

**COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND HUMAN SERVICES
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
Minutes
November 16, 2020
4:00 P.M.**

Meeting conducted with remote participation

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 mailed to the newspapers, radio stations and television stations.

Committee Members Present:

Mr. Rick Roberts, Chairman, District 21
Mr. Lynn Ballard, Vice Chairman, District 26
Mr. Mike Barnes, District 18 (remote participation)
Mr. Willis Meadows, District 19 (remote participation)
Mrs. Xanthe Norris, District 23 (remote participation)

Committee Members Absent:

None

Staff Present:

Joe Kernell, *County Administrator*
Shannon Herman, *Assistant County Administrator for Strategic Advancement*
Jeffrey D. Wile, *Assistant County Attorney*
Helen E. Wood, *Clerk to Public Safety Committee*

Others Present:

Berea Fire Department – Gary Brock, Chief
Boiling Springs Fire Department – Steve Graham, Chief
City of Greenville Fire Department – Stephen Kovalick, Chief
Gantt Fire Department – Chip Dickert, Assistant Chief
Greenville County Emergency Medical Services – Tom Blackwell, Executive Director
South Greenville Fire Department – Matt Sutherland, Chief
Taylors Fire and Sewer District Commissioner – Paul Bowen, Treasurer

Call to Order:

Chairman Roberts

Invocation:

Vice Chairman Ballard

Approval of Minutes:

Action: Councilor Norris moved to approve the minutes of the August 10, 2020, Regular Committee Meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution:

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A CO-LOCATED COUNTYWIDE DISPATCH CENTER FOR THE GREENVILLE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, GREENVILLE COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AND LOCAL FIRE DISTRICTS, TO PROMOTE OPERATIONAL AND FINANCIAL EFFICIENCIES FOR THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF GREENVILLE COUNTY CITIZENS.

Chairman Roberts reiterated that this will be a co-located dispatch center in which the Sheriff retains management of law enforcement dispatch and the Executive Director for Greenville County Emergency Medical Services (GCEMS) manages GCEMS and local fire dispatch.

With the relocation of the GCEMS headquarters, the County will undertake a new dispatch center and the timing is ripe to incorporate a co-located facility with current technological capabilities and appropriate redundancies at the design phase of construction. The benefits of a co-located dispatch center include improved situational awareness, interoperability, and cost efficiencies through sharing technical support, systems network infrastructure, and equipment.

ACTION: Vice Chairman Ballard moved to forward a Resolution in support of a co-located countywide dispatch center for the Greenville County Sheriff's Office, Greenville County Emergency Medical Services and Local Fire Districts, to promote operational and financial efficiencies for the health and safety for Greenville County citizens to the full Council for approval.

Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment:

ACTION: Vice Chairman Ballard moved to adjourn the meeting

Motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 4:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Helen E. Wood, Clerk to Public Safety Committee