



## Richland County Council

### DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICES COMMITTEE

October 22, 2019 – 5:00 PM

Council Chambers

2020 Hampton Street, Columbia, SC 29204

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Calvin Jackson, Chakisse Newton and Allison Terracio

OTHERS PRESENT: Michelle Onley, Larry Smith, Stacey Hamm, Clayton Voignier, John Thompson, Ashiya Myers, Ashley Powell, Dale Welch, Leonardo Brown, Angela Weathersby, and Jessica Mancine

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Mr. Jackson called the meeting to order at approximately 5:00 PM.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
  - a. September 24, 2019 – Ms. Terracio moved, seconded by Ms. Newton, to approve the minutes as corrected with the inclusion of the end time of the meeting.

In Favor: Terracio, Jackson and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

3. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – Ms. Newton moved, seconded by Ms. Terracio, to adopt the agenda as published.

Ms. Newton stated the minutes from the last meeting noted that the Spring Valley HOA Sediment matter was to come back before the committee. She inquired when this matter will come back before the committee, and if there is any action required on the committee's part to bring it back.

Ms. Myers stated it was to have come back on this agenda. She did not follow-up with the Stormwater Division prior to the agenda being drafted. She will ensure that it is placed on the November agenda.

In Favor: Terracio, Jackson and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

4. **ITEMS PENDING ANALYSIS: NO ACTION REQUIRED**

- a. I move that Richland County undertake a study regarding the existence/prevalence of PFAS in groundwater and soil throughout the County. If desired, the County should coordinate with all municipalities within its boundaries to derive a comprehensive study on these harmful chemicals, and if necessary or warranted, a plan for corporate remediation [MYERS] – Ms. Terracio inquired as to what initiated the interest in these particular chemicals. She inquired if there were citizens that were sick.

Ms. A. Myers stated Ms. D. Myers had read a number of articles, related to the matter, had forwarded them via email and requested a motion.

Ms. Newton stated, in addition to those articles, there was concern when you look in District 10, around the Westinghouse plant, since they emit on of these chemicals. She inquired, if staff had reason to believe this might be prevalent throughout the County, or if there are particular areas it would make more sense to target first.

Ms. Mancine stated, from her research, most of these chemicals are found in areas that manufacture products such as fire foam, stain and water repellent fabrics. In addition, in areas where they do firefighter training, since they utilize the fire foam, and airports. There was a mention of wastewater areas, but they did not focus on those areas as much as manufacturers. She stated companies that manufactured PFOS and PFOA products have stopped manufacturing those products in the country. Of course, they are manufactured internationally and are then imported into the country. For example, pizza boxes and clothing. In South Carolina, there is no DHEC regulations to check on the chemicals. Currently, since there are no regulations DHEC is not currently testing for these chemicals. She stated there are about 5,000 chemicals involved with PFOS, and the testing is relatively expensive.

Mr. Jackson inquired if it would make sense to randomly test sites around Westinghouse, China Jushi, etc. He knows there were some challenging issues surrounding the ground water around Westinghouse right after he and Ms. Myers came on Council.

Ms. Mancine stated you could easily contaminant the sample with just the gloves or bottles that we use. She stated we have to buy specialized sampling tools, and then the samples would need to be sent off and tested. The cost per sample is approximately \$225.

Ms. Terracio inquired, when we do testing like this, what is the process if we find something that needs to be dealt with, and who is responsible for the clean up.

Ms. Mancine stated she is not certain, but if it is in our water system we would have to handle it.

Mr. Malinowski stated members of Council needs to be careful citing and mentioning names of companies.

Ms. Newton moved, seconded by Ms. Terracio, to hold this in committee for additional information.

In Favor: Terracio, Jackson and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

5. **ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:14 PM.