

RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

SOUTH CAROLINA

RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING FY16-15 BUDGET 2ND READING [GRANTS]

MAY 28, 2015

6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Rush called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00PM

Mr. Jeter stated he submitted a request to fund Trustus Theatre with Hospitality Tax funds. The request was not included on the motions list.

Mr. Pearce stated Trustus Theatre is included in the Community Promotions portion of the budget, but not at the level Mr. Jeter wishes to support them.

Ms. Dickerson inquired about the request to support the cervical cancer program.

Mr. McDonald stated the request for discretionary grants to support the program was received late and none of the Council members had chosen to place it on the motions list.

Mr. Washington inquired where the discretionary grant funds come from and if there is a fund balance.

Mr. McDonald stated the funds come from the General Fund and there is not a fund balance since it is tied to the General Fund.

Ms. Dickerson requested the cervical cancer request for \$10,000 for one year be added to the motions list.

ENTERPRISE FUNDS

Solid Waste (Approve Agency Allocation of \$35,000) – Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Mr. Jeter, to approve \$35,000 for this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

SPECIAL REVENUE

Temporary Alcohol Permit (Approve Agency Allocation of \$53,295) – Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Ms. Dixon, to approve \$53,295 for this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.



Council Members Present:

Torrey Rush, Chair
Greg Pearce, Vice Chair
Joyce Dickerson
Julie-Ann Dixon
Norman Jackson
Damon Jeter
Paul Livingston
Bill Malinowski
Jim Manning
Seth Rose
Kelvin E. Washington, Sr.

Others Present:

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Conservation Commission (Move that the 1% across-the-board operating budget reductions for FY16 be applied to all statutory and contractual agencies except those agencies who receive pass-through funding and those whose budgets are controlled by State mandates. This would reduce the allocation by \$800) – Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to defer this item until the June 4th – 2nd Reading Meeting. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Conservation Commission (Approve Agency Allocation of \$250,000) – Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to defer this item until the June 4th – 2nd Reading Meeting. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Neighborhood Redevelopment (Move that the 1% across-the-board operating budget reductions for FY16 be applied to all statutory and contractual agencies except those agencies who receive pass-through funding and those whose budgets are controlled by State mandates. This would reduce the allocation by \$400) – Ms. Dixon moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to approve this item.

Mr. Washington inquired about the impact of this motion.

Mr. McDonald stated the impact is \$400, which is a relatively small amount, but would reduce the grants to the Neighborhood associations by 1%.

Mr. Manning inquired by the previous motion, which is similar, was deferred but not this one.

Mr. Pearce stated the reason for deferral on the Conservation Commission item is there is a recommendation to fund two (2) maintenance positions out of their budget and there are questions if the positions will be used on conservation property.

Mr. Manning made a substitute motion, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to defer this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Neighborhood Redevelopment (Provide one-time funding of \$1,500 towards Lyon Street Neighborhood {This item was reconsidered at the June 11th Special Called Meeting}) – Mr. Washington moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to approve \$1,500 for this item.

Mr. Manning made a substitute motion, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to provide one-time funding of \$1,500 toward all neighborhood associations.

Mr. Manning stated instead of funding a dozen or so neighborhood associations by name simply fund all of them the same amount.

Mr. Livingston stated there is a grant process and if Council is not going to follow that process then it needs to be done away with and just give the funds to everyone. The drawback to that approach is the overall cost.

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Mr. Pearce inquired if there are enough Neighborhood Improvement funds to cover the motion to fund all neighborhood associations.

Mr. McDonald stated there would not be enough in the operations budget, but there is \$575,000 in fund balance.

Mr. Livingston expressed concern about the accountability with no grant process in place. His suggestion was that any neighborhood association who receives funding should submit an application.

Ms. Dickerson stated the funds should be appropriated to have the funds available and let the neighborhoods know the funds are available and they may apply for up to \$1,500 in Neighborhood Improvement funds.

Ms. Dixon inquired about what accountability measures will be in place.

Ms. Dickerson stated that the neighborhoods would still be required to submit an application, which would provide accountability.

Mr. Malinowski inquired how the list of neighborhoods was determined.

Ms. Hegler stated their a HOA, POA or a Neighborhood Association with officers, bylaws, a bank account and regular meeting that meet the established criteria of Neighborhood Redevelopment.

Mr. Washington requested a friendly amendment to approve the Neighborhood Redevelopment requests on the printed motions list and to encumber the additional dollars for any neighborhood association who may want to apply throughout the year.

Mr. Manning inquired if a neighborhood association had previously submitted an application could they apply for additional funds or reapply for up to \$1,500.

Mr. Manning accepted the friendly amendment.

Mr. Livingston made a second substitute motion, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to set aside \$300,000 and afford every organization that wishes to submit an application for up to \$1,500 to do so. All organizations that have previously submitted an application will be considered.

Mr. Rush inquired if this is outside of the regular application process.

Mr. Livingston stated this is a new application process.

The vote in favor of the second substitute motion was unanimous.

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The Planning Department should develop a process with a deadline and to insure all neighborhoods are informed of the new process.

Neighborhood Redevelopment (Provide one-time funding of \$1,500 towards the Historic Waverly Neighborhood) – See previous motion.

Neighborhood Redevelopment (Provide one-time funding of \$1,500 towards the Martin Luther King Neighborhood Association) – See previous motion.

Neighborhood Redevelopment (Provide one-time funding towards the Edgewood Neighborhood Association) – See previous motion.

Neighborhood Redevelopment (Approve \$1,500 for East Bluff Community Association) – See previous motion.

Neighborhood Redevelopment (Approve \$1,500 for Starlight Community Association) – See previous motion.

Neighborhood Redevelopment (Approve \$1,500 for Atlas Road Community Association)

Neighborhood Redevelopment (Approve \$1,500 for Richard Street Community Association) – See previous motion.

Neighborhood Redevelopment (Approve \$1,500 for Washington Park Community Association) – See previous motion.

Neighborhood Redevelopment (Approve \$1,500 for Eastway Park) – See previous motion.

Neighborhood Redevelopment (Approve \$1,500 for Arthurtown) – See previous motion.

Neighborhood Redevelopment (Approve Agency Allocation of \$40,000) – See previous motion.

Hospitality Tax (Move that the 1% across-the-board operating budget reductions for FY16 be applied to all statutory and contractual agencies except those agencies who receive pass-through funding and those whose budgets are controlled by State mandates. This would reduce the allocation by \$13,970) – Mr. Pearce withdrew this item.

Hospitality Tax (Provide one-time funding of \$250,000 to the 5 Points Association for their Centennial Celebration) – Mr. Washington moved, seconded by Mr. Rose, to approve \$250,000 for this item.

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Mr. Rose stated he believes the City of Columbia is contributing \$350,000 for this event.

Mr. Rose made a substitute motion, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to approve \$150,000 for this item.

Ms. Dickerson made a second substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to approve \$100,000 for this item.

There is a total of \$500,000 in Hospitality Tax fund balance and \$12 million of requests have been received by the Finance Department.

Mr. Rose withdrew his substitute motion; therefore, the second substitute motion will now become the substitute motion.

Mr. Pearce made a second substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Jeter, to approve \$75,000 for this item.

FOR

Dixon
Malinowski
Pearce
Rush
Livingston
Jeter

AGAINST

Rose
Jackson
Dickerson
Washington
Manning

The vote was in favor of approving \$75,000 for this item.

Hospitality Tax (Provide one-time funding of \$20,000 to the South Carolina

Summer Pro-Am) – Mr. Washington moved, seconded by Mr. Rose, to approve \$20,000 for this item.

Mr. Rush made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to approve \$15,000 for this item. The vote in favor was unanimous for the substitute motion.

Hospitality Tax (Move that Council fund the Outside Agencies portion of the H-Tax program at the FY15 level. This would include: Columbia Museum of Art, Historic Columbia Foundation, EdVenture Children's Museum and The Township Auditorium)

– Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Ms. Dixon, to approve this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Hospitality Tax (Approve Special County Promotions Category \$275,000 for

SERCO – South East Rural Community Outreach) – Mr. Washington moved, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to approve \$275,000 for this item.

Mr. McDonald stated SERCO was included in the budget ordinance.

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Mr. Washington withdrew his motion.

Hospitality Tax (Approve \$75,000 for Kingville Historical Foundation) – Mr. Washington moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to approve \$60,500 for this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Hospitality Tax (Approve \$75,000 for Lower Richland Sweet Potato Festival) – Mr. Washington moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to approve \$480,000 for this item.

Mr. Jeter made a substitute motion, seconded by Ms. Dixon, to take the remaining balance of \$349,500 in the Hospitality Tax fund balance, divide among the Council members and bring back a recommendation at Third Reading.

Mr. Manning made a second substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to unappropriate the \$60,500 for Kingville Historical Foundation, take the \$410,000 in Hospitality Tax fund balance, divide among the Council members and bring back a recommendation at Third Reading.

FOR

Dixon
Malinowski
Rush
Livingston
Dickerson
Manning
Jeter

AGAINST

Rose
Pearce
Washington

The vote was in favor of the second substitute motion.

Hospitality Tax (Approve \$75,000 for Town of Eastover) – See previous motion.

Hospitality Tax (Approve Special County Promotions Category \$125,000 for Columbia International Festival) – See previous motion.

Hospitality Tax (Approve \$70,000 for Black Pages) – See previous motion.

Hospitality Tax (Fund \$11,000 for the North Columbia Business Association – Cornbread Festival) – See previous motion.

Hospitality Tax (Approve \$50,000 towards the first annual Bluegrass, Blues & Barbeque Berry Festival 2016 located in the Blythewood vicinity) – See previous motion.

Hospitality Tax (Approve estimated costs for Kelly Mill, which are below the \$1.5 million estimated. Preliminary costs are as follows: Special Events and Meeting Center Estimated Renovation, Construction, Operational, and Maintenance Costs)

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are \$819,262.00; Sports Complex Estimated Operational and Maintenance Costs are \$410,796.90; Total Estimated Preliminary Costs are \$1,230,058.90. Further cost breakdowns are available – See previous motion.

Hospitality Tax (Fund Widows of Opportunity for the additional two years at \$10,000 each) – See previous motion.

Hospitality Tax (Fund Garners Ferry Seniors LR Coalition at \$25,000) – See previous motion.

Hospitality Tax (Fund Pinewood Lake Park Foundations at \$100,000 for startup) – See previous motion.

Hospitality Tax (Fund Pinewood Lake at Phase II at \$7 million) – Mr. Driggers stated currently there is \$3.3 million reserved in fund balance for Phase II of Pinewood Lake. The budget amendment for Project LM, which is up for Third Reading on June 2nd, will be utilizing \$2,025,000 of the \$3.3 million as a short-term “loan”.

Mr. Jackson stated he submitted a motion for \$7 million for Phase II. After meeting with the consultants, the request was amended to \$5.5 million. Initially \$6.4 million was appropriated for Phase I and \$1.4 million of the \$6.4 million was used to complete Phase I. Therefore, there is a balance of \$5 million for Phase II.

Mr. Jackson stated the Pinewood Lake Ad Hoc Committee recommended approving \$5.5 million for Phase II.

Mr. Pearce stated Mr. Driggers suggested coming to him with the dollar amounts and he would work out the financing.

Mr. Driggers stated his suggestion was that if Council chooses that they want to invest more dollars in a project the appropriate action is to inform him and ask for funding options.

Mr. Washington inquired how funding this project would affect the other four (4) Hospitality Tax projects in the queue.

Mr. Driggers stated it may delay the other projects. One of the things that will need to be considered is which project is a priority on the funding.

Mr. Jackson inquired about what the other projects were.

Mr. Driggers stated from the funding side, there is \$10 million set aside for the projects (\$5 million for the Sports Arena and \$5 million for the Waterpark). There has been no

funding plan approved for those projects. The other project is Project LM, which the purchase of property for this project will be up for Third Reading on June 2nd.

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Mr. Rush stated the Waterpark RFP is out and the bids are to be submitted by June 16th. Construction is anticipated to be completed by next year.

Mr. Driggers stated the Waterpark is slated to be opened next year; the Sports Arena in 2017 and Project LM funding was delayed until 2017.

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to call for the question. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mr. Livingston clarified the motion to add \$2.2 million to complete Pinewood Lake.

FOR

Dixon
Malinowski
Jackson
Pearce
Washington
Dickerson
Manning
Jeter

AGAINST

Rose
Livingston

The vote was in favor of appropriating \$2.2 million to complete Pinewood Lake.

Hospitality Tax (Approve Agency Allocation of \$347,516) – Mr. Manning moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to approve \$347,516 for this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Accommodations Tax (Approve \$20,000 for Black Pages) – Mr. Washington requested prior to Third Reading a list of all organizations that receive Accommodations Tax funding in the incorporated areas.

Mr. Pearce stated the accommodations tax funding needs to be reviewed (i.e. by the Internal Audit committee and/or Revenue Department).

Mr. Manning also requested staff provided him with where the City of Columbia's funding for the 5 Points Anniversary Celebration is coming from (i.e. Hospitality, General Fund, etc.)

This item was deferred to Third Reading.

Accommodations Tax (Approve \$25,000 towards the first annual Bluegrass, Blues & Barbeque Berry Festival 2016 located in Blythewood vicinity) – This item was deferred to Third Reading.

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Accommodations Tax (Approve Agency Allocation of \$630,000) – Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to approve \$630,000 for this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

GENERAL FUND

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE – Mr. Washington recognized the “Golden and Proud” from Gadsden.

Mr. Washington requested the motions for St. John Foundation Senior Citizen Nutritional Program and St. Pilgrim Foundation, Inc. Empowerment Project be taken up at this time.

Outside Agencies (Approve \$15,000 for St. John Foundation Senior Citizen Nutritional Program in the Lower Richland Community) – Mr. Washington inquired if Council voted to not use fund balance.

Mr. Driggers stated a formal vote was not taken on this matter.

Mr. McDonald stated there are three options available: (1) use fund balance; (2) reduce allocation to other budget items; or (3) move toward the cap.

Mr. Washington moved, seconded by Mr. Manning, to move toward the cap and fund St. John Foundation Senior Citizen Nutritional Program at \$15,000.

Mr. Pearce stated there was a fourth option available by redefining what a flat budget entails. Redefining the flat budget would free up an additional \$500,000.

Mr. Malinowski inquired it is common to provide requested funding without a budget being attached to the request.

Mr. McDonald stated that it is not uncommon for funding to be provided via the motions list during the budget process without an attached budget.

Mr. Manning made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to defer action on the remaining items until such time as Council makes the determination which of the three (3) options detailed by the County Administrator to pursue. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Outside Agencies (Approve \$15,000 for the Mt. Pilgrim Foundation, Inc. Empowerment Project for at-risk students which provides at-risk students to increase academic performance, personal growth, and a positive attitude) – Mr. Manning made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to defer action on the remaining items until such time as Council makes the determination which of the three (3) options detailed by the County Administrator to pursue. The vote in favor was unanimous.

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All Departments (Move that the 1% operating budget reductions across-the-board for FY16 be applied to all statutory and contractual agencies except those to agencies who receive pass-through funding and those whose budgets are controlled by State mandates. This reduces the allocation by \$9,241)

– Mr. Manning made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to defer action on the remaining items until such time as Council makes the determination which of the three (3) options detailed by the County Administrator to pursue. The vote in favor was unanimous.

All Departments (All savings realized from actions taken in Budget Motion #1.1 to #1.4 be set aside and not committed until Council resolves issues related to employee insurance and salary adjustments)

– Mr. Manning made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to defer action on the remaining items until such time as Council makes the determination which of the three (3) options detailed by the County Administrator to pursue. The vote in favor was unanimous.

All Departments (Reduce funding to State mandate agencies by the percentage cut of the Local Government Fund [35%])

– Mr. Manning made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to defer action on the remaining items until such time as Council makes the determination which of the three (3) options detailed by the County Administrator to pursue. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Outside Agencies (Fund Transitions Homeless Center at \$100,000 less whatever across-the-board percentage reduction for C&S agencies may be approved by Council. Funding to come from GF increase in Millage Cap)

– Mr. Manning made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to defer action on the remaining items until such time as Council makes the determination which of the three (3) options detailed by the County Administrator to pursue. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Outside Agencies (Approve \$20,000 for the Gadsden Farm Festival – South East Rural Community Outreach)

– Mr. Manning made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to defer action on the remaining items until such time as Council makes the determination which of the three (3) options detailed by the County Administrator to pursue. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Outside Agencies (Approve \$20,000 for Elevations – a community endeavor that encourages and empowers at-risk youth between the ages of 12-19 to excel and achieve their maximal potential)

– Mr. Manning made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to defer action on the remaining items until such time as Council makes the determination which of the three (3) options detailed by the County Administrator to pursue. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Outside Agencies (Approve \$75,000 for JUMPS to provide year-round youth mentoring program for rural areas of Lower Richland to include health education, summer jobs, and jobs coaching counseling. Specifically, the program will target elementary and middle school students)

– Mr. Manning made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to defer action on the remaining items until such time as

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Council makes the determination which of the three (3) options detailed by the County Administrator to pursue. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Outside Agencies (Fund \$100,000 to support the Midlands Housing Trust Fund)

Outside Agencies (Fund the Midlands Housing Trust Fund at \$99,000 [FY15 level less 1% reduction] provided Council votes to exceed the Administrator's budget recommendation by adding a portion of the allowable millage increase as permitted by Act 388) – Mr. Manning made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to defer action on the remaining items until such time as Council makes the determination which of the three (3) options detailed by the County Administrator to pursue. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Outside Agencies (Fund the Midlands Mediation Center at \$19,800 [FY15 level less 1% reduction] provided Council votes to exceed the Administrator's budget recommendation by adding a portion of the allowable millage increase as permitted by Act 388) – Mr. Manning made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to defer action on the remaining items until such time as Council makes the determination which of the three (3) options detailed by the County Administrator to pursue. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Outside Agencies (Fund SC UpLift Community Outreach in the amount of \$45,000) – Mr. Manning made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to defer action on the remaining items until such time as Council makes the determination which of the three (3) options detailed by the County Administrator to pursue. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Outside Agencies (Move to fund EngenuitySC, the same amount as prior year, \$70,000. \$40,000 will go to operations/base funding and \$30,000 for STEM educational funding) – Mr. Manning made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to defer action on the remaining items until such time as Council makes the determination which of the three (3) options detailed by the County Administrator to pursue. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Outside Agencies (Move to fund Antioch Senior Center at prior year amount of \$25,000) – Mr. Manning made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to defer action on the remaining items until such time as Council makes the determination which of the three (3) options detailed by the County Administrator to pursue. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Outside Agencies (Move to fund Central SC Alliance at prior year amount of \$97,000) – Mr. Manning made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to defer action on the remaining items until such time as Council makes the determination which of the three (3) options detailed by the County Administrator to pursue. The vote in favor was unanimous.

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Outside Agencies (Move to fund Midlands Mediation Center at prior year amount of \$20,000) – Mr. Manning made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to defer action on the remaining items until such time as Council makes the determination which of the three (3) options detailed by the County Administrator to pursue. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Outside Agencies (Move that Columbia City Ballet and the Columbia Classic Ballet Company receive the same funding for FY16 as received in FY15 Allocation. This would mean the addition of \$21,956 to that already recommended by the A and H Tax Committees' recommendation for each entity) – Mr. Manning made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to defer action on the remaining items until such time as Council makes the determination which of the three (3) options detailed by the County Administrator to pursue. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Outside Agencies (Approve Agency Allocation of \$1,3234,176) – Mr. Manning made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to defer action on the remaining items until such time as Council makes the determination which of the three (3) options detailed by the County Administrator to pursue. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Discretionary Grant (Approve Agency Allocation of \$200,000) – Mr. Manning made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to defer action on the remaining items until such time as Council makes the determination which of the three (3) options detailed by the County Administrator to pursue. The vote in favor was unanimous.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:18 p.m.