



Richland County Council
ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES
October 24, 2023 – 6:00 PM
Council Chambers
2020 Hampton Street, Columbia, SC 29204

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Jessica Mackey, Chair; Jason Branham, Paul Livingston, and Don Weaver

NOT PRESENT: Yvonne McBride

OTHERS PRESENT: Leonardo Brown, Ashiya Myers, Stacey Hamm, Michelle Onley, Angela Weathersby, Lori Thomas, Anette Kirylo, Patrick Wright, Chelsea Bennett, Michael Maloney, Dale Welch, Dante Roberts, Aric Jensen, Ashley Fullerton, Peter Cevallos, and Thomas Gilbert

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chairwoman Jessica Mackey called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 PM.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

a. September 26, 2023 – Mr. Livingston moved to approve the minutes as distributed, seconded by Mr. Weaver.

In Favor: Branham, Livingston, Weaver, and Mackey

Not Present: McBride

The vote in favor was unanimous.

3. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – Mr. Livingston moved to approve the minutes as distributed, seconded by Mr. Weaver.

In Favor: Branham, Livingston, Weaver, and Mackey

Not Present: McBride

The vote in favor was unanimous.

4. **ITEMS FOR ACTION**

a. Department of Public Works – Jim Hamilton-LB Owens Airport (CUB) Airport – Richland County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 3, Airport – The County Administrator Leonardo Brown stated the existing Airport ordinance is outdated and does not reflect current administration, organization, level of service, budget and financial management practices, or the Airport development process. The document in the agenda packet addresses all of these areas. It organizes and streamlines descriptions of essential functions. Among the significant items addressed are:

- Definitions: Add a section of definitions of technical aviation and airport terminology.
- Organization: Adds a section to reflect the current County organization.
- Airport Commission:
 - Reduces the size from nine to seven Commissioners
 - Consolidates two officer positions into one.
 - Maintains two community representatives and expands the area from which they can be appointed.
 - Emphasizes broad, strategic responsibilities.
- Funding: Addresses Airport funding, grants, fees, rates, and budgets.
- Services: Defines a basic level of Airport services.
- Operations and Facilities: Defines the essential operations, facilities, and airspace imaginary surfaces.
- Tenants: Defines tenants and various tenant businesses and organizations.
- Enforcement: Empowers the Airport General Manager with specific, limited code enforcement powers on Airport property.

Mr. Brown noted the Airport Commission conducted a work session on this ordinance on August 31, 2023. The ordinance was recommended for approval by a unanimous vote at their September 11, 2023 meeting. The Airport Manual that was discussed is not a part of this item but will come back later.

Ms. Terracio stated that as the Airport Commission liaison, she knows the Airport Commission went through the ordinance thoroughly and has good recommendations. She noted that reducing the Commission's size may seem like a step back, but having a tighter group of more active Commissioners is a good move.

Mr. Livingston inquired how the fixed-base operator is currently chosen.

Mr. Brown stated we are currently going through a process of identifying a new fixed-base operator. The contract with the current fixed-base operator is expiring.

The Airport General Manager, Peter Cevallos, responded it is a request for information process is conducted through the Airport Commission. We will also be working closely with the Procurement Director and Legal. Ultimately, it will be presented to Council for approval.

Mr. Livingston inquired about the rationale for going from nine to seven commissioners.

Mr. Cevallos replied he was not sure as he is new to the General Manager position but felt the Airport Commission liaison had defined it clearly.

Mr. Weaver stated the Airport Commission wants to lower the number of Commissioners because it will be easier to get a quorum. He noted there have been times when they have had difficulty in getting a quorum.

Ms. Mackey inquired about how many members we currently have and whether we are telling someone they cannot return.

The Clerk of Council, Anette Kirylo, stated the Airport Commission currently has nine Commissioners appointed.

Ms. Terracio responded it was her thought that when the next two Commissioners rolled off, the Airport Commission would maintain the seven positions.

Ms. Mackey stated she would like to get that confirmed. She stated if there are currently nine Commissioners that Council has voted to serve, she would like to have Council to have a say in determining how we reduce the number to seven.

Mr. Branham inquired if the boundaries for the community representative were stated in the current ordinance and if the area was smaller than what is stated in the proposed ordinance.

Ms. Terracio responded it was her understanding they were neighborhood designations.

Mr. Branham inquired if the language highlighted in gray is the portion that is being amended.

Mr. Brown stated he would have to confirm what the changes are.

Mr. Livingston moved to defer this item until the November committee meeting, seconded by Mr. Branham.

In Favor: Branham, Livingston, Weaver, and Mackey

Not Present: McBride

The vote in favor was unanimous.

5. **ADJOURNMENT** – Mr. Weaver moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Branham.

In Favor: Branham, Livingston, Weaver, and Mackey

Not Present: McBride

The vote in favor was unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:24 PM.