

**CHESTERFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
COUNTY COUNCIL MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDING  
March 7, 2012 ..... 9:00 A.M.**

**PRESENT:** Chairman J. Matthew Rivers, Vice-Chair Lenora V. Powe, Council Members: Crawford Moore, Bruce E. Rivers, Gerald L. Miller, Douglas A. Curtis, Robert G. Cole and George Franklin Plyler.

**ABSENT:** Council Member Kenneth A. Johnson.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Denise R. Douglass – Administrator, Susie Boswell – Clerk to Council, Michelle Stanley – Finance Director, C. Heath Ruffner – County Attorney, Sheriff Sam Parker, Donna Rivers – CCOA, Karen Stangel, Rev. Audrey Boozer, Karen Kissiah – Cheraw Chronicle, Monnie Bittle, Dr. Bethany Tapp, Leighton Bell – The Link, Gary Moss – Pageland Progressive Journal, Jamie Frost – Alliance Consulting Engineers, Inc., Deepal Eliatamby – Alliance Consulting Engineers, Inc., Brenda Workman – CCED, Harold Hainey – Emergency Management, Lisa Hancock – Emergency Management, Miriam Gulledge, Ann Lebel, Tim Eubanks and John Henderson, Director of Risk Management – SC Association of Counties. There were others attending the meeting who did not sign the sign-in-sheet.

**CALL TO ORDER AND PRAYER**

Chairman J. Matthew Rivers welcomed everyone and Council Member Miller asked Rev. Audrey Boozer, Oro United Methodist Church to open the meeting with prayer.

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

**a. Ms. Miriam Gulledge, SC Mother of the Year**

Chairman Rivers presented Mrs. Gulledge a plaque from Council and Staff in honor and recognition of being named South Carolina Mother of the Year 2012.

Council Member Curtis made a motion to adopt Resolution of Appreciation to Miriam McLaurin Gulledge. Council Member Bruce E. Rivers seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Council Member Moore made a motion to adopt the March 7, 2012 council meeting agenda with any amendments approved by council. Council Member Powe seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

### **February 1, 2012 – Regular Meeting**

Council Member Moore made a motion to adopt the February 1, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes. Council Member Powe seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous.

## **SIGNING OF BONDS, PAYROLL AND AUTHORIZATIONS**

None

## **APPOINTMENTS**

### **a. Honorable Sam Parker, Sheriff**

Sam Parker, Sheriff, appeared before Council and presented them with a packet containing photographs of the Chesterfield Armory which showed the condition of the inside of the armory. He thanked Council for allowing him to secure the armory and advised Council that they had cleaned the building in the process of securing the building. He also advised Council that his department had moved a few items into the armory to store while they were having work done to their floors and these items would be removed in a couple of weeks. He gave a key to the armory to Chairman Rivers and stated that he still had a key in order to secure the armory.

### **b. Ann Lebel, Citizen**

Mrs. Lebel thanked Council for allowing her to appear before them. She spoke to Council about an incident with her pet dog, Molly. She stated that on January 24, 2012 her husband and Molly were out in their yard when two dogs came up and attacked Molly and that after three days in the hospital, Molly died. She presented Council with pictures of Molly after the attack. She advised Council that she would like to see laws put into place to protect animals and keep them off the streets and to make pet owners accountable for their pets.

### **c. John Henderson, Director of Risk Management, SCAC**

Mr. Henderson stated to Council that he was the Director of Risk Management Services for the South Carolina Association of Counties. Mr. Henderson advised Council that every year at the annual Risk Management Membership Meeting, the South Carolina Association of Counties Insurance Trusts presents awards for outstanding risk management achievements. One of the areas that awards are given is for lag time, which is the length of time between when an accident occurs and when it is reported to the Trust. Mr. Henderson presented the Silver Lag Time Award to Chesterfield County's Risk Management Staff, Harold Hailey and Lisa Hancock for timely reporting claims with an average lag time of 2.17 days. Mr. Henderson stated that the job Mr. Hailey and Ms. Hancock had done was commendable and that he appreciated Council for their support for the Risk Management Program in Chesterfield County.

**Denise R. Douglass, Administrator**

Ms. Douglass advised Council of a letter that had been received from the State of South Carolina Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, acknowledging the excellent performance of Harold Hainey, Director of Emergency Management and Staff, Lisa Hancock during the H.B. Robinson radiological preparedness exercise that was conducted on November 15, 2011.

Ms. Douglass also advised Council that Emergency Management had acquired a new vehicle, a 2012 Ford F-250 Crew Cab through the Local Emergency Management Performance Grant (LEMPG). She stated this grant is awarded annually to support emergency management operations in Chesterfield County and that it is a 50/50 match with the county's portion coming from salaries for the Emergency Management Director and the Administrative Assistant.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Karen Stangel**

Thanked Council for filling the vacated shelter committee member's position with Glenn Gulledge. She stated that she felt that his attention to this committee will benefit both the animals and the residents by providing a means of networking the animal services information available to the community and continuing to put the animals first in those efforts. Ms. Stangel stated that she looked forward to continuing the work toward improving the County Ordinances with additions and changes as are necessary. She also congratulated Council on getting the animal control functions under the shelter manager and filling those positions. She also made comments regarding spay and neuter programs and regarding the pull fee for rescue groups.

**Nancy Updegrave**

Thanked Council for everything they are doing for the animals and that she thought great progress was being made and she appreciated everything Council was doing. Ms. Updegrave also stated she thought Danielle was doing a fabulous job at the shelter and that Danielle had a spirit of cooperation with all of them and she thought Danielle was so knowledgeable and practical and that we were fortunate to have Danielle there. She also commented on Dee doing a good job at the shelter.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None

**ORDINANCE READINGS AND RESOLUTIONS**

a. **Project Self Man B & P Fee Agreement - 1<sup>st</sup> Reading , title only**

Council Member Curtis made a motion to pass 1st reading, *title only*. Council Member Powe seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

**b. Ironwood Farms – Resolution**

Council Member Powe made a motion to adopt Resolution. Council Member Cole seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

**c. Fiber Fuels – Infrastructure Credit Agreement & Industrial Park Ordinance, 1<sup>st</sup> Reading, title only**

Council Member Miller made a motion to pass 1<sup>st</sup> reading, *title only*. Council Member Bruce E. Rivers seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

**d. Fiber Fuels – Lease Agreement, title only**

Council Member Miller made a motion to pass 1<sup>st</sup> reading, *title only*. Council Member Bruce E. Rivers seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**a. Animal Shelter Committee – Committee Chair Plyler**

**1. Update**

Advised Council that the Animal Shelter Committee met Monday. He advised that Glenn Gulledge had been placed on the committee and that he thought Mr. Gulledge would be an asset to the committee to really help with PR in this County. He stated that he thought Danielle and her staff were doing an excellent job and that they are looking forward to better things coming out of the animal shelter in the near future because he thought it was on the right track.

**b. Road Committee – Committee Chair Powe**

**1. In-house Garbage Hauling Savings**

Last year the total for the 2010-2011, we spent \$272,000 for waste disposal and this year so far we have spent, well lets say the total this is \$167,000. We have estimated \$28,000 for this coming year so the estimated total savings is over \$100,000 on waste disposal for this year alone and you can just see from, lets just look at the two months from last, for this year, we spent \$48,456.00 in waste disposal fees and expenditures this year. The same two months it was \$24,589.00 so that is significant. That's about, almost half that we have saved so far and hopefully we are going to continue this and it should get a little bit better as time goes on.

**1. Stop-sign Issue with State**

Advised Council that there is a problem with the destruction of stop signs in the County. She stated that there is a problem with metal thieves stealing signs and posts, even the street signs. She also stated that the maintenance supervisor had been contacted in

February by letter from Denise Douglass, Administrator and that the proper response was not received. The County Attorney contacted the DOT Attorney yesterday and they are going to get on this. She stated that there is not one council member on Council that these stops signs have not affected. She stated that this had to be looked at as a safety issue and possibly a legal issue. She advised that she had talked with the Sheriff and that we would work together with him to see if we can't prosecute some of these people for taking these signs. She stated that she had also talked with Tim Eubanks and he is going to contact the local scrap metal dealers so they will be aware of what is going on.

#### **ITEMS SUBMITTED BY COUNCIL**

None

#### **ITEMS SUBMITTED BY STAFF**

##### **a. Economic Development Update – Workman**

Stated she wanted to update Council on a product that is coming online that they are going to be marketing.

##### **Jamie Frost, Alliance Consulting Engineers**

Mr. Frost presented Council with a handout regarding the spec building at the Lynches River Industrial Site. He stated that the spec building is a 50,000 square foot building, expandable to 100,000 square feet and that they started the design of the spec building several months ago and that the design is now complete and that once funding was available, it is ready to be placed out for bids. Mr. Frost stated that the plans were going to be delivered to Brenda Workman at the Economic Development Office today and will be available for anyone to review. Alliance has also designed a sign to put on the project site just to have some marketing information on the site as people drive by so they can see that there is a future home for the spec building and that they can contact Brenda Workman to get further information regarding the same.

##### **b. Independent Audit Contract Renewal – Douglass**

Ms. Douglass stated that they had been in negotiations with McAbee, Talbert, Halliday & Co. for a while and that Michelle Stanley, Finance Director, had agreed to take on additional duties in order to save the county money and that these savings would be approximately \$18,000-\$20,000. She stated that in order for this to be successful, all departments and agencies that are audited through the County must provide the necessary documents to the Finance Department. Ms. Douglass stated that staff has been very satisfied with the professional services provided by McAbee, Talbert, Halliday & Co. and therefore recommends that the County renew this contract for one additional year.

Council Member Bruce E. Rivers made a motion to renew the Independent Audit Contract with McAbee, Talbert, Halliday & Co. for one additional year. Council Member Curtis seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

**c. PDRTA Appointment – Douglass**

Council Member Powe made a motion to appoint Council Member Gerald L. Miller to the Pee Dee Regional Transportation Authority Board. Council Member Cole seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Council Member Bruce E. Rivers**

Stated that in looking over the Grand Jury Report, he thought one thing Council needed to address was the cleanliness of the restrooms and entire Courthouse. Stated that he would like for the road committee and the administrator to get together on the road that was being approved at Lynches River and come to some decision with that. He stated that he also thought something needed to be done with the E911 Center, that it needed to be updated.

**Denise Douglass, Administrator**

Ms. Douglass commented on the cleanliness of the restrooms. She stated that the lady at DSS has gone to part-time and that frees up some money so she is hiring a part-time person to be stationed in the Courthouse and this should eliminate this problem.

**Chairman J. Matthew Rivers**

Stated that everyone needed to keep up the outreach they can with our Legislative/Delegation as to the Local Government Fund.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Council did not enter Executive Session.

**ADJOURN**

Council Member Cole made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Plyler seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous.

**APPROVED:**

**ATTEST:**

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J. MATTHEW RIVERS, CHAIRMAN  
DATE: April 4, 2012

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SUSIE BOSWELL  
CLERK TO COUNCIL

