

**CHESTERFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**July 13, 2016 .....9:00 A.M.**

**PRESENT:** Chairman Al Johnson, Vice-Chair Lenora V. Powe, Council Members: J. Matthew Rivers, Mary Anderson, Bruce E. Rivers, Gerald L. Miller, Robert G. Cole and G. Franklin Plyler.

**ABSENT:** Council Member Douglas Curtis.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Denise R. Douglass – Administrator; Tim Eubanks – Assistant Administrator/Public Works Director; Betty M. Boswell – Clerk to Council; Michelle Stanley – Finance Director; Kim Burch – Chesterfield County Economic Development Director; Cherry McCoy - Chesterfield County Economic Development Senior Project Manager & Existing Industry Coordinator; C. Heath Ruffner – County Attorney; Robert Monnie – The Link; Alex McGill – Congressman Tom Rice’s Office; Jim McGonigal – Animal Services Director; Gratton Matthews – Sheriff’s Office; Andrena Davis – Sheriff’s Office; Richard Zuendt, Doris Atkinson, Donald E. Foote, Phyllis Foote, Ronald Griggs, Terrence Hooper, Don C. Roberts, Betty A. Roberts, Renee Aycock, Marion Gainey, Ralph Watson, Rob Lee, Ben Teal, Chris Teal, Gwen Cabiness and Ruthie Tarlton. There were others attending the meeting who did not sign the sign-in-sheet.

**PRESS:** Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting, date, time, place of meeting and agenda were posted on the bulletin board at the County Administrative Offices, 178 Mill Street, Chesterfield, SC, and the County Website ([www.chesterfieldcountysc.com](http://www.chesterfieldcountysc.com)). In addition, it was made available to the newspapers and concerned citizens (*upon request*). Members of the press present: Robert Monnie – The Link.

**CALL TO ORDER AND PRAYER**

Chairman Johnson welcomed everyone and Council Member Cole opened the meeting with prayer.

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

**a. Employee Length-of-Service Recognition**

Staff has implemented a Service Recognition Program that is designed to honor the County’s Employees. The program will recognize years of service beginning at five years and following in five year increments. The following employees were recognized and presented with their Certificates:

<b><u>Employee</u></b>	<b><u>Department</u></b>	<b><u>Number of Years</u></b>
Marion Gainey	Convenience Center	5
John A. Davis	Magistrate (Not Present)	5
Ernestine Schray	Voter Registration (Not Present)	10
Gratton Matthews	Sheriff’s Office	10
Andrena Davis	Sheriff’s Office	10

## **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Council Member Matt Rivers made a motion to adopt the July 13, 2016 meeting agenda. Council Member Miller seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

### **a. June 1, 2016 – Regular Meeting**

Council Member Miller made a motion to approve the June 1, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes. Council Member Plyler seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

### **b. June 29, 2016 – Special Meeting**

Council Member Miller made a motion to approve the June 29, 2016 Special Meeting Minutes. Council Member Plyler seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

## **SIGNING OF BONDS, PAYROLL, AND AUTHORIZATIONS**

None

## **APPOINTMENTS**

### **a. Honorable Jay Brooks, Sheriff – Domestic Violence Task Force**

Chief Deputy Rob Lee appeared before Council on behalf of Sheriff Jay Brooks and requested that Council join the Sheriff in getting the county Safe Place Certified for Domestic Violence Awareness as requested by the Governor.

Council Member Matt Rivers made a motion to approve the request. Council Member Bruce R. Rivers seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

### **b. Jay Lawson - Marlboro County Rescue Squad, Inc. – Ambulance Service Franchise Application**

Appeared before Council and advised that Marlboro County Rescue Squad, Inc. had submitted an Ambulance Service Franchise Application.

Chairman Johnson referred the application of Marlboro County Rescue Squad, Inc. to the Finance Committee for review and recommendation to the full Council.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Richard Zuendt:** Addressed Council regarding refugee resettlement.

**Don Foote:** Addressed Council regarding the paving of Miles road.

**Phyllis Foote:** Addressed Council regarding the paving of Miles road.

**Doris Atkinson:** Addressed Council regarding refugee resettlement.

**Betty Roberts:** Addressed Council regarding refugee resettlement.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**a. \$210,000 General Obligation Bond Ordinance – Public Hearing**

Council Member Bruce E. Rivers made a motion to open public hearing. Council Member Anderson seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

There were no oral comments from the public made nor were any written comments received.

Council Member Miller made a motion to close public hearing. Council Member Anderson seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

**b. Ordinance to Reestablish the Chesterfield Rural Fire Protection District – Public Hearing**

Council Member Plyler made a motion to open public hearing. Council Member Bruce E. Rivers seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

**Ronald Griggs:** Advised Council he had 60 names of people who want to move from Patrick Fire Department to Alligator Fire Department or get a countywide fire department.

**Chairman Johnson:** Advised Mr. Griggs that this Public Hearing was regarding Chesterfield Rural Fire Protection District and the time for him to speak would have been during Public Comments. He also stated that Council Member Curtis had called him and advised that he would not be at the meeting and if anyone attended the meeting regarding the Patrick Fire Department and Alligator Fire Department matter, to let them know that he was going to try to work with Patrick and Alligator Fire Departments.

**Terrence Hooper:** Advised Council he was the Chairman of the Board of Bay Springs Fire Department and a member of the Ruby Fire Department. He had questions regarding the structure and funding of the Chesterfield Rural Fire Protection District which were addressed by Council and staff.

Council Member Plyler made a motion to close public hearing. Council Member Bruce E. Rivers seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

**ORDINANCE READINGS AND RESOLUTION**

**a. \$210,000 General Obligation Bond Ordinance– 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading**

Council Member Plyler made a motion to pass 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading. Council Member Bruce E. Rivers seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

**b. Ordinance to Reestablish the Chesterfield Rural Fire Protection District – 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading**

Council Member Matt Rivers made a motion to pass 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading. Vice-Chair Powe seconded the motion.

There was discussion regarding this matter.

Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

**c. 2016 Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) Ordinance – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**

Council Member Matt Rivers made a motion to pass 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading. Council Member Plyler seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

**d. Ordinance to Adopt 2015 Building Codes – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**

Council Member Plyler made a motion to pass the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading. Council Member Bruce E. Rivers seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

**e. MCIP Agreement Ordinance – Kershaw County – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading, by title only**

Council Member Miller made a motion to pass 1<sup>st</sup> Reading, *by title only*. Vice-Chair Powe seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

**f. Project Leaf FILOT Ordinance – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading, by title only**

Council Member Matt Rivers made a motion to pass 1<sup>st</sup> Reading, *by title only*. Council Member Anderson seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

**g. Project Leaf Inducement Resolution**

Council Member Matt Rivers made a motion to pass the Resolution. Council Member Anderson seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**a. Road Committee – Committee Chair Powe**

**1. Road Department Track Hoe**

Advised the Road Department needs a track hoe, and has for many years. It is the recommendation of the Road Committee that a track hoe be purchased for the Road Department.

Vice-Chair Powe made a motion to proceed with the purchase of a track hoe for the Road Department. Council Member Miller seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

**ITEMS SUBMITTED BY COUNCIL**

None

**ITEMS SUBMITTED BY STAFF**

**a. Tourism Grant - Douglass**

Advised that the County was awarded a grant from the South Carolina Parks, Recreation and Tourism (PRT) for tourism advertising. Advised that Kim Burch had some information regarding the grant.

**Kim Burch, Economic Development Director:** Advised Council that Darron Kirkley, Tourism Coordinator, was unable to attend the meeting. Advised Mr. Kirkley applied for a grant

through the State and the County was granted nearly \$8,000 which will be a matching grant from the Accommodations Tax money. The grant is to be spent on advertising and print with online marketing. The website for tourism will be up at the end of next week. She advised that Mr. Kirkley asked that she let Council know that the tax grant selection process will start next month and he has already received 13 applications.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **a. Grievance Committee Appointments – Douglass**

Advised there were three Council Members that need to appoint/reappoint members. She advised that each Committee member has agreed to serve another three (3) year term.

The appointments are as follows:

District 1 – Bruce E. Rivers	Kevin Thurman
District 2 – Gerald L. Miller	Lorene Green
District 3 – Al Johnson, Chairman	Susie Jordan

Council Member Bruce E. Rivers made a motion to accept the names that were nominated. Council Member Miller seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

## **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Advised Council that we were having our Employee Health Service Program kickoff and asked Chairman Johnson if he would allow the nurse and doctor to speak and tell Council about the services they offer.

**Diane Sheffield- Wilkes, CEO Hartsville Medical Enrichment Services and Dr. John Trogdon:** Gave Council a brief overview of the services they will be offering to county employees.

## **COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS:**

**Council Member Matt Rivers:** On the Refugee Resettlement issue, I know that the gentlemen had come before, I guess it was in June. It was my understanding that there were no refugees coming, some bad information had gotten out. I just want to clarify the issue. My point about it is, and first of all to be clear, 99% of the time, and I'm not speaking for the Chairman but just to educate the public. If a Chairman of Council does not put something on the agenda, it's because people like his council members encourage him not to. So just to be fair, Mr. Johnson should not be on the spot by himself, in that Mr. Johnson typically polls people, he polled me and I didn't think it needed to be on the agenda. I think the threat of Islamic terrorism is terrible, however, I also feel and am very sensitive to the ethnicity of people in general, whether by race, etc., especially race with our history in this country and so I'm very sympathetic to your cause but until, and I'm speaking for me and until I see evidence of that in this County, I don't see any reason to do that. I think it comes across a little strong willed.

**Council Member Bruce E. Rivers:** To our distinguished people from the Middendorf Community, this Council was aware of this issue that you brought before us again today. We

tried to address it. Representative Yow has been working on this for many months. He came before us to enlighten us of what was credible in those rumors and what was not. According to our folks in Columbia from the Governor's office on down, this is not something that is going to happen in South Carolina or Chesterfield County. We will certainly take appropriate steps to keep terrorism out of our community. Chesterfield County is our community, we are all neighbors. We are doing everything we can to make sure Chesterfield County is a good, safe place to raise your family. It's not that we have ignored this issue at all but I'm like Mr. Rivers, I don't think it's appropriate for us to pass a Resolution. Let's all work together to make sure we can better our citizens of Chesterfield County.

**Council Member Anderson:** I have been contacted by some of my constituents, it's not just the Middendorf area. I want to publicly thank the Brocks Mill Fire Department members and I know there are lots of volunteers that helped after the storm last week, I just know this one specifically because it's in the district I'm in but they worked until 3:00 a.m. to clear over 20 trees and I know that helped Tim and his crew.

**Council Member Bruce E. Rivers:** These people in the Miles Road area, this is not being ignored. Mr. Miller has been working on it, our Transportation Committee has been working on it and they are taking the necessary steps to make this come about. In government, things don't happen overnight. If everything works well, the road should be paved before cold weather. We've got hundreds of miles of road in Chesterfield County that need to be paved. I want to also echo what Ms. Anderson said about the firefighters. It's unbelievable what firefighters in this County do, they don't just put out fires. I applaud all our firefighters in Chesterfield County for what they do. We are so blessed to have the volunteers that we have.

**Council Member Matt Rivers:** I want us all to remember those officers that fell in Dallas this week. I just ask that we remember them and their families.

**Vice-Chair Powe:** In regards to fire departments, I think one of the things we could do if we ever decided to go to countywide millage, is to incorporate the rescue and the fire departments together because now if the rescue squad goes out, the fire department has to go out also for accidents and that kind of thing.

**Chairman Johnson:** Our next meeting is scheduled for August 10, do yall want to have it at the first or leave it at the 10<sup>th</sup>? I'm suggesting leave it at the 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Council Member Matt Rivers:** I think with the notice we give at the first of the year, we can't.

**Chairman Johnson:** So, it cannot be changed. It will be on August 10.


### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Council did not enter Executive Session.


**ADJOURN**

Council Member Plyler made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Matt Rivers seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

**APPROVED:**

  
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Al Johnson, Chairman  
Date: August 10, 2016

**ATTEST:**

  
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Betty M. Boswell, Clerk to Council