



GREENVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes
Regular Council Meeting
March 2, 2021
6:01 p.m.

County Square - Council Chambers
Remote Participation by Council Members

Council Members

Mr. Willis Meadows, *Chairman, District 19*
Mr. Dan Tripp, *Vice-Chairman, District 28*
Mrs. Xanthene Norris, *Chairman Pro Tem, District 23*
Mr. Joe Dill, *District 17*
Mr. Mike Barnes, *District 18*
Mr. Stephen Shaw, *District 20*
Mr. Chris Harrison, *District 21*
Mr. Stan Tzouvelekas, *District 22*
Mrs. Liz Seman, *District 24*
Mr. Ennis Fant, Sr., *District 25*
Mr. Lynn Ballard, *District 26*
Mr. Butch Kirven, *District 27*

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting date, time, place and agenda was posted online and on the bulletin board at 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*
Dean Campbell, *Deputy County Attorney*
John Hansley, *Deputy County Administrator*
Regina McCaskill, *Clerk to Council*

Jessica Stone, *Deputy Clerk to Council*
Pam Gilliam, *Administrative Assistant*
Paula Gucker, *Assistant County Administrator, Public Works*
Shannon Herman, *Assistant County Administrator*
Nicole Wood, *Assistant County Administrator*

Others Present

None

Call to Order

Chairman Willis Meadows

Invocation - introduced by Councilor Steve Shaw

Councilor Stan Tzouvelekas

Pledge of Allegiance

Item (4) Approval of Minutes

Action: Councilor Seman moved to approve the minutes of the February 16, 2021, Regular Council Meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

Item (5) Appearances – Current Agenda Items

There were no speakers.

Item (6) Public Hearings

a. Supplemental Appropriation / E911 Special Revenue Fund

A public hearing was held for the purpose of receiving comments from the public regarding an ordinance to authorize a supplemental appropriation from the E911 Special Revenue Fund - Fund Balance to increase Fiscal Year 2020-2021 budgeted E911 revenues \$1,051,142.00 and to increase Fiscal Year 2020-2021 budgeted E911 expenditures \$1,051,142.00 to cover the cost of upgrades and maintenance to the Vesta 9-1-1 call handling and computer aided dispatch systems.

There being no speakers, Vice-Chairman Tripp declared the public hearing closed.

Item (7) Consent Agenda

a. Community Project Application / Tigerville Fire Department – Fire Station Painting (\$3,000.00) (Finance)

b. Community Project Application / Slater Marietta Fire Department – Exterior Painting (\$5,400.00) (Finance)

Action: Councilor Kirven moved approval of the Consent Agenda items.

Motion carried unanimously.

Item (8) Resolutions

a. Greater Greenville Sanitation District Annexation / 225 Helen Drive, 40 Bald Rock Drive, 17 Butler Springs Road and 3059 State Park 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 225 Helen Drive, 40 Bald Rock Drive, 17 Butler Springs Road and 3059 State Park Road.

Motion carried unanimously.

b. Greater Greenville Sanitation District Annexation / Glen Forest Drive Development Subdivision – 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 Glen Forest Drive Development Subdivision.

Motion carried unanimously.

c. Project Mila / Inducement Resolution

Action: Vice-Chairman Tripp moved for adoption a resolution authorizing the execution and delivery of an inducement agreement by and between Greenville County, South Carolina and Project Mila, whereby, under certain conditions, Greenville County would execute a fee in lieu of tax and special source credit 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 whereby Project Mila would be provided certain credits against fee payments in reimbursement of investment in related qualified infrastructure; and providing for related matters.

Motion carried unanimously.

Item (9) Ordinances – Third Reading

a. Zoning Ordinances

i. CZ-2021-02: Property of Theodore E. Kerhulas Trust, located on E. Lakeshore Drive and Butter Street, requesting rezoning from C-1 to R-7.5.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

ii. CZ-2021-03: Property of JSAL.MC, LLC, located at 1000 Anderson Road, requesting rezoning from R-M20 to R-6.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

iii. CZ-2021-06: Property of Kelly Company, Inc., located at 2173 E. Coleman Road, requesting rezoning from O-D to C-1.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

- iv. **CZ-2021-07:** Property of Greenville County Disabilities / Thrive Upstate, located at 123 Hawkins Street, requesting rezoning from R-20A to R-7.5.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

- v. **CZ-2021-09:** Property of Amanda Felton and Draper Creative, LLC, located on Bryant Street and Draper Street, requesting rezoning from R-7.5 to FRD-MC as amended.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

- vi. **CZ-2021-10:** Property of Juan Rodriguez, LLC, located on Old Easley Highway and US-25 Access Ramp, requesting rezoning from R-S to R-M20.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

- vii. **CZ-2021-12:** Property of V-GO Holdings, LLC, located on Feaster Road, requesting rezoning from R-S to C-1.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

b. Supplemental Appropriation / E911 Special Revenue Fund

Action: Vice-Chairman Tripp moved for adoption at third reading ordinance to authorize a supplemental appropriation from the E911 Special Revenue Fund - Fund Balance to increase Fiscal Year 2020-2021 budgeted E911 revenues \$1,051,142.00 and to increase Fiscal Year 2020-2021 budgeted E911 expenditures \$1,051,142.00 to cover the cost of upgrades and maintenance to the Vesta 9-1-1 call handling and computer aided dispatch systems.

Motion carried unanimously.

Item (10) Ordinances – First Reading

a. Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance Update

Councilor Seman presented for first reading an ordinance to amend portions of Chapter 8, Article II of the Code of Ordinances of Greenville County, South Carolina entitled “Flood Control, Drainage, Stormwater Management - Floods And Flood Control” so as to adopt certain changes in the National Flood Insurance Program mandated by the Department of Homeland Security - FEMA, National Flood Insurance Program; to increase ease of permitting and enforcement; and to incorporate map, technical and language modernization in the Greenville County Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance.

Chairman Meadows stated the item would remain on the floor.

b. Project Mila / Fee in Lieu of Tax Agreement

Vice-Chairman Tripp 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 Mila 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 Meadows stated the item would remain on the floor.

Item (11) Committee Reports

a. Committee of the Whole

i. Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission / Appointments

Action: On behalf of the Committee, Vice-Chairman Tripp moved to elect Jane Daniel, Lynne Jones, Stacey Owens, Louise Poole and Theresa Thompson to fill five vacancies on the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission.

Motion carried unanimously.

Item (12) Appearances – Items not on the Current Agenda

There were no speakers.

Item (13) Administrator’s Report

Joe Kernell stated Greenville County’s Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) was scheduled to start on Monday, March 8, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. Eligibility information, frequently asked questions and an application link would be available on the County

website beginning March 8. A call center would be up and running for people with questions or technical issues; third party reviewers would be onsite to ensure a smooth kick-off.

Applications could be initiated by either the tenant or the landlord; they would be prioritized for those applicants at 50% or below AMI or unemployed for 90+ days, as outlined by Federal guidelines. Applicants under 80% AMI with rental or utility arrears would be considered next. Payments would be made directly to the landlord or utility provider.

Mr. Kernell stated staff would be conducting a webinar with the Nonprofit Alliance on Thursday, March 4, in order for the local nonprofits to view the application process and ask questions. Staff was also reaching out to property managers, landlords, and the local housing groups to make them aware of the program. Media outreach was scheduled to begin the week of March 8.

Mr. Kernell stated the State's program, *SCStay*, had used 2020 State CARES funding to assist with rent and mortgage, but had offered no assistance for utilities. The *SCStay* program would be ending in the near future. The County's ERAP and *SCStay* had the same eligibility requirements; applicants had to certify under penalty of law that they were not duplicating funding.

Councilor Harrison inquired about a deadline for the County's ERAP.

Mr. Kernell stated the program would terminate at the end of 2021; 65% of the available funds had to be expended by the end of September 2021.

Chairman Meadows asked about the amount of money available.

Mr. Kernell stated there was approximately \$15 million in funding.

Councilor Ballard inquired about the third party reviewers.

Mr. Kernell stated the County had contracted with the software company to provide third party reviewers to ensure accuracy.

Councilor Seman asked if tenant input was necessary if a landlord applied for assistance. Some landlords were having difficulties getting tenants to apply for assistance.

Mr. Kernell stated the landlord would be required to provide all necessary information in order to approve the application, which would necessitate some level of input from the tenant.

Councilor Shaw asked if an application could be made for commercial rental assistance and how many months the applicant had to be in arrears.

Mr. Kernell stated the program only applied to residential rental assistance. He added that assistance could go back to March of 2020; however, there had been a number of programs offering assistance over the past year. An applicant was not allowed to “double up” on assistance.

Item (14) Requests and Motions

- Councilor Seman stated the first F-16 scheduled for maintenance repair and overhaul under the new Lockheed Martin Depot Contract was due to land at Donaldson Field on Monday, March 8, coming from Edwards Air Force Base. Ms. Seman stated it would be big day for Lockheed Martin, Greenville County and the State of South Carolina.
- Councilor Fant stated he had been working with Prisma Health in securing the COVID-19 vaccine for the underserved areas of Greenville County. Prisma Health would be administering the vaccine at Saturday, March 6, at Shady Grove Baptist Church located in District 25 for those individuals 65 and older. He was pleased with the number of volunteers who had offered to help. It would be a “drive-thru” event with 360 doses available; there were already approximately 180 people signed up to receive the vaccine.
- Councilor Kirven stated traffic and congestion continued to be a major concern. GPATS could provide a presentation to Council Members regarding the area’s transportation issues; funding, long-range planning, etc. Mr. Kirven stated the presentation would take about two hours; he requested those Council Members interested in attending to come up with some dates.

Mr. Kirven stated he had received a number of calls recently about litter on the roadsides as well as commercial signs on the edge of the pavement. The County had an ordinance regarding such signs; however, it appeared that the situation had gotten ahead of the staff’s ability to deal with the issue. He requested Mr. Kernell consider a more active program to deal with the issue.

Chairman Meadows stated the County had two trucks that swept the roadsides. The Sheriff’s Department utilized inmates to pick up litter.

Mr. Kernell stated the Sheriff’s Department concentrated its efforts on County roads. The State also utilized inmates to pick up litter.

- Councilor Barnes stated he was glad to a Council Workshop had been scheduled for Saturday, March 20, 2021.
- Councilor Shaw stated he had also received complaints about litter in the County. He felt the PTI (Pre-trial Intervention) Office would be another source to help deal with the issue. Mr. Shaw stated he was also interested in possible fines for those individuals who littered.

- Councilor Harrison stated he agreed with Mr. Kirven’s statement regarding litter. He also thanked Mr. Kirven as well as Senator Tally and Representative Cox for their assistance in helping deal with a situation in his district.
- Councilor Tzouvelekas thanked the citizens who were in attendance both physically and virtually.
- Councilor Norris stated Springfield Baptist Church was currently accepting applications for the Whittenburg Scholarship Program which was founded by the late Hayne Hipp.
- Councilor Dill thanked everyone for their prayers for his wife, Dee Dee. He encouraged continued prayers for Mr. Ballard’s wife, Debbie.
- Councilor Ballard also thanked everyone for the continued prayers for his wife.

Farmer Tom Trantham at Happy Cow Creamery was awarded the Order of the Palmetto by Governor Henry McMaster and Lieutenant Governor Pamela Evette on Saturday, February 28.

Councilor Ballard inquired about moving the Zoning Public Hearing scheduled for March 15 to an earlier time as several Council Members had another commitment.

Mr. Tollison stated the Zoning Public Hearing could not start earlier than the scheduled time.

Mr. Ballard wished Ms. Norris a Happy Birthday as she would turn 92 on March 6.

Item (15) Adjournment

Action: Councilor Ballard moved to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Regina G. McCaskill
Clerk to Council