

RICHLAND COUNTY GOVERNMENT



Office of the County Administrator

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT OF COUNCIL ACTIONS
REGULAR SESSION COUNCIL MEETING
September 1, 2009
6:00 PM**

Call to Order: Livingston

Invocation: Jackson

Pledge of Allegiance: Jackson

Citizens' Input: Three people spoke.

Adoption of Agenda: Approved as amended. The Ordinance to amend the Richland County Code of Ordinances; Chapter 18, Offenses: Section 18-6, Smoking of tobacco products; In order to establish regulations and requirements relating to designated smoking areas was reconsidered for 2nd reading, and was defeated.

Report of the County Attorney for Executive Session Items

- a. **Legal Update: Benedict College**
- b. **Farmers' Market Update: Contractual Matter**
- c. **Columbia Renaissance Redevelopment Plan: Contractual Matter**
- d. **Contractual Matter: Potential Land Purchase**

Report of the County Administrator

- a. **Schedule Work Session re: Mitigation Bank and Comprehensive Land Use Plan:** Mr. Pope stated that he had forwarded potential mitigation values to Council for the properties in Mr. Washington's motion. This item was forwarded to the D&S Committee. Mr. Pope also stated that a work session regarding Mitigation Banks and Credits should be scheduled. Mr. Pope stated that he would work with the Chairman and Clerk of Council to come up with dates. Sparty Hammett (Assistant County Administrator) gave an update on the Stormwater Ordinance

amendments, and informed Council that four meeting dates have been established throughout the county for the public to come out and express their opinions on the ordinance. Joseph Kocy (Planning Director) updated Council on the Comprehensive Land Use Plan, and requested that Council forward any questions or issues to him so that staff will be sure to address those issues. **ACTION: ADMINISTRATION, PUBLIC WORKS, STORMWATER, CLERK OF COUNCIL, PLANNING**

- b. **Township Property Purchase Update:** Mr. Pope stated that he had spoken to Mr. Rubin, and that he is currently performing his own due diligence. A report will be made to Council when available. **ACTION: ADMINISTRATION**
- c. **Columbia Renaissance Redevelopment Plan:** Executive Session Item.
- d. **Stimulus Update:** Roxanne Ancheta (Assistant to the County Administrator) informed Council that the County is waiting to hear back from the Department of Energy regarding the EECBG application. A BTOP application was successfully submitted in partnership with Benedict-Allen Community Development Corporation and the City of Columbia to deploy broadband infrastructure for public safety enhancements and to extend broadband services into unserved and underserved areas of Columbia and Richland County. Awards may be announced by the end of the year. Staff is constantly looking for new funding opportunities, and will keep Council apprised.
- e. **Transportation / CMRTA Update:** Ms. Ancheta stated that the three studies required in the IGA have been advertised (RFP) by the CMRTA. These studies are due by February 1, 2010 per the IGA. It is also recommended that the Joint City-County Ad Hoc Transportation Committee meet immediately to discuss issues raised at the August 31 CMRTA Board Meeting related to these studies. The current CMRTA Board will hold its last meeting on Monday, September 28 at 12:30 pm. The restructured CMRTA will assume their positions in October. **ACTION: ADMINISTRATION**
- f. **Richland 101:** Fall session begins September 14.
- g. **Palmetto Utilities Update:** Mr. Pope stated that we were waiting to hear back from them, as they have told us that they are entertaining a private offer. We will not proceed with the system assessment until we hear from them.
- h. **Tax Study Committee:** Act Number 81 of 2009 created the SC Taxation Realignment Commission, which consists of 11 members. The members have been appointed, and they will hold their first meeting on Wednesday,

September 9 at 10:00 am in Room 105 of the Gressette Senate Office Building. This Commission has been tasked with preparing a report by March 15, 2010 which will assess the current tax system structure and make recommendations regarding that structure. Act 388 was not included for review in this study.

- i. **Legal Update / Benedict:** Executive Session Item.

Report of the Clerk of Council: No report.

Report of the Chairman

- a. **Follow-up from Legislative Delegation Meeting: Voter Registration / Election Commission – Schedule Committee Meeting:** Mr. Livingston requested that the meeting summary be forwarded to all members of Council. He also stated that he had appointed an ad hoc committee of council (Washington, Smith, Jeter, Manning) to discuss this item in conjunction with members of the Legislative Delegation, to be appointed by Delegation Chairman Rutherford. **ACTION: ADMINISTRATION**

1. Public Hearing Items

- a. **An ordinance amending the Richland County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 6, Buildings and building regulations; Article III, Building Codes, Section 6-82 (A); so as to adopt the 2006 Edition of the International Residential Code:** No one spoke.
- b. **Council Motion (Manning): An ordinance to amend the Richland County Code of Ordinances; Chapter 18, Offenses; Section 18-6, Smoking of tobacco products; In order to establish regulations and requirements relating to designated smoking areas:** This public hearing was not held, per the action taken at Adoption of the Agenda.
- c. **An Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 General Fund Annual Budget to appropriate \$50,000 of General Fund Undesignated Fund Balance to the Master-in-Equity:** No one spoke.
- d. **An Ordinance amending the Richland County Code of Ordinances; Chapter 18, Offenses, so as to clarify requirements pertaining to the smoking of tobacco products in the unincorporated area of Richland County:** No one spoke.

2. Approval of Consent Items

- a. **An ordinance amending the Richland County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 6, Buildings and building regulations; Article III, Building**

Codes, Section 6-82 (A); so as to adopt the 2006 Edition of the International Residential Code [THIRD READING]: Council gave third reading approval to the ordinance. **ACTION: PLANNING, BUILDING INSPECTIONS, LEGAL, CLERK OF COUNCIL**

- b. **[REMOVED FROM CONSENT, AS THIS ITEM WAS DEFEATED AT ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA] Council Motion (Manning): An ordinance to amend the Richland County Code of Ordinances; Chapter 18, Offenses; Section 18-6, Smoking of tobacco products; In order to establish regulations and requirements relating to designated smoking areas [THIRD READING]**
- c. **[REMOVED FROM CONSENT] A resolution to endorse and support a “Complete Streets” policy to provide safe and convenient access for all users of arterial streets: Council approved the Resolution to endorse and support a “Complete Streets” policy to provide safe and convenient access for all users of roadways. ACTION: PLANNING, PUBLIC WORKS, CLERK OF COUNCIL**
- d. **[REMOVED FROM CONSENT] Request to approve the establishment of a list of qualified engineering and surveying firms with whom Richland County may negotiate and award contracts on an “as-needed” basis: This item was deferred to the September 15, 2009 Council Meeting. ACTION: ADMINISTRATION, PROCUREMENT, CLERK OF COUNCIL**
- e. **Request to authorize the Procurement Director to determine the vendor deemed most advantageous by a Procurement Evaluation Team for a professional services contract for governmental affairs / political representation services: Council approved the request to authorize the Procurement Director to determine the vendor deemed most advantageous by a Procurement Evaluation Team for a professional services contract for governmental affairs / political representation services. It was further recommended that the item be forwarded to the September 15th Council Meeting, at which time the vendor recommendation will be presented to council for contract negotiations and approval. ACTION: ADMINISTRATION, PROCUREMENT, CLERK OF COUNCIL**
- f. **[REMOVED FROM CONSENT] A resolution authorizing Richland County’s consent to an amended agreement re-creating a Regional Transit Authority within the geographic area of Richland County and the municipalities therein to be known as the Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority: Council approved the resolution. A legal opinion regarding board proportioning is requested by Mr. Malinowski. ACTION: ADMINISTRATION, LEGAL, CLERK OF COUNCIL**

- g. **Request to consider a property donation and purchase (\$2 million) proposal from South Capital Group, Inc. for approximately 189 acres of property located on Ridge Road in the Lower Richland Community [Recommendation for Denial]: Council denied the request. ACTION: ADMINISTRATION**
3. **Third Reading Item**
- a. **An Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2009 – 2010 General Fund Annual Budget to appropriate \$50,000 of General Fund Undesignated Fund Balance to the Master-in-Equity: Council gave third reading approval to the ordinance. ACTION: ADMINISTRATION, BUDGET, FINANCE, LEGAL, CLERK OF COUNCIL, MASTER IN EQUITY**
4. **First Reading Item**
- a. **A Budget Amendment to adjust the budgets for Richland County School District 1 and Richland County School District 2 to the amount which will be yielded by an assessment of the millage cap pursuant to Act 388: Council gave first reading approval to the ordinance by title only. ACTION: ADMINISTRATION, BUDGET, FINANCE, LEGAL, CLERK OF COUNCIL, AUDITOR**
5. **Report of the Development and Services Committee**
- a. **An ordinance amending the Richland County Code of Ordinances; Chapter 18, Offenses, so as to clarify requirements pertaining to the smoking of tobacco products in the unincorporated area of Richland County: This item was deferred and recommended for a work session. ACTION: ADMINISTRATION, BUSINESS SERVICE CENTER, LEGAL, CLERK OF COUNCIL**
6. **Report of the Economic Development Committee**
- a. **Minority Enterprise Development Week: Council approved the resolution. ACTION: ADMINISTRATION, CLERK OF COUNCIL**
7. **Report of the Rules and Appointments Committee**
- a. **Notification of Vacancies: Advertise. ACTION: CLERK OF COUNCIL**
 - I. **Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority: 2**
 - II. **Employee Grievance Committee: 1**

III. Internal Audit Committee: 1

IV. Midlands Development Workforce Board: 1

- b. **Notification of Appointments:** Readvertise. **ACTION: CLERK OF COUNCIL**
- I. **Board of Assessment Appeals: 1**
 - II. **Business Service Center Appeals Board: 1**
 - III. **Community Relations Council: 1**
 - IV. **Internal Audit Committee: 1**
- c. **Discussion from Rules and Appointments Committee**
- I. **Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority – New Committee Agreement:** Council approved the composition of 3 Council members and 2 citizens for the Board. **ACTION: ADMINISTRATION, CLERK OF COUNCIL**
 - II. **Employee Grievance Committee Guidelines / Procedures:** This item was held in Committee so that the Employee Grievance Committee can hold a meeting with outside legal counsel. **ACTION: CLERK OF COUNCIL**
8. **Council Motion (Jackson, Malinowski, Kennedy): To remove from the D&S Committee and present to full Council the funding of Alternate Paving with \$2 million from the Road Maintenance Fee and \$1 million from the CTC bond to fund paving roads in three years max (starting in 2009):** This item was deferred to the September 15, 2009 Council Meeting. **ACTION: ADMINISTRATION, CLERK OF COUNCIL, BUDGET, FINANCE, PUBLIC WORKS**
9. **Purchase offer for property owned by Richland County [RECOMMENDATION TO DENY]:** This item was tabled.
10. **Report of the Recreation Ad Hoc Committee**
- a. **NE Recreation / Entertainment Complex:** Council approved the motion to allow staff to use up to \$100,000 from the designated \$5,000,000 FY 10 Hospitality Tax funds for the next steps in the design-development phase of the Northeast Entertainment Complex. Further, staff is to work with the consultant team to develop a 10 – 15 year timeline for this project, and is

to present this information to Council for approval. It is this ad hoc committee's recommendation to be able to move forward with items such as construction drawings, site prep, infrastructure development, or other related items at the beginning of 2010. **ACTION: ADMINISTRATION, BUDGET, FINANCE**

11. **Richland County / City of Columbia Animal Care Advisory Committee / Approval of June 16th Minutes:** Council appointed Emmott and Wilson to the Committee. **ACTION: ADMINISTRATION, CLERK OF COUNCIL, ANIMAL CARE**
12. **Citizens' Input:** One person spoke.
13. **Executive Session**
 - a. **Legal Update: Benedict College:** Staff is to proceed as discussed in Executive Session. **ACTION: ADMINISTRATION, PLANNING, ZONING, BUILDING CODES, EMERGENCY SERVICES, LEGAL**
 - b. **Farmers' Market Update: Contractual Matter:** Received as information.
 - c. **Columbia Renaissance Redevelopment Plan: Contractual Matter:** Staff will proceed as discussed in Executive Session. **ACTION: ADMINISTRATION**
 - d. **Contractual Matter: Potential Land Purchase:** Council voted to deny the purchase of property. **ACTION: ADMINISTRATION**
14. **Motion Period**
 - a. **To draft a uniform Countywide letterhead to be utilized by all Richland County Departments [Kennedy]:** Forwarded to the Rules and Appointments Committee. **ACTION: CLERK OF COUNCIL**
 - b. **The Public Information staff has completed work on a proposed lobby display for the Hamilton-Owens Airport designed to honor the two individuals for which the airport is named. This Motion requests that the Chair refer the proposed display to a committee of his choice for approval / disapproval of the design and discussion / recommendation of funding options [Pearce]:** Forwarded to the A&F Committee. **ACTION: ADMINISTRATION**
 - c. **Resolution recognizing L. Gregory Pearce, Jr. for his service to the SC Association of Counties [Manning, Livingston, Jeter, Dickerson,**

Hutchinson, Kennedy, Smith, Jackson, Malinowski, and Washington]:
Approved by unanimous consent. **ACTION: CLERK OF COUNCIL**

- d. **To have Council support and host the Multi Modal Transportation Conference [Dickerson]:** Forwarded to the A&F Committee. **ACTION: ADMINISTRATION**
- e. **Motion - Administration & Finance Committee study the possibilities for the Council Chair to receive an annual financial supplement in line with the practice of other Counties in South Carolina [Manning]:** Forwarded to the A&F Committee. **ACTION: ADMINISTRATION**
- f. **A motion to include the Election Commission in any consideration of wage adjustments as the Voter Registration office [Jackson]:** Forwarded to the Ad Hoc Committee assigned to this task. **ACTION: ADMINISTRATION, CLERK OF COUNCIL**
- g. **Motion for the purchase for the Phone Tree Messaging Software for a 30 day trial; this purchase will encumber \$1600. This service could be beneficial for notifying persons in your district about community meetings and special events [Washington]:** Forwarded to the A&F Committee. **ACTION: ADMINISTRATION**

15. Adjournment: Council adjourned at 10:53 p.m.