

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE FLORENCE COUNTY COUNCIL,
THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2014, 9:00 A.M., COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ROOM 803, COUNTY COMPLEX, 180 N. IRBY STREET,
FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA**

PRESENT:

James T. Schofield, Chairman
Waymon Mumford, Vice Chairman
Mitchell Kirby, Secretary-Chaplain
Russell W. Culberson, Council Member
Alphonso Bradley, Council Member
Roger M. Poston, Council Member
Kent C. Caudle, Council Member
Willard Dorriety, Jr., Council Member
Jason M. Springs, Council Member
K. G. Rusty Smith, Jr., County Administrator
D. Malloy McEachin, Jr., County Attorney
Connie Y. Haselden, Clerk to Council

ALSO PRESENT:

Kevin V. Yokim, Finance Director
Ryon Watkins, EMS Director
Jonathan B. Graham, III, Planning Director
Andrew Stout, Museum Director
Ronnie Pridgen, Parks and Recreation Director
Samuel K. Brockington, Jr., Fire/Rescue Services Coordinator
Alan Smith, Library Director
Randy Godbold, VA Officer
Keith VonLutcken, Coroner
Chief Deputy Glen Kirby
Katherine McCain, Sheriff's Office
Gavin Jackson, Morning News Staffwriter
Tonya Brown, WPDE News Reporter
Ken Baker, WMBF News Reporter

A notice of the regular meeting of the Florence County Council appeared in the March 19, 2014 edition of the **MORNING NEWS**. In compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, copies of the meeting Agenda and Proposed Additions to the Agenda were provided to members of the media, members of the public requesting copies, posted in the lobby of the County Complex, provided for posting at the Doctors Bruce and Lee Foundation Public Library, all branch libraries, and on the County's website (www.florenceco.org).

Chairman Schofield called the meeting to order. Secretary-Chaplain Kirby provided the invocation and Vice Chairman Mumford led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Chairman Schofield welcomed everyone attending the meeting.

Chairman Schofield stated he would like to share comments presented to the Legislative Delegation in Columbia on Tuesday, March 18. "It's an exciting time in Florence County. Many good things are happening and the future development of our County has never looked more promising. There are many issues and challenges that we face in Florence County but the one challenge we don't face is the dedication of our elected officials and the Doctors Bruce and Lee Foundation.

The dedication of Senator Leatherman: years upon years of loyal and dedicated service to the people of Florence County and the State, always trying to move us to the next level, always making sure that our voice is heard in Columbia and making sure that the Pee Dee region got its fair share. His success in securing funding for many facilities will never be matched again. Our support for him should never be questioned.

The dedication of the Bruce and Lee Foundation to improving the quality of life in Florence has changed our community forever. I hate to think where we would be without these two irreplaceable assets in our community.

The next five years in Florence County will be very exciting and they will chart the course for many years to come. Major highway improvements in the first capital penny will be the pathways to our future. The economic impact of these highways will last for generations, thanks to the vision and the dedication of Senator Leatherman. New infrastructure projects in the County and the City of Florence have begun transforming and shaping our communities for the better. The pessimism of the past has been put away. A new hope exists in our people; they see things changing in the City of Florence and in Lake City and our other communities, such as the water tank fixing to be built in Pamplico. They see hotels and restaurants being built; they see road and major water and sewer projects, which are the backbone of economic growth. They see people in other organizations investing in our community once again, confident of our County's future. They see a new museum for Florence County getting ready to open and they see a new health science campus for Francis Marion University getting ready to break ground in downtown Florence. Thanks to the efforts of Senator Leatherman, Dr. Carter, the Bruce and Lee Foundation, and the City and the County of Florence.

Just think, you add all of that to what has already been accomplished. I challenge you or anyone to find a county or a city the size ... our size ... that has an equal to McLeod Medical Center and Carolinas Hospital System, or an equal to our Library facilities, Little Theatre, Performing Arts Center, Francis Marion University, or Florence-Darlington Tech with its SiMT facility. Show me any community that during the greatest recession that this Country has ever faced has continued to attract industry such as Otis, Monster, QVC, Johnson Control, and the expansion of our own locally owned McCall Farms. When all of us work together, realizing the opportunity that is before us – not looking

back, not dwelling on past failings – but putting all of our efforts toward our ideas and visions of the future, we surely shall not fail.

Robert Kennedy said *'Some men see things as they are, and ask why ... I dream of things that never were and ask why not?'* Shouldn't we all dream things that never were in Florence County and ask 'why not?' It is time to set the bar high. We can achieve it if we work together. Opportunities are unlimited for the person that doesn't know the word 'can't.' We are at the point where we could build the best mega-industrial park in our State. We have seen what happens when an industrial park is built with the entire infrastructure in place. When I was on City Council, the park where Otis Elevator is located today was done and recently, Pee Dee Commerce Park was done by Pee Dee Electric Coop. All it takes is the coordinated will of our elected officials working toward that goal. Our cultural, medical, recreational, transportation, educational facilities, in partnership with this new park, would put us at the top of the list when industry comes calling. Why not look forward, lock our hands together, and make our community one of the best in South Carolina? We have the time, we have the talent, and we have the resources. Let us all commit to a common goal that, together, we are going to make Florence County the best there is in South Carolina. I assure you that Florence County Council will do all that it can to work with all of you to move our community forward and develop the full potential of our citizens and our resources."

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Kirby made a motion Council Approve The Minutes Of The February 11, 2014 Worksession and the February 20, 2014 Regular Meeting Of County Council. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Councilman Caudle made a motion Council Correctly Identify The Actual Parcel Purchased From Bill Simpson To Expand The National Cemetery As 90104-11-013 Not 90104-~~08~~-013, Thereby Amending The January 16, 2014 Minutes. Councilman Springs seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

There were no Public Hearings scheduled.

APPEARANCES:

There were no Appearances scheduled.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, MILITARY AFFAIRS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

Committee Chairman Bradley state the Committee met on March 18, 2014 and would make a recommendation for amendments to Ordinance No. 20-2013/14 during the appropriate time on the Agenda.

RESOLUTIONS/PROCLAMATIONS:

DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH PROCLAMATION

The Clerk published the Proclamation in its entirety: A Proclamation To Proclaim The Month Of March 2014 As Disabilities Awareness Month In Florence County. Councilman Mumford made a motion Council approve the Proclamation and Presented The Framed Proclamation To Miss Stuckey With Florence County Disabilities And Special Needs. Councilman Culberson seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 24-2013/14

The Clerk published the title of Resolution No. 24-2013/14: A Resolution To Approve A Multi-Jurisdictional Agreement With The City Of Florence Police Department Requested By The Florence County Sheriff's Office And Authorizing The County Administrator To Execute Said Agreement. Councilman Caudle made a motion Council approve the Resolution as presented. Councilman Poston seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-2013/14

The Clerk published the title of Resolution No. 25-2013/14: A Resolution To Approve A Multi-Jurisdictional Agreement With The Williamsburg County Sheriff's Office Requested By The Florence County Sheriff's Office And Authorizing The County Administrator To Execute Said Agreement. Councilman Springs made a motion Council approve the Resolution as presented. Councilman Caudle seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-2013/14

The Clerk published the title of Resolution No. 26-2013/14: A Resolution To Amend The Florence County Personnel Policy Manual To Modify The Minimum Unit Of Sick Leave Required To Be Taken. Councilman Mumford made a motion Council approve the Resolution as presented. Councilman Springs seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 27-2013/14

The Clerk published the title of Resolution No. 27-2013/14: An Inducement Resolution Providing For A Fee In Lieu Of Tax Agreement Between Florence County And Project R. Councilman Caudle made a motion Council approve the Resolution as presented. Councilman Culberson seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

ORDINANCES IN POSITION:

ORDINANCE NO. 19-2013/14 – THIRD READING

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 19-2013/14: An Ordinance To Rezone Property On Behalf Of Jeff M. Anderson, Regarding The Estate Of Johnsie W. Moore, Located At W. Main Street, Lake City, As Shown On Florence County Tax Map No. 00167, Block 31, Parcel 054; Consisting Of Approximately 2.07 Acres From R-1, Single-Family Residential District To B-1, Limited Business District; And Other Matters Related Thereto. Councilman Springs made a motion Council approve third reading of the Ordinance. Councilman Dorriety seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 20-2013/14 – THIRD READING

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 20-2013/14: An Ordinance To Amend The Florence County Economic Development Partnership Ordinance To Provide For An Enlargement Of The Economic Development Partnership Membership And Other Matters Related Thereto. Councilman Caudle made a motion Council approve third reading of the Ordinance. Councilman Springs seconded the motion. Councilman Bradley made a motion to Amend Ordinance No. 20-2013/14 As Presented By The Committee, a copy of which was provided to Council members prior to the meeting. Councilman Kirby seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. Third Reading of the Ordinance as Amended was approved unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 17-2013/14 – SECOND READING

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 17-2013/14: An Ordinance Dissolving Pursuant To Section 4-9-30(5)(E) Of The Code Of Laws Of South Carolina, 1976, As Amended, The Sardis-Timmons ville Rural Fire Protection District, And Dissolving The Johnsonville Rural Fire District, The Howe Springs Fire District, The Hannah-Salem-Friendfield Fire District, The West Florence Rural Fire District, And The Windy Hill/Olanta Rural Fire District, All Incident To The Establishment Of The Florence County Fire Protection District As A Special Tax Fire District Under Article 19 Of Title 4 Of The Code Of Laws Of South Carolina, 1976, As Amended, Providing For The Conditions With Respect To Said Dissolution, And Other Matters Related Thereto. Councilman Caudle made a motion Council approve second reading of the Ordinance. Councilman Culberson seconded the motion, which was approved with a five (5) to four (4) vote. Voting in the affirmative were Chairman Schofield, Councilmen Culberson, Poston, Caudle, and Springs. Voting 'no' were Councilmen Bradley, Mumford, Kirby and Dorriety.

ORDINANCE NO. 18-2013/14 – SECOND READING

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 18-2013/14: An Ordinance To Create And Establish The Florence County Fire Protection District In Florence County, South Carolina Pursuant To Title 4, Chapter 19 Of The Code Of Laws Of South Carolina, 1976, As Amended, To Approve The Annual Levy And Collection Of Ad Valorem Taxes And The Imposition Of Rates And Charges For The Operation And Maintenance Thereof, To Authorize The Issuance Of General Obligation Bonds On Behalf Of The District From Time To Time, And Other Matters Relating Thereto. Councilman Caudle made a motion Council approve second reading of the Ordinance. Councilman Poston seconded the motion, which was approved with a five (5) to four (4) vote. Voting in the affirmative were Chairman Schofield, Councilmen Culberson, Poston, Caudle, and Springs. Voting 'no' were Councilmen Bradley, Mumford, Kirby and Dorriety.

The Chair commented that third reading of these two Ordinances would be deferred at the next meeting and would be deferred until further down the road when Council had clear knowledge of the legal options and a better idea of legislation being considered in Columbia.

ORDINANCE NO. 21-2013/14 – INTRODUCED BY TITLE ONLY

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 21-2013/14 and the Chairman declared the Ordinance Introduced by Title Only: An Ordinance To Amend The Boundaries Of The Hannah-Salem-Friendfield Fire Protection District In Florence County, South Carolina, To Approve The Annual Levy And Collection Of Ad Valorem Taxes For The Operation And Maintenance Thereof, To Approve The Issuance Of General Obligation Bonds On Behalf Of The District, And Other Matters Related Thereto.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

PEE DEE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

Councilman Caudle made a motion Council approve The Recommendation Of The South Carolina Department Of Employment And Workforce For The Appointment Of Vicky Tyner To Serve On The Pee Dee Workforce Investment Board With Appropriate Expiration Term, To Fill The Seat Left Vacant By The Retirement Of Cindy Rogers. Councilman Culberson seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Councilman Kirby made a motion Council approve The Appointment Of Mark Fountain To Serve On The Planning Commission, Representing Council District 4, With Appropriate Expiration Term. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL:

ADMINISTRATION

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS

Monthly Financial Reports Were Provided To Council For Fiscal Year 2014 Through January 31, 2014 As An Item For The Record.

ADMINISTRATION/FINANCE/SHERIFF'S OFFICE

ADD FIVE POSITIONS FOR SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Councilman Mumford made a motion Council Approve The Addition Of Four (4) Corrections Officer Positions And One (1) Reception Clerk Position To The Florence County Sheriff's Office Budget, Effective March 29, 2014. Councilman Caudle seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. County Administrator K. G. Rusty Smith, Jr. informed Council that this was in response to another State mandate that required the County to put in seventeen more correctional officers, with no funding from the State to do so. He commended Chief Deputy Kirby and Finance Director Kevin Yokim for their efforts in August, 2013, to propose an increase in per diem to help off-set the cost.

FLORENCE CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU/GRANTS

TOURISM ADVERTISING GRANT (TAG) PROGRAM

Councilman Caudle made a motion Council approve The Submission Of A Grant Application In The Amount Of \$90,000 To The South Carolina Department Of Parks, Recreation & Tourism (SCPRT) Tourism Advertising Grant (TAG) Program For The Florence Convention And Visitors Bureau, A Division Of Florence County. Councilman Springs seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

PROCUREMENT

DECLARATION OF SURPLUS PROPERTY

Councilman Culberson made a motion Council Declare Twelve (12) Vehicles, Two (2) Motor Graders, Four (4) Trucks, One (1) Ambulance And One (1) Van As Surplus Property For Disposal Through Public Internet Auction Via GovDeals. Councilman Dorriety seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) AWARD

Councilman Caudle made a motion Council approve The Recommendation Of The RFP Panel For RFP No. 18-13/14 For Program Management Services For The Capital Projects Sales Tax Program II To Davis & Floyd Of Florence, SC And Authorize The County Administrator To Negotiate A Contract, Pending County Attorney Review And Approval. Councilman Dorriety seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS:

INFRASTRUCTURE

FRANCIS MARION RECREATION ATHLETIC COMPLEX

Councilman Culberson made a motion Council Approve The Expenditure Of Up To \$1,200 From Council Districts 3, 6 and 7 Infrastructure Funding Allocations (Approximately \$400 From Each District) To Purchase A New Fryer For The Francis Marion Recreation Athletic Complex Concessions Stand. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

LYNCHEs RIVER ATHLETIC PARK

Councilman Caudle made a motion Council Approve The Expenditure Of Up To \$1,200 From Council District 4 Infrastructure Funding Allocation To Assist The Lynches River Athletic Park With The Purchase Of Equipment. Councilman Kirby seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

OLD TIMMONSVILLE BASEBALL FIELD

Councilman Kirby made a motion Council Approve The Expenditure Of Up To \$6,700 From Council District 4 Infrastructure Funding Allocation To Assist With Fencing Repairs At The Old Timmons ville Baseball Field. Councilman Bradley seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

ROAD SYSTEM MAINTENANCE FEE (RSMF)

EVANS ROAD

Councilman Poston made a motion Council Approve The Expenditure Of Up To \$8,750 From Council District 2 RSMF Funding Allocation To Pay For Crushed Asphalt For Evans Road. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

EMMA LANE

Councilman Culberson made a motion Council Approve The Expenditure Of Up To \$21,240 From Council District 6 RSMF Funding Allocation To Pay For Crushed Asphalt For Emma Lane. Councilman Poston seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

UTILITY

TOWN OF OLANTA

Councilman Springs made a motion Council Approve The Expenditure Of Up To \$36,435 From Council District 1 Utility Funding Allocation For Emergency Repairs To Well #2 For The Town Of Olanda. Councilman Caudle seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Councilman Caudle made a motion Council Enter Executive Session, Pursuant To Section 30-4-70 Of The South Carolina Code Of Laws 1976, As Amended, For Contractual Matters. Councilman Poston seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Council entered executive session at 9:24 a.m. Council reconvened at 10:07 a.m. (Councilman Bradley did not return to the meeting from Executive Session.)

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

COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:07 A.M.