



County Council Committee Minutes

Personnel and Finance Committee March 16, 2020

The Personnel and Finance Committee of Spartanburg County Council met on Monday, March 16, 2020, 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 Bob Walker, Chairman; Honorables Jack Mabry and Whitney Farr, Committee Members; along with Honorables Manning Lynch, Michael Brown, 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 Walker called the meeting to order.

II.

- A. At 4:38 p.m., motion made by Mr. Farr to table a Resolution calling for a public hearing to be held upon the question of the issuance of not exceeding \$5,500,000 of General Obligation Bonds of the **Cherokee Springs Fire District**, South Carolina; providing for the publication of the notice of such public hearing; and other matters relating thereto until later in the meeting. Someone in attendance advised Council that Mr. Rhodes was stuck in traffic. The items related to Cherokee Springs Fire District were tabled to give Mr. Rhodes time to arrive. Motion seconded by Mr. Mabry and carried. At 5:11 p.m., motion made by Mr. Farr to remove this item from the table. Motion seconded by Mr. Mabry and carried. Mr. C.D. Rhodes, Pope Flynn, stated that he was there on behalf of the Cherokee Springs Fire District. They were seeking approval for the issuance of not exceeding \$5.5 million in General Obligation Bonds. These bonds are going to be issued to finance the construction of a new fire station headquarters for the District. State law requires that before any Special Purpose District can issue General Obligation Bonds, they have to come before County

Council for approval. In this particular case, Cherokee Springs Fire District knows that they have to have a bond referendum to seek the approval of the voters for these General Obligation Bonds because the anticipated par amount of the bonds exceeds the constitutional debt limit of the district. Mr. Rhodes has been in communication with the Spartanburg County Board of Elections. They are working with Cherokee Springs Fire District on a date for the referendum. They are looking at August 4, 2020 right now. The date of April 20, 2020 was proposed for the date of the public hearing. Fire Chief Trent Harper was present at the meeting. Mr. Walker asked Mr. Barry Frost, Fire Advisory Board Chairman, what the Fire Advisory Board decided. Mr. Frost stated that the Fire Advisory Board met on March 11, 2020, and they agreed that Cherokee Springs Fire District does need a new fire station, and they recommended that County Council approve the recommendation and take it to a referendum. Motion made by Mr. Mabry to adopt the Resolution. Motion seconded by Mr. Farr and carried.

- B. Motion made by Mr. Mabry to render first reading to an Ordinance authorizing the **Cherokee Springs Fire District**, South Carolina, to issue General Obligation Bonds in a principal amount not exceeding \$5,500,000, subject to a successful referendum in the district; and other matters relating thereto. Motion seconded by Mr. Farr and carried.
- C. Updated financial data and personnel vacancy reports were received.

Meeting adjourned.