



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

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

Absent: Laura Johnson, Interim Deputy County Administrator.

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 and The Country Chronicle and one hundred thirty two other individuals.

Immediately prior to the start of the meeting, Chairman Robinson stated the overflow room is available for anyone who did not get a seat in the main Chambers.

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

3. INVOCATION

Council Member Bell led the invocation.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Council Member Trapp, seconded by Vice Chair Goins, to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of September 23, 2019, and the Special Meeting Minutes of October 7, 2019. ***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.

- Jackie Workman - Recreation
- Randy Bright - Ordinances

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

8. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND ORDERS

- A. First Reading (By Title Only) Ordinance No. 731:** Ordinance authorizing the Execution and Delivery of a Fee Agreement by and Between Fairfield County, South Carolina and Project Nightingale, Providing for a Payment of a Fee in Lieu of Taxes, and Other Matters Related Thereto. Motion made by Council Member Bell, seconded by Council Member Douglas, to approve First Reading of Ordinance No. 731. ***The motion carried 6-1 with Council Member Trapp voting nay.***
- B. Resolution No. 2019-10:** A Resolution Committing to Negotiate a Fee in Lieu of Tax and Incentive Agreement Between Fairfield County, South Carolina, and Project Reflection, Identifying the Project and Providing for Related Matters. Motion made by Council Member Douglas, seconded by Vice Chair Goins, to approve Resolution No. 2019-10. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***
- C. First Reading (By Title Only) Ordinance No. 732:** An Ordinance Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of a Fee in Lieu of Tax and Incentive Agreement by and Between Fairfield County, South Carolina and Project Reflection with Respect to Certain Economic Development Property in the County, Whereby Such Property Will be Subject to Certain Payments in Lieu of Taxes, Including the Provision of Certain Special Source Credits; Authorizing the Provision of an Economic Development Grant; and Other Matters Related Thereto. Motion made by Council Member Douglas, seconded by Vice Chair Goins, to approve First Reading (By Title Only) of Ordinance No. 732. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***
- D. First Reading (By Title Only) Ordinance No. 733:** An Ordinance Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of an Agreement by and Between Fairfield County, South Carolina, and Project Victory to Provide Certain Incentives, Authorizing the Acquisition of Certain Real Property in the County; and Other Related Matters. Motion made by

Vice Chair Goins, seconded by Council Member Douglas, to approve First Reading (By Title Only) of Ordinance No. 733. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

9. BOARD AND COMMISSION MINUTES

A. Aeronautics Commission - Received as information.

10. BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

A. Library Commission - Nancy H. Dail - District 4. Motion made by Vice Chair Goins, seconded by Council Member Pauley, to approve the appointment of Nancy Dail to the Library Commission representing District 4. ***Motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

11. OLD BUSINESS

None.

12. NEW BUSINESS

None.

13. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

A. Introduction of Art Hartzog, Public Works Director. Mr. Taylor introduced Mr. Hartzog, who stated he is looking forward to getting to know everyone and to please call him if there is anything he can assist with. Mr. Taylor further stated Mr. Hartzog previously worked for S.C. Department of Transportation, N.C. Department of Transportation and another county Public Works Department.

B. VSAFE Grant Received by Dutchman Creek Volunteer Fire Department and Greenbrier-Bethel Volunteer Fire Department. Mr. Taylor asked for Mr. Jason Pope to give further information concerning this grant. Per Mr. Pope, VSAFE stands for Volunteer Strategic Assistance and Fire Equipment Program. This grant program is administered through the State Fire Marshall's office and is funded by the General Assembly. A total of 151 applications were received totaling almost \$9m in requests. A total of 50 grants were awarded totaling \$1.3m. Dutchman Creek received an \$18,000 grant and Greenbrier-Bethel received a \$28,000 grant. The respective fire departments did the work in order to get this funding. The plan is to purchase personal protective equipment (turn-out gear), and an average set, including

pants and coat, costs approximately \$2,000 plus another \$500 for boots, helmets and gloves. No match is required for this, and Mr. Pope is excited to be receiving this grant. Vice Chair Goins thanked the department and especially the volunteers because they are the ones who make this happen.

C. Mr. Rudolph Walker - Midlands Fatherhood Coalition, Request for Additional Funding. Mr. Walker came to the podium and also introduced others in attendance representing the organization, including Mr. Keith Ivey, Ms. Eleanor Boyd, Mr. Santana Hayes, Raydene Gladden and Gwen Ashford. Further comments were then turned over to Mr. Santana Hayes. Mr. Hayes stated the organization has been a staple of the Fairfield community since 1998 and is the oldest Fatherhood Program in the State. Unfortunately, the program received some not so great news this year from the Department of Social Services, which is one of their main funding sources. Some funding was able to be recouped through some effort; unfortunately, Fairfield still remains on the list of offices to be closed. The impact in the past three years consists of the following:

- Fairfield has served 256 fathers, impacted 550 children which resulted in a tax savings of \$331,000.
- The potential impact for 2020-2022 is to serve over 300 fathers, impact over 600 children and provide over \$400,000 in tax savings to the County of Fairfield.

The cuts that took place within the DSS system were not due to any type of performance of the Fatherhood Coalition and is due to more of the internal workings of DSS and their challenges. Because of this, negative impact has fallen upon the Fatherhood Coalition. They want to continue to serve the fathers and families in Fairfield County. In order for this to occur, they are now requesting additional funding of \$60,000 per year for the next three years to continue to serve the men and families in the County. Request is made to the Council that they look at the impact the organization has made realizing that the Fairfield office is the oldest in the State. Council Member Pauley inquired if there may be a possibility the funding from DSS might return. Per Mr. Hayes, there is no promise of additional funding at this time. Council Member Pauley inquired if the amount of \$60,000 is for the next three years total or \$60,000 per year. Per Mr. Hayes, the amount requested is \$60,000 on top of what is already being funded. Chairman Robinson inquired the total amount of funding already

budgeted. Per Mr. Walker, this amount is \$40,000. Further, Mrs. Anne Bass stated for 2020 the budgeted amount is \$40,000 and five years prior to this the amount was \$30,000. Chairman Robinson inquired if this would allow the organization to be fully staffed, and Mr. Walker stated this would fully fund the organization. Council Member Douglas would like to discuss further to understand how the figures and estimates are calculated. Vice Chair Goins does understand the amount of money, but she feels one must also think about the impact on lives. We have to be concerned about dollars, but a price tag cannot be put on certain things. Per Mr. Walker, this amount is being requested for the next three years and then we can take a look at the impact to the County again. Per Mr. Hayes, the numbers are based on a percentage of growth for every office, between 10-15%, based on what is shown by the historical data. Council Member Pauley stated he wishes to give a lot of praise to Mr. Walker and thinks that he does a great job along with his staff. Council Member Bell inquired when the money would be needed. Chairman Robinson stated this would need to be forwarded to the Finance Committee and then go from there. With no further comments, Chairman Robinson will work with administration to schedule the committee meeting.

- D.** Request of Action: PARD (Park and Recreation Development) Match of \$12,000 for Renovation of Drawdy Park Recreational Building - Administration and Finance Committee Recommends Approval. Per Mr. Taylor, this PARD money will be used to rehab the building that was part of the old Everett Building (cafeteria). This building was slated for demolition, but as Mr. Price began looking, he found he had a use for it. It has been inspected and is in much better condition than initially thought. The cost of tearing the building down was to be \$30,000 to \$40,000. In looking at the PARD Grant, \$48,000 could be obtained with a match of \$12,000 from the County, and the building could be redone and used for offices along with other uses. Per Mr. Price, a parking lot was funded in the budget for this year and prepping is being done. In doing so, the building was evaluated with Public Works and Maintenance, and the building was found to be in pretty good shape. We began to look into the cost to rehab the building, and then began looking into the PARD grant. At present, the recreation maintenance and athletics share the same building. This would give additional space to serve the County residents in going over schedules, sign-ups, picture day in the event of rain, among other uses the building could provide. The delegation ultimately makes the decision for this grant, and both Senator Fanning and

Representative McDaniel are on board with this project. Council Member Bell inquired if Mr. Price uses a ranking scale to determine what projects to do, and if the drainage at Rufus Belton Park was considered or the mini-parks in Mr. Trapp's district. Mr. Price stated he was in a meeting today, and the drainage at Rufus Belton is part of the project with the parking lot. This is the first time Mr. Price has been a part of the PARD selection. The year before, the Town of Winnsboro received the grant. Mr. Price agrees there are other projects that need to be addressed, and this project would be high in that order. Chairman Robinson inquired of the square footage of the building. Per Mr. Price, the building is just under 5,000 square feet. Council Member Bell inquired of the cost of the project, and Mr. Taylor said estimates have been received on the roof of roughly \$30,000 and the windows would be the remaining portion. Council Member Bell stated \$48,000 from the grant and \$12,000 for the matching funds. Mr. Taylor stated this is correct. As this is an action item, Chairman Robinson asked for a motion. Motion made by Council Member Gilbert, seconded by Council Member Douglas, to approve the Request of Action as stated. Council Member Bell inquired again if the County will be spending \$12,000. Mr. Taylor again stated \$12,000 of County money will be used for this project. ***The motion carried 6-1 with Council Member Trapp voting nay.***

- E.** Request of Action: EMS Sales Tax Request (Increase Requested for Budgeted Stryker Stair Chair + 6506 Upgrades) - Administration and Finance Committee Recommends Approval. Per Mr. Taylor, \$45,724 was budgeted for this piece of equipment because during the budgeting process, the sales tax was not included. Per Anna Beth Rhodes, the request is for the sales tax. Council Member Douglas stated hopefully the figures will be double checked in the future. Council Member Bell inquired if this item was budgeted. Per Mr. Taylor, this is a budgeted item. Motion made by Council Member Pauley, seconded by Council Member Douglas and Vice Chair Goins, to approve the Request of Action as stated. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***
- F.** Request of Action: Replacement of 4 Rooftop HVAC Units at Martin Primary and 1 HVAC Unit at Fairfield Medical Associates - Administration and Finance Committee Recommends Approval. Per Mr. Taylor, this is a budgeted item that was bid out and is brought before Council to be aware of the bids. A total of \$50,000 was

budgeted to replace five HVAC units. The lowest bid was received from Alltemp at \$41,570. Motion made by Council Member Douglas, seconded by Vice Chair Goins, to approve the Request of Action as stated. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***

- G.** Request of Action: CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) Match of \$521,000 for Purchase, Renovation and Future Operations of Current Fairfield County Library Ridgeway Branch Located at 235 S. Palmer Street, Ridgeway - Administration and Finance Committee Does Not Recommend Approval. Per Mr. Taylor, this item also went before the Finance Committee and was not recommended for approval; however, the item still needs to come before Council for a full vote. A grant was applied for in reference to the Library in Ridgeway to expand the facility. All conditions associated with the grant would make the match a total of \$521,000 the County would have to pay, some up front and some over a five year period, because of such things as being required to keep the facility open for 40 hours. In addition, the Library had committed to a portion of the purchase price, and this support was withdrawn. Council Member Douglas made a motion to not move forward with this item. Council Member Gilbert seconded this motion. Chairman Robinson asked for a motion to open the item up for discussion. Vice Chair Goins seconded the motion to open up for discussion. Council Member Bell inquired about the five and ten year plan for the area in Ridgeway stating there is a lot of growth coming to the area, and he feels one of the reasons there is low participation is because of the hours, Monday and Wednesday 9 to 1 and Tuesdays and Thursdays 1 to 6. What is the plan to provide infrastructure and things like the Library for the Ridgeway area? Per Mr. Taylor, Ridgeway has great potential and is one of the areas with the highest potential. Water and sewer is what we have to concentrate on because growth follows water and sewer. We were hoping this item could be moved forward, and other things were looked at in the area such as parks. With this particular situation and the amount of the match, the Finance Committee did not feel it was time to move forward with it. Chairman Robinson stated when the Library chose to table their offer, he then had some hesitation with this project. Voting commenced, and all votes were cast as nay votes; therefore, Council Member Bell and Council Member Trapp stated the nay votes constituted a win. Discussion among Council members ensued, and Chairman Robinson called for order. Chairman Robinson stated the vote was 0-7.

At this point, Chairman Robinson wished to take a moment to discuss what has been transpiring with the Farmers' Market. There has been some inaccurate information, and he wanted to set the record straight. Council Member Bell inquired if this was being done before the public comment, and Chairman Robinson stated yes. Chairman Robinson asked Mr. Taylor what does the procurement policy state in reference to purchases that come before Council for approval. Per Mr. Taylor, on individual items, anything under \$25,000 can be approved by the administrator, over must come to Council. Chairman Robinson asked if Mr. Taylor had made any purchases in reference to the Farmers' Market to exceed \$25,000. Per Mr. Taylor, no individual purchases. Chairman Robinson asked if Mr. Taylor knew of any Council member who did not know about the Farmers' Market. Mr. Taylor feels it was well publicized. Council Member Trapp and Council Member Bell stated they did not know about it until it was opened. Council Member Bell restated that he did not know a vote had not been taken. Council Member Bell stated he was going by what Mr. Taylor had told him, that there had not been a vote for the Farmers' Market and that Council did not authorize it. Mr. Taylor stated it is correct there was no vote. Council Member Trapp questioned if what is being said is that if the Administrator so chooses, he can circumvent the procurement code and just spend unlimited funds as long as he stays under \$25,000. Chairman Robinson stated this has been brought up in the past to amend and replace purchases with projects, and it was never brought back up. Council Member Trapp inquired if we will just be giving a blank checkbook. Chairman Robinson would not say this, definitely not, but to help clear this matter up, we can change this. Chairman Robinson asked Mr. Taylor to state what we can do in the future to avoid a mix-up such as this. Per Mr. Taylor, again, it has been brought up before to change the verbiage to say any project that exceeds \$25,000 must come to Council, and he would recommend that it be changed to this so this confusion will not occur again. His preference would be to change the code to state any project has to be voted on by Council. Chairman Robinson inquired what projects are coming out of this line item that has been voted on. Per Mr. Taylor, this would include Lebanon Fire Department which has already begun using in-house workers, Rufus Belton using in-house and the Drawdy Park parking lot. These three are currently under way. Council Member Bell asked Mr. Taylor to reiterate that these were in the budget process already. Mr. Taylor stated these were all in the budget process. Chairman Robinson asked Mr. Taylor if he was within his authority according to the procurement manual. Per Mr. Taylor, he believes so, but again, he would suggest that this be changed in the future. Chairman Robinson stated this is something Council should do, and this will be discussed in the future.

14. CLERK TO COUNCIL'S REPORT

None.

- 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.

By way of clarification, Chairman Robinson stated the 2nd Public Comment is reinstated for several reasons; and there are rules and regulations for everything. Everything needs to be done with decency and order, no name calling and please be courteous.

- Jackie Workman - Vision
- Tony Armstrong - Vision
- Kevin Thomas - Vulcan
- Marte Thomas - Vulcan
- Robert Black - Vulcan
- Shelly Black - Vulcan
- Grace Black - Vulcan
- Charles Rampey - Vulcan
- David Wray - Vulcan
- Randy Bright - Yay

16. COUNTY COUNCIL TIME

Bell: Council Member Bell stated as he reads from his prepared statement, he does this regrettably, but with the belief that the issues addressed should have been taken care of several months ago. For several meetings, the question has been asked if Mr. Taylor spent money without approval of Council on the Farmers' Market and did he violate the procurement policy in doing so. Another question asked was did Council authorize the purchase of Mr. Taylor's truck. If these questions were asked of anyone else or about someone else, they would have been answered quickly and information made available to verify. Council Member Bell had hoped the people involved and those in leadership would come forward to address the concerns of the citizens. He has been told in the past the truth is the truth regardless of the messenger. He began in

August asking the Clerk to provide him with minutes and documents authorizing the County Administrator to spend money on the Farmers' Market, and there were no such minutes. He then asked for any documents to indicate approval of Council to spend money on the Farmers' Market and was provided with minutes of congratulatory comments, which was all that was available. Council Member Bell then asked the County Administrator was the Farmers' Market funding authorized, and the answer was no. It was also asked if this project was budgeted in any form, and the answer was no. The expectation was for the County Administrator and others to come forward since the citizens continued to ask the same questions. There were no comments from the press nor the administration. At the time, it could have been easily handled with a simple statement, I made a mistake, but now the Council has been dragged through the mud because of this. On September 29, 2019, in trying to make sure he had all the facts, Council Member Bell requested answers to specific questions such as did Council approve the funding of the Farmers' Market, who paid for the truck and who authorized it, was it budgeted and was the procurement policy followed with purchase of items for the Farmers' Market. These questions were asked to be sure the accusations alleged were valid and/or true that were being made on Facebook and in the street. A reply was received on October 5, 2019. From the information received, it appears that the County Administrator may have spent money on the Farmers' Market, over \$130,000 without Council approval, probably misappropriation of funds or at least a violation of policy. It appears the County Administrator may have also violated procurement code policies for purchases on the Farmers' Market. This practice, if reviewed several years from now, one would think it was done by the Procurement Director putting her reputation at risk. The County has an entire book on Procurement Policy to ensure it is done correctly, and yes, Council Member Bell has gone through this. The County Administrator appears to have violated the Procurement Policy right under the nose of the current Council. It appears the County Administrator may have purchased a truck without approval of the Council nor was it budgeted, again probably misappropriation of funds or at least a violation of policy. It also appears, unless he was given erroneous information by County employees or Council staff, that the County Administrator may have known when these accusations were made that they were true. If the above is factual, our County Administrator has allowed the Council to be dragged through the mud with the accusations impeding its character and integrity. Monday night, October 7, 2019, Council Member Bell spoke with the County Administrator about each of the alleged accusations because he wanted to

be fair. The Administrator admitted the alleged accusations were truthful, but according to him there were extenuating circumstances. In Council Member Bell's opinion, there are no extenuating circumstances that would allow the County Administrator to cause this current Council to be dogged out, called corrupt, stated to be without integrity or character and providing a cover-up. If these wrongdoings are true, it is unbecoming of a County Administrator who has the responsibility and authority to administer policies and ordinances for the County government and to administer discipline to the County staff and employees. Now, we are hearing more accusations of personal use of vehicles and performing work that requires certification when employees don't have this. It is Council Member Bell's hope that the total Fairfield County Council work together to obtain an unbiased investigation and audit to determine the facts of the alleged wrongdoing and the disciplinary steps as needed for the infractions. Also recommended is that the County Administrator do a weekly report of his work to provide Council with knowledge of his activities to ensure that all policy and orders are being adhered to and that he is being transparent with the spending of public funds. Also recommended is that until said investigation is complete, the County Administrator should not be involved in any personnel discipline matters nor be able to sign off of any expenditures without approval from the Council. If the accusations by citizens and information and findings given to Council Member Bell by County employees and Council staff are true, they are very serious and must be taken seriously and treated as any other employee of the County. He understands there are many who want to protect and cover-up. If so, how will you ever explain to another County employee being disciplined for performance or spending money unauthorized that this is not an acceptable practice as a Fairfield County government employee. This will become the standard if it goes unchecked, a standard of unethical behavior as the norm. He understands that there will be some who will try to discredit and make him the villain for pointing out the alleged wrongdoing of the County Administrator for his violation of policy, and he is simply asking for an investigation to determine the facts.

Douglas: Council Member Douglas stated the Farmers' Market is used by everyone and not used by a certain family or sect. Everybody loves it. He does not understand why such a big thing has been made of it and feels it's just not right. The Chamber had money for downtown Winnsboro to make some repairs in the amount of \$35,000 that Wal-Mart had given. This was used to start the Farmers' Market. He is proud of the Farmers' Market and feels it's for everybody. He feels this needs to

be put to rest. He thanked the citizens who came tonight to speak about Vulcan and hopefully the comments will help. There will be meetings set up to voice opinions, but the County Council cannot do anything about it.

Trapp: Council Member Trapp stated he does agree with Mr. Bell on every aspect, in that if all the accusations are true, we do need to discipline the Administrator. Secondly, as far as the Farmers' Market, he cannot agree with Council Member Douglas to say it's for everybody when a citizen was just racially profiled inside of it a few weekends ago. So, he feels it's not for everyone and is for a select few. As far as the Farmers' Market, he did not know anything about it until the grand opening. Someone said it was advertised in the paper. Council Member Trapp questioned which paper was it in because he did not see it. The only papers Council Member Trapp reads is the Country Chronicle and The Post from the high school. If it was in the other paper, he did not see it.

Goins: Vice Chair Goins stated she has heard a lot tonight and has heard a lot for the past three years. Recently, she saw on television the lady that was convicted for killing a person of color in his apartment. What the brother did was unusual for people. He asked to give her a hug, and he extended forgiveness. The judge stepped down and also gave her a hug as a sign of forgiveness. Darkness is so deep in society that someone said he should be put out of the black community. There is no black community, there is no white community. There is one race, the human race that God created. The difference is there is a kingdom with kingdom people that the world does not understand. The Farmers' Market and anything else, someone built it and people are getting use from it. Vice Chair Goins questions how can you go against it and why would you want to. Everything that we use is because of God and other people, the houses we live in, the land we're on, the roads and bridges. When we lose sight of who we are and who owns us and who controls everything, that's what we've forgotten about. Vice Chair Goins thanked the Administrator because not long ago, people were saying thank you and we appreciate you, you're doing a good job. However, when you don't agree with them, the knives come out. She appreciates the attorney for his effort. She congratulated the Chairman and knows what he's going through. Some people don't know, and they don't appreciate it. We reap the benefits of many people's work and sacrifices, but we don't know how to appreciate it. We think we deserve more than what we actually do when we deserve really less because we haven't done any labor for it. She understands what the citizens have stated about their water. Her water was off most of the day, and when it came back on from the

Jenkinsville Water Company, this is what came out of the faucet (Vice Chair Goins showed a bottle of brown tinted water). This has been going on for 20 years, muddy water, contaminated water, complaining about the operations of the company, investigations and house arrest. She suggested maybe some jail time is needed now. When children went home today, they don't know to watch out for contaminants and bad water. Seniors and people with medical conditions, they don't know to watch out for that. In 20 years, there has not been one boil water advisory. Water is being sold without a meter with thousands of gallons going against accountability and transparency. Vice Chair Goins went to a meeting and asked about a report where someone came to her residence from the lab to check the water with no decal and no identification. Brooks Drive in Jenkinsville has been waiting for water for years. It was stated it would cost a certain amount of money, and then it was stated they would be getting a loan. Every year Brooks Drive is going to get water. The word now is it will cost \$30,000 but will be an inside job. The NAACP has been called in. DHEC has not done their job because there were no boil water advisories. Everyone else is talking about this and that, a monument, but for some reason no one is concerned about thousands of people drinking contaminated water. Not only the break today, but water pressure has been down for days with fire hydrants just running and wasting, but when people apply for water, the company says there is not enough water because it would lower the water pressure for the other customers. Yet we're talking about what's important in the County and things that we should be doing. We are downing somebody who is trying to do a good work. God is blessing us, not the Chairman or the Administrator and not Vice Chair Goins. Every good and perfect gift comes from God. Whatever we do, we don't need to be pushing our chest out, being puffed up and proud about anything, because if he doesn't make it happen, it won't happen. The fact is he brings that gift, those benefits and blessings, to whom he chooses. If you don't like the skin color, take it up with him. Until we learn to change and do like that young man, get down off our high horse, humble ourselves and show kindness to one another instead of cutting each other down, we should have a heart to ask what we can do to help. If you made a mistake or know someone who has made a mistake, go to them and try to reason with them. The last Council meeting we tried to set something up where the citizens could meet one on one with the Administrator and reason together. No, we don't want to reason together, we want to be angry and bitter and ugly toward one another. We are in front of a generation coming up, and we wonder why there's so much violence in our children and anger and destruction. All we have to do is start looking

at self and ask are we doing all we're supposed to do. This is not a conversation anyone wants to have, but it's always needful. Many of us started with a rough journey, but because of other people being in our lives, we made it. We made choices to either do good or bad. Every person up here has only one vote. If they're trying to do the right thing, those who knew them when they were in the community, it would seem like you would try to encourage them and try to help them and give them some guidance. We're the same person when we are in our address, same person when you ate lunch with us, the same person that went to school with you. One day your time will come. It may not be Council but it may be something else. The word says so you sow, so you reap. Vice Chair Goins is the first one to acknowledge she doesn't always do right. She's not in competition with anyone and not trying to make a reputation. Now that she knows better, she is trying to do better, and all she can ask is for everyone to do the same thing. God didn't tell us to teach our children about our generation and about our past, he said don't do what they did and teach them about him, so they will know love and peace. In this house, she will do what God says, and she encourages everyone to do the same thing.

Pauley: Council Member Pauley would like to make a Motion to Reconsider for clarification on the Library in Ridgeway. Motion seconded by Council Member Gilbert. Council Member Pauley would like to get an explanation on if you vote yes this way and no that way. Per Mr. Morgan, as he understood the motion that was made, Council Member Douglas made a motion that Council not take action as it relates to the Request of Action for the CDBG Grant. There was a second from Vice Chair Goins. After discussion, the votes were cast with no votes for the no action to be taken and 7 votes against no action to be taken. So, using that logic, there was a double negative that was used with the 7 nay votes that voted against not taking action ended up voting to take action. Inasmuch as all 7 members of Council voted the same way, the Motion to Reconsider could be made by anybody at this point in time. It's not a debatable motion pursuant to Robert's Rules of Order, it just allows the motion that was previously made to not take action but to be brought forward for a revote. **Chairman Robinson then called for the vote for everyone in favor of the CDBG not going forward signify by saying aye (5 votes – Robinson, Goins, Douglas, Pauley and Gilbert) and all those who want it to go forward signify by saying nay (2 votes – Bell and Trapp).**

Goins: Vice Chair Goins also stated because western Fairfield, Jenkinsville, Blair, Greenbrier, all the people on the Jenkinsville Water Company system, she does not wish this to go to a health threat, epidemic or possibly a fatality. Therefore, she is asking Council, Administrator and attorney, because the company is not a private owned company, to protect the citizens and do everything you can to make sure that company comes under the umbrella of the County so the citizens can be protected and can get clean, safe, affordable and accessible drinking water.

Douglas: Council Member Douglas stated he learned about the Farmers' Market by being interested in Fairfield County. When he heard there was a possibility the building could be fixed up because it was condemned, he was all for it. He did speak with people about it. The Country Chronicle and The Voice were the papers who said something about it. The Voice said the most about it, and he feels they are a good newspaper, too.

Pauley: Council Member Pauley wanted to remind everyone of the Breast Cancer Walk this Saturday, October 19, at Mt. Zion beginning at 10 a.m. and encouraged everyone to attend.

Bell: Council Member Bell questioned if there is a conflict of interest in talking about another water company with the County being part of the joint system. Mr. Taylor deferred to Mr. Morgan, who stated there has been outside counsel brought in to discuss the Joint Water and Sewer Authority between the County and the Town, so without looking into the documents, he is unable to give an answer. He would be happy to look into this by looking into the operating agreement and by-laws. Mr. Taylor inquired if this was asked because there are members of Council on the joint system board. Council Member Bell stated we do have members on the board, and Vice Chair Goins is represented by counsel. He just doesn't want us to have a situation come up to hold the Council liable. Vice Chair Goins stated she paid \$25 when the company was first started in 1973 as did 100 or more other people. We all deserve better water. She feels we have a problem if she or anybody else can't talk about something they're paying money for. She expects to get what she is paying for, no conflict of interest – corruption. Council Member Trapp inquired, to be clear, if County Council will try to take over Jenkinsville Water Company. Discussion ensued, after which Chairman Robinson stated no and that Vice Chair Goins was just speaking.

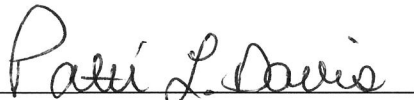
Robinson: Chairman Robinson stated the gentleman was right that he had misspoken concerning the vehicle and insurance because that was the last assumption that was discussed. He asked Mr. Taylor to elaborate on this. Per Mr. Taylor, we did assume insurance would cover it and insurance did not. We are in a dispute with insurance to some extent over what they have done with the old Tahoe that was hit. Council Member Douglas inquired if the truck was ordered before the accident, and Mr. Taylor stated no. Chairman Robinson then inquired if Council would like to have a list of projects voted on that we've been doing in that line item going forward. Council Member Bell answered no, these items on the project list have been budgeted, and we know they were on the project list. If we go back and try to make sure that we pull things off the budget because we don't want certain things to strike certain people, we can do that. Chairman Robinson stated he was just looking for clarification. Also, in questioning certifications, what type of certifications are needed for in-house work. Mr. Taylor stated some certifications are needed to perform certain work. Chairman Robinson requested for Mr. Taylor to check to see if the certifications are in place.

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

No executive session.

18. ADJOURN

At 7:36 p.m., it was moved by Council Member Douglas and seconded by Vice Chair Goins and Council Member Bell to adjourn. ***The motion carried unanimously 7-0.***



PATTI L. DAVIS
CLERK TO COUNCIL



CORNELIUS ROBINSON
CHAIRMAN