

**RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
SEPTEMBER 18, 2001
5:00 P.M.**

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

OTHER MEMBERS: Monique Walters, Michael Criss, Pam Davis, Tony McDonald, Milton Pope, Michielle Cannon-Finch, Marsheika Martin, T. Cary McSwain, Larry Smith, Darren Gore, Amelia Linder, Ash Miller

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at approximately 5:05 p.m.

Ms. Smith stated the Pledge of Allegiance would be incorporated into the agenda after the Invocation. There were no objections.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was given by the Honorable Jim Tuten.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Ms. Smith made the following changes:

- Resolution to Keenan High School would be deferred to the next Council meeting.
- Resolution for Chef François Fisèra was moved under Approval of Resolutions.
- Move Citizen's Input before Report of County Attorney
- Defer Evaluations of the Clerk of Council and County Administrator to a Work Session on September 25th.

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Ms. Brady, to approve the agenda as amended. The vote in favor was unanimous.

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS

A. Timothy Ford – Deputy of the Year

Sheriff Leon Lott thanked Council for their support with the Sheriff's Department.

Mr. Pearce, Mr. McEachern and Ms. Scott presented this resolution honoring Mr. Ford for being selected as Deputy of the

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Year for contributions and support of the Richland County community.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTIONS

Ms. Smith stated a resolution honoring Sack Edge for his years of employment need to be added under this section for approval so it could be presented at the next meeting. The resolution was added unanimously.

Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Mr. McEachern, to approve the following resolutions:

- **Richland Northeast High School Girl Soccer Team**
- **Richland Northeast High School Boys Track and Field**
- **Chef François Fisera**
- **Sack Edge – Retiring**

The vote in favor was unanimous.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Ms. Brill recognized Kevin Green, Eagle Scout, and his family in the audience.

CITIZEN'S INPUT

Ms. Smith stated citizens may speak to items on the agenda to do not call for a public hearing.

The following person spoke at this time:

- Ms. Evelyn Bush spoke in opposition of the Economic Development items.

REPORT OF COUNTY ATTORNEY FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS

A. Status and Approval of Reapportionment Process

Mr. Larry Smith, County Attorney, reminded Council of a memorandum he had forwarded to them regarding his concerns of proceeding with the reapportionment process.

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Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to pursue the services of an outside attorney to assist with the reapportionment process.

A discussion took place.

Mr. Pearce made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Tuten, to authorize the Chair to appoint one republican and one democrat to meet with the County Attorney and work out a strategy.

The discussion continued.

The vote for the substitute motion was as follows:

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

The motion failed.

The vote for the main motion was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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The minutes were adopted as published.

RECESS

Ms. Smith requested a motion to recess the meeting for the Special Called Meeting.

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Mr. Mizzell moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to recess the meeting. The vote in favor was unanimous.

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**The meeting recessed at approximately 5:45 p.m. and
reconvened at approximately 5:47 p.m.**
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Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to reconvene the meeting. The vote in favor was unanimous.

REPORT OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

- **Fall Council Retreat** – Mr. McSwain reminded Council of the Fall Council Retreat scheduled for Tuesday, October 9th from 1:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.. He stated dinner would be catered at approximately 5:30 p.m. He stated there are plans to hold the meeting at the Congaree National Monument facilities.
- **Unity Concert** – Mr. McSwain reminded Council of the Unity Concert in Finlay Park tonight from 7:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. The concert is sponsored by the County, The City of Columbia and Lexington County in order to remember the victims from the September 11th terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.
- **Richland County Community Health Center Groundbreaking** – Mr. McSwain stated the groundbreaking ceremony will take place at 120 Clarkson Street in Eastover at 11:00 a.m. on September 22nd.
- **Local Option Sales Tax** – Mr. McSwain stated the working lunch meeting for the municipalities is scheduled for Thursday, September 20th from 12:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m. He stated it would be held on the fourth floor in the back conference room. He informed Council that 42 people responded to the invitation indicating their plans to attend.
- **Central Midlands Council of Governments** – Mr. McSwain reported a grassroots conference at the Chamber of Commerce. He stated there is a \$10.00 fee at the door with the meeting beginning at 12:00 p.m. He reported the focus would be improving the business climate in the midlands area.
- **Girl Scouts Women of Distinction** – Mr. McSwain informed Council of a reception honoring women of distinction to showcase positive female role models for the Girl Scouts. He stated the event would be held on October 31st.
- **World Affairs Council: Terror in America** – Mr. McSwain reported the World Affairs Council will be hosting a meeting

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tonight at 7:30 p.m. to discuss how to respond to terrorist attacks.

- **New Deputy Planning Director** – Mr. Milton Pope, Assistant County Administrator, introduced the county's newest employee, Mr. Michael Criss.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Mr. Livingston thanked Council for sponsoring a function honoring the Teacher of the Year, Ms. Tracy Young-Cooper. He stated he and Mr. Pearce attended.

Mr. Mizzell recognized Mayor Campbell of Eastover in the audience and Deputy Administrator Mike West from the City.

1. THIRD READING ITEMS

a. Local Option Sales Tax Ordinance

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to approve the ordinance as submitted. The vote was in favor. Mr. Meetze and Mr. Tuten opposed.

2. REPORT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Livingston stated the committee recommended First Reading approval to the following items:

- a. Ordinance: Fee Agreement for SYSCO**
- b. Ordinance: Multi-County Industrial Park expansion**
- c. Ordinance: Multi-County Industrial Park expansion for Verizon**

The vote in favor was unanimous.

3. MOTION PERIOD/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Ms. Smith stated Richland County received a check in the amount of \$100.00 from Lonnie Shealy for the disaster relief fund for victims of the Pentagon and World Trade Center attacks. He challenged Council Members to match his donation.
- Mr. Mizzell moved seconded by Ms. Brady, to approve without reference a resolution recognizing the Richland Northeast High School women's soccer coach as "Coach of the Year" and the High School track and field coach as 'Track and Field Association Coach of the Year'.

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- Ms. Scott requested that a personnel item be placed on the next Council agenda for executive session.
- Ms. Scott requested for the issue of flag lots to be placed on the Development and Services Committee agenda.
- Ms. Smith reminded Council of the special Work Session on Tuesday, September 25th in order for the Clerk of Council and the County Administrator to present their self-evaluations. The meeting is scheduled for 4:30 p.m.

4. CITIZEN'S INPUT

- Ms. Evelyn Bush requested Council to repeal the vote on the Comprehensive Landuse Plan.
- Mr. Lonnie Shealy spoke of unity in America.
- Mr. Bill Manley expressed his concerns regarding the attack on America and thanked Council for their service to Richland County.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Mr. Tuten spoke of how the events of the attack affected his family.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:15 p.m.

Kit Smith, Chair

L. Gregory Pearce, Jr., Vice-Chair

Joan Brady

Susan Brill

Paul Livingston

Joseph McEachern

J.D. "Buddy" Meetze

Anthony G. Mizzell

Bernice G. Scott

Thelma M. Tillis

James Tuten

The minutes were transcribed by Marsheika G. Martin