



MINUTES

County Council Meeting

Special Meeting

Thursday, June 8, 2023

Spartanburg County Council met on Thursday, June 8, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. in County Council Chambers of the County Administration Building. The following were in attendance: Honorable Manning Lynch, Chairman; Honorables Monier Abusaft, Jack Mabry, David Britt, Justin McCorkle, Bob Walker, and Jessica Coker, Council Members; along with Cole Alverson, County Administrator; Earl Alexander, Deputy County Administrator; Kevin Stiens, Assistant County Administrator, John Harris, County Attorney; and Ryan Gaylord, Deputy County Attorney. In compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, notice of this meeting was provided in advance to the local news media and other interested parties.

The meeting was live streamed via YouTube. Links and instructions for how to access this meeting via computer or mobile device were made available on the County's webpage and provided to the local media.

I.

Chairman Lynch called the meeting to order. Honorable Bob Walker led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II.

Mr. Alverson presented information in reference to a **Budget Ordinance** relating to the fiscal affairs of Spartanburg County making appropriations therefore, levying taxes for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024; to provide for budget control of said appropriation by the Spartanburg County Council. Council was provided a summary of changes to the Budget Ordinance. Motion made by Mr. Britt to render second reading to the Budget Ordinance. Motion made by Mr. Abusaft to include the Solicitor's Office in the 1% Law Enforcement COLA. Motion seconded by Mr. Britt and carried. Mr. Britt withdrew his motion to render second reading to the Budget Ordinance. Mr. Walker asked if this was the only change. He asked if the changes between first and second reading could be discussed. Mr. Alverson presented the recommended changes. There were eleven changes presented to Council.

Summary is included in backup. Mr. Alverson stated the Amendments bring the Recommended Budget to \$152,343,000 from \$152,221,000. The Fire Department Fund was increased from \$1,833,000 to \$1,837,000 for Trinity Fire Department. This does not necessitate any change in their tax rate. The Community Development Fund was increased from \$2,739,839 to \$2,794,754. Mr. Walker stated this Budget Ordinance does not include a tax increase. Motion to include the Solicitor's Office in the 1% Law Enforcement COLA carried. Mr. Abusaft stated that it has been his desire and Council's desire to include the Solicitors in the Law Enforcement COLA, because functionally, they are law enforcement officers in most ways, and they are integral to the law enforcement process. We need to treat them as law enforcement. Public Defenders are also vital to the system, but their function is more of a judicial function. The head Public Defender has decided to go about improving his department in a different way. Motion made by Mr. Abusaft to freeze the funding related to Piggy Wiggly and also freeze our funding at this time as it relates to Appalachian Council of Governments (ACOG). Motion seconded by Mr. McCorkle and carried. Mr. Alverson stated that from a monetary standpoint, the Solicitor's Office motion would add about \$43,000 to the Solicitor's Budget. For the other two items, the recommended funding will be plugged into Contingency until third reading. Motion made by Mr. Abusaft to render second reading to the Budget Ordinance as amended. Motion seconded by Mr. Mabry and carried.

III.

Motion made by Mr. Britt to render second reading to a Budget Ordinance to establish **Capital Project Budgets** for the FY 2023-2024 Budget Year of the Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan. Motion seconded by Mr. Mabry and carried.

IV.

Motion made by Mr. Britt to render second reading to an Uncodified Ordinance to adopt various **County Fee Schedules** so as to establish the amount of certain fees in Spartanburg County. Motion seconded by Mr. Abusaft and carried.

V.

Mr. Walker stated there is no millage increase causing a tax increase. Mr. Alverson stated that across all levies, there are no changes in the levies in the Ordinance presented to Council. There are no increases. Furthermore, because this is a Reassessment year, there is language that specifically requires us to roll those levies back as statutorily envisioned as part of the Reassessment process assuming assessments go up.

Meeting adjourned.

Spartanburg County Council

By: _____

A. Manning Lynch, Chairman

Attest:

Deborah C. Ziegler
Deborah C. Ziegler
Clerk to Council