

**CHESTERFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
November 1, 2017..... 9:00 A.M.**

PRESENT: Chairman Al Johnson, Vice-Chair Douglas A. Curtis, Council Members: Hattie Burns, Mary Anderson, Bruce E. Rivers, Gerald L. Miller, Ralph E. Watson, Wm. Rhett Butler and Ben Teal.

OTHERS PRESENT: Tim Eubanks – Interim Administrator/Public Works Director, Betty M. Boswell – Clerk to Council/Office Manager, Michelle Stanley – Finance Director, Lisa Gainey – Human Resource Director, C. Heath Ruffner – County Attorney/Interim Assistant Administrator, Arthur Bays, Jr., Honorable Jay Brooks – Sheriff, Honorable Richie Yow – Representative, District 53, Sammie Copeland, CCTC Director and Robert Monnie – The Link. 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). 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 Ralph Watson opened the meeting with prayer.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chairman Johnson: Stated that Attorney Ruffner had advised that the Agenda needed to be amended to add a Northeastern Strategic Alliance (NESA) grant.

Attorney Ruffner: Briefed Council on the need to amend the Agenda to include the allocation of approximately \$12,000 in matching funds from Utility Tax Credit monies in order to obtain a grant from NESA for site work on the Belk Property in Pageland. Notification of approval of the grant was received after publication of the agenda such that it is necessary to amend the agenda and, because this is final action on the item, there must be a finding of exigent circumstances to amend to include this item and that motion must be passed by a two-thirds vote.

So, we would need a motion to amend the agenda for that reason specifically with a finding that exigent circumstances exist and that motion would have to be passed by two-thirds vote of Council in order to add that to the agenda, which we need to vote to amend the agenda and if that passes, we would need a motion to approve the agenda as amended. So we actually we need two votes.

Council Member Rivers made a motion to amend the agenda to add the NESA Grant under New Business and that exigent circumstances exist in that the County will lose the grant if

not acted upon at today's meeting. Council Member Butler seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

Council Member Rivers made a motion to adopt the November 1, 2017 meeting agenda, with said amendment. Council Member Butler seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

a. Alexander "Kemp" McLeod

Chairman Johnson: Advised that Mr. McLeod was unable to attend and that Council would go ahead and adopt the Resolution of Appreciation and Council Member Teal would present a framed copy of the Resolution to Mr. McLeod at a later date.

Council Member Teal made a motion to adopt the Resolution. Council Member Burns seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. October 4, 2017 – Regular Meeting

Council Member Anderson: Requested an addition to the minutes to insert the word "playground" in the third sentence from the end under her comments such that it will read, "Highland has decided on their own to go above and beyond to take care of those and to provide the playground equipment."

Council Member Miller made a motion to approve the October 4, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes, with said amendment. Council Member Anderson seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

SIGNING OF BONDS, PAYROLL, AND AUTHORIZATIONS

None

APPOINTMENTS

a. Honorable Richie Yow, Representative, District 53

Representative Yow appeared before Council to give them an update on the status of establishment of a substation for the Patrick Rural Volunteer Fire Department. Stated that he contacted the Director of the South Carolina Forestry Commission and asked if he would entertain the idea of going into an Agreement with the County and the Patrick Fire Department to utilize that land and to make that facility an alternate location for Sandhills Forestry in the event of an emergency, whether it be fire or whatever at the forestry and the Director of the Forestry agreed to pursue that. Representative Yow advised he just wanted to bring this information to Council and let them know that they are making progress. Stated that he also wanted to publicly thank the Sheriff's Office for help with the Veteran's event.

Council Member Teal made a motion to pursue the Agreement with the State Forestry Commission and for the County Attorney to assist the Fire Department in doing so. Council Member Burns seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ORDINANCE READINGS AND RESOLUTIONS

a. Project Leaf – Resolution

Council Member Anderson made a motion to adopt the Resolution. Council Member Watson seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Road Committee – Committee Chair Miller

Committee Chair Miller advised that the Road Committee met regarding the purchase of a backhoe and he would let Administrator Eubanks speak on it.

Tim Eubanks, Interim Administrator: Advised that the Road Department was able to turn money back into the Road Department budget for the last couple of years and that he had taken this before the Finance Committee and explained the source of the funding to purchase the backhoe and received a unanimous positive recommendation from the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee then referred the matter to the Road Committee for consideration and the Road Committee also voted unanimously to recommend the purchase of a backhoe.

There was some discussion regarding the purchase of the backhoe for the Road Department.

Council Member Anderson made a motion that Council accept Mr. Eubank's recommendation to purchase a new CAT backhoe using the money already available in the budget. Council Member Rivers seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

b. Health Department Roof – Bid Award – Committee Chair Rivers

Committee Chair Rivers advised that staff issued an Invitation for Bids for the Health Department roof and that the Building Committee felt the bids were high and that it is the recommendation of the Building Committee to reject the bids.

Council Member Rivers made a motion to reject the bids received for the Health Department roof. Council Member Watson seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

ITEMS SUBMITTED BY STAFF

a. Judicial Center – Sprinkler Bid Award – Eubanks

Advised that staff had received a letter from Alliance recommending the bid for the fire sprinkler system at the Judicial Center in the amount of \$154,000 be awarded to Absolute Fire Control from Charlotte, North Carolina.

Council Member Rivers made a motion to award the bid to Absolute Fire Control in the amount of \$154,000. Council Member Burns seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

b. NESA Grant

Attorney Ruffner read a letter to Ronald Carter, Director of Operations, NESA regarding the grant and advised that Council would need to vote to approve the letter and authorize Chairman Johnson to submit the letter to NESA.

Council Member Butler made a motion to approve said letter regarding the grant and to authorize Chairman Johnson to submit letter to NESA. Council Member Watson seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

a. Pee Dee Workforce Development Board Appointment

The Clerk to Council advised that Chairman Johnson had received a letter from Joette R. Dukes, CGFO, Workforce Development Director, Pee Dee Workforce Development Board, stating that Mr. Gene Crawford's term of service expired on June 30, 2017 and he did not wish to be reappointed. Ms. Dukes advised that she had received a letter from the Cheraw Chamber of Commerce in support of the appointment of Dr. Jimmie Williamson to serve a three-year term, which will expire on June 30, 2020.

Council Member Anderson made a motion to appoint Dr. Jimmie Williamson to the Pee Dee Workforce Development Board. Council Member Butler seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Eubanks advised that the Bid Opening for Phase 2 on the Judicial Center was coming up and they were getting ready to get the sprinkler system started. He advised that they had started the brickwork on the main entrance.

COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Vice-Chair Curtis: I think I can speak publically about it because it's all in the paper. I think we are all aware that we had some issues at the jail. One of the employees was charged with a crime and should have been. This is a national problem, I don't think it's isolated to here. That was an isolated incident but that happens in every level, federal, state and county but we got to keep being vigil. I think they do a good job. It's just one of those things that happened. You had a bad apple so to speak but that individual was charged and incarcerated and should be and they know that's a consequence. I don't have the answer but we all are aware and we don't like it but it's in the paper and I didn't want it to go and nothing be said about it and Sheriff through y'all's investigation we resolved that one matter and I do appreciate it, certainly do. Thank you.

Council Member Butler: Pee Dee Coalition had their fund raising event for the shelter in Wallace the same night as the Veteran's Event. Representative Henegan spoke at it and I attended that and it was a very, very nice affair and I think we need to keep that group in our thoughts.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Johnson advised that pursuant to S.C. Code § 30-4-70-(a)(2), Council would enter into executive session for the discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements, the receipt of legal advice where the legal advice relates to a pending, threatened, or potential claim or other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege, regarding the following:

- i. Croft Jones Road Condemnation
- ii. Intersection of Oak Street and U.S. Highway 1, Cheraw, SC Condemnation

Council Member Watson made a motion to enter Executive Session. Council Member Burns seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

Council Member Butler made a motion to exit Executive Session. Council Member Miller seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

REGULAR SESSION

Chairman Johnson reported Council is back in regular session. No motions were made and no action was taken in Executive Session.

Vice-Chair Curtis made a motion to authorize Attorney Ruffner to negotiate with Mr. Hurst's attorney up to the amount discussed in executive session and attempt to resolve the matter. Council Member Burns seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

Council Member Anderson made a motion to authorize Attorney William O. Spencer to send appraisals to the landowners involved and offer them the amount of the appraisal. Council Member Butler seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

ADJOURN

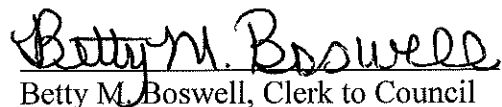
Council Member Watson made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Burns seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

APPROVED:



Al Johnson, Chairman
Date: December 6, 2017

ATTEST:


Betty M. Boswell, Clerk to Council