

MINUTES  
GREENVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
SEPTEMBER 9, 2019  
CONFERENCE ROOM D  
5:00 P.M.

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

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

CHAIRMAN TAYLOR  
SID CATES  
BUTCH KIRVEN  
WILLIS MEADOWS  
LIZ SEMAN

**COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:**

XANTHENE NORRIS

**OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

LYNN BALLARD

**STAFF PRESENT:**

JOHN HANSLEY, DEPUTY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
REGINA MCCASKILL, CLERK TO COUNCIL  
VANESSA PAYNE, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT  
MARK TOLLISON, COUNTY ATTORNEY

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Taylor called the Finance Committee meeting to order.

**INVOCATION:**

Councilor Meadows provided the invocation.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Councilor Meadows moved to approve the minutes of August 26, 2019 and September 3, 2019. The motion carried unanimously.

**SLATER MARIETTA FIRE DEPARTMENT – MILLAGE INCREASE:**

The Slater-Marietta Fire Department requests a 11 mill increase in its tax rate consisting of 1.8 mills which represents the consumer price index and population growth lookback as allowed by S.C. Code § 6-1-320(A), and 9.2 mills for the maintenance of a reserve account as allowed under S.C. Code § 6-1-320(D).

Chief Cruell was present to answer questions of the committee.

Councilor Kirven moved to approve the 11 mill increase for the Slater-Marietta Fire Department. The motion carried unanimously.

**STERLING SPECIAL TAX DISTRICT – MILLAGE INCREASE:**

Sterling Special Tax District is requesting a millage increase 16 mills which represents an ad valorem property tax increase of 8.8 mills for operational maintenance of the District and a one-time ad valorem property tax millage of 7.2 mills to cure a deficiency. The millage increase will allow district to cover the cost of operations and lighting. This item was referred back to the Finance Committee from the Council floor.

Dorothy Russell, Sterling Neighborhood Association was present to discuss the request and answer questions of the committee.

John Hansley, Deputy County Administrator was present to answer questions of the committee.

The deficit will be handled by Bon Secours, the millage increase was amended to 10.5 which represents an ad valorem tax increase. Staff will request that the Auditor delay sending out the tax notices.

Councilor Meadows moved to amend the request to approve a 10.5 mill increase. The amendment to the motion carried unanimously. Councilor Meadows moved to approve a 10.5 mill increase for the Sterling Special Tax District and schedule a public hearing. The motion also includes an allowance for amendments at third reading. The motion carried unanimously.

**HOSPITALITY TAX FUNDS REQUEST FOR THE SOUTH CAROLINA CHILDREN'S THEATRE:**

Council provided H-Tax funding to the South Carolina Children's in the amount of \$250,000 on March 7, 2017. The S.C. Children's Theatre is requesting an additional \$250,000 in H-Tax funding.

Mary Adams, Development Director was present to answer questions of the committee.

Councilor Kirven moved to approve the funding request for \$250,000 for the S.C. Children's Theatre. Councilor Meadows moved to hold the request until the next Finance Committee meeting in order to determine other needs for H-Tax funds. The motion to hold passed with a vote of 3 in favor and 2 opposed.

Councilor Seman mentioned establishing a protocol/formal application process for funding of the H-Tax monies.

**ABANDONED BUILDING SITE CERTIFICATION - JUDSON MILL:**

This is a resolution to provide certification of the South Carolina Textiles Communities Revitalization Act for that certain property located at 701 Easley Bridge Road (Judson Mill). Certification allows the developer to apply for state income tax credits to offset the costs of redeveloping this former mill site under the Textile Communities Revitalization Act.

Jim Price, representing Judson Mill was present to answer questions of the committee.

Councilor Seman moved to approve a resolution to provide certification of the South Carolina Textiles Communities Revitalization Act for that certain property located at 701 Easley Bridge Road (Judson Mill). The motion carried unanimously.

**COMMUNITY PROJECT APPLICATION – GANTT DISTRICT FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

This is a community project application in the amount of \$2,824 for the Gantt District Fire Department. The funds will be used to purchase AED's for the new rescue unit.

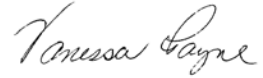
John Hansley, Deputy County Administrator was present to answer questions of the committee.

Councilor Meadows moved to approve the community project application in the amount of \$2,824 for the Gantt District Fire Department. The motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no additional business to come before the Finance Committee, the meeting adjourned at 5:57.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Vanessa Payne".

Vanessa Payne  
Executive Assistant