

**CHESTERFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
March 6, 2024 9:00 A.M.**

PRESENT: Chairman Rhett Butler, Vice-Chair Mary Anderson, Council Members: Douglas Curtis, Hattie Burns, Ben Conklin, Todd Smallwood and Ethan Foard.

ABSENT: Council Members Gerald L. Miller and Bruce E. Rivers.

OTHERS PRESENT: Tim Eubanks – Administrator, Michelle Stanley – Finance Director, Betty M. Boswell – Clerk to Council, Libby Lear – Economic Development Director, Lisa Gainey – Economic Development, C. Heath Ruffner – County Attorney/Assistant Administrator, Courtney Hair – Economic Development, Kip Kiser – Coroner, Jordan Seidhom, Horton Price, Linnett Burr, Elise Foard, Ken Riley, Loni Riley, Kevin Thurman – Voter Registration, John James – Coroner’s Office, Jane Pigg – WCRE/The link, Becky Burch – Chesterfield County Library, Gracyn Williamson – Chesterfield County Library, Ruthie Tarlton, Augustine Benton, Rosa Lee Millsap Privette – Mayor, Town of Patrick, John Bittle – Mayor, Town of Chesterfield and Sammy Copeland. There were others who did not sign the sign-in-sheet.

PRESS: Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting, date, time, place of meeting and agenda were posted on the bulletin board at the County Administrative Offices, 178 Mill Street, Chesterfield, SC, and the County Website (www.chesterfieldcountysc.com). In addition, it was made available to the newspapers and concerned citizens (*upon request*).

CALL TO ORDER AND PRAYER

Chairman Butler welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with prayer and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chairman Butler advised there was a need to amend the Agenda to strike Agenda Item 14.b.

Council Member Burns made a motion to adopt the March 6, 2024 meeting agenda, with said amendment. Council Member Smallwood seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. February 7, 2024 – Regular Meeting

Council Member Burns made a motion to approve the February 7, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes. Council Member Smallwood seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

SIGNING OF BONDS, PAYROLL, AND AUTHORIZATIONS

Bonds, payroll and authorizations were distributed to Council for approval by signatures.

APPOINTMENTS

a. Kevin Thurman, Voter Registration

Appeared before Council to advise Council of some possible changes that may be made by the State regarding poll workers and hours of early voting.

Thanked Council for the increase in poll workers' pay.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Augustine Benton

Appeared before Council spoke regarding truth to power. Thanked Council Members Foard, Anderson and Smallwood.

Jane Pigg, WCRE/The Link

Appeared before Council regarding litter pick up.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

a. Lease-Purchase Ordinance (Roll Off Truck and Bush Cutter) – Public Hearing

Council Member Curtis made a motion to open the Public Hearing. Council Member Conklin seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

There were no oral comments from the public made nor were any written comments received.

Council Member Curtis made a motion to close the public hearing. Council Member Conklin seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

b. Standing Rules Ordinance – Public Hearing

Vice-Chair Anderson made a motion to open the Public Hearing. Council Member Conklin seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

There were no oral comments from the public made nor were any written comments received.

Vice-Chair Anderson made a motion to close the public hearing. Council Member Conklin seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

ORDINANCE READINGS AND RESOLUTIONS

a. Lease-Purchase Ordinance (Roll Off Truck and Bush Cutter) – 3rd Reading

Council Member Burns made a motion to pass 3rd Reading. Council Member Conklin seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

b. Standing Rules Ordinance – 3rd Reading

Vice-Chair Anderson made a motion to pass 3rd Reading. Council Member Smallwood seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

c. Ordinance Granting Easement to Dominion Energy – 2nd Reading

Council Member Curtis made a motion to pass 2nd Reading. Vice-Chair Anderson seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

d. Ordinance Granting Easement to CC&W Development Group, LLC – 1st Reading, by Title only

Council Member Conklin made a motion to pass 1st Reading, *by Title Only*. Council Member Curtis seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

ITEMS SUBMITTED BY STAFF

a. Bookmobile Grant – Ms. Kathryn Cress, Interim Director, Chesterfield County Library System and Ms. Courtney Hair, Administrative Assistant/Grants Coordinator, Economic Development

Appeared before Council and gave an update on the Bookmobile. Thanked Council and Staff.

b. Bid Award – Sale – 2018 Caterpillar Backhoe – Stanley

Ms. Stanley advised only one bid was received and it was from the Town of Chesterfield in the amount of \$67,100.00. It is the recommendation of staff that the bid be awarded to the Town of Chesterfield.

Council Member Burns made a motion to award the bid to the Town of Chesterfield in the amount of \$67,100.00. Council Member Conklin seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Intergovernmental Agreement – Chesterfield County and Town of Patrick – Derrick Outen

Council Member Curtis made a motion to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between Chesterfield County and the Town of Patrick. Council Member Burns seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS:

Vice-Chair Anderson:

- Gave Council an update on the Planning and Zoning Committee meetings.

- Update Council on Comprehensive Plan and QR Code for citizens to use in sharing their thoughts on improving our county.
- Advised she and Lisa Gainey, Economic Development attended the Rural Summit. Shared information she received while attending the Rural Summit.
- Advised that she, Council Member Burns, Council Member Smallwood and Attorney Ruffner attended the Counties Connect conference and met with Senator Gerald Malloy. Shared information she received while attending the Counties Connect conference.
- Advised Mr. Maceo Nance received the Order of the Palmetto Award.

Council Member Ethan Foard:

Stated given the unrest at the Sheriff's Office right now, we need to support the deputies.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

a. Pursuant to S.C. Code § 30-4-70(a)(2), Council entered into executive session for the discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements, the receipt of legal advice where the legal advice relates to a pending, threatened, or potential claim or other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege, regarding the following: potential locations for Detention Center.

b. Pursuant to S.C. Code § 30-4-70(a)(5), Council entered into executive session for the discussion of matters relating to the proposed location, expansion, or the provision of services encouraging location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the county regarding the following: Lynches River Industrial Park

- i. Infrastructure grant
- ii. Potential sale of property

Council Member Conklin made a motion to enter into executive session. Vice-Chair Anderson seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

Council Member Conklin made a motion to exit executive session. Vice-Chair Anderson seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

REGULAR SESSION

Chairman Butler reported Council is back in regular session and that no action was taken and no motions were made in executive session other than to exit executive session.

Heath Ruffner, County Attorney/Assistant Administrator:

Mr. Ruffner advised that Council Member Curtis recused himself in all discussions regarding Agenda Item 18.a, as he has an interest in one of the potential sites and upon recusing himself, he left the building.

Agenda Item 18.a.

Council Member Burns made a motion to authorize the Administrator to pursue negotiations on the Detention Center site property and staff to develop RFP for consultants for Detention Center project. Council Member Conklin seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

Agenda Item 18.b.i.:

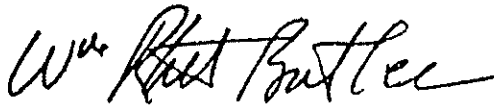
Vice-Chair Anderson made a motion to authorize Economic Development to pursue the Rural Infrastructure Authority (RIA) Grant for Chesterfield County Rural Water. Council Member Smallwood seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

ADJOURN

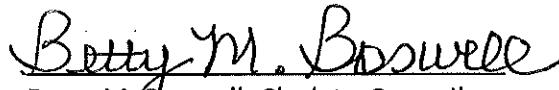
Council Member Conklin made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Curtis seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:



Wm. Rhett Butler, Chairman
Date: April 3, 2024



Betty M. Boswell, Clerk to Council