



**JOHNSONVILLE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
117 E. BROADWAY STREET
TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 2023 6:30 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order by Council Member Arthurs

The invocation was given by Council Member Poston

The Pledge of Allegiance was given to the flag

Council present: Frankie Poston, Doolittle Stone, Dipen Khambhaita, April Collins and Julie Rogers

City Personnel present: Holly Swann, Marlene Rollins

Guest Present: Tamala Owens, Don Strickland

Motion was made by Council Member Poston and received a second by Council Member Stone to approve the agenda. **Motion carried unanimously**

Motion was made by Council Member Stone and received a second by Council Member Khambhaita to approve the minutes from the May 9th, 18th and 30th 2023 meetings. **Motion carried unanimously**

Don Strickland with PDRTA shared with council at the meeting last month when he came before council two years ago the route from Johnsonville to Florence and back was what we thought the need was. They are finding out from the passengers that there is more of a need for local transportation for passengers to be able to get to grocery stores and pharmacies, and not have to wait four hours for the bus to go to Florence and back and Pamplico to come back and get then. that is what I really wanted to share tonight. PDRTA services six counties in the Pee Dee, it's a broad area, it the largest land mass in South Carolina as far as Regional Transit Authority, we are the third largest in the nation covering 3500 square miles. We are doing more service in different areas now, we are trying to get back to where we were pre-2013 when we got out of the Medicaid business, now we are more focused on the workforce. We have about 250 stops in the city of Florence. We do surveys on board every year, 40% of our riders are work force going from and to work. The PDRTA now has an app that you can down load and see where the bus is at and what time it will be arriving, we are doing shelter projects now, where you have advertising opportunities, ADA compliant, solar power lights USB phone charging stations we are working with school districts to put some of these shelters at school bus stops, we get 80% of federal funds to these kinds of projects, for biking we get 90% federal funding. We come up with our cost is based on hours and miles of service, we operate as a nonprofit, we cover our expenses every month at the end of the month we submit invoices to the state and federal for federal grants but we have to have local support in order to access the federal and state dollars but what I propose is a Monday Wednesday Friday service which is like what we are doing now with the Johnsonville to Florence route, the total cost would be just over \$100,000, we need about \$30,000 locally to do this service, it can come from several sources, Florence County is a partner now, they are supporting the current service we have in Johnsonville, the big thing here is fining other local partners to help offset, talking with Ms. Swann with the services we are talking about we will need about \$8000 from the city, if we can find another partner with \$2000 or more it will decrease that amount, if you would rather do a six month pilot program to see what it looks that is something we could do, it would cost over \$100,000 \$75,000 would be federal and state funding, we would need to come up with the rest to make it happen to get the local routes inside the city.

Motion was made by Council Member Stone and received a second by Council Member Poston for second reading of An Ordinance to adopt the Fiscal Year 2023/2024 annual operating budget. **Motion carried unanimously**

Ms. Swann stated the Johnsonville Facilities Corporation met yesterday and this goes with what we discussed in executive session about our bond payment each year. We are hoping this will give us the opportunity to decrease our bond payment for the next two years, we are not financing any more money, our next payment will be more. Currently our payment for this building is \$198,000, we will only be paying the interest for the next two years.

Motion was made by Council Member Poston and received a second by Council Member Collins for first reading of an ordinance amending the amortization of \$2,750,000 Johnsonville Facilities Corporation installment purchase revenue refunding bond (Johnsonville Municipal Complex Project) Series 2021. **Motion carried unanimously**

Ms. Swann stated to council included in their packets was a Nuisance ordinance provided by Florence County, this Nuisance ordinance would sign an agreement going back into a partnership with them and they will do our code enforcement, a couple years back yal split, I think we need to get back together with them. If you will take this ordinance home and read over it, also included in the packet was the complaint forms to be filled out here and sent directly to the county of Florence, we will still have stuff to do on our end but this will make it a lot easier for use to deal with code enforcement.

Council member Arthurs asked didn't she use to work in code enforcement department.

Ms. Swann replied she did for Florence County for the planning but did a lot of code enforcement in Bennettsville.

Councilmember Arthurs stated there is our connection, we were just ignored by county before you got here.

Council member Stone state all the ordinances we did several years ago this will replace one of two them.

Ms. Swann: this is basically the same as we have already, but we don't have power here for enforcement, and this will give us the power to give it to Florence County, and they will come and inspect for us.

Motion was made by Council Member Collins and received a second by Council Member Khambhaita to give the City Administrator permission to prepare an ordinance to get back into the partnership with the county for code enforcement. **Motion carried unanimously**

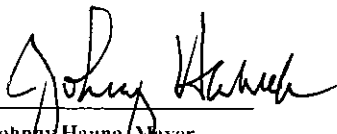
The city administrator reported (1) there will be a golf course committee meeting tomorrow at 12 at the club house, (2) Florence County will have us on their June 15, agenda to discuss to give us a loan for the golf course.

Committee reports Council Member Arthurs stated he is the chair for the Golf course committee, Holly has told you pretty much everything that is gone on, we are really happy the turn out, I think we will be able to maintain these numbers at least three days a week. I think the word is out of what a great golf course it is. It's a positive for our community.

Motion was made by Council member Poston and received a second by Council Member Khambhaita to adjourn the meeting. **Motion carried unanimously**

ADJOURNED: 7:05pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes approved by City Council on this 16th day of July, 2023.



Johnny Hauna, Mayor

Attest: 

Marlene Rollins, City Clerk