



County Council Minutes Tuesday, April 25, 2023

A regular meeting of the Kershaw County Council was held on Tuesday, April 25, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers at the Kershaw County Government Center.

Council Present: Katie Guinn Jimmy Jones Sammie Tucker, Jr.
 Danny Catoe Brant Tomlinson Derek Shoemake
 Russell Brazell

Staff Present: Danny Templar Lauren Reeder Hannah Parler
 Ryan Monaghan Jeremy Morrow John DuBose
 Gerald Blanchard John DuBose Jeff Burgess

Members of the press and public were present.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, copies of the agenda were sent to the newspapers, TV, and radio stations, citizens of the county, department heads, and posted on the website.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Guinn called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance. Judge Eugene Hartis gave the invocation and all remained standing as the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Councilman Russell Brazell made a motion to approve the adoption of the agenda and it was seconded by Councilman Brant Tomlinson. Discussion was called by Chairwoman Guinn as the adoption of the agenda was approved. By show of hands, Chairwoman Katie Guinn, Vice-Chairman Jimmy Jones, Councilman Sammie Tucker, Jr., Councilman Russell Brazell, Councilman Brant Tomlinson, Councilman Danny Catoe, and Councilman Derek Shoemake were all in favor.

PROCLAMATIONS

Councilwoman Katie Guinn presented and read the following proclamations into the minutes for Stewardship Week and a Proclamation honoring S. E. Johnson. *Chairwoman Katie Guinn recognized and thanked Ms. Donna Douglas in her absence for her hard work and dedication as the Soil and Conversation Director as she read the Proclamation into the minutes.*

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) is a non-profit organization that represents America's 3000 conservation districts and the individuals serving on the governing boards of those conservation districts; and

WHEREAS, conservations districts are local units of government established by state law to carry out resource management programs at a local level; and

WHEREAS, conservation districts serve an important role in furthering public health and wellbeing by working with cooperating landowners and operators to manage and protect land and water resources and private and public lands in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the NACD has celebrated a Stewardship Week annually since 1955 between the last Sunday in April and the first Sunday in May to remind us of our individual responsibilities to care for natural resources; and

WHEREAS, NACD's 68th Stewardship Week will be held April 30 to May 7 and is focused on watersheds; and

WHEREAS, water quality and flooding issues in rivers, lakes, and streams cannot be mitigated without good stewardship of the private and public lands in the watersheds that drain to those waterways; and

WHEREAS, keeping our watersheds healthy protects public health, water supply, fisheries, wildlife, agriculture, supports economic development and enhances recreation activities in our communities; and

WHEREAS, Kershaw County wishes to support the work of the NACD and the local conservation districts of South Carolina and Kershaw County.

NOW THEREFORE, be it proclaimed by the Kershaw County Council that April 30, 2023 to May 7, 2023 is designated Stewardship Week to applaud and promote the work of NACD in providing educational learning experiences for students and adults to increase awareness about the importance of natural resource conservation.

Signed by Kershaw County Council this 25th day of April, 2023. (All signatures of Council and Clerk to Council)

After the reading of the Stewardship Proclamation, Councilwoman Katie Guinn asked for a motion to accept and approve the Proclamation as read. Councilman Russell Brazell made a motion to accept and approve the Stewardship Proclamation and it was seconded by Councilman Danny Catoe.

Discussion: Councilman Russell Brazell stated that he has been involved with Soil Conservation through Forestry and he is in support of the Stewardship Week Proclamation. By show of hands, Chairwoman Katie Guinn, Vice-Chairman Jimmy Jones, Councilman Sammie Tucker, Jr., Councilman Russell Brazell, Councilman Brant Tomlinson, Councilman Danny Catoe, and Councilman Derek Shoemake were all in favor.

Before reading the Proclamation honoring Mr. S.E. Johnson, Councilwoman Katie Guinn invited the family to the front of the Council Chambers as she read and honored Mr. S.E. Johnson in the reading of the Proclamation and presentation of the S.E. Johnson Memorial Stadium plaque.

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, S.E. Johnson was a former principal at Bethune High School and a former Superintendent of the Kershaw County School District; and

WHEREAS, S.E. Johnson was instrumental in shaping the lives of countless students who attended Bethune High School; and

WHEREAS, the former Bethune High School football stadium was named the S.E. Johnson Memorial Stadium in recognition of Mr. Johnson's service to Kershaw County and the Bethune community; and

WHEREAS, Bethune High School closed and the S.E. Johnson Memorial Stadium is no longer in use as an operational football facility; and

WHEREAS, among the remnants of S.E. Johnson Memorial Stadium is the plaque naming the stadium in honor of S.E. Johnson; and

WHEREAS, Paul L. Huckabee, a Bethune resident, contacted councilmember Danny Catoe and Councilman Jimmy Jones with a request that the plaque be removed and presented to the surviving family of the family of S.E. Johnson.

NOW THEREFORE, the members of the Kershaw County Council wish to present the S.E. Johnson Memorial Stadium plaque to the family of S.E. Johnson in appreciation of his service to the citizens of Kershaw County.

Signed by Kershaw County Council this 25th day of April, 2023. (All signatures of Council and Clerk to Council)

After reading the Proclamation honoring S. E. Johnson, Councilman Katie Guinn asked if there was a motion to accept and approve the Proclamation as read. Councilman Danny Catoe made a motion to accept and approve the Proclamation honoring S.E. Johnson and it was seconded by Vice-Chairman Jimmy Jones. By show of hands, Chairwoman Katie Guinn, Vice-Chairman Jimmy Jones, Councilman Sammie Tucker, Jr., Councilman Russell Brazell, Councilman Brant Tomlinson, Councilman Danny Catoe, and Councilman Derek Shoemake were all in favor.

Discussion: Councilwoman Katie Guinn called for discussion of the S.E. Johnson Proclamation. Councilman Danny Catoe spoke fondly of Mr. S.E. Johnson and all of the dedication and commitment he gave to his family, career, and community. Councilman Danny Catoe shared a portion of Mr. S.E. Johnson's memory that read: ***He touched so many lives, particularly the lives of children. He could relate to the high schoolers as well as the first graders. It was said that the most timid and frightened first grader was at home in his office. He was indeed a special man who touched so many lives, especially those of us lucky enough to call him "Dad" or "Granddaddy!"*** (Attached is a copy of Mr. S.E. Johnson's bio and a clip from the October 15, 1965, Camden Chronicle Editorials remembering Mr. S.E. Johnson.)

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairwoman Guinn called for Public Comments from the citizens in attendance as she explained the Public Comment Guidelines and read into the record.

1. Public Comment:

- is an opportunity for members of the public to share information with Council
- is not a time for debate with or questions and answers from Council
- is a time for Council to receive input
- is not a time for Council response
- In short, during Public Comment, Council will listen to public comment, but not comment on public comment.

2. Offensive and inappropriate comments will not be tolerated.

3. If a group would like to speak to Council, we request that a spokesperson be selected and that this person indicate the group he/she is representing on the sign-up sheet and in his/her comments.

4. Public comment is a time to discuss issues.

5. Public comment period is limited to 5 minutes maximum allowed per individual speaker.

6. Public comments to Council as an agenda item shall continue uninterrupted, to be live streamed by audio and video (where available) until the public comments agenda item is finished and concluded.

Fire Chief Chris Spitzer

Lugoff Fire Chief briefly expressed his concerns on the importance of Kershaw supporting his department with ARPA funds to help replace radios used during emergency calls. The thought of being unable to communicate during a life-threatening crisis will be a devastating experience that will not only leave the victims in harm way, but also his staff who risk their lives every day.

Tim Taylor

Concerns of respect that Council wants from the public should be that the public receives respect in return from the Councilmembers. Are there any orders and rules on how Council should respect the public? "Always treat the Janitor the same as the CEO."

Chuck Mosier

Expressed personal views, opinions, and comments on an Elected Official.

Ken Karas

Concerns and questions of falling bridge and much needed repairs or replacement.

Response: Councilwoman Katie Guinn informed speaker that the County Administrator would give him a call the next day and that public comments is not a time for debate with or questions and answers from Council.

Amanda Stephen

Concerns about the cost and rising prices in the economy throughout Kershaw. Request that instead of using funds for recreational uses, utilize the money to help the Firemen replace the radio equipment in their stations. As a wife of a Fireman, the thought of not having updated Public Safety Equipment is devastating.

Wanda Swann

Sweetly spoken words of thanks was expressed to Councilwoman Katie Guinn and the County Councilmembers for all they do for Kershaw. She realizes that it is indeed a tough task that she would not want to do. However, she did request an answer about the funds for a full-time Litter Officer that can commit to the Clean Litter organization.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Ken Lillard and Brad Smothers with KC Science Park - KC Flyers presented a video to Council to show what actually goes on at the Science Park. The park is known for a meeting place on Sundays that housed shelters, picnic tables, water, restrooms, and more to many families from all over. Within the last 28 years of operation, the Science Park is in need of repairs and updates so that the communities can continue to enjoy what is known as KC Science Park, a place for family fun. Mr. Lillard expressed that he will continue to work on getting things updated and replaced for continued operation of KC Science Park.

Discussion: Councilman Sammie Tucker, Jr., thanked Mr. Lillard and Mr. Smothers for their participation and involvement in KC Flyers at KC Science Park along with the entire staff.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilmember Sammie Tucker, Jr., made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting of Tuesday, April 18, 2023. Councilman Brant Tomlinson seconded. By show of hands, Chairwoman Katie Guinn, Councilman Sammie Tucker, Jr., Councilman Russell Brazell, Councilman Derek Shoemake, Councilman Brant Tomlinson, and Councilman Danny Catoe were all in favor of approval of minutes. Vice-Chairman Jimmy Jones did not vote due to his absence of this meeting.

Discussion: Councilman Sammie Tucker, Jr., expressed appreciation and thanked Hannah Parler, Clerk to Council, for a job well done!

Councilwoman Katie Guinn also commended the Clerk to Council on a great job for her organizational skills and performances.

ORDINANCES

Chairwoman Katie Guinn presented to Council for second reading an ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of an amendment to a fee agreement by and between Kershaw County, South Carolina and Canfor Southern Pine, Inc., as sponsor, and New South Lumber Company, Inc., and New South Camden Properties, LLC, as Sponsor Affiliates, to provide for an extension of the investment period, and other matters related thereto. Councilman Sammie Tucker, Jr., made a motion to approve the ordinance on first reading and it was seconded by Councilman Russell Brazell.

Discussion:

Councilman Sammie Tucker, Jr., expressed his thanks and appreciation to Mr. Jeff Burgess for his continued dedication to Kershaw County.

Mr. Jeff Burgess informed Council that no changes have been made since the First Reading of this Ordinance.

Chairwoman Katie Guinn stated that this was the Second Reading of an ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of an amendment to a fee agreement by and between Kershaw County, South Carolina and Canfor Southern Pine, Inc., as sponsor, and New South Lumber Company, Inc., and New South Camden Properties, LLC, as Sponsor Affiliates, to provide for an extension of the investment period, and other matters related thereto, and that a Public Hearing and Third Reading is scheduled for May 9, 2023. By show of hands, Chairwoman Katie Guinn, Vice-Chairman Jimmy Jones, Councilman Sammie Tucker, Jr., Councilman Russell Brazell, Councilman Brant Tomlinson, Councilman Danny Catoe, and Councilman Derek Shoemake were all in favor.

FIRST READING - An ordinance amending and restating the Kershaw/Fairfield Multi-County Industrial Park (MCIP) Agreement ratifying the existing park boundaries and other related matters. Chairwoman Katie Guinn presented before Council an ordinance amending and restating the Kershaw/Fairfield Multi-County Industrial Park (MCIP) Agreement ratifying the existing park boundaries and other related matters. Councilman Sammie Tucker, Jr., made a motion to approve First Reading and it was seconded by Councilman Russell Brazell. By show of hands, Chairwoman Katie Guinn, Vice-Chairman Jimmy Jones, Councilman Sammie Tucker, Jr., Councilman Russell Brazell, Councilman Brant Tomlinson, Councilman Danny Catoe, and Councilman Derek Shoemake were all in favor.

Discussion: Attorney John DuBose explained that the revised exhibit once completed will determine whether Council wants to approve the Ordinance authorizing the revised and restated MCIP or not. A point to consider because of the passage of time, the inclusion of numerous parcels in each Park, changes in South Carolina law, and the termination clauses set forth in the Original Agreement, there is a need and desire for the Counties to ratify the park and amend and restate the Original Agreement.

Side Note: The Agreement ends June of 2023.

FIRST READING OF FY24 BUDGET IN TITLE ONLY

Chairwoman Katie Guinn presented before Council and informed them that this was the First Reading of the FY24 Budget in Title only. The Budget has not been completed, but to keep on schedule with required dates, this Council will approve the FY24 Budget in "Title Only". Councilman Sammie Tucker, Jr., made a motion to approve the FY24 Budget in "Title Only" and it was seconded by Councilman Brant Tomlinson. By show of hands, Chairwoman Katie Guinn, Councilman Sammie Tucker, Jr., Councilman Russell Brazell, Councilman Brant Tomlinson, Councilman Danny Catoe, and Councilman Derek Shoemake were all in favor. Vice-Chairman Jimmy Jones did not vote in favor of the First Reading of FY24 Budget in Title only.

Discussion: Councilman Sammie Tucker, Jr., thanked Councilman Brant Tomlinson, Councilman Derek Shoemake, and the Administrative Staff for all of their support and help during this FY23/24 Budget process. He further stated that the process has been challenging and informative, but it was done with the help of such great colleagues.

Councilman Russell Brazell questioned if there was going to be a Millage increase. **Response:** No Millage increase.

County Administrator Danny Templar stated that the Capital Funds is being worked on, but the General Funds is where it needs to be and it should be completed later in the week.

Chairwoman Katie Guinn recommended that the Council work on for next year and the years to come, to plan on having three full readings for the Budget.

Councilman Brant Tomlinson commented that being on the Finance Committee is a rewarding experience and thanked Councilman Sammie Tucker, Jr., Councilman Derek Shoemake, and the Administrative Staff for their support.

After discussion, Chairwoman Katie Guinn called for a vote on the First Reading of the FY24 Budget in Title Only. By show of hands, Chairwoman Katie Guinn, Vice-Chairman Jimmy Jones, Councilman Sammie Tucker, Jr., Councilman Russell Brazell, Councilman Brant Tomlinson, Councilman Danny Catoe, and Councilman Derek Shoemake were all in favor. For the record, Vice-Chairman Jimmy Jones did not vote for the First Reading of the FY24 Budget in Title only.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING FY24 MILLAGE IN TITLE ONLY

Chairwoman Katie Guinn presented before Council the First Reading of an Ordinance establishing the FY24 Millage in Title only. Councilmember Sammie Tucker, Jr., commented that the overview process needs to happen earlier so that tax notices can be sent out earlier. With that being said, Councilmember Sammie Tucker, Jr., made a motion to approve the First Reading of an Ordinance establishing FY24 Millage in Title only and it was seconded by Councilmember Derek Shoemake. By show of hands, Chairwoman Katie Guinn, Vice-Chairman Jimmy Jones, Councilman Sammie Tucker, Jr., Councilman Russell Brazell, Councilman Brant Tomlinson, Councilman Danny Catoe, and Councilman Derek Shoemake were all in favor. For the record, Vice-Chairman Jimmy Jones did not vote for the First Reading of an Ordinance establishing FY24 Millage in Title only.

RESOLUTIONS

Chairwoman Katie Guinn presented before Council a Resolution of Kershaw County Council expressing the intent to proclaim May 17, 2023, as Cleveland School Fire Day. Resolution 194.2023, was read into the minutes by Chairwoman Katie Guinn as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 194.2023

A RESOLUTION OF KERSHAW COUNTY COUNCIL EXPRESSING THE INTENT TO PROCLAIM MAY 17, 2023, AS CLEVELAND SCHOOL FIRE DAY

WHEREAS, The Cleveland School was a rural South Carolina school located in Kershaw County that was constructed around 1908-1909. The school was a two-story, wooden structure that enrolled almost all grade levels of children.

WHEREAS, May 17, 1923, was the last official use of that school. A fire occurred during the annual graduation; a production named "Topsy Turvey" put on by the students to celebrate the conclusion of the school year.

WHEREAS, when the last act of the play was beginning, a lamp fell from the wall spilling its flammable contents on the stage. The fire spread over all the stage area and danced across the ceiling, eventually engulfing the school in flames.

WHEREAS, the Cleveland School fire claimed the lives seventy-seven children and adults who were assembled at the wooden school house. That night nearly 300 people were estimated to be present on the second-floor assembly area when the fire broke out. The only exit from the assembly area was a single stairway which became jammed with people, forcing many to jump from windows to survive.

WHEREAS, identifying the victims of the fire was extremely difficult. For those bodies that were identified, relatives claimed the remains and arranged for private burials. Sadly, 67 bodies remained unidentified and were buried together a mile away from the Cleveland School in a mass grave at the Beulah Methodist Church Cemetery.

WHEREAS, the tragedy of the Cleveland School fire resulted in the enactment and amendment of laws and rules throughout the United States to provide for greater public safety in assembly spaces.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, in memory of those who lost their lives in the Cleveland School Fire almost 100 years ago, Kershaw County Council, does hereby proclaim May 17, 2023, as Cleveland School Fire Day, to honor those that perished in the fire and to recognize the tragedy as having a profound historic impact, both locally and nationally.

RESOLVED by Kershaw County Council this 25th day of April, 2023. (Signed by Chairwoman and Clerk to Council)

Discussion: Councilman Sammie Tucker, Jr., stated that he proudly supports this Resolution proclaiming May 17, 2023, as Cleveland Fire School Day because it is in his District, and he honors all of those who suffered during that time.

In honor of Cleveland Fire School Day, in attendance were Fire Chief's and their Firemen from Kershaw County, Lugoff, Camden, Pastor Debra Anderson-Joe of Beulah United Methodist Church, and a surviving family member who lost many loved ones during the tragedy at Cleveland School, Ms. Ann Segars. Several events will take place beginning May 16th at Historic Camden, and on May 17th at the Cleveland School site celebrating the 100th year in honor and loving memory of all.

OLD BUSINESS

During the discussion of old business, Chairwoman Katie Guinn placed on the agenda to discuss the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds Recommitment for Kershaw County Public Safety radios with a motion as follows: Motion to dedicate 3.4 million dollars from county ARPA Funds, previously committed to Sewer Utilities to Kershaw County Public Safety Departments radios for Kershaw County Public Safety Departments including KCSD, KC Fire, KC EMS, KC911, Lugoff Fire District, KC Emergency Response Center.

Vice-Chairman Jimmy Jones made a motion to dedicate 3.4 million dollars from county ARPA Funds, previously committed to Sewer Utilities to Kershaw County Public Safety Departments radios for Kershaw County Public Safety Departments including KCSD, KC Fire, KC EMS, KC911, Lugoff Fire District, KC Emergency Response Center and it was seconded by Councilman Brant Tomlinson. By show of hands, Councilwoman Katie Guinn, Vice-Chairman Jimmy Jones, Councilman Brant Tomlinson, Councilman Danny Catoe, Councilman Derek Shoemake, and Councilman Russell Brazell were all in favor of the motion. For the record, Councilman Sammie Tucker, Jr., stated that he was not against the cause, BUT the process and did not vote in favor of the motion supporting the funds.

As explained during discussion, these funds are separate from the County's Budget and it is necessary that these Public Safety Departments receive the funding to replace the radios as soon as possible. This request is deemed necessary and top priority as expressed by Vice-Chairman Jimmy Jones. Other Councilmembers also expressed their support of the funds for Public Safety and the importance for the need of safety. Councilman Danny Catoe, however; was feeling disappointed and unaware as to why it took so long for the need to be addressed and expressed that communication between County Council needs to be improved.

Chairwoman Katie Guinn commented that this motion was placed on the agenda with no intention or harm of not working with any one particular District or Public Safety.

NEW BUSINESS

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR COUNCIL RETREAT

The County Administrator Danny Templar provided to the Council a spreadsheet listing High Priority, Medium Priority and Low Priority within Kershaw County compiled at the 2023-2024 Budget Retreat for County Council. Councilman Sammie Tucker, Jr., made a motion to accept the Goals and Objectives for Council Retreat and Councilman Danny Catoe seconded. Chairwoman Katie Guinn called for question before voting by show of hands and the responses were as follows:

Vice-Chairman Jimmy Jones motioned to amend a Medium Priority Goal from the Goals and Objectives under EMS: 2 ambulances, 1 Chassis, and under Sheriff: 1 vehicle to High Priority on the Goals and Objectives and it was seconded by Councilman Russell Brazell. In favor of this motion of amendment by Vice-Chairman Jones were Chairwoman Katie Guinn, Vice-Chairman Jimmy Jones, Councilman Russell Brazell, Councilman Brant

Tomlinson, and Councilman Danny Catoe. In opposition were Councilman Sammie Tucker, Jr., and Councilman Derek Shoemake. In response, Councilman Russell Brazell motioned to amend Vice-Chairman Jimmy Jones' amended motion to include Attorney under Sheriff as well and it was seconded by Councilmember Brant Tomlinson.

Discussion: After discussion from Council, Chairwoman Katie Guinn questioned the need for the amendment for the Attorney. It is not clear on how it can be justified the need for the Attorney to be added. Chairwoman Katie Guinn recommended that the Attorney remains where it is under Medium Priority on the Goals and Objectives especially when you have salaries at \$11.00 an hour or less. Councilman Sammie Tucker, Jr., was in favor of leaving the Goals and Priorities as originally presented and provided by the County Administrator formed at the Council Retreat.

Chairwoman Katie Guinn called for a vote to keep the Goals and Objectives in place as formed at the Council Retreat with the amendment of Vice-Chairman Jimmy Jones for the following: EMS: 2 ambulances, 1 Chassis, and under Sheriff: 1 vehicle as passed and ruled the requested amended motion by Councilman Russell Brazell as failed to add Attorney under Medium Priority to High Priority. By show of hands, Vice-Chairman Jimmy Jones, Councilman Brant Tomlinson, and Councilman Russell Brazell were in favor, and in opposition were Chairwoman Katie Guinn, Councilman Sammie Tucker, Jr., Councilman Danny Catoe, and Councilman Derek Shoemake.

SAFER GRANTS (STAFFING FOR ADEQUATE FIRE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE)

County Administrator Danny Templar provided information on an awarded grant titled SAFER Grants (Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response) on behalf of the Department of Homeland Security. An application was submitted for the fiscal Year 2021 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant funding and was approved in the amount of \$300,000.00 in Federal funding. The purpose of the SAFER Grant Program is to provide funding directly to fire departments and volunteer firefighter interest organizations to assist in increasing the number of firefighters to help communities meet industry minimum standards and attain 24-hour staffing to provide adequate protection from fire and fire-related hazards.

Chairwoman Katie Guinn called for a motion to approve and accept the SAFER Grant award from the Department of Homeland Security. Councilman Brant Tomlinson made a motion to accept the SAFER Grant award and Councilman Sammie Tucker, Jr., seconded. By Show of hands, Councilwoman Katie Guinn, Vice-Chair Jimmy Jones, Councilman Sammie Tucker, Jr., Councilman Derek Shoemake, Councilman Russell Brazell, Councilman Brant Tomlinson, and Councilman Danny Catoe were all in favor in accepting the SAFER Grant award funding.

COUNCIL BRIEFINGS

Councilman Russell Brazell: Can a vote be taken without an item on the agenda? Attorney John DuBose stated that it has to be amended. Councilman Russell Brazell thanked Mr. Jeff Burgess for his continued dedication to Kershaw County.

Councilman Sammie Tucker, Jr.: No report.

Councilman Derek Shoemake: Process is important! Sometimes we get it right, and sometimes we get it wrong. The public needs to know and understand that there is a process and the County Council is trying to do what's right.

Vice-Chairman Jimmy Jones: Requested that the Clerk to Council provide documentation, if any, on the motion of the \$6 million match voted on a few weeks prior.

Councilman Brant Tomlinson: Expressed thanks to Wanda Swann who spoke during Public Comments in reference to the Clean Commission. He has participated over the years in over 45 cleanups and feels that it is necessary that this Commission is supported.

Councilman Danny Catoe: In agreement with Councilman Derek Shoemake about the importance of the public understanding that there is a process and the County Council is trying to do what is right. Councilman Danny Catoe offered his apology for his expressions earlier in the meeting and went on to thank the County Administrator and Chairwoman Guinn for their actions and response in helping him to get Bethune fields in better condition. He also expressed that the Council is trying to keep the ball fields in good condition, but it is hard when people abuse the use of the fields.

Councilwoman Katie Guinn reported that significant improvements have been made to the Mt. Pisgah property including the roof, benches replaced, sink hole covered, trees removed, trash picked up, and new bases installed on the fields.

Westfield have new benches, basketball goals, and rims will be installed, trash pickup, removal of a dilapidated building, and new playground equipment.

KC West has updated ADA Special Needs swings and equipment installed.

As a reminder, Council is invited to the Kirkland Community Center Open House and Mayfest on May 20, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

In response to Tim Taylor's question about rules for Council, a motion can be made from the Chair at any time to Council if there is anything that is being said or done out of the rule of Parliamentary.

Women in Leadership met and requested if you have any ideas or changes in Kershaw, please contact.

The Camden Burial was held this past weekend and was quite the experience for Kershaw which will probably never be seen again. Twelve American Soldiers were laid to rest and two British were honored this past weekend. Special thanks to Lauren Reeder, Doug Bostic, and Gerald Blanchard for their extremely hard work in preparation for such a memorable event.

ADMINISTRATOR'S BRIEFING

Thank you to Jeff Burgess on obtaining an RIA Grant in the amount of \$10 million for WWTP and special thanks and appreciation to Gerald Blanchard and Lauren Reeder for their hard work and dedication to the Camden Burial event.

A bridge study is in place in reference to the Public Comments received earlier. Contact will be made with the individual on the next business day.

LEGAL BRIEFING

None to report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairwoman Katie Guinn called for an Executive Session at 8:49 p.m. to discuss the following:

- Receipt of attorney-client privileged legal advice related to a pending, threatened, or potential claim S.C. Code Ann. 30-4-70 (a)(2)
- Receipt of an attorney-client privileged legal briefing regarding negotiations incident to a proposed contractual arrangement. S.C. Code 30-4-70 (a)(2)

Councilman Danny Catoe made a motion to enter into Executive Session and it was seconded by Councilman Russell Brazell. By show of hands, Councilwoman Katie Guinn, Vice-Chairman Jimmy Jones, Councilman Sammie Tucker, Jr., Councilman Russell Brazell, Councilman Brant Tomlinson, Councilman Derek Shoemake, and Councilman Danny Catoe were all in favor to enter the Executive Session.

RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairwoman Katie Guinn called for a motion to return from Executive Session at 9:35 p.m. and announced that Councilman Russell Brazell had to leave at 9:20 p.m. Councilman Brant Tomlinson made a motion to come out of Executive Session and it was seconded by Councilman Danny Catoe.

Chairwoman Katie Guinn stated that no action or votes were taken as advised by Attorney John DuBose while in Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairwoman Katie Guinn called for a motion to adjourn at 9:36 p.m. after no further discussion. Councilman Derek Shoemake made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Councilman Danny Catoe. By show of hands, Councilwoman Katie Guinn, Vice-Chairman Jimmy Jones, Councilman Sammie Tucker, Jr., Councilman Brant Tomlinson, Councilman Derek Shoemake, and Councilman Danny Catoe were all in favor to adjourn the meeting.

Date Approved

Hannah M. Parler, Clerk to Council