

# RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

## SOUTH CAROLINA

### RICHLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

#### SPECIAL CALLED MEETING FY16-15 BUDGET 3<sup>rd</sup> READING

JUNE 22, 2015

1:00 PM

#### CALL TO ORDER

The June 11, 2015 Special Called meeting was reconvened at approximately 1:01 PM

#### ENTERPRISE FUNDS

**Utilities: Move to engage a private entity to temporarily manage the Utilities Department while performing an assessment of the Department to determine how it should be managed in the future** – Mr. McDonald stated there was no dollar amount associated with this item at Second Reading; therefore, the recommendation was for it to be forwarded to the Sewer Ad Hoc Committee to be vetted. Since Second Reading, staff has provided a dollar amount of up to \$200,000 to be taken from the Broad River Sewer Fund Balance.

Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to forward to the Sewer Ad Hoc Committee without a dollar amount. The vote in favor was unanimous.

#### SPECIAL REVENUE

**Hospitality Tax: Move to encumber funds for Project LM** – Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to defer action on this item and any other items related to Hospitality Tax until after Executive Session. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Hospitality Tax: Approve funding level of \$6,455,559** – This item was deferred until after Executive Session.

#### GENERAL FUND

**All Departments: 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading approved for the GF to be approved at a flat millage rate. The Administrator's recommendation for using the amount generated from increasing to the same mill rate (\$879,000) is to apply the additional amount to the County Health Insurance Plan** – Mr. Manning moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to defer this item until the end of the meeting.



#### Council Members Present:

Torrey Rush, Chair  
Greg Pearce, Vice Chair  
Joyce Dickerson  
Julie-Ann Dixon  
Norman Jackson  
Damon Jeter  
Paul Livingston  
Bill Malinowski  
Jim Manning  
Seth Rose  
Kelvin E. Washington, Sr.

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### FOR

Dickerson  
Manning

### AGAINST

Dixon  
Malinowski  
Rose  
Jackson  
Pearce  
Rush  
Livingston

Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to adopt the Administrator's recommended budget, accept the \$879,000, request Finance to begin a tabulation of all expenditures above the Administrator's recommended budget and advise Council periodically much of the \$879,000 has been allocated.

Mr. Rush inquired if the \$879,000 would fully fund the employee health insurance.

Mr. McDonald stated \$1.5 million is needed to fully fund the employee health insurance at the current level.

Mr. Livingston made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Rush, to approve the General Fund at a flat millage rate and apply the \$879,000 generated from the mill rate increase toward the County Health Insurance Plan.

Mr. Hanna outlined the three (3) tier health insurance option plan that was taken up by the Health Insurance Ad Hoc Committee and the impact the \$879,000 would have on the employee health insurance rates.

Mr. Manning inquired if the employee health insurance, with the same level of benefits, would be fully funded if Council approved an additional \$303,000.

Mr. McDonald answered in the affirmative to Mr. Manning's inquiry.

Mr. Pearce withdrew his motion.

The vote in favor of the motion to approve the General Fund at a flat millage rate and apply the \$879,000 generated from the mill rate increase toward the County Health Insurance Plan.

**All Departments: Approve Administrator's Recommended Budget Option 1 - includes no salary increase, no tax increase, 1% reduction on all departments, Vacancy Recovery Plan for all departments** – Mr. Manning moved, seconded by Mr. Jeter, to table this item.

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### FOR

Dickerson  
Manning  
Washington  
Jeter

### AGAINST

Dixon  
Malinowski  
Rose  
Pearce  
Rush  
Livingston

Mr. Livingston inquired as to what the 1% reduction equated.

Mr. McDonald stated the 1% reduction equated to approximately \$1.2 million.

Ms. Dickerson inquired as to when the County employees received a salary increase.

Mr. McDonald stated County employees received a 2% across the board increases in FY13-14.

Mr. Malinowski moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to approve the Administrator's Recommended Budget – Option One.

Mr. Driggers stated that if Council were to go to the cap it would generate an additional \$2 million and using look back would generate an additional \$1.1 million.

### FOR

Dixon  
Malinowski  
Rose  
Jackson  
Pearce  
Rush  
Dickerson

### AGAINST

Livingston  
Washington  
Manning  
Jeter

The vote was in favor of the Administrator's Recommended Budget – Option 1.

**All Departments: Approve Administrator's Recommended Budget Option 2 – Millage Cap – Adds \$2m revenue to be used for salary increases** – This item was not taken up.

**All Departments: Approve Administrator's Recommended Budget Option 3 – Millage Cap/Look-Back Millage – Add \$1m in revenue to be used for salary increases** – This item was not taken up.

**All Departments: Move that the revenue base for the General Fund be recalculated using the dollar amount generated from retaining the FY14-15 millage. This would result in a "flat budget" as requested by Council; however, the revenue would increase due to growth in the mil value. It is estimated that this would**

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**generate an additional \$500,000 in revenue without utilizing new millage allowed by Act 388** – This item was not taken up.

**All Departments: Move that Council increase the General Fund Millage Rate to the allowable cap under Act 388** – This item was withdrawn.

**All Departments: Amend budget based on current salary reports** – Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to approve this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**All Departments: Move that the 1% operating budget reductions across-the-board for FY16 be applied to all statutory and contractual agencies except those to agencies who receive pass-through funding and those whose budgets are controlled by State mandates. This reduces the allocation by \$9,241** – Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to approve this item.

### **FOR**

Malinowski  
Rose  
Pearce  
Rush  
Dickerson

### **AGAINST**

Dixon  
Jackson  
Livingston  
Washington  
Manning

The motion failed.

**All Departments: All savings realized from actions taken in Budget Motion \$#74 be set aside and not committed until Council resolves issues related to employee insurance and salary adjustments** – This item was withdrawn.

**All Departments: Reduce funding to State mandate agencies by the percentage cut of the Local Government Fund (35%)** – Mr. Jackson moved, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to approve this item.

Mr. McDonald stated Council would need to decide which State mandated agencies they wish to cut funding to.

Mr. Driggers stated a 12% reduction in funding would be needed to recoup the \$5 million the State did not provide for this fiscal year.

Mr. McDonald stated the Detention Center function is a State funded mandate. Among many of the counties, the question has been what is considered an unfunded mandate.

In answer to Mr. Washington's inquiry about how the shortfall in the Local Government Fund funding has been handled, Mr. McDonald stated the difference has primarily been made up by utilizing fund balance.

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Many of the Council members went on record to say they supported Mr. Jackson's motion in principal, but were unable to support the motion.

### FOR

Dixon  
Malinowski  
Jackson  
Rush

### AGAINST

Rose  
Pearce  
Livingston  
Dickerson  
Washington  
Manning  
Jeter

The motion failed.

**Outside Agencies: Fund Transitions Homeless Center at \$100,000 less whatever across-the-board percentage reduction for C&S Agencies may be approved by Council. Funding to come from GF increase in Millage Cap** – Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Mr. Rose, to add Transitions as a Contractual & Statutory Agency and to approve \$100,000 for this item with a slight increase toward the Millage Cap.

Mr. Pearce stated the City of Columbia contributes approximately \$350,000-\$400,000 per year and 73% of the residents of Transitions are Richland County citizens.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Clerk of Court: Move that Council fund a position in the Clerk of Court office at a total cost of \$72,580** – Mr. Washington moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to approve this item.

Mr. McDonald stated this position was requested in the Clerk of Court's budget, but there was no room in the Administrator's Recommended flat budget to add the position.

The vote was in favor.

**Sheriff's Department: Budget for body cameras** – Mr. Washington moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to forward this item to the Budget Ad Hoc Committee. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Outside Agencies: Approve \$15,000 for St. John Foundation Senior Citizen Nutritional Program in the Lower Richland Community** – Mr. Washington moved, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to approve \$15,000 for St. John Foundation Senior Citizen Nutritional Program in Lower Richland Community.

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**FOR**

Dixon  
Rose  
Jackson  
Pearce  
Livingston  
Dickerson  
Washington  
Manning  
Jeter

**AGAINST**

Malinowski  
Rush

The vote was in favor.

**Outside Agencies: Approve \$15,000 for the Mt. Pilgrim Foundation, Inc. Empowerment Project for at-risk students which provides at-risk students to increase academic performance, personal growth, and a positive attitude** – Mr. Washington moved, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to approve \$15,000 for the Mt. Pilgrim Foundation, Inc. Empowerment Project for at-risk students. Mr. Madden stated this organization received \$9,750 from the Discretionary Grant Program.

Mr. Washington amended his motion to approve \$2,250 for this item, which will give them a total of \$12,000 in funding.

Ms. Dickerson made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Washington, to approve \$10,000 for this item. The substitute motion failed.

Mr. Manning moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to reconsider the substitute motion. The motion failed.

**FOR**

Jackson  
Washington

**AGAINST**

Dixon  
Malinowski  
Rose  
Pearce  
Rush  
Livingston  
Dickerson  
Manning

The motion to approve \$2,250 for this item failed.

**Outside Agencies: Approve \$20,000 for the Gadsden Farm Festival—South East Rural Community Outreach** – Mr. Washington moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to approve \$10,000 for the Gadsden Farm Festival.

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Mr. Madden stated the organization applied for a grant, but were not recommended for funding due to their application being incomplete.

### FOR

Jackson  
Washington

### AGAINST

Dixon  
Malinowski  
Rose  
Pearce  
Rush  
Livingston  
Dickerson  
Manning  
Jeter

The motion to approve up to 10,000 for this item failed.

**Outside Agencies: Approve \$20,000 for Elevations – a community endeavor that encourages and empowers at-risk youth between the ages of 12-19 to excel and achieve their maximal potential** – Mr. Washington moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to approve \$10,000 for Elevations.

Mr. Madden stated Elevations did not apply for a discretionary grant this year.

### FOR

Dixon  
Rose  
Jackson  
Dickerson  
Washington  
Jeter

### AGAINST

Malinowski  
Pearce  
Rush  
Livingston  
Manning

The vote was in favor.

**Outside Agencies: Approve \$75,000 for JUMPS to provide year-round youth mentoring program for rural areas of Lower Richland to include health education, summer jobs, and jobs coaching counseling. Specifically, the program will target elementary and middle school students** – Mr. Washington moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to approve \$52,000 for JUMPS to provide year-round youth mentoring program for rural areas of Lower Richland.



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### FOR

Dixon  
Jackson  
Pearce  
Dickerson  
Washington  
Manning

### AGAINST

Malinowski  
Rose  
Rush  
Livingston  
Jeter

The vote was in favor.

**Outside Agencies: Fund \$100,000 to support the Midlands Housing Trust Fund –**  
Mr. Jeter moved, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to approve \$100,000 to support the Midlands Housing Trust Fund.

The representative from the Midlands Housing Trust fund stated 47% of the 110-112 units the Midlands Housing Trust fund provides funding for are in the unincorporated areas of Richland County.

### FOR

Dixon  
Malinowski  
Jackson  
Pearce  
Rush  
Livingston  
Dickerson  
Manning  
Jeter

### AGAINST

The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Outside Agencies: Fund the Midlands Housing Trust Fund at \$99,000 (FY15 level less 1% reduction) provided Council votes to exceed the Administration's budget recommendation by adding a portion of the allowable millage increase as permitted by Act 388 –** This item was withdrawn.

**Outside Agencies: Fund the Midlands Mediation Center at \$19,800 (FY15 level less 1% reduction) provided Council votes to exceed the Administration's budget recommendation by adding a portion of the allowable millage increase as permitted by Act 388 –** Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Mr. Livingston, to approve \$20,000 to fund the Midlands Mediation Center. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**All Departments: Move that the Administrator review all departments and hold them to the flat budget (last year's total) and then take a 1% reduction –** Mr. McDonald stated the reason some departments base budgets were slightly higher than in the prior year are due to differences in employees' salaries in those departments.



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Mr. Malinowski requested a breakdown of the part-time requests.

This item was withdrawn.

**Economic Development: Fund Economic Development through a dedicated, annually recurring millage allotment yet to be determined. This would require the identification of an amount and identification of where the millage will be reduced or redirected to compensate for Act 388** – Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. Rush, to fund Economic Development with a 0.5 mil from the General Fund.

Mr. McDonald stated the current budget is approximately \$600,000-\$650,000 from the Industrial Park Fund and a 0.5 mil would generate approximately \$700,000.

Mr. Livingston stated the Central SC Alliance and Engenuity will be funded with the 0.5 mil and a portion of the industrial park funds.

Mr. McDonald stated the idea is to establish a sustainable operating fund and utilize funds in the Industrial Park Fund for capital improvements. The Industrial Park Fund does not have a recurring funding source; therefore, there is not a steady stream of funding going into the fund.

Mr. Driggers stated the current Industrial Park fund balance is \$4 million.

Mr. Rush stated the Central SC Alliance assisted the County when they did not have their own Economic Development Department. The Alliance is not only focused on Richland County, but the entire region.

Mr. Livingston stated the Economic Development Department has to utilize fund balance because the Industrial Park Fund is not generating enough money to fund the office.

### **FOR**

Dixon  
Malinowski  
Rose  
Jackson  
Pearce  
Rush  
Livingston  
Dickerson  
Washington  
Manning  
Jeter

### **AGAINST**

The vote in favor was unanimous.

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**Outside Agencies: Fund SC UpLift Community Outreach in the amount of \$45,000. Consider split of \$25k from Neighborhood and \$20k from General Fund** – Ms. Dixon moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to approve \$20,000 to fund SC UpLift Community Outreach.

Ms. Dixon stated the organization provides mentoring services to schools. Last year they did a pilot project with Kelly Mill and this year it will be extended to several other middle schools.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Probate Judge: Approve Probate Judge's request for one position with a total cost of \$37,500 (salary plus fringe) provided the Council determines to use a portion of available millage above the Administration's proposed "flat" budget** – Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Mr. Livingston, to approve the Probate Judge's request for a position to assist with filing of wills by individuals not represented by counsel. The vote in favor was unanimous.

### INDUSTRIAL PARK

**Outside Agencies: Move to fund EngenuitySC, the same amount as prior year, \$70,000. \$40,000 will go to operation/base funding and \$30,000 for STEM educational funding** – Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. Washington, to approve \$30,000 for the STEM educational program from the General Fund. The vote in favor was unanimous.

### GENERAL FUND

**Outside Agencies: Move to fund Antioch Senior Center at prior year amount of \$25,000** – Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. Manning, to approve \$25,000 to fund the Antioch Senior Center. The vote in favor was unanimous.

*Council recessed at 3:34 PM and reconvened at 3:49 PM.*

**Outside Agencies: Move to fund Central SC Alliance at prior year amount of \$97,000** – Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. Rose, to approve \$25,000 to fund the Central SC Alliance.

Mr. Livingston amended his motion to direct the Economic Development Director to determine the amount of additional funding that will be provided to the Central SC Alliance.

Mr. Pearce requested a friendly amendment to have the Economic Development Committee vet the Economic Development Director's recommendation.

Mr. Livingston accepted the amendment.

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The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Outside Agencies: Move to fund Midlands Mediation Center at prior year amount of \$20,000** – This item was withdrawn.

**All Regional Magistrates, Administrative Magistrate, and District Magistrate: Move that all budget recommendations be amended to include an increase in the salary of the magistrate to 75% of a circuit judge's salary. This will result in an 11.94% salary adjustment from 67% to 75% of a circuit judge's salary for 15 full time and 3 part-time magistrates. Total payroll increase will be \$218,000** – Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to support the proposal for \$218,000; reduce the Detention Center budget by \$218,000 and request the Administrator to evaluate the savings realized by these changes.

Mr. Livingston stated that if the changes do not realize a cost savings then the “pilot program” will be terminated.

Mr. Pearce inquired if the magistrate's salary can be temporarily adjusted.

Mr. Smith stated the State statute states that you cannot reduce the salary of a magistrate while they are in office.

Mr. McDonald stated from a programmatic standpoint the concept is good if the County can do so as a pilot program and review after a year.

Mr. Pearce inquired if the Chief Magistrate has the ability to voluntarily waive the statute in order to institute the pilot program.

Mr. Smith stated the statute cannot be waived.

Mr. Rose requested a friendly amendment to approve this item contingent upon Administration and Legal being able to structure the pilot program whereby if the program ceased the funding would ceased as well.

Mr. McDonald suggested earmarking the funds in the Detention Center budget and to allow Legal and Administration to work on the salary issue. If the logistics of salaries can be work out, then move the funds to the appropriate budget for expenditure.

Mr. Malinowski inquired if the costs would increase on items ordered by the Detention Center if the inmate population were to decrease and to research the option of utilizing “Skype” and/or other online services to reduce personnel costs.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

**All Regional Magistrates, Administrative Magistrate, and District Magistrate: Move to revise the County Bond Court processes to a 24 hour operation. This change**

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**will simplify the bonding process for the public, reduce processing time, reduce the daily jail population, and decrease the cost of inmate housing** – This item was taken up in the previous motion.

**Probate Judge: Approve Probate Judge's request for one position with a total cost of \$37,500 (salary plus fringe)** – This item was taken up in a previous motion.

**Sheriff's Department: Move that the Sheriff's Department allowed to redirect funds for grant positions; receive rollover funds to cover costs associated with training and K9 emergent needs** – Mr. Manning moved, seconded by Mr. Jeter, to allow the Sheriff's Department to redirect funds for grant positions, receive rollover funds to cover costs associated with training and for K9 emergent needs.

Mr. McDonald stated the motion would allow the Sheriff to utilize his existing budget to fund grant positions once the grants have ended.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Move that Council provide \$700,000 additional funds for the Richland County Sheriff's Department to apply towards raises for fulltime employees with slightly higher percentage to sworn personnel** – Mr. Manning moved, seconded by Mr. Washington, to provide \$700,000 additional funds for the Sheriff's Department to be applied toward raises for fulltime employees with a slightly higher percentage to sworn personnel.

Mr. Rush inquired as to how much the Sheriff's Department has in rollover funds.

Mr. Driggers stated the amount will not be known until after the close of the fiscal year, but would probably be \$600,000-\$800,000.

Mr. Malinowski inquired when the Sheriff's Department was given raises independently when others were not allowed raises.

Mr. McDonald stated he believes that approximately 2 years ago the Sheriff's Department personnel were given raises.

The Administrator's recommended budget gives elected officials the flexibility in their respective budget to move monies around without increasing their dollar amounts.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Move that Columbia City Ballet and the Columbia Classic Ballet Company receive the same funding for FY16 as received in FY15 Allocation. This would mean the addition of \$21,956 to that already recommended by the A and H Tax Committees' recommendation for each entity** – This item was withdrawn.

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**Move that Council utilize the Act 388 allowable adjustment funding option to cover the increased costs of Health Insurance so as to keep the employee's current coverage intact for the coming year** – Mr. Manning moved, seconded by Mr. Jeter, to utilize the Act 388 allowable adjustment funding option to cover the increased costs of Health Insurance so as to keep the employee's current coverage intact for the coming year.

Mr. Washington expressed concern with employee's not receiving salary increases and then requiring them to absorb an insurance premium increase.

Mr. Livingston inquired what the costs to provide the employee's an \$800 bonus, similar to what the State is doing.

Mr. McDonald stated the costs would be a little more than \$1 million.

Mr. Manning inquired what the increase in the insurance premium would equate to for each employee.

Mr. Pearce stated the increase would be approximately \$65 per month.

Mr. Pearce made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Rose, to accept the Health Insurance Ad Hoc Committee's recommendation to authorize staff to take the following actions: (1) Renew current employee and early retiree health insurance contract with Cigna; (2) Renew current Medicare retiree health insurance contract with Humana; (3) Accept 2% decrease on medical plan based on dental integration credit offer and move dental from Delta Dental to Cigna Dental; (4) Develop additional health plans, revise the premiums, and change contribution percentages per discussions during the Health Insurance Ad Hoc Committee; and (5) Make the appropriate and similar plan changes to employee, early retiree, and Medicare retiree health insurance plans and premium contributions.

Mr. Washington made a second substitute motion to defer action on this item until later in the agenda.

Mr. Washington withdrew the motion.

**FOR**

Malinowski  
Rose  
Pearce  
Rush

**AGAINST**

Dixon  
Livingston  
Dickerson  
Washington  
Manning  
Jeter

The substitute motion failed.

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Mr. McDonald stated the amount that is needed is \$303,000 and presently the budget is approximately \$100,000 from the cap; therefore, Council will need to utilize the look back funding.

Mr. Hanna stated if Council wishes to take advantage of the 2% dental incentive recommended by the Health Insurance Ad Hoc Committee it would need to be added to the existing motion.

Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Mr. Manning, to accept the Health Insurance Ad Hoc Committee recommendation to accept the 2% dental incentive. The vote in favor was unanimous.

### FOR

Dixon  
Jackson  
Dickerson  
Washington  
Manning  
Jeter

### AGAINST

Malinowski  
Rose  
Pearce  
Rush  
Livingston

The vote was in favor of the motion to utilize Act 388 allowable adjustment funding option to cover the increased costs of Health Insurance.

**Recommend change in rollover policy: (Effective June, 2016) – 50%/25%/25% plan – (A) 50% of total Department unspent and uncommitted fund would not be available for rollover and would go to restore the fund balance level. (B) 25% of total Department unspent and uncommitted funds would be eligible to rollover for appropriate Department use. (C) 25% of Department unspent and uncommitted funds would be restricted in a separate account for the County Administrator to redirect during the rollover process to specific Department based on need. (D) Unspent funds at the end of the subsequent fiscal year will not rollover a 2<sup>nd</sup> year but would revert to fund balance** – Mr. Rush inquired if the Administrator had a policy in place where funds won't be expended near the end of the fiscal year.

Mr. McDonald stated there are time limits in place with the Procurement Department in regard to the issuance of purchase orders to avoid last minute expenditures.

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

**All Departments: In lieu of a hiring freeze or a reduction in force, the budget includes a vacancy recovery plan. The plan requires that all general fund departments, inclusive of public safety, that have a vacated position during the fiscal year be adjusted to remove the associated budget dollars for the duration of**



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**the vacancy** – Mr. Manning moved, seconded Mr. Jeter, to approve this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Discretionary Grant: Approve Agency Allocation of \$200,000** – Mr. Manning moved, seconded by Mr. Jeter, to approve \$200,000 for this item. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Outside Agencies: Approve \$10,000 to fund Cervical Cancer** – This item was withdrawn.

**All Departments: Approve \$30,000 for paving the parking lot of the Kelly Mill Phase II Project with the savings from the County's Iron Mountain Contract. This is a one-time request.** – This item was withdrawn.

**Outside Agencies: Approve estimated \$1M for Kelly Mill Project for a Special Events and Meeting Center, and Sports Complex** – Ms. Dixon moved, seconded by Mr. Rush, to refer this item to the Hospitality Tax Committee. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Move that Council provide Staff authorization to take the following action: Renew current employee and early retiree health insurance contract with Cigna; Renew current Medicare retiree health insurance contract with Humana; Accept 2% decrease on medical plan based on dental integration credit offer and move dental from Delta Dental to Cigna Dental; Develop additional health plans; revise the premiums, and change contribution percentages per discussions during the Health Insurance Ad Hoc Committee; and make the appropriate and similar plan changes to employee, early retiree, and Medicare retiree health insurance plans and premium contributions** – This item was withdrawn.

**Sheriff's Department: Council approve \$20,669.50 to match COPS grant and the Town of Eastover match to assist in covering the cost of a fulltime Deputy for the Town of Eastover** – Mr. Washington moved to approve \$20,669.50 to match COPS grant and the Town of Eastover match to assist with covering the cost of a fulltime Deputy for the Town of Eastover. The motion died for lack of a second.

**Coroner: Move that Council approve one fulltime position for \$33,000 and provide for equipment replacement of \$172,817.55. This would be a total of \$205,817.55** – Mr. Washington moved, seconded by Mr. Manning, to divide the question.

Mr. Malinowski inquired if this position was requested.

Mr. McDonald stated he does not believe it was requested; therefore, he is not familiar with the details.

The position is to eliminate some of the part-time employees.



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Mr. Rose stated the Coroner had spoken to him about the position. Due to the DNA Preservation Act, which puts more strain on the Coroner's Office to retain evidence, there is an increased work load of 7%-10%.

Mr. Rose made a substitute motion to fund the position and not approve the equipment replacement.

Mr. Rose withdrew his motion.

Mr. Malinowski inquired about the salaries of the part-time employees.

The Coroner's Office staff was not able to provide that information.

Mr. Pearce inquired whether the equipment or position was more needed.

**FOR**

Dixon  
Rose  
Jackson  
Pearce  
Livingston  
Dickerson  
Washington  
Manning  
Jeter

**AGAINST**

Malinowski  
Rush

The vote was in favor of approving the one fulltime position for \$33,000.

Two years ago, the Coroner's Office was provided with 15 walkie talkies and 5 mobile units from EMS. The Coroner's Office was unable to use the 15 walkie talkies and only one of the mobile units. The existing equipment is analog and needs to be replaced with digital equipment.

Mr. Washington inquired if the equipment could be phased in.

The Coroner's Office believes they would be able to function with half of the request.

Mr. Washington moved, seconded by Mr. Rose, to fund ½ of the request and phase in the remaining requested equipment.

Mr. Malinowski inquired why cell phones could not be utilized.

The Coroner's Office stated that cell phones do not work everywhere; therefore, walkie talkies are a better choice in the field.

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### FOR

Dixon  
Rose  
Jackson  
Dickerson  
Washington  
Manning

### AGAINST

Malinowski  
Pearce  
Rush  
Livingston  
Jeter

The vote was in favor of funding ½ of the request and phasing in the remaining requested equipment.

**Outside Agencies: Move that Council provide funding of \$225,000 to Wateree Community Actions, Inc.** – Mr. Washington moved to approve \$125,000 for the Wateree Community Actions, Inc. The motion died for lack of a second.

**Magistrates: Move to fund the conversion of all eligible Regular Retirement service time (County or otherwise) to Police Retirement service time for all magistrates who elect to participate. Those Magistrates who elect to participate must do so by July 31, 2015. - \$180,000** – Mr. Washington moved to fund the conversion of all eligible Regular Retirement service time to Police Retirement service time for all magistrates who elect to participate. The motion died for lack of a second.

## SPECIAL REVENUE

**Fire Service: Approve funding level** – Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Mr. Rose, to fund the deficit of \$609,000 in the following manner: (1) Take the Fire Service Millage to the cap; (2) Rollover all unspent encumbered and unencumbered funds from the current Emergency Services FY14-15 Fire Budget to the FY15-16 Fire Budget effective July 1, 2015; (3) and reprioritize or change the capital projects currently planned or partially implemented in the FY14-15 budget and postpone or modify the scope of the projects.

Mr. Jackson made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Livingston, to increase the fire fee from \$1.00 to \$2.00.

Mr. Jackson stated it is his understanding the fire fee has not been increased in 25 years.

Mr. McDonald stated there is a Fire Protection Fee, which is currently a \$1.00 per household for those households that are on City water. The \$1.00 currently generates approximately \$1.3 million in revenue for the Fire Fund.

Mr. Livingston stated his recommendation was to increase the fee by \$0.50 to generate \$650,000.

Mr. Livingston stated it is his understanding that the increase has to be requested from the City of Columbia.

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Mr. McDonald stated that is correct. Council would need to approve the request and then forward the request to the City of Columbia for a final decision.

Mr. Livingston made a second substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Jeter, to increase the fire fee from \$1.00 to \$1.50.

Mr. Pearce withdrew his motion; therefore, Mr. Jackson's motion is now the main motion and Mr. Livingston's motion becomes the substitute motion.

Mr. Washington inquired of Mr. Byrd if this action will make him whole.

Mr. Byrd stated this will fully fund the raise, but it still leaves the County's side short.

Mr. Byrd cut the County's side by \$1,216,000.

Mr. Manning inquired as how much the millage cap, rollover and reprioritization of capital projects would equate.

Mr. Byrd stated the unencumbered capital rollover was \$2,858,855 and the operational rollover was \$246,068. The encumbered capital is \$918,029.

Mr. Driggers stated the total dollars the millage cap will generate is \$21,694,000.

Mr. Manning inquired of the \$609,000 how much is made up by going to the millage cap.

Mr. Byrd stated the answer is none because they have already gone to the millage cap to close the gap to the \$609,000. The funding would be coming from capital and rollover operations.

In addition, Chief Jenkins cut \$300,000 from the initial request to bring the amount needed to fully fund the City's request to \$609,000.

In order to go to the millage cap, to utilize the rollover funding and reprioritize the capital projects, Council would have to approve the recommendation.

Mr. Manning made a second substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Pearce, to request the City of Columbia to increase the Fire Protection Fee from \$1.00 to \$2.00. In the meantime, Council approve funding the deficit of \$609,000 in the following manner: (1) Take the Fire Service Millage to the cap; (2) Rollover all unspent encumbered and unencumbered funds from the current Emergency Services FY14-15 Fire Budget to the FY15-16 Fire Budget effective July 1, 2015; (3) and reprioritize or change the capital projects currently planned or partially implemented in the FY14-15 budget and postpone or modify the scope of the projects.

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**FOR CLARIFICATION:** Mr. Rose stated the motion is to request City Council to add a dollar to the fee that has not been increased since 1990. If City Council does not honor the request, the fall back is going to be Mr. Pearce's original motion.

Mr. Byrd stated this motion will go toward restoring the funding on the County side.

Ms. Dickerson stated to be mindful of the constituents with the increases on fees.

### **FOR**

Dixon  
Rose  
Jackson  
Pearce  
Dickerson  
Washington  
Manning  
Jeter

### **AGAINST**

Malinowski  
Rush  
Livingston

The vote was in favor of the second substitute motion.

### **Neighborhood Redevelopment: Approve Epworth Children's Home for \$25,000** –

Mr. Jeter moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to approve \$20,000 for the Epworth Children's Home from Neighborhood Redevelopment fund balance. The vote was in favor.

## **GENERAL FUND**

**Outside Agencies: Approve Agency Allocation of \$1,324,176** – Mr. McDonald stated this is the total allocation for the Contractual & Statutory agencies.

Mr. Washington inquired if this included Hospitality Tax.

Mr. McDonald stated those would be taken General Fund Contractual & Statutory agencies.

Mr. Washington moved, seconded Ms. Dickerson, to reconsider Item #47(1) to reallocate his portion of the Hospitality Tax funds. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mr. Washington moved, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to allocate \$1,000 to Kingville Foundation and \$1,000 to the Sweet Potato Festival. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mr. Jackson moved, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to approve agency allocation of \$1,324,176. The vote was in favor.

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**Total Budget: Approve funding level of \$154,012,309** – Mr. Livingston moved, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to appropriate \$75,000 for the Columbia Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Mr. Madden stated the Columbia Convention and Visitors Bureau received \$24,089 from the Council members' Hospitality Tax allocations. In order to make up the difference, Council will need to approve \$50,911 to allocate a total of \$75,000.

Mr. Washington made a substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to fund the Kingville Foundation, the Sweet Potato Festival and the Town of Eastover at last year's funding minus whatever funding has already been allocated to them for FY15-16.

Mr. Jackson made a friendly amendment to add the SunSplash and the Horrell Hill Festival.

Mr. Washington accepted the friendly amendment.

**FOR**

Jackson  
Washington

**AGAINST**

Dixon  
Malinowski  
Rose  
Pearce  
Rush  
Livingston  
Manning  
Jeter

The substitute motion failed.

Ms. Dickerson made a substitute motion, seconded by Ms. Dixon, to appropriate \$50,911 for the Columbia Convention and Visitor's Bureau.

**FOR**

Dixon  
Malinowski  
Jackson  
Rush  
Pearce  
Dickerson  
Washington  
Jeter

**AGAINST**

Livingston  
Manning

The vote was in favor of the substitute motion to appropriate \$50,911 for the Columbia Convention and Visitor's Bureau.

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Mr. Jackson moved, seconded by Mr. Washington, reconsider Item #58: Fund Garners Ferry Seniors LR Coalition at \$25,000.

**FOR**

Dixon  
Jackson  
Pearce  
Washington

**AGAINST**

Malinowski  
Rush  
Livingston  
Dickerson  
Manning

The motion failed.

Mr. McDonald stated with the last vote the total is \$390,320 over the cap.

Mr. Manning inquired if Council utilized the millage cap and the look back how much is still available.

Mr. McDonald stated approximately \$700,000.

Mr. Driggers stated if Council goes to the cap it will have a \$5.60/per \$100,000 impact and the use of the look back will have a \$3.20/per \$100,000 impact.

Mr. Malinowski inquired how much would need to be cut from the State mandated agencies to account for the \$390,000.

Mr. Driggers stated it would be 1% across the board.

Mr. Manning moved, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to utilize the millage cap and one-third of the look back.

Mr. Malinowski inquired if the General Fund Fund Balance is affected by the proposed budget.

Mr. Driggers stated it is not affected.

Mr. Livingston called for the question, seconded by Mr. Pearce. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mr. Rose stated the Solicitor's Office total budget is \$3.8 million and \$3.5 million is utilized for salaries. The entire office is operated off of \$300,000. The 1% reduction will equate to \$38,000, which is a significant decrease for this office.

Mr. Rose moved, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to restore the \$38,000 to the Solicitor's Office.

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Mr. Livingston stated the 1% reduction will not be across the board and the Administrator will have the discretion to make the reductions.

A discussion was held to determine if the motion that was passed indeed gave the Administrator the latitude to determine the 1% reductions.

### **FOR**

Dixon  
Jackson  
Livingston  
Dickerson  
Washington  
Manning  
Jeter (via telephone)

### **AGAINST**

Malinowski  
Rose  
Pearce  
Rush

The vote was in favor of the motion to utilize the millage cap and one-third of the look back.

### ***Council went into Executive Session***

### **SPECIAL REVENUE**

**Hospitality Tax: Approve funding level of \$6,035,000** – Mr. Manning moved, seconded by Mr. Livingston, to approve the funding level.

Mr. Driggers stated there is \$3.3 million in fund balance set aside for Pinewood Lake, but it is not appropriated. The use of \$2,025,000 to purchase the property for Project LM is a temporary borrowing and will be restored on July 1, 2015.

Mr. Jackson stated there are presently no restrooms at Pinewood Lake. There are port-a-johns that were left by the contractor that must be cleaned out every other day.

Mr. Smith stated it is his understanding there is a non-profit organization that Mr. Jackson had been communicating with about operating Pinewood Lake Park. An agreement has been drafted by Legal based on the information provided by Mr. Fosnight. The agreement was forwarded to the Risk Manager, Mr. Chambers, for review.

Mr. Pearce stated the additional \$2.2 million was approved, but it was pending the overall finance plan getting approved. Additionally, he inquired if using the original \$3.3 million to move forward with the critical needs would have a negative impact on the financing plan.

Mr. Driggers stated it would not affect any of the plans that have been provided to Council.



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Mr. Pearce moved, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to appropriate up to \$1 million for the restrooms and entrance and exit facilities for the restrooms.

Mr. Livingston expressed his concerns with not having an operation/management plan in place.

Mr. Manning inquired if who is responsible for utilities (i.e. water, sewer, electricity) is covered in the proposed operating agreement.

Those costs will be covered in the operational budget.

Mr. Manning made a friendly amendment to appropriate \$15,000 from the General Fund for utility costs for the first year of operation.

Mr. Pearce did not accept the amendment.

Mr. Driggers stated currently there are no operating dollars in the budget for Pinewood Lake Park. One suggestion would be to set aside \$15,000 in Hospitality Tax to cover the utility costs.

Mr. Manning made a friendly amendment to set aside \$15,000 in Hospitality Tax to cover the utility and insurance costs to operate Pinewood Lake Park.

Mr. Pearce accepted the friendly amendment.

Mr. Manning inquired if the foundation running the Pinewood Lake Park has run background checks on the volunteers.

### **FOR**

Dixon  
Malinowski  
Jackson  
Pearce  
Livingston  
Dickerson  
Washington

### **AGAINST**

Rose  
Manning

The vote was in favor of appropriating up to \$1 million for the restrooms, entrance and exit facilities for the restrooms and to set aside \$15,000 in Hospitality Tax to cover the utility and insurance costs to operate the facility.

## **COUNTYWIDE**

**Budget Ordinance: Approve Budget Ordinance** – Mr. Jackson moved, seconded by Ms. Dixon, to approve as amended.

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**FOR**

Dixon  
Jackson  
Livingston  
Dickerson  
Washington  
Manning

**AGAINST**

Malinowski  
Rose  
Pearce  
Rush

The vote was in favor.

**Budget Ordinance: Clinch Minutes** – Mr. Manning moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to reconsider the budget ordinance. The motion failed.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:00 p.m.

