REGULAR MEETING OF THE FLORENCE COUNTY COUNCIL, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2018, 9:00 A.M., COUNTY COMPLEX, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ROOM 803, 180 N. IRBY STREET, FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA

PRESENT:
Kent C. Caudle, Chairman
Willard Dorriety, Jr., Vice Chairman
Waymon Mumford, Secretary-Chaplain
Mitchell Kirby, Council Member
Alphonso Bradley, Council Member
James T. Schofield, Council Member
Roger M. Poston, Council Member
H. Steven DeBerry, IV, Council Member
K. G. Rusty Smith, Jr., County Administrator
D. Malloy McEachin, Jr., County Attorney
Connie Y. Haselden, Clerk to Council

ABSENT:
Jason M. Springs, Council Member

ALSO PRESENT:
Sheriff Kenney Boone
Keith Lutcken, Coroner
Doris P. O’Hara, Clerk of Court
Chief Deputy Glen Kirby
Arthur C. Gregg, Jr., Public Works Director
Kevin V. Yokim, Finance Director
Shawn Brashear, Planning Director
Jamie Floyd, Tax Assessor
Samuel K. Brockington, Jr., Fire/Rescue Services Coordinator
Perry B. Strickland, Assistant to the Administrator
John Crouse, Captain/Special Services
Florence County Sheriff’s Office Employees/Deputies
Matthew Christian, Morning News Staffwriter

A notice of the regular meeting of the Florence County Council appeared in the December 12, 2018 edition of the **MORNING NEWS**. In compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, copies of the meeting Agenda were provided to members of the media, members of the public requesting copies, posted in the lobby of the County Complex, provided for posting at the Doctors Bruce and Lee Foundation Public Library, all branch libraries, and on the County’s website ([www.florencecco.org](http://www.florencecco.org)).
CALL TO ORDER/INVOCATION/PLEDGE:
Chairman Caudle called the meeting to order. Secretary/Chaplain Mumford provided the invocation and Vice Chairman Dorriety led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
Councilman Dorriety made a motion Council Approve The Minutes Of The November 15, 2018 Regular Meeting Of County Council. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:
No Public Hearings Were Required Or Scheduled.

APPEARANCES:

AMY BRAUNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – AMERICAN RED CROSS
Ms. Brauner, Along With City Councilman Glynn Willis, Appeared Before Council To Share The Importance Of Donating Blood And Provide A Quick Overview Of A Florence Community Blood Drive Scheduled For Friday, January 4, 2019. Mr. Willis requested the County and community support this effort and event. Councilman Schofield stated that he had blood cancer and every two weeks for the past two years he has to receive blood. He expressed his appreciation for those who have donated in the past and encouraged those who could to participate in this event.

SCOTT TUCKER/JO JEFFERS
Mr. Tucker requested to Appear Before Council To Address The Rezoning Of 80 Acres Of Land Off N. Williston Road (Ordinance No. 11-2018/19). Mr. Tucker contacted the Clerk on Wednesday, December 12th to advise he would be unable to attend due to the illness of his mother. In Mr. Tucker’s absence, Ms. Jo Jeffers requested to speak with regard to the issue. Ms. Jeffers expressed opposition to the proposed rezoning stating the proposed commercial development could potentially have a negative effect on the aesthetics of the community with regard to its historical designation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

JUSTICE & PUBLIC SAFETY
Committee Chairman DeBerry Advised That There Were Several Items Before The Committee And A Meeting Was Scheduled For Wednesday, December 19th To Discuss The Items.
RESOLUTIONS/PROCLAMATIONS:
No Resolutions Were Presented Or Requested. Chairman Caudle reported that on Monday, December 10th, he, along with Councilmen Mumford and Bradley, and Mr. Smith, presented the City of Florence with a Resolution of Appreciation and Recognition for its assistance on October 3rd. The Resolution was well received by the City.

ORDINANCES IN POSITION:

ORDINANCE NO. 11-2018/19 – THIRD READING
The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 11-2018/19: An Ordinance To Rezone Property Owned By Asset Holdings Trust, LLC, Located Off N. Williston Road, Florence, SC, As Shown On Florence County Tax Map No. 00202, Block 01, Parcel 078; Consisting Of Approximately 80.065 Acres From Industrial District (B-6) To General Commercial District (B-3); And Other Matters Related Thereto. Councilman Mumford made a motion Council approve Third Reading of the Ordinance. Councilman Doriety seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 12-2018/19 – THIRD READING
The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 12-2018/19: An Ordinance For Text Amendments To The Florence County Code Of Ordinances, Chapter 30, ZONING ORDINANCE, ARTICLE II. – ZONING DISTRICT REGULATIONS, DIVISION 1. – GENERALLY, Sec. 30-29. – Table II: Schedule Of Permitted And Conditional Uses And Off-Street Parking Requirements For Business & Rural Districts; ARTICLE III. – CONDITIONAL USE REGULATIONS, Sec. 30-114.8. – Solar Energy System Permitted Use., Table 1: Solar Energy System Use Table And Sec. 30-114.9. – Height Limitations*, Table 2: Height Limitations*; And Other Matters Related Thereto. Councilman Doriety made a motion Council approve Third Reading of the Ordinance. Councilman DeBerry seconded the motion. Councilman Schofield made a motion Council Amend Ordinance No. 12-2018/19 To Insert Section 2. Which States, “Provisions In Other Florence County Ordinances In Conflict With This Ordinance Are Hereby Repealed.” And Insert Section 3. Which States, “If Any Provision Of This Ordinance Or The Application Thereof To Any Person Or Circumstance Is Held Invalid, The Invalidity Does Not Affect Other Provisions Or Applications Of The Ordinance Which Can Be Given Effect Without The Invalid Provision Or Application And To This End, The Provisions Of This Ordinance Are Severable.” Councilman DeBerry seconded the motion to amend, which was approved unanimously. Third Reading of the Ordinance as amended was approved unanimously.

There Were No Ordinances For Second Reading Nor Were Any Presented For Introduction.
APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

SENIOR CENTER COMMISSION
Councilman Schofield made a motion Council Approve The Appointment Of Sara Dubose Barefoot To Serve On The Senior Center Commission, Filling A Vacant Seat Representing Council District 8, With Appropriate Expiration Term. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP BOARD
Councilman DeBerry made a motion Council Approve The Re-Appointment Of Joe W. "Rocky" Pearce, Jr. To Serve On The Economic Development Partnership Board, Representing Council District 6, With Appropriate Expiration Term. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL:

ADMINISTRATION

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT
Mr. Smith reported that Council was provided with updates for the Capital Project Sales Tax I and II, as well as notes from department heads.

CPST I projects continued to progress with Pine Needles, US 378, 76 and TV Road complete. The bid for construction of the alternate truck route on US 76 was anticipated to be received in Spring 2019. SC 51 widening was scheduled to be complete in the summer of 2020. The Alligator Road widening project continued to progress and was on schedule.

Progress continued under Section XIII of the CPST II with 331 roads completed. There were 14 roads under construction in District 1 for 6” MBC stone and Bid 12-18/19 for 5 additional roads was on the meeting Agenda for approval. Also on the Agenda for approval was Bid 13-18/19 for 6” MBC stone for 6 roads in District 2. The Sopkin Avenue Sidewalk project in District 3 was out for bids. Dirt to pave projects in District 4 were nearing completion and 3 roads were under construction for 6” MBC Stone. Bid No. 14-18/19 for 6” MBC stone for 4 roads was also on the Agenda for approval. Dirt to pave projects were under construction in District 5. Cement stabilization on Horace Matthews and Choate Roads was complete and the roads should be paved in the next few weeks. Included in Bid 14-18/19 was an additional road in District 5 for MBC stone. The resurfacing of two miles of road in District 6 was under construction with only one road remaining to complete. Dirt to pave projects were under construction. Resurfacing projects in the Spaulding Heights Neighborhood in District 7 should begin by the end of the month. The program team was developing a new resurfacing bid package for a January letting. Resurfacing projects were substantially complete and should be closed out soon in Districts 8 and 9 and the program team was developing new resurfacing bid packages for each District for a January letting. A new ditch piping replacement project on West Eagle Street was also under construction.
Construction of awarded phases of the Koppers/Estate Road project was complete and work on additional phases was under construction. Construction of awarded phases of the Brookgreen Subdivision project was complete with work on additional phases under construction.

The Environmental Services Department assisted in the adoption of 91 animals during the month of November. The Inmate Litter Detail crew was back out and cleaned 9.9 miles of roadway and picked up 2,640 pounds of trash. One citation was written and $468 was collected in fines. With the cooler weather, no vector control was performed.

As was disclosed at the November meeting, deeds were prepared for signature and the bid award was on the meeting Agenda for the Sally Hill Road project for the VA Clinic. Final signatures were pending on the deeds. Work would begin as soon as possible after the award of the bid by Council and the fully executed deeds were received.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS
Monthly Financial Reports Were Provided To Council For Fiscal Year 2019 Through October 31, 2018 As An Item For The Record.

2019 MEETING CALENDAR AND OFFICIAL
Councilman Mumford made a motion Council Approve The 2019 Calendar Of Meeting Dates And Official County Holidays. Councilman Dorrity seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

EASEMENT TO SC DOT
Councilman Mumford made a motion Council Authorize The County Administrator To Execute An Easement To South Carolina Department of Transportation In Order To Relocate Overhead Signal Control Lines In Front Of The Judicial Center. Councilman Dorrity seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

CLERK OF COURT
RECLASSIFICATION AND WITHIN GRADE ADJUSTMENTS
Mr. Smith stated that prior to Council taking action on this item and pursuant to discussions with Council, with Council’s concurrence any future requests for reclassifications or salary adjustments would be held in abeyance until the budget cycle or a mid-year meeting of the Committee on Administration & Finance. Councilman Dorrity made a motion Council Authorize The Budget Neutral Reclassification Of A Deputy Clerk I (Grade 16) To An Administrative Assistant To Deputy Clerk II (Family Court) Grade 12 And Authorize A Budget Neutral Within-Grade Adjustment For Slots 010-401-100-002, 010-403-300-005, And 010-403-300-009. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. Mr. Smith stated that one other point was that the action would be budget neutral going forward and this had been confirmed by the Finance Director and Clerk of Court and the net savings would be $970.89 per year. In response to a question by Chairman Caudle, Mr. Smith confirmed that in the future these type matters would be referred to the Administration & Finance Committee during the budget cycle.
PUBLIC WORKS/PROCUREMENT

AWARD BID NO. 08-18/19
Councilman Mumford made a motion Council Award Bid No. 08-18/19, Sally Hill Farms Blvd. Improvements To Coastal Asphalt, LLC Of Conway, SC In The Amount Of $133,773.65 (Primary Bid And Alternate 3) To Be Funded From The CTC Grant Fund. Councilman Dorriety seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. The Chairman stated for the public’s edification that this was for the Veterans Clinic on Sally Hill Farms Blvd. Some veterans were utilizing public transportation and there was currently no place for the buses to turn around on that road so veterans, some who used crutches or wheelchairs, were being dropped off at the intersection of Sally Hill Farms Blvd. and Cashua Road. This bid was for the construction of a turnaround area for these vehicles to enable them to drop the veterans off in front of the VA Clinic. Mr. Smith stated this was subject to the execution of deeds with signatures by the property owners.

AWARD BID NO. 09-18/19
Councilman Mumford made a motion Council Award Bid No. 09-18/19, For The Purchase Of One (1) Hydraulic Lowboy Goose Neck Trailer In The Amount Of $61,485.44 To West Mark Of Ceres, CA From The FY18-19 Public Works Road Maintenance Fund. Councilman Kirby seconded the motion. Councilman Dorriety made a motion to reject the bid with the intention to re-bid it at a later date. The Chairman stated they hoped the item would be re-bid by the next meeting. Councilman Mumford withdrew his motion to Award Bid No. 09-18/19 and Councilman Kirby withdrew his second. Councilman DeBerry seconded the motion to reject the bid, which was approved unanimously.

AWARD BID NO. 12-18/19
Councilman Poston made a motion Council Award Bid No. 12-18/19, 6” MBC Stone For Various Roads In District 1 (Phase 2) To Green Dream International, LLC Of Alexandria, VA In The Amount Of $192,479.00 To Be Funded From CPST II Funds. Councilman Dorriety seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. Councilman Poston submitted a Proxy vote on behalf of Councilman Springs. The vote was a ‘Yes’ vote on the question of the Award of Bid. (The Proxy is attached and incorporated by reference.)

AWARD BID NO. 13-18/19
Councilman Poston made a motion Council Award Bid No. 13-18/19, 6” MBC Stone For Various Roads In District 2 (Phase 5) To Green’s Trucking, Of Florence, SC In The Amount Of $134,040.90 To Be Funded From CPST II Funds. Councilman Dorriety seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

AWARD BID NO. 14-18/19
Councilman DeBerry made a motion Council Award Bid No. 14-18/19, 6” MBC Stone For Various Roads In District 4 (Phase 2) To Green’s Trucking, Of Florence, SC In The Amount Of $358,425.76 To Be Funded From CPST II Funds. Councilman Bradley seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.
SHERIFF’S OFFICE

ADDITION OF FOUR SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER (SRO) POSITIONS
Councilman DeBerry made a motion Council Approve The Addition Of Four School Resource Officer (SRO) Positions To Be Funded By A South Carolina Department Of Education Grant And Departmental Funds. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. Chairman Caudle asked the Sheriff if this was part of the Governor’s promise to put SROs in every school in the State. The Sheriff responded that it was not that it was grant funding that would not cost the County or the taxpayers anything to pay for those additional resource officers. Councilman Kirby asked Sheriff Boone if this was an annual grant. The Sheriff responded that it was.

SHERIFF BOONE
Sheriff Boone requested the opportunity to address Council regarding his office. The Chairman stated that by Council Rules it required two members of Council to agree for an individual not on the Agenda to speak. Councilmen Dorriety and Mumford agreed. Sheriff Boone stated that he would continue to fight for his officers. Things had changed from when he initially began his career in law enforcement and officers were now placed in harm’s way every day. He stated he was aware of the Committee meeting scheduled for December 19th and planned on being there to continue to fight for his folks. When he took office the Sheriff’s Office was $532,000 in the red and Council balanced the budget (he thanked Council for that) and the budget had been balanced since that time. He stated he wanted a great relationship with Council and that they needed to work together. He stated his office was very grateful for the equipment and things Council provided to enable the department to function but deputies and employees couldn’t live off of $30,000 a year and support families. Most of the officers worked second jobs and some in attendance stated they worked three jobs to make ends meet. He said he realized things had happened and he understood that and social media was one of the worst things ever created. He said he was being accused of things that were not true and he was kind of like the scapegoat. He advised that the drug money could not be used for salaries but if it could he would use it for his employees. He asked that Council treat him fairly and stated that from that point forward he wanted to treat them fairly as well. He stated, ‘Just like Kevin and his wife, Kim, you know, they have run me in the ground. You know I would ask that you watch any and everything that he does because I don’t want the relationship that we have dictate to what you guys do and hinder these folks or use me as an excuse as far as finance is concerned.” He invited Council to attend the Sheriff’s Office Annual Christmas Luncheon on December 21st. He thanked Council for allowing him to speak. Councilman Mumford stated that he wanted to commend all of the officers and employees of the Sheriff’s Office. He said he wished Council could give them the increase but as was mentioned before Act 388 tremendously diminished Council’s ability to increase revenue. He advised that there was a change in Columbia in the Legislature and they were going to look at the LGF as well as Act 388. He was hoping and praying that the future for Florence County would be bright and he wanted to continue to work as a team. He stated this was a wonderful time of year to stop talking about each other and work together as a team. Sheriff Boone stated that KJ’s IGA in Ebenezer had funds to donate to the injured officers in the October 3rd incident and if it was okay he needed to
slip out. Councilman Schofield stated that the best thing most people could do was quit reading fitsnews because a lot of the information provided by that site was trash. He stated that the last email the Sheriff sent to Council ended with ‘come talk to me’ ‘talk to me in person.’ Councilman Schofield stated that went both ways; come talk to him in person if there was a problem. There was too much talk going on in the back channels instead of the front. He said to make the statement that County Council doesn’t stand up for you, within 24 hours of the incident on October 3rd money was made available to purchase items to replace weapons, etc. that were taken out of commission due to the investigation. Council was more than supportive of trying to accomplish the goals of the Sheriff.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

**HALLMARK DRIVE**
Councilman Schofield made a motion Council Approve The Expenditure Of Up To $18,000.00 From Council Districts’ 5 And 8 Infrastructure Funding Allocations ($9,000 From Each District) To Pay To Cut And Remove Trees Out Of Ditch Canal On Hallmark Drive. Councilman Dorriety seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

**Pee Dee Community Action Partnership**
Councilman Bradley made a motion Council Approve The Expenditure In An Amount Up To $8,000.00 From Council Districts’ 3, 4, And 7 Infrastructure Funding Allocations ($3,000.00 Each From Districts 3 and 4; and $2,000 From District 7) To Assist The Pee Dee Community Action Partnership With The Installation Of A Stud Wall Partition With Reception Window In The Entrance Lobby Of The PDCAP Headquarters. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

**TOWN OF OLANTA**
Councilman Poston made a motion Council Approve The Expenditure In An Amount Up To $7,000.00 From Council District 1 Infrastructure Funding Allocation To Assist The Town Of Olanta With Construction Of The Floyd Memorial Stage On Main Street In Olanta. Councilman Dorriety seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. Councilman Poston submitted a Proxy vote on behalf of Councilman Springs. The vote was a ‘Yes’ vote on the question of the Award of Bid. (The Proxy is attached and incorporated by reference.)

**ROAD SYSTEM MAINTENANCE FEE (RSMF)**

**CHARITY DRIVE**
Councilman Poston made a motion Council Approve The Expenditure Of Up $6,000.00 From Council District 2 RSMF Funding Allocation For 200 Tons Of MBC Stone To Be Put On Charity Drive. Councilman Kirby seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.
MARCH ROAD
Councilman Poston made a motion Council Approve The Expenditure Of Up To $6,000.00 From Council District 2 RSMF Funding Allocation For 200 Tons Of MBC Stone To Be Put On March Road. Councilman Dorricy seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

FINANCE DIRECTOR KEVIN YOKIM
Councilmen Schofield and DeBerry agreed to allow Finance Director Kevin Yokim to speak. Mr. Yokim stated, “Based on the Sheriff’s comment, I have been Finance Director for almost 23 years. I have been attacked by various elected officials; that’s part of the job … I mean, that goes and that comes. But any official stands up here and attacks my wife, and says something completely untrue, I don’t have any choice but to stand up here and defend her. I mean, I can take it. If the Sheriff thinks or says that my wife and I are on social media, and this was told to me yesterday, that we were out there saying he’s dying, completely untrue. Go find a post on social media where either one of us said that. Secondly, a couple of members of Council and the Chair himself have mentioned fitsnews. Neither my wife nor myself at any time have ever contact Will Folks or any representative of fitsnews to say anything about the Sheriff … or any other matter, for that matter. So since he mentioned that on the record, I felt like I had no choice but to respond on the record.” Councilman Kirby stated that he thought all of Council recognized what was going on and all of them should put in a special prayer that this would be resolved in God’s will. Councilman DeBerry stated he supported the Finance Director 100%. He stated Mr. Yokim had just done his job. Chairman Caudle stated he totally agreed. Councilman Dorricy stated he concurred also. Chairman Caudle stated Council had no control over what people do on their personal time with their personal business but they would like for this to cease and desist.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:
Councilman Schofield made a motion Council Enter Executive Session Pursuant to Section 30-4-70 of the South Carolina Code of Laws 1976, As Amended, To Discuss A Contractual Matter. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Council entered Executive Session at 9:45 a.m.

Council reconvened at 11:06 a.m.

Chairman Caudle stated no action was taken in Executive Session.
There being no further business to come before Council, Councilman Dorriety made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:06 A.M.

WAYMON MUMFORD
SECRETARY-CHAPLAIN

CONNIE Y. HASELDEN
CLERK TO COUNTY COUNCIL
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA ) } 
COUNTY OF FLORENCE ) } 

PROXY

I hereby leave my voting proxy for the question on the Award Of Bid No. 12-18/19. 6” MBC Stone For Various Roads In District 1 (Phase 2) To Green Dream International, Of Alexandria, VA In The Amount Of $192,479.00 To Be Funded From CPST II Funds, at the regular meeting of County Council on December 13, 2018, with County Council Member Roger Foster. This proxy is for a “Yes” vote on the question of the Award Of Bid No. 12-18/19. 6” MBC Stone For Various Roads In District 1 (Phase 2) To Green Dream International, Of Alexandria, VA In The Amount Of $192,479.00 To Be Funded From CPST II Funds.

Jason M. Springs 
Member, Florence County Council

WITNESSES:

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA ) } 
COUNTY OF FLORENCE ) } 

PROBAȚE

PERSONALLY APPEARED, the undersigned witnessed and made oath that (s)he saw the within named Jason M. Springs, sign and as his act and deed, deliver the within PROXY, and that deponent, with the other witness subscribed above, witnessed the execution thereof.

Witness

SWORN to before me this
10th day of Dec., 2018.

Emmie Haselden
NOTARY PUBLIC (S.C.)
My Commission Expires 10.17.2028
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )
COUNTY OF FLORENCE )

PROXY

I hereby leave my voting proxy for the question on the Expenditure In An Amount Up To $7,000.00 From Council District 1 Infrastructure Funding Allocation To Assist the Town Of Olanta With Construction Of The Floyd Memorial Stage On Main Street In Olanta, at the regular meeting of County Council on December 13, 2018, with County Council Member Roger Bostom. This proxy is for a “Yes” vote on the question of the Expenditure In An Amount Up To $7,000.00 From Council District 1 Infrastructure Funding Allocation To Assist the Town Of Olanta With Construction Of The Floyd Memorial Stage On Main Street In Olanta.

Jason M. Springs
Member, Florence County Council

WITNESSES:


STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )
COUNTY OF FLORENCE )

PROBATE

PERSONALLY APPEARED, the undersigned witnessed and made oath that (s)he saw the within named Jason M. Springs, sign and as his act and deed, deliver the within PROXY, and that deponent, with the other witness subscribed above, witnessed the execution thereof.

SWORN to before me this 14th day of Dec., 18.

Witness

Connie W. Halden
NOTARY PUBLIC (S.C.)
My Commission Expires 10-17-2028