

**MINUTES
HORRY COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
November 3, 2009
5:00 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; 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 5:03 p.m.

INVOCATION: Mr. Frazier gave the invocation.

PLEDGE: Mr. Schulz led the pledge.

PUBLIC INPUT:

1. David Powers spoke on the County Coloring Book and presented a copy to Council that his son had completed.
2. Bob Fogner spoke on the upcoming Veteran's Celebration on November 7th.
3. Jo Dollar spoke on wasteful spending and government policy.

Ms. Gilland closed public input at 5:20 p.m.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:

Ms. Gilland requested to add under Old/New Business discussion on the administrator interviews. **Mr. Foxworth moved to add, seconded by Mr. Grabowski. The motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Weaver requested to delay Resolution R-155-09 to later in the meeting in that a public hearing had been advertised at 6:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA CONTENTS: There was no motion nor a second, but a vote was taken that passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting October 20, 2009: Mr. Barnard moved to approve the minutes as submitted, seconded by Mr. Frazier. The motion passed unanimously.

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

James E. Burroughs
Jamie Strobert
Charles E. Vereen
James Gagum, Jr.
Marc R. Chaplin
Nellie D. Dawsey

CHARACTERISTIC OF THE MONTH: Initiative: Recognizing and doing what needs to be done before I am asked to do it.

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

District Appointments: Mary Henry to the Board of Assessment Appeals; Cliff Rudd to the Affordable/Workforce Housing Commission and John Draughn to the Affordable/Workforce Housing Commission.

The motion passed unanimously.

READING OF ORDINANCES:

Third reading and public review of **Ordinance 50-09** to amend the County Code pertaining to daycare facilities. **Mr. Schwartzkopf moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Schulz.** There was no public review. **The motion passed with Mr. Barnard voting nay.**

Third reading (unadvertised public review) of **Ordinance 72-09** amending the County Code so as to provide for further regulation of towing businesses and operations in the county. Ms. Gilland said she was not sure whether she promised they would have public review at third reading or not so they were having an unadvertised public review. **Mr. Grabowski moved to approve, seconded by Mr. J. Prince.** No one came forward to speak during public review. Mr. Grabowski noted that the version presented in the packet contained changes made by the Public Safety Committee and he asked Mr. Carotti to explain those changes. Mr. Carotti stated that the cap on fees had been raised from \$160 to \$175 for light and medium weight tows, and from \$180 to \$200 for heavy weight tows. Additionally, the adjustment of fees would be accomplished by Council Resolution after a public review had taken place. **Mr. Grabowski moved to accept the amended version in the packet. There was no second. Mr. Foxworth moved to divide the question- one vote on the amendments, and one vote on the increase in fees, seconded by Mr. P. Prince. Ms. Gilland stated they would vote on the motion to divide the question first. The motion passed with Mr. J. Prince voting nay.**

Ms. Gilland called for the vote on the amended version with the exception of the pricing change. The motion passed. The vote was as follows:

In favor

Foxworth
Schulz
Loftus
Barnard
Grabowski
Frazier
Schwartzkopf
P. Prince
Gilland

Opposed

J. Prince
Worley
Allen

Ms. Gilland called for the vote on the increase in fees that was recommended by the Public Safety Committee. The motion failed. The vote was as follows:

In favor

J. Prince
Allen
Barnard
Gilland

Opposed

Worley
Schulz
Foxworth
Loftus
Grabowski
Frazier
Schwartzkopf
P. Prince

Ms. Gilland called for the vote on the main motion as amended. The main motion as amended passed. The vote was as follows:

In favor

Schulz
Barnard
Grabowski
Frazier
Schwartzkopf
J. Prince
Gilland

Opposed

Worley
Allen
Foxworth
P. Prince
Loftus

Second reading and public review of **Ordinance 94-09** to amend the 2010 Budget so as to authorize and provide funding for the purchase of land, site improvements, equipment, and construction of a new Socastee Convenience Center. **Mr. Schwartzkopf moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Grabowski.** There was no public review. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Second reading and public review of **Ordinance 95-09** to amend the County Code pertaining to buildings and building regulations. **Mr. Schwartzkopf moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Grabowski.** There was no public review. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Second reading and public review of the following ordinances to approve the request to amend the official zoning maps: **96-09** Caroline's Cove Minor PDD and **97-09** Dora McClure & Alan Watts, agents for Joyce Privette. **Mr. P. Prince moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Loftus.** There was no public review. **The motion passed unanimously.**

First reading of **Ordinance 98-09** to amend the County Code so as to add animal hoarding to the list of unlawful acts. **Mr. Grabowski moved to approve, seconded by Mr. J. Prince.** Mr. Whitten spoke briefly on hoarding. **The motion passed unanimously.**

RESOLUTIONS/PRESENTATIONS:

Public Hearing and **Resolution R-155-09** in support of the issuance by the SC JEDA of its economic development revenue bonds (Goodwill Industries of Lower South Carolina, Inc. project) not exceeding \$25.5 million. **Mr. Schwartzkopf moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Frazier.** Bobby Buffington, Bond Counsel for JEDA, spoke stating that the resolution did not create any obligation on either Horry County or the City of Conway. **The motion passed unanimously.**

OLD/NEW BUSINESS:

Administrator Interviews. Ms. Gilland stated that Council had hired a company to bring them back a selection of the very best folks they could find to apply for the Administrator's position and they did that. Out of a top tier of 12 and then a secondary tier of another 12, Council selected five and brought those five in and interviewed those last Thursday and Friday. Eight Council members were present both days, the same eight, and they kept each candidate for an hour and a half full of questions and then discussed it a little bit afterwards. She said what she was going to do now, what they were charged with now was whittling that five down to perhaps three that they would call back for a secondary interview and a mandatory 100% attendance because this was a pretty critical decision.

Ms. Gilland said she would also tell them that she was actually a little surprised because the quality of those five gentlemen was much higher than what they read in the resumes and there wasn't a weak one among them. She thought they could almost flip a coin now and Horry County would be well served with any of those five. She said she was that confident in the abilities that she saw, however Council did have some preferences and that was what they were about now.

Ms. Gilland said they had before them the five names and each name had a number. They could not use names because many of the folks had not told the folks that they worked for in their respective counties or other places of employment that they were applying for a job somewhere else. She said this was strictly confidential.

Ms. Gilland said she would open it for discussion now but they would need to use the numbers. If they wanted to talk about the first guy they interviewed he would be number one and that was just positional and was just according to when they interviewed. She opened it for discussion and they needed, at the end of the brief conversation, they would each circle three of the names and they could put their preference for candidate one, candidate two and candidate three and then they would...

Mr. Foxworth said she wanted them ranked. Ms. Gilland said if they would. Mr. Grabowski asked if she wanted them to rank them, one, two or three. Ms. Gilland said yes. She said if they couldn't rank them that was okay but she thought ranking was important but if they didn't think it was important then they wouldn't rank them. Mr. Grabowski asked if she wanted three. Ms. Gilland said she would open that for discussion too. She said she was thinking maybe they would bring three back. Mr. Grabowski said he was okay with two. Mr. P. Prince said three or less. Ms. Gilland said three or less...the reason she wanted to rank was because if number one and number two had 11 and 11 and number three only had 2 or whatever the math was then it would be silly to bring back more than those first two and that was why she was thinking of ranking them.

Mr. Foxworth said they needed to vote for three but didn't need any shotgun voting. Ms. Gilland asked what was that. Mr. Foxworth said when you vote for one. Ms. Gilland said they only got, they got three votes but they couldn't vote three times for one person. Mr. Foxworth said if they voted for one it reduced the total number of votes cast. Ms. Gilland said they must vote for three or she would pass it back to them and they also had to sign their votes.

Mr. Worley asked that they talk about that for a minute. He said if she was going to tell them that they had to vote for three people ...Ms. Gilland said yes sir. Mr. Worley said she was making the decision that he thought Council should make. He said the first thing was he was ready to vote now for the position. He didn't know about the rest of Council but to force them to vote for three people when they really ...some of them already had their mind made up and he thought that was wrong. Ms. Gilland said to let her give her point. She thought it was not fair to make up their mind without giving everyone a fair ...a chance to influence his decision and if he didn't meet the other four he didn't even know what he missed.

Mr. Worley said that was her opinion. He said she could do things the way she wanted to but Horry County Council ran Horry County and not her so it was only fair to give them the opportunity to choose the candidate that they wanted instead of having the other candidates having another bite at the apple and that was all that was. All he was saying was that if he wanted to vote for one person, allow him to vote for one person that was all he was saying. He said not to force him to vote for three. Ms. Gilland told Mr. Worley that she got his point. Mr. Worley said thank you.

Ms. Gilland said what she was saying was, what she would like to do was offer the entire Council another opportunity to hear from the three most outstanding applicants because there was not one that stood head and shoulders above the other. She said while Mr. Worley may have an opinion on one from a resume or a personal knowledge he didn't have a whole picture and what she was trying to do was offer the entire Council the whole picture of the quality of three of these potential or three of the applicants because she thought that was important. She

entertained a motion from Council on whether...someone make a motion on whether or not they needed to vote for three or one. **Mr. Schwartzkopf moved to vote for three, seconded by Mr. Grabowski.** Ms. Gilland asked that they vote on the board. **The motion failed. The vote was as follows:**

In favor

**Foxworth
Grabowski
Schwartzkopf
J. Prince
Allen
Gilland**

Opposed

**Worley
Schulz
Frazier
Barnard
P. Prince
Loftus**

Mr. Worley moved to vote for one, seconded by Mr. Schulz. Ms. Gilland said she had a motion to vote for one. She asked that they vote on the board. **The motion failed. The vote was as follows:**

In favor

**Worley
Schulz
Frazier**

Opposed

**Foxworth
Loftus
Barnard
Grabowski
Schwartzkopf
P. Prince
J. Prince
Allen
Gilland**

Ms. Gilland said they would not vote for one and asked if she heard two. **Mr. Loftus moved to vote for three or less, seconded by Mr. Barnard. The motion for three or less passed. The vote was as follows:**

In favor

**Worley
Schulz
Loftus
Barnard
Grabowski
Frazier
Schwartzkopf
P. Prince
J. Prince
Allen**

Opposed

**Foxworth
Gilland**

(Council completed their ballots and submitted them to the Clerk.) Ms. Gilland said they had one vote that separated Candidate #3 and Candidate #4 and asked if they would like to have those four come back. Mr. Allen said they voted on three or less. Ms. Gilland said yes and

she was just asking because things seemed to change by the minute. She said the top three were Number 1, 2 and 4. She said if they could all remember the names or could check with Ms. Hartley or her because she was not calling the names out loud. She asked that they please be careful with the names because the press had ears and she would really prefer that the folks not lose their job and not get this one. She said they would release the names the next day at about 2:00 p.m. and either Ms. Bourcier would send them out or they would have a press conference or something. She said she didn't want...this was an important issue to the entire County or should be and she didn't want it to get so lost in the election results tomorrow that nobody paid any attention to it so they would try to nudge their way at least on the front of the local section but would announce the names tomorrow. That way those who were notified tonight would have the opportunity tomorrow between morning and 2:00 p.m. to tell the folks they worked for that they were a finalist for another job before the press started calling and she thought that was only fair. There was no further business before Council.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 6:14 p.m. in memorial of James E. Burroughs; Jamie Strobert; Charles E. Vereen; James Gagum, Jr.; Marc R. Chaplin and Nellie D. Dawsey.