



Richland County Council
ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES
June 27, 2023 – 6:00 PM
Council Chambers
2020 Hampton Street, Columbia, SC 29204

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Jessica Mackey, Chair; Jason Branham, Yvonne McBride, Paul Livingston, and Don Weaver

OTHERS PRESENT: Leonardo Brown, Ashiya Myers, Stacey Hamm, Michelle Onley, Angela Weathersby, Lori Thomas, Abhijit Deshpande, Anette Kirylo, Kyle Holsclaw, Patrick Wright, Dale Welch, Chelsea Bennett, Zachary Cavanaugh, Quinton Epps, Dante Roberts, John Thompson, and Michael Byrd

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chairwoman Jessica Mackey called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 PM.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - a. May 23, 2023 – Mr. Livingston moved to approve the minutes as distributed, seconded by Mr. Weaver.
In Favor: Branham, Livingston, McBride, Weaver, and Mackey
The vote in favor was unanimous.
3. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – Mr. Livingston moved to adopt the agenda as distributed, seconded by Mr. Branham.
In Favor: Branham, Livingston, McBride, Weaver, and Mackey
The vote in favor was unanimous.
4. **ITEMS FOR ACTION**
 - a. Community Planning & Development – Business Service Center – Business Service Center Ordinance Amendment – Mr. Leonardo Brown, County Administrator, recognized the Business Service Center Director Zach Cavanaugh. He indicated this has previously come before Council as a presentation(s). The rate class schedule is a compliance issue that we are seeking approval for. Secondly, the business license tax rates which are consistent with the County’s budget ordinance.

Mr. Branham moved to forward to Council with a recommendation to approve the 2023 Business License Rate Class Schedule to maintain compliance with the SC Fiscal Affairs Office and to approve the updated Business License Tax Rates to conform to the FY23-24 Budget Ordinance, seconded by Mr. Weaver.

In Favor: Branham, Livingston, McBride, Weaver, and Mackey
The vote in favor was unanimous.
 - b. County Administrator – Reimbursement Resolution for 2023-24 General Obligation Bond for Family Services Center and Improvements at Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center – Mr. Brown stated what this recommendation is saying is that we know we are moving forward with the renovations at the Detention Center and construction/renovations of the Family Services Center. We know that at some point soon, we will go out to the bond market. In the meantime, we want to move forward with the renovations by utilizing the funds we have on hand and reimburse ourselves through the bond we ultimately get.

Mr. Branham inquired if there is a timetable for when the bond funds will be obtained.

Mr. Brown indicated they had discussed potential times and dates (i.e., October) with the County’s financial advisor, but that has not been solidified.

Mr. Livingston inquired if this is bonds Council has already approved.

Mr. Brown responded Council has not approved any bonds, and this is not an approval of a bond. This tells us that you will fund the Family Services Center, which will require you to borrow money. In the

meantime, we will spend the funds we already have, anticipating that we will borrow money. When we borrow the money, the County will pay itself back with the bond proceeds.

Mr. Weaver inquired about the breakdown of funding between the Detention Center and the Family Services Center.

Mr. Brown replied there was no specific breakdown. Between the two projects, we will need approximately \$60M. We do not need the whole amount now, but enough to move the projects forward. We are not trying to finish both projects with this funding but to prevent stoppages.

Mr. Weaver stated he is confident when the bond request is brought to Council, additional details will be provided.

Mr. Brown pointed out that the specific details will be provided to Council and the entity providing the bond.

Ms. Mackey inquired if it was typical for us to put both projects in one resolution.

Mr. Brown indicated it is the cost of issuance. We can bond as many times as necessary, but you have to pay each time. We are putting the projects together to reduce the cost of issuing the debt and be more efficient with taxpayer dollars.

Mr. Weaver inquired if this would require a tax increase.

Mr. Brown responded that nothing he was requesting had to do with a tax increase.

Ms. McBride moved to forward to Council with a recommendation to approve the Reimbursement Resolution for expenses not to exceed \$25,000,000 related to the issuance of General Obligation bonds to acquire, construct, renovate, improve, and equip the Family Services Center at the former Dillard's Building at Columbia Place Mall, and to fund continued capital improvements at the Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center, seconded by Mr. Weaver.

In Favor: Branham, Livingston, McBride, Weaver, and Mackey

The vote in favor was unanimous.

- c. Community Planning & Development – Conservation – Cabin Branch Property Acquisition [EXECUTIVE SESSION] – Mr. Brown stated this item is being recommended for Executive Session because it potentially involves property acquisition. Generally, when we speak about buying or selling property, we want to hold the County's best interest; therefore, it is suggested to take those matters up in Executive Session.

Mr. Livingston moved to go into Executive Session, seconded by Ms. McBride

In Favor: Branham, Livingston, McBride, Weaver, and Mackey

The vote in favor was unanimous.

***The Committee went into Executive Session at approximately 6:14 PM
and came out at approximately 6:44 PM***

Mr. Weaver moved to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Livingston.

In Favor: Branham, Livingston, McBride, Weaver, and Mackey

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ms. Mackey indicated no action was taken in Executive Session

Mr. Livingston moved to Council with a recommendation to allow staff to submit the application to the Conservation Bank as discussed in Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Weaver.

In Favor: Branham, Livingston, McBride, Weaver, and Mackey

The vote in favor was unanimous.

5. **ADJOURNMENT** – Mr. Weaver moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Branham.

In Favor: Branham, Livingston, McBride, Weaver, and Mackey

The vote in favor was unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:47 PM.