



County Council Committee Minutes

Public Safety and Judiciary Committee August 19, 2019

The Public Safety and Judiciary Committee of Spartanburg County Council met on Monday, August 19, 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 Bob Walker and Whitney Farr, Committee Members; along with Honorables Manning Lynch, Jack Mabry, David Britt, and Roger Nutt, Council Members. Also attending were Cole Alverson, County Administrator; Earl Alexander, Deputy County Administrator; John Harris, County Attorney; and Ginny Dupont, County Attorney.

I.

Chairman Brown called the meeting to order.

II.

- A. Chief Barry Frost, Chairman, Fire Prevention and Protection Advisory Committee, presented information in reference to an Ordinance to amend Chapter 34, Article IV of the Spartanburg County Code of Ordinances entitled "**Fire Prevention and Protection Advisory Committee**" to provide for changes to the Creation, Composition; Appointments, Terms and Officers; the Duties and Responsibilities; and the Use of Supplemental Funding. The Ordinance was written in 1992. A couple of small changes have been made over the last 27 years. The Committee thought some changes needed to be made to this Ordinance in order to make the Committee more proficient in what they do. The Ordinance states that Fire Officers or Commissioners shall be appointed. The recommendation was to narrow the scope down to either a Chief or an Assistant Chief for that position. The Chairperson would also be required to be a Chief or an Assistant Chief. Staffing was changed to allow the County Administrator to designate an advisory staff to the committee as necessary to assist the committee with its duties. In addition to the County Fire Marshal, they will also have the County Attorney, Emergency Services Academy Director, and the Trinity Fire Chief. Until 2021, the Fire Prevention and Protection Advisory Committee will be overseeing the Trinity Fire

Department. The Committee also requested the elimination of term limits on this Ordinance. The Committee would like to review requests for bond and/or debt service millage increases as allowed by state law from fire service areas within the County and make recommendations to County Council as to the reasons for and needs of the requesting area to assist County Council in making an informed decision regarding the necessity of mandatory or advisory referendums. The Committee would like for fire departments to be able to use supplemental funding for reoccurring costs if a fire department needs help in a particular year. 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.