



County Council Committee Minutes

Public Safety and Judiciary Committee June 17, 2019

The Public Safety and Judiciary Committee of Spartanburg County Council met on Monday, June 17, 2019, in County Council Chambers of the County Administrative Office Building. 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 following were in attendance: Honorable Michael Brown, Chairman; and Honorables Whitney Farr and Bob Walker, Committee Members; along with Honorables Manning Lynch, David Britt, and Roger Nutt, Council Members. Also attending were Cole Alverson, County Administrator; Jim Hipp, Deputy County Administrator; John Harris, County Attorney; and Ginny Dupont, County Attorney. Honorable Jack Mabry, Council Member, was absent.

I.

Chairman Brown called the meeting to order.

II.

- A. Mr. Jamie Nelson, Director of Environmental Enforcement Department, presented information in reference to an Ordinance to amend Chapter 6 of the Spartanburg County Code of Ordinances entitled "**Animals**" to provide for sheltering and humane tethering requirements. (Presentation included in backup) Proposed Amendments to the current Animal Control Ordinance O-12-01 were presented. This has been an ongoing project. The process began by gathering information and reviewing what is currently being used by other County Governments. In early January, statewide legislation S105 was introduced. This Legislation had statewide tethering regulations attached to it. Staff waited on results of the bill, because it would have added a deeper bite for violators. Before S105 passed, tethering was pulled out of it. During the review process, it was quickly discovered that no county within the state has completely outlawed tethering. The highlights of the proposed Amendment includes the following: (1) Moves away from metallic tethering systems and sources; (2) Mandates canines tethered must be on the owner's property; (3) Mandates the type of tethering system to be used on the owner's property; (4) Mandates the age a canine can be tethered; (5) Defines Adequate Shelter; (6) Creates an Ordinance that is enforceable, while utilizing reasonable common sense for all citizens; and (7) Mandates

the length of tethering. Motion made by Mr. Farr to render first reading to Ordinance. Motion seconded by Mr. Walker and carried.

B. Updated information received regarding activities of Building Codes

Meeting adjourned.