REGULAR MEETING OF THE FLORENCE COUNTY COUNCIL, THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 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
Connie Y. Haselden, Interim Clerk to Council

ALSO PRESENT:
Doris O'Hara, Clerk of Court
Jamie Floyd, Tax Assessor
Crystine Hoge, GIS Manager
Chief Billy Dillon, Howe Springs Fire Department
Chief Howard Worrell, West Florence Fire Department
Matthew Christian, Morning News Reporter

A notice of the regular meeting of the Florence County Council appeared in the January 19, 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 Caudle led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Chairman Dorriety welcomed everyone attending the meeting.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2022

Chairman Dorriety turned the gavel over to County Attorney Malloy McEachin to preside over the Election of Officers for 2022. Mr. McEachin opened the floor for nominations for Chairman. Councilman Poston made a motion that Willard Dorriety, Jr. be nominated to serve as Chairman for 2022. Councilman Brand seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Mr. McEachin opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chairman for 2022. Councilman Mumford made a motion that Buddy Brand be nominated to serve as Vice Chairman for 2022. Councilman Moore seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Mr. McEachin opened the floor for nominations for Secretary-Chaplain for 2022. Councilman Springs made a motion that Waymon Mumford be nominated to serve as Secretary-Chaplain for 2022. Councilman Poston seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

RECESS:

Chairman Dorriety declared a brief recess to reset the dais.

Council recessed at 9:05 a.m.

Council reconvened at 9:06 a.m.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS:

Chairman Dorriety stated it was a privilege to serve with the other members of Council. He stated Council had exhibited good team work and team work meant tasks were accomplished much easier and a lot better.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Brand made a motion Council Approve The Minutes Of The December 9, 2021 Regular 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:

RESOLUTION NO. 20-2021/22

A Resolution To Approve The Lease Of Approximately Forty-Two (42) Acres Of Agricultural Land For Forty ($40) Dollars Per Acre Located At The Lake City Commerce Park Identified As TMP #00167-31-111, 00167-31-107, 00167-31-116, 00167-31-106, 00167-31-105, 00167-31-104 & 00167-31-103 For A Period Of One (1) Year To B3 Floyd Farms, LLC.

RESOLUTION NO. 22-2021/22

A Resolution To Authorize The Lease Of +/- One Hundred Seventy (170) Acres Of Agricultural Land Located At The Florence County Industrial Park West At Forty ($40) Dollars An Acre For A Period Of One (1) Year To A Lessee That Will Be Most Advantageous To The County.

ORDINANCE NO. 12-2021/22

An Ordinance To Amend Florence County Code Of Ordinances Chapter 2, Administration, Article II, Form Of Government, Section 2-18 To Establish Defined Single Member Election Districts For The Election Of Members Of The County Council, And Other Matters Related Thereto.

ORDINANCE NO. 14-2021/22

An Ordinance For Text Amendments To The Florence County Code Of Ordinances, Chapter 28.6, LAND DEVELOPMENT AND SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE, ARTICLE V. – MINIMUM LAND PLANNING STANDARDS AND REQUIRED IMPROVEMENTS FOR SUBDIVISIONS AND OTHER LAND DEVELOPMENTS, Sec. 28.6-85. Small Family And Private Developments (One To Six Lots) And Sec. 28.6 – APPENDIX A SUBDIVISION CHECKLISTS FOR SUMMARY PLATS, DEVELOPMENT PLATS AND FINAL PLAT; And Other Matters Related Thereto.

ORDINANCE NO. 15-2021/22

An Ordinance For Text Amendments To The Florence County Code Of Ordinances, Chapter 30, Zoning Ordinance, Article V. – Sign Regulations, Sec. 30-202. – Signs On Private Property; And Other Matters Related Thereto.

APPEARANCES:

No Appearances Were Requested Or Scheduled At The Time Of Publication Of The Agenda.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, MILITARY AFFAIRS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

Committee Chairman Bradley advised that the next meeting of the City-County Conference Committee had tentatively been set for February 10, 2022 at 8:00 a.m. at the City Center.

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.)

RESOLUTIONS/PROCLAMATIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 20-2021/22

The Clerk published the title of Resolution No. 20-2021/22: A Resolution To Approve The Lease Of Approximately Forty-Two (42) Acres Of Agricultural Land For Forty ($40) Dollars Per Acre Located At The Lake City Commerce Park Identified As TMP #00167-31-111, 00167-31-107, 00167-31-116, 00167-31-106, 00167-31-105, 00167-31-104 & 00167-31-103 For A Period Of One (1) Year To B3 Floyd Farms, LLC. Councilman Springs made a motion Council Approve the Resolution as presented. Councilman Brand seconded the motion. County Administrator K. G. Rusty Smith, Jr. stated that this was a continuation of the farming operations on the aforementioned property prior to the acquisition of said property from the Department of Commerce. Of note, the Lessee shall have the right to use the fields for agricultural purposes; however, the Lessee and Lessor agree that the Lessee plants his crops at his peril. The Motion was approved unanimously.

Councilman Caudle asked if the Chairman had an answer on how much of the East Florence Industrial Park agricultural land that had been leased could continue to be leased. Mr. Smith responded that a Resolution and public hearing would be presented at the February meeting and would be for an approximate 60 to 70 acres.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-2021/22

The Clerk published the title of Resolution No. 21-2021/22: A Resolution Authorizing The Transfer Of All Right, Title And Interest In, And All Rights And Obligations Under A Fee Agreement And All Amendments Thereto Between Florence County And Willow Creek Lumber Company, LLC, To Charles Ingram Lumber Co., Inc. Councilman Caudle made a motion Council Approve the Resolution. Councilman Brand seconded the motion. Mr. Smith stated this was a resolution by which Willow Creek Lumber would assign its assets, including its FILOT to Charles Ingram Lumber. He stated for Council's edification that Ingram Lumber invested over $6.5 million in 2016 under this fee agreement and Willow Creek invested $2.8 million. Both companies exceeded the investment targets for new investment. Ingram Lumber Company was acquiring all the assets of Willow Creek and was merely seeking the consent of County Council to transfer the WCL fee agreement to Ingram Lumber. He added that this was an outstanding corporate citizen in Florence County. The Motion was approved unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 22-2021/22

The Clerk published the title of Resolution No. 22-2021/22: A Resolution To Authorize The Lease Of +/- One Hundred Seventy (170) Acres Of Agricultural Land Located At The Florence County Industrial Park West At Forty ($40) Dollars An Acre For A Period Of One (1) Year To A Lessee That Will Be Most Advantageous To The County. Councilman Yarborough made a motion Council Approve the Resolution. Councilman Bradley seconded the motion. Mr. Smith stated this was similar to Resolution 20-21/22 which would allow farming operations to continue at the Florence West Industrial Park while the County developed and recruited new jobs and investment to enhance the economic landscape of Florence County. The Motion was approved unanimously.

ORDINANCES IN POSITION:

Chairman Dorriety stated Council had been asked to defer Third Reading of Ordinance No. 11-2019/20 and Ordinance No. 12-2019/20. However, pursuant to Rule 6.1 of *The Rules of the Florence County Council*, in order for these Ordinances to remain on the Agenda for future consideration a motion was needed to Suspend Rule 5.2 As It Applied To Ordinance No. 11-2019/20 And Ordinance No. 12-2019/20. Councilman Caudle made a motion to Suspend Rule 5.2. Councilman Brand seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

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.

Chairman Dorriety stated Council had been asked to defer Third Reading of Ordinances No. 05-2021/22 and 06-2021/22

ORDINANCE NO. 05-2021/22 - THIRD READING DEFERRED

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 Longshot (The "Company") As Part Of The Joint County Industrial/Business Park, And Other Matters Relating Thereto.

ORDINANCE NO. 06-2021/22 – THIRD READING DEFERRED

An Ordinance Authorizing The Execution And Delivery Of A Fee-In-Lieu-Of-Tax Agreement By And Between Project Longshot (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.

ORDINANCE NO. 11-2021/22 – THIRD READING

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 11-2021/22: An Ordinance For Text Amendments To The Florence County Code Of Ordinances, Chapter 28.6, LAND DEVELOPMENT AND SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE, ARTICLE V. – MINIMUM LAND PLANNING STANDARDS AND REQUIRED IMPROVEMENTS FOR SUBDIVISIONS AND OTHER LAND DEVELOPMENTS, Sec. 28.6-75. - Streets, (m) - Street Classification and pavement widths, (2) Minor Streets; And Other Matters Related Thereto. Councilman Brand made a motion Council approve Third Reading of the Ordinance. Councilman Bradley seconded the motion. Mr. Smith stated that a recent review of the County's development standards revealed that road widths in industrial/commercial sector and multi-family developments exceeded that of the South Carolina Department of Transportation. Planning staff consulted with public works and several fire marshals and determined it was prudent to reduce requirements to conform with DOT standards. The recommended reduction of road right of ways would still maintain right of ways that were the widest in any table and would allow the myriad of utilities that were generally associated with these type locations. There were no concerns expressed at the public hearing held by the Planning Commission and the Commission approved the recommendation 5 to 0. Third Reading of the Ordinance was approved unanimously.

SECOND READING

ORDINANCE NO. 12-2021/22 – SECOND READING

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 12-2021/22: An Ordinance To Amend Florence County Code Of Ordinances Chapter 2, Administration, Article II, Form Of Government, Section 2-18 To Establish Defined Single Member Election Districts For The Election Of Members Of The County Council, 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 he wanted to commend Council and the County's competent GIS Department and Crys Hoge who did an exemplary job to facilitate the Ordinance. For the record, this Ordinance was a component of the basic responsibilities of County Council as it relates to redistricting and to meet the Constitutional requirement of 'one person, one vote.' Council utilized the expertise of the S C Department of Revenue & Fiscal Affairs (RFA) to ensure compliance with Constitutional and statutory principals as well as traditional redistricting principles. The redistricting process takes place after each census to accommodate population changes over the previous decade and to equalize population among the districts. Districts must be of equal population, or as nearly as practical, to comply with the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. Districts must also be contiguous by nature and comply with the Federal Voting Rights Act to ensure that minorities had equal opportunity to elect representation of their choice. Also pursuant to SC Code Section 4-9-90 the County must complete the process within a reasonable time prior to the next general election following the Federal decennial census. The Council in a proactive measure already held one public hearing on October 21, 2021 to receive input with regard to identifying communities of interest as a component of the process. Council felt it prudent to provide this transparency and afford the opportunity for the public to be heard. After today's second public hearing, third and final reading should take place at

the February meeting. First Reading of the Ordinance was held in November. Florence County GIS subsequently met individually with each member to build a proposed plan within the requirements of one person, one vote. After discussion and review, the draft was forwarded to the RFA and on December 13, 2021, RFA provided the following summary:

1) The total population declined by 0.13% from 2010 to 2020.
2) The prison population of 274 is included in the plan.
3) The DRAFT plan does "NOT" have significant impact on the voting age population or race.
4) The deviation range was reduced from 20.52% in 2010 to 3.32% in the current plan.
5) We also maintained 3 majority minority Council districts.

The Chairman expressed his appreciation to Mrs. Hoge and the GIS staff for the assistance provided during the process. He thanked Council for the team work each member gave in the process. In his opinion, the process went extremely smoothly with Council and he appreciated how each individual approached the process. He said they all knew there were some aspects they may not like but they put it aside to ensure they kept the spirit of the districts like they had been in the past and should be. Second Reading of the Ordinance was approved unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 13-2021/22

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 13-2021/22: An Ordinance To Rezone Property Owned By Price Properties & Investments, LLC To Change The Zoning Designation For The Property Of Tax Map Number 00181, Block 01, Parcel 026 Located Off Of Plantation Drive, Florence, SC From R-2, Single Family Residential District, To B-2, Convenience Business District; And Other Matters Related Thereto. Councilman Mumford made a motion to follow the direction of the Planning Commission to 'disapprove' the Ordinance. Councilman Brand seconded the motion. Mr. Smith stated the owner was requesting the property be rezoned from R2 to B2 zoned district. During the public hearing, she expressed her desire to place a fresh produce market with a grain silo on site. Surrounding residents in Tara Village were well represented and spoke out in opposition to the proposed change. The Planning Commission voted 7 to 0 to disapprove the request. Both entrances to the area were totally comprised of single family dwellings. It was noted in the meeting that the owner of the property also owned commercial property on the corner of Howe Springs Road and Plantation that would be suitable for the fruit stand. Chairman Dorriety asked the County Attorney to confirm that in order to follow with Councilman Mumford's wishes since it was in District 7, members would need to vote 'No' on the Ordinance. County Attorney Malloy McEachin stated that was correct. Mr. Smith stated that the motion was to 'Disapprove' so the vote would need to be 'Yes' on the motion that was made. Chairman Dorriety stated he wanted to double-check so there would be no mistakes. Mr. McEachin responded that the Ordinance was for the change in zoning so if the members did NOT want the change, they would vote 'No' on the Ordinance. Councilman Springs stated that the motion was to 'Disapprove.' Mr. McEachin suggested Councilman Mumford withdraw his motion. Councilman

Mumford withdrew his motion. Councilman Mumford stated this item had a lot of discussion and the majority of the residents in that community did not want this request granted and the Planning [Commission] disapproved it as well. After some discussion regarding the appropriate motion, Councilman Brand withdrew his second to the initial motion to 'Disapprove.' Councilman Springs made a motion to approve Second Reading of the Ordinance. Councilman Brand seconded the motion. Second Reading of the Ordinance failed with all members voting 'No.'

ORDINANCE NO. 14-2021/22

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 14-2021/22: An Ordinance For Text Amendments To The Florence County Code Of Ordinances, Chapter 28.6, LAND DEVELOPMENT AND SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE, ARTICLE V. – MINIMUM LAND PLANNING STANDARDS AND REQUIRED IMPROVEMENTS FOR SUBDIVISIONS AND OTHER LAND DEVELOPMENTS, Sec. 28.6-85. Small Family And Private Developments (One To Six Lots) And Sec. 28.6 – APPENDIX A SUBDIVISION CHECKLISTS FOR SUMMARY PLATS, DEVELOPMENT PLATS AND FINAL PLAT; And Other Matters Related Thereto. Councilman Yarborough made a motion Council approve Second Reading of the Ordinance. Councilman Brand seconded the motion. Mr. Smith stated this was for unzoned property only and allowed more flexibility in use of landowners property, especially in rural areas while not changing the overall dynamics of land development standards. It targeted small family and private developments where a person cannot obtain a 50' easement required to subdivide a property. This usually involved a parent trying to allow a child to acquire a portion of the land to build a home. The Commission and staff felt that a reduction in the width from 50' to 30' was warranted. The amendment applied only to a single family lot not exceeding one acre in size. No further subdivision of the lot would be permitted. Staff also reached out to surveyors who felt this was a good compromise that still maintained development standards. Second Reading of the Ordinance was approved unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 15-2021/22

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 15-2021/22: An Ordinance For Text Amendments To The Florence County Code Of Ordinances, Chapter 30, Zoning Ordinance, Article V. – Sign Regulations, Sec. 30-202. – Signs On Private Property; And Other Matters Related Thereto. Councilman Caudle made a motion Council approve Second Reading of the Ordinance. Councilman Springs seconded the motion. Mr. Smith stated this would allow a multifaceted or shared sign that displayed various businesses within an industrial park. It would accommodate signage for companies within parks like Florence East and/or Florence West to provide a directory of businesses within the said development. The signs could be erected only in approved industrial or commercial developments. This small measure incentivized more dense development and protected open land areas for future development. The sign could be 260 square feet, which was consistent with developed counties in the region. No concerns were raised at the public hearing. Mr. Smith added that there was no height limitation and that he would discuss with Planning Director Shawn Brashear to determine if an amendment might need to be considered to address height limitation. Second Reading of the Ordinance was approved unanimously.

- Eight resurfacing projects in District 8 were substantially complete with punch list items remaining.
- In District 9, fourteen resurfacing projects and one dirt to pave project were completed with punch list and clean up items remaining.

Progress was also being made on CPST III projects as well.

- In District 1 all projects were being reviewed and scheduled for future delivery. Initial bond funds were being targeted for the Park Project.
- In District 2, MBC stone rocking projects would be complete by the end of January. Wicklow Road had been bid via quotes and work should be complete by the end of the week with a ribbon cutting scheduled on the new Alexander Boat Landing the end of January or first of February.
- District 3 had five (5) resurfacing projects that were substantially complete with clean up and punch list items being addressed.
- District 4 MBC stone rocking projects were awarded at the November meeting and work would begin at the end of the month. There was a drainage study being conducted on Hill Street in Timmonsville to identify potential improvements to the drainage systems in that area.
- In District 5, projects were being reviewed and scheduled for future delivery.
- In District 6, a resurfacing project for Churchill Downs neighborhood was being developed.
- All projects in District 8 were being reviewed and scheduled for future delivery. Resurfacing project packages were anticipated to be developed and bid in February 2022.

The Environmental Services department assisted in the rescue of 105 animals during the month of December. The 'Get Bitter on Litter' crew cleaned 21.5 miles of road and removed 6,080 pounds of trash from County roadways. Four tickets were issued for littering and fines assessed in the amount of $768. Additionally, one ticket was issued for out of County dumping and although the defendant pleaded guilty the Judge found her not guilty.

Councilman Springs stated he wasn't sure he understood this. He asked if there were any specifics on the ruling or if there were any issues with the Ordinance. Mr. Smith responded there were no issues with the Ordinance according to Environmental Services. He stated there were also instances when the Judge would only assess a fine of $50. Councilman Springs stated some time back, Council met with the Chief Magistrate concerning this situation and maybe it was time to do that again to determine if there was a reason the magistrates were not following the Ordinance. Mr. McEachin stated that at the request of Council, he had previously written the Chief Magistrate expressing these same concerns but he had not received any response. After some discussion, Chairman Dorriety requested that Mr. Smith set up a meeting for the two of them with the Chief Magistrate to further discuss the matter.

EMS

PROPERTY PURCHASE

Councilman Poston made a motion Council Approve The Purchase Of Approximately Four (4) Acres Of A +/- 5.08 Tract Designated As TMP #00422-05-019 Located On Deerfield Road In The Amount Of $25,000 For The Construction Of A New EMS Station Contingent Upon Obtaining Good Title To The Property To Be Funded From Capital Project Sales Tax III Funds – Johnsonville EMS Station And Authorize The County Attorney To Execute The Appropriate Documents. Councilman Springs seconded the motion. Mr. Smith stated that after extensive search, it was determined that this was the most logical location for the new EMS facility in Johnsonville. It would also provide a strategic position to accommodate the installation of a new communication tower as well as providing enhanced emergency services. The 800 megahertz system in that area was substandard due to lack of communication. Mr. Smith, Emergency Management Department Director Mitch Fulmore, EMS Director Ryon Watkins, Public Works Director Carlie Gregg and Councilman Poston had all reviewed and concurred. There were a few minor details that needed to be addressed and staff would work with the City of Johnsonville to handle those issues. The motion was approved unanimously.

EMS/PROCUREMENT

COOPERATIVE PURCHASING – TWO AMBULANCES

Councilman Brand made a motion Council Authorize The Use Of The Savvik Purchasing Cooperative To Purchase Two Replacement Ambulances With Required Options And Up-Fits In The Amount Of $173,339.00 Each From REV Ambulance Group Orlando, Inc. Dba Wheeled Coach Industries, Of Winter Park Florida; The Total Purchase Is $347,678.00 ($346,678.00 Plus $1,000.00 Sales Tax For Both Ambulances), As Funded And Approved In The FY22 Budget. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion. Mr. Smith stated that EMS Director Ryon Watkins and procurement recommended this purchase via the Savvik purchasing cooperative to replace two (2) 2013 ambulances that had 176,000 and 171,000 respectively. Keep in mind that due to the pandemic and supply chain issues it could take close to two (2) years to take delivery on these units. The Motion was approved unanimously.

PARKS & RECREATION/PROCUREMENT

AWARD BID 10-21/22

Councilman Mumford made a motion Council Award Bid No. 10-21/22, Spaulding Heights Park Drainage Project To Gaster's Grading Co., Inc. Of Johnsonville, SC In The Amount Of $198,533.04 (Base Bid Of $170,120.99 And Alternate 1 Bid Of $28,412.05) To Be Funded From Capital Project Sales Tax III Funds. Councilman Poston seconded the motion. Mr. Smith stated that this was an exercise to alleviate various major sinkholes and drainage concerns at this well utilized park in Councilman Mumford's district. Included would be the demolition of existing drainage structures, fencing and walkways to include the court. New precast drop inlets, junction boxes and a headwall would be installed to facilitate the new asphalt walkways and a regulation basketball court. This much needed restoration would be completed 120 days after the notice to proceed. The Motion was approved unanimously.

PROCUREMENT

CEI CONTRACT

Councilman Bradley made a motion Council Authorize The Hiring Of Transystems From The On-Call Engineering List For The Necessary Construction Engineering And Inspection Services (CEI) For The N. Dargan Street Sidewalk Project In The Amount Of $77,995 To Be Funded From Capital Project Sales Tax II Funds. Councilman Springs seconded the motion. Mr. Smith stated that Transystems was the original design firm and was selected from the on-call list by staff after an additional quote from Davis & Floyd was received in the amount of $82,250. Councilman Brand stated he would decline again due to the perception of the deficit on the CPST II. Councilman Caudle stated he would do the same, nothing against the project but wanted clarification on the funding. The Motion was approved with a Seven (7) to Two (2) vote.

UNIFIED FIRE DISTRICT/HANNAH SALEM FRIENDFIELD FIRE

PROPERTY PURCHASE

Councilman Poston made a motion Council Approve The Purchase Of Approximately Five (5) Acres Of A +/- 186.80 Tract Designated As TMP#00350-02-009 Located On West Shirley Road In The Amount Of $50,000 For The Construction Of A New Fire Station For Hannah Salem Friendfield Fire Department Contingent Upon Obtaining Good Title To The Property To Be Funded From Capital Project Sales Tax III Funds – Hannah Salem Friendfield Fire Department And Authorize The County Attorney To Execute The Appropriate Documents. Councilman Caudle seconded the motion. Mr. Smith stated that Councilman Poston and he had been researching various options for quite some time to no avail. After working with Chief Tedder and the landowner, it was determined that this was the optimum property to enhance fire protection in the Pamplico area. He stated Mayor Munn had also assisted with input on the property. The Motion was approved unanimously.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE/PROCUREMENT

COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM

Councilman Mumford made a motion Council Approve The Use Of The BuyBoard Cooperative Purchasing Program Contract #603-20 To Procure One (1) Sooter RS Full Body Security Scanning System From OD Security North America Of Daniel Island, SC In The Amount Of $128,250 ($118,750 Plus $9,500 Sales Tax) To Be Funded In The Amount Of $120,000 From A SCDPS Grant And $8,250 From FY22 Sheriff's Office Departmental Funds. Councilman Caudle seconded the motion. Mr. Smith stated that the dire need of the full body scanning system was precipitated by the continual onslaught of the covid pandemic. The detention center must ensure a safe environment for staff as well as the inmate population. He added that the Florence County detention center was the only pre-sentence detention center in the County. There was a maximum capacity of 504 inmates and at that time the average daily population was +/- 375 per day. This system would facilitate a much safer and more thorough booking process when the detained subject entered the facility. It would greatly enhance the ability for social distancing and ensuring every inmate was properly searched. When Aiken County installed a similar system they detected heroin inside a body cavity of an inmate entering the jail on the first day of use. The Motion was approved unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS:

INFRASTRUCTURE

TIMMONSVILLE RESCUE SQUAD

Councilman Yarborough made a motion Council Approve The Expenditure Of Up To $3,500.00 From Council District 4 Infrastructure Funding Allocation To Assist Timmonsville Rescue Squad With The Repair Of An Engine. Councilman Poston seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

LAKE CITY PARK AIRPORT

Councilman Springs made a motion Council Approve The Expenditure Of Up To $11,700 From Council District 1 Infrastructure Funding Allocation To Assist Lake City Airport With Necessary Mulching Of Approach Sectors At The Airport. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion. Mr. Smith stated this would help alleviate a major safety concern at the Lake City Airport. Easements had been resolved with the affected landowners north and south of the approach sectors. The Airport stands to lose its IFR GPS approaches if the sectors were not cleared. The SC Aeronautics Commission was providing an 80/20 grant as a component of its vegetation management program to mulch approximately 34 acres. The motion was approved unanimously.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

OPIOID LITIGATION

Councilman Caudle made a motion Council Authorize The County Administrator, Upon Recommendation Of The Law Firm Of Harrison And White, To Execute Any Documents Necessary To Settle Florence County's Claim In The Opioid Litigation With The National Opioid Settlement Participation Coordinator And/Or The South Carolina Attorney General. Councilman Moore seconded the motion. Mr. McEachin stated that this was just a portion of the opioid litigation that the County was involved. The County's suit was in the State Federal Court. There was also a National Opioid Judge that was appointed in Ohio to oversee all the national litigation. The County opted out of the national suit, however the Attorney General had become involved in the national suit and asked the counties to approve a settlement with three of the defendants in the case the County had brought in the Federal District Court in the State of South Carolina. The County's attorney in this case, Mr. John White, recommended the County execute the documents. The settlement had not been finalized as yet because all of the participating counties and municipalities in the State had to sign off. The amount of funding available in the settlement would be contingent upon how many entities signed off and agreed to the settlement. The County's initial payment would be $1,894,126 and the payments would be spread out through 2038. A Commission had been created under the AG proposition to approve the distribution of funds. The motion was approved unanimously by the members present. (Councilman Caudle was absent for the vote.)

Councilman Caudle left the meeting at 10:03 a.m.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR – CPST II

Mr. Smith advised that Finance Director Jim Goff had provided a response regarding the question on the deficit for the CPST II funding listed on page 183 of the Agenda. There was actually millions in surplus that was moving forward into the next issue. The amount reflected on page 183 was an accounting issue where the sales tax fund was not netted out against the debt service fund prior to June 30th. This would correct itself and he would provide an exact amount of the surplus. Mr. Goff was working to complete the Fiscal Year 2021 Audit but he would provide the information as quickly as possible.

COUNCILMAN BRAND

Councilman Brand stated he wanted to make a comment with regard to EMS, McLeod Hospital, MUSC and staff that were working at those facilities. He encouraged individuals to applaud those workers when they came in contact with them, including the individuals that cleaned the rooms and the facilities. These staff members were exhausted and should be commended for all they were doing to keep people safe and well. Chairman Dorriety agreed and stated they were in his prayers every day. He said we were not through with the pandemic yet but hopefully we were nearing the end. He added that Florence County Council would not mandate masks but did encourage everyone to make their own personal choice with regard to the vaccine and wearing masks.

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 10:09 A.M.

WAYMON MUMFORD
SECRETARY-CHAPLAIN

CONNIE Y. HASELDEN
INTERIM CLERK TO COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEARING

January 20, 2022

RESOLUTION NO. 20-2021/22

A Resolution To Approve The Lease Of Approximately Forty-Two (42) Acres Of Agricultural Land For Forty ($40) Dollars Per Acre Located At The Lake City Commerce Park Identified As TMP #00167-31-111, 00167-31-107, 00167-31-116, 00167-31-106, 00167-31-105, 00167-31-104 & 00167-31-103 For A Period Of One (1) Year To B3 Floyd Farms, LLC.

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PUBLIC HEARING

January 20, 2022

RESOLUTION NO. 22-2021/22

A Resolution To Authorize The Lease Of +/- One Hundred Seventy (170) Acres Of Agricultural Land Located At The Florence County Industrial Park West At Forty ($40) Dollars An Acre For A Period Of One (1) Year To A Lessee That Will Be Most Advantageous To The County.

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PUBLIC HEARING

January 20, 2022

ORDINANCE NO. 12-2021/22

An Ordinance To Amend Florence County Code Of Ordinances Chapter 2, Administration, Article II, Form Of Government, Section 2-18 To Establish Defined Single Member Election Districts For The Election Of Members Of The County Council, And Other Matters Related Thereto.

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PUBLIC HEARING

January 20, 2022

ORDINANCE NO. 14-2021/22

An Ordinance For Text Amendments To The Florence County Code Of Ordinances, Chapter 28.6, LAND DEVELOPMENT AND SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE, ARTICLE V. – MINIMUM LAND PLANNING STANDARDS AND REQUIRED IMPROVEMENTS FOR SUBDIVISIONS AND OTHER LAND DEVELOPMENTS, Sec. 28.6-85. Small Family And Private Developments (One To Six Lots) And Sec. 28.6 – APPENDIX A SUBDIVISION CHECKLISTS FOR SUMMARY PLATS, DEVELOPMENT PLATS AND FINAL PLAT; And Other Matters Related Thereto.

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PUBLIC HEARING

January 20, 2022

ORDINANCE NO. 15-2021/22

An Ordinance For Text Amendments To The Florence County Code Of Ordinances, Chapter 30, Zoning Ordinance, Article V. – Sign Regulations, Sec. 30-202. – Signs On Private Property; And Other Matters Related Thereto.

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