

**MINUTES  
GREENVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL  
FEBRUARY 18, 2014  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
6:05 p.m.**

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting date, time, place and agenda was posted on the bulletin board at the County Square and made available to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned Citizens.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

CHAIRMAN BOB TAYLOR	XANTHENE NORRIS
VICE CHAIRMAN WILLIS MEADOWS	LIZ SEMAN
JOE DILL	LOTTIE GIBSON
JOE BALDWIN	BUTCH KIRVEN
SID CATES	FRED PAYNE
JIM BURNS	

**COUNCIL MEMBER(S) ABSENT:**

NONE

**STAFF PRESENT:**

JOE KERNELL, County Administrator  
MARK TOLLISON, County Attorney  
JOHN HANSLEY, Deputy County Administrator  
THERESA KIZER, Clerk to Council  
REGINA MCCASKILL, Deputy Clerk to Council  
PAULA GUCKER, Assistant County Administrator, Public Works  
BOB MIHALIC, Governmental Relations Officer  
JEFF WILE, Assistant County Attorney  
JIM DORRIETY, Assistant County Administrator, Public Safety

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

JOHN ELDRIDGE, Chief Deputy, Greenville County Sheriff's Office

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Bob Taylor

**COMMENTS**

Chairman Taylor stated he knew everyone had probably heard of the passing of Councilman Dan Rawls, a good friend who will be missed very much. He asked that everyone remember his wife and family in the coming days. Although Councilor Rawls' health was not good, his passing was still quite a shock to the family and everyone else.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**COMMENT**

Chairman Taylor stated typically an item would require at least seven votes to pass however, with eleven County Council members remaining as a result of Councilman Rawls' death, only six votes would be required. He stated the items requiring eight or nine votes would not change. The Special Election process had been started to fill the remaining time left on the current term for District 26. Application filling for the seat would open in a couple of weeks. Councilor Rawls' seat was up for re-election in November 2014 therefore, individuals interested in applying for the seat would have to go through the application process twice in 2014. Chairman Taylor stated Councilor Rawls definitely looked out for his constituents and the fire departments in his district; reiterating he would surely be missed.

**Item (4) APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**ACTION:** Councilor Kirven moved to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2014 County Council meeting.

Motion carried unanimously by all County Council Members.

**Item (5) PROCLAMATION**

**Honoring Chelsea Phillips and Matthew Todd Scott**

The item was deferred.

**Item (6) PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**Proposed Relinquishment of the Old Roadbed of Stenhouse Road**

A public hearing is being held for the purpose of receiving public comments regarding the proposed relinquishment of maintenance of approximately 800 feet of old roadbed of Stenhouse Road (#F0029) and to transfer the ownership of the right of way to the adjoining property owners.

There being no speakers, Councilor Payne declared the public hearing closed.

**Item (7)**

**APPEARANCES**

There were no speakers.

**Item (8)**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**(a) Relinquishment of the Old Roadbed of Stenhouse Road**

**ACTION:** Councilor Payne moved to approve the Consent Agenda item.

Motion carried unanimously by all County Council Members.

**Item (9)**

**ORDINANCES – SECOND READING**

**(a) Update of Special Property Tax Assessments Related to Rehabilitated Historic Property – Bailey Mill**

**ACTION:** Councilor Meadows moved for approval at second reading an ordinance to update and provide for the special property tax assessments authorized by Section 4-9-195 of the South Carolina Code of Laws as to real property which qualifies as “rehabilitated historic property”; to repeal Ordinance No. 2709; and other matters related thereto.

Motion carried unanimously by all County Council Members.

**Item (10)**

**ORDINANCES – FIRST READING**

**(a) Zoning Ordinances**

Councilor Dill presented for first reading Zoning Dockets CZ-2014-7 through CZ-2014-10.

Chairman Taylor referred the items to the Planning and Development Committee.

**Item (11)**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**(a) Committee on Public Works and Infrastructure**

**1. Waterline Installation Project/James Riceland Court**

This item was held in the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee.

## **2. Resolution/Brutontown Special Tax District Referendum**

**ACTION:** On behalf of the Committee, Councilor Payne moved to adopt a resolution to certify a petition calling for a popular referendum to determine if the Brutontown Special Tax District shall be created to provide for street lighting within the proposed district, to direct the Greenville County Election Commission to hold an election and certify the results of the election to County Council.

Mr. Tollison stated the election would be held on May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

Motion carried unanimously by all County Council Members.

### **(b) Committee on Finance**

#### **1. Community Project/Travelers Rest Farmer's Market - \$600.00**

**ACTION:** On behalf of the Committee, Councilor Meadows moved to approve the Community Project application from Councilors Dill and Meadows requesting \$600.00 from the Community Project Account to assist in the development and printing of promotional materials for the Travelers Rest Farmers Market.

Motion carried unanimously by all County Council Members.

#### **2. Community Project / Greenville County Parks and Recreation/Swamp Rabbit Trail Connector - \$4,000.00**

**ACTION:** On behalf of the Committee, Councilor Meadows moved to approve the Community Project application from Councilor Meadows requesting \$4,000.00 from the Community Project Account to provide a connecting path from the Sans Souci Community to the Swamp Rabbit Trail.

Motion carried unanimously by all County Council Members.

### **Item (12)**

#### **APPEARANCES**

- Butch Taylor, 1 Millbrooke Court, Greenville – appeared regarding globalist agenda

### **Item (13)**

#### **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

County Administrator Joe Kernell stated due to a state-wide Mutual Aid Assistance Agreement, two dump trucks and two drivers were dispatched to Dorchester County to help with the cleanup after the recent snow storm. He stated all costs would be reimbursed back to the County.

Mr. Kernell then stated the County shut down for two days during the recent storm, however the Public Works Department, EMS, the Detention Center and Sheriff's Office continued with their operations. He stated staff did a great job handling the road and emergency issues throughout the storm.

**Item (14)**

**REQUESTS AND MOTIONS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

- Councilor Dill stated staff did a tremendous job keeping the streets cleared during the storm. Reflecting on the recent passing of Councilor Rawls, Mr. Dill encouraged his colleagues to start telling everyone they knew how much they were appreciated because they will never know when it will be the last time they will see that person.
- Councilor Baldwin stated he and Mr. Dill and Mr. Cates attended a meeting in Greer concerning the roads committee. He stated there were many people in the Greer area talking about Highway 101 from BMW into Greer, the portion running past the inland port, and how it would affect economic growth. He stated this portion of 101 was in Spartanburg County and would not have any bearing in the referendum Greenville County would be considering. He felt their concerns were very important and he encouraged the Council Members to stress this need to their legislative representative so the state could look into this issue.
- Councilor Cates read a letter from the Chairman of the Greenville County School Board, expressing passing their condolences in the passing of Councilor Rawls. Mr. Cates then mentioned the recent passing of a former co-worker and teacher from Bob Jones Academy, Ms. Jeri Stratton.
- Councilor Burns encouraged Council Members to stress to their communities the importance of their being involved in the community meetings which were being held by the Greenville County Road Advisory Commission.
- Councilor Meadows stated there was an article in the paper over the weekend regarding Greenville County's financial rating. He stated the article spoke well of Greenville County and of their administration. He thanked the County Administrator and his finance team for the great job they were doing for Greenville County.

**RESOLUTION TO EXTEND THE TIME FOR THE GREENVILLE CITIZEN ROADS ADVISORY COMMISSION PROJECT LIST SUBMISSION**

**ACTION:** Councilor Meadows moved to suspend Council Rule IV (A) in order to take up a resolution extending the time for the Greenville Citizen Roads Advisory Commission to submit its project list to Council.

Motion to suspend the rules carried by a roll call vote of nine in favor (Dill, Baldwin, Meadows, Cates, Burns, Taylor, Norris, Gibson, Payne) and two in opposition (Seman, Kirven).

**ACTION:** Councilor Meadows moved for adoption a resolution to extend the time for the Greenville Citizen Roads Advisory Commission to submit its project list to County Council from April 1, 2014 to July 1, 2014.

Councilor Meadows stated the purpose of the proposed extension was due to some committee members filling rushed and the inclement weather's delay on meetings. He stated if County Council decided to have a referendum on August 15, 2014, there was still enough time to get everything in place and to make sure citizens understood the purpose of the referendum.

Councilor Burns stated he contacted the commission and it was his understanding none of the committee members had asked for an extension. He stated, unless the committee asked, he was not in favor of the proposed extension.

Councilor Norris stated the committee should be allowed the privilege to determine how they would like to proceed.

Councilor Kirven stated the resolution clearly stated the committee had the ability to ask for more time if so desired.

Councilor Dill questioned not being able to give the committee an extension. He stated he would rather give the committee too much time than not enough.

Councilor Gibson stated she did not agree with a time extension.

Councilor Seman stated the chairperson of the committee was more than capable of coming before County Council to ask for an extension, if it was needed.

Councilor Payne stated County Council could ask the committee if more time was needed.

Councilor Dill asked what directive was given to the chairperson in relation to time.

Chairman Taylor stated the chairperson knew the deadline was outlined in the resolution.

Councilor Burns stated in his discussion with the chairperson, all members of the committee agreed with the meetings timeframe.

Councilor Dill stated he felt his community, which extended from North Carolina to Travelers Rest had been penalized. He stated it was unfair to expect citizens from Lake Lanier, who read the Spartanburg Herald, to know there was a meeting (published in the Greenville News) being held in Greer.

Councilor Gibson stated the resolution stated "if needed" in relation to additional meetings or an extension.

Councilor Baldwin suggested asking the chairperson of the committee to have a discussion with the committee members during the next meeting to determine if more time was needed.

Councilor Meadows withdrew his motion.

Chairman Taylor stated he would contact the Chairperson of the Greenville County Roads Advisory Commission and ask them to discuss the road list submission date and the possible need for an extension at their next meeting.

#### **REQUESTS AND MOTIONS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS, continued**

- Councilor Norris stated she was very pleased with the Public Works Department and how well they took care of the roads during the storm.

- Councilor Seman reminded everyone of the ribbon cutting for the new National Guard facility on Wednesday, February 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. at SCTAC.
- Councilor Gibson expressed her appreciation with the Public Works Department during the inclement weather. Ms. Gibson wanted everyone to keep Ms. Norris in mind as she traveled to Michigan for the funeral of a loved one.
- Councilor Gibson then announced the Firehouse Sub Public Safety Foundation would be having a ribbon cutting on February 27<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. at the Augusta Road Fire Substation of the Gantt Fire District. She encouraged her colleagues to participate.
- Councilor Kirven thanked the Public Works staff for a great job during the storm. He also thanked the utility companies and other agencies involved in the tree trimming and other precautionary measures that were taken which kept power from being lost for the majority of Greenville County.
- Councilor Payne challenged his colleagues to see who could generate the largest crowd at their community meetings held by the Greenville County Road Advisory Commission.
- Councilor Norris stated the roads make-up meeting for her district would be held on February 24<sup>th</sup> at the Sterling Community Center.

**Item (15)**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**ACTION:** Councilor Payne moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously by all County Council Members.

Respectfully submitted:

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Theresa Kizer, Clerk to Council