



GREENVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes

Committee of the Whole

September 4, 2018

5:04 p.m.

County Square – Council Chambers

Council Members

Mr. Butch Kirven, Chairman

Mr. Willis Meadows, Vice Chairman

Mrs. Xanthene Norris, Chairman Pro Tem

Mr. Joe Dill

Mr. Mike Barnes

Mr. Sid Cates

Mr. Rick Roberts

Mr. Bob Taylor

Mrs. Liz Seman

Mr. Ennis Fant, Sr.

Mr. Lynn Ballard

Mr. Fred Payne

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting date, time, place and agenda was posted on the bulletin board at the County Square and made available to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned Citizens.

Council Members Absent

None

Staff Present

Joe Kernell, County Administrator

Mark Tollison, County Attorney

John Hansley, Deputy County Administrator

Regina McCaskill, Clerk to Council

Pam Gilliam, Administrative Assistant, County Council Office

Paula Gucker, Assistant County Administrator, Public Works

Others Present

Call to Order

Chairman Kirven

Invocation

Councilor Rick Roberts

Item (3) Approval of Minutes

ACTION: Councilor Seman moved to approve the minutes of the August 21, 2018, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

Item (4) Board and Commission – Interviews and Elections

a. Board of Tax Assessment and Appeals (9 vacancies)

The following individuals appeared before the Committee of the Whole and gave their personal presentations:

1. **Armstrong, JoAnne** - District 22
2. **Davis, Jeff** - District 22
3. **Xu, Yigang** - District 17

ACTION: Councilor Taylor moved to close nominations and elect by acclamation JoAnne Armstrong, Jeff Davis, Richard Poremba, Yigang Xu and Bill Young to fill five of the nine vacancies and forward their names to full Council.

Councilor Dill stated there were nine (9) vacancies and only five (5) applicants. He inquired about the remaining vacancies.

Chairman Kirven stated only five applications were received. He stated if the committee met and there was no quorum issue, there would be no problem. If it became evident that more committee members were needed, a new application period could be opened up in order to accept applications.

Councilor Dill asked Regina McCaskill, Clerk to Council, if it was necessary to reopen the application period.

Mrs. McCaskill stated the Board of Tax Assessment and Appeals was a 12-member board and there were currently three (3) seated members. With the addition of five (5) new members, the board would have eight (8) active members and there should be no quorum issue.

Councilor Taylor stated an application period would reopen in January of 2019 and the remaining vacancies could be filled at that time.

Motion as presented was carried unanimously.

b. Thrive Upstate (3 vacancies)

The following individuals appeared before the Committee of the Whole and gave their personal presentations:

1. **Ariail, Bob** - District 24
2. **McNair, Alex** - District 24
3. **Strand, Jason** - District 20

Councilor Payne stated he has always been impressed with the quality of applicants for boards and commissions. Mr. Payne stated Council was always very conscious of the incumbants who reapplied and the value they brought.

Councilor Dill asked if there was a procedure in place to handle untrue statements on an application.

Councilor Ballard stated previously, an applicant had indicated information on an application and it was found to be untrue. There was only one vacancy on the board at the time and this individual was the only applicant. The committee chose not to appoint the individual and the seat remained vacant until the application period was reopened and additional applications were received. Mr. Ballard stated he later met with the individual and it was determined that an error had occurred on behalf of the applicant.

Councilor Dill stated he was wondering what would happen if it was determined an individual had given false information on their application after they were appointed to a board.

Mark Tollison stated the application included a statement asking the applicant to certify that the information provided was true or correct. Mr. Tollison stated the current Boards and Commissions Policy contained a provision for "just cause" removal. He added if Council appointed someone under the mistaken belief that the information provided on the application was true and correct, the individual could possibly be removed. Mr. Tollison stated there was currently no procedure in place to handle situations involving an applicant supplying false information on a Board and Commission application. He stated if Council felt the need for a procedure, they could either empower the Clerk's office to develop one or develop one among themselves. Mr. Tollison stated Council had been very cognizant in the past about making appointments with the knowledge that there was false information provided by some applicants.

By ballot vote, Bob Ariail, Alex McNair and Jason Strand were elected to fill the three (3) vacancies.

ACTION: Councilor Cates moved to close nominations and move their names forward to full Council.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Item (5) **Adjournment**

ACTION: Councilor Cates moved to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Regina G. McCaskill, Clerk to Council