a) through (c) above shall be retained in the Richland County Local Hospitality Tax Revenue Fund and distributed as directed by County Council for projects related to tourism development, including, but not limited to, the planning, development, construction, promotion, marketing, operations, and financing (including debt service) of the State Farmer's Market (in lower Richland County), Township Auditorium, a new recreation complex (in northern Richland County), recreation capital improvements, Riverbanks Zoo, and other expenditures as provided in Article 7, Chapter 1, Title 6, Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976 as amended.

SECTION II. The Richland County Code of Ordinances: Chapter 23, Taxation; Article VI, Local Hospitality Tax; Section 23-71, Oversight and Accountability; is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 23-71. Oversight and Accountability.

Any organization or agency receiving Hospitality Tax funds in the amount of \$10,000 or greater must submit a report of expenditures and the impact on tourism for the preceding calendar year and a plan for the upcoming year to the Richland County Administrator on or before March 1 for July disbursements, and September 1 for January disbursements of each year. Such report shall be on a form provided by the County.

SECTION III. Severability. If any section, subsection, or clause of this ordinance shall be deemed to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, the validity of the remaining sections, subsections, and clauses shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION IV. Conflicting Ordinances Repealed. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION V. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be enforced from and after _____, 2007.

RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

By: _____
Joseph McEachern, Chair

Attest this _____ day of
_____, 2007.

Michielle R. Cannon-Finch
Clerk of Council

RICHLAND COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Approved As To LEGAL Form Only.
No Opinion Rendered As To Content.

First Reading: November 6, 2007 (tentative)
Public Hearing:
Second Reading:
Third reading:

Richland County Council Request of Action

Subject: Financial Crimes Victim Assistance Grant Proposal

A. Purpose

County Council is being requested to provide funding for grant proposals that were not included in the Grant Budget Request for 2007-2008.

B. Background / Discussion

The Richland County Sheriff's Department has applied for a Office of Victims of Crime grant program titled "**Financial Crimes Victims Assistance Program**" to improve direct assistance to victims of financial crime and identity theft in Richland County. The program will provide funding for 1 full-time Victim Advocate and 2 part-time Assistants/Interns salaries and fringe benefits, automobile, radio, car accessories, computers, training, uniforms and equipment and professional counseling services totaling \$220,880. This amount is for a 24-month grant period. There is no match associated with this program.

C. Financial Impact

When appropriate, use a table. For example:

Grant Program	Costs	Match
Financial Crimes Victim Assistance	\$220,880	
Total Grant Budget Request	\$220,880	\$0

D. Alternatives

List the alternatives to the situation. There will always be at least two alternatives:

1. Approve the request to fund this program to increase financial crimes victim assistance in Richland County.
2. Do not approve, forfeit funds, and decrease likelihood for future funding.

E. Recommendation

State which alternative you recommend. Be sure to include your name, department, and date. For example:

It is recommended that Council approve the request to approve grant financial crimes victim assistance requests.

Recommended by:
Hubert F. Harrell

Department:
Sheriff's Department

Date:
9/7/07

F. Reviews

Grants

Reviewed by: Audrey Shifflett

Date: 9/14/07

Recommend Council approval

Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation: This funding opportunity became available after the FY2007-2008 budget process. If funded, this grant will provide for 1 new FTE victim's advocate and 2 new PT assistants/interns for the term of the grant project, which is 2 years. There is no cash match required. The proposed project would provide services to victims of financial crimes with a particular focus on identity theft.

Finance

Reviewed by: Daniel Driggers

Date: 9/14/07

Recommend Council approval

Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation: Given the current financial position of the VA program and Council discussion concerning level and method for funding for the program we would recommend that the grant be considered with the program discussion. The grant does not require a match but does include positions which would expand the program and would require a method for funding in 24 months. Approval of this request will require a **budget amendment**.

Legal

Reviewed by: Amelia Linder

Date: 9/14/07

Recommend Council approval

Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation: Both alternatives appear to be legally sufficient; therefore this request is at the discretion of County Council.

Administration

Reviewed by: J. Milton Pope

Date: 9-20-07

Recommend Council approval

Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation: Recommend approval of this request however the employees hired under the grant will not be retained by an additional appropriation of the General Fund nor the VA Fund when the grant ends in 24 months.

Richland County
Grant Application Request
Fiscal Year 2008 (July 2007 – June 2008)

Complete a separate form for each grant application you intend to submit.

Section A: Basic Information

1.) Department: RCSD		2.) Dept. Contact: Traci Dove	
3.) Grant Title of Project: Financial Crimes Victim Assistance			
4.) Grant Program: National Program to Directly Assist Victims of Identity Theft and Financial Fraud			
5.) Grantor: Office of Victims of Crime		6.) Fund Source: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Other (check one)	
7.) Grant Period: From 10/1/07 To 09/30/09		8.) Application Due Date: 9/11/07	
9.) Status: <input type="checkbox"/> Application sent – date <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To be submitted – date 9/10/07		10.) Anticipated Award Date: October 2007	
11.) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Grant? or <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation Grant? (check one)		12.) If continuation grant, what is previous grant #?	
13. a.) Amount of grant funds requested: \$220,880	13. b.) Percentage of total request: 100%	14. a.) Amount of matching funds requested: \$0	14. b.) Percentage of total request: 0%
15.) Total Project Cost: (Grant funds requested + matching funds requested) \$			
= 100%			

Section B: Project Description

16.) Provide a general statement of the purpose of the grant. Program supports personnel, equipment, supplies and counseling to provide direct assistance to victims of financial crimes and identity theft in Richland County.

Section C: Financial Impact

17.) Does grant allow administrative (indirect) costs? No If yes, what percentage? _____

When applying for the grant, be sure to include this amount in your budget to assist with the County's and your Department's indirect costs of managing the grant.

Grant Personnel

For new grants:

18. a.) How many new, full-time positions will be created by this grant? 1
Note that the Personnel form reflects one year of salary of this 24 month request.

Please complete and attach a **Grant Funded New Position Funding Request** form for each new position type (mandatory)

For continuation grants:

18. b.) How many full-time positions will be continuing with this grant?

For all:

19.) Does the grant require positions to be maintained following conclusion of the grant? No

20.) If yes, for how long? (i.e., one local fiscal year, 12 months, etc.)



Richland County Sheriff's Department

LEON L. LOTT, JR.
Sheriff

September 28, 2007

Mr. Milton Pope
County Administrator
Richland County Government
2020 Hampton Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29202

Re: FTE's Included in Grants

Dear Mr. Pope:

I am aware of County Councils concern that budgetary constraints may prohibit them from funding personnel who are acquired through grants awarded to my office. I will, however, encourage you and Council to consider each program funded in this manner on its merit and benefit to the County. I assure you that my office will inform personnel hired through grant funding of their status and tender to Council all requests for retention during the budget process.

Sincerely,

Leon Lott
Sheriff

LL.jpg

CC County Council

000001-14-000001

01001-14-000001

5623 Two Notch Road, Columbia, South Carolina 29223
Office: (803) 576-3000 Fax: (803) 576-3197
WWW.RCSD.NET
SHERIFF@RCSD.NET

Grant Funded Temporary Position Acknowledgement



I, _____, understand that my position with Richland County is funded by a State/Federal grant program that has specified restrictions, including finite funding and timeframe. The existence of this position and my continued employment are subject to the terms of the grant as well as all rules and regulations of the County to include:

1. "Fully Proficient" or better job performance by me in the position;
2. Availability of funding
3. All other applicable County policies and procedures

In addition, there are no grievance rights afforded to grant positions as it relates to grant funding and/or continuation of employment after grant funding has expired.

I understand that annual leave, if any, must be taken during the period of my employment unless the grant program provides for payment of unused annual leave. I further understand that the County is not obligated to continue or obtain further employment for me upon termination or expiration of these grant funds.

Employee Signature	Title	Date
--------------------	-------	------

Witness Signature	Title	Date
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Richland County Council Request of Action

Subject: Sponsorship Request: SC Military Department

A. Purpose

County Council is requested to consider a sponsorship request from the South Carolina Military Department for sponsorship of the Department's Salute to the Guardsmen and their Families Event.

B. Background / Discussion

The Richland County Administrator's Office received a letter from Brigadier General Eugene Rogers of the South Carolina Military Department on October 5, 2007. The letter is requesting the county's sponsorship of the Department's Salute to the Guardsmen and their Families Event to be held on November 17, 2007 at Sterling Hall in Columbia. The event will honor the widows and families of the men and women who gave their lives in service to their country. An estimated 250 people will be in attendance. In addition to the families of our state's fallen heroes, the event will also be attended by the Speaker of the South Carolina House of Representatives, the Adjutant General, and Congressman Joe Wilson. There are a range of sponsorship levels, from \$1,000 to \$10,000. The letter includes a suggested contribution in the amount of \$10,000.

C. Financial Impact

Should council decide to sponsor the event, the financial impact would depend on the level of the county's sponsorship. The South Carolina Military Department has requested \$10,000.

D. Alternatives

1. Approve the sponsorship request. Approval would require the identification of a funding source.
2. Do not approve the request.

E. Recommendation

This request is at the discretion of council.

Recommended by: Staff

Department: Administration

Date: 10/10/07

F. Reviews

Finance

Reviewed by: Daniel Driggers

Date: 10/15/07

Recommend Council approval

Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation: Recommendation is at the discretion of council. Approval would require the identification of funds and may require a budget amendment.

Legal

Reviewed by: Amelia Linder

Date: 10/15/07

Recommend Council approval

Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation: Both alternatives appear to be legally sufficient; therefore, this request is at the discretion of County Council.

Administration

Reviewed by: Tony McDonald

Date: 10/17/07

Recommend Council approval

Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation: Recommend denial due to the fact that this request comes outside of the budget process, and, therefore, no funds have been budgeted for this purpose. However, if the Council agrees that this is a worthwhile sponsorship, the County Administrator is willing to use up to \$2,000 of operational funds from Administration's budget to sponsor the request.

The State of South Carolina
Military Department



STARHOPE D. SPEARS
MAJOR GENERAL
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

South Carolina State Guard
OLYMPIA ARMSORY, 501 GRANBY LANE
COLUMBIA, S.C. 29201-4805

NELSON C. LACY
MAJOR GENERAL
COMMANDER

October 5, 2007

Mr. Joe Cronin
County Council
2020 Hampton Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Re: A Tribute to Patriots and Sacrifice

Dear Joe:

You will recall that you and County Council graciously participated in making possible the event honoring South Carolina's Medal of Honor recipients held on September 30, 2004.

Without exception, these men stated that the real heroes were those warriors who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

The South Carolina State Guard wishes to pay tribute to their patriotism and courage. The General Assembly is preparing a Joint Resolution for the widows and mothers of these heroes. We invite you and County Council to participate in this event. It can't happen without your support. The State Guard Foundation does not have the resources to accomplish the desired result.

You generously supported us before. This event is not as expensive as the other, but we would like to suggest a \$10,000 Platinum Sponsorship. The money will be used to pay the cost and expenses of the event which is to be held on November 17, 2007, 6:00 PM at Sterling Hall, 320 Senate Street. We anticipate an audience of about 250 people.

The Speaker of the House, The Honorable Robert Harrell, will be our speaker, the Adjutant General, the Commander of the South Carolina Guard, Major General Nelson Lacy and a Congressman will be in attendance.

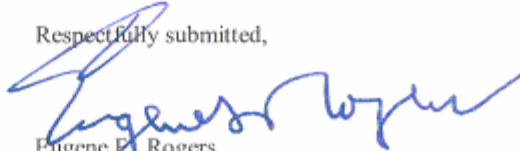
As a sponsor, you would have the opportunity to sit with one of the families and to present the award to them.

We enclose rough draft description of the event.

We can answer any additional questions that you might have. We encourage County Council to participate in this event. You will receive full credit for your participation and the gratitude of the Military Department of South Carolina and the survivors in attendance.

I am the project officer and request that you respond to me at telephone number 771-7900 or fax number 343-7017, or by e-mail at rogers@rtt-law.com.

Respectfully submitted,



Eugene P. Rogers
Brigadier General and Project Officer

Enclosure



Sponsorship Levels

Platinum.....	\$10,000
Gold	\$5,000
Silver.....	\$3,000
Patron	\$1,000

MG Nelson C. Lacy, Commander SCSG

For sponsorship or other inquiries, please contact:
 Brig. Gen. Eugene F. Rogers, Project Officer SCSG
 Rogers Townsend & Thomas law firm
 P.O. Box 100200; Columbia, South Carolina.
 Phone: 803-771-7900.
 Fax: 803-343-7017. Email: rogers@rtt-law.com

Cover photo: "In Memory of the Boys of Richland County..." erected by the Women's Club of Columbia, 1947; corner of Blossom and Saluda Streets

Won't You Sponsor this
Commemoration of Those from Whom
Much Was Asked and
So Very Much Was Given?

Salute to the Guardsmen and their Families

A Dinner Honoring the Patriotism and Sacrifice
Rendered by the Members of the
South Carolina Air National Guard and the
South Carolina Army National Guard

Who Gave Their Lives in Iraq
And for
Their Families Left Behind

Saturday, November 17, 2007
7:30 pm at Sterling Hall
320 Senate Street
Cocktails and Dinner
Dick Goodwin Quintet

Special Honored Guests
The Families of South Carolina's Fallen Guardsmen

Special Guest Speaker
Robert W. Harrell, Jr.
of Charleston
Speaker, SC House of Representatives



Presented by
The South Carolina State Guard
Celebrating the
337th Birthday of the State Guard

And Then Join Us for
this Evening of Thanks
to the Guardsmen and
their families.

Richland County Council Request of Action

Subject: Funding Request: Palmetto Center for Advocacy

A. Purpose

County Council is requested to consider a funding request from the Palmetto Center for Advocacy in the amount of \$50,000.

B. Background / Discussion

On June 7, 2007, the County Administrator received a letter from McKinley Washington, Jr. of the Palmetto Center for Advocacy. In the letter, Mr. Washington requested support from county council in the amount of \$50,000 to combat obesity in South Carolina.

C. Financial Impact

Approval of this request would result in a financial impact of \$50,000. If approved, a funding source would need to be identified by council.

D. Alternatives

1. Approve the request and identify a funding source.
2. Do not approve the request.

E. Recommendation

This decision is left to council's discretion.

Recommended by:
Staff

Department:
Administration

Date:
September 10, 2007

F. Reviews

Finance

Reviewed by: Daniel Driggers

Date: 9/14/07

Recommend Council approval

Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation: Council discretion. If approved and a funding source is identified we will determine if a budget amendment is required.

Legal

Reviewed by: Amelia Linder

Date: 9/14/07

Recommend Council approval

Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation: Both alternatives appear to be legally sufficient; therefore, this request is at the discretion of County Council.

Administration

Reviewed by: Tony McDonald

Date: 9/18/07

Recommend Council approval

Recommend Council denial

Comments regarding recommendation: Recommend denial as this request comes outside of the budget cycle. No funds, therefore, have been appropriated for this project.

PALMETTO CENTER FOR ADVOCACY, INC.

June 7, 2007

Mr. J. Milton Pope
County Administrator
Richland County
Post Office Box 192
Columbia, South Carolina 29202

Dear Mr. Pope:

We respectfully ask for your support of the Palmetto Center for Advocacy, Inc. (PCA) Obesity Project by allocating \$50,000.00 in your budget for fiscal year 2007-2008 to PCA.

Nationally, an estimated 65% of adults are overweight, with over 30% of children and adolescents overweight. The data that we do have for South Carolina indicates that 36.1% of children are overweight. For lower income children, the risks are higher: 44.3% of children from families below the poverty level are overweight. These numbers are based on Body Mass Index (BMI) calculations, using weight in pounds and height in inches.

One of the most distressing trends is obesity in children. More time spent watching television, which increases exposure to commercials promoting unhealthy snacks, and less time spent exercising outdoors, along with a lack of access to fresh fruits and vegetables, have resulted in increased obesity in children. Children today need to be taught from an early age how to make proper nutritional choices and the importance of physical exercise. If we don't address the problem quickly, these obese children are more likely to grow into obese adults with all of the associated health problems.

Obesity affects us all, because it is a health problem that costs our state millions of dollars each year. There are direct costs for the care of those who suffer from obesity-related health problems, as well as indirect costs and quality of life issues associated with obesity. One way or another, we are all touched by obesity, and it costs us all.

That's the bad news. The good news is: We can do something about it. Palmetto Center for Advocacy, Inc. (PCA) is currently implementing a program to combat obesity in South Carolina. Our efforts will be focused on research and public education. To date, very little data has been collected on obesity in South Carolina. As we work with knowledgeable health care professionals to collect information, we will partner with state agencies, community leaders, schools and businesses to educate the public on obesity and its prevention.

Post Office Box 11319 • Columbia, SC 29211 • Phone (803) 931-8303 • Fax (803) 931-8309
www.palmettoadvocacy.org

Mr. J. Milton Pope
June 7, 2007
Page 2

In addressing childhood obesity, PCA will partner with health care professionals, such as the South Carolina School Nurses Association, to develop guidelines for collecting and analyzing BMI data. Also, in association with public schools and community centers, PCA will implement education programs that concentrate on encouraging healthy food choices and physical activity, as well as ensuring that there is increased access to fresh fruits and vegetables and to safe places to exercise.

We are also partnering with civic and faith-based community leaders to implement adult education and outreach activities involving healthy lifestyle choices. Increasing the availability of fresh produce and opportunities for physical activity is the focal point of the adult program.

As you can see, controlling the obesity problem before it controls us is achievable. To make it happen, we need your help. By including this funding in your budget, you can improve the quality of life for your fellow South Carolinians. Thank you for supporting our efforts to make South Carolina a healthier place to live.

Sincerely,



McKinley Washington, Jr.
Board of Directors

- Be responsible for maintenance of existing county roads within the proposed municipal boundaries

Such discussions, however, shall not guarantee the execution of any agreement. If the proposed incorporation is primarily motivated by resistance to annexation by an existing municipality and/or the desire to preserve the character of existing communities, Richland County will work with the affected parties to develop a strategy to further those goals and discuss intergovernmental agreements to assist in accomplishing such goals.

ADOPTED THIS _____ day of _____, 2007.

Joseph McEachern, Chair
Richland County Council

ATTEST this ____ day of _____, 2007

Michielle Cannon-Finch
Clerk of Council