

M I N U T E S  
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING  
LEXINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL  
May 5, 2011

Lexington County Council held a Special Called Meeting on Thursday, May 05, 2011 in Council Chambers to consider third and final reading of Ordinances 11-03 and 11-04 and first reading of Ordinance 11-08. The meeting began at 4:30 p.m. with Chairman Kinard presiding.

Councilman Bill Banning gave the invocation and Mr. Mike Briggs, President of Central SC Alliance, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members attending:	James E. Kinard, Jr.	Frank J. Townsend, III
	Debra B. Summers	Bobby C. Keisler
	Johnny W. Jeffcoat	Kenneth Brad Matthews
	William B. Banning, Sr.	M. Todd Cullum

Not Present: George H. (Smokey) Davis \*

\*Mr. Davis was out-of-town.

Also attending: Katherine Hubbard, County Administrator; Joe Mergo, III, Deputy County Administrator; Larry Porth, Finance Director/Assistant County Administrator; John Fechtel, Director of Public Works/Assistant County Administrator; Jeff Anderson, County Attorney; other staff members, citizens of the county and representatives of the media.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, a copy of the agenda was sent to radio and TV stations, newspapers, and posted on the bulletin board located in the lobby of the County Administration Building.

**Ordinances - Ordinance 11-03 - An Ordinance Finding that the Irmo Fire District, South Carolina, May Issue a Not Exceeding \$3,000,000 General Obligation Bond and to Provide for the Publication of Notice of the Said Finding and Authorization - 3<sup>rd</sup> and Final Reading** - Mr. Jeffcoat made a motion, seconded by Mr. Matthews to approve third and final reading of Ordinance 11-03.

Mr. Kinard opened the meeting for discussion; no discussion occurred.

In Favor:	Mr. Kinard	Mr. Jeffcoat
	Mr. Matthews	Mr. Townsend
	Ms. Summers	Mr. Keisler
	Mr. Banning	Mr. Cullum

**Ordinance 11-04 - An Ordinance Authorizing the (1) the Execution and Delivery of a Fee in Lieu of Tax and Incentive Agreement (the "Fee Agreement") Between Lexington County, South Carolina (the "County) and Michelin North America, Inc., Acting for Itself and Any Affiliates and any Other Project Sponsors, (Collectively, the "Company"), in Connection With the Expansion of Facilities in the County (the "Project"); (2) the County to Covenant in Such Fee Agreement to Accept Certain**

**Negotiated Fees in Lieu of Ad Valorem Taxes With Respect to the Project; (3) Special Source Credits in Connection With the Project; (4) the Benefits of a Multi-County Industrial or Business Park to be Made Available to the Company and the Project; and (5) Other Matters Relating Thereto - 3<sup>rd</sup> and Final Reading** - Mr. Keisler made a motion, seconded by Ms. Summers to approve third and final reading of Ordinance 11-04.

Mr. Kinard opened the meeting for discussion.

Mr. Cullum said, "I am going to support this measure and have supported it every time it has come about. However, there is some other business that has been before us as a county. I realize that Michelin is a member of our state chamber, and I would really like for the Michelin representatives today to take the message back to the state chamber that we would really hope that they would rethink their position. I am just making a comment to you that a lot of those people over in that statehouse really pay attention to what the state chamber of commerce says. It is more personal for me than maybe some of the others on this council, but the City of Cayce will have lost, if this project does not go through, \$1 million in a water and sewer tap fee. That is the same water and sewer system that all our other businesses use and that is debt that has to be paid. It is for maintenance, upkeep, and expansions. Again, I don't want this to be construed that I don't support Michelin, which I do. I have voted every time with the company. I would just hope that the company would look a little favorably on the county which they are trying to partner with in recognizing that the ripple effect, from maybe some of the actions of the group in which they are a member, have really hit home here. A million dollars is a significant amount of money to take out of that operation over there. Again, it's the waste and the water that is being handled in this entire county, particularly the waste. And it is quite disconcerting; to be honest with you, that some of our longstanding business partners and members of other business group would.... Please understand how far that thing reaches. Again, I would also add, just out of my own curiosity, there are a whole lot of Michelin products being sold on Amazon.com."

Mr. Jeffcoat said, "I think that Michelin has been an excellent corporate neighbor of ours and partner, and we certainly want to continue that relationship. I can't think of anything that we have ever done as a county or especially county council that has caused Michelin any problem, whether it is a social event or whether it is an organization that's joined together to promote business. No matter what it is we have always spoken highly of Michelin, and we appreciate Michelin being here. We have a company that has a \$60 million payroll that is very important to our citizens and it is very important to this body. And I hope, Roy, you will take that message back and let people know how concerned we are. We are not saying you don't have to be a member of chambers or whatever organization that you want to be, but when it comes to taking a stand against us, we don't take that likely. So, thank you for being here today. We appreciate your business, we appreciate the fact that you are growing and expanding and that is what we would like to see other companies do, too, in our county. Again, don't take this as a personal slap, but we take it as a personal slap when people are after us."

I would like, after this vote, to ask the chairman if he would allow me to ask staff to run a clip from the local news yesterday as a lot of us didn't have the opportunity to see the news announcement about Wal-mart. And of course, we are always excited to have new jobs and new investment in the state, even though it does not appear that Lexington County is going to benefit from that at all. We took everything except the benefit from the Wal-mart effort, and I am personally offended by that, not necessarily Michelin. I don't get that, but we have to live with decisions that are made that we don't have any control over.

A video of the WLTX news announcement of Wal-mart by Gov. Haley was shown.

Mr. Kinard called for further discussion; none occurred.

In Favor:	Mr. Kinard	Mr. Keisler
	Ms. Summers	Mr. Townsend
	Mr. Jeffcoat	Mr. Matthews
	Mr. Banning	Mr. Cullum

**Ordinance 11-08 - An Ordinance (1) to Amend Ordinance No. 95-12 as Amended by Subsequent Ordinances Relating to the Joint County Industrial Park of Lexington and Calhoun Counties so as to Enlarge the Park to Add Certain Property Owned by Michelin North America, Inc.; and (2) Approving and Authorizing Other Matters Related Thereto - 1<sup>st</sup> Reading** - Mr. Cullum made a motion, seconded by Mr. Keisler to approve first reading.

Mr. Kinard opened the meeting for discussion; no discussion occurred.

In Favor:	Mr. Kinard	Mr. Cullum
	Mr. Keisler	Mr. Townsend
	Ms. Summers	Mr. Jeffcoat
	Mr. Matthews	Mr. Banning

**Old Business/New Business** - None.

**Executive Session/Legal Briefing** - None.

**Matters Requiring a Vote as a Result of Executive Session** - None.

**Motion to Adjourn** - Ms. Summers made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jeffcoat to adjourn.

In Favor:	Mr. Kinard	Ms. Summers
	Mr. Jeffcoat	Mr. Townsend
	Mr. Keisler	Mr. Matthews
	Mr. Banning	Mr. Cullum

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana W. Burnett  
Clerk

James E. Kinard, Jr.  
Chairman