



**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL  
MARCH 25, 2019**

**Present:** Moses Bell, Jimmy Ray Douglas, 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.

**Absent:** Bertha Goins, Mikel Trapp.

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.

**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 Gilbert and seconded by Council Member Pauley to approve the agenda. ***The motion carried unanimously 5-0.***

**3. INVOCATION**

Council Member Douglas led the invocation.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Council Member Bell, seconded by Council Member Douglas, to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of March 11, 2019. ***The motion carried unanimously 5-0.***

Chairman Robinson reported Vice Chair Goins will not be present at the meeting tonight due to continuing family medical issues and is listening to the meeting via telephone. Council Member Trapp is recovering from surgery.

**5. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

- A.** Deacon Thomas Gibson - 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Congratulations. Mr. Gibson was present in the audience, and Chairman Robinson and Council Member Bell presented the framed congratulatory statement.

**B.** Mr. Kevin Shwedo, Executive Director, S.C. Department of Motor Vehicles - REAL ID. Chairman Robinson introduced Mr. Shwedo who then began his presentation with a brief history. Real ID came about as a result of 9-11 having to do with identity theft. All the individuals involved in the attacks against the United States had stolen identities. In the early 2000's, Congress created a law stating a uniform ID would be put into place. As soon as the law was passed, South Carolina passed a law stating "South Carolina will not participate in the Real ID Act". This took place around 2005, and as a result, the State was precluded by law from doing anything with regard to Real ID. Homeland Security then came to South Carolina about two years ago to meet with the Governor, the Lt. Governor, the President Pro Tem of the Senate and the Speaker of the House to state that in October, if the State law was not reversed, no one in South Carolina would be able to fly, get onto a military installation or get into a federal building as of January 17, 2017. The law was promptly passed reversing the initial law. However, in order for the strategy to be implemented, computer codes had to be rewritten for DMV. This took around a year. Real ID's have been issued for about the last one year. There are 4.4 million people who need the Real ID and less than 600,000 presently have it. By this time next year, there will likely be six hour lines at all DMV locations because people are procrastinating. Either they don't know about it or they choose to believe it will not be implemented. There are states in worse shape than South Carolina. Mr. Shwedo gave one example: If you have a death in the family and you must go to Tacoma, WA on September 30, 2020, you will be able to get on the plane to get there; however, if you do not have a passport, a military ID or a real ID, you will not be able to fly back. In order to get a Real ID, one must start from scratch in terms of bringing in information to the DMV. You must have an original birth certificate, a social security card or something from the federal government that contains your social security number and two proofs of residence. You must have proof of every name change. For those who got their ID for the very first time in November of 2010 or later, the DMV will have everything needed to obtain the Real ID, and this can be done online. If you have a valid passport, this can be used as not only the birth certificate, but also the final name on the Real ID. A social security card and two proofs of residence will still be needed. The objective is to get as many people to obtain the Real ID as rapidly as possible to reduce the lines in the future. Mr. Shwedo thanked Council for the opportunity to speak on the Real ID. Also, he just spent time with the Fairfield DMV prior to the meeting, and at no time was there a line. He urged everyone to

take advantage of this and get their Real ID as soon as possible. Council Member Bell inquired of Mr. Taylor if there was any way to get a public announcement out for the Fairfield County citizens. Per Mr. Taylor, working in conjunction with the DMV, something could be placed on the County Facebook page. Mr. Shwedo will leave a card with Mr. Taylor, and he will link the County up with his strategic team for further information. Council Member Douglas inquired concerning where to get a birth certificate. This can typically be obtained through DHEC. Chairman Robinson thanked Mr. Shwedo for the much needed information.

**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.**

- Chris Griffith - Taxes
- Jeff Schaffer - Ordinances
- Randy Bright - Anti-Blight and Tourism Ordinance

**7. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None.

**8. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND ORDERS**

**A. Second Reading: Ordinance No. 711** - An Ordinance Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of a Lease Agreement Between Fairfield County and The Community Health Foundation of Fairfield County; and Other Related Matters. Motion made by Council Member Douglas, properly seconded by Council Member Gilbert, to approve Second Reading of Ordinance No. 711. ***The motion carried unanimously 5-0.***

**B. Third and Final Reading: Ordinance No. 710** - An Ordinance Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of a Lease Agreement Between Fairfield County and Fairfield Medical Associates, P.A.; and Other Related Matters. Motion made by Council Member Douglas, properly seconded by Council Member Bell, to approve Third and Final Reading of Ordinance No. 710. ***The motion carried unanimously 5-0.***

**C. Third and Final Reading: Ordinance No. 717** - An Ordinance of the County Council of Fairfield County, South Carolina, to Establish a

Tourism Development Fee Pursuant to Section 6-1-500 et. seq. of the South Carolina Code of Laws. Motion made by Council Member Gilbert, properly seconded by Council Member Bell, to approve Third and Final Reading of Ordinance No. 717. Council Member Douglas made a motion to amend Section 9, Effective Date, to read: This Ordinance shall be effective as of third reading and the Tourism Fee shall commence being collected on July 1, 2019. Motion to Amend properly seconded by Council Member Bell. **The motion to amend carried unanimously 5-0.** Chairman Robinson then called for the vote on the passage of Third and Final Reading of the amended Ordinance No. 717. **The motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

- D. Third and Final Reading: Ordinance No. 718** – An Ordinance of the County Council of Fairfield County, South Carolina, to Establish a Local Hospitality Tax Pursuant to Section 6-1-700 et seq. of the South Carolina Code of Laws to Apply to All Establishments which Sell Prepared Meals and Beverages Located in the Unincorporated Areas of Fairfield County. Council Member Pauley requested discussion at this point. Chairman Robinson stated discussion would be held after the motion. Motion made by Council Member Douglas, properly seconded by Council Member Gilbert, to approve Third and Final Reading of Ordinance No. 718. Council Member Gilbert made a motion to amend Section 12, Effective Date, to add where it is currently blank: July 1, 2019. Motion to Amend properly seconded by Council Member Douglas. **The motion to amend carried 4-1 with Council Member Pauley voting nay.** Chairman Robinson asked Mr. Morgan to further explain this procedure. Per Mr. Morgan, with the motion to amend, currently in Section 12 of the ordinance presented to Council for first and second reading, there was a blank left for the effective date. The motion made by Council Member Gilbert designates July 1, 2019, as the effective date. The Ordinance already states it is effective upon third reading, but the collection of the tax would begin on July 1, 2019. The motion was brought to the floor that contained the blank; there was then a motion to amend to allow for the date to be added. That motion was seconded and approved 4-1. Now currently before the Council is the vote to approve Ordinance No. 718 as amended with the date of July 1, 2019. Motion has been made and seconded, and Chairman Robinson called for the vote on the passage of Third and Final Reading of the amended Ordinance No. 718. **The motion carried 4-1 with Council Member Pauley voting nay.**

**E. Third and Final Reading: Ordinance No. 719** – An Ordinance of the County Council of Fairfield County, South Carolina, to Establish a County Business Registration Program to Apply to Regulated Businesses Located in the Unincorporated Areas of Fairfield County. Motion made by Council Member Douglas, properly seconded by Council Member Gilbert, to approve Third and Final Reading of Ordinance No. 719. Council Member Bell made a motion to amend Section 13, Effective Date to read: This ordinance shall take effect upon third reading and the Business Registration Fee shall commence being collected on July 1, 2019. Motion to amend properly seconded by Council Member Douglas. ***Motion to amend carried unanimously 5-0.*** Council Member Pauley called for discussion. Chairman Robinson requested for Mr. Morgan to further elaborate. Per Mr. Morgan, the motion on the floor is the amended motion for a vote. Council Member Pauley has requested a discussion, which would need to take place prior to the vote. Chairman Robinson opened the floor for discussion. Council Member Pauley asked for a clarification on the business registration program and which businesses this will apply to. Per Mr. Morgan, section 2 of the ordinance provides for the definition of what constitutes a business and what is considered as engaged in or carrying on business, “the doing or performing of any act of selling any goods or services or soliciting business or offering any goods or services for sale primarily in an attempt to make a profit, including selling or performing services of a character of a wholesaler or retailer or being involved in any of the functions performed as a manufacturer, all of the foregoing performed either as an owner, operator or agent of any businesses, trade, professional or occupation within the County of Fairfield.” Council Member Pauley inquired if this covers stationery buildings along with businesses coming into the County to perform a service. Per Mr. Morgan, both would be subject to the business registration assuming the services were to be performed outside of the incorporated areas of Fairfield County. Council Member Douglas stated some business owners have inquired about a license in the past and were denied because the unincorporated areas were not required to have these. He feels this will be good for businesses going forward. Council Member Bell also pointed out this would include grass cutting businesses. With no further discussion, Chairman Robinson called for the vote on the passage of Third and Final Reading of the amended Ordinance No. 719. ***The motion carried 4-1 with Council Member Pauley voting nay.***

**9. BOARD AND COMMISSION MINUTES**

Minutes from the Chamber of Commerce and the Library Commission were received as information.

**10. BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS**

None.

**11. OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**12. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**13. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

**A.** Request of Action: Pre-Qualify Engineers for Small Construction Projects Under \$50,000 - Administration and Finance Committee Recommends Approval. Per Mr. Taylor, this is an indefinite delivery contract list just as was previously done with large engineering firms for larger projects. This request is for the use of smaller firms for the smaller projects. The larger engineering firms would not be appropriate to utilize for a smaller project. The cost would be prohibitive, so smaller firms were contacted who could react quicker and be more affordable for some of the smaller projects that an engineer's stamp is still needed in order to stay within code. A request for proposals from smaller engineering firms was put out for bid with a grading committee set up to discuss. The companies were scored, and only the firms that scored 75 or above were considered. There were 17 firms who met the qualifications. Typically, the top six firms will be utilized unless some of the other firms have a specific specialty that is needed. Mrs. Pickett confirmed the above information from the procurement standpoint. Council Member Bell inquired how many of the firms are minority owned businesses. Per Mrs. Pickett, there are two minority owned businesses. With no further questions, Council Member Bell made a motion to approve the Request of Action, properly seconded by Council Member Gilbert. ***The motion carried unanimously 5-0.***

**B.** Fairfield Joint Water and Sewer System - Update. Per Mr. Taylor, the second meeting was held last Monday. This meeting was to primarily receive information from Thomas and Hutton, the firm assisting with the mega site, attempting to get infrastructure into the area to make it

a viable industrial site. The State is assisting the County in funding this project, hence, the urgency. As part of this project, the hope is to get new infrastructure with increased water and sewer capacity and a sewer plant, which is needed for growth due to the lack of sewer capacity in the County. Everything is moving forward as far as permitting and design. The Preliminary Engineering Report is being looked at for the permitting and design of a new sewer plant. Two years will be saved by proceeding with having these permits done ahead of time; therefore, construction can begin a lot quicker. Also, the process was begun to take information for the existing water and sewer lines, the capacity and where there are voids in the current system. Council Member Douglas also stated the Department of Commerce is paying for these studies, and they are directing the work that is to be done. Per Mr. Taylor, the Department has given the County roughly \$6M for the purchase of the property and \$2M toward the engineering and design phase.

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

- A.** Council Retreat - The Clerk stated that staff has been asked to schedule a Council planning retreat in the near future. The thought behind this retreat is for Council members to be able to be in a more relaxed setting which will hopefully foster open discussions concerning goals the Council wishes to work toward. The planning retreat will be held on Saturday, April 27, and more details will be sent out shortly.

**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.**

- Jackie Workman - Visions
- Jeff Schaffer - Rumors
- Randy Bright - Grants

**16. COUNTY COUNCIL TIME**

Douglas - Council Member Douglas stated his horoscope today fits his personality, "Observe before you jump into something you are not fully familiar with." In other words, do not jump to conclusions before speaking with someone familiar with the situation. He promised to do

this for the remainder of his time on Council so as not to strain important relationships. Also, Fairfield County is one of the few counties in the State that does not have a hospitality tax. It is needed because of industry and the need for a sewer plant. Council Member Douglas further stated that Council votes the way it does because there have been committees to bring before the Council what is needed, and executive sessions are held to familiarize Council with everything that is voted on. The Council knows what it is voting on at the time of the vote.

Bell - Council Member Bell was thankful to be able to share in the excitement during a school rally surrounding Ms. Chanda Jefferson, who was named as one of the finalists for the S.C. Teacher of the Year from Fairfield County. He is proud to be a part of the Fairfield County School System. He recognized and thanked Dr. Green for all the work he does.

Goins - Vice Chair Goins wished to speak via telephone. She thanked the Council team and the citizens for affording her this opportunity to speak. She listened to the meeting tonight and has reviewed the agenda along with the documents pertaining to the agenda. First, she wished to speak concerning the County work force. She also has a concern with the motivation of our young people and others who need jobs. Next, to comment concerning using the resources of the I-77 corridor, Vice Chair Goins feels this is a great area to help develop Fairfield County as this is one of our great commodities. She appreciates the work of the Administration team and the developers on this area which includes a lot of publicity to promote the area. Concerning fee-in-lieu agreements, this is not new and has been used for centuries for growth. These are very necessary negotiating tools. Once the business are here and prospering, the hope is that the County will get a return. Also, the hospitality tax, etc. is not new and the County is just getting on board. These avenues have been used for years and have been shown to be very effective in building up counties and quality of life, which is the purpose. One main reason to utilize these are water and sewer, both foundations of quality of life and bringing in industry. She feels the Council team, Town of Winnsboro and others have been working diligently toward the water and sewer goal. This is only the beginning, and it will work if we allow it. She encouraged everyone to work with the new changes. Concerning the monument in Jenkinsville, she would like to have a community meeting in the near future to discuss this further. She complimented Ms. Jefferson for being in the running for Teacher of the Year and congratulated Deacon Thomas Gibson for his birthday milestone. Vice Chair Goins also thanked the Council team, administration and everyone for their thoughts and



prayers during this time, for their patience, kindness and phone calls. She thanked Mrs. Davis for her visit to the hospital, and she hopes to be back very soon.

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

No executive session needed.

**18. ADJOURN**

At 6:52 p.m., the Regular Meeting was adjourned by motion of Council Member Douglas and seconded by Council Member Bell. ***The motion carried unanimously.***

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PATTI L. DAVIS  
CLERK TO COUNCIL

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CORNELIUS ROBINSON  
CHAIRMAN