

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL

July 5, 2016

6:00 PM

County Council Chambers

The Edgefield County Council held its regular meeting at 6:00 P. M. Tuesday, July 5, 2016, in the County Council Chambers, 225 Jeter Street, Edgefield, SC. Notice of this meeting was provided to Edgefielddaily.com, The Edgefield Advertiser and others as requested.

Members present

- Dean Campbell, Chairman
- Genia Blackwell, Vice Chairwoman
- Rodney Ashcraft, Councilman
- Betty Butler, Councilwoman
- Albert Talbert, Councilman

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Others present

- Tommy Paradise, County Administrator
- Jennifer Gilley, Clerk to Council
- Andrew Marine, County Attorney
- and others as per list attached

Others absent

- Bruce Cooley, Assistant Administrator/Finance Director

Councilman Campbell called the meeting to order. The invocation was given by Tommy Paradise. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was then recited.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the July 5, 2016 agenda was made by Councilwoman Blackwell, seconded by Councilwoman Butler. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the June 7, 2016 County Council minutes (Regular Meeting of Council) was made by Councilman Talbert, seconded by Councilwoman Blackwell. Motion passed unanimously.

Guest Speakers

None

Comments from the public

1. Scott Cooper

Mr. Cooper told Council that he had concerns about the Sweetwater Community Center rentals and revenue. He stated that he was under the impression that it wasn't being rented often. Mr. Paradise told Mr. Cooper that the Sweetwater Community Center is rented about 1 time every week on average. He stated that in the past year there were 53 rentals. Mr. Cooper asked what percentage of those rentals were on the weekend. Mr. Paradise stated the vast majority of rentals were on the weekend. Mr. Cooper asked how many times someone wanted to rent the Sweetwater Community Center when it was already rented out to someone else for the same weekend. Mr. Paradise stated approximately 6 times and most of those renters were able to be accommodated

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with a different weekend. Mr. Cooper finished by saying he would like to see the Sweetwater Community Center rented more often.

Public Hearing

None

Old Business

1. Consideration of approval of Second Reading of Ordinance Number 15-16-705, "An Ordinance modifying an Infrastructure Agreement between County of Edgefield and LL of SC, LLC, Dated May 5, 2015 and Establishing a Program to complete construction of certain roads in Mount Vintage Subdivision and other related actions."

Mr. Paradise stated there were no changes to this ordinance from last reading. There was no discussion.

Motion to approve second reading of ordinance number 15-16-705 was made by Councilman Talbert, seconded by Councilwoman Blackwell. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business

1. Consideration of approval of reappointment to the Edgefield County Hospital Board of Trustees.
John Pettigrew.....At-Large 3 Year Term
Motion to reappoint john Pettigrew to the Edgefield County Hospital Board of Trustees was made by Councilwoman Butler, seconded by Councilman Ashcraft. Motion passed unanimously.
2. Consideration of approval of Resolution Number 16-17-739, "A Resolution Honoring the Town of Edgefield as the Safest City in South Carolina."
Chairman Campbell read the resolution:

A Resolution Honoring the Town of Edgefield as the Safest City in South Carolina

Whereas: *On June 20, 2016 50 Cities and Towns were recognized as the Safest Cities in South Carolina, and*

Whereas: *This was based on the most recent crime data in the FBI Crime Report, based on crimes happening out of 1,000 persons, and*

Whereas: *They compared the number of reported violent crimes - murder, robbery, rape, aggravated assault; and property crimes - burglary, theft, and arson, and*

Whereas: *The Town of Edgefield was declared the Safest City in South Carolina.*

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Now, Therefore, Be it resolved this 5th day of July, 2016, that Edgefield County honors the Town's leaders, citizens and law enforcement officers for being the Safest City in South Carolina and their collaborative efforts to keep crime at bay.

Motion to approve resolution number 15-16-739 was made by Councilman Talbert, seconded by Councilwoman Blackwell. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Consideration of approval of amending the Sweetwater Community Center policies.

Mr. Paradise explained that staff is currently unable to rent the Sweetwater Community Center for more than one day per weekend because staff is unable to inspect and clean the facility between rentals. Recently the County had a group that wanted to rent the Sweetwater Community Center once every weekend. This would have caused the Center to be unavailable to the general public on the weekends. Review of the current policy found that there was not a policy in place that would prohibit this. He went on to say staff looked at several options but was unable to determine a solution that was feasible. He stated staff is recommending adding the following language to the policy that would clarify Council's intention of the use of the building.

"No person, firm, or organization may lease the facility more than twice within a 4 month period. The County Administrator or the Clerk to Council may waive this restriction if the facility has not been rented within two weeks of the requested date and it is determined that the rental will not adversely affect the use of the facility by others. Adequate time between rentals for the inspection and cleaning of the facility will be provided as determined by the County Clerk to Council."

County Council made the decision to have a committee look at the possibilities available that would allow back to back rentals at the Sweetwater Community Center.

Motion to approve the proposed amendments to the Sweetwater Community Center policies was made by Councilman Talbert, seconded by Councilwoman Blackwell. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Discussion of the SCQSO 2016 Party Results.

Councilman Ashcraft started by saying the Edgefield County Amateur Radio Club won first place again at the "South Carolina QSO Party" event. This makes them a two time winner for the South Carolina award for single transmitter with multi-operators. This means they exchanged the highest number of messages for their category. One of the members of the Edgefield County Amateur Radio Club briefly told Council what their team consists of and how they practice. Councilman Ashcraft closed by saying he would like a resolution recognizing the Edgefield County Amateur Radio Club on the next agenda.

5. Consideration of approval of First Reading of Ordinance Number 16-17-706, "An Ordinance amending Chapter 8, Section 154 of the Edgefield Code of Ordinances to update requirements of the International Building Code."

Mr. Paradise stated the State's adoption of the 2015 International Building Code series took place effective July 1, 2016. He explained in the 2015 edition of the International Building Code, Chapter 34 has been deleted. The County's current Code Section 8-154 references Chapter 34 and Section 105.2.2 of the International Building Code. He stated in order to stay current staff is making the recommendation of changing the language of Section 8-154 to delete specific references to Chapter 34 and Section 105.2.2. Mr. Paradise said this wording should help prevent future changes in the

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County Code from being necessary if and when the International Building Code changes their code again in the future.

Motion to approve first reading of ordinance number 15-16-706 was made by Councilman Ashcraft, seconded by Councilman Talbert. Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session

§ 30-4-70. Meetings which may be closed; procedure; circumvention of chapter; disruption of meeting; executive sessions of General Assembly

(a) A public body may hold a meeting closed to the public for one or more of the following reasons:

(2) Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements and proposed sale or purchase of property, 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, settlement of legal claims, or the position of the public agency in other adversary situations involving the assertion against the agency of a claim.

Actions may be taken in public session on matters discussed in Executive Session.

Motion to enter into executive session was made by Councilwoman Blackwell, seconded by Councilman Talbert. Motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Campbell called the meeting back to order in open session. He stated that no action or votes were taken in Executive Session.

New Business Continued

6. Consideration of Approval of Resolution Number 16-17-740, "Inducement Resolution Providing for a Fee In Lieu of Tax Agreement between Edgefield County and Project 007."

There was no discussion on this item of business.

Motion to approve resolution number 16-17-740 was made by Councilwoman Blackwell, seconded by Councilwoman Butler. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Consideration of approval of First Reading of Ordinance Number 16-17-707, "Ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee agreement by and between Edgefield County, South Carolina and Project 007 providing for a payment of a fee in lieu of taxes and other matters related thereto."

There was no discussion on this item of business.

Motion to approve first reading of ordinance number 16-17-707 by title only was made by Councilwoman Blackwell, seconded by Councilman Talbert. Motion passed unanimously.

8. Consideration of approval of First Reading of Ordinance Number 16-17-708, "An Ordinance to develop a Jointly Owned and Operated Industrial/Business Park in conjunction with Aiken County, such Industrial Business Park to be geographically located in Edgefield County and established pursuant to Sec. 4-1-170 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended; to provide for the

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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.”

There was no discussion on this item of business.

Motion to approve first reading of ordinance number 16-17-708 by title only was made by Councilman Talbert, seconded by Councilman Ashcraft. Motion passed unanimously.

Comments from public

None

County Administrator's report

Mr. Paradise started by telling Council the CSRA Local Emergency Planning Committee held its quarterly meeting at the Pine Ridge Country Club on June 9th. Suzy Spurgeon, Edgefield County's Emergency Management Agency Director, is the current chair of the organization and was re-elected to serve two additional years as Chair. This Committee represents Emergency Management leadership from government and industry Edgefield, Aiken, McCormick, and Barnwell Counties.

He then told Council the County's 10 years old and under baseball Allstars are heading to the state tournament. They won the District tournament last week and will go to Union to play for the state starting next weekend on July 16th.

Mr. Paradise told Council staff has received the salary study for the Road Maintenance Department. The County's salary range for the position is competitive with other jurisdictions with the exception of Aiken County and the City of North Augusta. He stated that he and Jimmy Feagin met and reviewed the study along with the salaries of the employees in the department. He explained they made some salary adjustments within the department based on time of service and job performance. The salaries for Aiken County and the City of North Augusta were taken into consideration when staff made the adjustments. Mr. Paradise stated the Auditors will be meeting with staff on July 21st and July 22nd to do preliminary work for the audit. He then reminded everyone that Dave Day will be held Saturday July 9th in the Edgefield Town Square.

Mr. Paradise told Council that he has been reviewing the plans for the Animal Shelter with staff to determine what can be done in-house and to make sure everything is included. A conference call is scheduled for Thursday, July 7th with the engineer to move the project forward.

Mr. Paradise then told Council the plans for the Kneece building are on schedule and should be complete by the end of the month. Staff anticipates being ready to go out to bid the middle of August. Mr. Paradise told Council the roof work on the Health Department and the EMS building is complete. He went on to say the construction for drainage repairs to Longleaf Drive has begun and is proceeding nicely.

Mr. Paradise closed by announcing the Safety Committee has distributed the tumblers for the Safety Recognition and overall the employees have been very pleased with them.

Councilwoman Blackwell had brief questions regarding the Animal Shelter. She asked if there were going to be any changes made to the plans. Mr. Paradise stated that no changes would be made without Council's consent. He stated staff and the engineer were just going to discuss other options as well as make sure everything is included that is necessary.

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Councilwoman Butler made comments regarding Suzy Spurgeon, the Emergency Management Director. She stated Mrs. Spurgeon is doing a good job keeping Council informed about storms and bad weather. She stated that she is also pleased to see that Mrs. Spurgeon has attended all of the local festivals with the CERT Team Members and the disaster trailer.

Comments by County Council Chair

Chairman Campbell reminded everyone of the Called County Council Meeting to discuss annexation related issues on Tuesday, July 12th at 6:00 PM in the Sweetwater Baptist Church Family Life Center. He went on to announce a Called County Council Meeting on Tuesday, July 12th at 5:30 PM in the Sweetwater Baptist Church Family Life Center to give consideration of approval of second reading of Ordinances 16-17-707 and 16-17-708. He stated that third reading and the public hearing would be held at the Regular County Council meeting in August.

Adjourn

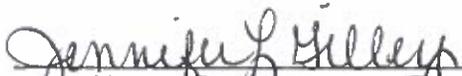
Councilwoman Butler made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Talbert. Motion passed unanimously.

Edgefield County Council



Dean Campbell, Chairman

ATTEST



Jennifer L. Gilley, Clerk to Council