



Richland County Council  
Regular Session  
**MINUTES**  
June 18, 2024 – 6:00 PM  
Council Chambers  
2020 Hampton Street, Columbia, SC 29204

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Jesica Mackey, Chair; Derrek Pugh, Vice-Chair; Jason Branham, Derrek Pugh, Yvonne McBride, Paul Livingston, Allison Terracio, Don Weaver, Gretchen Barron, Overture Walker, Cheryl English, and Chakisse Newton (via Zoom)

OTHERS PRESENT: Michelle Onley, Leonardo Brown, Anette Kirylo, Stacey Hamm, Susan O’Cain, Dale Welch, Andrew Haworth, Patrick Wright, Judy Carter, Jackie Hancock, Jennifer Wladischkin, Chelsea Bennett, Maddison Wilkerson, Lori Thomas, Darlene Gathers, Thomas Gilbert, Brittney Terry-Hoyle, Geo Price, Venyke Harley, Ashiya Myers, Jeff Ruble, Aric Jensen, Matthew Drawdy, Angela Weathersby, Peter Cevallos, and Sandra Haynes

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chairwoman Jesica Mackey called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 PM.

Ms. Mackey noted Ms. Newton is joining tonight’s meeting virtually due to a prior work commitment. She has met Council Rules guidelines to participate virtually.

2. **INVOCATION** – The Invocation was led by the County Administrator, Leonardo Brown.

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Honorable Paul Livingston.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. Regular Session: June 4, 2024 – Ms. Barron moved to approve the minutes as distributed, seconded by Mr. Pugh.

Mr. Livingston moved to reconsider the portion of the minutes regarding Senior Resources (Budget Motion #43), seconded by Ms. McBride.

In Favor: Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

Opposed: Branham

The vote was in favor of reconsideration.

Mr. Livingston moved to fund Senior Resources at the requested amount of \$548,046 by transferring out \$163,346 from the General Fund, seconded by Ms. Barron.

Ms. Barron inquired how this motion will impact us financially and whether we are putting the residents of Richland County at a disadvantage.

The Budget Director, Maddison Wilkerson, responded the \$163,346 would have to come from the General Fund fund balance, which would take our fund balance to approximately 21%. As you recall, our fund balance policy is 20%-35%.

Ms. Barron stated that, given that this line item came out of the Community Impact Grants Committee, it does impact what we have already awarded. Those organizations will still receive the funds we voted on. She requested the current percentage of fund balance and the percentage if we approve this motion.

Ms. Wilkerson indicated that the impact on the fund balance is not significant. However, the motion does change the Community Impact Grant program, which equates to 1 mill, with 60% - Community Partners and 40% - Competitive Grants.

Ms. Mackey stated for clarification, the motion was to utilize funds from the General Fund Transfer category, which cannot happen.

Ms. McBride requested clarification of the motion.

Mr. Livingston stated that most years, the Administration transfers funds from the General Fund account to fund various projects. If you recall, staff listed things they funded at the last meeting by transferring funds from the General Fund account. If he recalls correctly, approximately \$15M was transferred. He is requesting to transfer \$163,346 from the General Fund for Senior Resources. He noted his preference would be to add it and increase taxes, but this is a way to do it without increasing taxes. He pointed out there is roughly \$43M in unassigned fund balance. He maintained a good fund balance is two months of operations, or 16.67%. We are talking about a minimal impact on the fund balance. If it were a tax increase, it would cost an average taxpayer approximately \$0.40. If we do not do this, we are talking about a 30% reduction in our funding to Senior Resources.

Ms. Mackey reiterated the General Fund Transfer Out is a different line item in the budget than the General Fund fund balance. The motion referred to the General Fund Transfer Out line item, which is not something we can do.

Mr. Livingston clarified that his motion was to transfer the funds from the General Fund into the General Fund Transfer Out line item.

Ms. Mackey requested Ms. Wilkerson to explain the difference between the two categories.

Ms. Wilkerson indicated a transfer out from the General Fund is money transferred from the General Fund to Victims' Assistance, the SRO Program, the Public Defender's Office, etc. The only way to provide the additional funds for Senior Resources would be from the unassigned General Fund balance.

Ms. McBride made a substitute motion to transfer \$163,346 from the unassigned General Fund balance to fund Senior Resources, seconded by Mr. Weaver.

Ms. Newton stated that she considers our fund balance our "rainy day" fund. Is that correct?

Assistant County Administrator Lori Thomas responded that this was correct. Although \$163,000 may not seem significant, as your expenditures grow, so does your required funding to cover your 20% minimum. With the additional \$163,000, based on FY24 expenditures, we will be just over the 20% level.

Ms. Newton stated for clarification, we will be close to our minimum fund balance level.

Ms. Thomas replied in the affirmative. To be specific, the additional expenditure of funds would leave \$1.6M to address any catastrophe the County may encounter in the fiscal year.

Ms. Barron stated that it appears that some people on this body have a challenge with how we fund non-profits. We identified specific organizations/non-profits that are priorities, and are our Community Partners. Senior Resources is one of them. We also know that entities similar to Senior Resources are funded differently across the country. She would like to say that if we feel that there is an organization like Senior Resources that we want to support in this manner and do so consistently, then we need to put those things in place.

Ms. Newton said from her perspective, the County set aside specific funds and a process to address Ms. Barron's point. She indicated there are opportunities to make different funding decisions in the Community Impact grant process. She noted many non-profits do not get funded \$500,000 from the County.

In Favor: Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, and English

Opposed: Branham, Mackey, and Newton

The vote was in favor of the substitute motion.

Ms. Barron moved to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Mr. Weaver.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

5. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – Ms. Barron moved to adopt the agenda as published, seconded by Ms. Terracio.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

**POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE** – Ms. Mackey acknowledged Dr. Craig Witherspoon, Richland School District I Superintendent; Dr. Aaron Bishop, Richland One School Board Chair; Mr. Jamie Devine, Richland One School Board Member; and Mr. David Adams, former Richland County Treasurer were in the audience.

6. **PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATIONS**

- a. A Proclamation Recognizing June as National Safety Month – Ms. Mackey read the proclamation into the record.
- b. A Proclamation Recognizing June 20-26, 2024, as National Mosquito Control Awareness Week – Ms. English read the proclamation into the record.

- c. A Proclamation Recognizing June as LGBTQI+ Month – Communication Director Susan O’Cain read the proclamation into the record.

7. **REPORT OF THE ATTORNEY FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION (Pursuant to SC Code 30-4-70)** – County Attorney Patrick Wright noted the following item was eligible for Executive Session:

- a. Mid-Year Employee Performance Review [Pursuant to SC Code 30-4-70(a)(1)]

8. **CITIZENS’ INPUT**

- a. For Items on the Agenda Not Requiring a Public Hearing – No one signed up to speak.

9. **CITIZENS’ INPUT**

- a. Must Pertain to Richland County Matters Not on the Agenda (Items for which a public hearing is required or a public hearing has been scheduled cannot be addressed at this time) – No one signed up to speak.

10. **REPORT OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR** – No report was given.

11. **REPORT OF THE CLERK OF COUNCIL** – Ms. Anette Kirylo, Clerk to Council, reminded Council members that Council District 7 will be hosting their 3<sup>rd</sup> annual community walk on June 22<sup>nd</sup> at W. J. Keenan High School. Registration begins at 8:30 AM.

12. **REPORT OF THE CHAIR** – Chairwoman Jesica Mackey highlighted that tomorrow was Juneteenth and is a County holiday for staff.

13. **OPEN/CLOSE PUBLIC HEARINGS**

- a. Authorizing the expansion of the boundaries of the I-77 Corridor Regional Industrial Park jointly developed with Fairfield County to include certain property located in Richland County; the execution and delivery of a public infrastructure credit agreement to provide for public infrastructure credits to Silver Hills Huger, LLC; and other related matters – No one signed up to speak.
- b. Authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee-in-lieu of ad valorem taxes and incentive agreement by and between Richland County, South Carolina and Schneider Electric, USA, Inc. (Project Charge) to provide for payment of a fee-in-lieu of taxes, authorizing certain infrastructure credits; and other related matters – No one signed up to speak.

14. **APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS**

- a. Case #23-045MA, Raysa Sanchez, INS to R6 (.40 Acres), 1626 Horseshoe Drive, TMS # R17011-02-19 [THIRD READING]
- b. Case #24-008MA, Heather Bounds/Christina Tran, PDD to PDD (63.95 Acres), 1312 Crane Church Rd., 7639 Fairfield Rd. & Crane Church Rd., TMS # R09600-02-13, R09600-03-02, & R09600-03-03 [THIRD READING]
- c. Case #24-012MA, Jeff Ruble, Richland County Economic Development, HM to LI (5.15 Acres), 605 Blythewood Road, TMS # R15100-01-03 (portion) [THIRD READING]

Ms. Barron moved to approve Items 14(a) – 14(c), seconded by Mr. Pugh.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mr. Livingston moved to reconsider Items 14(a) – 14(c), seconded by Ms. Barron.

Opposed: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

The motion for reconsideration failed.

15. **THIRD READING ITEMS**

- a. An Ordinance authorizing the levying of Ad Valorem property taxes which together with the prior year’s carryover and other State Levies and any additional amount appropriated by the Richland County Council prior to July 1, 2024 will provide sufficient revenues for the operations of Richland County Government during the period from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. So as to raise revenue, make appropriations and amend the General Fund, Millage Agencies, Special Revenue Funds, Enterprise Funds, and Debt Service Funds Budget for Richland County, South Carolina for Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025

**MILLAGE AGENCIES**

- 1. *Recreation Commission (Approve the agency’s budget request for FY 2025; 2 mill increase to operating millage; Requesting mill cap of .6 mills plus 1.4 mills lookback; Offset by decreasing debt service millage by 2 mills for 1 year; \$19,743,400)*
- 2. *Columbia Area Mental Health (Approve the agency’s budget request at FY 2025 – No Mill Budget; \$3,017,923)*

3. *Public Library (Approve the agency's budget request at FY 2025 – No Mill Budget; **\$34,505,365**)*
4. *Riverbanks Zoo and Gardens (Approve the agency's funding request for \$3,019,600 as follows: operating millage for FY 2025 set to fund \$1,517,888 in revenue, additional funding of \$1,501,712 to be funded by hospitality tax revenue; **\$1,517,888**)*
6. *Midlands Tech. College (Operating) (Approve the agency's budget request at FY 2025 – No Mill Budget; **\$8,321,255**)*
7. *Midlands Tech Capital/Debt Service (Approve the agency's budget at FY 2025 – No Mill Budget; **\$4,427,677**)*
8. *School District One (Approve the agency's budget request at FY 2025 – Mill Cap Budget; Originally requested: \$276,952,216; No mill budget = \$270,928,511; Mill cap budget = \$278,846,511; **\$270,928,511**)*
9. *School District Two (Approve the agency's budget request at FY 2025 – No Mill Budget; **\$193,918,258**)*

#### **GRANTS**

10. *Accommodations Tax (Approve A-Tax revenue projections; **\$640,000**)*
11. *Accommodations Tax (Approve A-Tax use of fund balance; **\$135,000**)*
12. *Accommodations Tax (Approve A-Tax transfer out; **\$25,000**)*
13. *Accommodations Tax (Approve A-Tax committee recommendations; **\$750,000**)*
14. *Hospitality Tax (Approve H-Tax revenue projections; **\$10,442,422**)*
15. *Hospitality Tax (Approve H-Tax use of fund balance; **\$3,555,182**)*
16. *Hospitality Tax (Approve H-Tax transfer out; **\$4,985,350**)*
17. *Hospitality Tax (Approve H-Tax committee recommendations; **\$600,000**)*
18. *Hospitality Tax (Approve H-Tax Council discretionary; \$82,425 for each council district; **\$906,675**)*
19. *Hospitality Tax (Approve funding for Columbia Museum of Art at the requested amount; Requested: \$1,450,000 – committee awarded: \$11,000; **\$1,438,200**)*
20. *Hospitality Tax (Approve funding for Historic Columbia Foundation at the requested amount; Requested: \$675,000 – committee awarded: \$8,333; Last year awarded: \$622,500; **\$666,667**)*
21. *Hospitality Tax (Approve funding for EdVenture at the requested amount; Requested: \$1,450,000 – committee awarded: \$20,000; **\$1,430,000**)*
22. *Hospitality Tax (Approve funding for Township Auditorium Foundation at the requested amount; Requested: \$415,000 – committee awarded \$6,250; **\$408,750**)*
23. *Hospitality Tax (Approve funding for Capital City Lake Murray Country; Requested: \$200,000 – committee awarded: \$40,000; **\$160,000**)*
24. *Hospitality Tax (Approve funding for Columbia Metro Convention & Visitors Bureau; Requested: \$500,000 – committee awarded: \$28,750; **\$471,250**)*
25. *Hospitality Tax (Approve funding for Columbia International Festival; Requested: \$300,000 – committee awarded: \$25,000; **\$275,000**)*
26. *Hospitality Tax (Approve funding for South East Rural Community Outreach (SERCO); Requested: \$120,000 – committee awarded: \$0; **\$90,000**)*
27. *Hospitality Tax (Approve carry over any unexpended funds from the Gateway Pocket Park/Blight Removal Project to FY 2025 budget; **\$250,000**)*
28. *Hospitality Tax (Approve carry over any unexpended funds from the Historical Corridor to FY 2025 budget; **\$228,105**)*
29. *Hospitality Tax (Approve funding of \$1,000,000 to complete the Township Auditorium parking lot project; \$1,800,000 funded through assigned capital fund balance, need an additional \$1,000,000 to complete the project; **\$1,000,000**)*
30. *Hospitality Tax (Approve \$20,000 in funding to the Lower Richland Sweet Potato Festival for their annual festival in FY 2025; Committee awarded \$20,000; increase use of fund balance by \$20,000; **\$20,000**)*

31. *Hospitality Tax (Approve \$44,000 in funding to Latino Communications CDC in FY 2025; Committee awarded \$6,000; Funding at \$50,000 would increase the use of fund balance by \$44,000; **\$44,000**)*
32. *Hospitality Tax (Approve funding the Riverbanks Zoo at \$1,501,712 from hospitality tax fund balance; Requested: \$3,019,600; the remaining would come from .7 mills; **\$1,501,712**)*
34. *Hospitality Tax (Approve carrying over up to \$300,000 of unexpended hospitality tax funds from each Councilmember District to FY 2025 budget)*
35. *Neighborhood Redevelopment (Approve neighborhood improvement grant recommendations; **\$92,250**)*
36. *Conservation Commission (Approve Conservation Commission grant recommendations; **\$250,000**)*
37. *Various Grant Funded Depts. (Approve department requests that are applying for external grants in FY 2025, required matching of County funds, and grant-funded positions; Departments requesting approval of applying for various grants. Potential total external incoming revenue of \$120,462,281 and associated matching of County funds: \$1,376,474 in General Fund, \$11,856,490 in Other Funds [Excludes ARPA funding, since previously approved]; **\$133,695,245**)*

#### GENERAL FUND

38. *County-wide Departments (Approve Projected Operating General Fund Revenue as presented in the FY 2025 Recommended Budget Book, including sufficient operating millage to achieve \$131,340,500 in property tax collections; **\$216,959,183**)*
39. *County-wide Departments (Approve General Fund Transfers In from H-Tax and A-Tax Funds as presented in the FY 2025 Recommended Budget Book; **\$3,525,000**)*
40. *Administration (Approve allocation of indirect cost to special revenue and enterprise fund departments as presented at the May 9, 2024 work session; **\$4,761,209**)*
41. *Planning (Approve refining and redesigning the Land Development Fee schedule as presented by Richland County's Planning Department; The new land development fee schedule was presented by Ms. Fuller during the Budget Work Session on May 14, 2024)*
42. *County-wide Departments (Approve Projected Use of General Fund Assigned Fund Balance to support Capital project expenditure as presented in the FY 2025 Recommended Budget Book; **\$6,225,000**)*
43. *County-wide Departments (Approve continued funding for step increase according to the compensation study implemented in FY 2024; **\$2,184,948**)*
44. *County-wide Departments (Approve all general fund new positions as presented at the May 14, 2024 work session starting January 1, 2025; **\$283,801**)*
45. *Solicitor & Council Services (Approve the Solicitor's request for a new public information coordinator starting January 1, 2025 in lieu of the public policy new position in Council Services; Position grades are very similar. No budgetary impact if starting January 1, 2025)*
46. *County-wide Departments (Approve General Fund Overall Personnel, Operating and Capital Expenditures as presented in the FY 2025 Recommended Budget Book; **\$213,881,834**)*
47. *Transfer Out (Approve General Fund Operating Transfers Out as presented in the FY 2025 Recommended Budget Book; **\$15,119,809**)*
48. *Lump Sum Agencies (Approve funding the Central Midlands COG for FY 2025; **\$219,380**)*
49. *Lum Sum Agencies (Approve funding of LRADAC for FY 2025; **\$1,350,000**)*

Ms. Barron moved to approve Items #1-#49, #51-#75, and #77-#94, seconded by Mr. Pugh.

Ms. Terracio requested Ms. Barron separate her motion into small sections.

Ms. Barron accepted the request. She noted that we discussed the school districts and their funding. She acknowledged the need to ensure that teachers are adequately compensated and that the children get what they need. However, this is where we have to meet in the middle. Hopefully, we will be able to find additional ways to support the school districts.

Mr. Weaver stated for clarification, we are approving the items as approved on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading.

Ms. Mackey responded in the affirmative.

Ms. McBride stated that concerning Item 4 (Riverbanks Zoo and Gardens), we are on a slippery road because hospitality tax funds are to be used for specific things, and administrative costs are not one. In her opinion, it is like supplanting funds set aside to help businesses bring in tourism, and we are taking over \$1M from them. Regarding Item 8 (School District One), Council received a letter stating there would be an adverse impact on teachers' salary increases if they were not funded at the millage cap. As a former educator, she has never voted against teachers' salaries and will not be voting against it now. She inquired if there was a way to break out the funding for the teachers' salaries.

The Auditor, Paul Brawley, replied that to do that, he would need to know the dollar amount so we could apply the millage rate to it.

Ms. McBride asked Mr. Brown if there were a way for us to make a statement saying we would take another look at the millage rate to assist with the teachers' salaries.

Mr. Brown stated he understood the spirit of Ms. McBride's request, but there would have to be a decision on what you want to fund, and at what level. There would have to be a specific number associated with the motion.

Ms. Thomas noted Item #5 failed at 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading; therefore, it would need to be excluded from the motion.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

Opposed: McBride

The vote was in favor of Items #1-#4 and #6-#49.

50. *Community Impact Grants (Approve community impact grant community partners request; Requested: \$1,201,546 – committee recommended: \$988,200; **\$988,200**)*

Ms. Mackey moved to approve Item #50, seconded by Ms. Newton.

Ms. Barron inquired if this item would include the amounts approved by the Community Impact Committee.

Ms. Mackey responded in the affirmative.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

Opposed: McBride

The vote was in favor.

51. *Community Impact Grants (Approve community impact grant committee competitive recommendations; Committee awarded \$658,800; **\$658,800**)*

52. *Community Impact Grants (Approve funding for Senior Resources at the requested amount; Requested: \$548,046 – Committee recommended: \$387,700; Requires use of fund balance or decreasing funding levels of other organizations; **\$163,346**)*

53. *Lump Sum Agencies (Approve funding for the Main Street District at the requested amount; Requested: \$50,000; **\$50,000**)*

54. *County-wide Departments (Adjust and approve Projected Use of General Fund Balance to support overall General Fund expenditures as necessary)*

55. *Non-Departmental (Approve assigning \$4,000,000 of unexpended FY24 funding for affordable housing in FY25; **\$4,000,000**)*

#### **SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS**

56. *Economic Development (Approve revenue and expenditure budget of Economic Development; **\$8,957,203**)*

57. *Emergency Telephone System (Approve revenue and expenditure budget of Emergency Telephone System; **\$7,783,549**)*

58. *Fire Service (Approve revenue and expenditure budget of Fire Services; **\$36,851,850**)*

59. *Hospitality Tax (Approve revenue and expenditure budget of Hospitality Tax; **\$13,997,604**)*

60. *Accommodations Tax (Approve revenue and expenditure budget of Accommodations Tax; **\$775,000**)*

61. *Transportation Tax (Approve revenue and expenditure budget of Transportation Tax; \$96,682,144)*
62. *Mass Transit (Approve revenue and expenditure budget of Mass Transit; \$27,198,375)*
63. *Neighborhood Redevelopment (Approve revenue and expenditure budget of Neighborhood Redevelopment; \$994,000)*
64. *Public Defender (Approve revenue and expenditure budget of Public Defender; \$6,646,727)*
65. *Title IVD-Sheriff's Fund (Approve revenue and expenditure budget of Title IVD-Sheriff's Fund; \$67,824)*
66. *Title IV-Family Court (Approve revenue and expenditure budget of Title IV-Family Court; \$1,425,716)*
67. *School Resource Officers (Approve revenue and expenditure budget of School Resource Officers; \$8,560,752)*
68. *Victim's Assistance (Approve revenue and expenditure budget of Victim's Assistance; \$1,407,504)*
69. *Tourism Development (Approve revenue and expenditure budget of Tourism Development; \$1,332,000)*
70. *Tourism Development (Approve funding the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center at FY2024 level; \$637,359)*
71. *Temporary Alcohol Permits (Approve revenue and expenditure budget of Temporary Alcohol Permits; \$126,947)*
72. *Stormwater Management (Approve revenue and expenditure budget of Stormwater Management; \$4,277,541)*
73. *Conservation Commission (Approve revenue and expenditure budget of Conservation Commission; \$2,608,552)*
74. *Road Maintenance (Approve revenue and expenditure budget of Road Maintenance; \$12,042,077)*
75. *Child Fatality Review (Approve revenue and expenditure budget of Child Fatality Review; \$35,000)*

Ms. Barron moved to approve Items #51-#75, seconded by Mr. Pugh.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

Opposed: McBride

The vote was in favor of Items #51-#75.

76. *Temporary Alcohol Permits (Approve funding for River Alliance for FY 2025; This expenditure is budgeted in Temporary Alcohol Permits Fund; Last year funding was \$55,000; Increase to \$70,000 would require a \$15,000 use of fund balance; \$70,000)*

Ms. Mackey moved to approve #76 in the amount of \$170,000, seconded by Mr. Branham.

Ms. Terracio stated for clarification, the funds would be coming from the Temporary Alcohol Permits fund balance.

Ms. Newton noted what was listed in the packet was \$70,000, not \$170,000.

Ms. Mackey stated the additional \$100,000 is a one-time request to help with a joint municipal collaboration to market the river.

Ms. Newton inquired about how much the fund balance is for Temporary Alcohol Permits.

Ms. Wilkerson replied that as of June 30, 2023, the fund balance was \$592,438.

Ms. McBride inquired if this was a last-minute request.

Ms. Mackey responded it was not a last-minute request.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

77. *County-wide Departments (Approve Other Fund New Positions as presented in the FY 2025 Recommended Budget Book except the Administrative Coordinator for the airport; \$286,041)*

## DEBT SERVICE

78. *General Obligation Debt Service (Appropriate funding to fund debt service; \$18,721,888)*
79. *Fire Bonds Debt Service (Appropriate funding to fund debt service; \$555,000)*
80. *Hospitality Refund 2013A B/S (Special Assessment) (Appropriate funding to fund debt service; \$1,486,963)*
81. *RC IP Bonds 2019 (Appropriate funding to fund debt service; \$1,605,577)*
82. *School District I Debt Service (Appropriate funding to fund debt service; \$44,442,462)*
83. *School District II Debt Service (Appropriate funding to fund debt service; \$69,127,795)*
84. *Recreation Commission (Appropriate funding to fund debt service; \$458,016)*
85. *Riverbanks Zoo & Garden (Appropriate funding to fund debt service; \$2,670,190)*
86. *East Richland Public Service Dist. (Sewer) (Appropriate funding to fund debt service \$1,438,560)*
87. *Transportation Bonds (Appropriate funding to fund debt service; \$14,434,250)*

## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

88. *Capital Projects (Approve multi-year comprehensive capital improvement plan as presented in the FY 2025 Recommended Budget Book [FY 2025 – FY 2026]; \$256,035,036)*

## ENTERPRISE

89. *Solid Waste Enterprise Fund (Approve 4.75% increase in the Landfill's rate schedule for FY 2025 as presented by the Department in the Council Budget Work Session on May 9, 2024; \$1,254,490)*
90. *Solid Waste Enterprise Fund (Approve Mill Cap budget for Landfill; \$7,957,000)*
91. *Solid Waste Enterprise Fund (Approve 4.75% increase in Curbside Collector's rate schedule for FY 2025 as presented by the Department in the Council Budget Work Session on May 9, 2024; \$36,401,191)*
92. *Solid Waste Enterprise Fund (Approve funding for Solid Waste's total budget; \$45,612,681)*
93. *Solid Waste Enterprise Fund (Approve funding for Keep Midlands Beautiful; \$42,900)*
94. *Richland County Utilities (Approve proposed 10% volumetric water rate increases and fee schedule presented by Richland County Utilities in the Council Budget Work Session on May 9, 2024; \$264,138)*

Ms. Barron moved to approve Items #77-#94, seconded by Mr. Pugh.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

95. *Richland County Utilities (Approve proposed 4% sewer rate increase and fee schedule presented by Richland County Utilities in the Council Budget Work Session on May 9, 2024; \$14,751,760)*
96. *Richland County Utilities (Approve use of fund balance of \$10,000,000 for paygo capital projects as presented by Richland County Utilities in the Council Budget Work Session on May 9, 2024; \$10,000,000)*

Mr. Pugh moved to approve Items #95 and #96, seconded by Mr. Weaver.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, and English

Opposed: Newton

The vote was in favor.

97. *Richland County Utilities (Approve funding for Richland County Utilities total budget; \$25,015,898)*
98. *Hamilton-Owens Airport Operating (Approve funding for Richland County Airport budget; \$268,000)*
99. *Hamilton-Owens Airport Operating (Approve use of fund balance of \$191,361 as presented by the Hamilton-Owens Airport in the Council Budget Work Session on May 9, 2024; \$365,330)*



Ms. Barron moved to approve Items #95-#100, seconded by Ms. Terracio.

Ms. Newton requested to pull out Items #95 and #96.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Mackey, Walker, English, and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous to approve Items #97-#100.

Ms. Barron moved to reconsider Item 15(a), seconded by Ms. Terracio.

In Favor: McBride

Opposed: Branham, Pugh, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

The motion for reconsideration failed.

- b. Authorizing the expansion of the boundaries of the I-77 Corridor Regional Industrial Park jointly developed with Fairfield County to include certain property located in Richland County; the execution and delivery of a public infrastructure credit agreement to provide for public infrastructure credits to Silver Hills Huger, LLC; and other related matters – Mr. Livingston moved to approve this item, seconded by Mr. Weaver.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, English, and Newton

Not Present: Walker

The vote in favor was unanimous.

- c. Authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee-in-lieu of ad valorem taxes and incentive agreement by and between Richland County, South Carolina and Schneider Electric USA, Inc. (Project Charge) to provide for payment of a fee-in-lieu of taxes, authorizing certain infrastructure credits; and other related matters – Mr. Livingston moved to approve this item, seconded by Ms. Barron.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Mackey, English, and Newton

Not Present: Walker

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ms. Barron moved to reconsider Items 15(b) and (c), seconded by Mr. Branham.

Opposed: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Mackey, English, and Newton

Not Present: Walker

The motion for reconsideration failed.

16. **REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

- a. Committing to negotiate a fee-in-lieu of ad valorem taxes agreement between Richland County and Project Commodore; identifying the project; and other matters related thereto – Mr. Livingston stated the committee recommended approval of this item.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Mackey, English, and Newton

Not Present: Walker

The vote in favor was unanimous.

- b. Authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee-in-lieu of ad valorem taxes and incentive agreement by and between Richland County, South Carolina and Project Commodore to provide for payment of a fee-in-lieu of taxes; authorizing certain infrastructure credits; and other related matters [FIRST READING] – Mr. Livingston state the committee recommended approval of this item.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Mackey, English, and Newton

Not Present: Walker

The vote in favor was unanimous.

17. **REPORT OF THE RULES AND APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE**

- a. NOTIFICATION OF APPOINTMENTS

- 1. *Central Midlands Council of Governments – Three (3) Vacancies* – Ms. Barron stated the committee recommends appointing Mr. Chase Clelland, Mr. David Adams, and Mr. Curtis Singleton.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Mackey, English, and Newton

Not Present: Walker

The vote in favor was unanimous.

2. *Community Relations Council – Six (6) Vacancies* – Ms. Barron stated the committee recommends appointing Ms. Lorrie Floyd-Gregory, Dr. Teresa Holmes, and Mr. Sabastian Guthrie.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Mackey, English, and Newton

Not Present: Walker

The vote in favor was unanimous.

b. **NOTIFICATION OF VACANCIES**

1. *Accommodations Tax Committee – Three (3) Vacancies (ONE applicant must have a background in the lodging industry, ONE applicant must have a background in the hospitality industry, and ONE applicant must have a cultural background)*
2. *Board of Assessment Appeals Board – One (1) Vacancy*
3. *Board of Zoning Appeals – One (1) Vacancy*
4. *Building Codes Board of Appeals – Seven (7) Vacancies (ONE applicant must be from the Architecture Industry, ONE applicant must be from the Gas Industry, ONE applicant must be from the Contracting Industry, ONE applicant must be from the Plumbing Industry, ONE applicant must be from the Electrical Industry, and TWO applicants must be from Fire Industry as alternates)*
5. *Business Service Center Appeals Board – Three (3) Vacancies (ONE applicant must be from the Business Industry and TWO applicants must be CPAs)*
6. *Community Relations Council – Three (3) Vacancies*
7. *Employee Grievance Committee – One (1) Vacancy (Applicant must be a Richland County Government employee)*
8. *Hospitality Tax Committee – Four (4) Vacancies (TWO applicants must be from the Restaurant Industry)*
9. *Midlands Workforce Development Board – One (1) Vacancy (Education & Training Position)*
10. *Township Auditorium – One (1) Vacancy*

Ms. Barron stated the committee recommends advertising the above-referenced vacancies.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Mackey, English, and Newton

Not Present: Walker

The vote in favor was unanimous.

18. **OTHER ITEMS**

- a. **FY24 – District 11 Hospitality Tax Allocations (Riverbanks Zoo - \$10,000)** – Mr. Pugh moved to approve this item, seconded by Ms. Barron.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Mackey, English, and Newton

Not Present: Walker

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mr. Pugh moved to reconsider this item, seconded by Ms. Barron.

Opposed: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Mackey, English, and Newton

Not Present: Walker

The motion for reconsideration failed.

19. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Livingston moved to go into Executive Session, seconded by Ms. English.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Mackey, English, and Newton

Not Present: Walker

The vote in favor was unanimous.

*Council went into Executive Session at approximately 7:26 PM  
and came out at approximately 7:52 PM*

Ms. Barron moved to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Livingston.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Mackey, and English

Not Present: Walker and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ms. Mackey indicated council entered into executive session and no action was taken in Executive Session.

20. **MOTION PERIOD** – No motions were submitted.

21. **ADJOURNMENT** – Mr. Pugh moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Barron.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Mackey, and English

Not Present: Walker and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:53 PM.