

**CHESTERFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
COUNTY MEETING ROOM
November 2, 20169:00 A.M.**

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Denise R. Douglass – Administrator, Tim Eubanks – Assistant Administrator/Public Works Director, Betty M. Boswell – Clerk to Council, Michelle Stanley – Finance Director, Lisa Gainey – Human Resource Director, C. Heath Ruffner – County Attorney, Amber Starnes – Clemson Extension, Tierra Cash – Pee Dee Coalition, Rhett Butler, Steve Chewing, Ben Teal, Hattie Burns, Wilbert Burns, Ted Deese, John Martin 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 Cole opened the meeting with prayer.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Council Member Plyler made a motion to adopt the November 2, 2016 meeting agenda. Council Member Matt Rivers seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. October 5, 2016 – Regular Meeting

Council Member Plyler made a motion to approve the October 5, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes. Council Member Cole seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

SIGNING OF BONDS, PAYROLL, AND AUTHORIZATIONS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

ORDINANCE READINGS AND RESOLUTIONS

a. FILOT Conversion Ordinance (Talley Metals) – 1st Reading, by title only

Council Member Plyler made a motion to pass 1st Reading, *by title only*. Council Member Cole seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

b. Project Toy FILOT Ordinance - 2nd Reading

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

c. Master MCP Agreement Ordinance (Project Toy) – 2nd Reading

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

d. Master MCP Agreement Ordinance (Project Leaf) – 1st Reading, by title only

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

e. Resolution Approving Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement

Vice-Chair Powe made a motion to adopt the Resolution Approving Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement. Council Member Anderson seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

ITEMS SUBMITTED BY COUNCIL

a. Jail Savings Plan - Council Member Matt Rivers

Chairman Johnson: Mr. Rivers, if I may before I turn this over to you. The way I understand it this will be, if it passes, will have to be an amendment to the budget and I am just curious why this wasn't brought up at budget time.

Council Member Matt Rivers: Miscommunication between me and the Administrator and I, you know I'm from the old school, I'll put it all on me but I'll just say that.

Chairman Johnson: Just curious.

Council Member Matt Rivers: She's still going to work with y'all after January and I'm not.

Chairman Johnson: Alright, it's on you Mr. Rivers, you go right ahead.

Council Member Matt Rivers: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Council was presented with a proposed Jail Savings Plan, a copy of which is attached and was explained to Council by Council Member Matt Rivers.

Council Member Matt Rivers: Made a motion to amend the budget of this year to reflect those monies, \$30,000.00 to the Public Defender's Office and \$30,000.00 to the Solicitor's Office, said monies to be taken out of the Reserve and to implement this plan with those provisions that those monies not be spent unless targets be met. Council Member Anderson seconded the motion.

Chairman Johnson: Okay, I have a motion and a second and I would just like to clarify something. Now Matt, your motion is to take this money out of the General Fund, not to have three readings like is normally required on a budget amendment?

Council Member Matt Rivers: Correct.

Chairman Johnson: I have a motion and a second, any discussion?

Council Member Bruce E. Rivers: Matt, I don't quite understand how your proposed plan works. Apparently it has worked well for the last year or so but how do we save money by not having those people in jail other than food cost, the power bill and heat bill goes on. The food cost is the only place I can see where we could save money. Tell me how we will be saving money other than maybe the medical end.

Council Member Matt Rivers: Yea, and as you recall Mr. Rivers, the food costs would be but you know there's no question the food costs are not that much really, it's not like we're feeding them steaks. As you recall, two months ago we voted for I don't know how much on the medical provision but medical expenses would be high on that list on our long termers. The other thing is when we originally saved money and the reason you can't keep saving as much Mr. Rivers and I think this is a fair question, is that SCDC requires us to have so many staff, honestly because of the design of the building. I would suggest to you that long term what the Council should look into is renovating that building to where SCDC would agree to less staff because of these numbers you are going to have the opportunity to have less staff. The only thing that keeps you from having less staff right now is primarily because of the design of the building. You are going to save primarily with the food, well primarily it's going to be medical supplies. Another place you will save is juvenile because right how you pay per day for juvenile holding. We also work hard to keep that down to a minimum because those can be substantial too. Those could be as much as \$2,000 to \$3,000 a month per inmate and so again, I would suggest that Council look into working with SCDC and I'll be glad to help where I can in the future about seeing if further staff reductions can be made per the design of that building.

Council Member Bruce E. Rivers: Whose responsibility is it to see that these cases are expedited so they can be adjudicated rather than keeping them in jail for long periods of time?

Council Member Matt Rivers: The Solicitor.

Council Member Bruce E. Rivers: The Solicitor's Office?

Council Member Matt Rivers: Yes, sir.

There was further discussion regarding the proposed Jail Savings Plan.

Chairman Johnson: Anything else? All those in favor of the motion, please raise your hand, one, two, three, is that correct, three in favor of the motion?

Administrator Douglass: Who is the third one?

Chairman Johnson: Mr. Cole. One, two, is that four, is that correct?

Council Member Matt Rivers: Four.

Chairman Johnson: Four in favor of the motion. All opposed to the motion raise your hand, that's four, is that correct? It's on you Administrator, is four correct?

Administrator Douglass: That is correct.

Chairman Johnson: Four in favor, four opposed, is that correct? So that leaves it up to me. I vote opposed, motion does not carry. Motion failed. (Voting in favor of the motion were Council Members Matt Rivers, Cole, Anderson and Vice-Chair Powe. Voting in opposition of the motion were Council Members Plyler, Curtis, Miller, Bruce E. Rivers and Chairman Johnson).

ITEMS SUBMITTED BY STAFF

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Chairman Johnson: We are down to the Administrator's Report. I would like for the Administrator to update us on the courthouse renovations.

Administrator Douglass: We will be accepting bids on the courthouse project on November 10th at 1:00 pm. The preliminary schedule was passed out to all of you at the July 13 meeting. It told the dates of everything that was going on. We have met several times with a lot of you about certain changes. We've had those changes made so it has gone out to bid.

Chairman Johnson: Any questions for the Administrator on that?

Council Member Bruce E. Rivers: The last meeting I attended there were some proposed changes that were made. We had at that time Judge Burch was there because we

needed his input on some things. It was my understanding that those changes would be made on those drawings and brought back and we would look at those changes. Also at that time we were talking about doing certain portions of it by allowing local contractors or vendors to bid on certain aspects of it. We felt that we could save money that way rather than doing it all in a package deal. Am I right Mr. Johnson?

Chairman Johnson: That's correct.

Council Member Bruce E. Rivers: Well, I was not aware that it was going out for bid. I'm certainly in favor of moving forward and doing the courthouse but we need to include as many local contractors to do this work as we possibly can rather than one general contractor get the bid. That's just my opinion.

Chairman Johnson: The bid opening will be next Thursday at 1:00 pm. I challenge everyone to come if you would like to and take a look at these plans and be sure to look at the bids and we will go from there. Ms. Administrator, you have anything else you would like to say?

Administrator Douglass: The only other thing I would like to say is I appreciate all the support and encouragement from Council during my mother's illness.

COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Council Member Curtis: Basically just an announcement. The tragedy that ended up in our county with the eleven year old girl, Erica Parsons, terrible thing. That child was a silent resident of this county for many years and with the help of the press, I would like to get discussion going and at the closest part to that particular site where that child's body was found. She was found in Mt. Croghan and Mr. Johnson and I have discussed this a little bit. The Town of Mt. Croghan has agreed that whether it be private, public or whatever, have some type of memorial in that child's name for her memory so this county can remember it. If there is a way that public funds can be used, I talked with Representative Yow and he said there may be a possibility but I want to be one of the first to make a donation but I need help from the media to get that started and to get that established. It doesn't have to be anything elaborate but I think we owe that to that child because like I said she was a silent resident of this county for a long time. I hope my colleagues feel the same way.

Chairman Johnson: Thank you Mr. Curtis. As far as I am concerned, I think that would be a great idea and if Council don't object, we are just going to put Mr. Curtis in charge of handling that. What do you think about that?

Council Member Curtis: I will work on that, sure will.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Johnson: Pursuant to S.C. Code §30-4-70(a)(2), Council will enter into Executive Session for the receipt of legal advice where the legal advice relates to matters covered by the attorney-client privilege regarding compliance with changes in Fair Labor Standards

(FLSA) Regulations. Upon exiting Executive Session, Council may take action on this agenda item in open session.

Council Member Curtis made a motion to enter Executive Session. Council Member Miller seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Council Member Plyler made a motion to exit Executive Session. Council Member Cole seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous.

REGULAR SESSION

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

Council Member Bruce E. Rivers: Mr. Chairman, after hearing our attorney, I think it is in our best interest to move forward with the changing of the overtime regulations. Mr. Attorney, would you read the motion?

Attorney Ruffner: Yes, sir. We would need a motion to increase the Sheriff's Office Command Staff members who are not excluded from the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) overtime rules to the required salary for salaried exempt employees and that would require a transfer of \$36,010.01 from the Reserve Fund to cover this supplemental expenditure.

Chairman Johnson: Is that your motion Mr. Rivers?

Council Member Bruce E. Rivers: Yes, sir.

Council Member Anderson seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

Council Member Bruce E. Rivers: One thing I need to bring up before we adjourn please, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Johnson: Yes, sir.

Council Member Bruce E. Rivers: We are having problems with Medshore on our end of the County. I'm assuming you got the same problem in other areas.

Council Member Anderson: On our end of the county.

Council Member Bruce E. Rivers: We as a Council or with our staff need to meet with Medshore and make sure they are holding up their end of the bargain. How many staff they are supposed to have, how many ambulances they supposed to have and so forth. On our end they are short of staff and vehicles. They've been here for almost six months and things have not improved much on my end. People are still getting service from our Rescue Squads which they are gladly doing but they are getting stretched pretty thin.

There was further discussion regarding Medshore.

Administrator Douglass: So does Council want staff to meet or does Council want to meet?

Chairman Johnson: I would say some of both.

Administrator Douglass: Who?

Chairman Johnson: Do you want to let the Finance Committee? Do you want to meet with them Matt?

Council Member Matt Rivers: I don't really want to get into that.

Chairman Johnson: Mr. Rivers would you and Mary meet with them?

Council Member Anderson: I would be happy to.

Council Member Bruce E. Rivers: Absolutely.

Chairman Johnson: We need somebody, maybe from Chesterfield. Are y'all having problems Curtis or Lenora?

Council Member Bruce E. Rivers: They got them.

Council Member Miller: Everybody's having problems.

Chairman Johnson: Well, who wants to join them over here, Lenora, Curtis or Plyler?


Council Member Curtis: I will.

Chairman Johnson: The three of you get with Denise and meet with them and I might join you.

ADJOURN


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

APPROVED:



Al Johnson, Chairman
Date: December 7, 2016

ATTEST:



Betty M. Boswell, Clerk to Council