

MINUTES OF



RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION TUESDAY, JUNE 15, 2006 6:00 p.m.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, a copy of the agenda was sent to radio and TV stations, newspapers, persons requesting notification, and was posted on the bulletin board located in the lobby of the County Administration Building.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chair	Anthony G. Mizzell
Vice Chair	L. Gregory Pearce, Jr.
Member	Valerie Hutchinson
Member	Joseph McEachern
Member	Mike Montgomery
Member	Bernice G. Scott
Member	Doris Corley
Member	Paul Livingston
Member	Joyce Dickerson
Member	Kit Smith
Absent	Damon Jeter

OTHERS PRESENT – Michielle Cannon-Finch, Milton Pope, Daniel Driggers, Tony McDonald, Angie McInchok, Roxanne Matthews, Larry Smith, Joe Cronin, Susan Britt, Stephany Snowden, Monique Walters, Michael Criss, James Hayes, Chief Harrell, Michelle Onley

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:00 p.m.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE – Mr. Mizzell recognized that Richland County had been awarded the All America County Award.

Mr. Pope thanked everyone for their participation.

Ms. Dickerson thanked Ms. Snowden for her leadership during this process.

Ms. Scott thanked all the Council members.

Mr. Pearce thanked the Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce and Midlands Business Leadership Group for taking out an ad in The State Newspaper regarding the All America County Award.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE – Mr. Mizzell asked that the record reflect that Mr. Jeter was out of town on business.

Public Hearing & 2nd Reading of FY 2006-2007 Budget Ordinance

The floor to the public hearing was opened.

The following persons signed up to speak:

- Barney Grover
- Bobby BlackwelK
- Daniel Sumter
- Joshua Bingham
- Lonnie Shealy
- Wilbert Lewis
- Clyde Stockton
- Karen Brosius
- Juliette Greenlee
- Jean Biely
- Jack Chambliss
- William Hilliard
- Mary Kelly Allen
- Genevieve Sullivan
- Jenny LaTour
- Lee Edens
- Cheryl Mack Thompson
- Marvin Koon
- Andy Witt

The floor to the public hearing was closed.

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. Corley, to approve the FY 2006-2007 budget ordinance for 2nd Reading as amended. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Public Hearing & 2nd Reading of FY 2006-2007 Millage Ordinance – No one signed up to speak.

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to recess.

Mr. Montgomery moved, seconded by Ms. Hutchinson, to reconvene.

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. Corley, to approve this item for 2nd Reading as amended. The vote in favor was unanimous.

MILLAGE AGENCIES

Richland School District One – *(Requested \$149,722,082)*

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to fund them at the current EIA level and to set up a meeting with the District before 3rd Reading. A discussion took place. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Richland School District Two – *(Requested \$80,275,760)*

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to fund them at the current EIA level and to set up a meeting with the District before 3rd Reading. A discussion took place. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Recreation Commission – *(Appropriation in excess of five mills is made with the following conditions; the appropriated fund use must include \$75,000 for the continuation of the free after-school program JUMPS, Fighting Back and Tutorial)*

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to approve this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Recreation Commission – *(purchase of land for “potential recreational park”)*

This item was received only for information. Ms. Dickerson intends to include this in a recreation bond or conservation allocation.

Recreation Commission – *(Requested \$9,438,692)*

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to appropriate the base budget, plus \$140,000 to fund their top three critical needs: repaving parking lot at Friarsgate Park, repair and resurface two tennis courts at Blythewood and the required sewer connection at Eastover Park for a total of \$9,060,811.82 with the proviso that the Recreation Commission shall not expend funds exceeding 4 mills until a MOU with Richland County is executed that provides for an audit of the Commission and its foundation and an agreement on giving Richland County Council some degree of oversight of recreation programs and expenditures that is jointly approved and further that no land will be purchased until such MOU is executed and a strategic plan for recreation in Richland County is jointly approved by Richland County Recreation Commission, if it continues to exist and function, and Richland County Council.

A discussion took place. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Midlands Technical College – *(Requested \$3,682,764)*

Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Ms. Corley, to approve \$3,682,764 for this item. Mr. Livingston abstained. The vote was in favor.

Midlands Technical College—Capital – *(Requested value of 1 mill—Approve Funding Level)*

Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Ms. Corley, to approve \$1,180,000 for this item. Mr. Livingston abstained. The vote was in favor.

Midlands Technical College—Capital Debt Service – *(Requested value of .5 mill—Approve Funding Level)*

Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, to approve \$590,000 for this item. Mr. Livingston abstained. The vote was in favor.

Library – *(Requested \$16,331,228)*

Ms. Hutchinson moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to fund the library at \$16,000,000. A discussion took place.

Mr. Montgomery made a substitute motion to approve the library at \$15,427,696.00, seconded by Mr. McEachern. A discussion took place. The motion failed.

The vote on the main motion was unanimous.

Riverbanks Zoo – *(Requested \$1,598,056)*

Ms. Dickerson moved, seconded by Ms. Hutchinson, to approve \$1,598,056 for this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mental Health – *(Requested \$1,539,014)*

Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to approve \$1,539,014 for this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Conservation Commission – *(Requested .5 mill—Approve Funding Level); **Neighborhood Redevelopment** – *(Requested .5 mill—Approve Funding Level--includes addition of 1 FTE)**

Mr. McEachern moved, seconded by Ms. Hutchinson, to approve \$577,500 for each of these items. The vote in favor was unanimous.

ENTERPRISE FUNDS

Solid Waste – *(Move Special Services from General Fund to Solid Waste. Will require additional fee increase; Approve level of Collection Fee Increase)*

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, to increase the fee to a three year average and move Special Services to Solid Waste. A discussion took place.

Ms. Smith amended the motion to increase the fee to a one year average, seconded by Mr. McEachern. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Utilities – *(Includes addition of 2 FTE and no change in user rate)*

Mr. Montgomery moved, seconded by Ms. Corley, to approve \$5,883,267 for this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Parking Garage – *(Includes no change in user rate.)*

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. Corley, to approve \$162,350 for this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Owens Field – *(Includes \$76,826 subsidy from General Fund)*

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to approve \$305,426 for this item. A discussion took place. The vote in favor was unanimous.

SPECIAL REVENUE

Accommodation's Tax – *(Approve Funding Distribution)*

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Corley, to approve the funding amount of \$505,000, but the funding distribution was deferred to 3rd Reading. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Stormwater Management – *(Approve Funding Level—Includes 1.3 mill tax increase)*

Ms. Scott moved, seconded Ms. Dickerson, to approve \$2,751,431 for this item. A discussion took place. The vote in favor was unanimous.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE – Ms. Scott acknowledged that her grandson, Kelvin Washington, was in the audience.

Victim's Assistance – *(Add funding for Sexual Trauma Services to recommendation. No amount provided. Currently funded \$11K in GF recommendation. Will require the identification of funding source.)*

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to appropriate \$40,000 from the General Fund for Sexual Trauma Services.

Mr. Pearce made a substitute motion, seconded by Ms. Smith, to appropriate \$40,000 for Sexual Trauma Services and \$10,000 for the American Red Cross from the General Fund. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Victim's Assistance – *(Approve Funding Allocation—includes \$421,497 subsidy from general fund)*

Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to subsidize Victim's Assistance program at \$250,000 from the General Fund with the proviso that: \$40,000 be allocated to Sexual Trauma Services and \$10,000 be allocated to the Red Cross and to monitor the Victim's Assistance program in order to determine if the increase in fines will be able to cover the program. If the increase in fines does not cover the program for the remainder of the year, this item will have to be brought back for a budget amendment. A discussion took place.

Ms. Smith made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to appropriate \$922,095, with \$250,000 coming from the General Fund, and to increase the fines for the difference. A discussion took place.

Ms. Smith withdrew her substitute motion.

Mr. Pearce withdrew the original motion.

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Hutchinson, to appropriate \$922,095 from the General Fund for this item. A discussion took place.

Mr. Montgomery made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. McEachern, to include a proviso that all increases in collections toward the program be applied back to the General Fund. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Roads & Drainage – *(Approve the exemption of the Road Maintenance fee according to the resolution signed by Council in March 2006.)*

Mr. McEachern moved, seconded by Ms. Corley, to approve this item. A discussion took place. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Roads & Drainage – *(Consider increase in road fee to fund special road projects)*

Mr. Mizzell moved seconded by Mr. Montgomery, to increase the road maintenance fee by \$5.00 and to use the revenue as outlined before 3rd Reading. A discussion took place. The vote was in favor.

Roads & Drainage – *(Approve Funding Level—includes no change in fee)*

Mr. Montgomery moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to include the revenue from the increase in the road maintenance fee to the budget amount in this item. The vote was in favor.

Tourism Development – *(Approve Funding Level)*

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to approve \$900,000 for this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Probate Court Advertising – *(Approve Funding Level)*

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to approve \$44,416 for this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Temporary Alcohol Permit – *(Approve Funding Allocation—Solicitor \$33,607; Appearance Commission \$11,000; River Alliance \$56,100)*

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to approve \$100,500 for this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Title IV-D Civil Process – *(Approve Funding Level)*

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to approve \$60,146 for this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Solicitor Drug Court – *(Approve Funding Level)*

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to approve \$57,006 for this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Emergency Telephone System – *(Approve Funding Level)*

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to approve \$1,285,000 for this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Fire Service – *(Approve recommended funding level but remove \$1.6 million for station construction and use one-time funding to add personnel [will require a funding plan for FY 08])*

Mr. McEachern moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to approve the funding request of \$15,972,500 and to use the \$1.6 fund balance to phase in the additional personnel. A discussion took place.

Mr. Montgomery made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. McEachern, to add the sum of \$619,341.00 to the request of \$15,972,500. The total funding request will be \$16,591,841.00. A discussion took place.

Mr. Mizzell made a second substitute motion, seconded by Ms. Scott, to include priorities 1-4 from the critical needs list to add \$844,556 to the request of \$15,972,500. A discussion took place. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Hospitality Tax – *(Renaissance Foundation—5 year commitment & MOU)*

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to commit to \$100,000 for five years to this project contingent upon a mutual MOU with the County and the commitment from others, including the City of Columbia. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Hospitality Tax – *(Business Improvement District)*

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to allocate \$50,000 from Hospitality Tax for this item. A discussion took place.

Mr. Montgomery made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. McEachern, to allocate \$50,000 from the General Fund for this item.

<u>In favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>
Montgomery	Corley
McEachern	Livingston
Mizzell	Dickerson
Hutchinson	Scott
Smith	Pearce

The motion failed.

<u>In favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>
Corley	Montgomery
Pearce	McEachern
Mizzell	Hutchinson
Livingston	
Smith	
Scott	
Dickerson	

The vote on the main motion was unanimous.

Hospitality Tax – *(Montieth School—one time)*

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to allocate \$50,000 for this item. A discussion took place. The vote was in favor.

Hospitality Tax – *(Historic Columbia Funding)*

A discussion took place.

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Livingston, to table this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Hospitality Tax – *(Funding for Tram @ Riverbanks Zoo)*

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Corley, to approve \$130,000 for this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Hospitality Tax – *(Amend the H-Tax ordinance providing an annual growth of 3% or less based on fund trend for prescribed agencies.)*

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Corley, to approve this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Hospitality Tax – *(Amend FY 07 recommendation agency funding to allow a 3% growth. Requires a vote to override current H-Tax ordinance.)*

Hospitality Tax – *(Approve Agency Funding Level [ex. Trend vs. 3%])*

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Corley, to approve this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Hospitality Tax – *(Approve Funding Distribution—County Promotions; Approve Funding Allocation)*

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Livingston, to approve the funding amount, but defer the line item appropriation until 3rd Reading. The vote in favor was unanimous.

GENERAL FUND MILLAGE

Council Services – *(Council Agenda Software)*

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to approve \$75,000 for this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Pave Banning Drive—Chinese Culture Center

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Ms. Corley, to approve \$75,000 for paving of Banning Drive. A discussion took place. The motion failed.

Human Resources – *(Misc. supplies for Grievance Committee)*

Mr. Montgomery moved, seconded Ms. Corley, to approve \$250.00 for this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

ADMINISTRATION FEE FOR SPECIAL DUTY WORK

Sheriff – *(Part-time)*

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Ms. Corley, to approve \$20,000 for this item. A discussion took place. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Sheriff – *(Approve the addition of one FT position and one PT position)*

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Ms. Corley, to approve this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Sheriff – *(Salary and benefits for above position)*

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Ms. Corley, to approve \$61,378 for this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

GENERAL FUND: USE OF FUND BALANCE AND GENERAL FUND MILLAGE

Sheriff – *(Use current year vacancy funds from the Detention Center to add 20 Sheriff Deputies totaling \$996,270. Requires identification of funds. Approve funding for the 20 Deputies above.)*

Mr. McEachern moved, seconded by Ms. Corley, to finance 10 deputies at \$370,850.

Mr. Montgomery made a substitute motion, seconded by Ms. Hutchinson, to approve \$996,270, less the \$370,850 transferred from the Special Services Fund, to fund the 20 deputies and 10 vehicles pursuant to the schedule for the proposed phase in. A discussion took place. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Medical Indigent – *(Adjustment to budget [revenue & expenditures] based on new estimates)*

Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Ms. Corley, to approve this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Contractual & Statutory – *(Midlands Commission on Homelessness)*

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to approve the \$100,000 and to include the proviso that the funds are contingent upon being presented with a budget. A discussion took place. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Contractual & Statutory—(COG) – *(Meals to Seniors)*

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to approve \$31,628 for this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ms. Scott withdrew the original motion.

Ms. Hutchinson moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to approve \$31,628 for this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Contractual & Statutory – *(Capital Funding for Project Pet)*

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to approve \$300,000 for this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ms. Scott withdrew the original motion.

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to ascertain the funding for Project Pet be included in the future bond. The vote in favor was unanimous.

GENERAL FUND

Discretionary Grants – *(Approve Funding Allocation)*

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Livingston, to approve this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Outside Agencies – *(Approve Funding Distribution)*

Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Ms. Corley, to approve this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

All Departments – *(Amend budget based on current salary reports—no action required @ 2nd Reading)*

Ms. Smith moved, seconded Ms. Corley, to approve this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

FUND BALANCE

Industrial Park Fund – *(USC Incubator—one time capital)*

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Corley, to approve \$50,000 for this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Industrial Park Fund – *(KOLORPRO)*

Ms. Smith moved, seconded Ms. Corley, to approve \$60,000 for this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Sheriff—Continuation of Administrative Fee – Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Corley, to approve this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

GENERAL FUND MILLAGE

Probate Judge – *(5113 Part-Time—Mental Health Court--\$48,201)*

Probate Judge – *(Part-Time—Mental Health Court--\$8,704)*

Probate Judge – *(\$2,500)*

General Magistrate – (5226 Service Contracts—\$20,644)

Treasurer – (5210 Office Supplies--\$11,157)

Treasurer – (5426 Computer Equip. Main.--\$1,600)

Treasurer – (5471 Program Maintenance--\$1,300)

Finance – (5272 Special Contracts—Business License Audit--\$20,000)

Sheriff—SRO Associated Costs – (5113 Part-Time--\$138,536)

Sheriff—SRO Associated Costs – (5241 Uniforms & Equipment--\$52,500)

Sheriff—SRO Associated Costs – (5262 Cell Phones--\$21,840)

Sheriff—SRO Associated Costs – (5264 Training--\$21,000)

Sheriff—SRO Associated Costs – (5221.1 Radio Services--\$41,160)

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to adopt and allocate as itemized the Administrator's critical needs recommendation list. A discussion took place.

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to amend the motion to include the SRO revenue funds. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Budget Ordinance – (Adopt Budget Ordinance as amended);

Total Budget – (Approve Fund Level—Includes addition of 4 FTE and no change in tax rate)

Mr. Montgomery moved, seconded by Ms. Smith, to approve these items as amended. A discussion took place. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Rescheduling 3rd Reading of Budget – Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. Dickson, to reschedule 3rd Reading until June 27th. A discussion took place.

Mr. Livingston withdrew the motion.

Increase in Council Salaries – Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to increase County Council's salaries from \$14,500 to \$42,050. The motion failed.

Addition of CMRTA Issue to Agenda – Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to add this item to the June 20th agenda for 1st Reading to explore whether Council wants to include the \$.01 question on the ballot or other funding options. A discussion took place.

Mr. McEachern made a substitute motion, to schedule a work session prior to the item being included on agenda. The motion failed for lack of a second.

The original motion failed.

CMRTA Issue – Mr. McEachern referred this item to the July 27th A&F Committee meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:32 p.m.

Anthony G. Mizzell, Chair

L. Gregory Pearce, Jr. Vice-Chair

Doris M. Corley

Joyce Dickerson

Valerie Hutchinson

Damon Jeter

Paul Livingston

Joseph McEachern

Mike Montgomery

Bernice G. Scott

Kit Smith

The minutes were transcribed by Michelle M. Onley