



Richland County Council

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

May 28, 2020 – 5:00 PM

Zoom Meeting

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul Livingston, Chair; Dalhi Myers, Vice Chair; Joyce Dickerson, Calvin “Chip” Jackson; Bill Malinowski; Jim Manning; Chakisse Newton, Allison Terracio and Joe Walker

OTHERS PRESENT: Michelle Onley, Kimberly Williams-Roberts, James Hayes, Ashiya Myers, Ashley Powell, John Thompson, Leonardo Brown, Angela Weathersby, Stacey Hamm and Brad Farrar

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Mr. Livingston called the meeting to order at approximately 5:00 PM.
2. **PUBLIC HEARING**
 - a. **An Ordinance to Amend the FY21 Budget Ordinance passed by Richland County Council July 18, 2019 which was entitled “An Ordinance to raise revenue, make appropriations and adopt a Biennium Budget II (FY2020 and FY2021) for Richland County, South Carolina for Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021”. So as to raise revenue, make appropriations and Amend the General Fund, Millage Agencies, Special Revenue Funds, Enterprise Funds and Debt Service Funds Budget for Richland County, South Carolina for Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2020 and ending July 1, 2021.**
 - b. **An Ordinance authorizing the levying of Ad Valorem property taxes which together with the prior year’s carryover and other State levies and any additional amount appropriated by the Richland County Council prior to July 1, 2020 will provide sufficient revenues for the operations of Richland County Government during the period from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021**
 1. Gina Lesslie – Historic Columbia
 2. Dawn Mills Campbell – Historic Columbia
 3. Kim Jamison – Historic Columbia
 4. Sabrina Strickland – Midlands Technical College
 5. Katerina Barrie – Richland Library
 6. Tamara Robinson – Richland Library
 7. Jennifer Moore – United Way

Ms. Terracio stated she wondered if everyone who would have anticipated in an in-person meeting had adequate notice of this meeting, and how to participate. She would advocate for another way for individuals to have their voices heard.

Mr. Jackson stated, as the liaison for Historic Columbia, he has a responsibility to speak on their behalf, in terms of validating and verifying the comments that were made tonight. He is sure that every organization that presented tonight has a legitimate reason for their needs, as well. He wanted to go on the record and state his support for the organization that he represents, on behalf of the County, and the work they are doing, along with all the other notable, and responsible, organizations who are requesting our support to help them survive this crisis. It is his desire to do everything he

can, as one member, to continue to advocate for Historic Columbia, as well as the other organizations.

Mr. Malinowski moved, seconded by Mr. Walker, to adjourn.

Ms. D. Myers stated, like Ms. Terracio, she is deeply concerned that we...

Mr. Livingston noted that Ms. D. Myers was out of order because the motion had been made to adjourn.

Ms. D. Myers stated she is not opposed to the motion to adjourn, but she knows there are agencies who wanted to speak who did not get proper notice.

Ms. Dickerson stated before the Chair calls for the vote he needs to find out from the Clerk how the public hearing notice was sent out to the various agencies.

Ms. Roberts responded the public hearing notice was sent out 15+ days ago, and included information regarding submissions to participate in the meeting tonight. The public hearing notice went out the same way that any other public hearing notice goes out.

In Favor: Malinowski and Walker

Opposed: Dickerson, Livingston, Terracio, Manning, Jackson, and Myers

The motion to adjourn failed.

Mr. Malinowski stated, for clarification, in the past years, the public hearing was always an opportunity for people to have input. When the input was done, and all of the individuals had spoken, the meeting ended because that was the only purpose for the meeting. For some reason, this year we are extending this meeting to carry on additional conversation, and he would like to know why we are not following the normal format.

Mr. Livingston responded this is not to carry on a conversation, but to simply allow Council members to make brief comments before the meeting ends.

Ms. D. Myers moved to all any agencies on the line, who did not send in their notice timely, but who would like to be recognized, in light of COVID-19, and how we are conducting our meetings.

Mr. Livingston ruled the motion was not in order.

Ms. D. Myers inquired if we could schedule an additional public hearing.

Mr. Livingston responded that we cannot make that decision, at this point, but someone could make a motion at a subsequent meeting.

Mr. Manning stated, for clarification, before the motion to adjourn, did Mr. Livingston not ask if there were anybody else that wanted to speak.

Ms. D. Myers responded that he did not. Mr. Livingston said, "that was all he had to speak", which is why she asked to speak at that point.

Mr. Manning stated, for clarification, if we were in Chambers, and someone showed up they would have signed in and been allowed to speak. He would suggest that, if someone signed on to the meeting, we allow them to speak, since that would be the equivalent to them coming into Chambers and signing up to speak.

Ms. Terracio stated she supported Mr. Manning's suggestion.

Ms. Dickerson stated, prior to 3rd Reading, anyone who failed to be here or participate, we may be able to allow them to make a brief presentation.

Mr. Manning inquired if there is anyone on the line that would like to speak.

Mr. Livingston also inquired if there was anyone on the line that would like to speak.

Dr. Witherspoon stated he does not wish to speak, per se. He just wanted to let Council know that they have submitted some documents to the County, relative to their budget.

Mr. Manning moved, seconded by Mr. Walker, to adjourn.

In Favor: Malinowski, Dickerson, Livingston, Terracio, Walker, Jackson and Myers

The vote in favor was unanimous.

3. **ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:40 PM.