

**MINUTES
COLLETON COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2018
6:00 P.M.
COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, OLD JAIL BUILDING**

Colleton County Council met in Regular Session on Tuesday, November 13, 2018 at 6:00 PM, at the County Council Chambers, Old Jail Building. Dr. Flowers called the meeting to order with Council Members Steven Murdaugh, Gene Whetsell, Phillip Taylor, Evon Robinson in attendance.

Others present included: Kevin Griffin, Sean Thornton, Ruth Mayer, Eleanor Hodges, Isreal Hodges, Rebecca Riley, Chris Riley, Jeff Ament, Nate Bristow, Willie Seabrook, Mayor Jane Darby, Larry Darby, David Gar Linder, Roy Williams

Mr. Robinson gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

Regular Meeting October 9, 2018

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Murdaugh and seconded by Mr. Taylor.

The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Flowers said at this time I would like to pull item “e” under New Business (Resolution 18-R-76) until next month.

A motion to remove the resolution until next month was made by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Mr. Murdaugh.

The motion carried unanimously

Appearances & Public Presentations

Southern Carolina Alliance Quarterly Update – Sandy Steele

Ms. Steele gave a quarterly update on all of the activities.

Administrator’s Briefing

Mr. Griffin said the 1st item I want everyone to put on their calendar is the Employee Christmas Luncheon will be on December 12th from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm and we will get you further details at the next meeting as to where that is going to be.

Also wanted to let you know the Sheriff's Office began moving in about two weeks ago. They are in the process of moving numerous departments in a tiered statue so they can keep everyone on shift and things going. Expect to have them fully in over there from speaking with the Sheriff the first part of the week by the first of December everyone should be moved over.

We will start on some other projects along with the buildings they are vacating as well.

We had a good meeting, our chairman Lee Petrolawicz of Economic Alliance, myself, officials from the City, with the Evanesce team last week. They are moving along very rapidly. They look to be in production from what they are saying in May 2019. They are moving along really quickly. We are getting the property transferred now and they are finishing up their designs on the building and plan to start bidding it middle of December.

Public Hearing

Ordinance 18-O-14, Authorizing The Execution And Delivery Of A Fee-In-Lieu Of Tax Agreement By And Between Colleton County And Evanesce, Inc. (Project EPS) Whereby Colleton County Will Enter Into A Fee-In-Lieu Of Taxes Arrangement With Evanesce, Inc.; Providing For Payment By Evanesce, Inc. Of Certain Fees In Lieu Of *Ad Valorem* Taxes; Providing For Certain Special Source Revenue Or Infrastructure Credits; Providing For The Allocation Of Fee-In-Lieu Of Taxes Paid By Evanesce, Inc., Under The Agreement For Establishment Of Multi-County Industrial/Business Park; And Other Matters Relating Thereto

No comments were made.

Ordinance 18-O-17, 18-O-17, To Ratify FY18 Grant And Budget Resolutions And Related Appropriations For All Funds; To Ratify Transfer And Other Resolutions Previously Authorized By Council; And Other Matters Related Thereto

No Comments were made.

Old Business

3rd Reading Ordinance 18-O-14, Authorizing The Execution And Delivery Of A Fee-In-Lieu Of Tax Agreement By And Between Colleton County And Evanesce, Inc. (Project EPS) Whereby Colleton County Will Enter Into A Fee-In-Lieu Of Taxes Arrangement With Evanesce, Inc.; Providing For Payment By Evanesce, Inc. Of Certain Fees In Lieu Of *Ad Valorem* Taxes; Providing For Certain Special Source Revenue Or Infrastructure Credits; Providing For The Allocation Of Fee-In-Lieu Of Taxes Paid By Evanesce, Inc., Under The Agreement For Establishment Of Multi-County Industrial/Business Park; And Other Matters Relating Thereto

A motion to approve 3rd Reading was made by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Mr. Whetsell.

The motion carried unanimously.

3rd Reading Ordinance 18-O-17, To Ratify FY18 Grant And Budget Resolutions And Related Appropriations For All Funds; To Ratify Transfer And Other Resolutions Previously Authorized By Council; And Other Matters Related Thereto

A motion to approve 3rd Reading was made by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Mr. Whetsell.

The motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Resolution 18-R-72, To Award the Contract for the Replacement of Carpet at the Colleton County Memorial Library

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Mr. Whetsell and seconded by Mr. Murdaugh.

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 18-R-73, To Authorize Execution of a License Agreement between Colleton County and GTP Acquisition Partners II, LLC for the County's Use of Tower Premises for Transmission and Reception of Communications Signals

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Mr. Whetsell and seconded by Mr. Robinson.

Mr. Murdaugh said there is a couple of things in there specifically related to the indemnification and a couple of other provisions in the agreement that probably need to be modified. Our county attorney has looked at those same issues and I think he has recommended it be changed.

Dr. Flowers said do you want to table this till next time? What does the council think?

Mr. Murdaugh said I'm happy to approve it as long as the changes are made.

Mr. Thornton said it is built into resolution that it has to come to me for final approval. I have already contacted Mr. Stieglitz and told him the exact same concerns that councilman Murdaugh has indicated. If I can work through those issues and make sure it is squared away, then I think you can approve it tonight and if I can't then I'll ...inaudible...

Dr. Flowers said subject to those recommendations.

Mr. Thornton said yes.

Dr. Flowers said okay. Do I hear a motion to amend the motion to that affect?

Mr. Whetsell and Mr. Robinson amended their motion to include the recommendations.

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 18-R-74, To Appoint Employees to the Colleton County Grievance Committee

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Mr. Murdaugh.

Dr. Flowers said the ones listed here are: Homer M. Stallings, Jr., Charles Bridges, Eartha Cunningham and Natasha Wilson (Alternate)

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 18-R-75, To Authorize the Purchase of a Hazardous Materials Mass Spectrometer

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Mr. Whetsell and seconded by Mr. Murdaugh.

The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 18-R-77, To Approve Appointment to the Lowcountry Workforce Investment Board

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Mr. Whetsell.

The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Flowers said that was Heather Simmons appointed to the board.

Items for Information and Public Record

None

Public Comments (3 minutes per person/max time 20 min.)

Nate Bristow – A business owner in Colleton County. Got a little concerned, there is a couple of businesses that has talked to me and other people we have kinda networked together here. We are kinda concerned about the taxes the store owners in Colleton County now currently. For the record Tommie's Auto and Diesel has been here since 1969. We have gotten zero money for tax purposes. You will notice on our records we have never been deficient on our taxes. I am excited just as you guys are that we are growing, that is a direction I want us to go, however, we are concerned about the tax breaks we are giving to new businesses when we have never been offered anything. We are the ones that holds this town together. I employ twenty-two people and I have never even gotten a phone call saying hey Nate you know can we do this, so I guess the question I am asking council is maybe to develop a plan for current business owners. Something. I am not saying necessarily we don't want to pay taxes, we definitely want to

pay our share, but some type incentive for the current business owners in Colleton County. Does that make sense?

Christopher Riley – owner Edisto Recycling, LLC- On September 1st of this year, my wife and I purchased Lowcountry Recycling out on Round O Road. It is now Edisto Recycling. We have made some very good changes for the community out there with the Colleton County Sheriff's Dept. to insure that we help them with theft and other items that were going through that facility before we purchased it. We would like to get the opportunity to bid on the white goods through the Colleton County convenience centers. I have made multiple phone calls to the purchasing department to get the opportunity to bid on them and I have been shot down multiple times. They will get to it when they get to it. I don't take no easy. I work hard. We are doing good things in this community and I at least want the opportunity as that scrap yard is the only scrap yard in Colleton County that is licensed through DHEC with a storm water permit. The other facilities that are in Colleton County are not recognized by DHEC they are just grandfathered in. We would like to opportunity to get a chance to bid on those items and we feel pretty confident that we can give to Colleton County more money than we believe you are receiving.

Mr. Griffin said I did meet with our Solid Waste Coordinator, Mr. Riley actually at the end of last week ...inaudible... it will either go out in the business cycle in December or the 1st of January. They are moving that along. With all of the Capital Projects we have had they have been backup pretty good and starting to get caught up now that we have the Law Enforcement Center and some other things taken care of.

Mr. Murdaugh please explain to me what part of the process is this.

Mr. Griffin said the only metal recycle we currently have that bid the last time was Hiott's recycling. No one else bid when we had it before, so it's kinda been out there. Until they took over this facility, we didn't have another in county contractor that was willing to participate except that one. Other bids came in from outside of the county, but the transportation costs made their costs higher.

Roy Williams- Eastside Acres- Mr. Bristow mention something earlier, which is what I was about to say as well. Concerning this taxes, why is so much of every time you turn around each the year taxes rise. Especially School taxes.

Dr. Flowers said we have very little to do with the school taxes, but the other taxes have not gone up very much in the last several years.

Council Time

Mr. Murdaugh said he would just like to say to our veterans, I was not able to make the parade, I was actually with some veterans at my 30th Citadel Reunion celebrating with veterans, but I just wanted to wish all of our veterans a belated Veterans Day. It should not go unstated for what they have done for our country and us as individuals, so I just wanted to say that. I was sorry I wasn't able to make that, but I was out of town.

Mr. Taylor said I too am remised that I was unable to make the parade this week. In my schedule I wear a few hats, so I had on one of my other hats on Sunday and unable to attend, but I wanted to say thank you to Colleton County for supporting a pre-thanksgiving food drive that we did for the community this past weekend. Very grateful for all of the support that we got from various members of the county that helped in any way they could. We were able to serve at least 228 hot plates of food. We gave away 141 turkeys and don't know how frozen turkeys fly, but they flew out of there. We were able through the Food Bank to do over 186 patrons to come through that, so we're really, really, grateful for all of the support we got from the citizens. That was at Saints Center Ministry this past weekend. Thank you.

Dr. Flowers said he would like to congratulate Mr. Murdaugh and Mr. Whetsell on winning their elections this time.

Executive Session

- a) Economic Development – Project Global

Regular Session

Dr. Flowers said the item was discussed in executive session.

No further actions were taken.

The meeting was adjourned.

Date: _____

Joseph F. Flowers, Chairman

ATTEST:

Ruth Mayer, Clerk to Council

******* NOTICE OF THIS MEETING WAS GIVEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT**