

# MINUTES OF



## RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL SPECIAL CALLED MEETING TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2008 6:00 p.m.

*In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, a copy of the agenda was sent to radio and TV stations, newspapers, persons requesting notification, and was posted on the bulletin board located in the lobby of the County Administration Building.*

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### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Vice-Chair	Valerie Hutchinson
Member	Joyce Dickerson
Member	Norman Jackson
Member	Damon Jeter
Member	Paul Livingston
Member	Bill Malinowski
Member	Mike Montgomery
Member	L. Gregory Pearce, Jr.
Member	Bernice G. Scott
Member	Kit Smith

**OTHERS PRESENT** – Michelle Cannon-Finch, Milton Pope, Tony McDonald, Sparty Hammett, Roxanne Matthews, Tamara King, Larry Smith, Pam Davis, Daniel Driggers, Dale Welch, Monique Walters, Michelle Onley

### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:00 p.m.

### INVOCATION

The Invocation was given by the Honorable Damon Jeter

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Honorable Damon Jeter

**POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE** – Ms. Dickerson recognized Representative Joseph McEachern was in the audience.

### **PRESENTATION**

**2008 Local Government Official of the Year—SC Recreation and Parks Association**  
– Ms. Cynthia Robinson presented Ms. Scott with the 2008 Local Government Official of the Year award.

Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to add Mr. Dennis Dabney, Richland County Airport Commission, to the agenda. The motion failed.

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to allow Mr. Dennis Dabney and Mr. Glenn to make a statement. The motion failed.

**POINT OF ORDER** – Ms. Smith stated that the rules require Council members be informed of the subjects of a Special Called meeting. The Clerk's Office was informed that she would not be accessible via e-mail and therefore did not have proper notification of the changes to the agenda. The only items properly before Council are the items listed on the original agenda.

### **CITIZENS' INPUT**

Mr. Liles Glenn spoke regarding the renaming of the Columbia Owens Downtown Airport.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Regular Session: December 16, 2008** – Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to reconsider the portion of the minutes dealing with the renaming of Columbia Owens Downtown Airport. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to allow the Airport Commission to speak. The motion failed.

Council recessed at 6:15 p.m. and reconvened at 6:18 p.m.

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to rename the Columbia Owens Downtown Airport to the Jim Hamilton-L. B. Owens Airport.

Mr. Pearce offered the following friendly amendment: ...and that the Council directs the County Administrator to have the Office of Public Information bring back the costs to develop or design a suitable kiosk for the lobby of the terminal building that will note both individuals contribution to aviation in Richland County.

The vote was in favor.

Ms. Dickerson moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to approve the minutes as amended. The vote in favor was unanimous.

#### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to adopt the agenda as distributed. The vote in favor was unanimous.

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

The following items were potential Executive Session items:

**a. Personnel Matter**

#### **REPORT OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

**Donation of Property—Brickyard/Longtown Road** – Mr. Pope stated that there has been a request from the Mungo Company to donate 185.15 acres of property to Richland County.

Mr. Livingston suggested that the County Administrator bring back a report on the benefit and cost to the County of accepting this property.

Ms. Hutchinson referred this matter to the D&S Committee.

#### **REPORT OF THE CLERK OF COUNCIL**

No report was given.

#### **REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN**

**Personnel Matter** – Ms. Hutchinson stated that the County Administrator's Evaluation will be taken up during Executive Session.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS**

Ms. Hutchinson opened the floor to the following public hearing:

- **An Ordinance Amending the Richland County Business License Fee Schedule providing a Business License rate for each class of businesses subject to the Richland County Code of Ordinances; Chapter 16, Licenses and Miscellaneous Business Regulations; Article 1, in general, so as to equally reduce the Business License rate for all rate classifications**

Mr. Barron Grier, Mr. Buddy McEntire, Mr. Ron Valley, Mr. Dennis Lynch and Mr. John Landon spoke regarding this matter.

The public hearing was closed.

### THIRD READING ITEMS

**An Ordinance Amending the Richland County Business License Fee Schedule providing a Business License rate for each class of businesses subject to the Richland County Code of Ordinances; Chapter 16, Licenses and Miscellaneous Business Regulations; Article 1, in general, so as to equally reduce the Business License rate for all rate classifications** – Mr. Montgomery moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to reduce the business license fee rates by 20%. The vote was in favor.

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, to reconsider this item. The motion failed.

### FIRST READING ITEM

**An Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 General Fund Annual Budget to decrease business license revenue by seven hundred sixty-eight thousand (\$768,000) due to fee adjustments and appropriate undesignated General Fund balance of seven hundred sixty-eight thousand (\$768,000) to offset** – Mr. Montgomery moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to approve this item by title only. The vote in favor was unanimous.

### OTHER ITEMS

#### **Report of Hospitality Tax Ad Hoc Committee**

- a. **Renaissance Foundation** – The committee recommended that after the five year commitment outlined in the MOU has been completed that the Renaissance Foundation will then be eligible to apply for permanent funding.

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, to refer this item back to the Hospitality Tax Ad Hoc Committee. The vote in favor was unanimous.

- b. **Restriction of the Hospitality Tax Fund Balance Funds** – This item was retained in committee.

### CITIZENS' INPUT

No one signed up to speak.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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**Council went into Executive Session at approximately 7:20 p.m. and came out at approximately 7:24 p.m.**  
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**County Administrator Evaluation** – Mr. Jeter moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to authorize the acting Chair to execute an amendment to the County Administrator’s employment contract which will include a 5% increase to his annual compensation effective January 1, 2009. Council recognizes that the County Administrator has not received a pay increase since his contract was originally executed in Spring 2007 and that this amount is less than the cost of living increases given other County employees in the last fiscal year. This will bring his salary to \$157,500 and will extend his contract for an additional two years or through June 30, 2012. It is further moved, that the provision be deleted from the contract which currently provides his salary for the succeeding 12 months will be increased by the same percentage as that awarded to County employees having the same rating during the proceeding year and to authorize the Administrator to obtain and present a salary and compensation package comparison of the salaries of the five largest local government managers or administrators in South Carolina during the 2009 evaluation process.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:26 p.m.

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Valerie Hutchinson, Chairwoman

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Joyce Dickerson

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Norman Jackson

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Damon Jeter

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Kit Smith

The minutes were transcribed by Michelle M. Onley