



Richland County Council

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

October 24, 2017 – 6:00 PM

Decker Center

2500 Decker Boulevard, Columbia, SC 29206

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Greg Pearce, Chair; Bill Malinowski, Paul Livingston, and Norman Jackson

OTHERS PRESENT: Joyce Dickerson, Dalhi Myers, Gwen Kennedy, Brandon Madden, Michelle Onley, Sandra Yudice, Stacey Hamm, Larry Smith, Jennifer Wladischkin, Shane Kitchens, Tracy Hegler, Ismail Ozbek, Dwight Hanna, Will Simon, and Kimberly Williams-Roberts

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Mr. Pearce called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 PM.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - a. September 26, 2017 – Mr. N. Jackson moved, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to approve the minutes as distributed. The vote in favor was unanimous.
3. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – Mr. Malinowski moved, seconded by Mr. N. Jackson, to adopt the agenda as published. The vote in favor was unanimous.
4. **ITEMS FOR ACTION**
 - a. Contract award for the Motorola 800 Megahertz Mototrbo System for Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center – Mr. Pearce stated this item is a contract award for the Motorola 800 Megahertz system for the Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center. The Detention Center is having communication difficulties within the system. The system would approve that and permit them to communicate. It was properly bid out and they are requesting the lowest responsive bid to be approved.

Mr. Malinowski inquired as to why this particular system was selected.

Mr. Kitchens stated in March he contacted a couple of vendors to inquire about a remedy for problems at the Detention Center. This was the proposal put in place for what the Detention Center was looking for.

Mr. Malinowski inquired since technology changes so rapidly, has any thought been given to leasing the equipment.

Mr. Kitchens stated the vendor did not discuss a leasing option, but that can be looked at if needed.

Mr. Malinowski inquired about the anticipated lifespan of this system.

Mr. Kitchens stated Communication Specialists indicated it would be 7-10 years.

Mr. Malinowski moved, seconded by Mr. Livingston, to forward to Council with a recommendation to approve the request to award the Motorola 800 Megahertz Mototrbo System to Communication Specialists Inc. in the amount of \$217,442.88.

Mr. Pearce inquired if this is a similar system to what the Sheriff's Department uses.

Mr. Kitchens stated the Sheriff's Department is on the Palmetto 800 Megahertz system. Whereas the Detention Center's 800 Megahertz system is for internal facility use only.

Mr. Pearce stated at one time the County did look at leasing similar equipment opposed to purchasing and it was cheaper to purchase than lease.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

- b. Award of Rivers Station Subdivision Road Repair and Paving project – Ms. Hegler stated this was brought to Council in June. An agreement was authorized with the developer. The developer had come to the County for assistance in fixing roads that were overdue for completion. The County proceeded in good faith to solicit bids, which is what is before you tonight. Unfortunately, in talking with the developer today he was not willing to sign the contract proposed to him.

Ms. Hegler further stated what was presented to Council in June was a request that a clause added for final accounting of the costs for repairs. There was a dollar amount and a repayment plan in the original contract. The developer was aware of that and the County had been communication with him since the agreement was authorized. The developer indicated he could find lower bids and potentially do this on his own.

Mr. Malinowski moved, seconded by Mr. N. Jackson, to defer this item and request Public Works to include these roads in the group of roads where the developers have walked away.

Mr. Ozbek stated he has no problem with including the roads as long as the funding is also available.

Mr. Malinowski chose to delete the portion of the motion regarding Public Works accepting the roads for completion.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

- c. Council Motion: Move that the Recreation Commission provide an update of the Recreation Bond to ensure that it was executed as council approved and that any funds remaining after all items are completed it is Richland County Council's decision on how it is spent [N. JACKSON] – Mr. N. Jackson moved, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to request the Council's Recreation Commission liaisons to meet with the Recreation Commission and bring back recommendations to the committee.

Mr. Malinowski requested bond counsel and the County attorney to provide a legal opinion on what the funds can be spent on.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

- d. Council Motion: Richland County funds thirteen mills eight mills more than the five mills required by statute. I move that County Council develop a separate Recreation Commission to manage the eight additional mills if the Recreation Commission does not agree to the MOU or if Council still feels that there is taxation without representation. NOTE: This is a partial solution to the constant challenge for taxation and representation [N. JACKSON] – Mr. N. Jackson moved, seconded by Mr. Malinowski,

to hold in committee until Council's liaisons meet with the Recreation Commission. The vote in favor was unanimous.

5. **ITEMS PENDING ANALYSIS**

- a. Council Motion: The City of Columbia announced that they will be targeting Hospitality Tax businesses in the unincorporated area for annexation to take HTax funds. The City receives more than \$10 million annually while the unincorporated area receives over \$5 million annually. The County spends more than half its funds in the City while the City spends its funds in the City only. I move unless the City develops an IGA or MOU with the County not to take target and take the County HTax funds that Richland County then there should be some discussion to reevaluate collection of the HTax funds [N. JACKSON & MALINOWSKI] – No action was taken. Awaiting additional information to move forward.

Mr. Jackson stated there was a newspaper article regarding the City annexing areas which prompted him to make this motion. He also stated he had requested a joint meeting of City Council and County Council to discuss our differences to try to come to some agreement on how to move forward.

- b. Council Motion: Explore funding Eco Tourism with funds from Mitigation Bank Credits and Economic Development [N. JACKSON] – No action was taken.

Mr. Jackson stated the County has acquired land and are trying find a way to utilize it as some form of Eco-tourism system.

- c. Council Motion: Explore additional options on supplemental insurance for employees. NOTE: There are new products available. Staff should talk to existing and additional agencies to provide better or additional options for employees. [N. JACKSON] – No action was taken.

Mr. Malinowski stated there was a comparison of insurance options for local government dated May 17th that should be taken into consideration for this item.

- d. Move that (1) HR determine how many pre-Medicare retirees on medical disability are currently being insured by the County; and of this number, how many are having to pay the full increase in premiums for spouse and/or dependent insurance coverage. (2) Based on the number of individuals in this category, what would the cost be for the County to provide them the same financial assistance as being provided to full time employees via recent County Council action [PEARCE] – Mr. Pearce withdrew this motion.

6. **ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:19 PM.