



Richland County Council
Special Called Meeting
September 14, 2021 – 6:00PM
Council Chambers
2020 Hampton Street, Columbia, SC 29201

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul Livingston Chair, Yvonne McBride Vice-Chair, Bill Malinowski, Derrek Pugh, Allison Terracio, Gretchen Barron, Overture Walker, Jessica Mackey and Cheryl English

OTHERS PRESENT: Michelle Onley, Dwight Hanna, Katie Marr, Angela Weathersby, Kyle Holsclaw, Tamar Black, Ashiya Myers, Leonardo Brown, Elizabeth McLean, Jeff Ruble, Bill Davis, Dale Welch, Judy Carter, Randy Pruitt, Ronaldo Myers, Sandra Haynes, Stacey Hamm, Michael Byrd, Lori Thomas, Geo Price, John Thompson, Justin Landy, Steven Gaither, Aric Jensen and Syndi Castelluccio

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Mr. Livingston called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00PM.
2. **INVOCATION** – The Invocation was led by the Honorable Gretchen Barron.
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Honorable Gretchen Barron.
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. **Regular Session: August 31, 2021** – Ms. McBride moved, seconded by Ms. Barron, to approve the minutes as distributed.

In Favor: Malinowski, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, J. Walker, Barron, O. Walker, Mackey and English

Not Present: Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

- b. **Special Called Meeting: September 1, 2021** – Ms. McBride moved, seconded by Ms. Barron, to approve the minutes as distributed.

In Favor: Malinowski, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, J. Walker, Barron, O. Walker, Mackey and English

Not Present: Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

5. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – Mr. Livingston noted the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance did not appear on the printed agenda, and would need to be added for transparency.

Mr. Pugh moved, seconded by Mr. O. Walker, to approve the agenda as amended.

**Special Called Meeting
September 14, 2021**

In Favor: Malinowski, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, J. Walker, Barron, O. Walker, Mackey and English

Not Present: Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

PRESENTATION

6.

- a. **Capital City/Lake Murray Country** – Ms. Miriam Atria gave a brief overview of Capital City/Lake Murray Country’s Annual Report.

7.

REPORT OF ACTING COUNTY ATTORNEY FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS – Ms. McLean stated the following items are appropriate for Executive Session:

- a. **An Emergency Ordinance requiring the wearing of face masks to help alleviate the spread of COVID-19, specifically the recent surge in the delta variant**

CITIZEN’S INPUT

8.

- a. **For Items on the Agenda Not Requiring a Public Hearing** – No one signed up to speak.

CITIZEN’S INPUT

9.

- a. **Must Pertain to Richland County Matters Not on the Agenda (Items for which a public hearing is required or a public hearing has been scheduled cannot be addressed at time.)** – Mr. Kenneth Spry spoke regarding the paving of Sara Matthews and Wages Roads.

Mr. Mustafa spoke in reference to H-Tax funding for the Sankofa Institute.

Ms. Sherry Jaco and Ms. Vi Hendley spoke regarding community issues in the Olympia area.

Mr. David Oberly spoke in reference to the road maintenance fee.

The Building Industry Association of SC’s CEO, Allen Hutto, introduced himself to Council.

REPORT OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

10.

- a. **COVID-19 Update** – Mr. Brown stated the incidence rate for the current reporting period is 1,014 per 100,000 putting the County in the high tier. The percent positive rate is currently 8.8%. Currently 51% of Richland County, and 48.8% of South Carolina’s eligible residents have completed vaccination. He noted the County received, and allocated, \$12M in ERAP – 1 funding. We have received an additional allotment of funding (ERAP-2), and have allocated approximately \$2M, from those funds. The US Treasury allowed the County to request the additional 60%, and we have been awarded an additional \$5.9M, which makes our total ERAP-2 allotment over \$9M.

Mr. O. Walker inquired if the numbers are higher than they were when the County adopted the original mask ordinance in 2020.

Mr. Brown responded the numbers are substantially higher.

b. Project Updates

- **Redistricting Process** – Mr. Brown stated staff has drafted a consultant agreement. The County previously used an in-house process. We intend to use the in-house process, with support from a consultant with subject matter expertise.
- **Strategic Planning Process and Community Survey** – Mr. Brown noted Council should be contacted via Baker Tilly. Please be responsive to those, so we can begin the plan. In conjunction with that, we are going to move forward with the community survey. The goal is to have the plan in place prior to the 2022 Council Retreat.
- **Public Safety Complex** – Mr. Brown stated the Public Safety Complex is moving forward. We have discussed hiring a Construction Manager at Risk and receiving bonding information.

Mr. O. Walker inquired if the County has finalized a contract with an architect.

Mr. Brown responded the architect is LS3P. The County is currently looking to hire a Construction Manager at Risk, which he is moving forward on.

- **Department of Social Services Relocation** – Mr. Brown stated a follow-up meeting was held on September 13th. DSS staff indicated there may have been information missing from the space request. DSS will be reviewing the initial request, and providing updated information. He noted he received a call from DHHS wherein they indicated they have space in there. Unlike DSS, the County has to involve DHHS upper management in the process.
- **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DE&I)** – Mr. Brown stated this item deals with a motion made several months ago. Specific information was included in the agenda packet, which deals with Richland County’s employment demographics.

Ms. McBride stated thanked Mr. Brown for the preliminary data, and noted she found the numbers presented very interesting.

11. **REPORT OF THE INTERIM CLERK OF COUNCIL** – Ms. Onley informed Council the Clerk’s Office was in receipt of thank you cards from the Ms. Thomas and the Greenwood County Chair’s families on Council’s expressions of sympathy on the recent loss of their loved ones.

12. **REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

- a. **Ad Hoc Committee Establishment/Assignments** – Mr. Livingston stated he would establishing the following ad hoc committees to address matters presented by Councilmembers. The Clerk’s Office will send a follow-up email regarding the ad hoc committees. Any Councilmember interested in serving on one of these committees, please contact the Chair.

- Strategic Planning
- Clerk’s Office Reorganization
- Convention Center
- Internal Audit/Internal Auditor/Administrative Support
- Office of Small Business Office

13. **APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS**

- a. **21-019MA Robert F. Fuller RU to LI (1.16 Acres) 1050 Gates Road TMS # R02509-04-01 [THIRD READING]**
- b. **21-020MA Thomas Fowler GC to RM-HD (0.8 Acres) 4725 Alpine Road TMS # R19712-10-33 [THIRD READING]**
- c. **21-021MA Matthew Condon PDD to PDD (19.17 Acres) Farrow Road TMS # R17404-01-01, R17408-01-01, 02 & 03 [THIRD READING]**

Mr. J. Walker moved, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to approve the consent items.

In Favor: Malinowski, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, J. Walker, Barron, O. Walker, Mackey and English

Not Present: Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

14. **THIRD READING ITEMS**

- a. **21-010MA Kevin Steelman PDD to PDD 8930 Rabbit Run TMS # R21800-01-06** – Ms. McBride moved, seconded by Mr. O. Walker, to defer this item until the September 21st Council meeting.

In Favor: Malinowski, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, J. Walker, Barron, O. Walker, Mackey and English

Not Present: Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

15. **REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

- a. **Committing to negotiate a fee-in-lieu of ad valorem taxes agreement between Richland County and Tri-County Electric Cooperative, Inc.; identifying the project; and other matters related thereto** – Ms. McBride stated the inducement resolution that legally recognizes Tri-County Electric Cooperative and that the County intends to negotiate an incentive. The committee recommended approval of this item.

Mr. Malinowski requested the language in the document to be consistent throughout.

In Favor: Malinowski, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, J. Walker, Barron, O. Walker, Mackey and English

Not Present: Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

- b. **Authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee-in-lieu of ad valorem taxes agreement by and**

between Richland County, South Carolina and Tri-County Electric Cooperative, Inc. to provide for payment of a fee-in-lieu of taxes; and other related matters [FIRST READING] – Ms. McBride stated this is First Reading for a 30-year FILOT for Tri-County Electric Cooperative that is considering an investment of \$12M to construct fiber optic services in Lower Richland County. The FILOT will reduce the company’s assessment rate to 6% and fix the millage for this investment. The committee recommends approval of this item.

Mr. Malinowski stated he did not have a chance to address his questions with Mr. Ruble; therefore, he will vote in opposition until he speaks with staff.

In Favor: Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, J. Walker, Barron, O. Walker, Mackey and English

Opposed: Malinowski

Not Present: Newton

The vote was in favor.

- c. **Committing to negotiate a fee-in-lieu of ad valorem taxes agreement by and between Richland County, South Carolina and Project Bridge; identifying the project; and other matters related thereto** – Ms. McBride stated this is an inducement resolution that legally recognizes Project Bridge and that the County intends to negotiate an incentive with the company. The committee recommended approval of this item.

Mr. Malinowski requested the language in the document to be consistent throughout.

In Favor: Malinowski, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, J. Walker, Barron, O. Walker, Mackey and English

Not Present: Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

- d. **Authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee-in-lieu of ad valorem taxes agreement by and between Richland County, South Carolina and Project Bridge to provide for payment of a fee-in-lieu of taxes; and other related matters [FIRST READING]** – Ms. McBride stated

In Favor: Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, J. Walker, Barron, O. Walker, Mackey and English

Opposed: Malinowski

Not Present: Newton

The vote was in favor.

16. **REPORT OF THE RULES AND APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE**

- a. **Business Service Center Appeals Board – Four (4) Vacancies (TWO applicants must be from the Business Industry and TWO applicants must be a CPA)**

- b. **Music Festival**
- c. **Richland Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees – Two (2) Vacancies**
- d. **River Alliance – One (1) Vacancy**

OTHER ITEMS

- 17.
- a. **FY22 - District 3 Hospitality Tax Allocations –**
 - b. **FY22 - District 7 Hospitality Tax Allocations**
 - c. **FY22 - District 10 Hospitality Tax Allocations**
 - d. **FY22 – District 11 Hospitality Tax Allocations**

Ms. Barron moved, seconded to Ms. Terracio to approve items (b)(c)and(d)

In Favor: Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Barron, O. Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton.

Opposed: Malinowski and J. Walker.

The vote was in favor.

Ms. McBride moved, seconded by Ms. Terracio, to reconsider Items 17(a) – (d).

In Favor: Malinowski, and J. Walker

Opposed: Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Barron, O. Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

The motion for reconsideration failed.

- e. **A Resolution to appoint and commission George Recardo Carroll as a Code Enforcement Officer for the proper security, general welfare, and convenience of Richland County**
- f. **An Emergency Ordinance requiring the wearing of face masks to help alleviate the spread of COVID-19, specifically the recent surge in the delta variant**

18. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – There were no items for Executive Session

19. **MOTION PERIOD** – There were no motions.

20. **ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:40 PM.