

**MINUTES
COLLETON COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 8, 2012
6:00 P.M.
COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, OLD JAIL BUILDING**

Colleton County Council met in Regular Session on Tuesday, May 8, 2012 at 6:00 PM, at County Council Chambers, Old Jail Building. Evon Robinson called the meeting to order with Council Members Dr. Flowers, Gene Whetsell, Phillip Taylor, Steven Murdaugh in attendance.

Others present included: Ruth Mayer, Karla Daddieco, Sean Thornton, Kevin Griffin, Mary Harris, S.E Simmons, Nancy Aloise, Jennie Stephens, Marshall Morehead, Mitch Mongell, April L. Beach, Robert L. Beach, Jr., Wray T. Sweatt, Deborah Parker, Maggie Hendricks, Edward J. Smail, Carol Seigler, Sue McCunn

Mr. Robinson gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Changes to the Agenda

Mr. Robinson said he would like to add and contractual Matter to executive session.

Mr. Griffin said he would also like to add a legal matter regarding Gaskin Lane.

A motion to approve the changes was made by Mr. Murdaugh and seconded by Dr. Flowers.

The motion carried unanimously.

Appearances & Public Presentations

The Center for Heirs Property Preservation – Jennie L. Stephens, Exec. Director

Ms. Stephens explained how their services worked to help constituents and citizens of Colleton County.

Approval of Minutes

Regular Meeting April 3, 2012

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Dr. Flowers and seconded by Mr. Murdaugh.

The motion carried unanimously.

Awards and Recognition's

Proclamation: Peace Officers Memorial Day & Police Week 2012

Proclamation: April Beach & Carol Seigler of PRTC

Proclamation: Mitch Mongell- Ambassador Award

Mr. Robinson read all of the proclamations and presented them to the individuals.

Mr. Murdaugh made a motion to approve the proclamations and was seconded by Dr. Flowers.

The motion carried unanimously.

Administrative Briefing

Mr. Griffin said they had grand opening of the for the Farmer's Market last Monday. At this Saturday's market the St. Peter's AME male choir will be singing at noon.

Ball field construction is coming along well. Everything is on schedule.

No update on the LGF other than there is a story that came out this afternoon that the state has found an additional \$139,000,000 in revenue for next year that they were not aware of, so hopefully that will work for us in local government funds.

Thursday night will be the State of Colleton at the Museum at 6:00PM sponsored by Leadership Colleton.

Southern Carolina Alliance will have an annual meeting May 17, 2012.

Public Hearing

None

Old Business

None

New Business

Resolution 12-R-48, To Designate Continued Fund Balance in SSRB Economic Development and Capital Improvement Fund (Fund 149).

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Mr. Murdaugh and seconded by Mr. Taylor.

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 12-R-49, To Approve a Contract With ICON Software Corporation to Publish Certain Probate Records to the Internet.

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Mr. Whetsell.

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 12-R-50, To Declare Surplus Vehicles and Various Equipment and To Authorize Their Sale in Accordance with County Policy.

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Mr. Whetsell and seconded by Mr. Murdaugh.

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 12-R-51, To Authorize the Purchase of a Used Fire Truck from Brindlee Mountain Fire Apparatus.

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Dr. Flowers and seconded by Mr. Murdaugh.

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 12-R-52, To Authorize the Purchase of a 2.7-Acre Parcel of Land Adjacent to Fire Station 15 on Ashton Road, for Use as a Site for Expansion of the Fire Station.

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Mr. Whetsell and seconded by Mr. Taylor.

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 12-R-53, To Authorize Acceptance and Budgeting of Funds for a Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelly Foundation Grant Received for the Museum for FY2011-2012.

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Mr. Murdaugh.

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 12-R-54, To Approve a Quit-Claim Deed from Colleton County To Colleton Preparatory Academy, Inc. for the Road Known as Warhawk Drive (S-15-635) and to Authorize the Administrator to Execute Said Deed.

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Mr. Whetsell and seconded by Mr. Taylor.

The motion carried 4-1(Murdaugh abstained)

Resolution 12-R-55, To Award the Purchase of a Storage Area Network (SAN) System to eGroup, through State Contract.

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Dr. Flowers.

Mr. Murdaugh said would like for the administrator to explain what the SAN is and the other thing in the interoffice memorandum from the IT Director where it states that our current SAN has been in place for five years, the next paragraph it says something about 75% of the space to host several applications that are used to access, I'm just wondering this is a very expensive software. I'm not saying I fully understand exactly what it does, but if there is a lot of excess applications, perhaps that we don't use, can we free that up somehow? Anything we can do

Mr. Griffin said he would prefer if we would move this item to executive session because of the security issues related to the system itself that I would prefer not to discuss in open session. I can say the fact that number one the system is obsolete at this point. They are no longer offering service to it and it is not expandable and we are adding to the load everyday and we can't get rid of anything basically that is on there. Second thing I talked about in the workshop, that it is a heavy upfront cost. Now we are moving to virtualize the entire county network. This is the backbone storage center, nerve center basically for the county government, which includes, Treasurers Office, Auditor's Office, Assessor's, anything we do, Sheriff's Office. Actually the Sheriff's Office is not on our network and this will allow us to bring them on. The other key thing that it will allow us to do is virtualize our network. In common terms let me explain what that would do. Virtualizing the network will allow us to, all of our operations would actually be inducted into this system and not on your personal laptop or PC, which allows us to dramatically reduce the costs of a desk to desk application from a \$1,000-\$1,400 unit to a \$200-\$300 unit max. Consider that with 350-400 on the system could be considerable savings over time. Other than that there are a few other key items that would be included in that. This item is on state contract and I will be glad to go over with you in detail in executive session.

Mr. Murdaugh said he has a few other questions, but we can hold it till then.

Mr. Taylor and Dr. Flowers withdrew their motions.

Consensus of council was to move the item to executive session.

Resolution 12-R-56, To Approve the Use of the County Parking Lot for the Youth Council of the Colleton County Branch of the NAACP for a Health Fair.

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Dr. Flowers and seconded by Mr. Taylor.

The motion carried unanimously.

1st Reading Ordinance 12-O-04, To Provide for the Levy of Taxes in Colleton County, South Carolina, for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2012 Through June 30, 2013; to Provide for All Other Appropriations Thereof; and to Provide for Other Matters Related Thereto.

A motion to approve 1st reading was made by Dr. Flowers and seconded by Mr. Taylor.

The motion carried unanimously.

1st Reading Ordinance 12-O-05, to Amend the Colleton County Code of Laws, Chapter 2.48 – Edisto River Canoe and Kayak Trail Commission by Repealing Said Section in its Entirety and Replacing it with Chapter 2.48 – ACE Basin Commission.

A motion to approve 1st reading was made by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Mr. Murdaugh.

The motion carried unanimously.

1st Reading Ordinance 12-O-07, to Amend Chapter 8 – Administration, Section 8.3 Permits, Paragraph 8.3.2 (B) of the Colleton County Zoning Ordinance in Order to Promote Compliance With Development Requirements.

A motion to approve 1st reading was made by Mr. Whetsell and seconded by Dr. Flowers.

Mr. Murdaugh said asked what was driving this issue to come to council.

Mr. Griffin said this goes back to you can't build a perfect mouse trap. This is to close some loopholes regarding our nuisance ordinance. There is also a code in the State Building Code ...inaudible... if there is a nuisance issue they can actually pull the building permit. If you pull the building permit you have six months to have activity on that building permit and you can actually request to extend that again. With the building code you can extend it out into infinity. Basically what we are trying to do is close the loophole in that so we can better enforce the nuisance ordinance.

Mr. Murdaugh said I understand the issue with the nuisance. Maybe I can use an example and you can tell me if I am right or wrong. When I read the wording where it says no zoning permit may be issued for any parcel where a violation of the nuisance ordinance, floodplain prevention ordinance or building code exists unless the zoning permit is issued as part of a compliance action. I guess what I am trying to get at is if you have a building, let's say you had a school and that school was sold and the purchaser of that school wanted to convert it to some other use; say a convalescent or an assistant living home; in the wording of the ordinance, I guess what my question is, it says you can't change or convert it to any other use unless you comply with the building code. Is that to mean on any addition or if you have something that is not in compliance to the building code are they going to have to go back and remedy all of the issues that are not in compliance with the building code? That I am a little concerned about

because people convert buildings from one use to another and it is very often the building in not in compliance with the code. I just wanted to know if that is what we are trying to accomplish.

Mr. Griffin said what we are trying to accomplish here as I said before; say you have a school that is in complete disrepair. The cost to develop that would be double what the cost to build a new center or building with the same square footage if it is another building. ...inaudible... in part of your nuisance agreement, there is a mediation portion of that and if it is a building that can be saved, we can allow for that within that agreement, but generally if you've got a building that cannot be saved, this could provide a loophole to some respects as they could say they are going to rebuild or I am going to this that or the other to it. I'm going to pull the building permit. At that point they are good for six months. The next six months they could say they are still working on it and could go on out pretty much to infinity in that case. If it is a case where they can truly rehab the property, we want to encourage them to do that.

Mr. Murdaugh said if I had a building I wanted to convert and use the building and I have some code violations in the building. I could apply for variance, in other words the language in this section of the ordinance is sorta vague it says if you if don't comply with the building code you can't convert the building to another use. What I am look for is there some way ...inaudible...

Mr. Griffin said all this says is if there is a compliance action on the property. We have already issued a citation for nuisance and we have already issued a citation for Flood Plain Ordinance non-compliance, Building Code non-compliance, if you come in to get a building permit, zoning permit, or flood plain permit, we don't then go out and issue a citation. It doesn't work that way. This is only on a structure we have already issued a violation under one of these codes and that has to be corrected prior to. If somebody were to pull a permit and then say you have a violation. This says that a compliance action is already in process.

The motion carried unanimously.

Items of Information & The Public Record

None

Public Comments

None

Council Time

None

Executive Session

- a) Economic Development
- b) Legal- Gaskin Lane
- c) Contractual

Regular Session

Mr. Robinson said items were discussed in executive session

Dr. Flowers made a motion to authorize administrator to get a letter of intent in regards to Project Frankfurt and was seconded by Mr. Taylor.

The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Murdaugh made a motion have the chairman appoint Mr. Bill Workman, Councilman Joe Flowers, and Chairman Robinson to the Southern Carolina Alliance Board and seconded by Mr. Taylor.

The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve resolution 12-R-55, To Award the Purchase of a Storage Area Network (SAN) System to eGroup, through State Contract and was seconded by Mr. Murdaugh.

The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Flowers made a motion to allow the administrator to sign an agreement with Southern Carolina Alliance and seconded by Mr. Murdaugh.

The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned

Date: _____

Steven D. Murdaugh, Vice-Chairman

ATTEST:

Ruth Mayer, Clerk to Council

******* NOTICE OF THIS MEETING WAS GIVEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT**