

**MINUTES
COLLETON COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2015
6:00 P.M.
COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, OLD JAIL BUILDING**

Colleton County Council met in Regular Session on Tuesday, January 13, 2015 at 6:00 PM, at the County Council Chambers, Old Jail Building. Sean Thornton, County Attorney called the meeting to order with Council Members, Phillip Taylor, Gene Whetsell, Dr. Flowers, Evon Robinson, Steven Murdaugh in attendance.

Others present included: Kevin Griffin, Ruth Mayer, Sean Thornton, Tommy Mann, Donna Lamb, Hines Muckenfuss, Johnny Creel, Wanda McCarley, Amye Stivender, David Jackson, Buddy Hill, Iris Hill, Pete Anderson, Andy Strickland

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

Post 2014 Election & Formative Actions:

- a) Seating of Chairman-Steve Murdaugh (In accordance to Ordinance11-O-02)
- b) Seating of Vice-Chairman-Joseph Flowers(In accordance to Ordinance11-O-02)
- c) Election of Council Members to LCOG (3 members)
- d) Chairman's Designation of Three Members of Council to LCAA Board

Mr. Thornton said in pursuant to Ordinance 11-O-02 at this time I recognize the incoming chairman of County Council Mr. Steve Murdaugh.

Mr. Murdaugh said welcome to the meeting tonight ladies and gentlemen. What you have just witnessed is the changing of the officers that we do every two years. We are now on the rotation pursuant to our ordinance that was adopted in 2011 and the next item is the seating of our vice-chairman Dr. Joe Flowers and I would like to recognize Dr. Flowers as the new vice-chairman, which is a chairman elect of county council, so congratulations Dr. Flowers.

Mr. Murdaugh said I would like to thank chairman Taylor our outgoing chairman, he has a been a freshman member of council, the youngest and he did a magnificent job as chairman and I wanted to thank him and give him a round of applause.

Mr. Murdaugh said the next item is the election of council members to LCOG and the designation of members to LCAA. I am going to suspend those unless there is some objection and everyone will continue to serve until next month. My reason for doing that is I want to review the by-laws as well as we also have a committee structure, which is rarely used, but there is some appointments and perhaps some things that need to be done on that as well and I would like just to review the by-laws and some of the things

on these appointments. Without any objection I will suspend that until the February meeting. I would also at this time like to ask if we could get a motion

Mr. Robinson interrupted and said before you move from that if you would sir, in regards to the LCOG so far as the selection for the LCOG, the present persons who now serve on the LCOG having been re-elected will serve as long as they are elected. That will clear that one up. Just for the record.

Mr. Murdaugh said right and I think that is part of the reason I want to review this. I think in the past we've brought this issue up, but the way it is written, is once those members are elected until they are no longer elected or unless they chose to resign.

Mr. Robinson said that is exactly right.

Mr. Murdaugh said I would like to move at this time or ask if we can get a motion to amend the agenda to add an executive session item related to the courthouse security.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Regular Meeting December 2, 2014

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Special Meeting December 11, 2014

A motion to approve the minutes as made by Dr. Flowers and seconded by Mr. Taylor.

The motion carried unanimously.

Administrator's Briefing

Mr. Griffin said one thing I wanted to hit off the top, we have had a number of questions about Capital Projects Sales Tax, it getting started as to when it goes into effect. It actually goes into effect May 1ST; it does not go into effect January 1ST. We are working through our bonding. The first project will be the Law Enforcement Center; we will be bringing that contract to you in executive session for design professional for that. For all the other county projects January 20th is the deadline date for Architects and Engineers to submit to participate in those contracts.

Mr. Griffin said he had had a few questions about Item “A” on the agenda; this is part of the Kitchen Projects and things we are trying to do to clean up around the museum. SCE&G has very gratefully donated roughly \$90,000 to our project over there. With that they are re-directing and taking all, there are some old power poles that are down the street right in front of the museum, they are going to take and remove all of those. With those there is a guide wire that actually runs across the top of the museum to the back of the property and that will be removed. This is placing a new guide pole which will be in the front kinda hidden around the palm trees on the arbor side. It will clean that up. The three phase power is going down Neyle Street and the actual power for the project will be brought underground so you want have any overhead wires on that side with the exception of Wichman Street. That is what that is.

Mr. Murdaugh said on the Capital Project Sales Tax do you know, the funds will be remitted to the Department of Revenue is that correct?

Mr. Griffin said that was correct.

Mr. Murdaugh said will the merchants’ sales tax returns have a line added into their form or is there some separate form or how is that

Mr. Griffin said that was his understanding that it will be added into their form, but we will get all that clarified and get the information out to the merchants.

New Business

1st Reading Ordinance 15-O-01, Granting Easement No. 892842 to South Carolina Electric and Gas Across a Portion of Property Owned by Colleton County Located at 506 E. Washington Street in the City of Walterboro, County Colleton, SC; Such Easement is to be Used for the Installation, Operation and Maintenance of Electrical Facilities within Colleton County, SC; to Authorize Execution and Recording of the Easement Documents; and 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 15-O-02, To Amend Title 14-Land Management, Section 14.08-6.050(A)(3)(a) – Freestanding On-Premise Signs, of the Colleton County Code of Ordinances.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 15-R-01, Establishing a Policy for Funding to Non-Profit Agencies and to Clarify General Audit and Reporting Standards for Non-Profit Agencies Receiving Outside Direct Assistance from Colleton County.

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

Dr. Flowers said one thing he would like to point out is that in this resolution it says organizations applying must have a track record of meeting a community need by having been in operation for at least two (2) years prior to the request for assistance. I would like to amend that to at least three (3) years. I think that you have to have a track record of three years. I think two (2) years is just not long enough for an organization to be in effect before we put taxpayers' dollars into it. I would like to amend it to three (3) years.

Dr. Flowers said the other thing is on section 5 where it shows how much each organization is getting this year. Is this right Mr. Administrator?

Mr. Griffin said yes.

Dr. Flowers said I think you need to realize that that may or may not be how much we will be able to give them this year it depends on our budget and I think this is just informational stuff right now pending our budgetary process.

Mr. Griffin said this is actually just stating what is already in the budget as the outside agencies and of course the issue was the level of audit scrutiny to each one of those agencies and we were trying to delineate that with the exception of the Four Holes Indian Organization that would be a change from the previous Creel Town. That is the only thing that would change from last year.

Dr. Flowers said I just wanted to clarify, but I do want to amend it for three (3) years instead of two (2) as far as the criteria for consideration of council.

The chairman (Mr. Murdaugh) asked Mr. Robinson if there was any objection to the amendment and Mr. Robinson said he did not object.

Mr. Murdaugh said so the motion will be amended accordingly. It will be change to read from two (2) years to three (3) years and that is under the Eligibility section.

There was no further discussion and the motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 15-R-02, To Authorize the Budgeting of \$29,700,757 in Revenue Related the Capital Projects Sales Tax into Revenue and Expenditure Line Items in Fund 143 - Capital Projects Sales Tax Fund in the FY 2015 Budget.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 15-R-03, To Authorize a Provision of Office Space to South Carolina Department of Corrections Young Offender Parole & Reentry Services.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 15-R-04, To Approve Various Mutual Aid Agreements Between the Colleton County Sheriff's Office and Surrounding Jurisdictions.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 15-R-05, To Authorize a Memorandum of Understanding by and between the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement Homeland Security Investigations and the Colleton County Sheriff's Office.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 15-R-06, To Approve Acceptance of a Grant from Coastal Electric Cooperative in the amount of \$119,000 for Industrial Infrastructure Development.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 15-R-07, To Authorize the Acceptance and Budgeting of Grant Funds from the South Carolina Coordinating Council for Economic Development in the form of a Rural Infrastructure Fund Grant for Water and Wastewater Improvements at the Lowcountry Regional Airport Industrial Park in relation to Palmetto Aero, LLC.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 15-R-09, 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 Dr. Flowers and seconded by Mr. Robinson.

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 15-R-10, To Authorize the Purchase of Vehicles and Equipment by the Fleet Management Department.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 15-R-12, To Appoint Member to Board Vacancies.

Colleton County Commission of Alcohol & Drug Abuse: Linda Poole, Patricia Grant
Board of Assessment & Appeals: Dorothy Ferrette, Wanda McCarley
Board of Disabilities & Special Needs: Eartha Cunningham, James M. Bunton, Jr.
Board of Adjustments & Appeals (Bldg. Dept.): Angelo Pacilio (General)

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments

Nyah-el:dey- complaints re: Chestnut Road

Stacey Daniels- Needs county support & help to locate original plans (Blue Prints) for Ivenia School. Trying to get program started for the youth in Greenpond

Isaac Johnson- Project manager for Ms. Daniels really need the original plans (Blue Prints) for Ivenia School.

Mr. Whetsell said he has tried to help locate the original plans and has been unsuccessful. He knows the school was built in 1955, but unable to locate any plans for the building. The county does not have the set of plans in our plan file. I've gone through the school plans and cannot locate the plans there either.

Mr. Robinson said he remembered while serving on the School Board they had a private person purchase that school. Where you able to find any records from that person?

Mr. Whetsell said no, I know who the real-estate person was Jimmy Williams and he never saw the plans.

Council Time

Mr. Taylor said there was a committee we were trying to form in relation to the request we got from Ms. Sandra Ligon and that group called again today. I know we had gotten a couple of calls in relation to the committee.

Mr. Murdaugh said are you talking about the Human Affairs?

Mr. Taylor said yes. Have we gotten any feedback on that?

Mr. Griffin said we had followed up with them, but can't remember at the moment. If it will be okay I look and see what it was and bring it to the next meeting.

Executive Session

- a) Legal
 - 1. Real Estate
 - 2. Contractual- Law Enforcement Center, Courthouse Security
- b) Economic Development- Palmetto Railways
- c) Personnel-Sheriff's Office

Regular Session

Mr. Murdaugh said all items were discussed in executive session and at this time I would like to propose a resolution 15-R-08, To Authorize the Purchase of Property Located on Mable T. Willis Boulevard Adjacent to the Law Enforcement Center Property and to Authorize the County Administrator to Execute all Purchase Documents.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Murdaugh said he would like to propose resolution 15-R-11, to Award the Contract for Architectural and Engineering Design Services for the Law Enforcement Complex in the Amount of \$371,500.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Murdaugh said he would like to propose resolution 15-R-13, to Authorize the Purchase of Closed Circuit Television for the Colleton County Courthouse Security.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Murdaugh said he would like to recommend some position changes & pay adjustments in the Sheriff's office, the personnel that was discussed with the Sheriff.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

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**