REGULAR MEETING OF THE FLORENCE COUNTY COUNCIL, THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2022, 9:00 A.M., COUNTY COMPLEX, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ROOM 803, 180 N. IRBY STREET, FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA

PRESENT:
Willard Dorriety, Jr., Chairman
Frank J. "Buddy" Brand, II, Vice Chairman
Waymon Mumford, Secretary/Chaplain
Alphonso Bradley, Council Member
Roger M. Poston, Council Member
Kent C. Caudle, Council Member
Jason M. Springs, Council Member
Jerry W. Yarborough, Jr., Council Member
Stoney "Toney" C. Moore, Council Member
K. G. Rusty Smith, Jr., County Administrator
D. Malloy McEachin, Jr., County Attorney
Hope M. Jones, Clerk to Council
Connie Haselden, Retired Clerk to Council

ALSO PRESENT:
Sheriff T. J. Joye
Chief Deputy Thomas F. Sullivan, FCSO
Shannon Munoz, Deputy Administrator
Arthur C. Gregg, Jr., Public Works Director
Shawn Brashear, Planning Director
Jamie Floyd, Tax Assessor
Mitch Fulmore, EMD Director
Jim Goff, Finance Director
Anita Taylor, Human Resource Director Florence County
Stephanie Bosch, Assistant Director Economic Development
Chief Billy Dillon, Howe Springs Fire Department
Chief Howard Worrell, West Florence Fire Department
Sam Brockington Fire/ Rescue Services Coordinator
Chris Day, Morning News Reporter

A notice of the regular meeting of the Florence County Council appeared in the April 20, 2022 edition of the **MORNING NEWS**. In compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, copies of the meeting Agenda were provided to members of the media, members of the public requesting copies, posted in the lobby of the County Complex, provided for posting at the Doctors Bruce and Lee Foundation Public Library, all branch libraries, and on the County's website (www.florenceco.org). The Council meeting was made available via livestream at www.florenceco.org, was later aired on the Government Access Channel (Spectrum Channel 1301) and archived on the County website.

CALL TO ORDER/INVOCATION/PLEDGE/WELCOME:

Chairman Dorriety called the meeting to order. Secretary/Chaplain Mumford provided the invocation and Vice Chairman Brand led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Chairman Dorriety welcomed everyone attending the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Brand made a motion to approve The Minutes Of The March 17, 2022 Regular Meeting and March 30, 2022 Special Called Meeting Of County Council. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

The Clerk published the titles and the Chairman opened public hearings for the following:

ORDINANCE NO. 20-2021/22

An Ordinance Authorizing The Execution And Delivery Of A Purchase And Sale Agreement By And Between Florence County, South Carolina And Florence County Development Holdings LLC Authorizing The Sale Of Approximately 7.93 Acres In The Scranton Industrial Park To Florence County Development Holdings LLC ~~Santee Electric Cooperative, Inc.~~ And Addressing Other Matters Related Thereto.

ORDINANCE NO. 23-2021/22

An Ordinance Authorizing The Execution And Delivery Of A Deed To The City Of Lake City For That Certain Piece, Parcel Or Lot Of Land Containing 0.23 Acres As Shown On A Plat Prepared For Santee Electric Cooperative, Inc. By Nesbitt Surveying Co., Inc. Dated December 2, 2021 And Recorded In The Office Of The Clerk Of Court For Florence County In Plat Book 107 At Page 1165, And Other Matters Related Thereto.

APPEARANCES:

DR. JERMAINE FORD- FLORENCE DARLINGTON TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Dr. Jermaine Ford, President For Florence Darlington Technical College Appeared Before Council To Introduce Himself And Provide An Overview On How Florence County Benefits From Its Support Of Florence Darlington College And How Florence Darlington Technical College Meets The Needs Of The Community. Paul Seward with Area Commission Board of Florence Darlington Technical College introduced Dr. Ford and stated that a plan was implemented to "Reimagine Florence Darlington Tech". Dr. Ford stated Tech wanted to provide relevant programs to assist with economic growth. Dr. Ford introduced a major initiative to educate, accentuate, train and provide a future path for a lifetime of achievement in the medical field. Councilman Brand stated workforce was huge especially in the hospital sector and expressed the need for more nurses. Councilman Brand challenged Dr. Ford to work along with Francis Marion University to make it a priority to get this done. Dr. Ford advised that he had met with the CEO's of the healthcare providers and was forming connectivity with K-12, Tech and the market place. Dr. Ford asked the healthcare providers what the job needs would be for the next three years. He took this information back to his leadership team and asked them how they could plug the holes for healthcare providers. They were working in concert with the healthcare providers to attain the goals.

ELLEN C. HAMILTON- PEE DEE COALITON

Ms. Hamilton Appeared Before Council To Express Thanks To Council For 35 Years Of Support And Remind Council That April Is Sexual Assault Awareness And Child Abuse Prevention Month. Mrs. Hamilton stated the organization started thirty five years ago in three counties and were now in eight counties. The mission was dedicated to the reduction of sexual assault, family violence, and child abuse and to the needs of the victims. She thanked Council for its help and support and asked them to continue. Sheriff Joye also thanked Council for its support. The Sheriff's office dedicated two CDV investigators to handle these type cases. Sheriff Joye commended Ms. Hamilton for her dedication, compassion and aggressive attitude toward domestic violence. Councilman Brand commented that when he moved back to Florence County thirty-five years ago that Ms. Hamilton was doing the same thing that she was doing now. Councilman Brand thanked her on behalf of County Council. Councilman Caudle asked Ms. Hamilton if there was a direct correlation between alcohol or drug use and abuse that went along with domestic violence. Ms. Hamilton responded that if you looked at child abuse, she couldn't speak on law enforcement or department of social services, but a lot of children were pulled from the home because of the substance abuse of the parents.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

Chairman Dorriety stated that the Committee had no report but advised that the Committee had tentatively scheduled a meeting for Thursday, May 5, 2022 at 8 a.m. to discuss the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget.

Chairman Dorriety also announced that the demolition of the hotel located on East Palmetto Street was scheduled for April 22, 2022 at 11 a.m. Councilman Mumford planned to be in attendance representing District 7 and Vice-Chairman Brand was scheduled to represent Council. Chairman Dorriety stated it was a consolidated effort between McLeod, the City of Florence, Bruce Lee Foundation and Florence County.

JUSTICE & PUBLIC SAFETY

Committee Chairman Springs stated that the Committee was working on the Unified Fire District budget and also with Mitch Fulmore to determine what was needed to continue with the necessary improvement of the radio system. A tentative date of May 4, 2022 was set to meet to discuss long range planning with the Unified Fire District.

RESOLUTIONS/PROCLAMATIONS:

PROCLAMATION - PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS WEEK

The Clerk published in its entirety A Proclamation Recognizing The Week of April 10 - 16, 2022 As National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week In Florence County. Councilman Springs made a motion Council approve the Proclamation as presented. Councilman Yarborough seconded the motion. County Administrator K. G. Rusty Smith, Jr. stated that this proclamation recognized the selfless devotion of the award winning staff who on a daily basis provided the vital link to "protect the lives and the property of the citizens we represent." As was often said in emergency management "seconds make the difference between life and death" and the County's telecommunicators cast the critical lifeline to all they serve. Mr. Smith stated that "*Failure to prepare is preparing to fail*" and the dispatch department was "semper paratus" or always ready. Kristi Burch introduced staff members Levi James, Jessica Joe and Riley Loveless, who were in attendance. Chairman Dorriety stated that County Council appreciated the long hours and tireless efforts of the department. He stated they were the lifeline during emergencies and always there to support law enforcement, first responders, fire fighters personnel and he personally believed Florence County had the best in the state. Chairman Dorriety also stated that he believed that the department was instrumental to economic development with the communication provided and the emergency operations center and without this department it would hurt economic development. Councilman Brand presented the Proclamation to the staff members that were present. The Proclamation was approved unanimously.

RESOLUTIONS OF RECOGNITION - WILSON HIGH SCHOOL

WILSON TIGERS 4A BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

Chairman Dorriety stated that due to a scheduling conflict the appearance of the Wilson High School Basketball Team would be deferred to a later date. The Clerk published the title of the Resolution To Recognize The Wilson High School Basketball Team As 2022 South Carolina 4A Boys Basketball State Champions. Councilman Mumford made a motion Council approve the Resolution as presented. Councilman Bradley seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

WILSON TIGERS 4A BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM COACH CARLOS POWELL

The Clerk published the title of the Resolution To Recognize The Wilson High School Basketball Coach As 2021- 2022 Region VI-4A Coach Of The Year. Councilman Mumford made a motion Council approve the Resolution as presented. Councilman Bradley seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 19-2021/22

The Clerk published the title of Resolution No. 19-2021/22. A Resolution To Amend Section 4.10(5) Of The Florence County Personnel Policy Manual Regarding The Vehicle Collision Review Board (VCRB) Procedures. Councilman Mumford made a motion Council approve the Resolution as presented. Councilman Brand seconded the motion. Mr. Smith advised that the VCRB or Vehicle Collison Review Board was created in 2010 to positively impact employee driving behaviors while reducing the financial consequences of accidents. Staff recommended minor adjustments to the policy in order to establish an even safer environment and to further enhance driving behaviors. Following the deferral at the March meeting a session was convened to include Ms. Munoz, Anita Taylor with Human Resources, Miranda Barber with Risk Management, Mr. McEachin and Chief Deputy Sullivan to obtain a clearer understanding of the requirements for each department. After lengthy discussion, it was recommended that representation be increased from 6 to 10 with 3 representatives from the sheriff's department and one additional from EMS. These departments drive the most miles on a 24/7 basis and operated close to multi-function vehicles on a daily basis. If a department was "under review" their representatives could participate in discussion but could not vote. The meeting frequencies were also amended to accommodate shift workers. Also, to keep more boots on the ground, incidents that involved a "deer strike" would not require the driver to attend in person. Language was also amended to delete "A staff member that the VCRB determines to be at fault as the operator in an accident involving a publicly owned vehicle may be responsible for payment of 10% or a $200.00 minimum of a applicable cost not to exceed $500." and replaced it with "A staff member that the VCRB determines to be at fault as the operator in an accident involving a publicly owned county vehicle may be responsible for minimum payment of $100.00 to a maximum payment of $750.00 of applicable costs ($500.00 Compensation & Collision, $250.00 Tort liability). The Resolution was approved unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 27-2021/22

The Clerk published the title of Resolution No. 27-2021/22: A Resolution To Amend Section 4 Of Resolution No. 5-2009/10 In Order To Authorize The Inclusion Of One (1) Additional Participant In The South Carolina Procurement Card Program. Councilman Brand made a motion Council approve the Resolution as presented. Councilman Springs seconded the motion. Mr. Smith stated that in November 2009 Council authorized participation in the SC Procurement Card Program to allow specific users in specific departments to utilize cards with set daily and monthly spending limits to conduct the business of Florence County. It was becoming increasingly difficult to make purchases with purchase orders or cash. Many vendors no longer accepted purchase orders or provided account receivables. Participation in this program was a much more efficient methodology and provided better transparency. Mr. Julian Young of Voters Registration had advised that it was virtually impossible to rent large lift trucks used during elections and also very cumbersome when making vehicle fuel purchases. Mr. Young was requesting this authorization and he would be the signor to ensure accountability. The Resolution was approved unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 28-2021/22

The Clerk published the title of Resolution No. 28-2021/22: A Resolution Designating April as Fair Housing Month. Councilman Brand made a motion Council approve the Resolution as presented. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion. Mr. Smith stated that this resolution recognized the 54th Anniversary of the Fair Housing Act that was signed into law on April 11, 1968 by then President Lyndon Baines Johnson. The landmark legislation made discrimination in housing transactions unlawful. This Act prohibited discrimination in housing because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability and familial status. It was intended to provide fair housing through-out the country. The state CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) program encouraged approval of this recognition. The Resolution was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

The Clerk had not received any written comments pertaining to any of the items for public hearings. There being no signatures on the sign-in sheets, the Chairman closed the Public Hearings. (The sign-in sheets are attached and incorporated by reference.)

ORDINANCES IN POSITION:

Chairman Dorriety stated that Council had been asked to defer Third Reading of Ordinances No. 11-2019/20 and 12-2019/20.

ORDINANCE NO. 11-2019/20 – THIRD READING DEFERRED

An Ordinance Authorizing The Execution And Delivery Of A Fee-In-Lieu Of Tax Agreement By And Between A Company Or Companies Known For The Time Being As Project Star (The "Company"), Darlington County And Florence County, South Carolina (The "County"), Whereby The County Will Enter Into A Fee-In-Lieu Of Tax Agreement With The Company And Darlington County, Providing For Payment By The Company Of Certain Fees-In-Lieu Of *Ad Valorem* Taxes, The Allocation Of Fees-In-Lieu Of Taxes Payable Under The Agreement; And Other Matters Relating Thereto.

ORDINANCE NO. 12-2019/20 – THIRD READING DEFERRED

An Ordinance To Develop A Jointly Owned And Operated Industrial/Business Park In Conjunction With Darlington County, Such Industrial/Business Park To Be Geographically Located In Florence County And Darlington County And Established Pursuant To Sec. 4-1-170 Of The Code Of Laws Of South Carolina 1976, As Amended; To Provide For A Written Agreement With Darlington County To Provide For The Expenses Of The Park, The Percentage Of Revenue Application, And The Distribution Of Fees In Lieu Of Ad Valorem Taxation; And Other Matters Related Thereto.

ORDINANCE NO. 18-2021/22 - THIRD READING

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 18-2021/22: An Ordinance To Amend An Existing Planned Development (19-1, Sandstone) Owned by Palmetto Properties Of Conway, LLC For The Property Of Tax Map Number 00241, Block 01, Parcel 055 Located On Dunton Drive, Florence; And Other Matters Related Thereto. Councilman Moore made a motion Council approve Third Reading of the Ordinance. Councilman Brand seconded the motion. Mr. Smith stated this ordinance to amend related to Sandstone subdivision located at Freedom Boulevard and Palmetto Street behind Booty Brothers. This planned development was originally approved in 2019. A developer had as long as needed to develop the property in accordance with the approved plan. A "PUD" was more like a zoning district and therefore must be changed via ordinance. This proposal changed the layout of 2 roads which would likely improve traffic conditions within the subdivision. It also increased green space or open areas. The number of townhomes to be constructed (2 story with one car garage and one parking space) would increase from 98 to 106. The original PUD include 150 single family residential lots, 6 commercial lots, 1 governmental entity and 98 townhomes (now 106). One person attended the public hearing but there was no Impact to their property. The Planning Commission approved 8 to 0 (Council District 6). Third Reading of the Ordinance was approved unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 20-2021/22 – SECOND READING

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 20-2021/22: An Ordinance Authorizing The Execution And Delivery Of A Purchase And Sale Agreement By And Between Florence County, South Carolina And Florence County Development Holdings LLC Authorizing The Sale Of Approximately 7.93 Acres In The Scranton Industrial Park To Florence County Development Holdings LLC ~~Santee Electric Cooperative, Inc.~~ And Addressing Other Matters Related Thereto. Councilman Springs made a motion Council approve Second Reading of the Ordinance. Councilman Caudle seconded the motion. Councilman Springs made a motion Council Amend Ordinance No. 20-2021/22 To Remove Santee Electric Cooperative Inc. And Insert Florence County Development Holdings LLC. Councilman Brand seconded the motion to Amend, which was approved unanimously. Mr. Smith stated the approval of this ordinance would surely be the impetus for the approaching success of the Scranton Industrial Park. The County was asked to Convey a 7.93 acre parcel in the aforementioned park to Florence County Development Holdings LLC, a subsidiary of Santee Electric Cooperative in consideration of the allocation of $500,000 of RDA funds to the County. The economic development staff had thoroughly vetted this request and felt that it was a reasonable consideration for the tract. Economic Development was of the opinion that the County needed well in excess of the $500,000 to spend in RDA funds on park infrastructure and therefore this was as good as cash. These funds would be designated for public infrastructure needs associated with the Scranton Industrial Park or other Santee served sites in the County. Upon approval a joint venture partnership would build a spec building on the site at no additional cost to the county. The County would also have the option to repurchase the land for $500,000 if Santee had not commenced construction on or before March 1, 2023 or substantially completed the spec building by December 31, 2023. Second Reading of the Ordinance as Amended was approved unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 21-2021/22 - SECOND READING

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 21-2021/22: An Ordinance Authorizing The Execution And Delivery Of A Fee-In-Lieu Of Tax Agreement By And Between Project Fig (The "Company") And Florence County, South Carolina (The "County") To Provide For The Payment Of Certain Fees In Lieu Of Taxes, The Issuance Of Certain Special Source Revenue Credits, And Other Matters Related Thereto. Councilman Brand made a motion Council approve Second Reading of the Ordinance. Councilman Springs seconded the motion. Mr. Smith stated this incentivized project would include an investment of $10 million dollars with $3.825 million in real property (land and buildings) and $6.175 million in new tangible personal property (i.e. machinery and equipment). The endeavor was scheduled to provide 402 new jobs over 5 years that would pay equal to or exceed the County average of approximately $17.00 per hour. Also included was the purchase of a 10 acre tract with an existing building in Florence County (for further processing chicken for portioning for restaurant and retail). The project would be afforded a 30 year FILOT with a 6% assessment ratio at a millage rate of 0.3893. The SSRC was an amount necessary to make total tax payments equivalent to tax payments under a FILOT with 6% assessment at 0.3893 for 30 years. The clawback provision would be tied to the statutory investment level of $2.5 million since the County was only providing traditional FILOT benefits and not true SSRC's. The synthetic FILOT was the FILOT at 6%. Property would be included in the MCIP as Niagara with Marion County. Second Reading of the Ordinance was approved unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 22-2021/22 - SECOND READING

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 22-2021/22: An Ordinance To Amend The Agreement For Development Of A Multi-County Industrial And Business Park By And Between Florence County And Marion County, South Carolina, Providing For The Development Of A Jointly Owned And Operated Industrial/Business Park So As To Include Additional Property In Florence County Related To Project Fig (The "Company") As Part Of The Joint County Industrial/Business Park, And Other Matters Relating Thereto. Councilman Caudle made a motion Council approve Second Reading of the Ordinance. Councilman Poston seconded the motion. Mr. Smith stated that this ordinance was further proof of the County's ongoing efforts to enhance the economic landscape of the region. Inclusion in a multi-county industrial park facilitated the use of SSRC's as a recruitment tool in the quest to foster development through-out Florence County. The property was being added to the same MCIP used for Niagara Bottling with Marion County as the preferred partner. Marion County would receive 1% of revenues which was customary with 99 to 1 agreements. The multi-county park designation would also allow the prospective corporate citizen to receive an additional $1,000.00 job tax credit per employee for 5 years which further enhanced the fiduciary position. Second Reading of the Ordinance was approved unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 23-2021/22- SECOND READING

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 23-2021/22: An Ordinance Authorizing The Execution And Delivery Of A Deed To The City Of Lake City For That Certain Piece, Parcel Or Lot Of Land Containing 0.23 Acres As Shown On A Plat Prepared For Santee Electric Cooperative, Inc. By Nesbitt Surveying Co., Inc. Dated December 2, 2021 And Recorded In The Office Of The Clerk Of Court For Florence County In Plat Book 107 At Page 1165, And Other Matters Related Thereto. Councilman Springs made a motion Council approve Second Reading of the Ordinance. Councilman Caudle seconded the motion. Mr. Smith stated that as part and parcel of the cooperation agreement between Florence County and Santee Electric a dedicated 180 GPM pump station was installed in the park for future industrial customers. By deeding the pump station to the City of Lake City it would assume the responsibility for all maintenance and operation of the station. Mayor Anderson, William Hall and Ricky Sims met with economic development and were happy to accept. The pump would not be activated until the first industrial customer located in the Scranton Industrial Park. Second Reading of the Ordinance was approved unanimously.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

The Clerk published the titles and the Chairman declared the following Ordinances Introduced By Title Only:

ORDINANCE NO. 24- 2021/22

An Ordinance To Provide For The Issuance And Sale Of Not Exceeding Four Million Eight Hundred Thirty Thousand Dollars ($4,830, 000) General Obligation Bonds In One Or More Series Of Florence County, South Carolina, To Prescribe The Purposes For Which The Proceeds Of Said Bonds Shall Be Expended, To Provide For The Payment Of Said Bonds, And Other Matters Relating Thereto.

ORDINANCE NO. 25- 2021/22

An Ordinance To Declare Approximately 5.61 Acres More Or Less On Papermill Road Surplus Property And To Authorize The Sale Of Said Approximately 5.61 Acres More Or Less On Paper Mill Road For Forty Two Thousand Dollars ($42,000), And Other Matters Relating Thereto.

ORDINANCE NO. 26- 2021/22

An Ordinance To Ratify FY2022 Budget And Grant Council Actions Previously Authorized By Council And Other Matters Related Thereto.

ORDINANCE 01- 2022/23

An Ordinance To Provide For The Levy Of Taxes In Florence County For The Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2022 And Ending June 30, 2023; To Provide For The Appropriation Thereof; To Provide For Revenues For The Payment Thereof; And To Provide For Other Matters Related Thereto.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL:

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Smith stated that Council had been provided with the enlightening updates for the Capital Project Sales Tax #1, #2 and #3, as well as the illuminating notes from our very competent department heads.

For the public's information with regard to CPST I:

- All projects with the exception of the Alligator Road Project were substantially complete.
- Construction on Phase I of Alligator Road was substantially complete and utility relocations were almost complete on Phase II. The Phase II bridge construction over 95 and Alligator Swamp was ongoing while base work continued on the US 76 end of Alligator Road. Final construction was anticipated to be completed in the Summer of 2024.

Under the CPST II initiative, improvements had been completed on 578 roads in Florence County and the Dargan Street Sidewalk Project was well underway. Projects in each district were completed and the County was waiting on final invoicing to close out the projects.

Great progress continued on CPST III projects as well.

- **In District 1** – All projects were being reviewed and scheduled for future delivery. Initial bond funds were being utilized for the Lake City Park Project.
- **In District 2** – The MBC Stone rocking project for 10 roads continued.
- **In District 3** – Projects were being reviewed and scheduled for future delivery. A resurfacing project package was being developed and should be bid in June.
- **In District 4** – The Hill Street drainage study was complete and a meeting was being scheduled with interested parties to determine the path forward. The Deer Road waterline study was also underway.
- **In District 5** – Bid 25-21/22 Dirt to pave project for Java Road and Wiley Road was on the agenda for Council consideration.
- **In District 6** – The resurfacing project for seven roads in the Churchill Down Neighborhood was under construction.
- **In District 7** – The resurfacing project to include eleven roads in District 7 was under construction.
- **Also in Districts 8 and 9** – All projects were being reviewed and scheduled for future delivery. Resurfacing package was being developed and should be bid during April.

During the month of March, the Environmental Services department assisted in the rescue of 83 animals. The 'Get Bitter on Litter' crew cleaned 20.3 miles of road and removed 13,016 pounds of trash from roadways. One ticket was issued and a fine of $468.00 was assessed. Also, the department initiated its mosquito abatement program.

Mr. Smith announced that the outstanding Miracle League had scheduled its opening ceremony for Saturday, April 23rd. They would have shortened games starting as early as 9:30 that morning with the opening ceremony beginning at 10:30.

Mr. Smith stated he was very pleased to introduce two new "franchise" team members to the County's outstanding organization. He introduced Shannon Munoz as the new deputy administrator, who had certainly hit the ground running. Shannon brought a wealth of knowledge and experience in local government to the team. She had extensive project management experience spanning over 24 years, developed infrastructure, airport improvements, worked with commercial and residential development and administered many multi-million dollar projects. She admirably served with the Pee Dee Regional Council of Governments for many years and most recently served as Director of Community Economic Development and Airport Director in Hartsville. She was a department head for Building Codes, Codes Enforcement, Grants and the Hartsville Regional Airport. She also served as President for the South Carolina Municipal Association.

He stated the County was also fortunate to welcome Hope Jones to the team as the Clerk to Council. Hope was definitely a quick study in the diverse world of the clerk's office. She was a native of Greenwood, SC and she and her husband Tyron made Florence home in 1998. She graduated from Greenwood High School and attended Piedmont Technical College. Over the years she had worked in various offices and was no stranger to Administration, having worked in the Solicitor's office for seven years as an administrative assistant. During her tenure with that office she volunteered to be a Juvenile Arbitrator and was recognized as Pioneer of the Pee Dee by Florence Morning News. She was a participant in the 2017 Greater Florence Chamber Leadership Class, the SC Economic Development Institute Class and the Leadership Development of Executive Assistants in 2019. She came to Administration from the Economic Development Partnership. She was a member of Savannah Grove Baptist Church and participated in the Greeter's Ministry and the Seasoned Saints' Tech Ministry. She served as the Treasurer for the PD Baptist Deaconess District Department. She and Tyron have three daughters and are the proud grandparents of four beautiful children with another one on the way.

Mr. Smith stated Shannon and Hope were welcome additions to the Administrative staff.

ADMINISTRATION:

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS

Monthly Financial Reports Were Provided To Council For Fiscal Year 2022 Through February 28, 2022 As An Item For The Record.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF THE PEE DEE

Councilman Caudle made a motion Council Approve A Request From The Archaeological Institute Of The Pee Dee (AIPD) To Fund A Study Of The Site On The West Bank Of The Great Pee Dee River To Study The Mississippian Occupation For The Amount Of $19,620 To Be Funded Through The Contingency Fund. Councilman Moore Seconded The Motion. Mr. Smith stated that the Archeological Institute of the Pee Dee, founded by our local historian extraordinaire and astute bond counsel Mr. Ben Zeigler, proposed a 2022 Summer Field project at the Mississippi Native American site on the Pee Dee generating site near Pamplico. The project would entail eleven days in the field May 16-27. The lead investigator would be Chris Judge director of the Native American Studies Institute at USC Lancaster. He would be supported by Senior DNR Archeologist Sean Taylor and his team as well as fellow archeologists from throughout the state. The objective was to establish a better understanding of the Mississippian occupation on the Great Pee Dee and to highlight the significance of the Pamplico area. All artifacts recovered would become the property of the Florence County Museum for public display. The Motion Was Approved Unanimously.

ADMINISTRATION/PROCUREMENT:

CHANGE ORDER FOR BID 16-2021/22

Councilman Yarborough made a motion Council Approve A Change Order To An Existing Contract With C.R. Jackson, Florence, SC For The Resurfacing Of Land Grant Road In The Amount Of $115,690 To Be Funded Through Capital Project Sales Tax III Funds – District 4 Road Projects. Councilman Mumford Seconded The Motion. Mr. Smith stated that Council awarded Bid #16-2021/22 to CR Jackson at the February 17th Council meeting for resurfacing roads in District 7 in the amount of $519, 827.00. Pursuant to a request from Mr. Yarborough. CPST III program manager, Todd Warren, had secured an agreement for the contractor to provide the same unit price that were awarded through bid #16-2021/22. Mr. Warren & Mr. Carlie Gregg recommend approval of the change order in the amount of $115, 690.00 to be funded from District 4 CPST III revenue. The Motion Was Approved Unanimously.

PROPOSAL REVIEW PANEL MEMBER

Chairman Dorriety appointed Councilman Springs To Serve On The Proposal Review Panel For The Design/Build – Expansion Of The Existing Lake City Park Project, RFP No. 13-21/22.

ADMINSTRATION/ PUBLIC WORKS/ PROCUREMENT:

AWARD BID NO. 24-21/22

Councilman Springs made a motion Council Award Bid No. 24-21/22, District 1 Paving In The Amount Of $146,627.00 To C. R. Jackson Of Florence, SC And Approve Council District 1 RSMF Funds In The Amount Of $146, 627.00. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion. Mr. Smith stated that the aforementioned bid was advertised in the SC Business Opportunities (SCBO) Newsletter on March 11, 2022. Bids were opened on March 28th of this year. There were two (2) compliant bids received and C.R. Jackson was the lowest responsive bidder. The roads to be resurfaced/reclaimed from RSMF funds in District 1 were Durant Street @ $77,750.00 and Clover Street @ $69,177.00. Public Works director Carlie Gregg had reviewed and recommended approval. The bid expired June 28, 2022. The Motion Was Approved Unanimously.

AWARD BID NO. 25-21/22

Councilman Caudle made a motion Council Award Bid No. 25-21/22, 2022 CPST III Dirt To Pave Project District 5 In The Amount Of $616,671.36 To C. R. Jackson Of Florence, SC From Capital Project Sales Tax III. Councilman Poston Seconded The Motion. Mr. Smith stated that a bid opening was held on March 28th with two (2) compliant bids received. The low responsive bidder was CR Jackson of Florence SC. The roads to be improved were Wiley Road & Java Road and Mr. Todd Warren & Carlie Gregg both recommended awarding to the low bidder. The bid expired June 28, 2022. The Motion Was Approved Unanimously.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT/ PROCUREMENT:

AWARD BID NO. 27-21/22

Councilman Springs made a motion Council Award Bid No. 27-21/22, 2022 Chevy Silverado For The Emergency Management Department To Love Chevrolet Co. Of Columbia, SC In The Amount Of $33,375.00 (Including Vehicle Tax) To Be Funded From Budgeted Funds. Councilman Brand Seconded The Motion. Mr. Smith stated that bid # 27-2021/22 was advertised in the SC Business Opportunities newsletter April 1, 2022 and bids were opened on Friday April 8th. One bid was received from Love Chevrolet and Purchasing Director Patrick Fletcher and EMD Director Mitch Fulmore both recommended approval. This vehicle was a replacement for a 2012 Chev Tahoe with over 153, 000 miles. The unit was scheduled to be replaced last year but we held off due to economic uncertainties. The Silverado would be used by the Senior Radio System Coordinator Zach Jones. The Motion Was Approved Unanimously.

HUMAN RESOURCES:

BUDGET NEUTRAL INCREASE AND RECLASSIFICATION

Councilman Mumford made a motion Council Approve A Reclassification Of The Secretary III Position From Grade 13 To Grade 11 And Approve A Budget Neutral Increase Of The HR Generalist Position Of 9.5% Above Current Grade To Be Funded From FY22 Human Resources Department Budget. Councilman Moore Seconded The Motion. Mr. Smith stated that the HR Generalist had assumed numerous other duties, expanded responsibilities assigned to her position. In addition to her current responsibilities she was also handling random drug screening, event planning, payroll submissions as well as employee orientation, insurance and retirement benefit analysis. The reclass was budget neutral and would save $4,965.00 a year. The Secretary III position would be part-time. The Motion Was Approved Unanimously.

PROCUREMENT:

DECLARATION OF SURPLUS PROPERTY

Councilman Mumford made a motion Council Declare Seven (7) Vehicles, (2) Enclosed Trailers As Surplus Property For Disposal Through Public Internet Auction Via GovDeals. Councilman Brand Seconded The Motion. Mr. Smith stated that Florence County code required that County Council approve the disposal of surplus property. The units to be disposed were obsolete to the using department and would not impact on-going operations. The units would be sold via internet auction which was efficient and required much less staff time and coordination. The Motion Was Approved Unanimously.

PROCUREMENT/ PARKS & RECREATION:

AWARD BID NO. 23-21/22

Councilman Yarborough made a motion Council Award Bid No. 23-21/22, Flooring At The Senior Center To Neal's Flooring Of Florence, SC In The Total Amount Of $78,675.00 To Be Funded From Leatherman Senior Center Repairs To Building. Councilman Mumford Seconded The Motion. Mr. Smith stated that the bid was advertised on SCBO on February 28, 2022 and the bid opening was held on March 16, 2022. Two (2)complaint bids were received and Go to Guys Flooring of Sumter was the apparent low bidders. However when the 5% local preference was applied Neal's Flooring of Florence became the lowest responsive bidder. Neal's Flooring had agreed to match the low bid from Go to Guys Flooring. Recreation Director Nathan Dawsey recommended awarding to the local vendor. The bid expired June 16, 2022. Councilman Brand inquired what type of flooring and the anticipated life of the flooring. Mr. Smith responded it was low maintenance scratch resistance tile and carpet would be in the office. The anticipated life of the flooring was twenty years. The motion was approved unanimously.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE:

DECLARATION OF SURPLUS

Councilman Caudle made a motion Council Declare One (1) Glock Model 45 9mm Handgun As Surplus Property For The Purpose Of Awarding It To An Employee Who Is Retiring. Councilman Mumford Seconded The Motion. Mr. Smith stated that this was for a deserving employee who had worked for the detention center since 1986. He worked his way up to lieutenant and retired after 25 years. He came back in his same position but magnanimously took a voluntary demotion to corporal so that others below him could advance. He had been a true asset to Florence County. He was a hard worker and truly deserving of this recognition and declaration, Mr. Bruce Redden would be dearly missed. The Motion Was Approved Unanimously.

UNIFIED FIRE DISTRICT

EXPENDITURE OF PRE-CONSOLIDATED FIRE FUNDS

Councilman Springs made a motion Council Approve The Spending Plan Of Pre-consolidated Fire Funds Held By The Seven Fire Departments That Comprise The Unified Fire District. Councilman Yarborough Seconded The Motion. Mr. Smith stated that at the March 17, 2022 Justice & Public Safety meeting it was stated that the "old money" was to be expended within one year and the proposed procedure for the expenditure was to first go before the UFD board for approval and then before County Council for additional approval (prior to expenditures being made). The UFD board met on April 14th where the spending plans were reviewed and approved. The UFD board requested Council to also approve the spending plans of the pre-consolidated fire departments. The plans from each department were included in the agenda package. The Motion Was Approved Unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS:

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

BUDGET NEUTRAL RECLASSIFICATION

Councilman Brand made a motion Council Authorize A Budget Neutral Reclassification Of Vacant Slot #042 Utilizing FY2021/22 Departmental Budgeted Funds In The Amount Of $9,191.91. Councilman Mumford Seconded The Motion. Mr. Smith stated that, according to the Sheriff's Office, the narcotics bureau was supervised by one supervisor managing 15 people. National Management guidelines recommended 5 to 7 personnel per supervisor for optimum control. There was definitely a need for a permanent second line supervisor to ensure constant availability for guidance in operational control. This specialized unit worked long and "non-routine" hours and this reclass would provide the needed additional leadership to continue the success in recent years in the "war on drugs" 78% increase in drugs seizures this year, 52% increase in narcotics arrests, 50 search warrants executed and 83 weapons seized. The Motion Was Approved Unanimously.

ROAD SYSTEM MAINTENANCE FEE (RSMF):

JETHRO'S LANE

Councilman Poston made a motion Council Approve The Expenditure Of Up To $7,000.00 From Council District 2 RSMF Funding Allocation To Pay For 200 Tons Of MBC Stone To Be Put On Part Of Jethro's Lane. Councilman Caudle seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

INFRASTRUCTURE:

BLANDING STREET PARK

Councilman Springs made a motion Council approve The Expenditure Of Up To $36,000.00 From Council District 1 Infrastructure Funding Allocation To Assist The City Of Lake City With Modifying Their Back Stops At Blanding Street Park To Alleviate A Safety Hazard. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

COUNCILMAN CAUDLE

At the request of Councilman Caudle, Planning Director Shawn Brashear provided an update on the study brought about by Ordinance No. 17-2021/22. Mr. Brashear stated that, with the assistance of GIS in working with the City of Florence to identify the donut holes and the clusters of donut holes, it was anticipated that recommendations on the first round of the properties (around 140 properties) would go before the Planning Commission in May. Staff understood the need to ramp up the process to move more quickly and additional properties would be worked up for consideration by the Planning Commission in June. A large number of participants were anticipated to attend the meeting so accommodations for a large crowd would be taken into consideration and staff would try not to overwhelm the Planning Commission. County Council should see those first rounds coming in June. Mr. Brashear advised that it would take a while to get it done. Notices had been sent and the department typically liked to have outside town hall type meetings to accommodate that but there were so many properties it just couldn't be done in a speedily manner. So staff sent out letters to the first round in advance. The notices included a special phone number, a separate phone line, separate email address, just for staff that's assigned to this special project. Letters were sent to those individuals well in advance so they could read it and digest it and hopefully contact the planning department to get information. Property owners would also receive official notice that they would be placed on the agenda as early as the following week. Staff was going to continue to do that and put out as much notice as possible so hopefully those property owners could address this and work out any concerns that they might have before it got to the Planning Commission and ultimately to the County Council. In response to a question from Councilman Caudle, Mr. Brashear stated that countywide, he didn't have the exact number with him, but he guessed in excess of two thousand properties, which included all nine municipalities. The Chairman thanked Mr. Brashear for the information and progress made at this point.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before Council, Councilman Springs made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:19 A.M.

WAYMON MUMFORD
SECRETARY-CHAPLAIN

HOPE M. JONES
CLERK TO COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEARING

April 21, 2022

ORDINANCE NO. 20-2021/22

An Ordinance Authorizing The Execution And Delivery Of A Purchase And Sale Agreement By And Between Florence County, South Carolina And Florence County Development Holdings LLC Authorizing The Sale Of Approximately 7.93 Acres In The Scranton Industrial Park To Florence County Development Holdings LLC ~~Santee Electric Cooperative, Inc.~~ And Addressing Others Matters Related Thereto.

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PUBLIC HEARING

April 21, 2022

ORDINANCE NO. 23-2021/22

An Ordinance Authorizing The Execution And Delivery Of A Deed To The City Of Lake City For That Certain Piece, Parcel Or Lot Of Land Containing 0.23 Acres As Shown On Plat Prepared For Santee Electric Cooperative, Inc. By Nesbitt Surveying Co., Inc. Dated December 2, 2021 And Recorded In The Office Of The Clerk Of Court For Florence County In Plat Book 107 At Page 1165, And Other Matters Related Thereto.

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