

DILLON COUNTY COUNCIL
109 SOUTH THIRD AVENUE DILLON SC 29536
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MAY 24, 2023 5:00 PM

The Dillon County Council held a Regular Meeting on May 24, 2023 at 5:00 pm in the County Council Chambers. Present were Stevie Grice, Kenny Cook Jr, Jamal Campbell, Buzzy Finklea, Dennis Townsend and Robbie Coward and Detrice Dawkins. Also present were Tim Harper, County Administrator, Druscilla Blakely, Interim Clerk To Council, Ken Dubose, County Attorney and Betsey Finklea (Dillon Herald).

The following were notified of the meeting and provided an agenda by email:

DillonCountyAdministrator<dcdadministrator@dilloncountysc.org>, MatthewElvington<melvington@dilloncountysc.org>, dccbuzzyfinklea@gmail.com, KenDuBose<ken@smithrobinsonlaw.com>, JonRobinson<jon@smithrobinsonlaw.com>, CountyCouncil<countycouncil@dilloncountysc.org>, betsyfinklea<bfinklea@thedillonherald.com>, JamalCampbell<jamal_campbell24@yahoo.com>, dennistownsend@bellsouth.net, DetriceDawkins<tricedawkins@yahoo.com>, HaroldMoody<Harmick@aol.com>, gmcleod<ironman3744@gmail.com>, StevieGrice<gricecube@hotmail.com>, gricecube@icloud.com, Buzzy Finklea <tfinklea@dilloncountysc.org>, Jamal Campbell <jcampbell@dilloncountysc.org>, dillonlawyer@aol.com<dillonlawyer@aol.com>, charliecbailey@aol.com<charliecbailey@aol.com>, bludwig@southerncurrentllc.com<bludwig@southerncurrentllc.com>, mastercurry@bellsouth.net<mastercurry@bellsouth.net>, Elvington@aol.com<elvington@aol.com>, Richard.D.Gaddy@gmail.com<richard.d.gaddy@gmail.com>, news@wmbfnews.com<news@wmbfnews.com>, sccones@aol.com<sccones@aol.com>, dillonherald@yahoo.com<dillonherald@yahoo.com>, dtholder@gmail.com<dtholder@gmail.com>, ljackson@dillonsheriff.org<ljackson@dillonsheriff.org>, john.jackson1995@yahoo.com<john.jackson1995@yahoo.com>, jacoriem@ymail.com<jacoriem@ymail.com>, steve@arsmarketing.com<steve@arsmarketing.com>, code17@bellsouth.net<code17@bellsouth.net>, jward929@gmail.com<jward929@gmail.com>, karend.francis@mcleodhealth.com<karend.francis@mcleodhealth.com>, kjordan@marlboro.coop<kjordan@marlboro.coop>, tlane1018@aim.com<tlane1018@aim.com>, martinfireman9@aol.com<martinfireman9@aol.com>, snapceo@aol.com<snapceo@aol.com>, smcrae911@yahoo.com<smcrae911@yahoo.com>, dillonriskmgr@aol.com<dillonriskmgr@aol.com>, mlee@mhisc.com<mlee@mhisc.com>, morrist13@yahoo.com<morrist13@yahoo.com>, news@wbtw.com<news@wbtw.com>, Susan.Norton@perdue.com<susan.norton@perdue.com>, patel1223@gmail.com<patel1223@gmail.com>, cpelfrey@netc.edu<cpelfrey@netc.edu>, Proctorhaywood@gmail.com<proctorhaywood@gmail.com>, rjfodera@wpde.com<rjfodera@wpde.com>, roscoxen@aol.com<roscoxen@aol.com>, randyrouse@bellsouth.net<randyrouse@bellsouth.net>, news@scnow.com<news@scnow.com>, tigger_2g@msn.com<tigger_2g@msn.com>, scemtgerry@gmail.com<scemtgerry@gmail.com>, kls1@rocketmail.com<kls1@rocketmail.com>, sssuber@mhisc.com<sssuber@mhisc.com>, ttaylor383@aol.com<ttaylor383@aol.com>, tbrown@wpde.com<tbrown@wpde.com>, vanns4@bellsouth.net<vanns4@bellsouth.net>, code17@gmail.com<code17@gmail.com>, agendas@voterheads.com<agendas@voterheads.com>, tim@ammonshayes.com<tim@ammonshayes.com>, wmiller@dilloncountysc.org<wmiller@dilloncountysc.org>, dillon1447@aol.com<dillon1447@aol.com>, jcampbellmcso@yahoo.com<jcampbellmcso@yahoo.com>, jtthomas@netc.edu<jtthomas@netc.edu>, Anthony.Moore29536@gmail.com<anthony.moore29536@gmail.com>, margaretmarstin@parkerpoe.com<margaretmarstin@parkerpoe.com>, dpernell@61aol.com<dpernell@61aol.com>, kevin.drawhorn@yahoo.com<kevin.drawhorn@yahoo.com>, aowens297957@gmail.com<aowens297957@gmail.com>, tonigraves01@gmail.com<tonigraves01@gmail.com>, cedricgp.cp@gmail.com<cedricgp.cp@gmail.com>, mkoch@mhisc.com<mkoch@mhisc.com>, crawfordronald00@gmail.com<crawfordronald00@gmail.com>, maggiedunham53@gmail.com<maggiedunham53@gmail.com>, gtauction@gmail.com<gtauction@gmail.com>, dctaassessor@dilloncountysc.org<dctaassessor@dilloncountysc.org>, jameslighty85@gmail.com<jameslighty85@gmail.com>, amazinggrace11520@yahoo.com<amazinggrace11520@yahoo.com>, nancyhargrove@att.net<nancyhargrove@att.net>, JoySnipes<joyrsnipes@yahoo.com>, RobbieCoward<robbiecoward@aol.com>, JosephineGilchrist<josephinegilchrist@aol.com>, HerbertA.Jacobs<herbert.jacobs@mail.com>, Daniel Moody<dmoody9588@gmail.com>, damono@gmail.com<damono@gmail.com>, DillonCountyRiskManager<dcriskmanager@dilloncountysc.org>, osoupomo1@aol.com, ChrisNeely<cneelytrainer@gmail.com>, charles@currybyrdlaw.net, damol%>@gmail.com, lavern.sellers" lavern.sellers@yahoo.com, staylor@postandcourier.com

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Stevie Grice called the meeting to order and presided over the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Stevie Grice led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION

Councilman Dennis Townsend gave the invocation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Stevie Grice began by stating that he wanted to amend the agenda by adding Mr. John Harlow as number nine to speak about Memorial Day and Tim Harper, Administrator wanted to add to the Agenda under Executive Session, a Contractual Matter regarding a Land Purchase. **A motion was made by Dennis Townsend to approve the amended agenda. It was seconded by Jamal Campbell.** All were in favor. Ken Dubose, Attorney asked the chairman to let the record reflect that each of these involve an exigent circumstance meaning time matters.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – APRIL 26, 2003, MAY 9, 2023 AND MAY 16, 2023

A motion was made by Detrice Dawkins to approve the April 26, 2023, May 9, 2023 and May 16, 2023 minutes and was seconded by Buzzy Finklea. All were in favor.

ORDINANCE READING – NO. 23-03 – THIRD READING

Ordinance Reading - No. 23-03 – Third Reading

Dillon County Dirt Road Acceptance and Maintenance Ordinance Reading -

A proposed ordinance that provides for and allows a process for the county to accept dirt roads that meet certain criteria and that meet the criteria of first reading of the ordinance

A motion was made by Robbie Coward to approve Ordinance No. 23-03 – Third Reading amend the Ordinance in accordance with the handout that was given to council by the attorney and was seconded by Dennis Townsend. All were in favor.

BUDGET ORDINANCE

Second Reading – No. 23.05 - An Ordinance To Provide Budget Appropriations for County Purposes In The County Of Dillon For The Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2023 And Ending June 30, 2024 And Adopt And Implement Rates And Fees, And For Other Tax Purposes And County Appropriation Purposes And To Establish The Tax Millage To Provide For The Budget. **A motion was made by Dennis Townsend to approve Ordinance No. 23-05 – Second Reading and was seconded by Robbie Coward. All were in favor.**

ALOTTABANG, LLC - RESOLUTION NO. 23-06

Resolution No. 23-06 – DILLON COUNTY COUNCIL RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO ALOTTABANG, LLC’S PROPOSED BOMB TESTING FACILITY

A motion was made by Detrice Dawkins to approve Resolution No. 23-06 and was seconded by Kenny Cook Jr. All were in favor.

JOHN HARLOW – MEMORIAL DAY

Mr. John Harlow address council stating that he is the Dillon VFW Post 6091 Commander and he thanked council for their past and continued support of the VFW and of veterans of Dillon County Dillon County Council has always been helpful to veterans and to matters affecting veterans and he wanted to let council know that it has not gone unnoticed. His main reason for being there was to say thank you. He acknowledged that Dillon County was very supportive years ago in helping establish Veterans Square located on the grounds of the City/County Complex Building. He thank the administrator, Tim Harper for getting some repairs made at Veterans Square before the Memorial Day holiday. He announced the program ceremony that were to be held for the Memorial Day.

PEE DEE WORKFORCE - SC Works Centers Partnership with Dillon County

The administrator stated that this was a memorandum understanding what is done with the Pee Dee Workforce on an annual basis and there is no cost to the county but so that council will know what is going on and this is just an adoption of the memorandum which they had a copy of the information in their packets explaining everything. **A motion to accept the adoption with Pee Dee Workforce was made by Robbie Coward and seconded by Jamal Campbell. All were in favor.**

NORTH EASTERN TECHNICAL COLLEGE-DR. KYLE WAGNER & ANDY INGRAM

Dr. Kyle Wagner thanked council for inviting him to speak and said that North Eastern Technical College is still in their 2022-2023 school year ends in July 2023 and he didn't have the current updated enrollment information for Dillon County at that time so he went over some of the prior years. Mr. Wagner stated that about six years ago they had only one employee and seventy-five students but now have ten full time employees, two part time employees and numerous instructors teaching classes Mondays thru Sundays and the facility is crowded. One of the problems that they are having is the facilities where they have an Allied Health Program and they are doing CNA, Phlebotomy and Medical Assistant and the program is full. They have a request from McLeod Health to start up a licensed nursing program and they are currently trying to hire someone to teach that program but they have no space to provide the program for this area but they are in negotiations with McLeod Health that they may have some space for them to use at the hospital as an interim place to start the program. The Dillon students have received around 3.5 million dollars in scholarships, grants and local money. One of their biggest needs is a CDL parking lot because someone bought the building that they were using and now they are not allowed to use it anymore and the CDL students are having to drive 200 miles per day to round trip to Cheraw to do the CDL classes it is causing a problem with their trucks and the students are driving the trucks here and the students are having getting into the trucks and they are driving them to Marlboro County or Cheraw to where they have a parking lot for them to operate. They have a 100% passing, licensing and placement rate. They're in need of an Advanced Manufacturing Training Facility which they bought twenty-six acres and now under construction for these facilities in Marlboro County and Cheraw SC. He said that they need space in order to serve students. After a brief discussion between Dr. Wagner and council, he concluded by saying that without a training facility and the ability to train the students they're just spinning wheels because they need more space and need local buy-ins and investments because it takes state dollars, local dollars and then he can leverage that for federal dollars.

BRING THE NOISE MISSION – LATASHA A SELERS

Latasha A Sellers said that her mission is to Bring The Noise and to help improve the quality of community by linking resources to meet individual needs such as new homes, home repairs, rehabilitation of houses and a list of other things as well as community awareness. She said that she looks forward to working with everyone to bring help to the communities. She had a variety of community events planned and also invited council to attend also.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Councilman Buzzy Finklea appointed James Hayes to the Board Of Zoning Appeals and reappointed Lavern Brigman to the Tax Appeal Board. Councilman Finklea also stated that there were two openings on the Pee Dee Regional Council Of Governments Board which have some specific requirements one of which is being a minority which was held by former Councilman Archie Scott and Mr. Major Bethea who is now deceased, was also on that board because he was a minority business person. Councilman Buzzy Finklea nominated Councilman Jamal Campbell and Councilman Robbie Coward nominated Councilwoman Detrice Dawkins because of her being minority business person.

A motion was made Robbie Coward to approve James Hayes to the Board Of Zoning Appeals and Lavern Brigman to the Tax Appeal Board. He was seconded by Jamal Campbell. All were in favor.

Councilman Buzzy Finklea made a motion to nominate Jamal Campbell to the Pee Dee COG Board as a minority member and was seconded by Robbie Coward. All were in favor.

Councilman Robbie Coward made a motion to nominate Councilwoman Detrice Dawkins as a minority business owner to the Pee Dee COG and was seconded by Jamal Campbell. All were in favor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL MATTER AND CONTRACTUAL MATTER FOR LAND PURCHASE

A motion was made by Detrice Dawkins to go in to Executive Session for a Personnel Matter and Contractual Matter for land purchase. She was seconded by Kenny Cook Jr. All were in favor.

No action was taken in Executive Session.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Detrice Dawkins to adjourn and was seconded by Robbie Coward. All were in favor.

Stevie Grice, Chairman

Druscilla Blakely, Interim Clerk to Council

Date Approved