



GREENVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes

Regular Meeting

March 19, 2019

6:02 p.m.

County Square – Council Chambers

Council Members

Mr. Butch Kirven, Chairman
Mr. Willis Meadows, Vice Chairman
Mrs. Xanthe 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. Dan Tripp

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
Jessica Stone, Deputy Clerk to Council
Pam Gilliam, Administrative Assistant, County Council Office
Paula Gucker, Assistant County Administrator, Public Works
Bob Mihalic, Governmental Relations Officer
John Vandermosten, Assistant County Administrator, Public Safety

Others Present

None

Call to Order

Chairman Kirven

Invocation

Vice-Chairman Willis Meadows

Pledge of Allegiance

Item (4) Approval of Minutes

Vice-Chairman Meadows requested the discussion regarding approval of the minutes be recorded verbatim:

Chairman Kirven: The minutes, Council got the minutes from our March the 5th Regular Meeting and our March the 13th Special Called Council Meeting. We need a motion to approve the minutes, please.

Action: Councilor Norris: Move approval, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Kirven: Thank you, Mrs. Norris. Motion on the floor to approve the minutes. Any adjustments or changes?

Chairman Kirven: Mr. Meadows.

Vice-Chairman Meadows: Are we doing both of them at once or just?

Chairman Kirven: Well, we can separate them if that's what you'd like to do.

Vice-Chairman Meadows: Because I have an objection to one of them.

Chairman Kirven: Okay, well, we'll withdraw the March 13 Special Called Meeting and put on the floor the March 5 Regular Council Meeting. Would you amend your motion to indicate it's the March 5th Council Meeting?

Councilor Norris: So moved.

Chairman Kirven: Thank you, Mrs. Norris. Now, we have that one on the floor. Got a motion; any changes to that Regular Meeting agenda? All those in favor please say "aye."

All Council Members responded "Aye".

Chairman Kirven: Any opposed? And the ayes have it and that meeting is now approved. Now we have the March 13, 2019, Special Called Council Meeting. Need a motion to put that one on the floor.

Councilor Seman: So moved.

Chairman Kirven: Thank you, Mrs. Seman. Now we've got that one on the floor and we'll recognize Mr. Meadows.

Vice-Chairman Meadows: Mr. Chairman, is that... I think that we should vote no on this particular one because I don't think these minutes are legal. I don't think we had a legal action on this. Is the rules of the Council says that anything that you do in any of our meetings you have to have 24 hours warning and we did on that meeting. But, we did not on the thing that we voted on. We didn't have 24 hour warning. And, it wasn't handed out 24 hours ahead of time. It was handed out at the meeting and that violates our rules. Are we gonna do it right and if we believe in following our rules, then we have to vote against this as no. It doesn't have anything to do with the, with the subject as such, but I think we need to do things decent and in order. And, so for that reason, I would urge the County Council to vote no on this and let's go back and revisit it.

Chairman Kirven: Okay, thank you, Mr. Meadows.

Councilor Tripp: Parliamentary inquiry.

Chairman Kirven: Mr. Tripp and then Dr. Fant

Councilor Tripp: What is the practical effect of your motion?

Vice-Chairman Meadows: Well, the practical effect is you follow the rules. If you have, if you have rules...

Councilor Tripp: Would you have the meeting over or...?

Vice-Chairman Meadows: Well, that would be the thing we'd have to do, yes, to do it right.

Chairman Kirven: Dr. Fant.

Councilor Fant: I agree with Mr. Meadows, and I was just, I'm still just beyond measure of what happened last Wednesday with no notice. I was thinking and I was talking to Mr. Ballard, if I wanted to put in a resolution to recognize a Girl Scout Group who sold a bunch of cookies, I'd have to give notice ahead of time for, just for that, which is the rules require. But, we were told to show up Wednesday, we were handed contract, several of us asked at least for some time to review it. Ya'll wouldn't do it. It was like, you can't leave with it, we gonna ram this down your throat. It was sorta like the public's right to know K-N-O-W went out the window and now it's the public's right to no, N-O. We asked for transparency, so this could be in the public's domain so we could get feedback from the public and make an informed decision and represent our constituency like we were elected to do. You guys would not do that and so this is a rules violation and I would encourage us, if we are elected to do the right thing and if we're going follow our rules except when they're convenient or inconvenient. I would encourage us to vote no, as well.

Chairman Kirven: Thank you. Anybody else?

Councilor Roberts: Dr. Taylor.

Councilor Taylor: Are we going to let the attorney give us an opinion on this?

Chairman Kirven: I've looked into this a little bit since it came up. I really wondered where, what was going to be presented at that meeting. I didn't have a copy of anything ahead of time. And we put that on the agenda so that Council would have the flexibility to make a decision which we felt like was needed. It's my understanding that a majority of the Council Members were present at the meeting and the majority at the Council took action and that action is valid and it's not, cannot be invalidated by a procedural rule that might have been not followed during that meeting when a majority was present and an objection wasn't raised during the meeting. So, I don't think... that's not happened in the past. I think it probably has from time to time, so I don't think that by, by the rule not being followed in that meeting the majority present, the action that they'd taken is a valid action and it's not overturned by the fact that the rule was not followed. Mr. Tollison, would you like to comment on that further?

Mark Tollison: I don't... Mr. Chairman, Members of Council, I don't have anything to add to that. I shared that observation with Mr. Ballard last week after the meeting. He raised a similar issue. I think the matter on the floor for now is whether you accept the minutes or not. That's the question, so, the motion on the floor is the minutes from the meeting. Either amend them, defeat them or pass them. That's what on the floor now.

Chairman Kirven: But, any of those things does not change the action taken at the Special Meeting?

Mark Tollison: I'd be happy to look into it. I don't think that it does, but, I'd be happy to research that and come back, but I don't have that answer at this point.

Chairman Kirven: We'll go to Mr. Roberts.

Councilor Roberts: I appreciate it. You know Chairman you gave me great advice when I got here and I asked about an issue that I said, why can't we move this direction, and you told me we have to respect the process and the rules we have in place. And I know for me, and I really need to apologize to our Administrator because I was so taken aback that we got a document that was, I

don't know, lengthy to say the least, 5, 6 pages. Never had a chance to read it; had no discussion about it, was not where you could go research it. I know Councilman Meadows and myself deal with retirement plans and have questions on whether part of that was even legal. We didn't have a chance to research that. We're not able to come prepared because...look, I had no idea that we would possibly just hand out something and vote on it like that. And, that was your advice you gave me when I first got on this Council, that we needed to respect the rules and our process. So, we can get off by a technicality and say, well we did it this way. I brought up in the meeting the concern I had with being handed a document that we hadn't even read and voted on it. Unfortunately, I didn't go and research every ordinance that we put in place and every rule. I really would have hoped that our Chairman, that you would have known that rule or that Mr. Tollison, you would have brought it up, quite honestly, not putting you down. But, we didn't. But, I brought up my concern in that meeting about that process. I think it was a very flawed process and when I did, I know I'm attacking our Administrator a little bit and I apologize, but, at the end of the day, it needed to be discussed. There were things in there that needed to be discussed and without us doing any research, someone should have pointed out that when I brought up that this wasn't right instead of just going on past it and ramrodding it down. Why wouldn't we say, you're right, we should have gotten this in advance.

Mark Tollison: Well, Mr. Chairman and Members of Council, it was a point of order that could have been raised during the meeting. It was not raised. It was a rule that could have been suspended.

Councilor Roberts: So, it passed on a technicality. But, this is the most important document we voted on since I've been here, I would say, and that's not a question for you. But that's the most important vote we had, the most important document. It was a lengthy document and we're gonna suspend our own rules or not pay attention to them on this vote when, like you say, on these little votes we've all agreed that we've had to have it 24 hours in advance, at the least. I think most of the time we've had, 2 and 3 days in advance. So, I just think that it goes against the principles of the people up here, it goes against the principles of whatever our constituents want, which is us to be able to research things and have intelligent conversation and none of that played into any of this. It does not make sense, to my constituents that I've talked to. They were shocked that we just handed a document and voted on it without be able to research. And I appreciate that.

Chairman Kirven: Dr. Taylor and then Mr. Tripp.

Councilor Taylor: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It seems like, it sounds like, Mr. Meadows' motion at this time is simply to not approve the minutes, I guess. But, in approving the minutes we're just approving that this is an accurate act, a picture of what happened. Not whether what happened was correct or incorrect. And I guess the fact that we didn't, with what the lawyer was telling us, since we didn't address it at the time, we have no recourse except that somebody that was on the affirmative could ask for reconsideration. That's the only way to get back at it, I guess.

Chairman Kirven: Mr. Tripp?

Councilor Tripp: My question was simply to the attorney; if we vote no on approving the minutes, what does that mean?

Mark Tollison: Mr. Chairman, I don't know. I'd be happy to research and come back and report to the body, but, the reality is that in order to get back to the debate on the merits of the issue, would be to reconsider or have another meeting and take that matter back up. I wouldn't comment one way or the other on the effect of disapproval of the minutes.

Chairman Kirven: Mr. Meadows?

Vice-Chairman Meadows: Mr. Chairman, I don't know that going back to another meeting is gonna change anything. All I'm saying is let's do it right. We have a habit on this Council of thumbing our nose at the rules when it doesn't fit out situation and we put it...if it's my situation or your situation or anybody else's, we should follow the rules. And I think it does invalidate if we don't pass the minutes then we have no...Council really hasn't voted on it, because we're approving what the Committee

of the Whole did. So, the only way I can see that we can rectify this is to have another meeting and then we vote on it again. But, do it right. Pass the thing out and not have it passed out...and, to the point that nobody said anything about it. That is not true because there were 4 or 5 people in there that said we just got this, we shouldn't be voting on this. And that really, it wasn't a point of order, no, I'll give you that. But, it was, that was said, and that...

Chairman Kirven: But in the end, the majority voted for it.

Vice-Chairman Meadows: I don't deny that, don't deny that at all. And, what ya'll are trying to deny is that we did it right, and you didn't.

Councilor Tripp: Mr. Chair?

Chairman Kirven: Mr. Dill, did you have a comment?

Councilor Dill: The thing that I'm confused with here is the argument that we have here is not germane to the issue. The issue is whether or not to approve minutes. What we're trying to do, some of us are trying to do, is to reconsider something when our rules, which is you're defining our rules, which our rules say that you have to be on the prevailing side to bring something back up. So, what you're trying to do is sidestep that rule and figure out a way that you can put this back on the floor. At which, this has nothing to do with the minutes. That is an item in the minutes, that is not the minutes. Now, I would like to say, if we're going to do this, I'm want a lie detector test by everybody on this Council and let's find out how many of you talked to the Administrator prior to that meeting and he told you what was in his contract. Now, does that mean you should have read it? Maybe you couldn't understand what he said. But now, I think if that's what...I want get off all this junk about the contract and let's get to the fact. Either we're gonna approve the minutes, this happened this way or it didn't happen this way.

Chairman Kirven: Okay, Mr. Ballard.

Councilor Ballard: After what happened, I believe it was in December, when we had the GHS JEDA Bond Issue on hold and no one on the prevailing side would bring it back. So, the Chairman ruled that it could be brought back by somebody that wasn't on the prevailing side, and in fact, that is what happened. So, I don't want to hear anything about you have to be on the prevailing side.

Councilor Dill: Well, that's what the rule says.

Councilor Ballard: Well, the rules said we were supposed to get that document before we voted on it and we didn't. And, to me...

Councilor Dill: That did not mean that the Administrator wasn't supposed to talk to you, either, did it.

Councilor Roberts: He didn't talk to any of us. And the Chairman said he didn't know about it. You just said...Butch said he didn't know anything about it.

Councilor Ballard: The only person that I heard.

Councilor Dill: Well, we'll find out. Lie detector test.

Councilor Roberts: I didn't lie.

Councilor Ballard: The only person that I heard.

Councilor Dill: We'll find out.

Councilor Ballard: Mr. Dill, you said in the media that you were given a copy of that contract two days before the rest of us saw it.

Councilor Dill: That's right.

Councilor Roberts: None of us saw it.

Councilor Dill: Well, I thought everybody had either talked to the Administrator or not.

Councilor Ballard: Be that as it may, even if we're going to say this isn't the rule, the rule wasn't broken, whatever, it's common courtesy. To Dr. Fant's example of the group that sold a lot of Girl Scout cookies, as a courtesy to everybody else, everybody got a chance to see that Dr. Fant was going to recognize them. We got nothing. As I recall, the agenda for last week's meeting was that we were going to go into Executive Session to get legal advice concerning the contract. I had no idea we were going to get new contract.

Chairman Kirven: Mrs. Norris has a motion.

Action: Councilor Norris: I will make a motion to call the question.

Chairman Kirven: All right, without objection, we'll...

Councilor Fant: Roll call.

Chairman Kirven: Roll call. On Mrs. Norris' motion to approve the minutes for the Special Meeting.

Councilor Roberts: Did you vote to approve the minutes?

Chairman Kirven: She already made the motion. That's what we've been debating.

Councilor Norris: I made the motion to approve the question. If you don't want to do that just say otherwise.

Regina McCaskill: Mr. Roberts?

Chairman Kirven: Mr. Roberts?

Councilor Roberts: No.

Regina McCaskill: Dr. Taylor?

Councilor Taylor: Yes.

Regina McCaskill: Mrs. Norris?

Councilor Norris: Yes.

Regina McCaskill: Mrs. Seman?

Councilor Seman: Yes.

Regina McCaskill: Dr. Fant?

Councilor Fant: No.

Regina McCaskill: Mr. Ballard?

Councilor Ballard: No.

Regina McCaskill: Mr. Kirven?

Chairman Kirven: Yes.

Regina McCaskill: Mr. Tripp?

Councilor Tripp: Yes.

Regina McCaskill: Mr. Dill?

Councilor Dill: Yes.

Regina McCaskill: Mr. Barnes?

Councilor Barnes: Yes.

Regina McCaskill: Mr. Meadows?

Councilor Meadows: No.

Regina McCaskill: Dr. Cates?

Councilor Cates: Yes.

Regina McCaskill: Eight in favor, four opposed.

Chairman Kirven: Ok, We'll move forward on our agenda.

Verbatim discussion ended at this point.

Item (5) Proclamation

*** National Foundation for Women Legislators**

Chairman Kirven stated that on this day, the National Foundation for Women Legislators celebrated "Women in Public Office Day"; he recognized Councilor Xanthene Norris and Councilor Liz Seman. He stated the month of March was "Women's History Month" and celebrated significant contributions that women of all races, ethnicities and backgrounds had made to the world. Women played a critical role in the vitality and diversity of our communities and were essential in ensuring that Greenville County was well-represented.

While the 20th Century was a pivotal time of growth for women entering politics, women remain under-represented in male-dominated fields; providing opportunities to support women to public office was imperative.

Mr. Kirven stated that recognizing women in public office would bring awareness to the fundamental necessity of their work and would inspire other young people to serve their communities.

Mr. Kirven asked his colleagues to support the Proclamation and congratulate Councilor Norris and Councilor Seman.

a. Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month

Councilor Taylor presented a proclamation recognizing and commemorating March 2019 as "Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month." Mr. Taylor stated that bleeding disorders were characterized by the inability to form a proper blood clot and could lead to significant morbidity; bleeding disorders could be fatal if not treated effectively.

Mr. Taylor stated that increased knowledge of bleeding disorders would generate greater awareness and understanding of not only hemophilia but all inheritable bleeding disorders; a greater sense of community and shared purpose among individuals with inheritable bleeding disorders would be fostered by increased education.

Greenville County Council proclaimed March 2019 as "Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month."

Item (6) Public Hearings

a. 3M Company (formerly Project Midnight) / Fee in Lieu of Tax Agreement

A public hearing was held for the purpose of receiving comments from the public regarding an ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee in lieu of tax and special source credit agreement by and between Greenville County, South Carolina and 3M Company, with respect to certain economic development property in the County, whereby such property would be subject to certain payments in lieu of taxes, including the provision of certain special source credits; and other matters thereto.

There being no speakers, Councilor Taylor declared the public hearing closed.

Item (7) Appearances – current agenda items

There were no speakers.

Item (8) Consent Agenda

- a. Firehouse Sub Foundation Grant *(Finance)*
- b. Community Project Application / Berea Community Signage - \$1,000.00 *(Finance)*
- c. Community Project Application / Sound System for Berea High School Auditorium - \$1,000.00 *(Finance)*
- d. Community Project Application / Duncan Chapel Elementary Playground - \$2,000.00 *(Finance)*

Action: Councilor Meadows moved to approve the Consent Agenda Items.

Motion carried unanimously.

Item (9) Resolutions

- a. Greater Greenville Sanitation District Annexation / 3 Cunningham Road – Request for Public Hearing

Action: Councilor Seman moved for adoption a resolution to hold a public hearing to consider enlarging the Greater Greenville Sanitation District to include 3 Cunningham Road off Old Spartanburg Road.

Motion carried unanimously.

- b. Greater Greenville Sanitation District Annexation / 1090 Altamont Road – Request for Public Hearing

Action: Councilor Seman moved for adoption a resolution to hold a public hearing to consider enlarging the Greater Greenville Sanitation District to include 1090 Altamont Road.

Motion carried unanimously.

c. **Metropolitan Sewer Subdistrict Annexation / 110 Carolina Way – Request for Public Hearing**

Action: Councilor Seman moved for adoption a resolution to hold a public hearing to consider enlarging the Metropolitan Sewer Subdistrict to include the real property located at 110 Carolina Way.

Motion carried unanimously.

d. **Request for a Public Hearing Regarding the Issuance of a General Obligation Bond of the Berea Public Service District**

Action: Councilor Taylor moved for adoption a resolution calling for a public hearing to be held upon the question of the issuance of not exceeding \$2,000,000 of general obligation bonds of Berea Public Service District, South Carolina and to provide for the publication of the notice of such hearing.

Motion carried unanimously.

e. **Project Moonrise / Inducement Resolution**

Action: Councilor Taylor moved for adoption a resolution authorizing the execution and delivery of an inducement agreement by and between Greenville County, South Carolina and Project Moonrise, whereby, under certain conditions, Greenville County would execute a fee in lieu of tax agreement with respect to a Project in the County whereby the Project would be subject to payment of certain fees in lieu of taxes, and providing for related matters.

Motion carried unanimously.

Item (10) **Ordinances – Third Reading**

b. **3M Company (formerly Project Midnight) / Fee in Lieu of Tax Agreement**

Action: Councilor Seman moved for adoption at third reading an ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee in lieu of tax and special source credit agreement by and between Greenville County, South Carolina and 3M Company with respect to certain economic development property in the County, whereby such property would be subject to certain payments in lieu of taxes, including the provision of certain special source credits; and other matters related thereto.

Motion carried unanimously.

Item (11) **Ordinances – Second Reading**

a. **Zoning Ordiances**

1. **CZ-2019-14:** Property of Bobby M. (II) and Lisa P. Safrit, located on Wood Duck Way, requesting rezoning from R-12 to R-S. The Planning Commission and Committee recommended approval.

Action: On behalf of the Committee, Councilor Dill moved approval of the ordinance at second reading.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. **CZ-2019-15:** Property of C. Louise Kerr, located at 115 Farris Bridge Road, requesting rezoning from C-1 to R-12. The Planning Commission and Committee recommended approval.

Action: On behalf of the Committee, Councilor Dill moved approval of the ordinance at second reading.

Motion carried unanimously.

3. **CZ-2019-17:** Property of Allsum LLC, located at 334 White Horse Road, requesting rezoning from C-2 to S-1. The Planning Commission and Committee recommended denial.

Action: On behalf of the Committee, Councilor Dill moved approval of the ordinance at second reading.

Motion was denied with Councilor Ballard voting in favor of the proposed.

4. **CZ-2019-18:** Property of SJJ Property Development LLC, and Business Park Properties, LLC, located on Fork Shoals Road, requesting rezoning from C-2 to S-1. The Planning Commission and Committee recommended approval.

Action: On behalf of the Committee, Councilor Dill moved approval of the ordinance at second reading.

Motion carried unanimously.

5. **CZ-2019-19:** Property of NWH Properties LP, Moonville Investment Co. LLC and Rural Renaissance LLC, located on Augusta Road, Ray Road and Carr Road, requesting rezoning from R-R1 to BTB. The Planning Commission and Committee recommended approval.

Action: On behalf of the Committee, Councilor Dill moved approval of the ordinance at second reading.

Motion carried unanimously.

b. Greenville County Comprehensive Plan Amendment / City View Community Plan (CP-2019-02)

Action: Councilor Dill moved for approval at second reading an ordinance to adopt the City View Community Plan as an amendment to the Imagine Greenville County Comprehensive Plan. The Planning Commission and Committee recommended approval.

Motion carried unanimously.

c. Sale of County Owned Property / 1501 W. Washington Street

Action: Councilor Seman moved for approval at second reading an ordinance to authorize the sale and transfer of county owned property located at 1501 W. Washington Street, Greenville, South Carolina 29601, to the Greater Greenville Sanitation District.

Motion carried unanimously.

Item (12) Ordinances – First Reading

a. Zoning Ordinances

Councilor Dill presented for first reading Zoning Dockets CZ-2019-20 through CZ-2019-26.

Chairman Kirven referred the items to the Planning and Development Committee.

b. Berea Public Service District / \$2,000,000 General Obligation Bond Issuance

Councilor Seman presented for first reading an ordinance finding that the Berea Public Service District, South Carolina may issue not exceeding \$2,000,000 general obligation bonds; to authorize Berea Public Service Commission to issue such bonds and to provide for the publication of notice of the said finding and authorization.

Chairman Kirven stated the item would remain on the floor.

c. Project Moonrise / Fee in Lieu of Tax Agreement

Councilor Seman presented for first reading an ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee in lieu of tax agreement by and between Greenville County, South Carolina and a company or companies known to the County at this time as Project Moonrise, with respect to certain economic development property in the County, whereby such property would be subject to certain payments in lieu of taxes; and other matters related thereto.

Chairman Kirven stated the item would remain on the floor.

Item (13) Committee Reports

a. Committee of the Whole

1. Colonial Pipeline Company v. SCDOR

Action: On behalf of the Committee, Vice-Chairman Meadows moved to direct the County Attorney to undertake all necessary actions to intervene on behalf of Greenville County in the Colonial Pipeline SCDOT litigation.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Board and Commission Appointments

Action: On behalf of the Committee, Vice-Chairman Meadows moved to close nominations for the Greenville County Planning Commission and elect the following by acclamation: John Bailey, Ellis Forest and Mark Jones.

Motion carried unanimously.

Item (14) Appearances by Citizens

- **Ed Paxton**, 1 York Circle, Greenville – appeared regarding Council’s behavior at last week’s Special Called Meeting
- **Johnny Gregory**, 2504 Wade Hampton Blvd., Greenville – appeared regarding Artists Skilled Trade Center
- **Lisa Sweeney**, 405 Windy Meadow Way, Simpsonville – appeared regarding government integrity
- **Daniel Gamble**, 110 Springbrook Drive, Greenville – appeared regarding planning and community development

Item (15) Administrator's Report

Joe Kernell stated he wanted to follow-up on an email sent to Council regarding a request from Greenlink to increase its current year funding in the amount of \$147,875; this would increase the current year funding of \$451,223 to \$599,098. The increase was necessary to cover the required employer contributions to the State Retirement Fund, increased employee health insurance costs as well as anticipated increases in fuel and parts expenses. Mr. Kernell stated he verified the City of Greenville had increased funding to address its portion of the request. He added direction from Council was needed regarding whether to approve the request or not.

Councilor Cates inquired if the requested amount of \$147,875 was the total amount needed.

Mr. Kernell stated Greenlink had requested \$295,750; a total of \$147,875 from both the City of Greenville and the County.

Councilor Cates stated the amount needed for the retirement system was mandated by the state. He inquired about the timeline to provide the requested money.

Mr. Kernell stated by the end of the current fiscal year; however, Greenlink needed money fairly soon.

Councilor Seman stated she was in favor of providing the requested funds; however, she requested Council consider various options to fully fund Greenlink's request as outlined in the October presentation. It might not make sense for the County to fully fund GTA's request but she would like to see the figures.

Councilor Cates stated the total amount requested by Greenlink was \$8.9 million over two (2) years.

Councilor Taylor asked if the request would be considered a Supplemental Appropriation.

Mr. Kernell stated the funds could be taken out of a non-departmental account.

Councilor Ballard asked what the procedure would be to fulfill the request.

Councilor Taylor stated it could be a change in a line item.

Mr. Tollison suggested the request be presented to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Kernell stated he was trying to fulfill the request as soon as possible and could do so by Council giving their approval via email; the item could also be presented to the Finance Committee, if Council preferred.

The item was referred to the Finance Committee.

Item (16) Requests and Motions by Council Members

- Vice-Chairman Meadows requested the discussion regarding the approval of minutes be recorded verbatim in the minutes.
- Councilor Dill thanked Councilor Barnes for conducting the Planning & Development meeting and the Zoning Public Hearing while he attended a conference in Washington. Mr. Dill stated he felt a lot was accomplished and he hoped the County would see the "fruits of our labor" in the coming months.

- Councilor Ballard stated the Greenville Housing Trust Fund recently hired a new CEO after months of searching; Mr. Ballard gave a brief overview of the corporation. Mr. Ballard requested the appointment of Debra McKetty, the former director of Community Works, as the second County representative on the board.

Mr. Ballard thanked ACOG for assisting with an issue regarding a bridge located in his district.

Mr. Ballard stated he had received a request for budget information from a citizen; he referred the individual to Bob Mihalic, Governmental Relations Officer.

- Councilor Fant commended the members of Vision 25 who were in attendance.

Mr. Fant stated when he ran for Council he was under the impression it was a deliberative body but he was wrong. There were currently 250,000 people in Greenville County with no representation. He stated that "taxation without representation is tyranny." Mr. Fant stated six of the twelve Council members had openly abdicated their fiduciary obligation to their constituents. He added he was on no "individual's train" or no "personality's train."

- Councilor Seman also thanked the members of Vision 25 in attendance and for taking the time to attend Council meetings. She encouraged all citizens of Greenville County to be inspired by the members of Vision 25 and the difference they were making.

Ms. Seman stated SCTAC was very excited about the 3M Corporation's decision to invest \$60 million in its manufacturing capacity.

- Councilor Roberts commended Administrator Joe Kernell for bringing in a group to study the salaries of county employees. He added that public safety was the number one priority for the county; Sheriff Brown had laid out very clearly the need for higher law enforcement salaries. He added the County was losing deputies to other counties and was unable to recruit individuals as the salaries were not competitive with surrounding counties.
- Councilor Norris stated something had to be done to assist GTA. She added that although a lot had been done for the Phillis Wheatley Center there was still much more to do; there were many other projects that also needed to be completed in the County.
- Councilor Dill requested 30 seconds for a Point of Personal Privilege. He reminded everyone that for two years, his district and Mr. Meadows' district had no representation when they were stripped of their chairmanships.
- The following was recorded verbatim at Chairman Kirven's request:

"As Council members, our job is to listen and learn (we are doing a lot of that lately) - and to represent everyone - not just our districts, but everyone in the county - in using the resources given to us by the people to help make life better everywhere in the County.

This is hard work because our desires (aspirations) are always greater than our resources. Teamwork and cooperation are essential - not just among Council members, but with other levels of government, and with the people and organizations of all kinds. Invectives do not help anyone. We all make mistakes, but the way forward is best told by this quote by President Abraham Lincoln:

We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained, it must not break our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory will swell when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature."

- Councilor Cates wished Vice-Chairman Meadows a Happy Birthday.

Item (17) **Adjournment**

Action: Councilor Roberts moved to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Regina G. McCaskill, Clerk to Council