

**RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL  
REGULAR SESSION  
MARCH 14, 2000  
6:00 P.M.**

**PRESENT:** Kit Smith, Chair; L. Gregory Pearce, Jr., Vice-Chair; Susan Brill; Paul Livingston; Joseph McEachern; J.D. "Buddy" Meetze; Anthony G. Mizzell; Stephen F. Morris; Bernice G. Scott; Thelma M. Tillis; James Tuten

**OTHERS PRESENT:** T. Cary McSwain, Larry Smith, Michelle Cannon-Finch, Tonya Dunham, Marsheika G. Martin, Monique Walters, Milton Pope, Tony McDonald, Mullen Taylor, Sherry Wright, Jocelyn Jennings, Stephanie Thompson, Pam Davis, Ash Miller, Chief Harrell, Lisa Collins

**CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Smith called to order at approximately 6:00 p.m.

**INVOCATION**

The Invocation was given by the Honorable Jim Tuten.

**PRESENTATIONS**

**Elliott Davis & Co – 6/30/99 audit report**

Mr. McSwain informed Council that staff is planning to have a session called How to Read A Comprehensive Annual Financial report. The session is planned for sometime in April. Mr. McSwain will update Council when this is scheduled.

Mr. Tom McNeece gave a brief overview of the financial report. He thanked Ms. Tonya Dunham and the Finance Department for helping with the report. He reported that total general fund revenues for FY99 totaled \$79 million and approximately \$43 million of that total was generated in the form of property tax revenue. He stated that total general fund expenditures were \$84 million dollars. Mr. McNeece noted an unreserved fund balance of approximately \$29 million.

**Mr. Bob Russell, Board Chairman: Salvation Army**

Mr. Bob Russell, Chairman of the Advisory Board for the Salvation Army, updated Council on the history of the Salvation Army and stated approximately \$4-1/2 million is needed for a new facility and board members have already raised \$1 million.

Major Melton spoke of services provided by the Salvation Army. He reported that the new facility would accommodate up to 250 people on Elmwood Avenue.

Mr. Russell requested for Council to make a \$500,000.00 pledge for a period of five years to fund the multipurpose room. He stated that a plaque or recognition would be placed an appropriate place recognizing County Council member's commitment. He reported the County's pledge would serve as a challenge for the City of Columbia to match the County.

**CITIZEN'S INPUT**

Council recognized Major General John Renner, former commanding general of Ft. Jackson, in the audience.

Mr. Pat Connolly spoke in support of the Recreation Commission's Bond Ordinance.

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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**February 15, 2000: Regular Session**

**February 22, 2000: Zoning Public Hearing**

**February 24, 2000: Olympia Redevelopment Briefing**

**February 24, 2000: Olympia Redevelopment Special Called Mtg**

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

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Ms. Smith added a Resolution to the agenda before Citizen's Input as item-7.

Mr. McSwain requested to add a Personnel Matter to the agenda to be discussed in Executive Session. Ms. Smith stated that would be added after Citizen's Input as item-9.

Ms. Smith requested to add a Report of the Grants Program. After discussion, it was decided to defer this item until next week.

The agenda was adopted as amended.

**EMPLOYEE SERVICE CERTIFICATES**

There were no certificates to be presented at this time.

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

Mr. Larry Smith, County Attorney, stated expansions of Blue Cross/Blue Shield needed to be discussed in Executive Session.

**REPORT OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

**Meeting in Olympia**

Mr. McSwain stated a consensus test was made of the audience present at the meeting on Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup> with the results of the response sheet as follows: 76 in favor; 85 against; 30 neutral. He stated that he would continue to work with the community, developers, TARMAC until there is a resolution in that area.

**Garbage Collection**

Mr. McSwain reported that complaints are down in Districts 1 and 5.

**Budget Public Forum**

Mr. McSwain informed Council of the Forums to be held on March 15<sup>th</sup> and March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

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**THIRD READING ITEMS**

**General Obligation Bonds for Midlands Technical College – PUBLIC HEARING**

No one signed up to speak to the public hearing.

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to approve this item for Third Reading. The vote in favor was unanimous. Mr. Livingston abstained.

**Amendment to the Recreation Commission's Bond Ordinance – PUBLIC HEARING**

The following people signed up "in favor" of this item: Pat Connolly, Carl Schaefer, Martha Ruff, Gol Judice, Bernice Skinner, Alonzo Humphrey.

The following people signed up "against" this item: Evelyn Bush.

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Ms. Tillis, to approve this item for Third Reading. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Conveyance of sewer lines to the City of Columbia for Phase I of the Haskell Heights Sewer project – PUBLIC HEARING**

No one signed up to speak to the public hearing.

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to approve this item for Third Reading. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Ordinance amendment to the Zoning Code (special exception for commercial uses in rural zones) – PUBLIC HEARING**

Mr. Morris requested to defer this item as he is working on an amendment with the County Attorney.

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to defer this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**SECOND READING ITEMS**

**99-043MA, Joe Clark, Lee Road, From RU to PUD, TMS 20300-02-02, 10, 12 & 29**

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

**99-053MA, Edward Stokes, From D-1 to C-3, TMS 06110-03-08, 3510 Broad River Road**

Mr. Meetze moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to approve this item for Second Reading. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**99-055MA, Robert F. Fuller, From RU to M-1, TMS 14800-02-02, 22 & 23, Wilson Boulevard**

Mr. McEachern moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to defer this item for Second Reading. The vote in favor was unanimous.

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**99-057MA, Bert Pooser, From PDD to Amended PDD, TMS 01410-03-08, 1925 Johnson Marina Road**

Mr. Meetze moved, seconded by Mr. Tuten, to approve this item for Second Reading. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**99-058MA, James Jacobs, From RU to RS-2, TMS 25900-01-01 & 02, Bookman Road**

Ms. Brill moved, seconded by Ms. Tillis, to approve this item for Second Reading. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**99-059MA, Wilson Smoak, Hardscrabble Road, From RG-2 to C-1, TMS 17216-02-10(P), From M-1 to C-1, TMS 17216-02-10(P), From M-1 to RS-2, TMS 17216-02-10 (P), From RS-2 to C-1, TMS 17216-02-09(P), From M-1 to RS-2, TMS 17216-02-28**

Mr. McEachern moved, seconded by Ms. Tillis, to approve this item for Second Reading.

Mr. Tuten stated the ordinance had an error in it and needed to reflect M-1.

Mr. McEachern accepted the amendment to his motion, seconded by Ms. Tillis. The vote in favor was unanimous. (Mr. Morris abstained.)

**99-061MA, Willie B. Wise, From D-1 to C-3, TMS 09405-05-01 & 02; 09308-02-01, 6137 & 6145 Monticello Road & 1636 Hodges Street**

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

**00-001MA, Allan Ackerman From C-2 to C-3 TMS 22105-02-02(P), 3504 Leesburg Road**

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

**00-03MA, Charles Medlin, From RU to C-3, TMS 29100-05-09, 11031 Two Notch Road**

Ms. Brill moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to approve this item for Second Reading. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**00-04MA, L. Heath Simpson, From RU to C-1, TMS 29000-02-09-10, 10956 & 10962 Two Notch Road**

Ms. Brill moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to approve this item for Second Reading. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**00-06MA, Kathy Sanders, From RU to C-3, TMS 03300-08-23, 10609 Broad River Road**

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

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**00-08MA, Vicki Beard, From RG-2 to C-3, TMS 06109-02-09 & 10**

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

**00-09MA, Andrew Weddle, From M-2 to RG-2, TMS 08816-09-01, 400 Heyward Street**

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to defer this item for one month. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**00-014MA, Tammi Angrvine, From RS-1 to D-1, TMS 20100-03017, 28 Sloan Road**

Ms. Brill moved, seconded by Ms. Scott, to approve this item for Second Reading. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**00-016MA, W. Croft Jennings, From PUD to Amendment PUD-2, TMS 25800-03-13 and 25800-03-28(P), 248 Jacobs Mill Pond Road and SW/S Old National Highway**

Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Ms. Brill, to approve this item for Second Reading. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**00-017MA, Larry Jackson, From D-1 to RU, TMS 27300-04-41, 223 Smith Myers Road**

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Ms. Tillis, to approve this item for Second Reading. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**REPORT OF DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**Conveyance of sewer line to the City of Columbia for HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital**

Ms. Scott stated the committee recommended First Reading approval of the conveyance of water lines to the City of Columbia for the HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Quit claim deed to Mr. R. Michael Baker for a portion of Bilmont Drive**

Ms. Scott stated the committee recommended First Reading approval of the quit claim deed to Mr. Baker for the portion of Bilmont Drive and instructed staff to determine if the County had received compensation for such tracts in the past. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Road paving request for Elton Walker Road**

Ms. Scott stated that committee recommended that Council add Elton Walker Road to the road paving priority list. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Condemnation of property for the paving of Bookman Mill Road**

Ms. Scott stated that Committee recommended approval of condemnation of the necessary right of way for the paving of Bookman Mill road and asked if other family members could be contacted regarding the needed right of way. The vote in favor was unanimous.

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**REPORT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Acceptance of Local Law Enforcement Division Grant**

Mr. McEachern stated that the committee recommended that Council approves the grant award and expenditures in the amount of \$459,500.00 for the Sheriff's Department, with a County match of \$45,950.00 budgeted for that purpose. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Acceptance of Traffic Enforcement Division Block Grant**

Mr. McEachern stated that the committee recommended that Council accept this grant with the match amount of \$18,899.50. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Approval of a contract to Heritage Roofing for the Public Works facility roof**

Mr. McEachern stated that the committee recommended that Council approve this request in the amount of \$53,240.00. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**REPORT OF RULES AND APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE**

**Appointments to Accommodations Tax Committee-6**

Mr. Livingston reported there were six vacancies on this committee with only three applications received. He recommended appointing the following three applicants to this committee:

Mrs. Cheryl Had  
Mr. R. Ted Hamre  
Mr. Charles L. Higgins

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Ms. Tillis, to accept the following applications for this committee and re-advertise for the remaining three vacancies.

Mr. Livingston requested for staff to make sure applications received correlate with specific requirements.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

**The Employee Grievance Committee-1**

Mr. Livingston reported there was one vacancy on this board with one applicant. He stated that Committee recommended appointing Mr. William T. Young to the Grievance Committee. The vote was in favor to appoint Mr. William T. Young to this committee.

**Planning Commission-1**

Mr. Livingston reported there was one vacancy on this board with three applications received. He stated that Mr. Napoleon Tolbert Jr. did not show up for the interview because he was in the Chambers for the interview instead of the Fourth Floor. Mr. Tolbert withdrew his name.

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The vote went as follows:

Mr. Eugene Green  
Morris  
Meetze  
Pearce  
Brill

Mr. Howard VanDine III  
Livingston  
Mizzell  
Smith  
McEachern  
Tuten  
Scott  
Tillis

Mr. Howard VanDine III was appointed to the Planning Commission.

**Historic Foundation**

Ms. Michielle Cannon-Finch stated that there is presently one vacancy on this board with no applications received. She stated this would be re-advertised.

**REPORT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**Consideration of incentives for expansion of Blue Cross/Blue Shield**

Mr. Livingston stated that the Committee recommended approval of a Resolution identifying the company as a project. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Resolution endorsing Senior Resources as a Transportation provider for the elderly**

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to approve this item.

Mr. McEachern instructed the County Attorney to review legal terms.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

**CITIZEN'S INPUT**

The following people signed up to speak regarding the Olympia Road Project:  
Mr. Bill Hilliard, Mr. Sam Linton, Ms. Vi Bazzani, Mr. Charles Small, Mr. Ted Yandle, Ms. Betty Hilliard, Ms. Corena Branham, Mr. Andy Waddle, Mr. Bob Guild, Mr. Larry Gates, Ms. Doris Raynor, Ms. Carolyn Caraman, Ms. David W. Fechter

Mr. Meetze requested staff to contact DHEC to go out in the Olympia area to monitor the dust.

Ms. Scott requested for there to be a "cooling period" on this issue until a compromise can be reached.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Ms. Scott moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter and an Economic Development Matter regarding a Memorandum of Understanding between Richland County and Blue Cross and Blue Shield. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Council went into Executive Session at approximately 7:29 p.m. and came out at approximately 8:00 p.m.**

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Mr. McEachern moved, seconded by Mr. Mizzell, to come out of Executive Session. The vote in favor was unanimous.

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**Personnel Matter**

This item was received as information.

**Blue Cross and Blue Shield: Memorandum of Understanding**

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to approve an amended Memorandum of Understanding as discussed in Executive Session. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**MOTION PERIOD**

Ms. Smith requested the Senior Public Information Officer to produce information on the communities in Richland County that are on DHEC's list of high priority areas in need of sewer service.

Ms. Smith announced that she would be meeting with Mr. Charlie Farrell this week to discuss his report on the County Administrator's evaluation process. She stated that this report would be discussed in executive session in the near future.

Ms. Tillis moved to approve and forward to the next Council Meeting a Resolution commending Keenan High School for winning the AAA Basketball Championship.

Ms. Scott requested that the Salvation Army funding request be added as part of the Council's budget discussions for FY 00/01. Ms. Smith requested staff to write a letter to the City asking them to make contributions, along with the County, to the Salvation Army.

Mr. Livingston gave notice that he would be bringing to Council the issue of sewer service on Broad River Heights and the Eau Claire Health Center financing issue in the near future.

Mr. McEachern also moved to approve and forward to the next Council Meeting a Resolution commending Sandel Middle School for winning the Middle School Basketball tournament championship for School District One.

**ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:10 p.m. The vote in favor was unanimous.

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Kit Smith, Chair

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L. Gregory Pearce, Jr., Vice-Chair

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Susan Brill

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Paul Livingston

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Joseph McEachern

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J.D. "Buddy" Meetze

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Anthony G. Mizzell

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Stephen F. Morris



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Bernice G. Scott

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Thelma M. Tillis

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James Tuten

The minutes were transcribed by Marsheika G. Martin.