

Richland County Council

DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICES COMMITTEE June 23, 2020 – 5:00 PM Zoom Video Conference

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Allison Terracio, Chair; Jim Manning, Calvin Jackson and Chakisse Newton

OTHERS PRESENT: Bill Malinowski, Joyce Dickerson, Michelle Onley, Larry Smith, Clayton Voignier, John Thompson, Ashiya Myers, Leonardo Brown, Angela Weathersby, Stacey Hamm, Kimberly Williams-Roberts, Michael Zaprzalka, and Ashley Powell

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - Ms. Terracio called the meeting to order at approximately 1:00 PM.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. May 21, 2020 – Ms. Newton moved, seconded by Mr. Manning, to approve the minutes as distributed.

In Favor: Terracio and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

3. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – Ms. Newton moved, seconded by Mr. Manning, to adopt the agenda as published.

In Favor: Terracio and Newton

Opposed: Manning

The vote was in favor.

4. ITEMS FOR ACTION

a. I propose the change of the Animal Care Officer's official title to that of "Animal Welfare Officer" within our County's ordinances. "Animal Care Officer" tends to be a bit confusing for those in the public who do not fully understand what they do, and "Animal Control Officer" tends to have derogatory connotation. The field of animal welfare/care has dramatically changed within recent years. A title of "Animal Welfare Officer" offers a broader understanding of what their duties entail. [MALINOWSKI, DICKERSON, JACKSON, MANNING and McBRIDE] – Mr. Manning stated on p. 16 of the agenda there is information from the National Animal Control Association, which offers three (3) most common job titles for field operations. None of those are our current job title, or one of the ones proposed by Mr. Malinowski. After consultation with Mr. Malinowski, he would like to make a motion to hold this in committee.

Mr. Manning moved, seconded by Ms. Newton, to hold this item in committee, and have staff bring back a consensus title for us to take into consideration.

Ms. Newton inquired if anyone from staff had any questions regarding this directive.

Ms. Haynes stated she wants to ensure when we move forward that we are only going to change the title for the Animal Care Officer. There is also the Animal Care Supervisor, and the division title is Animal Care. She noted we may want to make changes to all the titles at one time.

Mr. Manning made a friendly amendment to take into consideration, for consistency, all of the titles in that division.

In Favor: Terracio, Manning and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

5. ITEMS PENDING ANALYSIS: NO ACTION REQUIRED

- a. I move to direct the County Attorney to work with the County Administrator to research and draft an absentee landlord ordinance. The ordinance should provide potential remedies for individuals who violate county ordinances and provide, via supplemental documentation, a comprehensive review of the legal impacts [potentially] associated with the adoption of such an ordinance [NEWTON and DICKERSON] No action was taken.
- b. I move to evaluate affordable housing options to include the option of establishing an Affordable Housing Trust Fund for Richland County as a benefit to the public. Housing is considered to be "affordable" when 30% or less of one's income is spent on housing and utilities. In Richland County, nearly half of renters pay more than a third of their income on rent and utilities [TERRACIO] No action was taken.
- 6. **ADIOURNMENT** The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:15 PM.