



**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
JANUARY 27, 2020**

Present: Moses Bell, Jimmy Ray Douglas, Mikel Trapp, Bertha Goins, Doug Pauley, Cornelius Robinson, Clarence Gilbert, Council Members; Jason Taylor, County Administrator; Laura Johnson, Interim Deputy County Administrator; Tommy Morgan, County Attorney; Patti L. Davis, Clerk to Council.

In accordance with the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80 (e), as amended, the following persons and/or organizations have been notified of the time, date and location of this meeting: The Independent Voice of Blythewood and Fairfield, The Country Chronicle and one hundred forty one other individuals.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Robinson called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by Council Member Bell, seconded by Council Member Douglas, to approve the Agenda. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

3. INVOCATION

Prior to the invocation, Chairman Robinson requested for everyone to take a moment of silence for matters that have been reported in the media concerning the death of loved ones. Council Member Douglas then led the invocation.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Council Member Trapp, seconded by Council Member Pauley, to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of January 13, 2020. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

5. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

None.

6. 1ST PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES): INPUT MUST PERTAIN TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA, FOR WHICH NO PUBLIC HEARING IS REQUIRED OR HAS BEEN SCHEDULED. THE TOTAL TIME ALLOCATED TO THIS PUBLIC COMMENT SEGMENT IS 30 MINUTES.

- Jeff Schaffer - Mr. Schaffer stated he meant to sign up for the 2nd public comment session.

- Randy Bright - Library

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A.** An Ordinance Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of an Agreement by and Between Fairfield County, South Carolina, and Victory Boats, LLC, to Provide Certain Incentives, Authorizing the Acquisition of Certain Real Property in the County; and Other Related Matters. Chairman Robinson opened the public hearing at 6:05 p.m. Mr. Randy Bright signed to speak. After comments, Chairman Robinson closed the public hearing at 6:06 p.m.
- B.** An Ordinance Authorizing Amendments to a Lease Agreement Providing for a New County Administration Building to Better Serve the Citizens of Fairfield County; and Other Related Matters. Chairman Robinson opened the public hearing at 6:07 p.m. Mrs. Shirley Greene signed to speak. After comments, Chairman Robinson closed the public hearing at 6:09 p.m.
- C.** An Ordinance to Amend the Fairfield County Land Management Ordinance (No. 599) to Provide for the Zoning Reclassification from R-1 (Single-Family Residential District) to R-2 (Inclusive Residential District) of Approximately One (1) Acre Owned by Lucius and Shelia Sampson (Applicant). Tax Map No. 145-02-12-033-000. Property is Located at 322 Hillcrest Road, Winnsboro SC 29180. Chairman Robinson opened the public hearing at 6:10 p.m. No one signed to speak; therefore, Chairman Robinson closed the public hearing at 6:10 p.m.

8. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND ORDERS

- A. Third and Final Reading Ordinance No. 733:** An Ordinance Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of an Agreement by and Between Fairfield County, South Carolina, and Victory Boats, LLC, to Provide Certain Incentives, Authorizing the Acquisition of Certain Real Property in the County; and Other Related Matters. Motion made by Council Member Bell, seconded by Council Member Gilbert, to approve Third and Final Reading of Ordinance No. 733. Chairman Robinson requested Mr. Taylor give further information for the benefit of the public. Per Mr. Taylor, with most economic development projects, as is the case with this item, typically the County has to offer incentives to get the company to choose this area. The County is constantly in competition with other countries and counties. The Department of Commerce has a close relationship with the County, in that it assists the County to make it more attractive for a company to locate here. In this instance, Commerce has awarded grant money, and the County

has agreed to certain tax abatements to get the company to locate to Fairfield County. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

- B. Third and Final Reading Ordinance No. 739:** An Ordinance to Amend the Fairfield County Land Management Ordinance (No. 599) to Provide for the Zoning Reclassification from R-1 (Single-Family Residential District) to R-2 (Inclusive Residential District) of Approximately One (1) Acre Owned by Lucius and Shelia Sampson (Applicant). Tax Map No. 145-02-12-033-000. Property is Located at 322 Hillcrest Road, Winnsboro, SC 29180. Motion made by Council Member Douglas, seconded by Council Member Gilbert, to approve Third and Final Reading of Ordinance No. 739. Chairman Robinson requested for Mr. Clauson to give a brief description of this item. Per Mr. Clauson, this is a property just outside of the Town of Winnsboro. It was in the Comprehensive Plan to be one of the residential districts, and there were three different zoning districts that would be allowed, with R1, R2 and B1 being the primary ones. The most exclusive zoning district, which is R1, was chosen, and this would not allow a mobile home. The applicant wishes to place a residential design mobile home in the area, so the rezoning request was made. This request is in keeping with the Comprehensive Plan. This request also went before the Planning Commission, and they recommended to Council that it be approved. ***Motion carried unanimously 7-0.***
- C. Third and Final Reading Ordinance No. 740:** An Ordinance Authorizing Amendments to a Lease Agreement Providing for a New County Administration Building to Better Serve the Citizens of Fairfield County; and Other Related Matters. Motion made by Council Member Douglas, seconded by Council Member Gilbert and Vice Chair Goins, to approve Third and Final Reading of Ordinance No. 740. Per Mr. Taylor, the company's lender is requiring certain changes be made to the lease. Mr. Taylor deferred further comments to Mr. Morgan. Per Mr. Morgan, this ordinance would provide for the County to enter into an amended lease agreement with the MZI Holdings, LLC, and is in direct relation to the New Administration Building. There are a few changes to the lease, including increasing the amount of buildings to include the teacherage, which will increase the base lease rent because of the fact that it will be going from roughly 45,000 square feet to a little over 51,000 square feet. It also provides for some particular terms as it relates to the financing. There are some new market tax credits the developer will apply for and will likely receive, but they had to change some of the terminology as relates to potential lease renewal terms.

This would be something to give the banks and institutions more comfort as it relates to the financing of the underlying development. Council Member Bell inquired if the total cost of the project will remain the same, to include the previously capped amount. Mr. Morgan stated this is correct, and that will remain the same base amount. Council Member Bell also inquired if the County will receive some of the money coming from the tax credits. Per Mr. Morgan, tax credits are a mechanism used by the company to allow them to keep the price down. There is not a direct conveyance or transfer of costs to the County. Instead, the new market tax credits are allowing the developer to keep the project at a lower cost, thereby providing the cost savings to the County in this manner. ***Motion carried 4-3 with Council Members Bell, Trapp and Pauley voting nay.***

9. BOARD AND COMMISSION MINUTES - Received as Information

- A. Library Commission
- B. Chamber of Commerce

10. BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

- A. Appointment to Central Midlands Council of Government – Kyle Crager. Motion made by Council Member Gilbert, seconded by Vice Chair Goins, to approve the appointment of Mr. Kyle Crager to the Central Midlands Council of Government. Council Member Bell asked for Mr. Taylor to explain the COG. Per Mr. Taylor, the COG is a clearing house type agency that assists counties. They are regionally located and typically have several counties assigned for them to represent. They represent the counties by assisting them in trying to obtain money for transportation, roadways, water and sewer, etc. It is a very important agency that serves and advises the counties on how to improve themselves. Chairman Robinson stated this position has been vacant for more than a year. ***Motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

11. OLD BUSINESS

None.

12. NEW BUSINESS

None.

13. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

A. Request of Action: Purchase of Ridgeway Library Building, 235 S. Palmer Street, Ridgeway, South Carolina. Administration and Finance Committee Recommends Approval. Per Mr. Taylor, a while back the County had entered into an arrangement to lease a building for the library in Ridgeway. The lease is coming to a point where the County has to make a decision on whether to move forward with purchasing the building or just continue to lease. The issue is that a deadline is fast approaching concerning a locked in purchase price. If this deadline is passed, the locked in purchase price will be lost, which could result in an increased purchase price in the future. Therefore, the decision must be made soon whether to execute the option to purchase or not. The library has met and is willing to fund half of the purchase price, including closing costs. Per Mrs. Johnson, the full cost is unknown at this time. The agreed upon amount is \$169,900, but the closing costs are not known. An answer is needed as a letter must be sent stating the County's intent. Motion made by Council Member Bell, seconded by Vice Chair Goins, to approve the above stated Request of Action. Per Mr. Eric Robinson, the Ridgeway branch has been discussed for quite a while now. Over the years, the site has been moved six times. If possible, the Library Board would like to have a permanent location in Ridgeway. He further stated by the end of March, notification must be made of the intent to either renew the lease or purchase the building. The Library Board met Tuesday night and agreed to pay half the purchase price to have a permanent location. Mr. Robinson is not sure if this is the ideal location, but the Library and the Board are happy for what the County has done in making this location an ideal spot for a branch Library. The branch manager is also very happy with the location. The only issue seems to be that people do not seem to realize this is the branch Library. He surmised that possibly people don't see the awning that says Fairfield County Library Ridgeway Branch, and this is the only place that this is displayed. However, the branch has been there for a year. The numbers are not ideal, but they are in line with how the hours have always been in Ridgeway. Council Member Douglas inquired how much the branch is used and how many hours it is open. Per Mr. Robinson, a gate count is done at the Ridgeway branch and the main branch. The average is 168.9 people per month, 42.2 per week and 10.6 per day. It is open 16 hours per week. Originally, this was only afternoon hours. Now, two days are done with morning hours and two days with afternoon hours. Last summer for June, July and August, the hours were extended to 7 p.m. However, the numbers during

these three months decreased to the lowest amount. Council Member Pauley inquired when the actual lease expires, and Mr. Robinson stated June 30, 2020. Chairman Robinson inquired if the rent will increase. Per Mrs. Johnson, the lease amount will remain the same for the next two years. Council Member Douglas inquired how the County would get out of the lease. Per Mrs. Johnson, everything in the lease states 90 days, either intent to renew or to purchase. Per Mr. Taylor, it is not the lease amount that would increase. Instead, there is a locked in purchase price that could increase. Council Member Douglas also inquired if the property the County owns right outside of Ridgeway could be used to place a building and opined it may be cheaper than \$169,000. He also stated Ridgeway deserves better because the current location is only 1/8 of an acre with a building. Mr. Taylor does not know if a building could be built for this amount. As Mr. Robinson stated, it is not an ideal building, but at the time, this was the best solution that could be found. Vice Chair Goins stated we are not talking just about present solution but long term solutions, and we may need to look at doing something else. Council Member Pauley stated he would like to appeal to Council as he plans to vote no on purchasing this property, not because he is opposed to a permanent Library in Ridgeway, but because he thinks we can do better. There are a number of reasons he sees to not purchase the current property and, instead, to look for alternatives. First, the price is astonishing. The property is not worth 25% of the asking price. For this kind of money, he feels we can do better for the taxpayers, the Town of Ridgeway, the Palmer Street merchants and the citizens who use the Library. On top of the price, the County will not get any credit for the \$30,000 that has already been invested in renovations to the building. The current owner refuses to release the County from the lease early, even if the County purchases the property before the end of the lease. Council Member Pauley feels this is just robbery. Additionally, he feels the location and space of the property are problematic. The property should be used for retail, which is in keeping with everything else on Palmer Street. Also, the property offers almost no parking. He feels this is detrimental to the businesses on Palmer Street with Library patrons taking up parking which could be used for paying customers for the Ridgeway merchants. The physical space is also undersized for what is needed in a Library, both currently and for the future. It is expected by everyone that this area of the County will be the first to experience considerable growth. A lot of resources are being put into infrastructure in this area of the County demonstrating that our goal is to grow this area. If this is successful, and we should plan to be

successful, we are going to quickly need a larger space for a Library. The current location just will not do long- term. Instead of purchasing this property, Council Member Pauley would much prefer we look at other options and build for the future rather than throwing money in a nonsustainable location that should be used for retail space. When the County leased the building, it was about to be leased to a retail business, so it is known that retail can be attracted to this area. He would be more inclined to a better location that would not be detrimental to the area, even if it cost more, as long as it is not overpriced like this proposal. Council Member Pauley made a motion to table this request for 90 days to see if the hours can be expanded in an effort to see if the numbers will increase for this location. This information is needed to see if it will be beneficial to Fairfield County to keep a Library in Ridgeway. This motion was seconded by Council Member Douglas. Council Member Bell inquired of Mrs. Johnson if tabling for 90 days would put up past the deadline. Per Mrs. Johnson, an intent to renew or intent to purchase must be sent well in advance of April 1. Mr. Taylor further stated the Library would have the final say over the hours. Vice Chair Goins inquired if this can be tabled and discuss with the Library and the Board to seek to work out something as far as possibly doing a survey. Discussion ensued concerning the time frame, and Mr. Dove was asked to come to the podium. Per Mr. Dove, the problem is if a decision is not made by March 30, we are out of a location; therefore, he feels we are under the gun to make a decision either to do it or not do it. As Mr. Robinson said, the location has been moved six times. It costs the Library and the County money for each move. It would be nice to have a permanent location. Mr. Dove further stated the lot goes back to the other street, and there is room for more parking if we choose to do so. If Ridgeway expands like we hope it will, there is room to expand the building. This answers a lot of the questions the Library Board has had over the years about how to serve Ridgeway and that a Library presence has been there a long time. The folks in Ridgeway expect the Library to be there. The Board has worked very hard with Mr. Robinson and the County to find something and not have to deal with the Ridgeway Library branch at every meeting. He hopes this will be considered. At this time, Council Member Douglas retracted his second to the motion to table. Mr. Morgan brought Council up-to-date on where the motion process was presently. The motion to table did not get a second; therefore, this motion died for lack of a second. Council Member Trapp made a motion to approve the request as stated; however, motion had already been made by Council Member Bell, properly

seconded by Vice Chair Goins, prior to the discussion. At this time, Chairman Robinson called for the vote on the main motion. ***Motion failed 3-4 with Vice Chair Goins, Chairman Robinson and Council Members Pauley and Gilbert voting nay.***

- B.** Jennifer Glover-Hawkins, Lee Tant and Darain Ginyard, Cooperate Health – TeleHealth Program with Fairfield County School District. Mr. Taylor introduced Mr. Tant and Ms. Glover-Hawkins. Per Mr. Tant, he is the Public Affairs Manager with Cooperative Health, which is the State’s largest community healthcare system. Cooperative Health consists of 23 sites in four counties, including three in Fairfield County. Mr. Tant is here tonight to talk about the partnership with Fairfield County School District and the Medical University of South Carolina to bring TeleHealth to two schools in the Fairfield County School District, McCrorey Liston School of Technology and also Fairfield Elementary. School-based TeleHealth is a two-way conversation over a video conference between a child and the school nurse at the school and a provider of Cooperative Health or the Medical University of South Carolina. It provides high quality healthcare for students in the school setting using TeleHealth technology. A stethoscope is available for the school nurse to check vital signs, and special cameras are used for the provider offsite to examine the child. There is also a telemedicine cart that can be placed in the school nurse’s facility. This will be used, for example, if the child has a headache, instead of being sent home, the child can get aspirin and go back to class thereby not missing class time. The aims of the program are to identify things through TeleHealth that may require an ER visit or consultation and also reduce missed class time for students along with missed work time for parents. Transportation barriers would also be eliminated. Some common childhood illness that can be seen through TeleHealth would be sore throat, allergies, pink eye and asthma. When kids have undiagnosed symptoms of asthma, they can actually receive primary care through the TeleHealth consultations if there is no other provider available for them. This helps to reduce long term hospitalizations if the asthma was untreated. TeleHealth is covered by insurance, and parents would need to check with their personal insurance. TeleHealth visits are also covered by S.C. Medicaid. Initially, the parents will sign a permission slip that will be sent out in the two schools in the very near future. Once the parents have signed and a child goes to the school nurse with a potential being identified for the child to be seen via TeleHealth consultation, the parent is then contacted. If the parent agrees, the child then receives the consultation. If they have a

primary care provider, they will also be brought into the loop as this is not intended to replace the primary care doctor. It is just another option. Prescriptions can also be written thereby saving a doctor visit when the parent picks the child up from school. Students will soon receive the packet and a letter from Dr. Green. Mr. Tant would like to thank Dr. Green for this initiative. Mrs. Glover-Hawkins also informed Council that Cooperative Health was formerly known as Eau Clair Cooperative. This organization has the ability to see anyone regardless of inability to pay. Three facilities are located in Fairfield County, including Winnsboro Pediatrics, Ridgeway Family Practice and Dental and Lake Monticello. Chairman Robinson inquired if there is a foresight for counseling or mental health to be included in TeleHealth in the future. Per Mr. Tant, they have a Behavioral Health Department, and this is something they envision. Vice Chair Goins thanked Mr. Tant and Mrs. Glover-Hawkins for the presentation, and she is very much aware of TeleHealth and excited about it being in the County. Mrs. Glover-Hawkins also thanked Council Member Bell as he will be assisting in the Ridgeway area along with Mr. Donald Prioleau to expand services. Council Member Pauley inquired if this applies to all ages. Mr. Tant stated at this time it is elementary and will be located at McCrorey Liston and Fairfield Elementary. The vision is to get it throughout the school system. Currently, it is being piloted in these two schools. Mr. Tant also pointed out that 21 of the 46 counties in South Carolina have some form of school based TeleHealth. Chairman Robinson inquired how many have enrolled so far, and per Mrs. Glover-Hawkins, right now it is just piloting, and they are hoping to kick this off very soon. There are 618 children in Fairfield Elementary and 149 in McCrorey Liston. Each child will receive a packet as well as the letter from Dr. Green. Mr. Tant stated the packets should be sent out to the parents in about a month. Mr. Tant thanked the Council for their time and attention tonight and requested they encourage members of the community to sign the children up for this service. Mrs. Glover-Hawkins will also get some brochures for Council.

14. CLERK TO COUNCIL'S REPORT

The Clerk announced that there will be a Work Session concerning the changes being made to the Animal Ordinance on Wednesday, January 29, at 5:00 p.m. There will be time during this Work Session for citizens to speak, and the expected date of the Third and Final Reading of the new Animal Control Ordinance will be at the next regular meeting on February 10.

- 15. 2nd PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION:** All public comments made during this session must pertain to items not on the agenda or under Council's consideration. Each speaker is allocated three (3) minutes for comment. The total time allocated for the public comment portion of the meeting is thirty (30) minutes. Those wishing to make public comment must sign to do so prior to the Council Chair calling the meeting to order. The Clerk to Council will make a public comment sign-up sheet available at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to the scheduled start time of the meeting.

- David Ferguson, Sr. – Waste Plant
- Garry Coats – Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Ruchelle Gee - Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Jeff Schaffer - Thoughts
- Randy Bright - Updates Please

16. COUNTY COUNCIL TIME

Douglas: Council Member Douglas does not feel the citizens of Cedar Creek realize how much of a benefit they would have with the new plant putting clear water in Cedar Creek. He also does not believe they realize that sewage is currently being dumped into the creek coming from Ridgeway. The County has agreed to clean up the Ridgeway plant if it is able to build the new plant.

Bell: Council Member Bell inquired of Mr. Taylor if he is still looking at alternative sites. Per Mr. Taylor, we are still actively looking for additional sites that may work better for the wastewater treatment facility. The County is also again looking into the Commerce Center parcel and speaking with the engineers to get the pros and cons of being able to use this piece of property. Chairman Robinson inquired where this would flow into. Per Mr. Taylor, he wishes there were more options, but regardless of where the site of the plant is, it will go back to Cedar Creek. The best option would be to take it to the Broad; however, this is cost prohibitive. Council Member Bell inquired of the timeline of the process of looking into the other parcels. Per Mr. Taylor, he hopes to have an answer by mid to end of February. The engineers are giving some push back stating this process takes time. Council Member Bell also stated some months ago he talked about the incinerator on Airport Road, and he voted against rezoning this property. Again, it is very important that the Council looks out for the citizens of the County and not place environmental hazards in their communities. He is very disappointed concerning the Airport Road community. With the Cedar Creek situation, people who have a lot of

resources get a lot of attention. The other community does not have the resources that affluent communities have; however, it is just as wrong.

Goins: Vice Chair Goins keeps hearing about economic development and the comprehensive plan. Many people have said the black community in western Fairfield or the African American community in western Fairfield, but she has not heard them say to include them in economic development as far as the water or growth in the area. This area is a part of the comprehensive plan. TeleHealth is the future, and it is happening now. We are continuing to look at other options for the wastewater treatment plant. However, this is the future, this is life. We do not deliberately try to put anything where it will harm anyone. She has heard many times that western Fairfield has been left out. When the Councilman, the Senator and the House of Representatives publicly deceive the people and cover conspiracy or corruption in an area to cut off a community, not because they are black, but because the representative did not make every effort to work with everybody possible to make the community better. It is not about building self or annexing a certain area. There would not be anything to offer or any benefits. However, you would have control, and if you can control the people, you can control the money. When Vice Chair Goins was sworn in, she did not see where she was only supposed to represent or work for the black people, or that she is only supposed to work for the white people or for Baptist, Republican or Democrat. She thought she was sworn in for Fairfield County. If she is sworn in for Fairfield County, whatever is going on to improve or better the County, that should be her focus, objective and purpose. She will not agree with everything, and people don't agree all the time, but she is saying it is a disgrace when people who are in position to help a community use them instead. If you can get the vote from the people, then the people need to get what they should have for that vote. She is asking the Council, the Senator and the House Representative to do everything they can to ensure that western Fairfield is open to every opportunity that comes in Fairfield County, regardless of what area it is in. Vice Chair Goins also stated, to the citizens and families in Cedar Creek, she does not take this matter lightly. She takes every decision serious, and she understands their concern. If there is some way it would be harmful in any manner, not done in the right way or did not meet all regulations, there is no way at that point she would say yes. This is a process we are going through. As stated in the presentation at the last meeting, we are not quite halfway, and we go through a process with all projects before the final decision is reached. We try to keep everyone abreast of what is going on and be as open as possible, and she expects

this of the Council. Again, if it were shown to be harmful, there would be no way she would agree. She will hold the community interest at heart.

Trapp: Council Member Trapp thanked the citizens of Cedar Creek for coming out. He stated they should not get their hopes too high. This process was done with Airport Road, supposedly hunting for a different property. It is not going to happen. He stated he is letting them know, as a member of Council, he has never seen it happen. It is just a stall tactic. They will tell you they're looking for other property and try to wait you out, but it won't happen. He sympathizes with them because it's wrong to be put there just like it's wrong to put the incinerator on Airport Road. When the Council said it would look at other alternatives, he knew this was not true, and it's untrue for the Cedar Creek citizens as well. He apologizes for the Council. Council Member Douglas stated he does know for a fact that other sites are being looked into. Council Member Trapp said to find another piece of property, but he does not believe this will happen.

Pauley: Council Member Pauley requested for Mr. Taylor to reiterate to the citizens of Center Creek on record that he is doing everything in his power to look for another location. Per Mr. Taylor, on a regular basis, meetings are being held with one other land owner. A piece has also been identified in the Commerce Center, and the engineers are looking at this. Again, we are looking at other pieces of property and weighing the pros and cons of each. More options will be brought back to Council. Some of the options may have issues associated with them, such as easements or purchasing other properties to get a line to the creek, because again, Cedar Creek is the option that DHEC has given us that we can afford. Cost may also be higher on other properties, and this will be a Council decision. Council Member Pauley stated, as he has stated in the past, that we owe it to everyone in the Cedar Creek community and surrounding areas to do what we can to look for another location, and as the representative from District 5, he would like for Mr. Taylor to provide documentation to Council on a regular basis, even if the engineers deem that the property will not work, to show that we are doing the research for other pieces of property. This way, we can let the citizens know we are doing everything we can to find another location. Per Mr. Taylor, he will be glad to provide this information. However, if we are in the middle of negotiations, he can provide this to Council, but it would be difficult for him to let the public get in the middle of this as this could drive the cost higher. Council Member Pauley appreciates everyone from Center Creek attending the meeting, especially Mr. Ferguson who was on Council for a

long time and has a lot of knowledge. He believes that what Mr. Ferguson spoke on needs to be researched and whether the property is zoned for a wastewater treatment plant, including researching past material to see if the COG deemed it suitable for this purpose. Also, on the roads in Fairfield County, he is pretty sure every Council member probably receives phone calls on how bad the roads are in the County. He receives these calls on a daily basis, including Highway 321, Highway 269 and Devil's Racetrack Road, and he would like to see a presentation by DOT or by Senator Fanning on the progress of the roads in Fairfield County. Per Mr. Taylor, the majority will be DOT, and there is a new site that was spoken about in a prior Council meeting for citizens to look up and see when roads are scheduled to be paved, etc. We will again make this information available and request the presentation on the roads. Council Member Pauley also commented on the gentleman who spoke of grants and questioned if we are researching possible grants that would be able to move this to the Broad River. Per Mr. Taylor, grants have been investigated, and it was brought up during the recent Washington trip specifically with Congressman Norman. The County would love to find grant money in order to do this. There is a large infrastructure bill that will be coming out of Washington; however, with all the Washington issues, this will probably be a while. Even to do what we are doing, the County is getting a large infusion of grant money from the State. We are also working alongside the COG on this project to make it viable at all.

Robinson: Chairman Robinson stated he is privy to negotiations on other prospective land, and landowners do increase purchase prices in these circumstances. He does feel the land price will increase.

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION (SUBSEQUENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION, COUNCIL MAY TAKE ACTION ON MATTERS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION).

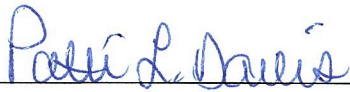
At this time, Mr. Morgan requested an executive session item that was not previously listed pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. 30-4-70 (a)(2) in order to receive legal advice as it relates to a pending claim on behalf of the County concerning an Economic Development Matter. At 7:22 p.m., motion made by Council Member Douglas, seconded by Vice Chair Goins, to go into executive session for the Economic Development matter listed above. ***Motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

At 7:35 p.m., motion made by Council Member Gilbert, seconded by Vice

Chair Goins, to come out of executive session and return to open session. **Motion carried unanimously 7-0.** Once back in open session, a motion was made by Council Member Pauley to authorize the County Attorney to initiate litigation on behalf of the County as it relates to potential design and construction defects for work performed on behalf of the County at the Commerce Center. Motion seconded by Council Member Douglas. **Motion carried unanimously 7-0.**

18. ADJOURN

At 7:39 p.m., it was moved by Council Member Bell and seconded by Vice Chair Goins to adjourn. **The motion carried unanimously 7-0.**



PATTI L. DAVIS
CLERK TO COUNCIL



CORNELIUS ROBINSON
CHAIRMAN