COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Overture Walker, Chair; Jesica Mackey, Vice-Chair; Derrek Pugh, Jason Branham, Yvonne McBride, Paul Livingston, Allison Terracio, Don Weaver, Cheryl English, and Chakisse Newton

OTHERS PRESENT: Michelle Onley, Kyle Holsclaw, Angela Weathersby, Dale Welch, Aric Jensen, Patrick Wright, Leonardo Brown, Anette Kiylo, Susan O’Cain, Jeff Ruble, Ashiya Myers, Chelsea Bennett, Sarah Harris, Lori Thomas, Michael Maloney, Crayman Harvey, Shirani Fuller, Chris Eversmann, John Thompson, Abhijit Deshpande, Bill Davis, Michael Byrd, Todd Money, Sandra Haynes, Stacey Hamm, and Geo Price

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chairman Overture Walker called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 PM.

2. **INVOCATION** – Ms. Madison Wood led the Invocation on behalf of the Honorable Yvonne McBride.

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Honorable Yvonne McBride.

4. **PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATIONS**

   a. **A Proclamation recognizing the United States National Lawn Tennis Association of South Carolina [BARRON]** – Ms. Barron recognized Mr. Branham as a lifelong member of the Tennis Association. She also noted that she will be starting tennis lessons next month.

   Ms. Susan O’Cain, Director of Communications/Public Information, read the proclamation recognizing the United States National Lawn Tennis Association of South Carolina into the record.

5. **PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS**

   Mr. Pugh moved to add a resolution honoring “Police Officers’ Week”: May 15-21, 2023, to the agenda, seconded by Mr. Weaver.

   In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

   The vote in favor was unanimous.

   Ms. Barron moved to adopt the resolutions listed as Items 5(a)-5(e) in the agenda packet, seconded by Ms. Mackey.

   In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

   The vote in favor was unanimous.

   a. **A Resolution recognizing May as Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month** – Ms. O’Cain read the resolution recognizing May as Asian American and Pacific Islanders Heritage Month into the record.

   b. **A Resolution honoring Richland County Emergency Medical Service Employees** – Ms. English presented a resolution honoring Richland County Emergency Medical Service employees.


   d. **A Resolution honoring Richland County Detention Center Correctional Officers** – Ms. O’Cain read the resolution honoring Richland County Detention Center Correctional Officers into the record.

   e. **A Resolution honoring "Police Officers’ Week": May 15-21, 2023** – Ms. O’Cain read the resolution honoring “Police Officers’ Week”: May 15-21, 2023, into the record.
6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
   a. **Regular Session: May 2, 2023** – Ms. Newton inquired if it is appropriate to include information given to Council members during Citizens’ Input.

   Mr. Patrick Wright, County Attorney, indicated it would depend on what the information is. Everything received by Council members does not have to be included in the minutes since minutes are a summary of what happened at the Council meeting. This is something that can be addressed at a later date.

   Ms. Newton moved to exclude the SC Safe Elections Group Executive Summary from the May 2, 2023, minutes, and approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Ms. Terracio.

   In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton
   The vote in favor was unanimous.

7. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – Ms. Barron moved to adopt the agenda as published, seconded by Ms. Mackey.

   In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton
   The vote in favor was unanimous.

8. **REPORT OF THE ATTORNEY FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION (Pursuant to SC Code 30-4-70)** – Mr. Patrick Wright, County Attorney, indicated the following item qualifies for Executive Session:
   a. Clerk to Council’s Office

9. **CITIZENS’ INPUT**
   a. For Items on the Agenda Not Requiring a Public Hearing – No one signed up to speak.

10. **CITIZENS’ INPUT**
    a. Must Pertain to Richland County Matters Not on the Agenda (Items for which a public hearing is required or a public hearing has been scheduled cannot be addressed at this time.) – No one signed up to speak.

11. **REPORT OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**
    a. Items for Consideration:
       1. **FY23-24 Council Budget Motions** – Mr. Leonardo Brown, County Administrator, mentioned that Council budget motions are due by Friday, May 19th,
       2. **Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center** – Mr. Weaver mentioned one of his constituents contacted him and stated a news outlet reported it would take a year for the locks to be refitted at the detention center.

       Mr. Brown responded a detailed timeline, from procurement to completion of the 18 units, was provided at the Detention Center Ad Hoc Committee. The items were procured in March 2023. The expected date of receipt is August 2023. Once the lock system has been received, they will begin going unit by unit. We must consider that the individuals in these housing units must be relocated while the work is being conducted. The vendor does not have the resources to do all the locks on the same day. Strategically, they will go unit by unit. The process will begin in August 2023 and go into 2024.

       Mr. Weaver indicated it is safe to say the project will begin in late summer, with an anticipated completion date in early 2024.

       Mr. Brown noted the timeline and details are listed on the County’s website, in the Detention Center Ad Hoc Committee agenda packet, and have been provided to the SC Department of Corrections.

       3. **Land Development Code Community Meetings** – Mr. Brown noted the Planning Commission Chair is scheduled to present the Planning Commission’s recommended Zoning Map and text amendments at the May 23rd Development and Services Committee meeting. He indicated if Council members would like to schedule additional LDC informational community meetings, please contact administrative staff.

    b. Capital Project Updates:
       1. **Public Safety Center for E911** – Mr. Brown stated following the evaluation of the request for proposal, LS3P was recommended and approved by Council for the architect for this project. In addition, MB Kahn was recommended and approved as the Construction Manager at Risk.

       - April 5, 2023: MB Kahn, Richland County Communications, and the Office of Small Business Opportunity (OSBO) hosted an informational outreach meeting for subcontractors; MB Kahn has made a contractual commitment to diversity and inclusivity;
• April 18, 2023: LS3P released the architects’ drawings and specification documents, which allowed the County to proceed with the bid/procurement process;
• May 1, 2023: D.H. Griffin began demolition; Taylor Brothers for trucking and debris; and Carolina Cutting and Coring for saw cutting;
• May 17, 2023: Second outreach informational meeting for subcontractors;
• Mid-June 2023: Construction estimated to begin;
• Late 2024: Estimated completion.

2. **Family Services Center** – Mr. Brown noted the process for constructing the Family Services Center to house the Richland County Department of Social Services (DSS), Department of Housing and Human Services (DHHS), Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC), and potentially other public service agencies (i.e., Voter Registration & Elections) has begun.

   • MB Kahn was selected as the cost estimation contractor;
   • February 15, 2023: MB Kahn hosted County staff, project staff, and representatives for DSS, DHHS, and DHEC to solicit information on specific space needs to ensure those needs are appropriately addressed;
   • March 14, 2023: Selective Demolition Notice to Proceed issued;
   • July 2023: Staff anticipates a total cost estimate will be available to the County;
   • Fall 2023: Request Council approval to issue General Obligation (GO) Bonds for Family Service Center construction.

Ms. McBride inquired if Council will have the opportunity to provide input into the services we would like to see at the Family Services Center. She did not want to get too far into the plan, and it cause problems if Council members provided input.

Mr. Brown indicated he does not think it will cause more problems. We want to ensure we meet the needs of the facilities. Ultimately, we have to determine what we will include or add as a part of the process.

Ms. McBride stated she would like some additional input on the facility.

Mr. Brown expressed his desire to have the LS3P representative weigh in on when it is most beneficial for Council members to provide input.

Ms. Mary Beth Branham, LS3P, acknowledged they would love Council input. She indicated they are preparing to work with Ms. Lori Thomas to set up a high-level meeting to review the “test fit.” The test fit is basically squares of space representing the square footage of the different areas to see how it fits and on which floor. The high-level meeting would be the perfect time for Council to provide input.

Ms. McBride mentioned that it would also be good to receive input from the citizens who will be utilizing the facility. She does not know if that was obtained.

Ms. Branham asserted that involving the citizens at this stage might be a bit premature. They will need input from the departments on where the public needs to access the facility, how the accessibility happens, and who needs the most access to the public. She indicated what they are doing now is “big picture” before the design/build team is selected. They are attempting to provide a good budget and determine if the spaces will fit inside the building. She noted MB Kahn would be providing the cost estimate.

Ms. McBride stated she knows the facility needs lighting, which is one of her concerns.

Ms. Branham mentioned they are showing windows on the perimeter where natural light can be introduced.

Ms. Barron stated, for clarification, we do not have estimates now, which is why staff will be coming back in the Fall with the estimates.

Mr. Brown responded in the affirmative. The anticipated bonding does not affect the debt millage and was always a part of the process.

Mr. Pugh requested when the high-level meeting occurs, the Sheriff’s Department and other entities that assist with servicing the family need to be a part of the meeting.

c. **Administrator’s Nomination:**

Mr. Brown stated these items had been seen by Council before. He noted they are back as an Administrator’s Nomination. As a part of the process, we request permission to seek applications and grant funds. Once we are awarded the funds, we come back to you to request acceptance of the funding. The projects represent items that have been before Council, and we are now requesting acceptance and utilization of the grant funding.

1. **Richland County Eastover Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion**

2. **Richland County Hickory Ridge Stormwater Conveyance System Upgrades**

Ms. Terracio moved to approve Items 11(c)(1) and 11(c)(2), seconded by Ms. Barron.
Ms. Newton inquired if the Hickory Ridge Stormwater match would come from the Utilities’ budget. Mr. Brown responded in the affirmative.

Ms. Mackey expressed her appreciation to staff for pursuing these grants. She noted the funding is essential for us to continue to deliver quality services to the residents.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

12. REPORT OF THE CLERK OF COUNCIL
   b. Special Called Meeting – Budget 2nd Reading – Ms. Kirylo reminded Councilmembers the 2nd Reading of the FY24 Budget is Thursday, May 25th, at 6:00 PM.

13. REPORT OF THE CHAIR – No report was given.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE – Ms. Newton stated she was hosting a Re-Zoning Town Hall on Wednesday, May 17th, at 6:00 PM at the Garners Ferry Adult Activity Center.

14. OPEN/CLOSE PUBLIC HEARINGS
   a. Authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee-in-lieu of ad valorem taxes and incentive agreement by and between Richland County, South Carolina and Xerxes Corporation, a company previously identified as Project Armitage, to provide for payment of a fee-in-lieu of taxes; authorizing certain infrastructure credits; and other related matters – No one signed up to speak.

15. APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ms. Barron moved to reconsider this item, seconded by Ms. English.

Opposed: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

The motion for reconsideration failed.

16. THIRD READING ITEM
   a. Authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee-in-lieu of ad valorem taxes and incentive agreement by and between Richland County, South Carolina and Xerxes Corporation, a company previously identified as Project Armitage, to provide for payment of a fee-in-lieu of taxes; authorizing certain infrastructure credits; and other related matters – Mr. Livingston moved to approve this item, seconded by Ms. Newton.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ms. Newton moved to reconsider this item, seconded by Ms. Barron.

Opposed: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

The motion for reconsideration failed.

17. REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
   a. Authorizing the joint development and creation of a multicounty park with Fairfield County for Scout Motors Project; authorizing the execution and delivery of an agreement governing the multicounty park; authorizing the inclusion of certain property located in Richland County in the multicounty park; and other related matters [FIRST READING] – Mr. Livingston stated the committee recommended approval of this item. He noted that a new multicounty industrial park was being created as part of the Scout Motors project. The park will operate much like other parks do now. Because of its size and reimbursement credits, it needs to stand alone.
In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

b. Authorizing the execution and delivery of an amendment to fee-in-lieu of ad valorem taxes and special source revenue credit agreement by and between Richland County, South Carolina, and Mark Anthony Brewing Inc. and an amendment to the additional project land purchase agreement by and between Richland County and Mark Anthony Brewing Inc.; and other related matters [FIRST READING] – Mr. Livingston stated the committee recommended approval of this item. The amendment provides new incentives resulting from Mark Anthony investing an additional $94,820,000, above its initial commitment of $400,000,000, and creating an additional 100 new jobs.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mr. Livingston stated the Economic Development Committee received an update regarding the Public/Private partnership initiative at the May 16th committee meeting.

18. REPORT OF THE RULES AND APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

a. NOTIFICATION OF APPOINTMENTS

1. Accommodations Tax Committee – Six (6) Vacancies (ONE applicant must have a background in the lodging industry, THREE applicants must have a background in the hospitality industry; ONE applicant must have a cultural background, and ONE applicant will fill an at-large seat) – Ms. Barron stated the committee recommended appointing Ms. April Shawn Morgan and Ms. Jasmine Farrior.

2. Building Codes Board of Appeals – Nine (9) Vacancies (ONE applicant must be from the Architecture Industry, ONE must be from the Gas Industry, ONE must be from the Building Industry, ONE must be from the Contracting Industry, ONE applicant must be from the Plumbing Industry, ONE applicant must be from the Electrical Industry, ONE applicant must be from the Engineering Industry, and TWO must be from the Fire Industry, as alternates) – Ms. Barron stated the committee recommended appointing Mr. Jesse Burke.

3. Midlands Workforce Development Board – Seven (7) Vacancies (Four [4] applicants must be from the Private Sector; One [1] applicant must represent Career & Technical Education; One [1] applicant must represent Adult Education, and One [1] applicant must represent the SC Department of Employment & Workforce) – Ms. Barron stated the committee recommended appointing Mr. Fabian Edward Zalewa and re-appointing Mr. Bobby Cunningham, Mr. Michael Ray, and Mr. David Prigge.

For the record, one vote was taken on all of the Rules and Appointments Committee’s recommendations.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

19. REPORT OF THE OFFICE OF THE COMMUNITY IMPACT GRANTS COMMITTEE

a. Proposed FY24 Community Impact Grant Application – Ms. Mackey stated that the committee and Council previously voted on a funding amount for our Community Impact Grant awards. The funding amount is included in the FY24 budget. The next phase is establishing the guidelines for an application and the criteria for the Community Impact Grants. She noted that the committee met on May 11th, reviewed the draft application, and discussed additional criteria. The goal is to complete the application and criteria by May 31st. Once completed, the application and criteria will be forwarded to Council.

20. REPORT OF THE CORONAVIRUS AD HOC COMMITTEE

Ms. Barron informed the body and the general public that the County is well on its way to making the awards. Instead of making awards for all $16M at one time, we are bringing the committee’s recommendations forward to Council as they are made. Staff and the third-party vendor have already begun the vetting process and conducting desk reviews. At today’s committee meeting, they discussed sharing information with the general public about which applicants have been awarded funding thus far.

a. American Rescue Plan Application Review and Recommendation:

1. Senior Assistance – Ms. Barron stated the committee recommended awarding up to $500,000 each to SC Uplift and SCACAP-SC Association of Community Action Partnerships.

Ms. McBride stated, for clarification, that we are not voting on individual grants at this time.

Ms. Barron responded we are voting on the individual grants. Of the applicants we received, SC Uplift and SCACAP – SC Association of Community Action Partnerships, made it through the desk review and risk assessment. The recommendation was to award up to $500,000 to each organization.
In Favor: Branham, Pugh, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

Opposed: McBride
Recuse: Barron (due to volunteering/working with one of the organizations)

The vote was in favor.

Mr. Pugh moved to reconsider this item, seconded by Ms. English.

In Favor: McBride

Opposed: Branham, Pugh, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton

Recuse: Barron (due to volunteering/working with one of the organizations)

The motion for reconsideration failed.

2. **Unhoused Persons Categories** – Ms. Barron noted the committee was met with a conundrum due to two of the committee members having a potential conflict of interest. Therefore, the committee was left without a quorum to make a recommendation. The matter was brought to Council to make a recommendation.

Ms. Mackey moved to award the following applicants and amounts, seconded by Mr. Pugh:

- Alston Wilkes Society - $320,000
- The Compass Community Development Corporation - $38,950
- Mental Illness Recovery Center, Inc. (MIRCI) - $1,000,000
- Restoration803 - $10,000
- Eddings Help House - $50,000.00

Ms. Newton inquired as to the total amount of funding being recommended.

Ms. Mackey stated she did not know the total amount but was below the amount assigned.

Mr. Weaver inquired as to where the funding was coming from.

Ms. Mackey responded it is ARPA funding. The applicants applied for the category tied to Unhoused Persons and have gone through an extensive process by the County’s third-party vendor.

Mr. Wright indicated since Ms. Newton and Ms. Barron recused themselves during the committee meeting, they should refrain from participating in the discussion regarding this category.

Ms. McBride pointed out that she supports many of these projects, but her vote will be no, even though much work has been done to improve the process. She stated she had concerns from the beginning. Although things have been put in place to better the process, based on what had taken place initially, she still had lingering concerns regarding the overall process.

Mr. Livingston inquired about the amount being awarded in this category.

Ms. Thomas indicated the total recommended amount is $1,418,950. An additional $200,000 was allocated last year for Transitions, which will also be included in the amount. Therefore, the amount of funding remaining is $381,050.

Ms. Mackey noted that the requests received exceeded the amount set aside for this category, but her motion was for less.

In Favor: Branham, Pugh, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Walker, Mackey, and English

Opposed: McBride
Recuse: Barron (due to volunteering/working with one of the organizations) and Newton (due to a family member receiving services from one of the organizations)

The vote was in favor.

Mr. Pugh moved to reconsider this item, seconded by Ms. English.

In Favor: McBride

Opposed: Branham, Pugh, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Walker, Mackey, and English

Recuse: Barron (due to volunteering/working with one of the organizations) and Newton (due to a family member receiving services from one of the organizations)
The motion for reconsideration failed.

b. **Staff Updates:**

1. **Affordable Housing** – Ms. Barron stated the committee recommended authorizing the County Administrator to allocate up to $4M in available funding for affordable housing in Richland County.

   Ms. Mackey inquired if there is a program plan or if staff will be coming back to us with the plan.

   Ms. Barron replied this is merely an authorization of the funds. As far as programatically, that is a second tier we will take up later. Because we are in the budget season, we need to ensure we have authorized the funds to be a part of that process.

   Mr. Brown expressed that part of the committee’s discussion was hearing from Council members because the committee has not designated a specific method or definition of affordable housing. Council members can communicate their feedback through the Clerk’s Office or himself. Council members can point the external agencies familiar with affordable housing to Administration so that they can obtain feedback and information. The feedback and information will be utilized to bring back options for consideration to Council. He noted that separating the funding and the mechanism prevents them from being constrained by timelines associated with any particular pot of money.

   For clarification, Ms. Mackey stated the committee recommended not funding any of the requested organizations. The County will develop a program to address affordable housing.

   Ms. Barron responded we would not award any of the applications we received, but we are not necessarily creating a program. We are creating a method to fund.

   Ms. Mackey inquired if the applicants would be notified.

   Ms. Barron replied part of the process would be, as we are notifying individuals of their awards, those applicants not being funded will also be notified.

   Mr. Branham noted he would be voting “no” on this item because of how the motion was structured and not because he does not support local government providing affordable housing initiatives.

   Mr. Weaver stated, for clarification, we are not authorizing any new construction with these funds.

   Mr. Brown responded in the affirmative. He noted he would not be taking any action related to this particular funding without it coming back to the body.

   Ms. Barron maintained these funds are authorizing the staff to use available funding. It is not taking away from any entity that is already receiving funding. We are not increasing anything. This is available funding.

   **In Favor:** Pugh, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, English, and Newton

   **Opposed:** Branham, McBride, and Mackey

   The vote was in favor.

   Mr. Pugh moved to reconsider this item, seconded by Ms. English.

   **In Favor:** Branham, McBride, and Mackey

   **Opposed:** Pugh, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, English, and Newton

   The motion for reconsideration failed.

2. **Desk Reviews** – Ms. Barron mentioned the desk reviews have begun and noted we have already received some back. The desk reviews assist us in determining allowable costs. It is an internal audit that the third-party vendor and staff are conducting to ensure we are good stewards of the funding.

   Ms. Mackey inquired which categories remain to be addressed by the Coronavirus Ad Hoc Committee.

   Ms. Thomas responded the following categories still need to be addressed: Non-Profits, Workforce Training, Educational Assistance, Food Insecurity, Youth and Recreation Services, and Small Businesses.

21. **OTHER ITEMS**

   a. **FY23 – District 2 Hospitality Tax Allocations: Omega Men of Columbia - $5,000**

   b. **FY23 – District 3 Hospitality Tax Allocations: Greater Waverly Foundation - $15,000**

   Mr. Pugh moved to approve Items 21(a) and 21(b), seconded by Ms. English.

   **Council Regular Session**
   **May 16, 2023**
   **-7-**
In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton
The vote in favor was unanimous.
Ms. Newton moved to reconsider Items 21(a) and 21(b), seconded by Ms. Mackey.
Opposed: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton
The motion for reconsideration failed.

21. EXECUTIVE SESSION – Mr. Pugh moved to go into Executive Session, seconded by Ms. Newton.
In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton
The vote in favor was unanimous.

Council went into Executive Session at approximately 7:42 PM
and came out at approximately 7:54 PM

Ms. Terracio moved to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Pugh.
In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton
The vote in favor was unanimous.

22. MOTION PERIOD – No motions were received.

23. ADJOURNMENT – Mr. Pugh moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Newton.
In Favor: Branham, Pugh, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Weaver, Barron, Walker, Mackey, English, and Newton
The vote in favor was unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:55 PM.