

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING OF THE FLORENCE COUNTY COUNCIL, THURSDAY, MAY 3, 2012, 3:30 P.M., COUNCIL CHAMBERS ROOM 803, CITY-COUNTY COMPLEX, 180 N. IRBY STREET, FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA

PRESENT:

K. G. "Rusty" Smith, Jr., Chairman
Waymon Mumford, Vice-Chairman
H. Morris Anderson, Secretary-Chaplain
Mitchell Kirby, Council Member
Russell W. Culberson, Council Member
Johnnie D. Rodgers, Jr., Council Member
Alphonso Bradley, Council Member
James T. Schofield, Council Member
Roger M. Poston, Council Member
Thomas B. Robinson, County Administrator
D. Malloy McEachin, Jr., County Attorney
Connie Y. Haselden, Clerk to Council

ALSO PRESENT:

Kevin V. Yokim, Finance Director
Suzanne S. King, Administrative Services Director
Andrew Stout, Florence County Museum Director
Ray McBride, Library Director
David Alford, Voter Registration/Elections Director
Barbara Coker, Sheriff's Office
Tucker Mitchell, Morning News

Notice of the special called meeting of the Florence County Council appeared in the May 2, 2012 edition of the **MORNING NEWS**. Copies of the agenda were faxed to members of the media, posted in the lobby of the City-County Complex, at the Doctors Bruce and Lee Foundation Public Library and all branch libraries, and on the County's website (www.florenceco.org).

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order. Secretary/Chaplain Anderson provided the invocation and Vice Chairman Mumford led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

ORDINANCES IN POSITION:

ORDINANCE NO. 27-2011/12 – INTRODUCED BY TITLE ONLY

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 27-2011/12 and Chairman Smith declared the Ordinance introduced: An Ordinance To Zone Property Located On Pisgah Road, Enterprise Drive, Florence Park Drive, Mechanicsville Road, Prosperity Way, Range Way, Success Way And Cecil Road, Florence, SC, As Shown On Florence County Tax Map No. 00120, Block 01, Parcels 001-003, 022, 025, 034, 039-040, 052, 058-059, 061-063, 065, 073, 075, 077-082, 085-086, 088-090, 092-093; Florence County Tax Map No. 00145, Block 01, Parcels 076-077, 085-089, 093, 095, 100, 103-104; Consisting Of 773.14 Acres To B-6, Industrial District, Consistent With The Land Use Element And Map Of The Florence County Comprehensive Plan; And Other Matters Related Thereto.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL:

PROCUREMENT

BID AWARD

Chairman Smith recognized Mrs. Jean Leatherman, Chairman of the Florence County Museum Board and thanked her for attending the meeting and the excellent job being done on the museum project. Councilman Schofield made a motion Council Award The Museum Construction Bid To M.B. Kahn Construction Company, Inc., Conway, SC In The Amount Of \$8,873,990 And Authorize Additional Funding For The Project In The Amount Of \$750,000 From Local Hospitality Tax Funding And Authorize Said Transfer Of Funds To The Museum Capital Project Fund. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

FACILITIES PROJECT MANAGER

Councilman Schofield made a motion Council Retain The Services Of A Facilities Project Manager During The Construction Of The Florence Museum And Authorize The County Administrator To Negotiate And Execute Said Contract To Be Funded From The Museum Capital Project Fund. Councilman Culberson seconded the motion. Councilman Schofield made a motion to Amend the Motion To Retain The Services Of Collins & Almers In The Amount Of \$75,000 And Authorize The County Administrator To Execute The Contract. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion to amend, which was approved unanimously. The motion as amended was approved unanimously.

BUDGET WORKSESSION:

The Chairman announced Council would proceed with the Budget Worksession to discuss matters relating to the proposed Fiscal Year 2013 budget. County Administrator Tom Robinson provided a brief overview of the proposed FY2013 budget. A 4 mill increase was included in the proposed budget, however if the General Assembly were to fully fund the Local Government Fund, the 4 mill increase would not be necessary. (A copy of the presentation is attached and incorporated by reference.)

Chairman Smith stated, for the benefit of the public and the media, he wanted to clarify that if the solid waste fee were no longer subsidized by the County General Fund, that it would only be charged to residents in the non-municipal limits, other than the City of Lake City; Lake City was the only municipality that paid the solid waste fee. Mr. Robinson confirmed that was the case; residents outside of municipal limits, with the exception of Lake City, would be charged the solid waste fee.

Councilman Kirby expressed a desire for the inclusion of replacement equipment for the rescue squads to enable those volunteer departments to continue providing much needed service to the rural areas of the County. He stated emergency care should be at the top of the list.

Councilman Schofield expressed concerns that about half of the millage increase included capital replacement items. He asked that Council and staff look very carefully at capital replacement items to determine if those items could potentially be deferred. He asked for clarification on the comment in the budget that talks about 13 new positions being requested and he would like to know where those positions would be located. Mr. Robinson stated a list of those requests were included in the package provided to Council but that none of the new positions requested were funded in the budget. Finance Director Kevin Yokim pointed out that several items in the capital replacement list were included to assist in sustaining the budget.

The Chairman asked Mr. Robinson to get a definitive clarification on the Proviso in effect regarding the level of funding that can be cut on the local government level to those agencies/offices mandated by the State. Councilman Kirby expressed concerns that the County was becoming a taxing agency for the State.

There being no further business to come before Council, Councilman Anderson made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Rodgers seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURNED AT 4:33 P.M.