DEVELOPMENT & SERVICES COMMITTEE

March 28, 2017
5:00 PM
County Council Chambers

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.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Rose called the meeting to order at approximately 5:00 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Session: February 28, 2016 – Ms. Kennedy moved, seconded by Ms. Myers, to approve the minutes as distributed. The vote in favor was unanimous.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Ms. Myers moved, seconded by Ms. Kennedy, to adopt the agenda as published.

Mr. Malinowski stated item (f)’s language is different than the motion that was given to full Council at the February 7th meeting.

In addition, Mr. Malinowski noted that item (d) was on last month’s committee agenda and should be taken up prior to item (c).

Ms. Kennedy moved, seconded by Ms. Myers, to amend the agenda to take up item (d) prior to item (c). The vote in favor was unanimous.

ITEMS FOR ACTION

Public Works: Award of the contract for the Three Creeks Debris Removal Project
– Mr. Ozbek stated the request is to award a contract to L-J, Inc. for the Three Creeks Debris Removal Project.

Mr. C. Jackson moved, seconded by Ms. Myers, to forward to Council with a recommendation to award the construction contract for the Three Creeks Debris Removal Project to L-J, Inc. in the amount of $116,435.00. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Public Works: Award of the Columbia High/Sandel Elementary Sidewalk Project
– Mr. Ozbek stated the County received a grant from the SCDOT for the Columbia High School/Sandel Elementary Sidewalk Project. It is approximately ½ mile of sidewalk.
The request is to award the contract to Armstrong Contractors, LLC, which was the lowest responsive bidder.

Mr. Rose inquired if this was in the unincorporated area of the County.

Mr. Ozbek answered in the affirmative.

Mr. C. Jackson moved, seconded by Ms. Kennedy, to forward this item to Council with a recommendation to approve the request to award the Columbia High/Sandel Elementary Sidewalk Project in the amount of $272,350.10 to Armstrong Contractors, LLC. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Policy for Monitoring and Distributing County funds to Non-County Entities** – Mr. Madden stated this item was previously before the committee. Staff has updated the policy to remove the contradictory language regarding the requirement for business licenses.

Mr. Rose inquired about how this policy will affect an organization such as Keep the Midlands Beautiful that receives funding from the County. Do they now have to obtain a business license?

Mr. Madden stated they may not be required to have a business license, but they still have to go through the process of reviewing their information with the Business Service Center. They will then be issued a document that states they do not need a business license.

Mr. Malinowski inquired about the two (2) levels of noncompliance and the number of days allowed to resolve the issue.

Mr. Madden stated the reason for the separation of levels is that not all organizations may have the capacity to address problems in the same manner. The different levels allows staff an opportunity to work with the organizations that may need additional time and/or may not have full understanding of the reporting requirements.

Mr. Malinowski stated there was conflicting language in the document regarding the “request for payment” and needs to be made consistent.

Mr. Madden stated staff will make the necessary corrections.

Mr. Malinowski requested clarification of “Non-County Entities” in the document.

Mr. Madden stated an updated definition of “Non-County Entities” will be included in the document.

Mr. Malinowski inquired about the following language: “Grantee organizations may not re-grant County funds to other organizations. All funds must be spent on direct program expenditures by the organization that is granted the allocation.” He noted that in financial reporting documents he has been provided there is an appearance of co-mingling of funds.

Mr. C. Jackson moved, seconded by Ms. Myers, to forward to Council with recommendation to approve the policy for monitoring and distributing County funds to non-county entities as amended by staff. The vote in favor was unanimous.
Animal Care: Community Cat Diversion Program – Ms. Haynes stated the recommendation is to participate in the “Community Cat Diversion Program”. Feral cats represent the largest number of animals picked up by Animal Care and the traditional method of trapping and euthanizing does not seem to work. By implementing the “Community Cat Diversion Program” it should directly decrease the number of fertile cats in the community, while reducing the shelters euthanasia rates.

Another recommendation is to only pick up owner surrendered animals that are sick or injured. Healthy owner surrenders should be transported by the owners.

Ms. Kennedy requested clarification on the purpose of this program.

Ms. Haynes stated the purpose is to reduce the number of animals being euthanized in the shelter and to release back a sterile cat into the community.

Mr. Pearce stated Pawmetto Lifeline personnel have studied the cat problem nationwide. The concept of the program is that feral cats will breed themselves out of existence. You capture as many cats as possible, sterilize them and then put them back into the community. In a reasonably short period of time, the population will dramatically decline.

Mr. Malinowski requested clarification of Mr. Pearce’s statement. What is the difference between sterilizing the cats and putting them back in the community, whereupon they eventually die and euthanizing them at the shelter?

Mr. Pearce recommended having the experts come in and explain the concept.

Ms. Myers appealed to Ms. Kennedy, on behalf of the animal lovers, to support the program.

Mr. C. Jackson moved, seconded by Ms. Myers, to forward to Council without a recommendation. The vote was in favor.

Request from the Property Owner of 102 Cyrus Weston Road to Deed the Property Back – Mr. Perry there are two property owners on this road. One of the property owners did not wish to deed their property and the other executed a deed with the County. The property owner that deeded their property to the County has requested the property be deeded back to them. Staff recommends deeding the property back to the owner since the road cannot be paved without both property owners signing deeds with the County.

Ms. McBride moved, seconded Ms. Myers, to forward to Council with a recommendation to approve deeding the property located at 102 Cyrus West Road back to the property owner. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Council Motion: Richland County lost millions of dollars by not collecting taxes on (SOB) for the past five years. I move that the Legal Department along with Administration explore recovering the funds from Sexual Oriented Businesses directly or from the former Assistant County Administrator who defied Council’s directive and ordering staff not to pursue collection of fines – Mr. C. Jackson inquired of Legal if the committee is to take up the motion as presented in the agenda packet or address the original motion that was forwarded from the February 2nd Council meeting.

Mr. Smith stated, in his opinion, what should have been a part of the agenda is what Council voted to forward to the committee during the motion period.
Mr. N. Jackson stated during the motion period he was asked to amend the motion by Council. He further stated the motion on the committee agenda last month was not the motion that was forwarded from the Council meeting.

Mr. C. Jackson moved, seconded by Ms. Kennedy, to defer this item to the April committee meeting. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:28 PM.

The Minutes were transcribed by Michelle M. Onley, Deputy Clerk of Council