



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

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

Absent: Mikel Trapp, Bertha Goins

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.

Due to COVID-19 (Coronavirus), the meeting is being live-streamed through the County's YouTube page in order to keep citizens informed.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Robinson called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by Council Member Douglas, seconded by Council Member Pauley, to approve the Agenda. ***The motion carried unanimously 5-0.***

3. INVOCATION

Council Member Gilbert led the invocation.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Council Member Gilbert, seconded by Council Member Pauley, to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of March 23, 2020, and the Special Meeting minutes of March 27, 2020. ***The motion carried unanimously 6-0.***

5. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

None.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

7. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND ORDERS

- A.** Second Reading Ordinance No. 742: An Ordinance Adopting the 2018 Edition of the International Building, Residential, Plumbing, Mechanical, Fuel Gas and Fire Codes as the Mandatory Building Codes for Fairfield County, South Carolina. Motion made by Council Member Bell, seconded by Council Member Gilbert and Council Member Douglas, to approve Second Reading (By Title Only) of Ordinance No. 742. Council Member Bell inquired what changes were made. Per Mr. Taylor, this is something that has to be periodically updated on the County level as it is updated nationally. Per Mr. Clauson, there is usually a three year rotation with code amendments. The ICC (International Code) will modify at the state level, and the 2018 update was delayed an extra year, being implemented in 2020. There are thousands of changes, and Mr. Clauson would not be able to list these. In 2022 or maybe 2023, there will be another update. Council Member Douglas inquired who mandates that these should be followed. Per Mr. Clauson, the state has adopted these, and the County is likewise accepting these as our policy. It also ties into insurance rates. For the most part, everyone uses the ICC standards. ***Motion carried unanimously 5-0.***

Council Member Pauley inquired concerning the microphones. Council cannot turn the microphones off, and they are remaining on at all times during this meeting.

- B.** Second Reading Ordinance No. 743: An Ordinance Adopting the 2017 Edition of the National Electrical Code as the Mandatory Electric Code for Fairfield County, South Carolina. Motion made by Council Member Bell, seconded by Council Member Douglas, to approve Second Reading of Ordinance No. 743. Per Mr. Clauson, everyone looks to the National Electric Code, and this code is pulled out from all the other codes. They are likewise updated about every three years, and usually they are safety oriented changes. ***Motion carried unanimously 5-0.***
- C.** First Reading (By Title Only) Ordinance No. 748: An Ordinance Authorizing Fairfield County to Purchase Certain Real Property in Fairfield County, South Carolina; Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of a Purchase Agreement, an Option Agreement and a Right of First Refusal Agreement; Authorizing the Expenditure of Certain Grant Funds; and Other Related Matters. Motion made by Council Member Douglas, seconded by Council Member Gilbert, to approve First Reading (By Title

Only) of Ordinance No. 748. **Motion carried 4-1 with Council Member Pauley voting nay.**

D. Resolution No. 2020-05: A Resolution Affirming Fairfield County's Commitment to Fair Housing. Motion made by Council Member Bell, seconded by Council Member Gilbert, to approve Resolution No. 2020-05. Per Mr. Taylor, periodically the County has to reaffirm its commitment in order to qualify for federal funds, such as CDBG. **Motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

E. Resolution No. 2020-06: A Resolution Approving Fairfield County Entering into Agreements with Fairfield Forward and Fairfield Behavioral Health Services in Order to Support the Healthy People Healthy Carolinas Grant. Motion made by Council Member Gilbert, seconded by Council Member Pauley, to approve Resolution No. 2020-06. Council Member Bell stated he attended a Fairfield Forward meeting and mentioned all the work that had been done thus far had been in the Winnsboro and surrounding area. He inquired about the poor rural areas and stated he was told this had not been considered. One thing the Coronavirus has revealed is that it is more devastating to the black and brown community. In a recent study concerning this topic by Howard University, it was found that one of the reasons for this is environmental pollution, in addition to the lack of recreational facilities. Council Member Bell believes the County needs to look at things that may impact these communities. Council Member Douglas stated with this Resolution, Council is only being asked to approve that the County can assist with the grant funds. Per Mr. Taylor, at this point, a relationship is being created between the County and Behavioral Health so they can act as the fiscal agent and the Duke Endowment money can be pulled down. With this, an employee can be hired to help assist and research where programs need to be done with this money. Again, this Resolution is to create a relationship wherein the County will have a fiscal agent so it can qualify to pull the grant funds. Council Member Bell stated his point is simply to make sure and not leave communities without when there are opportunities to make sure they have. **Motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

8. BOARD AND COMMISSION MINUTES - Received as Information

- A.** Hospital Board
- B.** Disabilities and Special Needs Board

9. BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

None.

10. OLD BUSINESS

None.

11. NEW BUSINESS

None.

12. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

A. Request of Action: Unbudgeted Purchase of 2018 Chevrolet Silverado 2500 HD with 26,673 miles (Purchase Price of \$30,000) with addition of \$5,000 for radio, lights and siren totaling \$35,000. Per Mr. Taylor, these requests would typically go to the Finance Committee first. However, the policies have been changed due to the situation with the virus, and this is being brought directly to Council. Motion made by Council Member Douglas, seconded by Council Member Bell, to approve the Request of Action as stated. Per Sheriff Montgomery, the vehicle is in very good condition. It was seized in a narcotics case, and a total of \$45,642 is owed on the vehicle. The Sheriff's Department reached out to the lien holder, and the vehicle was offered for \$30,000. Council Member Pauley pointed out this is a separate item from the budget and that the Sheriff's Department is also requesting 10 patrol cars. Council Member Bell inquired what would be done with this vehicle. Per Sheriff Montgomery, it can be used in several places such as investigations. Council Member Bell also researched a new 2500. While he understands the current vehicle is loaded, a new vehicle can be purchased for \$35,000. Per Sheriff Montgomery, the vehicle can be used for pulling boats and a 4-wheel drive vehicle is always needed. Council Member Bell also inquired the price of a regular Charger, which per Sheriff Montgomery is about \$35,000. Council Member Pauley inquired if there was any drug seizure money that could be used for the purchase of the vehicle. Per Sheriff Montgomery, if this were done, it would have to be used for narcotics. If it is bought with other funds, it can be used for other purposes. Chairman Robinson inquired if Sheriff Montgomery would be willing to swap this vehicle for a patrol car, and Sheriff Montgomery stated this would be hard to do. Council Member Bell assumed this is what would be done, and Sheriff Montgomery stated they wanted this truck outside of the budget. Council Member Gilbert inquired if the new patrol cars are replacing outdated cars. Sheriff Montgomery stated this is correct. Council Member Pauley requested an inventory

list of the Sheriff's Department vehicles, and Mr. Taylor will get this to the Council Members. To reiterate, Council Member Bell stated the department is looking for this vehicle along with the other ten, and Sheriff Montgomery stated it is this vehicle with the other nine. Council Member Bell made a motion to amend to include the purchase of the Silverado and remove one of the other cars from the budget list. Chairman Robinson stated technically a motion to amend is not needed because the budget has not been approved yet. Therefore, Council Member Bell withdrew the motion to amend. ***Motion carried 4-1 with Council Member Pauley voting nay.*** Council Member Bell inquired if Council Member Trapp and Vice Chair Goins were being allowed to vote. Chairman Robinson stated we are still experiencing technical difficulties. Mr. Taylor also stated both Council Members were informed of the technical difficulties.

13. CLERK TO COUNCIL'S REPORT

None.

14. COUNTY COUNCIL TIME

Robinson: Chairman Robinson wished to reiterate to everyone to please be safe and that this virus is serious. He has had three friends in their 40s who have lost their lives, and it is correct that it is affecting the black and brown community the most. Please be safe and practice social distancing. Council Member Bell inquired the number of cases in Fairfield County currently. Per Mr. Taylor, it is above 30 with 2 deaths.

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

None.

16. ADJOURN

At 6:28 p.m., it was moved by Council Member Bell and seconded by Council Member Gilbert to adjourn. ***The motion carried unanimously 5-0.***

PATTI L. DAVIS
CLERK TO COUNCIL

CORNELIUS ROBINSON
CHAIRMAN