



Richland County Council  
REGULAR SESSION  
**MINUTES**  
June 7, 2022 – 6:00 PM  
Council Chambers  
2020 Hampton Street, Columbia, SC 29204

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Overture Walker, Chair, Jesica Mackey, Vice-Chair, Bill Malinowski, Derrek Pugh, Yvonne McBride, Paul Livingston, Allison Terracio, Joe Walker, Gretchen Barron, Cheryl English and Chakisse Newton

OTHERS PRESENT: Kyle Holsclaw, Michael Byrd, Stacey Hamm, Dale Welch, Leonardo Brown, Tamar Black, Lori Thomas, Patrick Wright, Justin Landy, Aric Jensen, Abhijit, Deshpande, Anette Kirylo, Dwight Hanna, Angela Weathersby, Judy Carter, Jennifer Wladischkin, Michael Maloney, Bill Davis, John Thompson, Quinton Epps, Chris Eversmann, Geo Price, Denise Teasdell, Shirani Fuller, and Jeff Ruble

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chairman O. Walker called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00PM.
2. **INVOCATION** – The Invocation was led by the Honorable Bill Malinowski.
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Honorable Bill Malinowski.
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
  - a. **Regular Session: May 17, 2022** – It was moved by Ms. Mackey and seconded by Ms. Barron, to approve the minutes as distributed.  
In Favor: Malinowski, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, J. Walker, Barron, O. Walker, Mackey, English and Newton  
The vote in favor was unanimous.
  - b. **Budget Public Hearing: May 19, 2022** – It was moved by Ms. Barron moved and seconded by Mr. Pugh, to approve the minutes as distributed.  
In Favor: Malinowski, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, J. Walker, Barron, O. Walker, Mackey, English and Newton  
The vote in favor was unanimous.
  - c. **Special Called Meeting: May 24, 2022** – It was moved by Ms. Barron and seconded by Mr. J. Walker, to approve the minutes as distributed.  
In Favor: Malinowski, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, J. Walker, Barron, O. Walker, Mackey, English and Newton  
The vote in favor was unanimous.

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5. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – It was moved by Ms. Barron and seconded by Ms. Mackey, to amend the agenda to include a resolution honoring Juneteenth.

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

The vote to add the resolution honoring Juneteenth to the agenda was unanimous.

Mr. Pugh moved, seconded by Ms. Mackey, to adopt the agenda as amended.

The vote to adopt the agenda as amended was unanimous.

- a. **Resolution Recognizing Juneteenth** – Ms. Tamar Black, Assistant to the Clerk of Council, read the resolution recognizing Juneteenth into the record.
6. **REPORT OF THE ATTORNEY FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS** – The County Attorney, Mr. Patrick Wright, stated the following items qualify for Executive Session:
- a. **Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center**
- b. **2022 County Administrator Evaluation Process**
- c. **County Attorney and Clerk to Council Performance Evaluation Process**

7. **CITIZENS' INPUT**

a. **For Items on the Agenda Not Requiring a Public Hearing**

1. Ina Lightner, 1801 Carl Road, Columbia, SC 29210 – Item 12(a) “Department of Public Works – Engineering Division – Traffic Calming – Approval for Speed Hump Installation”
2. Adanay Forrester, 822 Woodside Avenue, Columbia, SC 29203 – Animal Service Concern(s)

8. **CITIZENS' INPUT**

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 this time)**

1. Catherine Davis, 2401 Harlem Street, Columbia, 29209 – Atlas Road Community Organization
2. Melissa Ward, 98 W. Killian Station Court, Columbia, 29229 – Community Concerns
3. Javar Juarez, 1924 Spotswood Drive, Columbia, SC 29210 – Broad River Business Alliance Community Development Corporation
4. Stephen Gilchrist, 121 North Ridge Road, Columbia, SC 29223 – Effect of Budget on Residents
5. Rev. Jackie Utley, 827 Wildwood Avenue, Columbia, SC 29203 – Affordable Housing Trust Fund

9. **REPORT OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

- a. **Coronavirus Update** – Mr. Leonardo Brown, County Administrator, stated the County is currently in Community Level Medium. The County’s vaccination rates continue to increase.
- b. **Other Updates** – Mr. Brown noted the South Carolina City and County Management Association (SCCCMA) is coming up June 16 – 19 in Hilton Head, which he intends to attend.
- c. **Richland County Public Safety Complex** – Mr. Brown stated staff will be requesting a work session to update Council on the progress of the project. The economic conditions of inflation, supply shortages, and cost of fuel has impacted the project.

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- d. **Formula Grant Allocation from HUD** – Mr. Brown stated the County recently received the formula grant allocation from HUD. The allocation is slightly higher this year. Staff is requesting a work session to discuss this program and related grant funding.
- e. **Disbursal of Grant Funding** – Mr. Brown noted we want to look at how we disburse grant funding. Specifically, when it relates to jurisdictions like Richland County, where we receive funding, but the City of Columbia also receives funding. As it relates to the in-house COVID-19 Program, the County the unincorporated applicants have first priority. Staff will be requesting a work session to discuss this in more detail.
- f. **Planning Commission** – Mr. Brown stated the Planning Commission continues to go through their process. Staff has requested the Commission to provide a calendar of meeting and work sessions to allow interested parties an opportunity to attend in-person or online.

Ms. Mackey stated, for clarification purposes, this item is in reference to the Land Development Code Rewrite, and Council is awaiting the Planning Commission’s recommendation.

- g. **Riverbanks Zoo** – Mr. Brown noted the proposed timeline for consideration of the Riverbanks Zoo’s request is as follows:
  - June 7 – Council motion to send item to the A&F Committee;
  - June 28 – A&F Committee considers Zoo’s financing request
  - July 12 – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading
  - July 19 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading
  - July 26 – Public Hearing
  - August 30 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading

**POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE** – Ms. Barron thanked the Administrator and staff, who took part in District 7’s Community Walk and Health Fair, for making the event a success.

10. **REPORT OF THE CLERK OF COUNCIL**

- a. **Strategic Planning Work Session** – Ms. Kirylo reminded Council there is a Strategic Planning Work Session on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 4:00 – 6:00 PM.

11. **REPORT OF THE CHAIR** – Mr. O. Walker acknowledged Richland School District II Commissioners James Manning, Amelia B. McKie, Lashonda McFadden; Richland School District I Commissioner Cheryl Harris; Blythewood Town Councilman Donald Brock; Representative Annie McDaniel and Richland County Auditor Paul Brawley were in the audience.

12. **APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS**

- a. **Emergency Services – Emergency Medical Services Division – Purchase of EMS Medical Equipment and Supplies for Budget Year 2022 – 23**
- b. **Department of Public Works – Jim Hamilton-LB Owens Airport – Contract Award of Aviation Consultants for Airport’s Engineering and Planning and Construction project**
- c. **Department of Public Works – Engineering Division – Approval of award of Longreen Parkway Sidewalk Construction project**
- d. **Department of Public Works – Solid Waste and Recycling Division – Solid Waste & Recycling Collection Area 3 Contract Amendment**
- e. **Department of Public Works – Solid Waste and Recycling Division – Solid Waste & Recycling Collection Area 5A Contract Amendment**

**f. Utilities – Closed-Circuit Television with Trailer Purchase**

It was moved by Ms. Newton and seconded by Ms. Barron, to approve the Consent Items.

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

The vote in favor was unanimous.

It was moved by Ms. Barron and seconded by Ms. Mackey, to reconsider the Consent Items.

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

The motion for reconsideration failed.

**13. THIRD READING ITEMS**

- a. An Ordinance to raise revenue, make appropriations, and adopt an Annual Budget (FY2023) for Richland County, South Carolina for Fiscal Year beginning July 1 2022 and ending June 30, 2023. So as to raise revenue, make appropriations and Amend the General Fund, Millage Agencies, Special Revenue Funds, Enterprise Funds, and Debt Service Funds Budget for Richland County, South Carolina for Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023** – It was moved by Ms. McBride and seconded by Ms. Mackey, to approve this item.

Mr. Livingston inquired if the motion is to approve the budget, as passed on 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading.

Ms. McBride responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Livingston requested to remove the millage agencies, with the exception of the school districts.

Mr. Malinowski inquired if the updated figures from the Auditor will create a tax increase.

Mr. Paul Brawley, Richland County Auditor, responded, if you do a no mill increase, the numbers will not increase taxes. If you use the mill cap numbers, it will require a tax increase.

Mr. Malinowski inquired if Ms. McBride’s motion is for a no mill increase.

Ms. McBride responded Mr. Livingston’s request was to take the millage agencies out, with the exception of the school districts.

Mr. J. Walker stated, for clarification, we will be voting on everything, other than the millage agencies, to include the school districts.

Mr. Pugh stated this is a hot topic in the community. The budget before us will not increase taxes, but it is imperative that only millage agencies, but Richland County as a whole, needs to reevaluate how we spend money and make the necessary adjustments. Everything and everybody are experiencing shortfalls. It is very important for us to exercise other options before sticking the citizens with a higher tax bill.

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

Opposed: Malinowski, Pugh, Barron and Newton

The vote was in favor.

**GRANTS**

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9. *Accommodations Tax (Approval of A-Tax Committee Recommendations; \$370,000)*
10. *Hospitality Tax (Approval of Reserve for Future Years/Contingency funding level; \$150,000)*
11. *Hospitality Tax (Approval of Transfers Out funding level; \$4,487,750)*
12. *Hospitality Tax (Approval of the funding level for Columbia Museum of Art for FY23; \$791,705)*
13. *Hospitality Tax (Approval of the funding level for Historic Columbia Foundation for FY23; \$506,810)*
14. *Hospitality Tax (Approval of the funding level for EdVenture for FY23; \$423,333)*
15. *Hospitality Tax (Approval of the funding level for Township Auditorium for FY23; \$385,000)*
16. *Hospitality Tax (Approval of the funding level for Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center and Visitor's Bureau at FY22 level; \$201,091)*
17. *Hospitality Tax (Approval of the funding level for Columbia International Festival at FY22 level; \$166,344)*
18. *Hospitality Tax (Approval of SERCO funding at FY22 level; \$67,895)*
19. *Hospitality Tax (Approval of carryover of any unexpended funds from the Gateway Pocket Park/Blight Removal Project to FY23 budget; \$250,000)*
20. *Hospitality Tax (Approval of carryover of any unexpended funds from the Historical Corridor to FY23 budget; \$247,715)*
21. *Hospitality Tax (Approval of H-Tax Committee Recommendations; \$450,000)*
22. *Hospitality Tax (Approval of Councilmember H-Tax Discretionary funding level; \$906,675)*
23. *Hospitality Tax (Approve funding of \$60,000 to the Lower Richland Sweet Potato Festival for their annual festival in FY23; \$60,000)*
24. *Hospitality Tax (Approval of carryover of any unexpended funds from each Councilmember District to FY23 budget; N/A)*
25. *Hospitality Tax (Approval of Lake Murray Capital City as a Special Promotion Agency and appropriate funding; \$150,000)*
26. *Neighborhood Redevelopment (Approval of Neighborhood Improvement Grant Recommendations; \$75,775)*
27. *Conservation Commission (Approval of Conservation Commission Grant Recommendations; \$250,000)*
28. *Various Grant Funded Depts. (Approval of department requests that are applying for external grants in FY 23 and required matching of County funds; \$105,231,142)*

**GENERAL FUND**

29. *County Departments (Approve Projected General Fund Revenue as presented in the FY23 Recommended Budget Book; \$189,747,431)*

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30. County Departments (Approve General Fund Transfers In as presented in the FY23 Recommended Budget Book; \$3,025,000)

31. County Departments (Approve Projected Use of General Fund Balance to support overall General Fund expenditure as presented in the FY23 Recommended Budget Book; \$4,603,503)

32. County Departments (Approve change in the County's health insurance carrier from CIGNA Health Care to the SC State Health Plan [PEBA]; -3,698,357)

33. County Departments (Approve increasing the minimum entry-level annual wage to \$32,210 [\$16.52 per hour] for full-time and part-time positions to be implemented by August 5, 2022; \$712,197)

34. County Departments (Approve 4% pay raise for Richland County's full-time and part-time employees excluding certified detention officers to be implemented by September 2, 2022; \$4,281,128)

35. County Departments (Approve on average 7.24% pay raise for Richland County's certified detention officers to be implemented by September 2, 2022; \$943,119)

36. County Departments (Approve independent Procurement Department; N/A)

37. County Departments (Approve independent Grants Department; N/A)

38. County Departments (Approve General Fund Overall Personnel, Operating and Capital Expenditures as presented in the FY23 Recommended Budget Book; \$183,258,963)

39. Transfer Out (Approve General Fund Operating Transfers Out as presented in the FY23 Recommended Budget Book; \$10,395,758)

40. County Departments (Approve General Fund New Positions and Reclassifications requests by Departments as presented in the FY23 Recommended Budget Book; \$872,126)

41. County Departments (Approve Other Fund New Positions requests by Departments in the FY23 Recommended Budget Book; \$735,719)

42. Discretionary Grant (Approve total of \$200,000 in discretionary grant committee recommendations; \$200,000)

43. Discretionary Grant (Approve additional \$300,000 in discretionary grant committee recommendations)

44. Contractual & Statutory (Approve funding the Central Midlands COG for FY23; \$200,826)

45. Contractual & Statutory (Approve funding the City Center Partnership for FY23; \$47,500)

46. Contractual & Statutory (Approve funding LRADAC for FY23; \$600,000)

47. Lump Sum Agencies (Provide priority consideration for remaining Lump Sum Appropriations agencies [that have requested funds] via ARPA funds [Community Grants and Public/Private Partnerships] and/or additional Discretionary Grant funds; N/A)

48. Lump Sum Agencies (Approve funding of \$20,000 to the Therapy Place towards its operating expenditure in FY23; \$20,000)

49. Lump Sum Agencies (Approve funding \$81,000 to the Communities in Schools towards their program expenditure in FY23; \$81,000)

50. Council Services (Approve increasing the amount of each Councilmember District's discretionary operating expenditure from \$10,000 to its previous amount of \$15,000; **withdrawn**)
51. Council Services (Approve each Councilmember District's discretionary operating expenditure to its FY22 level of \$10,000; \$110,000)
52. Lump Sum Agencies (Approve funding the Antioch Senior Center for FY23; \$40,000)
53. Lump Sum Agencies (Approve the Greenview Swim Team for FY23; \$20,000)
54. Lump Sum Agencies (Approve funding the St. John CDC for FY23; \$75,000)
55. Lump Sum Agencies (Approve to increase the Wiley Kennedy Foundation to \$75,000 in FY23 [increase of \$15k]; \$75,000)
56. County Departments [Public Safety] (Appropriate a contingency of up to \$3,000,000 of American Rescue Plan Funds for potential Public Safety initiatives. These funds would be a transfer to the General Fund on a reimbursement basis; \$3,000,000)
57. Lump Sum Agencies (Move to fund the following organizations [listed in Lump Sum Appropriations] via ARPA funds up to \$1,150,000: Capital Senior Center - \$180,000; Columbia Urban League - \$100,000; Senior Resources - \$548,046; Transitions Homeless Center - \$100,000; Greater Columbia Community Relations - \$95,250; Palmetto AIDS Life Support - \$90,000; \$1,113,296)

#### SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS

58. Economic Development (Appropriate funding to approve Economic Development Budget; \$3,527,095)
59. Emergency Telephone System (Appropriate funding to approve Emergency Telephone System Budget; \$6,405,101)
60. Fire Services (Appropriate funding to approve Fire Services Budget; \$31,067,584)
61. Hospitality Tax (Appropriate funding to approve Hospitality Tax Budget; \$8,896,312)
62. Accommodations Tax (Appropriate funding to approve Accommodations Tax Budget; \$425,000)
63. Transportation Tax (Appropriate funding to approve Transportation Tax Budget; \$80,000,000)
64. Neighborhood Redevelopment (Appropriate funding to approve Neighborhood Redevelopment Budget; \$909,330)
65. Public Defender (Appropriate funding to approve Public Defender Budget; \$5,426,423)
66. Title IVD-Sheriff's Fund (Appropriate funding to approve Title IVD-Sheriff's Fund Budget; \$55,563)
67. School Resource Officers (Appropriate funding to approve School Resource Officers Budget; \$6,957,345)
68. Victim's Assistance (Appropriate funding to approve Victim's Assistance Budget; \$1,276,505)
69. Tourism Development (Appropriate funding to approve Tourism Development Budget; \$1,253,120)
70. Temporary Alcohol Permits (Appropriate funding to approve Temporary Alcohol Budget; \$172,168)

**71. Stormwater Management (Appropriate funding to approve Stormwater Management Budget; \$3,732,147)**

**72. Conservation Commission (Appropriate funding to approve Conservation Commission Budget; \$1,139,178)**

**73. Road Maintenance (Appropriate funding to approve the Road Maintenance Budget; \$8,193,572)**

**74. Stormwater Management (Approve funding the Congaree River Keeper for FY23; \$20,000)**

**75. Temporary Alcohol Permits (Approve funding the River Alliance for FY23; \$53,000)**

**DEBT SERVICE**

**76. General Obligation Debt Service (Appropriate funding to fund debt service; \$20,208,361)**

**77. Fire Bonds Debt Service (Appropriate funding to fund debt service; \$545,600)**

**78. Hospitality Refund 2013A B/S [Special Assessment] (Appropriate funding to fund debt service; \$1,487,750)**

**79. RC IP Bonds 2019 (Appropriate funding to fund debt service; \$1,604,144)**

**80. School District I Debt Service (Appropriate funding to fund debt service; \$61,071,918)**

**81. School District II Debt Service (Appropriate funding to fund debt service; \$64,215,424)**

**82. Recreation Commission (Appropriate funding to fund debt service; \$3,769,189)**

**83. Riverbanks Zoo & Garden (Appropriate funding to fund debt service; \$2,556,463)**

**84. East Richland Public Service Dist. [Sewer] (Appropriate funding to fund debt service; \$1,438,561)**

**85. Transportation Bonds (Appropriate funding to fund debt service; \$14,433,250)**

**ENTERPRISE**

**86. Solid Waste Enterprise Fund (Approve Proposed Increase in the FY23 Rate Schedule as presented by the Department in the Council Budget Work Session on May 5, 2022; N/A)**

**87. Solid Waste Enterprise Fund (Appropriate funding to approve Solid Waste Budget; \$41,542,159)**

**88. Solid Waste Enterprise Fund (Approve funding Keep the Midlands Beautiful for FY23; \$42,900)**

**89. Richland County Utilities (Appropriate funding to approve Richland County Utilities Budget; \$13,820,000)**

**90. Hamilton-Owens Airport Operating (Appropriate funding to approve Airport Budget; \$581,724)**

Mr. Livingston stated, as you may recall, he expressed his reason for not voting in favor of the millage agencies on 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading. He shares his colleagues' goal for a no tax increase budget, but his concern is if we want to do it on the back of the millage agencies. Recently, he has gone to prayer breakfasts, meetings and events to address gun violence and crime, and the main theme is we need more recreation for the youth, more job skill training and more mental health resources. The millage agencies that assist with these needs are the ones who are having their funding decreased. He recommended having the Administrator look at the Fund Balance or ARPA

funding to bring the millage agencies back to at least their FY22 funding levels. In his conversations with the Auditor, by giving the millage agencies what they received last year will cost 1.1 mill.

Ms. Mackey stated Council did not cut funding or reduce the millage. Just as the millage agencies are faced with challenges, so is the County. She inquired, if the County utilizes the General Fund, what will we be giving up in services to the citizens.

Ms. Barron stated it appears the ARPA funds have become the slush fund for everyone. She noted Council was working on the budget at the same time as the Coronavirus Ad Hoc Committee was working on the proposed expenditure of ARPA funds. We all need to closely look at our budgets because we are all faced with the same challenges. If the millage agencies do not have it, the County does not have it either.

Ms. Newton stated it is important for the community to note we have broken out what the ARPA funds are being allocated for (i.e. community funding, mental health, recreation/youth services, etc.).

Mr. Malinowski stated all public entities need to look for ways to reduce spending, and cut costs, instead of creating new bonds, increasing taxes, or hiking the millage agencies. A short-term fix would create long-term repercussions. Any financial burden would place harm on the business community and the residents.

Mr. Livingston noted the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading approved amounts will reduce the funding for Recreation Commission, Midlands Tech and Columbia Area Mental Health. He noted his suggestion is there are other areas of the budget where we can get those funds, as opposed to taking it from the millage agencies.

Mr. Malinowski moved, seconded by Ms. Barron, to approve the no mill increase for the millage agencies.

In Favor: Malinowski, Pugh, McBride, Terracio, J. Walker, Barron, O. Walker, Barron and Newton

Opposed: Livingston and English

The vote was in favor.

Mr. J. Walker moved, seconded by Ms. Barron, to reconsider 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading of the budget.

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

The motion for reconsideration failed.

#### **MILLAGE AGENCIES**

- 1. RC Recreation Commission (Approve Agency's budget at No Mill Increase level; \$15,550,000)***
- 2. Columbia Area Mental Health (Approve Agency's budget at No Mill Increase level; \$2,427,500)***
- 3. RC Public Library (Approve Agency's budget at No Mill Increase level; \$29,700,000)***
- 4. Riverbanks Zoo & Garden (Approve Agency's budget at No Mill Increase level; \$2,605,000)***
- 5. Midlands Tech College [Operating] (Approve Agency's budget at No Mill Increase level; \$7,018,600)***
- 6. Midlands Tech Capital/Debt Service (Approve Agency's budget at No Mill Increase level; \$3,720,000)***
- 7. School District I (Approve Agency's budget at No Mill Increase level; \$241,096,717)***
- 8. School District II (Approve Agency's budget at No Mill Increase level; \$172,325,821)***

14. **SECOND READING ITEMS**

- a. **An Ordinance Amending Ordinance # 05-53.5-21 Amending the Richland County Code of Ordinances, so as to adopt the Richland County Land Development Code Rewrite; and to replace Chapter 26, Land Development amending the effective dates of its provision and clarification on interim procedures** –

It was moved by Ms. English moved and seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to defer this item to the June 21<sup>st</sup> Council meeting.

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

The vote in favor was unanimous.

- b. **An Ordinance Authorizing the acquisition of certain property located in Richland County; and other matters related thereto** – It was moved by Mr. Livingston moved and seconded by Ms. English, to approve this item.

Mr. Malinowski inquired when the effective date would be, since one is not listed in the document.

Mr. Ruble responded the effective date is yet to be determined.

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

The vote in favor was unanimous.

15. **REPORT OF THE DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICES COMMITTEE**

- a. **Department of Public Works – Engineering Division – Traffic Calming – Approval of Speed Hump Installation** – It was moved by Ms. Mackey and seconded by Ms. Barron, to approve this item.

Ms. McBride inquired if the proper procedure to request traffic calming measures is still to conduct a traffic study.

Ms. Shirani Fuller, Assistant Count Engineer, responded in the affirmative. It is on a first come, first served basis. The traffic study monitors the traffic volume and speed.

Ms. McBride inquired if the traffic study was done for this item.

Ms. Fuller responded the traffic study was completed, and the request passed all of the criteria. She noted a traffic study would have to be conducted prior to installation of a traffic calming measure.

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

The vote in favor was unanimous.

It was moved by Mr. Livingston and seconded by Ms. Barron, to reconsider this item.

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

The motion for reconsideration failed.

16. **REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

- a. **County Administrator's Office – Verizon Wireless Lease Renewal** – It was moved by Ms. McBride and

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seconded by Ms. Mackey, to approve this item.

Mr. Malinowski inquired why the renewal document indicates a 2.5% rent increase when it was previously 3%.

Mr. Brown responded the requestor requested the County to put a standard inflation clause in, rather than relying on CPI.

Mr. Malinowski stated he believes the correct language for #4, on p. 334 of the agenda, should be "outstanding monthly installments of rent [and utilities] dating back to July 1, 2020." In addition, on p.335 of the agenda, he believes the "promises and understandings" should be spelled out.

Mr. Wright stated, for clarification, oral and/or verbal agreements, promises or understandings are binding.

Mr. Malinowski made a friendly amendment to change 2.5% to 3% and add "and utilities" to #4.

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

The vote in favor was unanimous.

It was moved by Mr. Malinowski and seconded by Ms. English, to reconsider this item.

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

The motion for reconsideration failed.

- b. **East Richland County Public Service District – Whitehouse Road 404 Hatchery and Genetic Management Plan (HMGP) Project** – Mr. Malinowski stated the committee recommended to provide 20% of the funding for the project.

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

Opposed: Malinowski

The vote was in favor.

Ms. McBride moved, seconded by Ms. Mackey, to reconsider this item.

In Favor: Malinowski

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

The motion for reconsideration failed.

## 17. **REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

- a. **Committing to negotiate a fee-in-lieu of ad valorem taxes agreement between Richland County and Project Greens; identifying the project; and other matters related thereto** – Mr. Livingston stated the committee recommended approval of this item.

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

The vote in favor was unanimous.

- b. **Authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee-in-lieu of ad valorem taxes and incentive agreement by and between Richland County, South Carolina and Project Greens to provide for payment of a fee-in-lieu of taxes; authorizing certain infrastructure credits; authorizing the administration of grants;**

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**approving the transfer of certain real property; and other related matters [FIRST READING]** – Mr. Livingston stated the committee recommended approval of this item.

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

The vote in favor was unanimous.

## 18. **REPORT OF THE RULES AND APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE**

### a. **NOTIFICATION OF APPOINTMENTS**

1. **Planning Commission – Three (3) Vacancies** – Ms. Barron stated the committee recommended appointing Frederick Johnson, II, Charles Durant and Chris Siercks.

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

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ms. Newton moved, seconded by Ms. Mackey, to reconsider the Planning Commission appointments.

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

The motion of reconsideration failed.

### b. **ITEMS FOR ACTION**

1. **I move that Council work with staff to conduct a comprehensive review of Council rules and recommend changes to streamline the rules to improve the functioning of Council business [NEWTON – March 19, 2019]** – Ms. Barron stated the committee is presenting the updated Council Rules to Council.

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

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ms. Mackey stated, for clarification, the committee is requesting feedback on the updated Council Rules by June 21<sup>st</sup>. The feedback should be provided to the Clerk's Office.

2. **Consider moving the Horizon Meeting to Tuesday and have delivery of finished agendas to Council members by Thursday close of business [MALINOWSKI – April 6, 2021]** – Ms. Barron stated the committee recommended approval of this item.

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

The vote in favor was unanimous.

3. **Review of Boards, Commissions a Committees Not Currently Active** – Ms. Barron stated the committee recommended to remove the boards, commission and committees that are not active from the County's ordinance.

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

The vote in favor was unanimous.

19. **REPORT OF THE TRANSPORTATION AD HOC COMMITTEE**

- a. **Garners Ferry/Harmon Intersection Project** – Ms. Mackey stated the committee recommended Council approve the award of the Garner Ferry/Harmon Intersection Project to Cherokee, Inc. in the amount of \$1,841,866.65 with a 15% contingency of \$276,279.99 for a total amount of \$2,118,146.64.

Mr. Malinowski noted the bid was approximately 79% higher than the Engineer's estimate. When you add in the contingency, the cost is more than double the estimate. While the shortfall can be covered by the reserve fund, Council did not approve how the reserve funds should be spent. We need to establish a system as to how the reserve funds should be used. In addition, he noted we are setting a bad precedent by approving a bid that is double the Engineer's estimate. He believes the project needs to be rebid.

Ms. Mackey requested Mr. Maloney to address Mr. Malinowski's comments and concerns.

Mr. Maloney indicated the Engineer's estimate provided by the OET in November 2021 seemed low to staff. The estimate appeared to have some low bid items, as far as unit pricing. What appeared to be closer was the overall project value. In other words, looking at engineering, construction through the design and construction phases, and all of the services being provided to initiate the project. It was planned at \$2.6M, but it appears it will cost \$2.9M. He noted they have informed the OETs they need better up-to-date numbers before bidding. As far as the reserve fund, there is approximately \$6M, and growing due to the wetland bank revenue. When they reprogram projects into project reserves, they need to account for that funding. He indicated we need to be prepared to address higher construction costs.

Ms. McBride commented the larger projects eat up all the funding and there is nothing left for the smaller projects. She believes we need to re-prioritize the projects that have been de-scoped.

Mr. Malinowski stated, for clarification, we have a reserve fund that will be more than adequate to cover the increasing costs of the upcoming projects, and any overruns that may occur.

Mr. Maloney responded in the affirmative.

Ms. Newton noted it is extremely important we use criteria that is fair. She indicated we addressed this when we undertook the re-scoping project. We looked at the estimates, updated the estimates and evaluated the projects against a specific set of criteria that included school safety, level of service, etc.

Mr. Maloney stated, given normal current inflation, there is funding for all of the projects.

Ms. McBride noted she has worked with the Transportation Ad Hoc Committee for approximately 8 years, and the process was flawed from the beginning. We came back and did a fair job of improving the process; however, we did not use weighted values. She is recommending we go back and take a second look.

Mr. Brown indicated funding decisions will come back to Council for approval.

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

The vote in favor was unanimous.

**POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE** – Ms. Newton noted this project is in her district and expressed her appreciation for Council's support.

Ms. Mackey requested Mr. Maloney to provide an updated list of de-scope projects, and the order in which they were approved.

- b. **Mitigation Bank Credit Transaction – SCDOT US 76 Bridge Replacement and I-26 Improvements** – Ms. Mackey stated the committee recommended Council approve the two (2) request from the South Carolina Department of Transportation to purchase a combined total of 41.16 excess wetland and 2,962.40 excess stream credits, at a rate of \$12,500 and \$125 per credit respectively.

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

Opposed: Newton

The vote was in favor.

- c. **Penny Program Administrative Fund Deprogramming** – Ms. Mackey stated the committee recommended Council approve the request to move the remaining balance of \$31,130,528.15 from the Administrative/Debt Service costs and to transfer the General Fund proceeds to the Program Reserve Fund to be used as County Council approves for referendum projects.

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

The vote in favor was unanimous.

It was moved by Mr. J. Walker and seconded by Mr. Livingston, to reconsider Items 19(a) – (c).

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

The motion for reconsideration failed.

## 20. **REPORT OF THE CORONAVIRUS AD HOC COMMITTEE**

- a. **County Administrator’s American Rescue Plan Act Funding** – Ms. Barron noted the committee recommended allocating the American Rescue Plan funding as follows:

- Public Health -- \$15,000,000 (27.21%)
- Public Safety -- \$10,448,013 (18.95%)
- Community Investment -- \$19,000,000 (34.46%)
- Cybersecurity/Technology -- \$10,686,000 (19.38%)

In addition, the committee recommends approving the Administrator’s recommendation, with the following modifications: (1) Change Funding for Home Repairs to Funding for Senior Assistance; (2) Funding for Recreation/Youth Services in the amount of \$1,000,000; (3) Funding for Affordable Housing in the amount of \$4,000,000; and (4) Language clarifying that all ARPA funding allocated in this list of recommendations is approved as “up to”.

Ms. Terracio inquired if the remaining \$5.8M will go toward millage agency projects.

Ms. Barron responded it will be up to the committee to determine how the funding will be allocated.

Mr. Brown noted, of the \$5.8M, you will need to subtract the \$3M in Public Safety contingency funding and \$1.5M in other non-profit funding approved during the budget process.

Ms. Barron noted, it was her understanding, the Lump Sum appropriations would come out of the established pots of money.

Ms. Terracio inquired how we can assist the Library with these funds.

Ms. Barron responded the application process is still to be determined.

Ms. McBride and Ms. Mackey both stated these are broad categories and it will ultimately be up to Council to approve the specific funding.

Mr. Brown noted the funds need to be allocated by 2024 and expended by 2026.

Mr. Malinowski inquired if there are any specifics on the items listed on pp. 651-652 in the agenda packet.

Mr. Brown responded the details were provided in several Coronavirus Ad Hoc Committee meetings.

Ms. Barron noted the committee requested the Administrator to look at areas in the County that needed to be specifically addressed. Some of the items have needs assessments dating back to 2008.

Ms. Newton noted, for the record, in addition to the supplemental information, we will still be following the Richland County Procurement Code.

Ms. Terracio requested a definition of what fits into each category.

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

Opposed: Malinowski

The vote was in favor.

**POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE** – Ms. Barron stated she hopes we can put processes in place to make sure the funds get in the appropriate hands. She noted we did not set up an Affordable Housing Trust Fund, but we are addressing affordable housing.

It was moved by Ms. Mackey and seconded by Mr. J. Walker, to reconsider this item.

In Favor: Malinowski

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

The motion for reconsideration failed.

## 21. **REPORT OF THE EMPLOYEE EVALUATION AND OVERSIGHT AD HOC COMMITTEE**

- a. **2022 County Administrator Evaluation Process** – This item was taken up in Executive Session.
- b. **County Attorney and Clerk to Council Performance Evaluation Process** – This item was taken up in Executive Session.

## 22. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

It was moved by Ms. Barron moved and seconded by Ms. English, to enter into Executive Session.

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

The vote in favor was unanimous.

***Council went into Executive Session at approximately 8:00 PM  
and came out at approximately 8:07 PM***

Mr. J. Walker moved, seconded by Ms. Newton, to come out of Executive Session.

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

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mr. O. Walker stated no actions were taken in Executive Session.

- a. **Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center** – No action was taken.
- b. **2022 County Administrator Evaluation Process**
- c. **County Attorney and Clerk to Council Performance Evaluation Process**

It was moved by Ms. Newton and seconded by Ms. Barron to authorize Procurement to execute the negotiated contract, in reference to Items 6(b) and (c).

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

The vote in favor was unanimous.

It was moved by Ms. Newton and seconded by Mr. J. Walker, to reconsider Items 6(b) and (c).

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

The motion for reconsideration failed.

### 23. **MOTION PERIOD**

- a. **Any agency receiving funds from Richland County must provide an accounting for those funds prior to a request for funds in the next fiscal year budget. REASON: Accountability is a must for taxpayer dollars [MALINOWSKI]** – Chairman Walker referred this item to the Administration & Finance Committee.
- b. **I move to consider Riverbanks Park Commission's petition to allow the Riverbanks Park District to issue not to exceed \$80 million in general obligation bonds to make improvements at Riverbanks Zoo and Gardens [O. WALKER]** – Chairman Walker referred this item to the Administration & Finance Committee.

### 22. **ADJOURNMENT** – It was moved by Mr. Pugh moved and seconded by Mr. Livingston, to adjourn.

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

The vote in favor was unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:13 PM.