

MINUTES OF



**RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL
ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, JUNE 28, 2005
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.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chair: Kit Smith
Member: Paul Livingston
Member: Joseph McEachern
Member: Valerie Hutchinson
Member: Mike Montgomery

OTHERS PRESENT – Bernice G. Scott, T. Cary McSwain, Michielle Cannon-Finch, Larry Smith, Amelia Linder, Milton Pope, Tony McDonald, Ashley Bloom, Joe Cronin, Roxanne Matthews, Stephany Snowden, Edith Caudle, Daniel Driggers, Marsheika Martin, David Adams, Christy Brunson, Sheriff Leon Lott, Chief Harrell, Susan Britt, Michael Criss

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at approximately 5:06 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Ms. Smith stated a request was made to add the Elected Officials Pay Increase Ordinance and the East Central Consortium Planning Projects items to the agenda.

It was noted that the special property tax assessment was not complete and to remove the Reception Honoring USC Athletics Staff from the agenda. Both items were removed from the agenda.

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, to adopt the agenda as amended. The vote in favor was unanimous.

I. ITEMS FOR ACTION

A. Coroner's Office: Autopsy Services Contract Renewal

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

B. Purchase of Property Insurance

Ms. Smith stated this is county property and the rates are going down.

Mr. Montgomery moved, seconded by Ms. Hutchinson, to approve as requested. The vote in favor was unanimous.

C. Purchase of Fidelity Bond

Ms. Smith stated this protects county employees, as well as Council Members.

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. McEachern, to approve. The vote in favor was unanimous.

D. Citizen's Request: Assessment Ratio Refund

Ms. Smith stated the Assessor recommended denying and to continue with the existing policy.

Mr. Montgomery moved, seconded by Ms. Hutchinson, to deny this request. The vote in favor was unanimous.

E. Single General Ledger

Ms. Smith stated this item was discussed in the Work Session and in the packets is a draft and then there is another recommendation that she offered with amendments to that ordinance.

Mr. McEachern moved, Mr. Livingston seconded for discussion, to approve and requested a copy of the ordinance be delivered to all of the elected officials. The vote in favor was unanimous.

G. Ordinance Identifying the Source of CPI for Elected Officials' Pay Increases

Mr. Montgomery moved, seconded by Mr. McEachern, to approve the ordinance. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mr. McEachern moved, seconded by Mr. Livingston, to set the elected officials' pay increase at 3.4% CPI for the current budget year.

A discussion took place.

Mr. Livingston made a substitute motion to forward to Council without a recommendation. The motion died for a lack of a second.

The vote for Mr. McEachern's motion failed.

H. East Central Consortium Planning Projects

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, to forward without a recommendation to the July 12th meeting. The vote in favor was unanimous.

II. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

A. Beatty Road Magistrate/Sheriff Facility

Ms. Smith stated Mr. Pope wanted to inform the Committee that there have been costs more than originally estimated, but there are funds available within a bond that Council had already authorized and it is within administrative discretion to increase that amount.

Mr. Milton Pope, Assistant County Administrator, gave a brief overview. He stated no formal action is needed, but staff is requesting the Committee's consent to move forward or to find another approach.

A detailed discussion took place.

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. Hutchinson, to forward to Council for information that the Administrator is proceeding with amending this bond issue in order to cover the cost of this project. The vote in favor was unanimous.

The Committee requested a report on the original estimate and construction costs on this project on the next committee agenda.

III. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Memorandum of Understanding – Acquisition of Tract by the Richland County Conservation Commission

Mr. Montgomery moved, seconded by Mr. McEachern, to go into Executive Session to discuss the MOU relating to a Conservation easement. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Council went into Executive Session at approximately 5:45 p.m. and came out at approximately 6:01 p.m.

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

Mr. Montgomery moved, seconded by Mr. Livingston, to approve the Conservation Commission to continue negotiations on the MOU and forward to Council. The vote in favor was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:02 p.m.

Submitted by,

Kit Smith, Chair

The minutes were transcribed by Marsheika G. Martin