

MINUTES
ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE COMMITTEE
GREENWOOD COUNTY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2019
4:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairman Steven J. Brown, District Five
Vice-Chairman Chuck Moates, District Four
Councilwoman Edith Childs, District One
Councilman Mark Allison, District Two
Councilwoman Melissa Spencer, District Three
Councilman Robbie Templeton, District Six
Councilman Theo Lane, District Seven

STAFF PRESENT

Toby Chappell, County Manager
Elizabeth Taylor, County Attorney

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Steven Brown called the meeting to order.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, notice of this meeting's date, time, location, and agenda was posted outside the main entrances of the Greenwood County Courthouse and the Greenwood County Library. Agendas were distributed to the *Index-Journal*, local radio stations, and posted on the Greenwood County website calendar.

INVOCATION

Councilwoman Edith Childs, District One, delivered the invocation.

APPROVAL OF TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2019 MEETING MINUTES

Chairman Brown welcomed everyone to the meeting. He stated that the minutes were provided prior to the meeting and asked if there were any corrections to the minutes.

There were no corrections. Vice Chairman Moates motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilman Lane, and the minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

ACTION: Council approved the October 15, 2019 Meeting Minutes.

PRESENTATION

Attorney Billy Garrett – Judicial Selection Process for Greenwood County

Mr. Garrett prepared documents that were passed out to County Council for their review. He reported on the process and issues that are handled by the magistrate judge. He presented on behalf of the citizens of Greenwood County and referred to the Constitution Article V Section 26 regarding the appointment of magistrates. He gave details of the education requirements needed at different levels of population to be able to serve as a magistrate. He shared his concerns about the process

that Greenwood County should take to replace the current vacancy. Mr. Garrett continued by suggesting that the County appoint a committee which consists of a member of County Council, Sheriff's Office, City Police Department, Solicitor's Office, Public Defender's Office, and a citizen from the community to review the qualifications for the magistrate judge and recommend the person to the local Senator. Mr. Garrett also referred to the statute which states that a nominee has to pass the certification examination. His concern was that the current system is not transparent. He reminded Council of their responsibility to report a vacancy in the magistrate position to the senator. Mr. Garrett summarized his concern by saying that the appointment needs to be a lawyer, and he feels that the citizens need to have a lawyer to control the courtroom.

Chairman Brown thanked Mr. Garrett for his report and stated that the County Attorney will advise County Council on their responsibilities. Elizabeth Taylor, County Attorney, confirmed that Greenwood County complies with the requirements to report the current vacancy.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Update of Greenwood County Operating and Electric Capital Accounts. – John Wiseman, Greenwood Capital

Mr. Wiseman updated County Council on the Greenwood County accounts that are currently being managed by Greenwood Capital. He further summarized some economic data and the current market. Mr. Chappell added that he wanted Mr. Wiseman to explain the issue of the bonds to Council in the event that the schools did not repay their bonds, and that it could affect the County directly. Mr. Wiseman gave further detail of the market and the Treasury Curve.

- B. Consideration to accept ownership of 1.04 acres of land (Parcel ID# 7813-469-370) on Carter Road for a volunteer fire station. – Josh Skinner, CPST Coordinator

Mr. Skinner reported on the details of the proposed property that is available for the County to build the volunteer fire station. He stated that the Carter family has agreed to donate the one acre of land for the purpose of building a volunteer fire station. He added that if the County decides not to build, the property will go back to the ownership of the Carter family. Mr. Skinner described the location of the property as well as the service area of the fire station if it is built at the location. He further described the type of station that is being proposed. Chairman Brown opened up for discussion the issue of the amount of homes that will be serviced at the proposed location in comparison to the original location that was agreed upon during the application process of the Capital Project Sales Tax. Chairman Brown shared his concerns regarding making sure the citizens who voted for the building of the new fire station get the coverage they voted for. He would like see some additional maps to detail the fire coverage with the proposed site on Carter Road. Mr. Chappell, County Manager,

clarified that the original proposal for the new fire stations was not intended to cover every home in the County even when all of the stations are built. There was further discussion regarding the amount of land that would be enough to build the proposed fire station. Councilman Allison added his concerns regarding the location and the five-mile coverage of the proposed fire station. Councilman Templeton asked what the difference was in the amount of houses that would be covered with each proposed location. Mr. Skinner described the areas on the map that would not be served in either location. Mr. Chappell added that the property owners of the land around the original area were not willing to sell or make any of that property available. Chairman Brown stated that he would like to have more information to be able to justify to the people who would be in the service area or be outside of the service area before he makes his decision.

C. Consideration of an Intergovernmental Agreement pertaining to a Joint Medical Examiner Service for Respective Coroner's Offices. – Sonny Cox, County Coroner

Mr. Cox reported on the proposed agreement and gave a detail description of the service that would be provided by the agreement. He explained that the service would be a partnership with Anderson and include Abbeville, Greenwood and Oconee Counties and would be with a forensic pathologist with heavy credentials. He gave further details of the number of autopsies that have been performed by Greenwood County and the costs associated with them. He added that the length of the agreement would initially be for two years and then for one additional year. He stated that the pathologist would come to the new Abbeville facility, and Greenwood County would travel to that location for services instead of traveling to Greenville, Newberry or Anderson to receive the same forensic results. He confirmed that the service fee for Greenwood County would be \$25,000, and it would be paid for out of the Professional Services in the Coroner's budget. There was further discussion regarding additional ancillary expenses. Mr. Cox confirmed that he has an additional \$3,000 in his budget to cover any of those extra expenses. He added that SLED covers many services at no cost to the County as well. Chairman Brown asked if Mr. Cox felt that \$3,000 was sufficient for the extra expenses. Mr. Cox answered that his comfort zone would be \$5,000, and he will adjust his budget request for the FY21 to accommodate any extra expenses. Chairman Brown asked Mr. Cox where Greenwood County would go for service if not participating in the proposed agreement. Mr. Cox answered that he would have to go to Greenville at a cost of \$1,200 per autopsy, and he averages 20-25 autopsies per year. He added that he is more comfortable with the services from Anderson and what will be given in Abbeville because of the way they care for the deceased, compared to Greenville or Newberry. Chairman Brown commented that he respects the judgment of, and is in support of, the request from the Coroner as presented. Vice Chairman Moates asked how the amount of \$25,000 was decided upon for Greenwood County. Mr. Cox explained that the four counties in the agreement met and decided on the amount that worked best for each, leaving Anderson County with the bulk of the salary since the pathologist would be employed

by them. Councilman Allison agreed with Chairman Brown and would support an increase in the Coroner’s budget if needed.

D. Consideration of revision to County Policy 5.3 (g) Compensation Plan. – Elizabeth Taylor, County Attorney

Ms. Taylor reminded Council of a previous discussion regarding the compensation for employees who are at the top of their pay band. She gave further detail of the change that is being proposed for Council to decide how to handle any increase in compensation of those employees. Chairman Brown further clarified the proposed change giving examples of certain situations when the increase in compensation might be approved.

E. Consideration of Boundary Line Agreements as follows – Robert Russian, County Engineer

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|--------------------|---------------------------|---------------|------------------|
| 307 Nautical Way | Michael & Deborah Spicer | 6897-092-880 | Harborside |
| 324 Compass Point | John & Barbara Beauford | 7806-846-649 | Grand Harbor |
| 114 Dunn Lane | John & Nira Daleda | 7815-775-600 | Greenwood Shores |
| 121 Belle Rive | David & Kathleen Fitts | 7807-076-523 | Belle Rive |
| 119 Belle Rive | Dorothea & David Dancesia | 7807-063-516 | Belle Rive |
| 117 Belle Rive | Gerald & Donna Brooks | 7807-049-510 | Belle Rive |
| 134 Natchez Trace | Harvie & Patty Nunn | 7815-898-646 | Greenwood Shores |
| 215 Agnew Road | Cecil Skidgel | 6869-011-889 | Ligon Estates |
| 292 Lakefield Road | Terry & Kathy Hodge | 371-00-00-014 | N/A |

Mr. Russian described through a PowerPoint presentation the details of each request for Boundary Line Agreements. He gave an overview of the policy, the history of when it was created, and how it affected each property as listed. He continued describing the history of the FERC licensing process for the lake property. He concluded his explanation stating that Engineering and Lake Management is not opposing any of the Boundary Line Agreements being presented. He added that the BLAs either meet the current policy or follow previous precedent set by County Council. He pointed out a paragraph within the policy that they will follow in the spirit of which states:

“This Policy shall not apply to any property formed or created by fill, seawall construction or other manipulation of the 440 Contour after the date of certain aerial photographs which were taken in 2002 and which form the basis for the boundary of the Buzzard’s Roost Project recognized by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.”

He clarified that the photographs from 2002 did not set the FERC boundary, which seemed to be implied by the policy statement. He continued that the FERC boundary was set by what is called Exhibit G, which is a set of maps in the Engineering office provided by FERC in 1989.

Mr. Russian began his presentation of the individual Boundary Line Agreements, which are summarized as follows:

307 Nautical Way - Michael & Deborah Spicer - .02 acres; Recommended approval
324 Compass Point - John & Barbara Beauford - .06 acres; Recommended approval

114 Dunn Lane - John & Nira Daleda - .07 acres; After an explanation of the Policy and FERC history, Engineering Office is not opposing this request.

121 Belle Rive - David & Kathleen Fitts - .03 acres; Recommended approval

119 Belle Rive - Dorothea & David Dancesia - .12 acres; Recommended approval

117 Belle Rive - Gerald & Donna Brooks - .05 acres; Recommended approval

134 Natchez Trace - Harvie & Patty Nunn - .11 acres; Recommended approval

215 Agnew Road - Cecil Skidgel - .25 acres; After an explanation of the precedent set by County, Engineering Office is not opposing this request.

292 Lakefield Road - Terry & Kathy Hodge - .08 acres; Recommended approval

Councilman Allison shared his thoughts regarding the responsibility of Council to assist in establishing reasonable lines, and supports all of the Boundary Line Agreements as presented. Chairman Brown suggested that Mr. Russian revisit the language of the policies and bring them back to County Council for clarification.

- F. Resolution 2019-26 to transfer funds from the FY19 Special Appropriation Fund's Fund Balance to the FY20 EMS Operating Fund. – Derek Oliver, Interim EMS Director

Mr. Oliver gave further detail of the request for a fund transfer. He explained that the funds are being rolled over from the FY19 budget to the FY20 to complete the purchase of the ambulances. Chairman Brown asked why the funds weren't spent within the FY19 budget. Mr. Chappell explained that the FY19 budget was tight, and the project to remount the ambulances was delayed.

Chairman Brown recognized Cathy Miller, the County Treasurer, to give Council an update from the Treasurer's Office. Ms. Miller provided a written summary to Council for their review. She reported that there was \$171,000 collected at the 2018 delinquent tax sale. She reported the amounts received for the Capital Project Sales Tax to be \$2.4 million on October 7th for the quarter ending September 2019. She added that to date the County has received \$19,935,689 plus \$280,035 in interest for a total of \$20,215,724. She made a specific note for Council to review the staff duties of the Special Tax Districts within the Treasurer's Office. She is compiling data and would like to bring her report back to Council regarding staff time that is being used to support the 45+ Special Tax District accounts.

PENDING ITEMS

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Brown reported that due to the time, Council would go into the Regular Council Meeting and conduct the Executive Session at the conclusion of that meeting.

Chairman Brown adjourned the Administration and Finance Meeting at 5:30.

ADJOURNMENT

Susan McIntyre, Clerk to Council, transcribed the minutes.