



GREENVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes

Regular Meeting

August 20, 2019

6:05 p.m.

County Square – Council Chambers

301 University Ridge

Greenville, South Carolina 29601

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. 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

Liz Seman, *District 24*

Staff Present

Joe Kernell, *County Administrator*

Mark Tollison, *County Attorney*

Jeff Wile, *Assistant County Attorney*

John Hansley, *Deputy County Administrator*

Regina McCaskill, *Clerk to Council*

Jessica Stone, *Deputy Clerk to Council*

Paula Gucker, *Assistant County Administrator, Public Works*

John Vandermosten, *Assistant County Administrator, Public Safety*

Nicole Wood, *Assistant to the County Administrator*

Bob Mihalic, *Governmental Relations Officer*

Others Present

None

Call to Order

Chairman Kirven

Invocation – *Introduced by Councilor Ennis Fant*

Pastor Douglas Simmons
Shady Oak Missionary Baptist Church

Pledge of Allegiance

Item (4) Approval of Minutes

Action: Councilor Dill moved to approve the minutes of the July 16, 2019, Regular Council Meeting.

Motion carried unanimously by Council Members present.

Item (5) Proclamations

a. Release-Time Education Month

Councilor Cates presented a proclamation recognizing that the free exercise of religion was an important right for public school students in Greenville County. He stated that Release-Time education was a way for public school students to attend classes in religious instruction during the school day and receive Carnegie unit credits for these classes. In 1952, the United States Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of Release-Time programs for religious instruction; the General Assembly enacted the “South Carolina Release-Time Credit Act” in 2006. Mr. Cates stated participation in Release-Time classes allowed students to gain valuable knowledge and broader instruction on religious studies that were not otherwise available in the public school system.

The members of Greenville County Council proclaimed August 2019 as “Release-Time Education Month” in Greenville County.

b. Rivers of Life Family Church

Councilor Fant presented a proclamation to Rivers of Life Family Church which was established in 1996 as a non-denominational church for all people. The church was comprised of members with a variety of backgrounds, coming together with one common bond and purpose; to magnify and worship the Lord Jesus Christ.

Mr. Fant stated Rivers of Life Family Church was re-established as an international organization when its ministry spread abroad thanks to the dedicated service of its pastors, Dr. John and Betty Jo Duncan, who have more than 70 years of ministerial experience combined. The mission of the Rivers of Life Family Church International was to establish a place where lives were guaranteed to be changed, charged and challenged through the preaching, teaching and demonstration of the Word of God.

Neighborhoods around White Horse Road, Piedmont Manor, Grove Station, Judson Community, West Greenville Apartments, Highland Apartments and Brutontown Community have been served and witnessed to as the church relocated around the county. The congregation of the Rivers of Life Family Church International moved to their current location at 4161 White Horse Road, and are dedicating their building to the work of God; reaching the lost, feeding the hungry and serving their fellow man.

Greenville County Council recognized and proclaimed August 20, 2019, as “Rivers of Life Family Church Day” in Greenville County.

Item (6) Public Hearings

a. Lake Cunningham Fire District / Millage Request

A public hearing was held for the purpose of receiving comments from the public regarding a resolution to provide for continuation of current ad valorem property tax to be levied by the Lake Cunningham Fire District.

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

b. Boiling Springs Fire District / Millage Request

A public hearing was held for the purpose of receiving comments from the public regarding a resolution to provide for continuation of current ad valorem property tax to be levied by the Boiling Springs Fire District.

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

c. South Greenville Fire District / Millage Request

A public hearing was held for the purpose of receiving comments from the public regarding a resolution to provide for continuation of current ad valorem property tax to be levied by the South Greenville Fire District.

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

d. Dunklin Fire District / Millage Request

A public hearing was held for the purpose of receiving comments from the public regarding a resolution to provide for continuation of current ad valorem property tax to be levied by the Dunklin Fire District.

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

e. Greater Greenville Sanitation District / Budget and Fees

A public hearing was held for the purpose of receiving comments from the public regarding a resolution to provide for the millage rate to be levied by the Greater Greenville Sanitation District.

- **Ed Paxton**, 1 York Circle, Greenville – appeared in favor of the proposed.

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

Item (7) Appearances – current agenda items

- **John Cerchio**, 118 Hazeldeen Place, Simpsonville – appeared regarding Item 12.i. Consolidation of Wastewater Collection and Treatment

- **David Babb**, 100 Deer Thicket Way, Taylors – appeared regarding Item 12.i. Consolidation of Wastewater Collection and Treatment
- **Michael Stansell**, 432 Robert P. Jeanes Road, Easley – appeared regarding Item 12.i. Consolidation of Wastewater Collection and Treatment
- **Gary Buice**, 285 Old Batson Road, Taylors – appeared regarding Item 12.i. Consolidation of Wastewater Collection and Treatment
- **Stephanie Hackler**, 16 Shadow Lane, Taylors – appeared regarding Item 12.i. Consolidation of Wastewater Collection and Treatment
- **Samantha Babb**, 100 Deer Thicket Way, Taylors – appeared regarding Item 12.i. Consolidation of Wastewater Collection and Treatment
- **Mark Rea**, 611 Creighton Drive, Taylors – appeared regarding Item 12.i. Consolidation of Wastewater Collection and Treatment
- **Jeffrey Hannah**, 611 Chick Springs Road, Taylors – appeared regarding Item 12.i. Consolidation of Wastewater Collection and Treatment

Item (7) Consent Agenda

- a. **Initiate Taylors Main Street Development District** (*P & D*)
- b. **FY 2020 – FY 2021 Road Paving List** (*PWI*)
- c. **Commissioning of Code Enforcement Officers** (*PWI*)

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

Motion carried unanimously by Council Members present.

Item (9) Resolutions

- a. **Greater Greenville Sanitation District Annexation / 517 Havenhurst Drive, 1089 Park West Boulevard and Old Howell Road located off East North Street – Request for Public Hearing**

Action: Councilor Tripp moved for adoption a resolution to hold a public hearing to consider enlarging the Greater Greenville Sanitation District to include 517 Havenhurst Drive, 1089 Park West Boulevard and Old Howell Road located off East North Street.

Motion carried unanimously by Council Members present.

b. Metropolitan Sewer Subdistrict Annexation / 130 Sweeney Road and 136 Sweeney Road – Request for Public Hearing

Action: Councilor Tripp moved for adoption a resolution to hold a public hearing to consider enlarging the Metropolitan Sewer Subdistrict to include the real property located at 130 Sweeney Road and 136 Sweeney Road.

Motion carried unanimously by Council Members present.

c. Project Yellow / 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 Yellow, whereby, under certain conditions, Greenville County would execute a fee in lieu of tax and special source credit agreement with respect to an industrial project in the County whereby the project would be subject to payment of certain fees in lieu of taxes, and whereby Project/Company would be provided certain credits against fee payments in reimbursement of investment in related qualified infrastructure; and providing for related matters.

Motion carried unanimously by Council Members present.

d. Project Alloy / Inducement Resolution

Action: Councilor Taylor moved for adoption a resolution authorizing, under certain conditions, the execution and delivery by Greenville County, South Carolina of a fee in lieu of tax agreement with Project Alloy with respect to an industrial project in the County whereby the Project would be subject to payment of certain fees in lieu of taxes, and whereby Project Alloy would be provided certain credits against fee payments in reimbursement of investment in related qualified infrastructure; and providing for related matters.

Motion carried unanimously by Council Members present.

e. Special Purpose Districts / Millage Request

Action: Councilor Taylor moved for adoption a resolution to provide for continuation of current ad valorem property tax to be levied by the Lake Cunningham Fire District, the South Greenville Fire District, the Boiling Springs Fire District and the Dunklin Fire District.

Motion carried unanimously by Council Members present.

f. Greater Greenville Sanitation District / Budget and Fees

Action: Councilor Taylor moved for adoption a resolution to provide for the millage rate to be levied by the Greater Greenville Sanitation District.

Motion carried unanimously by Council Members present.

g. CH2M / Ratification of Assignment & Assumption

Action: Councilor Taylor moved for adoption a resolution to ratify the assignment and assumption of rights under a fee-in-lieu of tax agreement with Greenville County, South Carolina by ET III Greenville, LLC to National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying, and certain other matters related thereto.

Motion carried unanimously by Council Members present.

Item (10) Ordinances – Third Reading

a. Zoning Ordinances

- i. CZ-2019-38:** Property of Sara J. Lambert and Bobby Gene Jones, et al, located on Farris Bridge Road and Berea Heights Road, requesting rezoning from R-12 to FRD as amended.

Action: Councilor Dill moved adoption of the ordinance at third reading.

Motion carried unanimously by Council Members present.

b. Greenville County Land Development Amendment / Financial Securities

Action: Councilor Dill moved for adoption at third reading an ordinance to amend Section 3.4.3 “Financial Security Requirements” of the Greenville County Land Development Regulations to allow for letters of credit to be issued by federally insured financial institutions.

Motion carried unanimously by Council Members present.

c. FY 2021 Budget Ordinance for Greenville County

Action: Vice-Chairman Meadows moved for adoption at third reading an ordinance to approve the FY 2021 Budget for Greenville County.

Motion carried unanimously by Council Members present.

d. Tigerville Fire District / Millage Request

Action: Vice-Chairman Meadows moved for adoption at third reading ordinance to provide for the millage rate to be levied in the Tigerville Fire District.

Motion carried unanimously by Council Members present.

e. **Windstone Special Tax District / Millage Request**

Action: Vice-Chairman Meadows moved for adoption at third reading an ordinance to provide for the millage rate to be levied in the Windstone Special Tax District.

Motion carried unanimously by Council Members present.

Item (11) Ordinances – Second Reading

a. **Zoning Ordinances**

i. **CZ-2019-28:** Property of Saad Holdings LLC and Carmic LLC, located on Donaldson Road and Cedar Avenue, requesting rezoning from R-MA 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 by Council Members present.

ii. **CZ-2019-40:** Property of Randall H. Faulk, located at 1009 N. Parker Road, requesting rezoning from R-10 to R-S. 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 unanimously by Council Members present.

iii. **CZ-2019-41:** Property of Harry R. Phillips and Martin Phillips, POA, located on Augusta Road and Ray Road, requesting rezoning from R-R1 to BT-D. The Planning Commission and Committee recommended approval with conditions.

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

Action: Councilor Dill moved to amend the request to include to the following condition:

- *Prior to submittal of any permit, sewer service and capacity will need to be verified by the servicing sewer district.*

Motion to amend carried unanimously by Council Members present.

Action: Councilor Dill moved approval of the ordinance as amended.

Motion as amended carried unanimously by Council Members present.

- iv. **CZ-2019-42:** Property of Simon Tuohy and Rob Howell, Walter Dagger LLC, Water Tower Greenways LLC and Oceana Rapid LLC, located at 1320 Hampton Avenue Extension, West Washington Street, Cedar Lane Court and Buncombe Road, requesting rezoning from I-1 and S-1 to FRD. The Planning Commission and Committee recommended approval with conditions.

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

Action: Councilor Dill moved to amend the request to include to the following conditions:

- *Provide the required use table, to identify the list of uses and square footage of what currently exists on site along with the proposed uses to ensure adequate parking calculations are being met per these parking ratios.*
- *Add the additional maximum outdoor event space into the Statement of Intent, along with changing the overall commercial square footage on the Concept Plan and Statement of Intent.*
- *Provide on the Concept Plan and in the Statement of Intent some type of architecturally appropriate fixture, such as bollards, fencing or other materials, along the Swamp Rabbit Trail to ensure vehicles are not able to access it where the property abuts.*
- *Revise the Concept Plan and Statement of Intent for the required parking for multifamily residential to 320 parking spaces.*
- *Provide a road connection to the northwest parcel, Woodfield Apartments identified as parcel 0140000100101.*
- *All on-street parking will be private and maintained by the Hampton Station POA.*
- *For any new or proposed commercial/retail space provide an updated TIS per the agreed upon TIAS Study Addendum #1 dated July 10, 2019, from Short Engineering and Consulting, LLC and Seamon Whiteside and Associates stating that, "when any additional development, including up-fits of existing space, (residential, commercial, etc.) is proposed within the overall Hampton Station development or when/if any existing uses are proposed for re-development, an updated TIAS will be completed to assess potential traffic/transportation impacts."*

Motion to amend carried unanimously by Council Members present.

Action: Councilor Dill moved approval of the ordinance as amended.

Motion as amended carried unanimously by Council Members present.

- v. **CZ-2019-44:** Property of 1893 LLC, located at 2728 Poinsett Highway, requesting rezoning from C-1 to C-3. 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 by Council Members present.

- vi. **CZ-2019-45:** Property of Smith Road Investments and Hartness Development, Inc., located at 3500 S. Highway 14, requesting rezoning from PD to PD (Major Change). The Planning Commission and Committee recommended approval with conditions.

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

Action: Councilor Dill moved to amend the request to include to the following condition:

- *Change Baron Drive on the concept plans to show as a private drive to match the approved subdivision preliminary plan PP-2019-052.*

Motion to amend carried unanimously by Council Members present.

Action: Councilor Dill moved approval of the ordinance as amended.

Motion as amended carried unanimously by Council Members present.

- vii. **CZ-2019-46:** Property of Daryl Bryan Huskey, located at 425 Feaster Road, requesting rezoning from I-1 to C-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 by Council Members present.

- viii. **CZ-2019-47:** Property of Bess M. Hall, located on Locust Hill Road and North Buncombe Road, requesting rezoning from R-20 to C-3. The Planning Commission recommended denial and the Committee recommended approval.

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

Councilor Barnes stated he was in favor of the request and encouraged his colleagues to support the ordinance.

Motion carried unanimously by Council Members present.

- ix. **CZ-2019-48:** Property of Sunnie M. Thomason, located on Roy Thomason Road, requesting rezoning from PD 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 by Council Members present.

- x. **CZ-2019-49:** Property of Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, located on Hampton Avenue Extension, requesting rezoning from I-1 to FRD. The Planning Commission and Committee recommended approval with conditions.

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

Action: Councilor Dill moved to amend the request to include to the following conditions:

- *State in the Statement of Intent the number of parking spaces being provided on site.*
- *Remove fencing from this project.*
- *Take out the following verbiage "from this report" in the Statement of Intent to read, "A traffic study has been performed to support this use and any recommended mitigation measures will be constructed prior to the issuance of any building permit."*
- *On the Concept Plan call out all open areas as "common space."*
- *On the Concept Plan provide a table providing the total square footage of the project.*
- *Provide a second access into the proposed development. If the second access is not able to be provided through connecting into parcel 0140000100100 (Hampton Station), a secondary access will still need to be provided for this development on to Hampton Avenue Extension.*

Motion to amend carried unanimously by Council Members present.

Action: Councilor Dill moved approval of the ordinance as amended.

Motion as amended carried unanimously by Council Members present.

- xi. CZ-2019-50:** Property of 33 Stevens Street LLC, located at 33 Stevens Street and Emery Street, requesting rezoning from I-1 to C-3. 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 by Council Members present.

- xii. CZ-2019-51:** Property of Greenville Health Authority, Scuffletown CCC LLC, Greenville Tennis Club LLC, and Bobby M. Safrit II, located on Adams Mill and Scuffletown Roads, requesting rezoning from PD to PD (Major Change). The Planning Commission and Committee recommended approval with conditions.

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

Action: Councilor Dill moved to amend the request to include to the following condition:

- *Make the changes identified in the letter dated June 19, 2019 from Sarah Holt, Planning Director to Mark Curtis, Greenville Health Systems, previously presented and agreed upon, prior to any submittal of a Final Development Plan. (A copy of the letter was placed at each Council member's seat.)*

Motion to amend carried unanimously by Council Members present.

Action: Councilor Dill moved approval of the ordinance as amended.

Motion as amended carried unanimously by Council Members present.

b. Greenville County Comprehensive Plan Amendment / Monaghan Community Plan (CP-2019-04)

Action: Councilor Dill moved for approval at second reading an ordinance to adopt the Monaghan Community Plan as an amendment to the Imagine Greenville County Comprehensive Plan.

Motion carried unanimously by Council Members present.

c. Abandoned Textile Mill Site Certification / Taylors Village

Action: Vice-Chairman Meadows moved for approval at second reading an ordinance to certify Taylors Village as a Textile Mill Site under the South Carolina Textiles Communities Revitalization Act.

Motion carried unanimously by Council Members present.

d. Project Field / Fee in Lieu of Tax Agreement

Action: Vice-Chairman Meadows moved for approval at second 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 known to the County at this time as Project Field 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.

Motion carried unanimously by Council Members present.

Item (12) Ordinances – First Reading

a. Zoning Ordinances

Councilor Dill presented for first reading Zoning Dockets CZ-2019-52 through CZ-2019-60 and CZ-2019-63.

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

b. Greenville / Anderson Multi County Industrial Business Park Agreement Amendment – Project MCPend

Vice-Chairman Meadows presented for first reading an ordinance to amend an agreement for the development of a joint county industrial and business park (2010 Park) of Greenville and Anderson County so as to enlarge the park.

Chairman Kirven stated the item would remain on the floor.

c. Greenville / Anderson Multi County Industrial Business Park Agreement Amendment – Project Swan

Vice-Chairman Meadows presented for first reading an ordinance to amend an agreement for the development of a joint county industrial and business park (2010 Park) of Greenville and Anderson Counties so as to enlarge the park to include certain parcels related to Project Swan.

Chairman Kirven stated the item would remain on the floor.

d. Sale of County Owned Property – River Road

Vice-Chairman Meadows presented for first reading an ordinance to authorize the sale and transfer of five parcels of real property owned by the Greenville County Sheriff's Office on Lake Cunningham located at 1020, 1020-a, 1022, 1022-a, 1024 and 1024-a River Road in Greer, South Carolina.

Chairman Kirven stated the item would remain on the floor.

e. Foothills Fire Service Area / Continuation of Current Millage

Vice-Chairman Meadows presented for first reading an ordinance to provide for the millage rate to be levied by the Foothills Fire Service Area.

Chairman Kirven stated the item would remain on the floor.

f. Project Yellow / Fee In Lieu of Tax Agreement and Special Source Revenue Credit Agreement

Vice-Chairman Meadows 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 Yellow, 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.

Chairman Kirven stated the item would remain on the floor.

g. Project Alloy / Fee In Lieu of Tax Agreement and Special Source Revenue Credit Agreement

Vice-Chairman Meadows 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 known to the County at this time as Project Alloy 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.

Chairman Kirven stated the item would remain on the floor.

h. Greenville / Anderson Multi County Industrial Business Park Agreement Amendment – Project Alloy

Vice-Chairman Meadows presented for first reading an ordinance to amend an agreement for the development of a joint county industrial and business park (2010 Park) of Anderson and Greenville Counties so as to enlarge the park to include certain property of Project Alloy.

Chairman Kirven stated the item would remain on the floor.

i. Consolidation of Wastewater Collection and Treatment

Per notice provided on the agenda, Councilor Tripp presented for first reading an ordinance to initiate the consolidation of wastewater collection and treatment in the unincorporated area of the County where the present boundaries of the Metropolitan Sewer Subdistrict were shared with Renewable Water Resources (“ReWa”); to provide for a plan of consolidation for the special purpose districts involved in wastewater purposes; and to approve any necessary intergovernmental agreements related to the consolidation.

Councilor Ballard stated he was aware there would be no discussion on the item; however, he indicated he objected to the proposed ordinance being sent to committee. Mr. Ballard stated the ordinance was “in title” only; no plan was presented. According to Council rules (Section 4.b.1.), “All ordinances presented to Council for First Reading shall substantially set forth its subject to matter in the body of said ordinance. Ordinances may be presented for First Reading just by title/caption only upon the approval of the Chairman and with prior Council notice of the reason for omitting the body of said ordinance.” Councilor Ballard stated he had seen no explanation as to why the ordinance was presented “in title” only.

Chairman Kirven stated the item would be referred to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee for further study with no timeline imposed. When the committee was ready to make a recommendation on the ordinance, Mr. Kirven stated it was his intent to recommend the item be sent to the Committee of the Whole for further deliberation.

Councilor Ballard stated he appreciated Chairman Kirven’s comments but he still objected to the ordinance presented as “title only.”

Chairman Kirven stated he appreciated Mr. Ballard’s objection and asked Mark Tollison if he would like to comment on the issue.

Mr. Tollison stated a point of order had been raised and it was the Chairman’s call.

Chairman Kirven asked if the item was validly placed on the agenda.

Mr. Tollison stated the item met all requirements for the presentation of a “title only” ordinance as set forth by precedence.

Chairman Kirven stated he did not feel that anyone envisioned reaching a final solution during the evening’s meeting. Mr. Kirven stated it was a service to the rest of Council and the community at large to send the item, which had been brought forth by citizens, to committee for further review.

Inclusion and input from the citizens and other stakeholders was also necessary before a final decision could be made regarding the item; the best way to do that was to send the item to the committee.

Councilor Roberts inquired if it could be stated that, for the record, that most of Council was not consulted prior to the meeting about the proposed ordinance and neither were the special purpose districts.

Chairman Kirven stated that would be acceptable and added that he had no prior knowledge of the proposed ordinance. Any Council Member had the ability to present an ordinance; it did not mean it was approved. Mr. Kirven stated Council could “shut” the item down, as well as the citizens, but he would not recommend the action. His ruling stood to support Councilor Tripp’s proposed ordinance to see if it could be developed into something that was beneficial to Greenville County.

Vice-Chairman Meadows inquired about referring the item to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee and then referring it to the Committee of the Whole.

Chairman Kirven stated that would only be a request and not a directive; it would only be fair to Council to recommend the item to the Committee of the Whole as every Council Member represented citizens with an interest in the matter.

Vice-Chairman Meadows stated that would be true if the item came back for Second Reading, which was normal procedure. Mr. Meadows suggested following normal procedure.

Chairman Kirven stated his intention was to proceed with an abundance of caution and provide an abundance of opportunities for the community to weigh in on the issue. Mr. Kirven stated if he was “off-base” Council could “short circuit” his ruling. He stated he was requesting the item be referred to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee for an initial workup, if warranted by the committee. Nothing was final from any committee; if the item developed into an ordinance Council would have the opportunity to “pick it apart”, “put it together”, “vote it up”, “vote it down” or “send it over the hill.”

Vice-Chairman Meadows thanked Chairman Kirven for clarifying the ruling.

Item (13) Committee Reports

No report.

Item (14) Appearances by Citizens

- **Cynthia Chance**, 33 Seyle Street, Greenville – appeared regarding the Dunean Community and the Greenville County Sheriff’s Department
- **Bruce Wilson**, 14 Freestone Street, Greenville – appeared regarding proposed ordinance
- **Johnny Gregory**, 2504 Wade Hampton Boulevard, Greenville – appeared regarding the STEAM Center

Item (15) Administrator’s Report

No report.

Item (16) Requests and Motions by Council Members

- Councilor Tripp stated there had been some misinformation about the title of the proposed wastewater collection and treatment ordinance (Item 12.i.). He was unable to contact his colleagues in advance of the meeting due to dental surgery. He wanted to have a conversation of sewer consolidation for two reasons:

- 1) It would protect the taxpayers; there had been a lot of angst about rate increases by Metro. He did not think Metro was the only sewer authority that promoted angst among fixed income and rate payers in their districts. It was his belief that sewer services were a basic, fundamental function of county government; the citizens of Greenville County deserved an efficient system that “makes sense.” Mr. Tripp stated no one would design a system like the one currently in place. The taxpayers were at the forefront of why he had introduced the proposed ordinance.
- 2) Consolidation of the sewer system would promote rational growth and economic development. The current “patchwork” of sewer authority processes put Greenville County at a disadvantage when compared to other counties; it also created uncertainty for business investment and disconnected the county from the rational, comprehensive process that was currently underway.

Mr. Tripp stated he held no animus toward any of the sewer authorities; he simply wanted to have a conversation about how Greenville County could do better with sewer authority and services. He added the topic had been discussed for at least 2 -3 years; he pledged to his constituents that he would support a hard look at consolidation of sewer services.

- Councilor Ballard stated that when companies merged, it always caused the employees to worry about job security. He stated it was not “good form” to introduce the proposed ordinance with no forewarning to Council, the sewer authorities or the citizens.

Mr. Ballard added he had attended the christening of new fire equipment at various fire districts located in the southern part of the County; there was plenty of new equipment available to keep good fire protection.

- Councilor Fant stated he was not going to comment on Councilor Tripp’s proposed ordinance but he did feel Council needed to give it some serious thought. Mr. Fant stated he liked the “deliberative process”; one of his colleague’s statements may change his mind on an issue.

With all the rapid growth in Greenville County, there continued to be upward pressure on rent and housing. Mr. Fant stated the public did not understand that Greenville County was not responsible for housing; however, it was important to help the public understand that the county had no control over a private owner making changes to rental properties. He added there continued to be a need for transitional housing; Council may need to talk with GCRA regarding the issue.

- Councilor Taylor stated that while there were traffic problems in Greenville County, they did not compare to the traffic on I-95, especially from Philadelphia to southern Virginia.
- Councilor Norris thanked Parks, Recreation and Tourism for such successful summer programs.
- Councilor Cates stated he recently learned that the Sheriff in Charlotte was not allowing ICE to arrest illegals; he did not want to see Greenville County follow in the same direction.
- Councilor Barnes thanked Taylors Sewer Subdistrict, as well as all the other Special Purpose Districts, for all of their hard work. Mr. Barnes stated he recognized there were some issues with Taylors Fire District but hoped everything would be resolved soon.
- Councilor Dill stated he was proud to be a part of County Council.

Mr. Dill wished Councilor Barnes a Happy Birthday.

Item (16) Adjournment

Action: Councilor Dill moved to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously by Council Members present and the meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Regina G. McCaskill
Clerk to Council