

**RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING  
JULY 25, 2000  
6:00 P.M.**

**PRESENT:** Kit Smith, Chair; L. Gregory Pearce, Jr.; Susan Brill; Joseph McEachern; J.D. "Buddy" Meetze; Anthony G. Mizzell; Stephen F. Morris; Bernice G. Scott; Thelma M. Tillis; James Tuten; Paul Livingston

**OTHERS PRESENT:** T. Cary McSwain, Larry Smith, Tony Holden, Marsheika G. Martin, Monique Walter, Marsheika Martin, Tony McDonald, Milton Pope, Sherry Wright, Tonya Dunham, Chief Harrell, Ash Miller, Mullen Taylor, Amelia Linder, Brad Farrar, Randy Jorgenson, John Hicks, Pam Davis, Ralph Pearson, Andy Metts, Mike Byrd

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:00 p.m.

**INVOCATION**

The Invocation was given by the Honorable Jim Tuten.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Ms. Smith stated the following item needed to be removed from the agenda as they would be taken up at the Zoning Public Hearing:

- Amendment to the Richland County Code – Adult Day Care Facilities
- Amendment to the Richland County Code – Standards for Manufactured Homes
- Amendment to the Richland County Code – Approval of Isolated Lots
- Ordinance Amendment – Noise

Ms. Smith stated under Approval of Resolution, Identifying Resolution for Triton, PSC Inc., needed to be deleted from the agenda as it will be addressed in Mr. Livingston Economic Development Report.

Mr. Morris requested to add a personnel matter to be discussed in Executive Session.

Ms. Brill moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to adopt the agenda as amended. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**CITIZEN'S INPUT**

- Mr. Bill McClanahan spoke of concerns regarding the Burning and the Animal Ordinances.
- Mr. Bud Tibshrary spoke in favor of the Time Warner Franchise Renewal Agreement
- Ms. Evelyn Bush spoke of concerns regarding an amendment to the Richland County Codes: Approval of Isolated Lots and contract renewal of Waste Management, Inc.

**REPORT OF COUNTY ATTORNEY FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS**

Mr. Larry Smith, County Attorney stated the following items needed to be discussed in Executive Session:

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- Personnel Matter: Report of County Administrator's Evaluation
- Economic Development: Contractual Matter
- Personnel Matter: Clerk of Council
- Personnel Matter: Magistrates

**REPORT OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

**Media Relations**

Mr. McSwain reminded Council of the media relations training scheduled for July 26 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., and the mock media interview training scheduled for July 27 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**PUBLIC HEARING - Time Warner Franchise Renewal**

Ms. Smith opened this item up for public comment. She stated the process would be recessed in order to continue in discussion with the franchise. She stated the Council would at some point decide to pursue a formal review process or to go into a more relaxed mode.

Ms. Smith stated no one signed up to speak to the public hearing.

Mr. Smith, County Attorney, stated the matter was published in the newspaper. He stated two letters were received from two citizens regarding the Time Warner Service. Mr. Smith requested for these letters to be made a part of the record. He noted a request has been made to Time Warner to provide Richland County with certain documents.

Mr. Morris moved to change the process to informal and start it up as prescribed by law, six months before the expiration of the existing franchise agreement.

The motion died for a lack of a second.

Ms. Smith recessed from the public hearing.

**CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

Ms. Brill moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to adopt the Consent Agenda items as published with the removal of Ordinance Amendment: Parking in Residential Zones from consent items. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**The following Consent Items were adopted for Third Reading:**

- 00-035MA, Jimmy Brown, From RG-2 to C-3, TMS 14103-03-14, 4011 Baldwin Road
- 00-037MA, Bruce Shealy, From C-1 to M-1, TMD 14303-02-23

**The following Consent items were adopted for Second Reading:**

- An Ordinance to authorize Multi-Park Agreement with Blue Cross and Blue Shield
- Amendment to the Richland County Code – Animals and Fowl
- Recreation Commission: Amendment to the Bond Ordinance
- Legal: Ordinance amendment regarding business licenses

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**The following Consent items were adopted under the Report of Administration and Finance Committee:**

- Finance: Budget Amendment to Increase Mini Bottle Revenue
- Register of Deeds: Renewal of Software Service Maintenance Agreement
- EMS: Grant Award
- Grants: JEDA Grant Conduit for Southerly's, LLC
- Procurement: Contract Renewals

Mr. Morris suggested placing all Consent Items together.

**THIRD READING ITEMS**

**00-38MA, Ronald Safko, From RU to PUD-1R, TMS 14800-05-24, 25 & 27, 1024 Hollis Pond Road**

Mr. Morris moved, seconded by Mr. Tuten, to approve this item for Third Reading.

Mr. Larry Smith, County Attorney, stated the MOU was reviewed and Representative Cotty was informed that the agreement would not be appropriate as part of the PUD.

Mr. Morris revised his motion, seconded by Mr. Tuten, to approve this item for Third Reading with the MOU not a part of the motion. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**99-025MA, Leonard Johnson, From RS-1 to C-3, TMS 07700-03-30 & 31, 933 Heyward Brockington Road**

Mr. Morris moved, seconded by Mr. McEachern, to send this item to the Planning Commission and requested for the applicant to seek C-1 zoning.

Mr. Smith, County Attorney, stated the Council cannot change the applicants request. He stated this item would have to be denied and the applicant would have to apply again. Mr. Smith suggested for Council to defer this item and inform the applicant to consider changing his zoning request from C-3 to C-1

Mr. Morris withdrew his motion.

Mr. Morris moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to defer this item to the next Council meeting. The vote was in favor. Ms. Smith opposed.

**SECOND READING ITEMS**

**Amendment to the Richland County Code Agricultural Burning Ordinance**

A discussion took place.

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Mr. Tuten, to approve this amendment with the addition of a provision stating that the ordinance does not apply to vegetative debris burning relating to forestry, wildlife, and agricultural burns

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as authorized by the S.C. Forestry Commission. The vote was in favor.  
Ms. Smith opposed.

**REPORT OF DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**Ordinance Amendment: Noise**

The committee recommended that Council give First Reading approval to this ordinance regarding noise enforcement within municipalities within the county pending Legal's review to ensure this amendment is cleared by all the municipalities.

Mr. McSwain stated letters were sent to other Counties inquiring about their ordinance. He stated only the Town of Eastover has responded.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Ordinance Amendment: Parking in Residential Zones**

The committee recommended that Council give First Reading approval to this ordinance amendment regarding parking in residential zones.

Ms. Smith stated there was a technical error in the drafting of the ordinance amendment. She stated the final copy should state "b. It shall further be unlawful....."

Mr. McEachern moved, seconded by Ms. Brill/Mr. Morris, to adopt the amended ordinance. The vote was in favor. Ms. Scott opposed.

**Amendment to the Richland County Code: Billboard Ordinance**

The Committee referred this item to the next Special Called Council meeting and recommended that Council give First Reading approval to an ordinance extending the billboard moratorium for another ninety days. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Approval of purchase of road maintenance equipment**

Mr. Morris moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to approve this item.

A discussion took place.

Mr. Meetze made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to defer this item to the next Council meeting and instructed Mr. McSwain, the County Attorney, County Engineer to resolve the issue of whether the County should award this to the lowest bidder. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Award of engineering contract for Broad River Wastewater Plant**

Mr. Morris moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to approve a contract in an amount not to exceed \$871,750.00 to Power Engineering to upgrade the plant. The vote was in favor. Mr. McEachern opposed.

**Contract renewal with Waste Management, Inc.**

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Mr. Morris moved, seconded by Mr. Livingston, to approve the contract renewal for the second five-year term.

Mr. McEachern commended staff on a job well done.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

**REPORT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Detention Center: Diamond Pharmacy Services Contract**

The Committee forwarded this item, in the amount of \$150,000.00, to the Council with no recommendation.

Mr. Morris moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to approve this item.

Mr. McSwain stated this item needed to be deferred.

Mr. Morris withdrew his motion.

Mr. Morris moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to defer this item until the September meeting. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**REPORT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Mr. Livingston stated the JEDA Loan for Gilbert Brothers needed to be added to the report.

The Committee recommended approval for the following items:

The recommendations were as follows:

- **Consideration of Recognition Resolution for Project Rose** – Council approved this recognition resolution which identifies this project as eligible for a fee-in-lieu-of-taxes arrangement yet does not obligate the County to provide incentives.
- **Consideration of Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy and corresponding project list** – Council approved the project list outlining priorities for grant-funding from the Economic Development Administration.
- **Follow-up on incentives for Blanchard Machinery** – Council approved reimbursing Blanchard Machinery up to \$15,000.00 for a one-time water and sewer tap fee to connect to the City system, provided that Blanchard submit a written request to the County Administrator.
- **Consideration of Inducement Resolution for Wadley Donovan 3** – Council approved an Inducement Resolution committing to enter in to a fee-in-lieu-of tax arrangement and to place the Project in a Multi-County Industrial Park.
- **JEDA Loan for Gilbert Brothers** – Council approved the County serving as a conduit for a JEDA loan to Gilbert Brothers, Inc in the amount of \$276,620.00 to construct a Wendy's Restaurant in the northeastern area of the County

The vote in favor was unanimous.

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**RECESS**

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to recess the meeting in order to start the Zoning Public Hearing. The vote in favor was unanimous.

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**The meeting recessed at approximately 7:00 p.m. and reconvened at approximately 7:45 p.m.**  
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It was moved and seconded to reconvene the meeting. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**APPROVAL OF DISCRETIONARY GRANT PROGRAM FUNDING AWARDS**

Ms. Sherry Wright stated the committee approval of funding 16 organizations for this program. (Sistercare, New Horizon Family Care Center, Cooperative Ministries, Big Brothers/Big Sister, Junior Achievement of Center SC, Community Mediation Center, Palmetto Place Children’s Emergency Shelter, Collaborative for Community Trust, Prevent Child Abuse South Carolina, Family Shelter, Richland/Lexington Disabilities/Special Needs, U.S. Youth Games, Columbia City Ballet, St. Lawrence Place – Trinity Housing, Respite House, Inc, Perfect Fit for Success, Inc, Trustus Theatre, Harvest Hope.)

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Mr. Meetze, to accept the Committee’s recommendation.

Mr. Pearce commended Ms. Sherry Wright for her hard work with this program.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

**REPORT OF ACCOMMODATIONS TAX COMMITTEE**

Information was distributed to Council.

Mr. Meetze moved, seconded by Ms. Brill, to adopt the Committee’s report.

Mr. McSwain stated the Committee met and Ms. Sherry Hadd was elected as the Committee’s Chairperson. He gave a brief overview of the committee.

A discussion took place.

Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to approve the Committee’s recommendation with a reduction of the Convention and Visitor’s Bureau amount of \$196,500.00. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**CITIZEN’S INPUT**

Ms. Tora Linton spoke of concerns of the Olympia neighborhood.

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**POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILIDGE**

Ms. Tillis congratulated Ms. Scott for having her name listed in the Who's Who of American Women, 2000/2001 edition.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Meetze moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to go into Executive Session. The vote in favor was unanimous.

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**Council went into Executive Session at approximately 7:56 p.m. and came out at approximately 9:10 p.m.**  
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Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to come out of Executive Session at approximately 9:10 p.m. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Personnel Matter: County Administrator's**

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to approve the Administrator's evaluation. The vote in favor was unanimous

Ms. Smith stated Council would release the evaluation results to the public upon review by the County Administrator.

**Briefing on Olympia Redevelopment Contractural Matters**

Ms. Smith stated this information was received as information.

**Personnel Matter – Clerk of Council**

Ms. Smith announced the A&F Committee would take up this evaluation in the early fall.

**Legal Briefing: Magistrates**

Ms. Smith stated this item was received as information.

**ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:12 p.m.

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Kit Smith, Chair

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L. Gregory Pearce, Jr. Vice-Chair

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Susan Brill

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Paul Livingston

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Joseph McEachern

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J.D. "Buddy" Meetze

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Anthony G. Mizzell

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Stephen F. Morris

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Bernice G. Scott

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Thelma M. Tillis

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James Tuten

The minutes were transcribed by Marsheika G. Martin