

DILLON COUNTY COUNCIL SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
109 SOUTH THIRD AVENUE
DILLON SC 29536
NOVEMBER 15, 2023 5:00 PM

The Dillon County Council held a meeting on November 15, 2023 at 5:00 pm in the County Council Chambers. Present were Stevie Grice, Robbie Coward, Buzzy Finklea. Dennis Townsend, Kenny Cook Jr, Jamal Campbell and Detrice Dawkins. Also present were Tim Harper, Administrator and Druscilla Blakely, Interim Clerk to Council, John Robinson, County Attorney and Senator Kent Williams.

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

TimHarper<tharper@dilloncountysc.org>,DillonCountyAdministrator<dcadministrator@dilloncountysc.org>,MatthewElvington<melvinton@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,BuzzyFinklea<tfinklea@dilloncountysc.org>,JamalCampbell<jcampbell@dilloncountysc.org>,"charliecbailey@aol.com"<charliecbailey@aol.com>,<bludwig@southerncurrentllc.com>,<mastercurry@bellsouth.net>,<richard.d.gaddy@gmail.com>,<news@wmbfnews.com>,<sccones@aol.com>,<dillonherald@yahoo.com>,<dtholder@gmail.com>,<l.jackson@dillonsheriff.org>,<john.jackson1995@yahoo.com>,<jacoriem@ymail.com>,<steve@arsmarketing.com>,<code17@bellsouth.net>,<jward929@gmail.com>,<karend.francis@mcleodhealth.org>,<kjordan@marlboro.coop>,<tlane1018@aim.com>,<martinfireman9@aol.com>,<snapceo@aol.com>,<smcrae911@yahoo.com>,<dillonriskmgr@aol.com>,<mlee@mhisc.com>,<morrislt13@yahoo.com>,"news@wbtw.com"<news@wbtw.com>,"Susan.Norton@perdue.com"<san.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>,"roscohen@aol.com"<roscohen@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>,"ssuber@mhisc.com"<ssuber@mhisc.com>,"ttaylor383@aol.com"<ttaylor383@aol.com>,<tbrown@wpde.com>,<vanns4@bellsouth.net>,<code17@gmail.com>,<agendas@voterheads.com>,<tim@ammonshayes.com>,<wmiller@dilloncountysc.org>,<dillon1447@aol.com>,"jcampbellmcso@yahoo.com>,<jtthomas@netc.edu>,<anthony.moore29536@gmail.com>,<margaretmarstin@parkerpoe.com>,<kevin.d.rawhorn@yahoo.com>,<aowens297957@gmail.com>,<tonigraves01@gmail.com>,<cedricgp.cp@gmail.com>,<mkoch@mhisc.com>,<crawfordronald00@gmail.com>,<maggiedunham53@gmail.com>,<gtauction@gmail.com>,<dctaxassessor@dilloncountysc.org>,<jameslightly85@gmail.com>,<amazinggrace11520@yahoo.com>,<nancyhargrove@att.net>,"JoySnipes<joysnipes@yahoo.com>,"RobbieCoward<robbiecoward@aol.com>,"JosephineGilchrist@aol.com>,<herbert.jacobs@mail.com>,<dmoody9588@gmail.com>,<dcriskmananager@dilloncountysc.org>,<cneelytrainer@gmail.com>,"charles@currybyrdlaw.net"<lavern.sellers@yahoo.com>,<calishaccu@gmail.com>,<staylor@postandcourier.com>,<jcpwl@yahoo.com>,"jhamilton@dillonsheriff.org"Director,HR"<hrdirector@dilloncountysc.org>,<DillonCountyBenefits@dilloncountybenefits@dilloncountysc.org>

CALL TO ORDER

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilman Stevie Grice led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION

Councilman Dennis Townsend gave the invocation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Detrice Dawkins and seconded by Jamal Campbell. All were in favor

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Dennis Townsend to approve the minutes from October 25, 2023 and November 9, 2023. He was seconded by Jamal Campbell. All were in favor.

PRESENTATION OF PLAQUE

On behalf of Dillon County and Dillon County Council, Councilman Stevie Grice presented a plaque to Senator Kent Williams for his tireless work and commitment in making Dillon County a better place. Senator Williams thanked everyone for the recognition and said that there is nothing that he loved doing more than serving the people and he look forward to continuing to serve Dillon County and the citizens.

PUBLIC HEARING

Ordinance Reading No. 23-16 – Third Reading – Public Hearing

An ordinance by Dillon County Council Establishing Rules & Authorizing Rules & Fees for the Use of County Parks & Recreation Facilities

No one signed up to speak at the Public Hearing.

ORDINANCES

Ordinance Reading No. 23-16 – Third Reading

An ordinance by Dillon County Council Establishing Rules & Authorizing Rules & Fees for the Use of County Parks & Recreation Facilities

Kenny Cook Jr made a motion to approve Ordinance Reading No. 23-16 – Third Reading. He was seconded by Robbie Coward. All were in favor.

Ordinance Reading No. 23-14 - Third Reading

An Ordinance by Dillon County Council changing the Zoning Map classification from Residential 2 (RS2) to Rural (RU) Tax Map No. 121-00-00-043 Consisting of 57.54 Acres
Tax Map No: 121-00-00-043 Consisting of 57.54 Acres
Proposed Location: 3346 Cresent Loop, Dillon SC
Upon recommendation of Dillon County Planning Commission

A motion was made by Dennis Townsend to approve Ordinance Reading No. 23-14 – Third Reading and he was seconded by Jamal Campbell. All were in favor.

Ordinance Reading No. 23-20 – Second Reading

An Ordinance by Dillon County Council changing the zoning map classification of property located at Map No. 068-00-00-001 consisting of 119.09 acres, more or less from Rural/ AG(RU) to (ID1) to permit Industrial Development
Tax Map No: 068-00-001 Consisting of 119.09 acres
Property Owner(s): WM Ellen
Proposed Location: Fairfield Road

A motion was made by Robbie Coward to approve Ordinance Reading No. 23-20 – Second Reading. He was seconded by Jamal Campbell. All were in favor.

ORDINANCE NO. 23-21 - Second Reading

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A FEE IN LIEU OF TAX AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN DILLON COUNTY,

SOUTH CAROLINA AND A COMPANY KNOWN TO THE COUNTY AT THIS TIME AS PROJECT BREWER WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROPERTY IN THE COUNTY, WHEREBY SUCH PROPERTY WILL BE SUBJECT TO CERTAIN PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

A motion was made by Kenny Cook Jr to approve Ordinance Reading No. 23-21 – Second Reading. He was seconded by Robbie Coward All were in favor.

COUNCIL RECREATION REQUEST

The Kiwanis Club of Dillon request donation for the celebration of Farm-City Week. Stevie Grice donated \$50.00, Dennis Townsend donated \$50.00, Kenny Cook Jr donated \$75.00, Detrice Dawkins donated \$25.00, Buzzy Finklea donated \$100.00 and Robbie Coward gave a personal donation of \$100.00.

Toni Graves, Community of Excellence in partnership with the Dillon County Sheriffs Department request donations to provide toys to children for the holiday season. Jamal Campbell donated \$100.00 and Robbie Coward gave a \$100.00 personal donation

Jamal Campbell made a motion to approve the Council Recreation Request. He was seconded by Dennis Townsend. All were in favor.

ALICIA HARRISON – PICK 42 FOUNDATION / CHANGESC PROJECT

Alicia Harrison-Grice introduced herself as the president and founder of H2G Empire which is a nonprofit that serves the Dillon County area who has partnered with Pick 42 Foundation with their Eat Local Pee Dee Project and a she said that a distribution project was started in Latta back in June and they were also able to expand in to Dillon and Lake View. She said that she was at the meeting on that day because the commissioner with the SC Department of Agriculture has partnered with Pick 42 Foundation and DHEC to do a pilot program. She was present to make sure that the leaders in the county were aware of all of their projects going on in the county and she is the team leader for Dillon County. She said that ChangeSC and Pick 42 is a program that gives out fresh local food every Thursday at 11:00 am in four counties. In Dillon County they have a site at Greater Expectation Church of The Lord Jesus Christ and in Lake View they are located at the Community Center. They collect data for the SC Department of Agriculture stating how many people received food and how many are turned away so that they may receive more assistance. The food is purchased from local farmers. Everyone is welcome and the food is free and fresh. She thanked council and said that if anyone had any questions, please feel free reach out to her.

JOHN HARLOW, Commander Dillon VFW Post 6091, Operation Green Light for Veterans

John Harlow, Commander Dillon VFW Post 6091 thanked County Council for all past and continued support of Veterans and for the support of patriotic programs that veterans help put on in Dillon on Memorial Day, Patriot Day and Veterans Day and also the Veterans appreciate the Resolution recently passed by Dillon County designating Dillon County as an Operation Green Light County where residents and businesses are encouraged to display a green light to show

support for Veterans. In closing he asked members of council and fellow citizens to please remember now and always the forward deployed troops and their families, God bless them all and may he keep them safe, God bless the county and God bless the United States of America.

JANE CRAWFORD - GORDON PARK PROJECT

Jane Crawford addressed council by saying that she is the spokesperson for her neighbors that live around the park Gordon Park. She stated that they had many concerns and the Gordon Park Project didn't match anything in their neighborhood and also said that no one had spoken the them about anything about the plans of the park concerning the building and even before the building came, on summer days when activities were going on at the park, people would park in their yards, move their garbage can so that they could park, and also come to their door and use the bathroom but here is a porta potty there that she hasn't noticed being serviced but it just sits there but their main concerns were thing such as who is going to maintain the building, what is going to be done to protect their property and their safety because they felt as if the building will attract homeless people. She stated that she would like to hear the council members that approved the project to envision, how this project would improve the community, will it make nearing neighborhoods stronger and safer, how would the project provide support and improve the lives of senior citizens, families, teams and youth in the community surrounding the field. She concluded by saying that she rode by another park and that it had nice playground equipment but at Gordon Park the fence is coming down, the trash was out and around, the basketball court had grass growing up through the asphalt and asked if not could that money have been used to improve that. She stated that she still wanted to know who would man the park to make sure that it is safe and would it be city or county. Chairman Stevie Grice said that the park itself belong to the county and anything with the building itself will have to be handled by the county but the jurisdiction of the police is in the City. Tim Harper, County Administrator addressed Ms. Crawford by asking her to give him a call and he would be glad to go over everything with her on how everything will be handled.

UPDATE FROM SPECTRUM – Matt Willis, Director of Government Affairs, Spectrum

Matt Willis from Spectrum stated that they have finished the project that they have directly worked with council to put together for the last couple of years and those addresses had been completely constructed and available for activation by the residents at those addresses. He went on to say that in the past month they had sent an addendum to their contract that just needs to be approved and simply states that the addresses that were on the list that they constructed be signed off on and be mutually agreed upon per original contract and amended to the new/original contract. He said that he knew that there has been some ones and twos requested in places and wanting to know when or will they will be coming there and those will continue to come. He took questions from council and they addressed their concerns because they have been receiving complaints from citizens that they have not been able to get Spectrum service in their area. Due to some come confusion concerning the contract and after a brief discussion Councilman Dennis Townsend said he was under the assumption that the entire county would be getting Spectrum and that there was a general feeling of disappointment among the council that their not but before they vote on the amendment would also like Councilman Coward would like to address the entire county getting Spectrum he asked what would be the consequences to the county if

they voted to approve the amendment and what would be the consequences to the county if they don't approve it. The administrator referred this question to the John Dubose, County Attorney, who said that he had not reviewed the addendum but he would review it along with the coverage areas from Spectrum and report back at the next council meeting because he was not privy to the original execution.

APPROVAL OF FIRST ADMENDMENT TO BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE

A motion was made by Robbie Coward to defer the Approval of First Amendment to Broadband Infrastructure until the next meeting. He was seconded by Detrice Dawkins.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session – Personnel Matter and Legal Matter

A motion was made by Detrice Dawkins to go into Executive Session. She was seconded by Jamal Campbell. All were in favor.

No action was taken in Executive Session.

A motion was made by Dennis Townsend to allow citizens to pay to have animals to be spayed or neutered at half of the adoption fee. He was seconded by Jamal Campbell. All were in favor.

A motion was made by Detrice Dawkins to add an additional \$500.00 to all fulltime and all parttime employees Christmas bonuses this year. She was seconded by Jamal Campbell. All were in favor.

Dennis Townsend made a motion to give Tim Harper, Administrator permission to contact USDA to let them know that they were not interested. He was seconded by Jamal Campbell. All were in favor.

ADJOURN

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

Stevie Grice

Druscilla Blakely, Interim Clerk to Council

Date Approved