



GREENVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes
Regular Council Meeting
January 24, 2023
6:04 p.m.

County Square - Council Chambers

Council Members

Mr. Dan Tripp, *Chairman, District 28*
Ms. Liz Seman, *Vice-Chairwoman, District 24*
Mr. Butch Kirven, *Chairman Pro Tem, District 27*
Mr. Joey Russo, *District 17*
Mr. Mike Barnes, *District 18*
Mr. Benton Blount, *District 19*
Mr. Stephen Shaw, *District 20*
Mr. Chris Harrison, *District 21*
Mr. Stan Tzouvelekas, *District 22*
Mr. Alan Mitchell, *District 23*
Mr. Ennis Fant, Sr., *District 25*
Mr. Rick Bradley, *District 26*

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
John Hansley, Deputy County Administrator
Regina McCaskill, Clerk to Council
Pam Gilliam, Administrative Assistant
Terrance Galloway, Information Systems
Chris Antley, Assistant County Attorney

Kim Wunder, Assistant County Attorney
Dean Campbell, Assistant County Attorney
Hesha Gamble, Assistant County Administrator
Tee Coker, Assistant County Administrator
Jessica Jordan, Fire Code Official/Code Enforcement Supervisor
Chris Nalley, Code Enforcement Supervisor

Others Present

Steve Cole, Executive Director, Greater Greenville Sanitation District

Call to Order

Chairman Dan Tripp

Invocation

Councilor Joey Russo

Pledge of Allegiance

Item (4) **Proclamations and Special Recognition**

Councilor Harrison recognized Deputy Greg Rollins who is retiring after 45 years with the Greenville County Sheriff's Office.

Item (5) **Approval of Minutes**

- a. **December 6, 2022 – Regular County Council Meeting**
- b. **January 9, 2023 – Installation Meeting**
- c. **January 10, 2023 – Organizational Meeting**

Action: Councilor Seman moved to approve the minutes from the December 6, 2022 Regular County Council meeting, the January 9, 2023 Installation Meeting and the January 10, 2023 Organizational Meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

Item (6) **Appearances – Current Agenda Items**

- *Ed Paxton - appeared regarding Item 11.a. Adoption of Greenville County Council Rules*

Item (7) **Public Hearings**

- a. **Property Maintenance Code / Criminal Penalties**

A public hearing was held for the purpose of receiving comments from the public regarding an ordinance to repeal Ordinance No. 5087 and to impose criminal penalties for violations of the Property Maintenance Code of the County of Greenville.

- *Ed Paxton - appeared in opposition to the proposed*

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

Item (8) **Ordinances – Third Reading**

- a. **Metropolitan Sewer Subdistrict Enlargement / Territory of Travelers Rest**

Action: Councilor Seman moved for adoption at third reading an ordinance authorizing the enlargement of the territory of Travelers Rest into the Metropolitan Sewer Subdistrict and other matters related thereto.

Motion carried unanimously.

Item (9) **Ordinances – Second Reading**

- a. **Zoning Ordinances**

- i. **CZ-2022-101:** Property of Clyatt Wendell James and Chesna Rhea James, located at 1221 Fairview Road, Simpsonville, requesting rezoning from R-S to AG. The Planning Commission and Committee recommended approval.

Action: On behalf of the Committee, Councilor Fant moved approval of the ordinance at second reading.
Motion carried unanimously.

- ii. **CZ-2022-103:** Property of Brandon House of Greenville LLC, located at 18 Old Grove Road, Greenville, requesting rezoning from O-D to R-12. The Planning Commission and Committee recommended approval.

Action: On behalf of the Committee, Councilor Fant moved approval of the ordinance at second reading.
Motion carried unanimously.

- iii. **CZ-2022-104:** Property of John W. Farr and Jeanne W. Farr of Williams Farr Family Living Trust, Janet Elaine Farr Parnell, Valerie F. Flynn, and Harry E. Farr Jr., located at 16 Hunts Bridge Road and Hunts Bridge Road, Greenville, requesting rezoning from R-10 to R-6. The Planning Commission recommended approval and the Committee recommended denial.

Action: On behalf of the Committee, Councilor Fant moved approval of the ordinance at second reading.
Councilor Blount stated the current zoning of R-10 was dense for that area and the proposed R-6 was very dense. The site being considered was in a square with Legacy School owning property on one side where they intend to build a school; there was a shopping center in the middle and storefronts on the opposite side of the square. There was also a huge cluster-intersection on the left of the property. Mr. Blount felt the existing 80 or 90 houses, in addition to the 100 or so that the developer was proposing, would be a nightmare for the area. He stated he could not support the rezoning request.

Councilor Harrison stated the Planning and Development Committee recommended denial of this rezoning request; the Planning Commission recommended approval. He appreciated Mr. Blount's well thought out argument and would be supporting his request for denial.

Motion as presented was denied.

- iv. **CZ-2022-106:** Property of SC Greenville Garlington, LLC and FIP Master Funding VII, LLC, located at 225 Entertainment Blvd., Entertainment Blvd., Garlington Road, 315 Tanner Price Way, Tanner Price Way, 204 Clifton Court, Clifton Court and Honbarrier Drive, Greenville, requesting rezoning from PD to PD-MC. The Planning Commission and Committee recommended approval.

Action: On behalf of the Committee, Councilor Fant moved approval of the ordinance at second reading.
Motion carried unanimously.

- v. **CZ-2022-107:** Property of SV Homes, LLC, located on Marble Street and Blackwood Street, Greenville, requesting rezoning from NC to R-M20. The Planning Commission and Committee recommended approval.

Action: On behalf of the Committee, Councilor Fant moved approval of the ordinance at second reading.
Motion carried unanimously.

- vi. **CZ-2022-108:** Property of Carl R. Eckerson and Nga Thi Nguyen, located on Highway 25 and King Road, Pelzer, requesting rezoning from RR-1 to R-20. The Planning Commission and Committee recommended approval.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

- vii. **CZ-2022-109:** Property of Carl R. Eckerson and Nga Thi Nguyen, located on Highway 25 and King Road, Pelzer, requesting rezoning from RR-1 to C-3. The Planning Commission and Committee recommended approval.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

b. Property Maintenance Code / Criminal Penalties

Action: Councilor Seman moved for approval at second reading an ordinance to repeal Ordinance No. 5087 and to impose criminal penalties for violations of the Property Maintenance Code of the County of Greenville.

Motion carried unanimously.

c. Project Cardboard / Fee In Lieu of Tax Agreement

Action: Councilor Kirven 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 or companies known to the county at this time as Project Cardboard 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 carried unanimously.

Item (10) Ordinances – First Reading

a. Zoning Ordinances

Councilor Fant presented for first reading Zoning Dockets CZ-2023-001, CZ-2023-004 through CZ-2023-010, and CZ-2023-012 through CZ-2023-014.

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

Item (11) Committee Reports

a. Committee of the Whole

i. Adoption of the Greenville County Council Rules

Action: On behalf of the Committee, Councilor Seman moved approval of the Greenville County Council Rules as amended in the Committee of the Whole.

Motion carried.

Item (12)

Administrator's Report

Mr. Kernell stated department tours had begun this week for those departments in the south building, and would continue throughout February. The furniture installation was almost complete in the south building, with the courtrooms being finished next week. Beginning in February, the Council Chambers and Council meeting room furniture would be installed. All furniture would be in place by the end of February. Before the move, all employees would receive an orientation to the new building and the move was estimated to be complete by the end of March. The work on the public plaza, including the memorial wall, fountain and open space, would continue throughout the spring. He stated over the next few weeks, the PTFE roof covering would be installed, the metal screening would be wrapped on the outside of parking garage and the roadwork in front of the new building, leading to the parking garage, would be completed.

Councilor Tzouvelekas requested an update on the PRISMA facility in North Greenville.

Mr. Kernell stated the letter of intent had been signed and they were currently hiring doctors and staff. They planned to have the building up and running within 100 days.

Councilor Tzouvelekas asked if the County had already funded the project.

Mr. Kernell stated the County's portion had been disbursed.

Item (13)

Requests and Motions

a. Introduce Ordinance Regarding Meeting Broadcasts

As noticed on the County Council agenda, Councilor Tzouvelekas introduced an ordinance to require transparency for all Greenville County Council and committee meetings in broadcasting meetings to the public.

Chairman Tripp referred the ordinance to the Finance Committee.

Requests and Motions continued

- Councilor Barnes stated it was a new year, he encouraged everyone to work hard and achieve their goals.
- Councilor Blount thanked Council Members and staff for their help in getting the "newbies" prepared. He also thanked the public, especially those in District 19, for their interest and excitement in making Greenville a better place for their families. He enjoyed seeing the communities come together.
- Councilor Harrison thanked Chairman Tripp and the Council for establishing the Communications and Intergovernmental Affairs Committee. He stated he was excited for the opportunity. He looked forward to making Greenville County more relevant in the communication world; Council to Council, Council to staff, and Council to the public.
- Councilor Mitchell encouraged the citizens to continue to come to the Council and Committee meetings; it was where they would learn what their County Council was really doing.

- Councilor Seman stated she and Mr. Harrison had the privilege of representing County Council at the GADC Strategic Plan announcement meeting. She was looking forward to having their staff and board engage with Council. She felt there would be many opportunities for the County to be more innovative in some of their economic development prospects.
- Councilor Fant thanked Chairman Tripp for working diligently to put together a working Council. He applauded him for his commitment to Council and to the citizens of Greenville County.

Mr. Fant also reported on behalf of SCTAC, the Royal Jordanian Air Force had just signed a deal to purchase twelve Lockheed Martin F-16 fighter jets, which would be built at SCTAC. The production rate at Lockheed Martin - Greenville, was now four aircraft per month.

- Councilor Bradley stated the four “newbies” had just finished their second meeting. He stated there was so much more to the job than he had ever dreamed. Mr. Bradley expressed his appreciation of staff and for their support and looked forward to a prosperous four years.
- Councilor Kirven stated he was heartened by his colleagues’ comments. He stated that during his time on Council, he had seen a number of Council members come and go. He was very encouraged by the new members and felt this was a great new evolution for Greenville County Council due to their being more responsive to the needs of the citizens, to working closer together with each other for the needs of their districts and with staff to accomplish the goals of the Council.
- Councilor Russo thanked the citizens for voting him and his colleagues to Council. He had the distinguished honor of being the first member to serve on the Council who was born in the 1990’s. He stated he wanted to represent his generation well. He stated he was committed to making Greenville County the best place they could possibly have.

Item (14) **Adjournment**

Action: Councilor Barnes moved to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Regina McCaskill
Clerk to Council