

**RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
JANUARY 8, 2002
6:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kit Smith, L. Gregory Pearce, Jr., Joan B. Brady, Susan Brill, Paul Livingston, Joseph McEachern, J.D. "Buddy" Meetze, Anthony Mizzell, Bernice G. Scott, Thelma M. Tillis, James Tuten

OTHERS PRESENT: T. Cary McSwain, Daniel Driggers, Tony McDonald, Milton Pope, Carrie Tolley, Monique Walters, Suzie Puchala, Stephany Snowden, Ashley Jacobs, Chief Harrell, Mike Byrd, Rodolfo Callwood, Michael Criss, Jim Prater, Lisa Stewart, Michelle Cannon-Finch, Lloyce Nelson, Marsheika Martin

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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ELECTION OF CHAIR

Ms. Smith opened the floor for nominations.

Ms. Brill moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to nominate Mr. McEachern for Chair of Richland County Council.

Mr. Mizzell moved, seconded by Ms. Tillis, to nominate Ms. Scott for Chair. Ms. Scott thanked them for the nomination, but withdrew her name.

The motion to elect Mr. McEachern for Chair of Richland County Council was unanimous.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Ms. Brill, to nominate Ms. Brady for Vice-Chair of Richland County Council.

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Ms. Smith, to nominate Mr. Mizzell for Vice-Chair of Richland County Council.

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to close the nominations. The vote in favor was unanimous.

The vote was as follows:

<u>Mizzell</u>	<u>Brady</u>
Livingston	Brady
Mizzell	Pearce
Smith	Tuten
McEachern	Brill
Scott	Meetze
Tillis	

Mr. Mizzell was elected as Vice-Chair of Richland County Council.

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SELECTION OF SEATS – Council selected their seats.

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS - On behalf of Council, Ms. Smith presented Dary Linder with a resolution commending her for her good behavior while in attendance of council meetings.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA – Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Livingston, to adopt the agenda as published. The vote in favor was unanimous.

CITIZEN'S INPUT

- Ms. Evelyn Bush requested deferral of item 3-a (G.O. Bond for Recreation District).
- Mr. Earl McLeod requested deferral of item 1-d (Ordinance regarding landfills and composting facilities).
- Mr. Mitch Hook expressed concerns regarding item 1-d (Ordinance regarding landfills and composting facilities).

REPORT OF COUNTY ATTORNEY FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS

Mr. Larry Smith, County Attorney, stated there were no items on the agenda to be discussed in executive session at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 18, 2001: Regular Session

Ms. Tillis moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to give first reading approval by title only of an ordinance to rescind the reapportionment map that was adopted by Richland County Council on December 18th, 2001 and to adopt a new reapportionment map.

Ms. Smith stated this action would need to be taken up during the Motion Period.

A discussion took place.

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to defer rescinding the reapportionment map to the Motion Period for discussion.

Ms. Smith stated under Council's rules any motions made during the Approval of the Minutes is automatically placed under the Motion Period for discussion.

The discussion continued.

Mr. Livingston/Scott withdrew their motion.

Ms. Smith moved, and it was seconded, to approve the minutes of December 18, 2001 noting the motion to rescind item 1-d of the minutes.

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The vote was as follows:

<u>In favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>
Livingston	Pearce
Mizzell	Brill
McEachern	Brady
Smith	Tuten
Scott	Meetze
Tillis	

The motion passed.

REPORT OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Board of Trustees for Richland Memorial Hospital – Mr. McSwain stated a meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 9, 2002 at 4:00 p.m.

Midlands Region Convention Center Authority – Mr. McSwain stated an announcement for a sales/marketing person was made. He stated the person would be presented to Council at a future Council meeting.

Chamber of Commerce – Mr. McSwain stated the Chamber of Commerce has a revitalized Greater Columbia/Midlands Region Sport Council. He stated the kick-off reception would be held on Tuesday, January 15th from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. at Seawell's on Rosewood.

Council Retreat – Mr. McSwain stated a copy of the agenda would be sent out no later than late Wednesday afternoon.

Budget Recommendations – Mr. McSwain stated he had concerns about the trends in the economy and about the State's budget problems and how they impact the County. He stated he has worked with the Treasurer's Office, Finance and Budget Departments to get projections of what the revenues were for the remainder of the year and how the County is being impacted. He stated a plan was put together and he presented it to Council.

A discussion took place.

Mr. Meetze requested for Mr. McSwain to reiterate that EMS and Public Safety would not have to cut their overtime. Mr. McSwain stated that was correct. Mr. McSwain also stated that the current level of vacancies would be maintained in those departments.

Mr. Meetze requested for Mr. McSwain to keep Council updated and advised on what consultants the County has and what they do. Mr. McSwain stated the information would be provided in the Friday Report.

Mr. Pearce requested for Mr. McSwain to keep Council informed of budget projections as the County goes forward.

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Livingston, to approve Mr. McSwain's recommendations as distributed. The vote in favor was unanimous.

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OPEN/CLOSE PUBLIC HEARINGS

Mr. McEachern opened the floor for the following public hearings:

- Lease Agreement: Columbia Owens/STARBASE
- Ordinance: Closing of Valhalla Drive and Summit Parkway to through Truck Traffic

No one signed up to speak at this time.

Mr. McEachern closed the public hearings.

CONSENT ITEMS

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to approve the following consent items:

- Lease Agreement: Columbia Owens/STARBASE [Third Reading]
- Ordinance: Closing of Valhalla Drive and Summit Parkway to through Truck Traffic [Third Reading]

The vote in favor was unanimous.

1. THIRD READING ITEM

- d. Ordinance Amendment: Landfills & Composting Facilities
[Third Reading]
Zoning Amendment regarding Landfill Requirements
[Second Reading]**

(It was noted that items 1-d and 2-a are companion ordinances).

Ms. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Livingston, to refer items 1-d and 2-a to committee and for these items to come back before Council.

Mr. Livingston requested for a public hearing to be held.

Ms. Smith added to her motion for the committee to bring back a recommendation and include in the recommendation for a public hearing to be held. The vote was in favor. Mr. Meetze opposed.

3. REPORT OF RULES AND APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

Mr. Livingston notified Council of the following vacancies:

- a. Notification of Vacancy on Accommodation Tax Committee-
[one vacancy]**
- b. Building Board of Adjustment and Appeal [four vacancies]**
- c. Music Festival [one vacancy]**

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Employee Grievance Committee-1

Mr. Livingston stated this committee needed one appointment with only one application received.

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. Brady, to appoint Mike Spearman to this committee. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Historic Columbia Foundation- 1

Mr. Livingston stated there is one appointment to be made to this board. He stated two applications were received. The vote was as follows:

<u>Harriford</u>	<u>Mills</u>
Unanimous	0

Mr. Willie L. Harriford was appointed to the board.

Performing Arts Board – 1

Mr. Livingston stated there is one appointment to be made to this board with only one application received.

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. Tillis, to appoint Mr. Anthony E. Morgan to this board. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Planning Commission-2

Mr. Livingston stated there are two appointments to be made to this board with two applications received.

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Ms. Tillis, to appoint the following persons to this board:

Mr. Norman St. Anthony Jackson, Sr.
Ms. Barbara D. Wyatt

The vote in favor was unanimous.

4. APPROVAL OF FIRST READING ITEM

- a. An Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 041-97 and authorizing the Recreation District of Richland County to issue general obligation bonds not exceeding \$12,000,000.00**

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Mr. Meetze, to give first reading approval to this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

5. CITIZEN'S INPUT

Mr. Jim Prater notified Council of 25 rowers from Carnegie Melon University at the River Site Rowing Center until Friday. He stated a competition is being organized with the University of South Carolina for next summer.

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6. MOTION PERIOD

- Mr. Mizzell informed Council that a volunteer poll manager, Mr. Henry Allen, passed away.
- Ms. Smith welcomed distinguished members of the General Assembly.
- Mr. Meetze welcomed Ms. Gwen Kennedy.
- Ms. Scott welcomed Pastor Williams.

Rescind Motion for Redistricting Map

Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Mr. Tuten, to go into Executive Session for further discussion.

Ms. Smith made a substitute motion, seconded by Ms. Scott, to defer Executive Session until Second Reading. The vote was as follows:

<u>In favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>
Livingston	Pearce
Mizzell	Brady
McEachern	Meetze
Smith	Brill
Scott	Tuten
Tillis	

The substitute motion passed.

The discussion continued.

Ms. Smith made an amendment, seconded by Ms. Tillis, to give Second Reading approval by Title Only on a Reapportionment Ordinance on February 15th and hold a public hearing at Third Reading on February 29th.

The vote was as follows:

<u>In favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>
Livingston	Pearce
Mizzell	Brady
McEachern	Brill
Smith	Meetze
Scott	Tuten
Tillis	

The motion passed.

- 7. ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:35 p.m.

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Joseph McEachern, Chair

Anthony G. Mizzell, Vice-Chair

Joan Brady

Susan Brill

Paul Livingston

J.D. "Buddy" Meetze

L. Gregory Pearce, Jr.

Bernice G. Scott

Kit Smith

Thelma M. Tillis

James Tuten

The minutes were transcribed by Marsheika G. Martin