

**RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL  
REGULAR SESSION  
JULY 13, 2004  
5:00 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Bernice G. Scott, Chair; Joan B. Brady, Vice-Chair; Susan Brill (arrived at 6:20); Paul Livingston; Doris M. Corley; Joseph McEachern; Anthony Mizzell (arrived at 6:15); L. Gregory Pearce, Jr.; Kit Smith; Thelma M. Tillis; James Tuten

**OTHERS PRESENT:** T. Cary McSwain, Michielle Cannon-Finch, Larry Smith, Amelia Linder, Michael Criss, Tony Mizzell, Milton Pope, Pam Davis, Roxanne Matthews, Ashley Bloom, Chief Harrell, Carrie Neal, Monique Walters, Stephany Snowden, Marsheika Martin

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at approximately 5:00 p.m.

**INVOCATION**

Ms. Michielle Cannon-Finch, Clerk of Council, asked that prayers be lifted for a Richland County employee who has lost their son who was killed while serving in Iraq.

The Invocation was given by Chaplain James.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**CITIZEN'S INPUT**

Colonel Gene Rogers with the South Carolina State Guard introduced other members of the South Carolina State Guard and gave a brief history of the upcoming special event.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Ms. Brady moved, seconded by Ms. Corley, to adopt the agenda as submitted. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**REPORT OF COUNTY ATTORNEY FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS**

Mr. Larry Smith, County Attorney, stated the following items need to be discussed in Executive Session:

- **Owens Field Contractual Matter**
- **Contractual Matter – Property Acquisition**

Ms. Brady requested moving the Executive Session items to the end of the agenda, after Citizen's Input.

## REPORT OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

- a. **Richland 101 for Kids** – Mr. T. Cary McSwain informed Council of the 1<sup>st</sup> annual Richland 101 for Kids which is scheduled for Thursday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. He stated closed to 100 children have signed up.
- b. **Employee Longevity Reception** – Mr. McSwain reminded Council that the reception honoring employees who have served five (5) or more years with the County is scheduled for Friday, July 16<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.

**REPORT OF THE CLERK OF COUNCIL** – No report was given at this time.

## OPEN/CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

Ms. Scott opened the floor to the following public hearing items:

- **Ordinance amending classification rate schedules so as to add additional requirements for pawnshops and pawnbrokers** – Ms. Scott stated no one signed up to speak to this item.
- **An Ordinance authorizing a one-year postponement of the implementation of revised values resulting from the equalization program (reassessment)**

The following person spoke “against” this item: Ms. Evelyn Bush

- **An Ordinance amendment to provide that one-hundred percent of all funds received from the levy on a one percent sales tax must be applied to reduce all property taxes levied on the Richland County Tax Bills**

The following persons spoke “in favor” of this item: Ms. Charlene Wells, Mr. Tom Ruple and Mr. Robert Slimp.

The following persons spoke “against” this item: Ms. Evelyn Bush and Mr. Lonnie L. Shealy.

- **An Ordinance authorizing a referendum on the question of the adoption of a local option sales tax**

The following person spoke “against” this item: Ms. Evelyn Bush

## APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

Ms. Brady moved, and it was seconded, to approve the following items for the consent agenda:

- **Ordinance amending classification rate schedules so as to add additional requirements for pawnshops and pawnbrokers [Third Reading]**

The vote in favor was unanimous.

## **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

### **Regular Session: June 15, 2004**

Ms. Smith wanted to make sure that the Clerk's Office and everyone were in consensus that the motion adopted on Page 5, tab 2 was to give approval to the Spring Hill Single Family Residential Subdivision PUD with a limitation on the number of homes and then the language at the bottom of that page before Second Reading items: "before the sewer agreement is executed, the acquisition and condemnation of property will be determined and made public information." This change is striking "or" and inserting "and".

She stated she wanted to make sure that the main motion was passed with two amendments; 1) limiting the density of the number of homes, and 2) that the public and the Council be notified before the sewer agreement is executed if it required condemnation.

Ms. Scott requested for the Clerk's Office to listen to the tape again and clarify the motion that was passed.

A discussion took place.

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. Corley, to approve the minutes, making sure that part of the motion was that we review the sewer agreement if there is any condemnation and also making sure that the number of homes is incorporated. The vote in favor was unanimous.

### **Special Called Meeting: June 22, 2004**

Ms. Brady stated she was not present because of the election that evening. She stated this needed to be corrected in the minutes.

Mr. McEachern moved, seconded by Mr. Tuten, to approve the minutes as amended. The in favor was unanimous.

### **Zoning Public Hearing: June 22, 2004**

Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to approve the minutes as submitted. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Special Called Meeting: June 29, 2004**

Mr. Pearce stated he needed a point of clarification.

Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to reconsider the portion regarding the Owens Field Contract. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to approve the minutes. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**1. THIRD READING ITEMS**

- a. **An Ordinance authorizing a one-year postponement of the implementation of revised values resulting from the equalization program (reassessment)**

Mr. McSwain reminded Council of what he thought was Council's intent when the item was up for Second Reading.

After discussion, Mr. Mizzell moved, seconded by Mr. McEachern, to defer this item to the next Council meeting. The vote in favor was unanimous.

- b. **An Ordinance amendment to provide that one-hundred percent of all funds received from the levy on a one percent sales tax must be applied to reduce all property taxes levied on the Richland County Tax Bills**

Mr. Mizzell moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce/McEachern, to approve this item with the following Bush Amendment under the seventh *WHEREAS* on page 27:

*"WHEREAS, the Richland County Council may only amend this ordinance to redirect the revenues from the 1% sales tax for use other than property tax reduction by another referendum and authorization by the citizens of Richland County; and"*

Ms. Smith recommended adding another section rather than a *WHEREAS*.

Mr. Mizzell clarified his motion stating this amendment needed to be added as a Section and reorder the section numbers of the ordinance.

The vote was in favor of the motion.

**2. SECOND READING ITEMS**

- a. **04-57MA  
Brokers Realty  
C-3 to M-1  
Body Shop  
29004-02-01/02  
Corner of Two Notch Road**

Ms. Brill moved, seconded by Mr. McEachern, to defer this item to the next Zoning Public Hearing. The vote in favor was unanimous.

- b. **An Ordinance authorizing a referendum on the question of the adoption of a local option sales tax**

Mr. Mizzell moved, seconded by Mr. McEachern, to approve this item for Second Reading. The vote was in favor.

**3. REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

- a. **Resolution authorizing an Inducement Agreement between R.C. McEntire & Company, Inc., and R.C. McEntire Trucking, Inc., and Richland County**

Mr. Livingston stated the Committee recommended approval of the resolution.

Ms. Smith inquired about the accountability resolution being incorporated in the agreement. Mr. McSwain stated it is supposed to be in every agreement and stated if it is not there, it would be added.

Ms. Smith moved to amend the motion to make sure that the accountability resolution is incorporated into these terms. Mr. Livingston accepted the amendments. The vote in favor was unanimous.

- b. **Lower Richland Business Incubator** – Mr. Livingston stated the Committee recommended approval. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**4. ITEM FOR DISCUSSION**

- a. **Hospitality Tax**

Ms. Brady moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce/Ms. Tillis, to allocate \$25,000.00 of unallocated hospitality tax revenue of the FY 2005 for the purpose of funding, on a one-time basis, the Medal of Honor Banquet. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**5. REPORT OF RULES AND APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE**

**a. Notification of Vacancies**

Mr. McEachern reported vacancies on the following boards:

- 1. Employee Grievance Committee-2**
- 2. Planning Commission-1**

The Committee recommended for staff to advertise for the vacancies. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**b. Notification of Appointments**

- 3. Accommodations Tax Committee-4**

Mr. McEachern stated there are four vacancies on this committee with two applications received. The committee recommended re-appointing the two incumbents (Mr. Tony Tam and Ms. Sarah B. Watson). The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mr. McEachern stated the committee recommended re-advertising the two additional vacancies. The vote in favor was unanimous.

- 4. Central Midlands Council of Governments-3**

Mr. McEachern stated there are three vacancies to this board with three applications received. He stated the committee recommended re-appointing the two incumbents (Mr. Larry C. Cooke and Mr. Michael Allan Letts) and appointing the new applicant, Mr. Earl F. Brown.

- 5. Community Relations Council-4**

Mr. McEachern stated there are four vacancies on this board. He stated four applications were received; however, Ms. Sarah B. Watson was just re-appointed to another board. The committee recommended re-advertising for the one vacancy and appointing the following persons: Mr. David Edmond, Mr. Daron C. Myers, Mr. Tige Anthony Watts. The vote in favor was unanimous.

- 6. East Richland Public Service Commission-1**

Mr. McEachern stated there is one position vacant to this board with one application received. The Committee recommended appointing Mr. James S. Van Valkenburg. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**7. Internal Audit Committee-1**

Mr. McEachern stated there is one position vacant on this board with no applications received. Staff was directed to re-advertise. The Committee recommended for Mr. McSwain to continue searching for a person that meets the qualifications.

Ms. Smith stated she intends to make a motion to amend the ordinance to just say a person with some financial experience, not one requiring a CPA for it.

A discussion took place.

The vote in favor of the committee's recommendation was unanimous.

**6. CITIZEN'S INPUT** – No one signed up to speak at this time.

**7. EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS**

- a. Owens Field Contract**
- b. Contractual Matter – Property Acquisition**

Ms. Brady moved, and it was seconded, to go into Executive Session. The vote in favor was unanimous.

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**Council went into Executive Session at approximately 6:00 p.m. and came out at approximately 6:11 p.m.**  
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Ms. Brady moved, and it was seconded, to come out of Executive Session. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**a. Contractual Matter – Property Acquisition** – This was received as information.

**b. Owens Field Contract** – Mr. Pearce moved, and it was seconded, to direct the County Administrator to enter into a contractual agreement with Jim Hamilton Aircraft, Incorporated with operation of services at Columbia-Owens Downtown Airport pursuant to the document distributed in Executive Session. The vote was in favor. Ms. Smith opposed.

**MOTION PERIOD**

- Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. Brill, that the **Neighborhood Redevelopment funds** be taken up at the next meeting. The vote in favor was unanimous.
- Ms. Smith moved to authorize a resolution commending the **Junior League** for their work in education in Richland County.

- Ms. Smith requested to forward to the Administration and Finance Committee an amendment to the **internal audit committee** deleting the requirement for a CPA to serve on the committee and substituting three to five years extensive auditing or financial management experience.

A brief discussion took place.

Ms. Scott requested for the record to reflect that this motion was made by Ms. Smith and Mr. McEachern.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

**ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:15 p.m.

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Bernice G. Scott, Chair

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Joan B. Brady, Vice-Chair

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Susan Brill

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Paul Livingston

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Joseph McEachern

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Doris M. Corley

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Anthony G. Mizzell

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L. Gregory Pearce, Jr.

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Kit Smith

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Thelma M. Tillis

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James Tuten

The minutes were taken by Marsheika G. Martin