

**MINUTES  
COLLETON COUNTY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2014  
6:00 P.M.  
COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, OLD JAIL BUILDING**

Colleton County Council met in Regular Session on Tuesday, December 2, 2014 at 6:00 PM, at the County Council Chambers, Old Jail Building. Phillip Taylor called the meeting to order with Council Members, Gene Whetsell, Dr. Flowers, Evon Robinson, Steven Murdaugh in attendance.

Others present included: Kevin Griffin, Ruth Mayer, Sean Thornton, Mary Henderson, Eleanor Hodges, Leroy Henderson, Isreal Hodges, Sr., Stinz Muckenfuss, Johnny Creel, Doris Creel, Jane Darby, Larry Darby, Donna Lamb, Arlene Washington

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

**Appearances & Public Presentations**

LCAA Update- Arlene Washington

Ms. Washington thanked Mr. Taylor as their board chairman for helping to improve Lowcountry Community Action Agency's program, operations, exploring partnerships, and instrumental in bringing the positive message of LCAA to the attention of the Governor of SC. He has been the most effective chair that we have had the pleasure of being associated with for my 19 years of employment. Not to mention his total dedication to participating in all of the local events sponsored by the organization. We thank you for revitalizing the agency. Lowcountry is a better place and is recognized within the community and wanted everyone to know they had someone who cares.

Ms. Washington then thanked the County and County Administration for the concern and caring for providing space for those disadvantaged and disenfranchised children & families of our community & maintaining the property. By providing this you have given hope & afforded them shelter. To show the impact in the last two years we have served approximately 150 clients, which equates to approximately 4,529 bed nights in which over 35% of those clients were children. There are two factors we found that contribute to the cause of their homelessness, which are lack of employment opportunities & a decline in public assistance. We have also found there are episodes that increase the factors, which are domestic violence and mental illness. You provided the shelter, we provided the funds and the partnership works really well. This has demonstrated that County Government cares about all of its people, not only the rich but the middle class and the poor. I am proud of you as County Council Members, Kevin, our Administrator and our community in working together. I look forward to working with the county now and in the future to expand services when the opportunity presents itself. For your

foresight I would like to present the county with this token of our appreciation, this plaque. It reads the Community Partnership Award presented to Colleton County Council and County Administration in recognition of your significant contribution to improve the quality of community life, the Lowcountry Community Action Agency's homeless women, children & family presented on this day December 2, 2014.

Ms. Washington then presented the Plaque to Mr. Phillip Taylor, Council Chairman.

Four Holes Indian Organization-Senior/Disabled Feeding Program- Stinz Muckenfuss

Mr. Muckenfuss said their chief, Dr. Creel and other Tribal Council members were unable to be here and send their sincere regards & apologies for not being able to attend this meeting. My role here is merely a citizen or resident of Colleton County. My roll with the Tribal Organization is just my name is on the roll itself I have no working identity with working with the county or the Indian organization. I am just here as their spokes person. Thank you Mr. Chairman for allowing us to present our proposal, this lets us know that our concerns now has become your concern. Our Organization is governed by a Chief, Vice Chief & a Tribal Council. We were founded & organized in 1969. We have been State recognized as an Indian Tribe through the Commission of Minority Affairs. We are non-profit organization 501C3 non-profit charitable organization. We do a lot of good work within the communities of Dorchester, Colleton, & other surrounding counties. Our proposal is the Senior Feeding Program. We ask that the council respectfully give this program over to the Indian Organization that we may be able to handle the funds and continue the feeding of the Seniors within our community. This program has been in operation since the late 80's. It has now somewhat come to a closure and we are asking is that you just allow our organization to operate and utilize the funds for this program that we may continue such a monumental need within the Colleton County area. The program in the past has been a blessing. We feed now more than 15 families (seniors or somewhat disabled). We have the capabilities of feeding many more should we have the funds to allow this. All the Indian Organization is asking for tonight is that you allow us to utilize or manage the operational funds for this program.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Regular Meeting November 10, 2014

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

The motion carried unanimously.

### **Administrative Briefing**

Mr. Griffin said we have two items on the agenda relating to the Capital Projects Sales Tax Referendum that recently passed. We have gotten that Certified at DOR. We do have a resolution certifying the results by the council and also a reimbursement resolution, which will allow us to go ahead now and start moving forward with the design of these projects. We did a reimbursement resolution for Law Enforcement Center. We

have received Architect & Engineer Proposals and those are short listed to five and will be interviewing those in the next week or so. We now have an RFP that has gone out for Architectural & Engineering Services for the other, what I would call vertical construction projects they would not be water & sewer, but building construction such as Recreation, Harrelson Bldg., a number of the other projects we talked about, airport terminal, those type things. What we have done with that is we sent out one proposal and asked each firm to submit any work that they have done in that regard and whatever that specific project is and we will review those to try to get each one of those moving forward so we can get them design and in the can so to speak. Then we will pace how we bid them. I think we talked about that a little bit last time at the meeting.

One other item of note, I do want to, excuse me two others, one is the resolution for the SC Rural Infrastructure Authority. That is related to Project Dent ...inaudible... some completion of infrastructure we are still working through some items. Those of you on the Airport Commission are aware with the FAA to get that one concluded, but that is going well.

We have a resolution to name the new Logistics Complex the Jefferson W. Howell Complex. I would like to recognize, we have a number of those folks from the family here tonight. We will do much more on this regard when we do the ribbon cutting. As ya'll remember we talked about this a number of months ago when we decided to go to construction, Mr. Howell was a vital part of our Fleet Management and Fire-Rescue Operations, I know he is certainly missed by those folks. I talked with Johnny a few minutes earlier and asked if he wanted to say a few words and he said he could not make it through it, but save if for the ribbon cutting. We are glad you all are here. This will be the formality of getting a resolution approved tonight and then we will officially....inaudible...and do the ribbon cutting.

We have a couple of things coming up.

The County Christmas Dinner is coming up. It will be held December 17<sup>th</sup> on Wednesday at 12:00 PM at the Museum/Farmers Market.

The Colleton County High School Christmas Program will be Thursday, December 11<sup>th</sup>  
At 7:00PM

The Christmas Lighting and Parade is Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, which is this Sunday at 6:00PM

On December 15<sup>th</sup> Colleton County Legislative Delegation will be meeting here in the Council Chambers that is a Monday evening at 5:30PM and on that agenda we will have the request for the SCDNR Water Recreation Resource Funds. We have moved that along rather well now. Mr. Stieglitz has gotten the quotes in on the system itself so that will be on that agenda as well. Please join us if you can.

Mr. Taylor asked if any council members had any questions for the administrator.

Mr. Murdaugh said I know as we start moving forward with all these different projects, at some point I want us to have a discussion again about our Local Vendor Preference Ordinance and how it may impact these projects and whether we have some need to modify that as we head into these. My hope is that these projects will benefit, not just our contractors, but sub-contractors tremendously, so I don't know the appropriate time to do that.

Mr. Griffin said he thought the first of the year would be appropriate. We've got some good information kinda put together on that and we were waiting to see how things moved forward in that regard. It gets rather complicated when you start looking at slides and skills and a few other things we were working out to look at how State Procurement handles that, but we will certainly pull that information together and have it ready for discussion in January. Maybe better to do that in a workshop setting than a council meeting setting.

Mr. Murdaugh said he agreed with that.

Council members discussed and consensus was to have discussion during a workshop setting.

Mr. Griffin said they could probably attach that to the 1<sup>st</sup> budget workshop.

Council members all agreed.

### **Old Business**

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading, Ordinance 14-O-13, To Further Amend the Agreement for Development of a Joint County Industrial Park, by and Between Colleton County, South Carolina and Charleston County, South Carolina, Providing for the Development of a Jointly Owned and Operated Industrial/ Business Park, so as to Include Additional Property in Charleston County as Part of the Joint County Industrial Park and to Amend the Terms of the Agreement.

A motion to approve 2<sup>nd</sup> reading was made by Dr. Flowers and seconded by Mr. Murdaugh.

The motion carried unanimously.

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading, Ordinance 14-O-14, To Amend Title 14 – Land Management, Article 14-08-6 – Signs of the Colleton County Code of Ordinances.

A motion to approve 2<sup>nd</sup> reading was made by Mr. Whetsell and seconded by Mr. Murdaugh.

The motion carried unanimously.

## **New Business**

Resolution 14-R-79, To Declare The Results Of A Referendum Held On November 4, 2014, In Colleton County, South Carolina, For The Purpose Of Determining Whether Or Not, Pursuant To The Capital Project Sales Tax Act, A One Percent (1%) Sales And Use Tax (The "Tax") Should Be Imposed Within Colleton County For Not More Than Eight (8) Years, The Proceeds Of Which Would Be Expended For The Purpose Of The Costs Of Certain Capital Projects Within Colleton County As Set Forth In The Capital Project Sales Tax Referendum (The "Referendum Projects") Pursuant To The Capital Project Sales Tax Act.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 14-R-80, To Provide Preliminary Authorization For The Funding Of Certain Capital Projects In Colleton County As Set Forth In The Capital Project Sales Tax Referendum (The "Referendum Projects"); To Declare The Intent Of County Council To Reimburse Colleton County For Expenditures Relating To The Referendum Projects From Proceeds Of Tax-Exempt Obligations; To Authorize The County Staff To Proceed With Structuring The Financing For The Referendum Projects; And To Provide For Other Matters Relating Thereto.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 14-R-81, To Authorize the Acceptance and Budgeting of Grant Funds from the South Carolina Rural Infrastructure Authority for Water and Wastewater Improvements at the Lowcountry Regional Airport Industrial Park.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 14-R-82, To Officially Name the County's Facility Located at 113 Mable T. Willis Boulevard the "Jefferson W. Howell, Jr. Complex."

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Taylor read the resolution for the record to the audience and presented it to Mr. Howell's mother.

Resolution 14-R-83, To Authorize a Provision of Office Space and Telephone Services to the South Carolina Office of Continuum of Care.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

### **Public Comments**

Christina Riley- Daddy Doyles Lane- Cottageville- I moved into the property in 2002 and since then have gained a handicapped mom in 2005 and handicapped brother and both in wheelchair and a daughter who is diagnosed with autism. Over the years the road has sustained damage from the traffic (EMS, Fire Trucks & County transportation vehicles) Gaining access to my property with the floods we have had recently in the last few years has now made the road impassable. I am at the point where I am using other people's property in order to gain access to the handicap bus that picks up my daughter up. I have personally tried to do numerous repairs to the lane, but has become impossible to keep fill dirt ...inaudible... in the holes. I am worried in the future that when an emergency arrives again that the County vehicles will not be able to gain access to us and I would hate to think that I have to worry about that in a life and death situation. I have contacted all of the agencies in reference to this problem to see if there is any programs that can assist us at this point and I understand they do not. The County has already placed handicap ramps for me under the Medicaid Program that I am under and I would like to see now if the County can help me with arising emergency situation I have right now. Even tonight as it rains we are almost in the woods trying to get back to my property. I am having to use the church property for the County bus to come through and pick my daughter up. We can use assess to Hwy. 61, but by the time it takes to get her loaded, traffic starts backing up. The bus will probably start causing damage to the church property, which will probably cause I would think a feud coming up soon, which I can't hardly repair the Lane, I am not going to be able to repair the church yard. I spoke with the church pastor and the other residences in the back is my aunt, which is most disable too so I have my hands full and work 7 days a week. I had Jared Fralix the County Engineer come out and did an estimate and it is quite extravagant the amount it takes to get this lane up to proper county to have them help me, but something if the county can just help me just become in a passable state to get back to us so that if something does happen, my mom is 400 lbs., she can't even move and an ambulance has to come back to her. My brother with Downs can't walk well and then my daughter with autism, she is a flight risk, so I just have numerous disable around me and seeing if the county and I am sure if the citizens agree also, I am not just some normal person that is just wanting my lane paved. I feel like I have a warranted amount of disable down there that I need to get this accessible.

**Council Time**

No comments were made

**Executive Session**

- a) Economic Development- Palmetto Railways

**Regular Session**

No further actions were taken.

The meeting was adjourned.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Steven D. Murdaugh, Chairman

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ruth Mayer, Clerk to Council

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