

GREENVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
OCTOBER 9, 2023
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, BUTCH KIRVEN
VICE CHAIRMAN, LIZ SEMAN
BENTON BLOUNT
ENNIS FANT
CHRIS HARRISON (ZOOM)
DAN TRIPP

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

RICK BRADLEY
ALAN MITCHELL

STAFF PRESENT:

JOE KERNELL, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
REGINA MCCASKILL, CLERK TO COUNTY COUNCIL
VANESSA PAYNE, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
MARK TOLLISON, COUNTY ATTORNEY
NICOLE WOOD, ASSISTANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
KIM WUNDER, ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Kirven called the Finance Committee meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

INVOCATION:

Chairman Kirven provided the invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilor Seman moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 25, 2023. The motion carried unanimously.

ABANDONED BUILDING SITE CERTIFICATION – 1521 POINSETT HIGHWAY:

This is a resolution to provide a certification pursuant to the South Carolina Abandoned Buildings Revitalization Act for the property located at 1521 Poinsett Highway, Greenville, South Carolina.

Kim Wunder, Assistant County Attorney and Richard Few, Parker Poe were present to answer questions of the committee.

Councilor Seman moved to approve the resolution to provide a certification pursuant to the South Carolina Abandoned Buildings Revitalization Act for the property located at 1521 Poinsett Highway, Greenville, South Carolina. The motion carried unanimously.

SCDOT OFFER TO PURCHASE PORTION OF COUNTY OWNED PROPERTY LOCATED AT 202 SHANNON DRIVE FOR BRIDGE REPLACEMENT OVER BRUSHY CREEK:

This is an ordinance to authorize the sale of a portion of County owned property located at 202 Shannon Drive to the SCDOT for the replacement of the Shannon Drive Bridge over Brushy Creek and to authorize the Chairman of County Council and the County Administrator to execute any necessary deeds and agreements related thereto.

Kim Wunder, Assistant County Attorney was present to answer questions of the committee.

Councilor Tripp moved to approve an ordinance to authorize the sale of a portion of County owned property located at 202 Shannon Drive to the SCDOT for the replacement of the Shannon Drive Bridge over Brushy Creek and to authorize the Chairman of County Council and the County Administrator to execute any necessary deeds and agreements related thereto. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNITY PROJECT APPLICATIONS:

CITY OF TRAVELERS REST – HISTORIC MARKER FOR SPRING PARK INN:

This is a Community Project Application in the amount of \$2,630 for the City of Travelers Rest. The funds will be used to manufacture and install a SC Department of archives approved Historical Marker at Spring Park Inn.

Nicole Wood, Assistant County Administrator was present to answer questions of the committee.

Councilor Seman moved to approve the Community Project Application in the amount of \$2,630 for the City of Travelers Rest. The motion carried a vote of 4-1. Councilor Fant was opposed.

COMMUNITY PROJECT APPLICATIONS CONT'D:

SLATER-MARIETTA FIRE DISTRICT – CHRISTMAS PARADE:

This is a Community Project Application in the amount of \$1,000 for Slater-Marietta Fire District. The funds will be used for expenses associated with the Slater-Marietta Christmas parade.

Nicole Wood, Assistant County Administrator was present to answer questions of the committee.

Councilor Seman moved to approve the Community Project Application in the amount of \$1,000 for the Slater-Marietta Christmas parade. The motion carried unanimously.

SLATER-MARIETTA FIRE DISTRICT – HOLIDAY LIGHTING:

This is a Community Project Application in the amount of \$4,000 for Slater-Marietta Fire District. The funds will be used for holiday lights for the holiday season.

Nicole Wood, Assistant County Administrator was present to answer questions of the committee.

Councilor Seman moved to approve the Community Project Application in the amount of \$4,000 for Slater-Marietta holiday lighting. The motion carried unanimously.

WORKFORCE HOUSING POLICY – DISCUSSION:

Chairman Kirven stated that there was a shortage of adequate housing in Greenville County as of data from 2017. He also stated incentives for market rate projects were tied to AMI and were a mix of AMI levels which include incomes at 80%, 60% and 40%.

Councilor Fant stated he had met with the attorneys and they were discussing amendments to the policy that would address some of the problems. He also stated that he believed the County needed to control the narrative as it relates to the perception of the Workforce Housing Policy. He also stated that no government subsidies are going toward subsidized housing.

Councilor Tripp stated that he would like to see how much the current taxes on properties would be with and without the incentives before the project was developed.

Councilor Harrison stated that the County should try to encourage private developers to provide funding options for new projects while also complying with GCRA's affordable housing plan.

Councilor Seman stated she believed it would be a good practice to know all funding options for new projects; what other pieces were in place as it relates to funding.

WORKFORCE HOUSING POLICY – DISCUSSION CON'T:

Councilor Blount mentioned the issue of transportation as it relates to the policy and how it may affect those qualifying for Workforce Housing.

Councilor Fant stated that he believed transportation was not really an issue; that most persons who qualified for Workforce Housing had vehicles. (EMS, law enforcement, fire personnel and teachers)

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Finance Committee went into executive session at 5:37 to discuss contractual matters. The committee came out of executive session at 5:54.

Councilor Tripp left the meeting at 5:38 and returned at 5:41.

PROJECT FRONT PORCH:

Councilor Seman moved to approve an ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee in lieu of tax agreement by and between Greenville County and Project Front Porch. The motion carried unanimously.

PROJECT EVEREST:

Councilor Tripp moved to approve an amendment to the ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee in lieu of tax agreement by and between Greenville County and Project Everest. The motion carried unanimously.

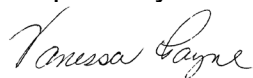
PROJECT TRANSFORMATION:

Councilor Seman moved to approve an ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee in lieu of tax agreement by and between Greenville County and Project Transformation. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no additional business to come before the Finance Committee, the meeting adjourned at 5:56.

Respectfully submitted,



Vanessa Payne
Executive Assistant