

**GREENVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
MINUTES  
JUNE 4, 2013  
5:04 p.m.  
County Square - Conference Room D**

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting date, time, place and agenda was posted on the bulletin board at County Square and posted on the County's web page for all media and concerned citizens to access and review.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

CHAIRMAN BOB TAYLOR  
VICE CHAIRMAN WILLIS MEADOWS  
JOE DILL  
XANTHENE NORRIS  
SID CATES  
DAN RAWLS

LOTTIE GIBSON arrived 5:10 p.m.  
JIM BURNS  
JOE BALDWIN  
BUTCH KIRVEN  
FRED PAYNE arrived 5:10 p.m.  
LIZ SEMAN

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:**

NONE

**STAFF PRESENT:**

JOE KERNELL, County Administrator  
MARK TOLLISON, County Attorney  
THERESA KIZER, Clerk to Council  
REGINA MCCASKILL, Deputy Clerk to Council  
BOB MIHALIC, Governmental Relations Officer  
SANDRA YUDICE, Assistant to the County Administrator  
PAULA GUCKER, Assistant County Administrator, Public Works

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

MARK RICKARDS, Transit Director, Greenlink

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Bob Taylor

**INVOCATION**

Councilor Willis Meadows

**Item (3)**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**ACTION:** Councilor Norris moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Committee of the Whole meeting of May 21, 2013.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Item (4)**

**GREENLINK PRESENTATION**

Mr. Mark Rickards, Transit Director for Greenlink gave a presentation to the Committee of the Whole on the Greenville Transit Authority. He introduced Mr. James Fouche III as the new Chairman of GTA for 2013-2014, new board members Ms. Julian Reed, Mr. Jim Smeaton, Greenville Hospital System appointee Mr. Sam Zimmerman, Greenville City Council appointee Ms. Gaye Sprague and Greenville County Council appointee Mr. Fred Payne. He stated GTA/Greenlink now included Mauldin, Simpsonville and Clemson Area Transit (CAT) as participants. He stated the Chairman of GTA was now a voting member of GPATS. Ridership had seen an upward trend by 133,791 between FY2010 and FY2012. The Fare Box Revenue had increased by \$263,000 between FY2010 and FY2012. The Mauldin and Simpsonville route was implemented in October 2012. Since implementation, ridership had grown monthly and the route performance was excellent. He stated the FY2014 budget was about \$6.6 million which included capital spending, with the operating budget being about \$4.5 million. The budget included Clemson Connections, the trolley (from Greenville Public and Greenville Drive), facility upgrades (Transfer Center), and the AVL-GPS (Automated Vehicle Locator and Global Positioning System) final phase. He stated the AVL-GPS would enable customers to locate buses online. The budget also included ten new positions for drivers, part time trolley drivers, an accountant and full time marketing personnel. He stated CAT brought in approximately 1.5 million users per year. Three new buses for the Clemson commuter, two additional trolleys and one service truck were also included in the budget. Greyhound was relocating to make room for Greenlink expansion, including administrative offices, operations space and retail space. He stated twelve additional shelters were added during the past year, with plans to add shelters in Mauldin and Simpsonville over the next year. Ninety percent of the fleet was classified as new buses with 95% on-time performance. He credited the GTA Operations Manager for the changes. He stated CAT was a sub-recipient of GTA, which meant GTA was responsible for CAT's grants. Clemson University and a CAT representative would attend GTA Board and Committee meetings. The bus service for Clemson University would start in August 2014, just in time for fall semester. He stated the Greenville Drive trolleys would be replaced with new two-toned, green and red trolleys which would also have bike racks and a comfortable viewing area for commuters. The five-year forecast for GTA included continuing to pursue private and public partnerships, and expansion to Furman University, Travelers Rest, GSP, Greer and Fountain Inn, extended hours and Sunday Service.

Councilor Seman asked how far would the new trolleys travel.

Mr. Rickards stated Fluor Field was the anchor for the routes on the south side and North Main was the anchor for routes on the north side.

Councilor Seman asked was there any plans to extend the trolley service further down Augusta Road.

Mr. Rickards stated in 2015 there may be an opportunity to add additional trolleys to accommodate neighborhoods. Also, a lunchtime shuttle at County Square was a possibility in the future.

Councilor Baldwin asked what was the cost to the system for a commuter.

Mr. Rickards stated it was approximately a \$5.00 cost to the system for each commuter.

Councilor Payne asked Mr. Rickards to explain the merger between GTA and CAT.

Mr. Rickards stated the communities of Clemson and Greenville were merging. Clemson University classroom had a lot of space in Greenville therefore, it only made sense to enter into a partnership.

**Item (5) A Resolution to Increase the Term of the Newly Elected Candidate of the Berea Public Service Commission**

Mr. Mark Tollison stated the Berea Public Service Commission currently had three board members. Legislation passed last year allowed for an expansion to a five member board. There will be an election during the fall of this year to allow the expansion of the board to five members. He stated the issue was, Special Purpose Districts elections were only held on the off year therefore, the purpose of the proposed resolution was to allow the elected members to have an initial four year term.

**ACTION:** Councilor Dill moved to approve the Resolution.

Motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**ACTION:** Councilor Seman moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:36 p.m.

Motion to adjourn carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

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Theresa B. Kizer, Clerk to Council