

**MINUTES
HORRY COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
June 1, 2010
6:00 p.m.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Liz Gilland, Chairman; Harold Worley; Brent Schulz; Marion Foxworth; Gary Loftus; Howard Barnard; Bob Grabowski; James Frazier; Carl Schwartzkopf; Paul Prince; Jody Prince; and Al Allen.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: John Weaver; Pat Hartley; Anne Wright; Steve Gosnell; Paul Whitten; Arrigo Carotti; Janet Carter; Westley Sawyer; and Lisa Bourcier.

In accordance with the FOIA, notices of the meeting were provided to the press stating the time, date, and place of the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Gilland called the meeting to order at approximately 6:02 p.m.

INVOCATION: Mr. Grabowski gave the invocation.

PLEDGE: Mr. Barnard led the pledge.

PUBLIC INPUT:

1. Donald Perhala spoke on Forestbrook Road.
2. Art Nordstrom spoke on PALM.
3. Bob Fogner spoke on the Veterans Affairs Office.
4. Jackie Atkinson spoke on COAST RTA.

Chairman Gilland closed public input at 6:33 p.m.

CHANGES TO AGENDA:

Mr. Worley moved to defer Resolution R-53-10 to the Administration Committee, seconded by Mr. Schulz. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. J. Prince inquired about Second reading of Ordinance 40-10. Ms. Gilland stated she had a change of title for the ordinance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA CONTENTS: Mr. Barnard moved to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Mr. Frazier. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting, May 18, 2010: Mr. Frazier moved to approve the minutes as submitted, seconded by Mr. Grabowski. The motion passed unanimously.

MEMORIAL DEDICATION: It was requested that upon adjournment, Council adjourn in memorial of the following individuals:

Basil Vance Dudley
Barbara Ann Daniels Floyd
Bill Harvey Hucks
Robert Anthony Tindall
Mary Jo Jenkins
Sheila Y. Richardson
Dennis E. Kratzer
Johnny Lee Hardwick, Jr.
Wilson Levi Mishoe

Mr. Frazier requested to add a \$5000 recreation funds disbursement to Sandridge Recreation Department. Ms. Gilland said she would put that request under Old/New Business. There was no objection.

CHARACTERISTIC OF THE MONTH: Endurance: the inward strength to withstand stress and do my best.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Mr. Schwartzkopf moved to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mr. Schulz. The Consent Agenda consisted of the following:

Board Appointments: Mary Ellen Scarborough to the Museum Board of Trustees and Robert Clinger, III to the Board of Assessment Appeals.

The motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTIONS/PRESENTATIONS:

Resolution R-50-10 recognizing Samuel H. Frink for his years of service and community commitment as an example of excellence for the people of Horry County. Mr. Frazier presented the resolution to Mr. Frink. Mr. Frink thanked Council. **Mr. Barnard moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Schwartzkopf. The motion passed unanimously.**

Resolution R-51-10 and Public Hearing to approve the request by HTC Communication for a telecommunications tower off Postal Way in the Carolina Forest community. **Mr. Foxworth moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Schwartzkopf. There was no public review. The motion passed unanimously.**

Ms. Gilland read a copy of a letter from the Horry County School District that was sent to Chief Morgan, Chief Gosnell of the City of Conway, and Chief Gall of the Myrtle Beach Police Department thanking them for working with the District during the recent Westboro Baptist Church protest. Ms. Gilland said it also went to Mr. Whitten in that he was the Division Director of Public Safety for the County.

Resolution R-52-10 to define and specify the terms and conditions recommended by and acceptable to Horry County Council for continued FY2011 funding of the Myrtle Beach Regional Economic Development Corporation. **Mr. Schwartzkopf moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Schulz.** Mr. Weaver stated during the last several meetings there had been suggestions, recommendations and directives as to how they handle the funding for next year. He had taken what he believed to be the instructions of Council to take those ideas, suggestions and recommendations and put those in resolution form for further consideration and decision by Council.

Ms. Gilland stated they would have a new economic development leader who would be vetted by DOC and Mr. Joe Taylor would recommend three candidates and send the resumes for Horry County and EDC to choose one of the three. That person, plus an additional administrative assistant, would be hired as fulltime employees of Horry County Government. Horry County accepted the offer of the DOC to train the new economic development leader and mentor that person. They would regularly report to and coordinate with and be answerable to the EDC Board for all economic development direction and would report to Council every three months on projects and progress. They called upon the Board to reconstitute the executive board to a maximum of seven members who meet monthly. There was also an idea of having an expanded board that would meet quarterly. Funding would again be public-private as it had been for the last number of years and then on or before June 30th, which was the end of their fiscal year, Council commits to conclude its discussion and negotiations with EDC and put \$200,000 aside for FY2011 for economic development. It was considerably less than the EDC Board asked for and was less than they had given them in the last number of years, but some folks thought that was sufficient. Then the rest of the funding could be made up on the private side but that could be salaries for the two people and some marketing and operations expenses. If they passed the resolution they were going to toss the ball to EDC and it would be made up of private business leaders and some appointments by the City of Myrtle Beach and the County and would have a City of Myrtle Beach member on the executive board and a County member and then the four offices, President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer would be probably from among the private businesses.

Mr. Weaver stated the EDC was a separate and private entity and they could not dictate to them legally how they handled their board of directors, how many they had, who they were. They could certainly negotiate with them because the County was a principal funding source but it was impossible for them to tell them how to handle their business. It could be negotiated between Horry County Government and the EDC membership but they could not dictate exactly the terms and conditions and that was why it was written like it was that it would be continued negotiations on that issue. If the resolution passed in present form or any other, before third reading they would have to bring back to Council changes in manpower for Horry County and a budget for the \$200,000. They would be adding two new positions to Horry County Government that they presently did not have and would have to have a budget. The \$200,000 would remain in the Horry County Government coffers. There would not be \$200,000 sent to EDC. They would present a budget that would cover not only salaries but also the travel expenses and marketing. If they spent it all they had up to \$200,000 and if they spent less than that it was a savings for the County.

Ms. Gilland said this was a work in progress and they would take this back to the Board and work with them and see what they came up with. **The motion passed with Mr. Foxworth and Mr. J. Prince voting nay.**

READING OF ORDINANCES:

Second reading of **Ordinance 24-10** to raise revenue, make appropriations and adopt a budget for Horry County for FY ending June 30, 2011. **Mr. Barnard moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Grabowski.** Mr. Sawyer spoke briefly about two primary issues that they had heard from Council that they needed to address funding-wise and that was the return of the 1% recommended decrease to the employees pay and \$500,000 or some number of funding for COAST RTA.

A workshop was held on May 20th where Council approved certain changes to the budget as amended. He pointed out the list of revenue and expense changes that staff recommended and as others on Council voted to change. The first was the \$100,000 increase in the revenue budget for the False Alarm Systems. The second was \$730,000 in increased projection of the revenue for the Cable Franchise fee. The third item was an interfund cost allocation that increased the amount available to the general fund that charged the other funds.

In addition to the revenue changes, Public Safety and Administration went back through their side of the house attempting to cut expenditures to address these items. Initially they recalculated what was going to be necessary with the health insurance expense under the increase they had been told about and reduced the health insurance budget by \$170,500. They also removed a contingency they had for banking fees of \$200,000. The other two changes that were addressed was putting \$500,000 in a contingency to allow funding for COAST RTA with some talk about if there would be a referendum or not. The other was returning the \$900,000, the equivalent of 1% of the employees pay. Council had voted to restore Roadside Litter in the amount of \$72,000. They put \$7500 each for two festivals, one for Aynor and one for Loris. Council also voted to add \$20,000 in individual recreation funds to the budget. Staff had reviewed the business license and believed they could add \$47,311 to that revenue projection which would balance the budget. They added \$575,000 to a contingency for the potential funding of MBREDC and NESA. Currently, the budget had \$375,000 in the contingency, nothing for MBREDC or NESA. If Council wanted to change that they could and if not it would be \$375,000 in a contingency and then whatever they approved by contract or whatever worked out would be that number and would not be spent. Council also voted to accept the state ATAX recommended funding and had now sent that back to committee. They approved a change in the hauling cost for Fund 6 and the corresponding amendment to Fund 4 SWA. The last two items that Council approved were increasing Beach Renourishment from ATAX and increasing the expense side for Stormwater, Parks and Rec.

Mr. Worley moved to increase the Business License projection by \$47,311, seconded by Mr. Schulz. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Schwartzkopf moved to adjust the contingency from \$575,000 to \$400,000 for MBREDC and NESA, seconded by Mr. Foxworth. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Sawyer stated they could adjust the state ATAX number that was in the budget with the recommendation of the Advisory Committee after they got through the committee process knowing that was one change and had another change coming from SWA at third reading. **Mr. P. Prince moved to add funding for a second fulltime position in the Veterans Affairs Office, seconded by Mr. Schulz. The motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Schulz spoke briefly on a referendum for COAST RTA and requested that staff look into other alternatives for people with medical needs. Mr. Barnard requested a poll of Council on COAST

RTA. Mr. Weaver, speaking on the referendum issue, stated that a proposed question on the ballot needed to be sent to the United States Department of Justice June 15th. Once Justice made a decision, yes or no, about the question, then it had to go to the State Elections Commission and they had to approve it and get it on the ballot. It wasn't an issue from a timing standpoint that could be delayed. If they didn't decide then or not later than next week, two weeks from now, to move forward with a referendum, they would have lost that opportunity.

Ms. Gilland asked for a poll from Council as to if they thought they should have a referendum to fund COAST RTA after this budget. The poll was as follows: Mr. Barnard- yes; Mr. Frazier- yes; Mr. Allen- yes; Mr. Schulz- yes; Mr. Worley- no; Mr. J. Prince- yes; Ms. Gilland- yes; Mr. Loftus- yes; Mr. P. Prince- yes; Mr. Grabowski- no; Mr. Schwartzkopf- yes and Mr. Foxworth- yes.

Mr. Allen requested to recuse himself from voting on the Stormwater portion of the budget. Mr. Weaver said he needed to vote for the entire budget or recuse from it. Mr. Allen withdrew his request to recuse. **Mr. Barnard moved to approve the budget as amended, seconded by Mr. Grabowski. The motion passed unanimously. The motion to approve the budget as amended passed unanimously.**

Second reading and public review of the following ordinances to approve the request to amend the official zoning maps: **38-10** James Richardson, agent for BillMil of SC LLC; **39-10** Jackie Livingston, agent for Anthony Livingston; **40-10** Terri Sebring, agent for Sebring, Derr, Kniffen, & Follin; and **41-10** Wayside Holdings LLC. **Mr. Allen moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Frazier. There was no public review. The motion passed unanimously.**

Second reading and public review of **Ordinance 42-10** to add certain properties to the Horry County Historic Property Register as individual historic properties. **Mr. Foxworth moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Schwartzkopf.** Adam Emrick, Planning, presented photos of the properties. **There was no public review. The motion passed unanimously.**

OLD/NEW BUSINESS: District 7- Mr. Frazier- \$5000 to Sandridge Recreation Department. **Mr. Frazier moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Allen. The motion passed unanimously.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Ms. Gilland announced that voters could check voting precincts online at www.scvotes.org/checkyourvoterregistration. The polls would be open June 8th from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and they needed one form of identification.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:45 in memorial of Basil Vance Dudley; Barbara Ann Daniels Floyd; Bill Harvey Hucks; Robert Anthony Tindall; Mary Jo Jenkins; Sheila Y. Richardson; Dennis E. Kratzer; Johnny Lee Hardwick, Jr. and Wilson Levi Mishoe.