



GREENVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes

Special Called Meeting

January 14, 2025

6:00 p.m.

Committee Meeting Room
301 University Ridge
Greenville, South Carolina

Council Members

Benton Blount, Chairman, District 19

Rick Bradley, Vice-Chairman, District 26

Joey Russo, District 17

Kelly Long, District 18

Stephen Shaw, District 20

Curt McGahhey, District 21

Frank Farmer, District 22

Alan Mitchell, District 23

Liz Seman, Vice-, District 24

Ennis Fant, Sr., District 25

Garey Collins, District 27

Dan Tripp, District 28

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting date, time, place and agenda was posted online, at 301 University Ridge, Greenville, and made available to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

Council Members Absent

Ennis Fant, District 25

Council Members Remote Participation

Dan Tripp, District 28

Staff Present

Joe Kernell, County Administrator

Chris Antley, County Attorney

Andrew Price, Assistant County Attorney

Regina McCaskill, Clerk to Council

Jessica Stone, Deputy Clerk to Council

Pam Gilliam, Administrative Assistant Clerk to Council

Terrance Galloway, Information Systems

Bob Mihalic, Governmental Affairs Officer

Tee Coker, Assistant County Administrator

Hesha Gamble, Assistant County Administrator

Nicole Wood, Assistant County Administrator

Ronald Hollister, Assistant County Administrator

Tec Lambrecht, Assistant County Administrator

Rashida Jeffers-Campbell, Planning Director

Conway Belangia, Director, Voter Registration

Others Present

None

Call to Order

Chairman Benton Blount

Invocation

Councilor Joey Russo

Pledge of Allegiance

Item (3) **Suspension of County Council Rule III (D) (9)**

Action: As noticed on the County Council agenda, Vice-Chairman Bradley moved to suspend County Council Rule III (D) (9) in order to reconsider the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) as adopted at third reading on December 3, 2024.

Councilor Seman stated if the motion to suspend the Council rule should pass, she had some questions and potentially a friendly amendment under the reconsideration piece.

Councilor Mitchell asked for clarification regarding the potential reconsideration of the Unified Development Ordinance.

Point of Order: Councilor McGahhey stated the floor was open for discussion regarding suspension of the Council rules; technically, per the manual, Council could not discuss the reconsideration until after voting on the motion to suspend Council rules.

Chairman Blount informed Mr. Mitchell he would explain the reconsideration after Council voted on the motion to suspend Council Rule III (D) (9).

Motion to suspend Council Rule III (D) (9) carried.

Chairman Blount stated the next item of business was reconsideration of the Unified Development Ordinance. He recognized Councilor Rick Bradley to introduce the item.

Action: Vice-Chairman Bradley moved to reconsider the third reading vote of December 3, 2024, which adopted the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO). He stated if the vote was successful, he planned to make a subsequent motion to refer the item to the Planning and Development Committee.

Chairman Blount stated the motion to reconsider the Unified Development Ordinance was before Council and the floor was open for discussion. He recognized Councilor Seman.

Friendly Amendment: Councilor Seman offered a friendly amendment to Vice-Chairman Bradley’s motion. She asked if he would be open to referring the item to the Committee of the Whole as opposed to the Planning and Development Committee. She stated the UDO affected all twelve districts. Given the fact that the Planning and Development Committee had not yet been seated, Committee of the Whole would be an opportunity for all Council Members to weigh in on the item.

Vice-Chairman Bradley stated he would be open to Councilor Seman’s friendly amendment.

Action: Vice-Chairman Bradley restated his motion to indicate if reconsideration of the Unified Development Ordinance was successful, he would request it be referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Councilor Mitchell stated he could wait for clarification regarding the Unified Development Ordinance since it would be referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Point of Order: Councilor McGahhey stated Council was discussing the amendment. They needed to stay on the amendment and “go with the amendment and then come back to the original order.” He stated they were “skipping around too much.”

Councilor Tripp stated he disagreed with Mr. McGahhey's point of order, as an item could not be amended until it was reconsidered.

Councilor McGahhey stated Ms. Seman was trying to make an amendment to Mr. Bradley's motion. Council needed to vote on the amendment before moving onto other business.

Action: Councilor Seman moved to amend the motion to reflect if the reconsideration was successful, the item would be referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Motion to amend carried.

Councilor Shaw inquired if there had been an issue with the item originally going through the Planning Commission correctly; and if so, would sending it back to the Planning and Development Committee rectify that issue.

Mr. Antley stated the County Attorney's Office had no issue with how the UDO went through the Planning Commission. There was no impediment to or any improper procedure as it reached its way to third reading on December 3.

Motion to amend carried.

Motion to reconsider the Unified Development Ordinance carried by roll call vote of ten (Russo, Long, Blount, Shaw, McGahhey, Farmer, Mitchell, Seman, Bradley and Collins) in favor, one (Tripp) in opposition and one (Fant) absent.

Chairman Blount stated Council's goal was to listen to the people of Greenville County. Its goal was not to cause issues with County staff or the people who put the UDO together. He stated there were a number of good things in the ordinance. It needed more attention and more time; reconsidering it was the cleanest way to do that without going back through the entire process. He thanked colleagues for entertaining the special meeting.

Action: Vice-Chairman Bradley moved to refer the Unified Development Ordinance to the Committee of the Whole.

Motion to refer to the Committee of the Whole carried.

Item (4) **Adjournment**

Action: Vice-Chairman Bradley moved to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Regina McCaskill
Clerk to Council