



**MINUTES  
INAUGURATION AND ORGANIZATION MEETING  
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL  
JANUARY 14, 2019**

**Present:** Moses Bell, Jimmy Ray Douglas, Mikel Trapp, Bertha Goins, Doug Pauley, Cornelius Robinson, Clarence Gilbert, Council Members; Jason Taylor, County Administrator; Davis Anderson, 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, The Fairfield Times and one hundred thirty two other individuals.

**CALL TO ORDER**

At 5:00 p.m. Senior Council Member Trapp called the Inaugural Meeting to order.

**INVOCATION**

Council Member Douglas led the invocation.

**I. OATH OF OFFICE**

The Honorable Judy Bonds, Fairfield County Clerk of Court, administered the oath of office to the following newly-elected and re-elected members of Council:

Council Member Moses Bell	District #1
Council Member Mikel Trapp	District #3
Council Member Doug Pauley	District #5
Council Member Clarence Gilbert	District #7

**II. ADJOURN**

At 5:10 p.m., the Inaugural portion of the meeting was adjourned by motion of Council Member Douglas and seconded by Council Member Goins. ***The motion carried unanimously.*** Refreshments were served in the Conference Room.

Meeting reconvened in the Council Chambers.

**CALL TO ORDER**

At 5:40 p.m. Senior Council Member Trapp called the Organizational Meeting to order. The meeting was turned over to County Administrator Jason Taylor and Clerk to Council Patti Davis, who conducted the process of the election of officers. Paper ballots were disseminated to the Council Members to vote for the officers for the year 2019-2020. For the office of Chairman: Council

Member Neil Robinson received six (6) votes and one abstention. By majority vote, **Council Member Neil Robinson** was elected as **Chairman**.

For the office of Vice-Chairman: Council Member Bertha Goins received seven (7) votes. By majority vote, **Council Member Bertha Goins** was elected as **Vice-Chairman**.

**ADJOURN:**

At 5:45 PM, the Organizational portion of the meeting was adjourned by motion of Council Member Douglas and seconded by Vice Chair Goins. ***The motion carried unanimously.***

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL  
JANUARY 14, 2019**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was moved by Council Member Pauley and seconded by Council Member Trapp to approve the agenda. ***The motion carried unanimously.***

**3. INVOCATION**

Council Member Trapp led the invocation.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

None.

**5. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

None.

**6. 1<sup>ST</sup> 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.**

- Randy Bright - Boards

**7. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None.

**8. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND ORDERS**

- A. First Reading (By Title Only): Ordinance No. 716** - An Ordinance to Amend the Fairfield County Land Management Ordinance, Ordinance No. 599, to Provide for the Zoning Reclassification from B-2 (General Business District) to RD-1 (Rural Residential District) of 2.18 Acres Owned by Jerry Murphy, Jr. This is a Portion of Tax Map No. 185-02-02-005-000 (Tract A), Property is Located at Approximately 6700 East Peach Road, Ridgeway, SC 29130. It was moved by Council Member Douglas, and seconded by Vice Chair Goins to approve First Reading (By Title Only) of Ordinance No. 716. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

**9. BOARD AND COMMISSION MINUTES**

- A. Behavioral Health - Received as information.

**10. BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS**

- A. Council on Aging - Reappointment of Henry Dixon, District 1. It was moved by Council Member Bell, seconded by Council Member Gilbert, to approve the reappointment of Henry Dixon to the Council on Aging Board representing District 1. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***
- B. Assessment Appeals Board - Gordon L. Doty, District 6. It was moved by Council Member Trapp, seconded by Vice Chair Goins to approve the reappointment of Gordon Doty to the Assessment Appeals Board representing District 6. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

**11. OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**12. NEW BUSINESS**

- A.** Approval of 2019 Calendar Year Meeting Dates. It was moved by Council Member Bell and seconded by Vice Chair Goins to accept the 2019 Calendar Year Meeting Dates. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

**13. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

- A. Parks and Recreation - New Fitness Room.** Mr. Taylor recognized Mr. Russell Price to inform Council of the specifics of the new fitness room. Per Mr. Price, he and his staff were deciding what to do with the space. Once the space had been cleaned and organized, there was a lot of equipment that had been stored and never used, including free weights, dumbbells, mats, bikes, etc. It was decided to make a fitness room, which is not very common in recreation for counties. The idea was to put some things to use that were just sitting around. The room is 20x32. Mr. Price wanted to thank Public Works and Maintenance, including the inmates, for assisting with this project, which covered a two month period. The main cost of the project was for the gym floor which was installed. The vision was to target the seniors and the women. There are places in town where men can go to lift, but women do not feel comfortable going to these places. So, this was the target set, and this target has been reached. Council Member Pauley inquired concerning the hours of operation and the cost. Per Mr. Price, the hours are 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Monday through Friday with a cost of \$20 for an individual and \$35 for a family. Everything offered by Parks and Recreation has a cost associated of \$20, such as the exercise classes, and an attempt was made to keep things consistent. There are discounted rates for those who sign up for more than one class. Council Member Bell stated that Planet Fitness is \$10 per month, so he inquired how we arrived at the \$20 fee. Per Mr. Price, most of the offerings are \$20 and this guideline was used for the new fitness room. He does not feel we are targeting the same people as Planet Fitness because no more than 12 people can be accommodated at one time. He came up with a proposal which was then sent to Mr. Anderson who approved the fee. Council Member Bell still feels the \$20 fee is too high for the citizens of the County. Vice Chair Goins thanked Mr. Price for his efforts, and she feels it is excellent that he can look at what seems like nothing and turn it into something useful. This takes a lot of vision and consideration. She understands the fee in light of where we are, participation and the cost of upkeep. Council Member Douglas stated mostly local people will be using the facility, and without this facility, the older population would have to be taken to a facility offering these services out of the County. Mr. Price stated he put the fee out to the public, and he has had no feedback on it until now. Chairman Robinson asked what the participation is as of now with the gym being opened for one week. Per Mr. Price, he currently has nine people who have paid for the month so far. Vice Chair Goins asked if this was advertised. Mr. Price did a press release and released it on Facebook. However, Mr. Price feels the department

needs a website as not everyone is on social media. Council Member Bell understands some of the points Mr. Price is making; however, with the income level of the County and what the needs are, we need to try to provide recreation as a means for the County to become more healthy. The citizens may not have the means to go other places, but this does not mean we shouldn't try to provide the services in the County for them. In his opinion, the \$20 fee is too high for the citizens. Per Mr. Anderson, in looking to set the price for this service, consistency was the main focus. As we go through the budget process, the fact that Fairfield County subsidizes all its programs will become apparent. If compared to Columbia or any other place, we are tremendously lower, so we were just looking for consistency. The County is providing enough money to be able to offer services at a low cost, and this is why we are trying to be consistent. We don't compare to other counties in pricing because this is taken through the County funds. Chairman Robinson would also like Mr. Taylor and Mr. Anderson to look into if the County will get a health discount for County employees that may sign up for this service. Mr. Taylor and the team are looking into the prospect of implementing something to encourage the staff to participate which would help with insurance rates. Chairman Robinson has also heard that the sports participation numbers have picked up. Mr. Price reported that in 2017 there were 175 participants in basketball with 17 teams. In 2018, there were 207 players with 22 teams. Currently in the 2019 season, there are 250 participants with 25 teams. The numbers are exciting because more can be done with larger numbers, such as putting like ages together more efficiently which will boost the players' confidence tremendously. Great Falls brings all four of their teams into our league, with officials' charges offset, and this brings our total teams to 29. With growth comes issues, and during budget time we will talk about things that are needed, including a gym.

- B.** New Certified Correction Officers - Mr. Taylor reported there were four graduates from the Basic Detention Class at the Academy, including Britanna Brown, Darius Harris, Jabari Hollins and Shadajai McDaniel. This is brought to Council's attention because keeping the Detention Center fully staffed has been a challenge for the County, and with these graduates, the Center nearly has full staffing.
  
- C.** Council Orientation/Work Session, January 26, 2019, Midlands Tech Fairfield Campus, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Helen McFadden,

Parliamentarian - Mr. Taylor reported on the specifics of the Orientation/Work Session.

**14. CLERK TO COUNCIL'S REPORT**

None.

**15. 2<sup>ND</sup> PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES): INPUT CAN BE TO INTRODUCE AN ITEM NOT CURRENTLY UNDER COUNCIL'S CONSIDERATION OR BRING A CONCERN TO COUNCIL'S ATTENTION. THE TOTAL TIME ALLOCATED TO THIS PUBLIC COMMENT SEGMENT IS 30 MINUTES.**

- Shirley Greene - Congratulations
- Jackie Workman - Visions
- Randy Bright - Windshield
- Jeff Schaffer - Congratulations

**16. COUNTY COUNCIL TIME**

Goins: Congratulated Chairman Robinson and the new team members. She is looking forward to working together and moving Fairfield County forward in 2019.

Trapp: Congratulated Chairman Robinson and Vice Chair Goins and the newly installed Council members. He wanted to clarify a comment concerning the FFC, the Fairfield Facilities Corporation. He asked Mr. Taylor if the Fairfield Facilities Corporation will be the owner of Mt. Zion. Mr. Taylor stated this is correct, and the Corporation is the owner of all the facilities.

Bell: Congratulated Chairman Robinson and Vice Chair Goins. Also, thanked the citizens of District 1 and all the citizens from Ridgeway who came out tonight for the swearing in ceremony. Council Member Bell also thanked those who could not attend tonight, Ms. Beverly Gripper, Mr. Marion Robinson and Mr. Jasper Adams and their families for all their effort in his campaign. Also, thank you to Mr. Ruff for his prior service to District 1. Council Member Bell made commitments when he was running, and there is much to do in District 1. He will be fighting for those needs and the concerns of the citizens, not only the citizens of District 1, but also for the citizens of this great County. He believes we can make it better and be a voice to try to help everyone. Council Member Bell also thanked Mr. Taylor, Mr. Anderson and Mrs. Davis for being so kind and making sure he had all the information he needed for

the meetings and responding so promptly. On Friday, due to his internet connection being so slow, he was unable to receive his meeting package. Mrs. Davis, Mr. Taylor and Mr. Anderson brought the package to him. He really appreciates this kindness. To the citizens of District 1, he will do the work, and he will need their help in doing so.

Gilbert: Thanked the citizens of District 7 for electing him. He does not make promises, but he will work hard for the County. He will use both common sense and prayer in making decisions. He loves the County and chose to stay in Fairfield County because this is his home. He wants to see this County flourish as have other surrounding counties. He asks for the citizens' support and prayers. He asks that you come to him if there is a decision he has made that you don't agree with. He congratulated Chairman Robinson and Vice Chair Goins and he looks forward to working with his fellow Council members. He is one vote, and the Council as a whole must work together as a team. We may agree to disagree, but let us make sure that Fairfield County is better for our decision. Council Member Gilbert would also like to thank his wife for her support.

Robinson: Chairman Robinson congratulated the new Council members and Vice Chair Goins. There is a lot of work ahead, and he feels the path we have been on is a good path, and he will try to continue on this path. With new leadership comes new ideas, and Chairman Robinson would like Mr. Taylor and Mr. Anderson to gather information on the A&H tax, penny sales tax to possibly look toward the future with the water/sewer situation and also investigate how we compare with other councils as far as modernization. Chairman Robinson looks forward to great economic development endeavors. He plans to lead as has been led before him.

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

**18. ADJOURN**

At 6:39 the Regular Meeting was adjourned by motion of Council Member Bell and seconded by Vice Chair Goins. ***The motion carried unanimously.***

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PATTI L. DAVIS  
CLERK TO COUNCIL

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CORNELIUS ROBINSON  
CHAIRMAN