



GREENVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes
Regular Council Meeting
September 7, 2021
6:03 p.m.

County Square - Council Chambers

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*
Bob Mihalic, *Governmental Affairs Officer*
Paula Gucker, *Assistant County Administrator, Public Works*
Nicole Wood, *Assistant County Administrator*
Shannon Herman, *Assistant County Administrator*

Others Present

Call to Order

Chairman Willis Meadows

Invocation

Councilor Ennis Fant

Pledge of Allegiance

Councilor Dill recognized the students from Ms. Woods' Government Class of Blue Ridge High School who were in attendance.

Item (4) Approval of Minutes

Action: Councilor Ballard moved to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2021, Regular Council Meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

Item (5) Appearances – Current Agenda Items

- **Brenda Wright** – appeared regarding Item 12.a.i. Initiate Zoning Text Amendment / Create New Use Category – AG Agricultural Preservation District

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, Vice-Chairman Tripp declared the public hearing closed.

b. 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, Vice-Chairman Tripp 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, Vice-Chairman Tripp declared the public hearing closed.

d. Master Lease Agreement – Greenville County Halton Road Campus

A public hearing was held for the purpose of receiving comments from the public regarding an ordinance to authorize the County Administrator to negotiate leases of available office space in the County owned facilities located at 350 and 352 Halton Road (the "Greenville County Halton Road Campus"); and to authorize the County Administrator and Chairman of County council to execute such lease agreements.

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

e. Project Bingham / 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 agreement by and between Greenville County, South Carolina and a company known to the county at this time as Project Bingham 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.

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

f. Project Jay / Special Source Revenue Credit 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 special source credit agreement by and between Greenville County, South Carolina and a company known to the county at this time as Project Jay with respect to certain economic development property in the county, whereby such property would receive certain special source credits in respect of investment in related infrastructure; and other matters related thereto.

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

g. Greenville – Anderson Multi County Industrial Business Park Agreement Amendment (2010 Park) / Project Jay

A public hearing was held for the purpose of receiving comments from the public regarding 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.

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

h. Greenville – Anderson Multi County Industrial Business Park Agreement Amendment / CenterPoint IGA

A public hearing was held for the purpose of receiving comments from the public regarding an ordinance to amend the agreement for development of a joint county industrial and business park by and between Greenville County, South Carolina and Anderson County, South Carolina, so as to include additional property in Greenville County as part of the joint county industrial and business park, to amend an intergovernmental agreement between the County and the City of Mauldin, and other matters related thereto.

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

i. Greenville – Anderson Multi County Industrial Business Park Agreement Amendment (2010 Park) / Star EV Corporation (formally Project Stella)

A public hearing was held for the purpose of receiving comments from the public regarding 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.

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

Item (7) Consent Agenda

- a. **FY2022 Road Paving List (PWI)**
- b. **Community Project Application / Clear Spring Fire and Rescue District – Equipment \$4,431.00 (Finance)**

Action: Councilor Ballard moved to approve the Consent Agenda items.

Motion carried unanimously.

Item (8) Resolutions

- a. **Lake Cunningham Fire District / Dunklin Fire District / South Greenville Fire District – Millage Request**

Action: Vice-Chairman Tripp moved for adoption a resolution to provide continuation of current ad valorem property tax to be levied by the Lake Cunningham Fire District, the South Greenville Fire District, and the Dunklin Fire District.

Action: Vice-Chairman Tripp moved to amend the resolution to allow for reassessment year calculations by the County Auditor.

Motion to amend carried unanimously.

Action: Vice-Chairman Tripp moved approval of the resolution as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

b. Greenville County Master Equipment Lease / Purchase Financing

Action: Vice-Chairman Tripp moved for adoption a resolution authorizing a Master Lease Agreement in the principal amount of not exceeding \$7,000,000 related to the financing of equipment for public purposes; authorizing the execution and delivery of various documents; and other matters related thereto.

Motion carried unanimously.

c. Project Homecoming / Inducement Agreement

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 Homecoming, 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 where project/company would be provided certain credits against fee payments in reimbursement of investment in related qualified infrastructure; and providing for related matters.

Action: Councilor Dill moved to send the item back to the Finance Committee at the request of the applicant.

Motion carried unanimously.

d. Greater Greenville Sanitation District Annexation / Sylvan Manor – Request for Public Hearing

Action: Councilor Ballard moved for adoption a resolution to hold a public hearing to consider enlarging the Greater Greenville Sanitation District to include the Sylvan Manor Neighborhood.

Motion carried unanimously.

e. Greater Greenville Sanitation District Annexation / 2807 White Horse Road, 1246 Altamont Road, 21 Butler Springs Road, 48 Laurel Ridge, 4629 State Park Road, 400 Scottswood Road, 4806 Old Spartanburg Road and 591 South Buckhorn Road – Request for Public Hearing

Action: Councilor Ballard moved for adoption a resolution to hold a public hearing to consider enlarging the Greater Greenville Sanitation District to include 2807 White Horse Road, 1246 Altamont Road, 21 Butler Springs Road, 48 Laurel Ridge, 4629 State Park Road, 400 Scottswood Road, 4806 Old Spartanburg Road and 591 South Buckhorn Road.

Motion carried unanimously.

f. Support Resolution / House Bill 3105

Action: Councilor Ballard moved for adoption a resolution to encourage the South Carolina General Assembly to pass H.3105 declaring that religious serviced were deemed an essential service during a state of emergency and must be allowed to continue operating throughout the state of emergency.

Motion carried unanimously.

Item (9) Ordinances – Third Reading

a. Zoning Ordinances

- i. **CZ-2021-51:** Property of Business Park Proprieties LLC, located on Fork Shoals Road, Standing Springs Road, and Business Park Court, requesting rezoning from S-1 to C-2.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

- ii. **CZ-2021-52:** Property of Lori L. Mauldin, located on Riverside Drive, requesting rezoning from R-S to R-7.5.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

- iii. **CZ-2021-53:** Property of David and Sandra King and Steven Randy King, located at 321 and 325 Sullivan Road, requesting rezoning from R-S to R-12.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

- iv. **CZ-2021-55:** Property of North Main Exchange, LLC, located at 304 Arcadia Drive and Worley Road, requesting rezoning from I-1 to FRD as amended.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

- v. **CZ-2021-56:** Property of Jesus Anibal Tamayo, located on White Horse Road, requesting rezoning from R-12 to O-D.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

b. Land Development Regulations Amendment / Tiny Homes

Action: Councilor Dill moved for adoption at third an ordinance to amend the Greenville County Land Development Regulations for the County of Greenville, South Carolina, as amended, to include provisions for regulations of tiny homes.

Motion carried unanimously.

c. Hospitality Tax Revenue Bond / General Obligation Bond Ordinance

Action: Vice-Chairman Tripp moved for adoption at third reading an ordinance authorizing and providing for the issuance of Greenville County, South Carolina Hospitality Tax Revenue Bonds, and other matters pertaining thereto; prescribing the form of bonds issued hereunder; pledging local hospitality taxes to the payment of the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the bonds; and making other covenants and agreements in connection with the foregoing.

Motion carried unanimously.

d. Hospitality Tax Revenue Bond / First Supplemental Ordinance

Action: Vice-Chairman Tripp moved for adoption at third reading an ordinance providing for the issuance and sale by Greenville County, South Carolina of (i) not exceeding \$27,000,000 Taxable Hospitality Tax Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2021a and (ii) not exceeding \$5,000,000 Hospitality Tax Revenue Bonds, Series 2021b, and other matters relating thereto.

Motion carried unanimously.

e. Greenville County Special Source Revenue Bond / Tenth Supplemental Ordinance

Action: Vice-Chairman Tripp moved for adoption at third reading an ordinance providing for the issuance and sale of not exceeding \$60,000,000 Greenville County, South Carolina, Special Source Revenue Bonds, Series 2021; authorizing the execution and delivery of the Series 2021 Bonds in connection therewith; and other matters relating thereto.

Motion carried unanimously.

f. Ordinance to Establish County Prohibition on Infringements of the Right to Keep and Bear Arms

Action: Councilor Barnes moved for adoption at reading an ordinance to establish a county prohibition on infringements of the right to keep and bear arms.

Action: Councilor Dill moved to hold the item.

Motion to hold carried unanimously.

Item (10) Ordinances – Second Reading

a. Zoning Ordinances

i. CZ-2021-59: Property of Club Forest Hudson Corners LLC, Club Forest Hudson Outparcel LLC and Golden Arch Limited Partnership, located on Hudson Road and Old Spartanburg Road, requesting rezoning from PD to PD-MC. The Planning Commission and Committee recommended approval with a condition.

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 require the applicant to submit a site plan for review and approval prior to the issuance of any land development or building permits.

Motion to amend carried unanimously.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

ii. CZ-2021-61: Property of K & L Investments, Inc., located at 635 Godfrey Road, requesting rezoning from R-S to R-15. 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.

iii. CZ-2021-62 Withdrawn

- iv. **CZ-2021-63:** Property of Pamela Kristen Whalen, located at 49 Gunter Road, requesting rezoning from R-R1 to R-20. The Planning Commission and Committee recommended denial.

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

Councilor Dill stated he spoke with the applicant; she wanted to put a dwelling behind her home for her mother. The County had a zoning classification for those types of situations; it had been used several times in the Taylors area. The applicant wanted the dwelling to remain on her property indefinitely. Mr. Dill inquired if R-20 was the only appropriate zoning classification that could be used.

Chairman Meadows suggested sending the item back to the Planning and Development Committee.

Action: Councilor Dill moved to return the item to the Planning and Development Committee.

Mr. Tollison suggested the item be deferred to the Planning and Zoning Administration staff.

Motion carried unanimously.

- v. **CZ-2021-65:** Property of George M. Zimmerman, located on South Batesville Road, requesting rezoning from I-1 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.

- vi. **CZ-2021-66:** Property of Brian Waldrop, located on White Horse Road, requesting rezoning from R-12 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.

- vii. **CZ-2021-67:** Administratively Withdrawn

- viii. **CZ-2021-68:** Property of Bruce W. England, located at 1218 Fork Shoals Road, requesting rezoning from R-M20 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.

- ix. **CZ-2021-69:** Property of North Hills Community Church, located on Walker Springs Road, requesting rezoning from R-20 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.

- x. **CZ-2021-70:** Property of Katherine Amy Duncan Scheiper and Robert Joseph Scheiper, located at 704 Congaree Road, requesting rezoning from S-1 to C-2. 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. Master Lease Agreement – Greenville County Halton Road Campus

Action: Vice-Chairman Tripp moved for approval at second reading an ordinance to negotiate leases of available office space in the County owned facilities located at 350 and 352 Halton Road (the “Greenville County Halton Road Campus”); and to authorize the County Administrator and Chairman of County Council to execute such lease agreements.

Motion carried unanimously.

c. Greenville – Anderson Multi County Industrial Business Park Agreement Amendment / CenterPoint IGA

Action: Vice-Chairman Tripp moved for approval at second reading an ordinance to amend the agreement for development of a joint county industrial and business park by and between Greenville County and Anderson County, South Carolina, so as to include additional property in Greenville County as part of the joint county industrial and business park, to amend an intergovernmental agreement between the County and the City of Mauldin, and other matters related thereto.

Motion carried unanimously.

d. Greenville – Anderson Multi County Industrial Business Park Agreement Amendment (2010 Park) / Star EV Corporation (formally Project Stella)

Action: Vice-Chairman Tripp moved for approval at second 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.

Motion carried unanimously.

e. Project Jay / Special Source Revenue Credit Agreement

Action: Vice-Chairman Tripp moved for approval at second reading an ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a special source credit agreement by and between Greenville County, South Carolina and a company known to the county at this time as Project Jay with respect to certain economic development property in the county, whereby such property would receive certain special source credits in respect of investment in related infrastructure; and other matter related thereto.

Motion carried unanimously.

f. Greenville – Anderson Multi County Industrial Business Park Agreement Amendment (2010 Park) / Project Jay

Action: Vice-Chairman Tripp moved for approval at second 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.

Motion carried unanimously.

g. Project Bingham / Fee in Lieu of Tax Agreement

Action: Vice-Chairman Tripp 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 Bingham 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 to hold carried unanimously.

Item (11) Ordinances – First Reading

a. Hospitality Tax Ordinance and Exhibit A Amendments

Vice-Chairman Tripp presented for first reading an ordinance to amend *Exhibit A* established as an addendum to Ordinance No. 4079, as last amended by Ordinance No. 4884, so as to include tourist related projects authorized through the issuance of additional Hospitality Tax Revenue Bonds, Series 2021B and amend Ordinance No. 4079 to allow pay-as-you-go projects.

Chairman Meadows stated the item would remain on the floor.

b. Anderson / Greenville Multi County Industrial Business Park Agreement Amendment (2010 Park) – Project Mullet

Vice-Chairman Tripp 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 in connection with that certain fee in lieu of tax arrangement between Anderson County, Hartwell Solar, LLC, Martha E. Mullikin, Robert F. Mullikin, Jr., and Mullikin Family Limited Partnership (formerly identified by Anderson County as Project Mullet).

Chairman Meadows stated the item would remain on the floor.

c. Project Homecoming / Fee In Lieu of Tax Agreement and Special Source Revenue Credit 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 known to the county at this time as Project Homecoming 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.

d. Greenville / Anderson Multi County Industrial Business Park Agreement / Project Homecoming

Vice-Chairman Tripp presented for first reading an ordinance to develop a jointly owned and operated industrial / business park in conjunction with Anderson County, such industrial / business park to be geographically located in Greenville county and established pursuant to Sec. 4-1-170 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended; to provide for a written agreement with Anderson County to provide for the expenses of the park, the percentage of revenue application, and the distribution of fees in lieu of ad valorem taxation; and other matters related thereto.

Chairman Meadows stated the item would remain on the floor.

e. Moratorium on Major Subdivisions in Greenville County

Councilor Dill presented for first reading an ordinance establishing a moratorium on the acceptance of preliminary plat applications for major subdivisions in Greenville County for a period of six months.

Chairman Meadows referred the item to the Planning and Development Committee.

Item (12) Committee Reports

a. Planning and Development Committee

i. Initiate Zoning Text Amendment / Create New Use Category – AG Agricultural Preservation District

Action: Councilor Dill moved to initiate a Zoning Text Amendment that would create a new use category, which would be labeled – AG Agricultural Preservation District and requested the item be referred to the Planning and Development Committee.

Chairman Meadows referred the item to the Planning and Development Committee.

Item (13) Administrator’s Report

Joe Kernell provided an update to the Emergency Rental Assistance Programs (ERAP I and II). In regards to the ERAP I, over \$9.1 million had been paid out to 1944 households; \$442,000 for utility payments. There were currently 664 applications pending. Due to the high volume of applications and the amount of assistance provided each week, the online application portal would be closed effective September 30. All applications submitted by the cutoff date would be reviewed in priority order until all funds were exhausted. Mr. Kernell stated they were very pleased with the expediency that the applications were reviewed and processed. For the second round of funding, ERAP II, assistance would soon shift to the County’s community partners. Greenville Housing Connections would work with Greenville Housing Fund, SHARE, Greenville Homeless Alliance, Greenville Housing Authority, GCRA and local agencies to provide rent and utility assistance in addition to case management, eviction prevention services, community outreach and other wraparound services. The ERAP II program would run until all funds were exhausted.

Mr. Kernell stated he recently met with Dr. Tom Blackwell and members of the EMS management team to discuss prolonged turnaround times EMS units were experiencing, as a result of the pandemic, at the two local hospitals. The prolonged time represented the time that an EMS unit arrived at the hospital until the unit was back in service, which included offloading the patient to a hospital stretcher, providing a patient report and preparing the ambulance for the next call. The typical turnaround time was approximately 30 minutes or less. Over the past week, turnaround times had been excessive due to the hospitals’ Emergency Department capacities. Admitted patients were staying in the Emergency Department waiting transfer to a regular hospital bed. Currently, turnaround times were as long as three (3) hours.

Mr. Kernell stated staff had reached out to the Medical Director and Chief Medical Officer of both healthcare systems, Prisma and St. Francis, requesting participation and collaboration in discussing the issues as well as identifying solutions. Greenville County’s EMS Leadership Team had determined two (2) short-term strategies:

1. Prolonged response time to those calls not requiring immediate transport, until resources were available.
2. Provider initiated refusal for patients with no justifiable reason to be transported; a response assessment and criteria of the patient would be completed.

Mr. Kernell stressed that only non-critical patients would be affected by the proposed strategies. It was important to understand that the situation was a “hospital issue”, not an “EMS issue”. Others alternatives for patients transported to the hospital were also being considered in order for the units to get back in service in a more timely fashion. “Hospital numbers” were much higher than in the past; the pandemic was “alive and well.” Information would be provided to the public as to when it was appropriate to call 911 and when it was not. Fire departments could also be affected; the issue had a “trickle-down effect.”

Chairman Meadows suggested providing the information to the media as soon as possible.

Councilor Tzouvelekas requested an update on the proposed downtown convention center and the existing convention center, located on North Pleasantburg Drive (Greenville Convention Center).

Mr. Kernell stated staff had met with the City of Greenville and expressed an interest in procuring the convention center located on North Pleasantburg Drive. The County was currently waiting on a proposal from the City of Greenville. He planned to follow up with the City Manager in the near future and would report back to Council. No official offer had been made and discussions had been in “general terms.”

Regarding the proposed downtown convention center, the consultant hired, using funds provided by the State, had submitted a recommendation, which was “made public” a few weeks ago. At this point, the issue was still in the discussion phase. He anticipated a future presentation to Council to determine the County’s interest in participating in the project. Council adopted a resolution approximately two years ago indicating its support of the project; no commitments had been made for funding.

Vice-Chairman Tripp stated a recent newspaper article indicated that some City Council Members felt more space was needed for the proposed downtown convention center with a “price tag” exceeding \$150 million. Mr. Tripp inquired about the current projected cost of the project.

Mr. Kernell stated the consultant projected a cost of \$78 million for the “public portion” of the project, which included the “conference center proper” and the infrastructure. Two museums were also planned for the project; however, additional funds would be needed to finance them. A ballroom with 25,000 square feet was planned for the project, with an additional 10,000 square feet available for other spaces, such as “breakout rooms”, for a total of approximately 35,000 square feet. The proposed size of the convention center was constrained by the size of the location site; the developers owned the property.

Vice-Chairman Tripp stated, according to the newspaper article, it appeared the cost of the project had been doubled. He asked if the City of Greenville had offered to pay for it.

Mr. Kernell stated he had read the same article; he thought people were surprised by the projected cost. The County had not been approached about increasing or doubling contributions for the project.

Vice-Chairman Tripp asked what percentage of the ERAP I and ERAP II funding had been disbursed.

Mr. Kernell stated the first round of funding (ERAP I) was approximately \$15 million; 100% of those funds were projected to be disbursed by the end of September. On a national level, 89% of those funds had not been spent. The second round of funds (ERAP II) was structured a bit differently, utilizing the County’s housing partners. Large “chunks” of those funds would be disbursed to those agencies periodically. The first round of funding was very challenging as each application was processed separately.

Vice-Chairman Tripp asked if the Supreme Court ruling on eviction moratoriums complicated disbursement of the funding.

Mr. Kernell stated the ruling actually slowed the process at first, as there was no consequences to those who chose not to pay their rent. That trend was now reversing and requests for rent assistance had picked up; landlords could now evict. Applicants were eligible for up to ten months of rent assistance.

Councilor Ballard stated SHARE Board of Directors had expected the Supreme Court’s decision; they anticipated an influx of requests for assistance. SHARE still had a good amount of funding; they were in collaboration with local non-profit agencies as well as Greenville County.

Councilor Norris stated most convention centers included lodging facilities and were located near restaurants, shopping, etc. She was concerned that the proposed convention center would not provide those amenities and attendees would have to be bused to hotels, restaurants and other attractions.

Chairman Meadows stated a County Council Citizen Comment Session would be held on Thursday, September 16 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. Citizens may speak to Council about topics of their interests. Participants may participate in person or remotely.

Item (14)

Requests and Motions

- Councilor Shaw thanked the Blue Ridge High School students who were in attendance.

Councilor Harrison stated he had requested a presentation or report about where the County stood in regard to the road situation and the recent issues affecting them.

Mr. Kernell stated staff was finalizing the report and a presentation would be presented in the near future.

- Councilor Tzouvelekas thanked his colleagues for their recent prayers and encouragement as he dealt with a personal situation. He also thanked the staff at Prisma; stating they took great care of him during his stay. Mr. Tzouvelekas also thanked Mr. Kernell for his help.

- Councilor Norris stated she was concerned about Council not wearing masks during meetings, given the increasing COVID-19 numbers. She encouraged everyone to be vaccinated.
- Councilor Fant stated SCTAC had been working on Taxiway B for quite some time and it was now completed. The first test was an F-16 that landed directly to Lockheed Martin for service. Taxiway B would help with the thrust to move forward and make SCTAC a large industrial park with the additional benefit of a runway.
- Councilor Ballard wished a Happy Retirement to Chief Mike Stadler, who retired from Donaldson Fire Department after 42 years of service, and Chief Steve Kovalcik with the Greenville City Fire Department.

Mr. Ballard stated on Saturday, September 4, a gentleman had a heart attack while kayaking on the Saluda River. EMS managed to rescue him out of the water and took him to shore via a 4-wheeler. An ambulance was waiting and transported him to hospital; the man was doing well.

Councilor Ballard stated earlier in the day, he attended the Fire Chiefs' monthly meeting. They expressed their concern and support regarding the issues EMS was experiencing transporting individuals to the hospital.

Councilor Ballard stated he and Mr. Kirven attended a meeting at ReWa concerning community septic tanks; another meeting would be held soon to further discuss the issue. Mr. Ballard stated he had spoken with the County Attorney regarding the County's stand on community septic tanks; information would be provided to Council.

A 9-11 memorial service was scheduled at Boiling Springs Fire Service on Saturday, September 11 at 8:46 a.m.

- Councilor Kirven stated Jay Marett, Director of Greenville County Emergency Management, recently retired.

Mr. Kirven stated the Greenville Veterans Advisory Council held its monthly meeting on August 31; Alan Dabney and Brent Cobb were instrumental in making arrangements for the meeting. Representatives from the American Legion Post 3, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Upstate Warrior Solutions, Chuck Rouse with Healing Waters Post 3, Miss Liberty Bell, Korean War Veterans Association, Disabled American Veterans, VFW Post 6734 Auxiliary, Paul Howell with Senator Graham's office and Colonel Retired Mike Stahl represented Congressman Timmons' office. Mr. Kirven added that he represented Greenville County Council. Each organization provided a report on recent activities. It was becoming clear that the Veterans Affairs Office was working to identify service members in need of services.

- Councilor Dill stated a three-hour wait for an ambulance in his district would be life-threatening. The new emergency room that had been discussed was a possible solution to the problem of prolonged turnaround times. Individuals from surrounding counties, as well as North Carolina, could utilize the emergency room.

Mr. Dill stated he was informed earlier in the day that all trade programs at Greenville Technical College had been terminated; refunds were being issued to students enrolled in those classes. Mr. Dill requested Dr. Miller address the issue during a Committee of the Whole meeting. Greenville County was experiencing tremendous growth; tradesmen were needed for all fields.

- Councilor Barnes thanked the students from Blue Ridge High School for attending the meeting.
- Chairman Meadows announced Ms. Norris had requested to be removed from the Planning and Development Committee due to the workload and placed on the Public Safety Committee. Mr. Meadows stated there was currently a vacancy on the Public Safety Committee. Mr. Fant was appointed to serve on the Planning and Development Committee.

Item (15) **Adjournment**

Action: Councilor Dill moved to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Regina G. McCaskill
Clerk to Council