

**MINUTES  
COLLETON COUNTY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2016  
6:00 P.M.  
COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, OLD JAIL BUILDING**

Colleton County Council met in Regular Session on Tuesday, February 2, 2016 at 6:00 PM, at the County Council Chambers, Old Jail Building. Steven Murdaugh called the meeting to order with Council Members, Gene Whetsell, Dr. Flowers, Evon Robinson, in attendance. Phillip Taylor, Absent

Others present included: Kevin Griffin, Ruth Mayer, Sean Thornton, Tom Whitacre, Kimberly Footman, Tom Mann, Marga Lene Irvin, Pamela White, James White, Janice Taylor, Denney Cowley, Andy Strickland, Buddy Hill, Robert L. Terry, Reginald McNeil, Johnny Holmes, Horace Simmons, Roy Williams, James Rutledge

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

**Awards and Recognitions**

Proclamation for Colleton County Council's Recognition and Appreciation of James White and his Service to the Veterans of Colleton County.

Mr. Murdaugh read the proclamation into the record.

A motion to approve the proclamation was made by Dr. Flowers and seconded by Mr. Robinson.

The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. White said you never know when people are recognizing what you do until you get such an award as this. It has been such a pleasure of being a ...inaudible... for Colleton County and the Veteran's.

**Approval of Minutes**

Regular Meeting January 5, 2016

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

The motion carried unanimously.

**Appearances & Public Presentations**

DNR Shooting Range - Tom Whitacre

Mr. Whitacre said he had gotten in his head well over a year ago about getting a shooting range that was close to home. I went to SCDNR web page and looked at what they had as far as funds and ranges throughout the state. Colleton County does not have a DNR sponsored shooting range. I stopped off at the shooting range in the Francis Marion area and look at that range and was surprised at their facility. I am a strong supporter of the 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment and I feel if we don't exercise our rights we are bound to give them up at one time or another. I am a strong supporter of the Constitution and I feel if we ever lose the 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment we will lose the Constitution. I am a member of the NRA and do what I can do to support them. I have talked to most of you (pointing to council members), but haven't talked to Dr. Flowers about his feelings on the DNR Sponsored gun range. I feel it would benefit Colleton County with such a facility. It would offer a place for not children, but youngsters and adults alike to be able to go to a safe place and practice their firearm skills. I've just started with this and have just taken it on as a project for myself. I emailed Mr. Boyer from SCDNR. Told him I was interested and was doing some research. He emailed me back and sent me some things that I may want to consider doing to get started. One of the things was talking to the county administrator, county council, talking to people around the community and so far the people I have talked to have been interested in the topic and the sport. I am talking to people to get all points of view, so we can gather as much information as possible. I did find today that there was an accidental shooting today at the Palmetto Gun Club some time ago. A man was carrying a loaded firearm and stumbled/tripped and fell down and shot himself. Killed himself, but no charges were filed. I asked SCDNR, Mr. Boyer if he was aware of any issues or felonies that had been associated with gun ranges sponsored by DNR and he said he was not aware of any such issues. The people that come to those types of facilities as far as I know are responsible people who are interested in responsible firearm management. I'm just getting started with my research and where it will lead I do not know. I hope that it will lead to something the county could be proud of.

Mr. Murdaugh said I think what we can do is ask our administrator to look into what is required for a DNR sponsored range and some various as sundry other things.

Dr. Flowers said they had talked about a year or two ago when we were at a county meeting at Hilton Head and they brought this up. There are funds available for this through DNR and also they will help us get established with a range. We talked about this and never did get into it.

Mr. Griffin said on a follow-up on Dr. Flowers' comments. I did have a chance to catch back up with Mr. Boyer this week. There are US Fish & Wild Life funds that come down through the DNR for this purpose. Those funds are taken up for another 12-24 months. They just finished a range in Laurens that was about a \$300,000 range and then Mr. Whitacre just referenced the Twin Ponds Range over in the National Forest; they are doing right at a \$1,000,000 improvement to it now and right now those funds are going towards finishing that project. It is a 75%/25% match as those funds come down. He did say they have also partnered with the National Wild Turkey Federation for both a shooting range and sporting clays facility up in I believe that is Edgefield is where they

are located. He did say they would be very interested in this region. He also said the Jasper County and Beaufort County folks have been interested too, but he thought we would be an ideal location and now would be the time to start planning as those funds would become available sometime in the next 12-24 months. We also talked about you need somewhere between 75-100 acres and locating that site would be critical. He gave us some good information and we will continue talking with him to try to get that to move.

## Capital Projects Update – John Stieglitz

Mr. Stieglitz gave an overview/progress report of all the Capital Sales Tax Projects

### **Administrator's Briefing**

Mr. Griffin said Mr. Stieglitz stole a lot my thunder already this evening and I thought he did a fine job with his presentation on getting you all updated on the projects. He and Ms. Kaye and all the folks ...inaudible... have been working double time right now trying to stay on top of these projects as well as all the other things they have going on in the purchasing department and we appreciate it.

A couple of quick things I want to bring you up to date on; today we signed the last final closing document on our FEMA assistance grants related to the flood. In total we ended up with a little over \$170,000 that came back to the county, primarily in force assistance with our aid during the storm as well as we had a number of areas ...inaudible... structures and such that were damaged we have been able to get some funding to repair those as well, but we did get that closed out today and we got closed out early so we went from the 70% to the 80% funding range on that because we were able to do it within a short time frame.

In the flood regard, we continue to get a lot of road calls because of the water and we are responding to them as fast as we can. Mr. Washington and his crew at Roads & Bridges is already just about at their yearly allotment for rock & pipe and crush & run and those type things. It seems like every time they start to dry up a little bit we get another 3-4 inches of rain. Hopefully we will get a little relief and get on top of all those shortly.

We have been without an Animal Control & Environment Control Director for about 6 months and Mr. Reggie McNeal has been filling as Mr. John Glass moved over to Dogwood Hills Golf Course. Went through a process and decided that Mr. McNeal was the best one for the job. He has been with us since February 2014 and is retired from the Department of Corrections and also has over 30 years with the National Guard. The FOCCAS folks had all kind of good remarks about him and that is our support group for Animal Control.

Mr. Griffin then introduced Mr. McNeal to everyone.

### **Public Hearing**

Providing For Infrastructure Or Special Source Revenue Credits To Buscot, LLC; Authorizing An Infrastructure Credit Agreement Between Colleton County And Buscot, LLC; Providing For The Allocation Of Fees-In-Lieu Of Taxes Payable Under The Agreement For Development For A Joint County Industrial Park With Hampton County; And Other Matters Relating Thereto.

Mr. Murdaugh said for the record this is Ordinance 15-O-18.

No comments were made.

### **Old Business**

3<sup>rd</sup> Reading Ordinance 15-O-18, Providing For Infrastructure Or Special Source Revenue Credits To Buscot, LLC; Authorizing An Infrastructure Credit Agreement Between Colleton County And Buscot, LLC; Providing For The Allocation Of Fees-In-Lieu Of Taxes Payable Under The Agreement For Development For A Joint County Industrial Park With Hampton County; And Other Matters Relating Thereto.

A motion to approve 3<sup>rd</sup> reading was made by Mr. Whetsell and seconded by Dr. Flowers.

The motion carried unanimous.

### **New Business**

Resolution 16-R-08, To Authorize the Renewal of the Commercial Lease Agreement between Colleton County and South Carolina Department of Corrections Young Offender Parole & Reentry Services for Office Space in the Bernard Warshaw Complex.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 16-R-09, To Request the Colleton County Legislative Delegation's Support of Governor Nikki Haley's \$40,000,000 Funding for Beach Nourishment.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 16-R-10, To Establish the Day and Time for Regular County Council Meetings.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 16-R-11, To Authorize Acceptance and Budgeting of Funds for Various Grants Received for Fiscal Year 2015-2016.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 16-R-12, To Appoint Member to Board Vacancy.

A motion to approve the resolution by acclimation appointing Brian M. Johnson to the Colleton County Recreation Commission was made by Mr. Whetsell and seconded by Mr. Robinson.

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 16-R-13, To Authorize the Submittal of a Grant Application Related to the South Carolina Department of Public Safety Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program for a Street Gang Unit.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 16-R-14, To Authorize the Submittal of a Grant Application to the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism for the Recreational Trails Program Grant.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 16-R-15, To Reimburse the City of Walterboro for Costs Associated with Engineering and Construction for Capital Projects Sales Tax Project 7 – Hampton, Washington, Ivanhoe Water Line Improvements.

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

Dr. Flowers said the thing in the resolution that says plus any unforeseen costs relative to the construction ...inaudible... we need to put a cap on that. We don't want it misconstrued to authorize anything. I think we need to cap it at the Capital Sales Tax Project amount.

Mr. Murdaugh said how do we word that?

Mr. Griffin said I believe I would just say up to the amount funded in the Capital Sales Tax Project #7.

Mr. Whetsell amended his motion to state that and Mr. Robinson seconded the amendment.

The motion carried unanimously with the amendment.

Resolution 16-R-16, To Designate Kenworth as a Sole Source for the Purchase of One Kenworth T888 Class 8 with a Galbreath Roll-off System for the Solid Waste Department.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 16-R-17, To Authorize the Acceptance of a Grant Application to the South Carolina Department of Social Services for the Child and Adult Care Food Program Grant for 2016.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 16-R-18, To Appoint Employees to the Colleton County Grievance Committee.

A motion to approve the resolution appointing Frankie Varnadoe, Nancy Davis & Nancy Wright (Alternate) was made by Mr. Whetsell and seconded by Mr. Robinson.

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 16-R-19, To Authorize the Council Clerk to Advertise for Board Vacancies.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 16-R-20, To Authorize an Appropriation from Council's Contingency (Fund 100) to Cover Election Costs not Covered by the South Carolina State Election Commission.

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

Discussion regarding asking delegation to see about passing a law to have both Democrat and Republican elections on the same day in the future to help costs.

Dr. Flowers said he thought we should write our delegation and ask them to pass a law that would accomplish this.

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 16-R-21, To Request the Colleton County Legislative Delegation's Support of Governor Nikki Haley's Full Funding of the Local Government Fund.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

### **Items for Information and Public Record**

None

### **Public Comments**

Nancy Whitt- I was glad to see the county recognize Mr. White's accomplishments in the VA and I was here tonight to recognize Ms. Janice's contribution. I think I saw her on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of her full week by herself in the VA office and she was more than helpful. I think she stayed on the phone for two hours with VA Debt Management on my behalf. After I was gone for maybe an hour she called me back and finally had gotten in touch with them and resolved my issues. I know people are always real quick to find fault and are very vocal about when they are not happy, so I just wanted to take this opportunity to thank her and recognize for the fine job she did for me. Thank you.

Roy Williams – East Side Acres- I am still upset with our community park ...inaudible...

Mr. Griffin said as you know, we've just gotten some ...inaudible...grant funding and we are actually just starting the process now. We have about six projects that are going through the SC Parks and Recreation Development Funding, the Legislative Delegation just approved. We are starting that process now. As I said we have six of them and two that have to be submitted prior to May. These are in the 2014 funding list and once we get those done we will move on to the next four projects on the list which will include East Side Acres. You are probably looking at the middle to the end of March before we get those applications squared away.

**Council Time**

Mr. Murdaugh said he did get a call about the Hendersonville community solid waste site. I think they had a situation where, anyway I think it was just the one day.

Mr. Griffin said it was a personnel issue.

Mr. Murdaugh said they haven't closed, but the convenient site in Hendersonville is normally opened on Saturday. For the record we have not closed that convenient site.

**Executive Session**

- a) Economic Development
  - 1) Project Deck
  - 2) Project Wrapper
  - 3) Project Strick
  
- b) Real Estate - Mable T. Willis Blvd.

**Regular Session**

Mr. Murdaugh said the items were discussed in executive session.

Resolution 16-R-22, To Authorize a Fund Balance Appropriation from Fund 142 – Infrastructure/Industrial Development Fund for Direct Assistance to CCEDC, One, Inc. for Economic Development Projects.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned.



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

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Joseph F. Flowers, Vice-Chairman

ATTEST:

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Ruth Mayer, Clerk to Council

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