



## Richland County Council

### DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICES COMMITTEE

July 24, 2018 – 5:00 PM

Council Chambers

2020 Hampton Street, Columbia, SC 29204

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Greg Pearce, Chair; Seth Rose, Calvin “Chip” Jackson, Jim Manning and Gwen Kennedy

OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Norman Jackson and Bill Malinowski

OTHERS PRESENT: Brandon Madden, Michelle Onley, Kim Williams-Roberts, Trenia Bowers, Tim Nielsen, Sandra Yudice, Stacey Hamm, Larry Smith, Stephen Staley, Tracy Hegler and Tiffany Harrison

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Mr. Pearce called the meeting to order at approximately 5:00 PM.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
  - a. June 26, 2018 – Mr. C. Jackson moved, seconded by Ms. Kennedy, to approve the minutes as distributed.  
  
In Favor: C. Jackson, Pearce, Kennedy and Rose  
  
The vote in favor was unanimous.
3. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – Mr. Rose moved, seconded by Mr. C. Jackson, to adopt the agenda as published.  
  
In Favor: C. Jackson, Pearce, Kennedy and Rose  
  
The vote in favor was unanimous.
4. **ITEMS FOR ACTION**
  - a. Proposed District 9 Neighborhood Master Plan – “Pontiac” – Ms. Hegler stated this item is before the committee as a result of a prior action requesting us to investigate a potential master planning area in District 9. We have put the area through the process they developed, and this was a highly suitable area for developing a master plan. The district does not currently have one, after the redistricting in 2010.

Mr. C. Jackson stated that District 9 is his area. After reviewing the revised document, which reflects more accurately the historic path this initiative has taken, he is pleased with the end result.

Mr. C. Jackson moved, seconded by Mr. Manning, to forward to Council with a recommendation to begin the process for a new District 9 Neighborhood Master Plan tentatively titled "Pontiac."

In Favor: C. Jackson, Pearce, Kennedy, Manning and Rose

The vote in favor was unanimous.

- b. Council Motion: State and/or Federal law prohibitions against a County plastic bag ordinance [MALINOWSKI and N. JACKSON] – Mr. Pearce stated the request was to see if there were any State or Federal prohibitions against a County plastic bag ordinance. There were no laws found, so he believes Mr. Malinowski would request the committee move this item on for the development of a proposed ordinance.

Mr. Malinowski responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Pearce stated the motion would be to send this forward to Council for potential development of an ordinance for later consideration.

Mr. Malinowski stated, in order to vet it in committee, he would request staff bring the language back to the committee.

Mr. Rose moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to direct staff to develop an ordinance banning plastic bags in Richland County, and bring it back to the September committee meeting.

Mr. Manning stated we are going to have to give a lot of careful look at this. One of the things that occurred to him, after he saw it, was that he has been taught by the conservation people that when he takes his dog for a walk he is supposed to take a plastic bag to pick up after it. When we ban plastic bags, does that mean the feces can go back in the stormwater, as a lesser evil than him having a plastic bag to pick up after the dog. One division of the County, has provided containers with those plastic bags, so now will the County distribute cloth bags. He stated the notion of all plastic bags. He is great with the grocery store not having plastic bags. At the same time, he carries a plastic bag for his dog because the County told him to do that to pick up after the dog. We have to be careful that we are not conflicting what the County is teaching what to do, and not do. He wants us to be sensitive to "all plastic bags" can go pretty far and broad.

Mr. Malinowski stated that is the purpose for the staff to bring back some discussions for the next meeting. He stated you still have paper bags, Ziploc bags, and other forms that you can pick up your puppy poop.

Mr. Manning stated Ziploc bags are plastic bags.

Mr. Malinowski stated Ziploc bags are not counted. He was referring to the ones from the store.

Mr. Manning inquired if that was Mr. Rose's motion, the one from the stores.

Mr. Rose stated his motion was for plastic bags. He does not how we start picking and choosing which plastic bags. The exception becomes the rule when we start meddling into it. It is either something we want to move forward with or we do not. He does not start with we have this rule, but then we have exceptions.

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Mr. Pearce stated it was his understanding of the motion, that although it does sound rather global in nature, he thinks any reduction in the amount of plastic going into the system would be of great value. We have to start somewhere. He his interpretation of the motion was that staff would look at how other communities addressed this problem, and come up with some sort of guideline for us to begin a discussion of the specifics of what we want to do in Richland County. At this point, it is a conceptual idea that is being passed to get started.

Mr. Manning requested Mr. Rose to restate the motion.

Mr. Rose stated the motion was for County staff to bring back an ordinance, for this committee to vet, that would ban all plastic bags in Richland County.

Mr. Malinowski stated we could add using ordinances that currently exist in areas where they have this.

Mr. Rose stated he does not think that needs to be added.

Mr. Manning stated that is his confusion. We are talking about stuff they would look at, but the motion is all plastic bags. If you go to the grocery store, and get corn out of the freezer, it is probably in a boil bag that is plastic.

Mr. Malinowski stated, to him, that is not what the motion is about. We cannot control a product that is made in Greenbay, Wisconsin.

Mr. Manning stated he agrees with that, but he has asked for the motion to be repeated twice, and the Chair's interpretation and what Mr. Malinowski is saying, is not what the motion is. The motion is to bring us an ordinance to ban all plastic bags in Richland County. And, he is giving examples of plastic bags, and you are telling me "Oh, no. We don't mean plastic bags. The motion is about plastic bags."

Mr. Rose amended the motion to direct staff to look at other counties, and perhaps States, that have implemented a plastic bag ordinance. Rather than drafting an ordinance, bring back recommendations and options, seconded by Mr. Manning.

In Favor: Pearce, Manning and Rose

Opposed: C. Jackson

The vote was in favor.

- c. Council Motion: Coordination of DHEC inquiries [N. JACKSON] – Mr. N. Jackson stated Pinewood Lake Park is owned by the County and the Pinewood Lake Park Foundation. The dam is owned by the Foundation. He stated he has been getting complaints from the members of the board of the Foundation that DHEC has been inquiring as to when they are going to improve the dam. His point is, staff members should check with the Foundation before checking directly with DHEC. If the Foundation is doing something, or have a consultant working on permits for the dam, and the staff is doing something totally different, and ignoring the Foundation, it causes confusion. The staff that is involved with the park should check with the Foundation before making any inquiries or request to DHEC on the dam. He would like for staff to coordinate with the Foundation, instead of going directly to DHEC.

Mr. Pearce stated, for clarification, that the Conservation Commission coordinate all inquiries regarding the Pinewood Lake dam with the Foundation, as opposed to going directly to DHEC and making any requests or recommendations.

Mr. N. Jackson stated what is going to happen is if DHEC starts to fix the dam, and there is no money, then they may decide to do away with the dam. If the dam is done away with, we will not have a lake. What we are trying to do is secure the dam until they get some funding through the "Penny Tax Greenway Program".

Mr. Pearce stated, for clarification, the assumption is they are not coordinating.

Mr. N. Jackson stated the complaint from the Foundation is that no one talks to them, and DHEC is saying the County staff called them to do certain things.

Mr. Malinowski stated, he would think the fact this is a privately owned piece of property, if DHEC goes to whoever happens to be in the building, the position of the County should be that is privately owned and provide the owners contact information to them.

Mr. N. Jackson stated staff is inquiring to DHEC.

Mr. Malinowski stated they should not be. They should refer DHEC directly to the owner.

Mr. Pearce stated what Mr. N. Jackson is looking for is any issues related to the Pinewood dam, that were brought to the attention of the County, the County would consult with the Foundation prior to speaking with DHEC.

Mr. N. Jackson stated he wants the Conservation Commission to coordinate with the owners of the dam before they make a direct request to DHEC.

Mr. C. Jackson moved, seconded by Mr. Rose, for forward to Council with a recommendation to direct the Assistant County Administrator to have a conversation with all of the parties involved, and make sure she clarifies to them what Mr. N. Jackson is requesting.

In Favor: C. Jackson, Pearce, Kennedy, Manning and Rose

The vote in favor was unanimous.

- d. County Council is requested to approve an amendment of the Richland County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 21: Roads, Highways, and Bridges – Mr. Madden stated the Public Works Department is responsible for maintaining the County's roadway and drainage infrastructure. That is done pursuant to an ordinance. The ordinance use words such as "the County". What this amendment does is clarifies it to be the unincorporated areas of the County.

Mr. Rose moved, seconded by Mr. C. Jackson, to forward to Council with a recommendation to approve the amendment.

In Favor: C. Jackson, Pearce, Kennedy, Manning and Rose

The vote in favor was unanimous.

5. **ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:20 p.m.

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