

REGULAR MEETING
DARLINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL
DARLINGTON, SC

April 1, 2024

A Regular Meeting of the County Council of Darlington County was held this 1st day of April 2024, at 6 p.m., at the Courthouse Annex/EMS Building, 1625 Harry Byrd Highway (Highway 151), Darlington, South Carolina.

NOTICE OF MEETING

In compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, a copy of the agenda providing the date, time, and place of the meeting was emailed to the local newspapers, persons requesting notification, and posted on the county's website and on the bulletin board in the lobby of the courthouse.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairman Bobby Hudson, Vice-Chairman Marvin Le Flowers, Chaplain Dannie Douglas, Jr., Mr. Michael Kirk Askins, Mr. David Coker, Mr. Albert Davis, III., and Mrs. Angie Stone Godbold.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT

Ms. Joyce W. Thomas.

ALSO PRESENT

County Administrator Marion Charles Stewart, III, County Attorney James H. Lucas, Attorney Adam Gainey, Clerk to Council J. JaNet Bishop, Central Communications Director Michelle Hall, Codes Enforcement Staff Mary Tunstall, Emergency Management Director Molly Odom, Emergency Services Director Kenny Bowen, Finance Director Sherman Dibble, Fire District Chief Ricky Flowers, Human Resources Director Ginger Winburn, Environmental Services Director Gary White, Sheriff James Hudson, and others.

REPORTERS PRESENT

WPDE TV 15 News.

Call To Order / Invocation / Pledge Of Allegiance

Chairman Hudson called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. Mr. Askins presented the invocation and Mr. Coker led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Citizens' Comments

Mr. Johnny Ross appeared to present a biblical story and talked about his research regarding abortions in the United States.

Mr. Scott Stroup commented about emailing Council members and calling the Sheriff's Office; animal welfare proposals being delayed and/or stopped repeatedly; Council not seconding the motion at the last meeting to discuss the animal proposal; and constantly seeing the horrible condition of the animals at a residence that he has to travel by to go home. Mr. Stroup questioned why Council could not follow Florence and Horry County's animal ordinance.

Mrs. Nancy Stroup, who resides in Council District 1, talked about the horrible condition of the animals in her community and that SLED (South Carolina Law Enforcement Division) had been to the property a few times and removed some dogs. A few years later, all the dogs were removed but more dogs are there now. She felt that there should be a committee to do something regarding this matter.

Councilman Douglas arrived at the meeting.

Ms. Reagen Roberts, who resides in Councilman Mr. Flowers' district, talked about the lack of support for the anti-tethering ordinance presented by Councilwoman Godbold; the condition of animals that are received at the animal shelter; and the expenses and overcrowdedness at the shelter. She stated that they will continue to show up at Council meetings until Council and the Sheriff's Office decide to do the right thing or the voters will do the right thing at reelection.

Mr. Tim Weaver, who resides in Councilman Flowers' district and serves on the Humane Society Board of Directors, requested Council to take action on the animal welfare ordinance. He felt that at the March meeting, Council prohibited the animal welfare ordinance but accepted various other items on the agenda without questions. He also felt that establishing a task force would be a step in the right direction. Mr. Weaver then talked about an incident that occurred 24 hours after the Council meeting wherein a Darlington County Sheriff Deputy shot a mother dog. The puppies and the mother dog ended up at the shelter, but Mr. Weaver had questions about the incident. He presented statistics on animal intake, households with pets, animals in Mr. Flowers' district without shelter, etc., and stated that if nothing is done, things would get worse.

Ms. Lucinda Hudson talked about Council not passing the proposed animal welfare ordinance and citizens not being allowed to engage in discussions with Council during the Council meeting. She wanted to know the appropriate way for citizens to have a discussion with council members in order to work with Council to come up with a plan.

Mr. Dylan Meggs, who resides in Councilman Coker's district, talked about how Council members, at the last meeting, quickly provided a second to the motion for other ordinances but not for the proposed animal ordinance. He felt that Council members failed in their duty to represent the people in this community.

Ms. Connie Ford talked about being disappointed at the last meeting when Council failed to move forward on second reading of the ordinance intended to improve the welfare of animals in Darlington County. She questioned why Council members did not read/study the proposed changes before the meeting and whether there had been any discussion/action to bring this matter back up or a committee/task force formed as mentioned at the last meeting. Ms. Ford felt that the people Council represents deserve to know why they voted as they did.

Personal Appearances

There were no Personal Appearances.

Amendment To The Agenda To Receive Comments From Sheriff James Hudson

MOTION made by Mr. Flowers and seconded by Mr. Coker to amend the agenda to allow Sheriff Hudson to speak.

The motion carried unanimously.

Sheriff James Hudson, on behalf of the Darlington County Sheriff's Office, reported that the staff has been working with Council and other counties to find an answer to the animal issue that would be neutral for everyone. Therefore, it would be unfair to say that nothing was being done. He reported that SLED (South Carolina Law Enforcement Division) will be in Darlington on Wednesday and he and SLED agents will revisit Crestwood and other areas. He wants to make sure when something is established, everyone is pleased with it because it may affect others with animals. Sheriff Hudson emphasized that as Sheriff, he works for everyone, and this was not about him generating votes. He was trying to do the right thing for the citizens of Darlington County, but this will take some time. Sheriff Hudson also mentioned that there could be discussions and come away with something that may work for everyone. However, there will be some differences of opinion, but his goal is to work on this matter and do it right by getting the best results for what is needed in Darlington County.

Consent Agenda (Receive As Information)

Included in the Consent Agenda were the following:

- 5.A. *Beaver Program Report, February.*
- 5.B. *Pee Dee Regional Council Of Governments Monthly Newsletter, March 2024*
- 5.C. *Fire District Call Volume Report, March 2024*
- 5.D. *911 Call Volume Statistics, February 2024*
- 5.E. *Financial Update through February 2024*
- 5.F. *Darlington County Parks, Recreation, And Tourism Report, April 2024*
- 5.G. *Notice Of Budget Worksession, April 10, 2024*

MOTION made by Mr. Flowers and seconded by Mr. Coker to receive the Consent Agenda items as information.

The motion carried unanimously.

Approval Of Minutes – Minutes of Regular Meeting, March 4, 2024

MOTION made by Mr. Coker and seconded by Mr. Davis to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 4, 2024.

The motion carried unanimously.

Ordinances

Ordinance No. 24-01, An Ordinance Authorizing Pursuant To Title 12, Chapter 44 Of The Code Of Laws Of South Carolina 1976, As Amended, The Execution And Delivery Of A Fee-In-Lieu Of Ad Valorem Taxes Agreement, By And Between Darlington County, South Carolina And A Project Known To The County As Project Hearth, As Sponsor, And One Or More Sponsor Affiliates To Provide For A Fee-In-Lieu Of Ad Valorem Taxes Incentive And Certain Special Source Revenue Credits For The Benefit Of A Project In The County; And Other Related Matters - THIRD READING

MOTION made by Mr. Flowers and seconded by Mr. Douglas to approve third reading of Ordinance No. 24-01.

In response to Mr. Flowers' question about whether Council needed to go into executive session prior to voting on the ordinance, Mr. Stewart stated that the attorney representing the county for all three solar farm ordinances was present at the meeting and available to answer any questions Council may have.

The motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance No. 24-02, An Ordinance Authorizing The Enlargement Of The Joint County Industrial Park Between Darlington County, South Carolina And Florence County, South Carolina; And Other Matters Related Thereto (Project Hearth) - THIRD READING

MOTION made by Mr. Flowers and seconded by Mr. Douglas to approve third reading of Ordinance No. 24-02.

The motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance No. 24-03, An Ordinance Authorizing Pursuant To Chapter 44 Of Title 12, South Carolina Code Of Laws, 1976, As Amended: (1) The Execution And Delivery Of A Fee-In-Lieu Of Ad Valorem Taxes Agreement Between Darlington County, South Carolina And A Company Identified For The Time Being As Project Tree, Acting For Itself, One Or More Affiliates, And/Or Other Project Sponsors; (2) Other Related Economic Development Incentives, Including Special Source Revenue Credits; And (3) Other Matters Related Thereto - SECOND READING

MOTION made by Mr. Flowers and seconded by Mr. Davis to approve second reading of Ordinance No. 24-03.

The motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance No. 24-04, An Ordinance Authorizing The Enlargement Of The Joint County Industrial Park Between Darlington County, South Carolina And Florence County, South Carolina; And Other Matters Related Thereto (Project Tree) - SECOND READING

MOTION made by Mr. Coker and seconded by Mr. Davis to approve second reading of Ordinance No. 24-04.

The motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance No. 24-06, An Ordinance Authorizing Pursuant To Title 12, Chapter 44 Of The Code Of Laws Of South Carolina 1976, As Amended, The Execution And Delivery Of A Fee-In-Lieu Of Ad Valorem Taxes Agreement, By And Between Darlington County, South Carolina And A Project Known To The County As Project Pathfinder, As Sponsor, And One Or More Sponsor Affiliates To Provide For A Fee-In-Lieu Of Ad Valorem Taxes Incentive And Certain Special Source Revenue Credits For The Benefit Of A Project In The County; And Other Related Matters - SECOND READING

MOTION made by Mr. Douglas and seconded by Mr. Davis to approve second reading of Ordinance No. 24-06.

The motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance No. 24-07, An Ordinance Authorizing The Enlargement Of The Joint County Industrial Park Between Darlington County, South Carolina And Florence County, South Carolina; And Other Matters Related Thereto (Project Pathfinder) - SECOND READING

MOTION made by Mr. Douglas and seconded by Mr. Davis to approve second reading of Ordinance No. 24-07.

The motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance No. 24-08, An Ordinance To Amend Darlington County Code Of Ordinances, Chapter 2 (Administration), Article IV. (Boards, Commissions, And Committees), Section 2-201 (Membership) To Clarify The Definition Of Membership For Appointments By County Council To A Board, Commission, Or Committee Enumerated In Section 2-204; And Division 5 (Economic Development Partnership Board) To Restructure The Economic Development Partnership Board; And Establish The Effective Date Of This Ordinance - FIRST READING - BY TITLE ONLY

The title of Ordinance No. 24-08 was read for first reading. No action required.

Ordinance No. 24-09, An Ordinance To Make Appropriations For Ordinary County Purposes For Darlington County For The Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2024, And Ending June 30, 2025; To Provide For The Expenditures Thereof; And To Provide For Revenues For The Payment Thereof - FIRST READING - BY TITLE ONLY

The title of Ordinance No. 24-08 was read for first reading. No action required.

Ordinance No. 24-10, An Ordinance To Designate That Agency In The County For Alcohol And Drug Abuse Planning For Programs And To Make Appropriations Pursuant To Sections 6-27-40(B) And 12-33-245(B) And (C) Of The 1976 Code Of Laws Of South Carolina, As

Amended, For Darlington County For The Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2024, And Ending June 30, 2025 - FIRST READING, BY TITLE ONLY

The title of Ordinance No. 24-10 was read for first reading. No action required.

Resolutions

Resolution No. 778, Proclaiming April As Fair Housing Month

MOTION made by Mr. Flowers and seconded by Mr. Davis to approve Resolution No. 778 proclaiming April as Fair Housing Month.

The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Flowers read the resolution.

Resolution No. 779, Proclamation For National Public Safety Telecommunicator's Week, April 14-20, 2024

MOTION made by Mr. Flowers and seconded by Mr. Douglas to approve Resolution No. 779 proclaiming April 14-20, 2024, at National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week.

The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Flowers read the resolution.

Committee Reports

There were no Committee Reports.

Other Items

Appointments To Boards/Commissions/Committees To Fill Vacancies & Term Expirations As Of June 30, 2024

Economic Development Partnership Board. **MOTION** made by Mr. Flowers and seconded by Mrs. Godbold to appoint Mr. Howard J. Nettles to the Economic Development Partnership Board.

In response to Mr. Coker, Mr. Stewart clarified that there was not a vacancy on the Economic Development Partnership Board. Mr. Gregory Alexander's term will expire in June and two individuals submitted an application to serve on this board. Mr. Stewart also explained that based on the current rules, Mr. Alexander would have served out his term as of June 30, 2024.

Mr. Coker asked whether Council needed to wait to make this appointment.

Mr. Stewart indicated that this would be up to Council. However, Council had just given first reading to Ordinance No. 24-08 proposing amendments/changes for Boards and Commissions and the membership of the Economic Development Partnership Board. Council will vote on second reading of this ordinance at its next meeting.

Mr. Flowers stated that Mr. Gregory Alexander was looking to get off the board anyway, and Mr. Nettles was keen on serving in this capacity.

Mr. Stewart said the individual (Mr. Alexander) will term out under the current rules. However, he did not know that the member wanted to get off this Board.

Mr. Askins said he would rather wait until the new rules are in place before making changes.

Mrs. Godbold stated that she did not know what the new proposed changes would be.

Mr. Stewart explained that the proposed changes would be in line with what was proposed about three years ago so that the Economic Development Partnership Board would not be the only board with hard term limits. This Board would be like the other boards in that there would not be term limits unless the person is replaced.

Mrs. Godbold stated that when the previous change was proposed, it did not go forward, and was stated that nothing would come back to Council for approval -- it would be done by the board or the County Administrator and cut County Council completely out of it.

Mr. Stewart stated that this was not accurate regarding the last proposal because the county procurement rules state that some things have to come back to Council. Simple things would not come back to Council, but according to the procurement rules, certain amounts must have Council's approval. Mr. Stewart also reported that the Economic Development Partnership Board had reviewed and voted for the proposal to be submitted to County Council. Council members will receive the actual ordinance document in the next agenda package. The proposed change would affect the question being discussed in that the term limits would not be hard. If Council does not recommend that a person be replaced, the person would continue to serve.

Mrs. Godbold said the changes were proposed in 2021 and she could not reference the minutes since they had been archived. The minutes from 2022, 2023, and 2024 were available.

Mr. Stewart pointed out that the 2021 minutes were still available online. He will show Mrs. Godbold how to access the archived minutes online after the meeting.

Mr. Flowers stated that he had nominated Mr. Nettles and would like to have a vote. He also stated that under the current rules, Mr. Alexander was not eligible for reappointment. If the rules are changed over the next few months, Mr. Alexander may be eligible for reappointment. But as the rules currently stand, Mr. Alexnader was not eligible for reappointment. For this reason, Ms. Thomas and Mr. Nettles applied for that spot on the Economic Development Partnership Board.

Mr. Coker said he did not want to vote no because he did not have a problem with appointing Mr. Nettles. However, Council should wait until the rules are shaken out.

MOTION made by Mr. Coker and seconded by Mr. Davis to table this matter until June.

Mr. Flowers felt that a motion to table this was not appropriate. Therefore, he withdrew his motion and Mrs. Godbold withdrew her second to nominate Mr. Nettles and carried over this matter.

Board of Fire Control. **MOTION** made by Mr. Flowers and seconded by Mr. Coker to reappoint Mr. John Shoemake, Mr. Sidney Watson, and Mr. Kenny Stratton and appoint Mr. Travis Amerson to replace Jeremy Dukes on the Board of Fire Control for a term commencing July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2028.

The motion carried unanimously.

Recreation Commission. **MOTION** made by Mr. Coker and seconded by Mr. Douglas for Mr. Julian Monty Batchelor to continue his membership on the Parks and Recreation Commission.

The motion carried unanimously.

Historical Commission. **MOTION** made by Mr. Askins and seconded by Mr. Davis to reappoint Mr. Bill Segars to the Historical Commission for a second term to commence July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2028.

The motion carried unanimously.

Library Board. **MOTION** made by Mr. Askins and seconded by Mr. Coker appoint Mr. Kenneth Hughes to replace Mr. Warren Arthur on the Library Board for a term to commence July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2028.

The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Godbold, Mr. Douglas, Chairman Hudson, Mr. Flowers, and Mr. Davis carried over their appointments. Since Ms. Thomas was not present, her appointments were also carried over.

Mrs. Godbold pointed out that the information in the agenda package did not reflect her appointment of Adger Watkins, Jr. to the Construction Board of Adjustment and Appeals.

The staff pointed out that the report in the agenda package was dated January 17th and Mr. Watkins was appointed in February.

Vehicle Loan Agreement With Darlington Raceway For Fire Engine From Fire District

MOTION made by Mr. Flowers and seconded by Mr. Coker to approve the Vehicle Loan Agreement to Darlington Raceway to use the County's Class A Pumper Fire Truck during the 2024 NASCAR Cup Series event weekends -- May 10-12, 2024, and August 31 – September 1, 2024.

The motion carried unanimously.

Planning Grants For Darlington County Opioid Recovery Funding

MOTION made by Mr. Flowers and seconded by Mr. Douglas to approve acceptance of the bid from Rubicon Counseling Center of Hartsville in the amount of \$45,000 to provide innovative approaches to address the opioid epidemic.

Mrs. Godbold questioned whether Council was approving a bid.

Mr. Stewart confirmed that Council's approval was being requested to accept the bid from Rubicon Family Counseling Center in the amount of \$45,000. He explained that four bids were received ranging from \$25,000 to \$126,000. The Opioid Recovery Fund Committee had approved the use of \$25,000 in county opioid funds plus a \$25,000 planning grant from the South Carolina Office of Opioid Recovery Fund. Since the bid is greater than \$35,000, it was before County Council to award to Rubicon Family Counseling Center in the amount of \$45,000. There was a lower bid of \$25,000 but it did not list any experience, history, references, etc. Therefore, this lower vendor did not receive a favorable score in the scoring

process. It was also noted that the Opioid Recovery Fund Committee was separate from the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Planning Committee. However, they have a seat on this board. Mr. Stewart also mentioned that the county Employee Assistance Program is through Rubicon.

The motion carried unanimously.

Amendment To The Agenda To Bring Forth Executive Session

MOTION made by Mr. Flowers and seconded by Mr. Davis to amend the agenda to bring forth executive session.

The motion carried unanimously.

Vote For Executive Session - (1) The Receipt Of Legal Advice Where The Legal Advice Relates To A Pending, Threatened, Or Potential Claim Or Other Matters Covered By The Attorney Client Privilege, Settlement Of Legal Claims, Or The Position Of The Public Agency In Other Adversary Situations Involving The Assertion Against The Agency Of A Claim (2) The Receipt Of Legal Advice Re: Darlington/Florence County Line - Geodetic Survey (3) Discussion Of Matters Relating To The Proposed Location, Expansion, Or The Provision Of Services Encouraging Location Or Expansion Of Industries Or Other Businesses In The Area Served By The Public Body RE: Project Hearth, Project Tree, And Project Pathfinder.

MOTION made by Mr. Flowers and seconded by Mr. Davis for Council to go into Executive Session for the discussion of Item 13.B. - The Receipt Of Legal Advice Where The Legal Advice Relates To A Pending, Threatened, Or Potential Claim Or Other Matters Covered By The Attorney Client Privilege, Settlement Of Legal Claims, Or The Position Of The Public Agency In Other Adversary Situations Involving The Assertion Against The Agency Of A Claim and Item 13.C. - The Receipt Of Legal Advice Re: Darlington/Florence County Line - Geodetic Survey.

MOTION made by Mr. Coker and seconded by Mr. Flowers to amend the motion to include Item 13.A. - Discussion Of Matters Relating To The Proposed Location, Expansion, Or The Provision Of Services Encouraging Location Or Expansion Of Industries Or Other Businesses In The Area Served By The Public Body RE: Project Hearth, Project Tree, And Project Pathfinder.

The motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session

Mr. Flowers requested a five-minute recess before Executive Session. Council recessed at 6:57 p.m. and reconvened at 7:01 p.m.

MOTION made by Mr. Flowers and seconded by Mr. Davis for Council, Attorney Jay Lucas, Attorney Adam Gainey, Attorney Will Johnson, and the County Administrator to go into executive session for discussion of the items listed above.

The motion carried unanimously.

Council and the individuals named above went into executive session at 7:01 p.m. and reconvened at 7:41 p.m. Upon reconvening, Chairman Hudson announced that no action was taken in Executive session.

Administrative Update

Budget Worksession. Mr. Stewart announced that Council would hold a Budget Worksession on Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. in the Conference Room of Pee Dee Regional Council of Governments to receive the County Administrator's proposed FY24/25 budget. Council members will receive a copy of the budget information by Friday or Monday of next week.

Courthouse Update. Mr. Stewart will meet with the courthouse architect/builders tomorrow. Pending items include the columns, paving to begin this week, and delivery of the reordered corner guards. Also, all the signage in the building was defective and had to be reordered. There have not been any additional leaks after the HVAC was resealed.

Mr. Coker asked when the State Supreme Court would be in the county.

Mr. Stewart explained that the Supreme Court was scheduled to use Coker University in mid-April. This had nothing to do with the new courthouse.

Requests / Comments - Members Of Council

Mr. Coker wanted the people talking about the animals to know that Council sympathizes with them. He expressed appreciation for the Sheriff's comments and efforts in finding a way to punish people who need to be punished without punishing people who do not need to be punished, which is a fine line. He said a committee may be an option to help modify the ordinance, which would take some time.

Mr. Davis explained that Council must look at both sides of the animal issues and try to make it 50/50 on both sides. Council has to also look at the manpower for the Sheriff's Department and Animal Control. He stated that Council was working and there was a lot to go into process. Mr. Davis asked everyone to pray for one another.

Mr. Flowers stated that historically, Council members would read ordinances and resolutions, but he found out that under the Rules of Council, this was not supposed to be done. He asked Attorney Lucas whether this was correct.

Attorney Lucas stated that he was not sure that the way Council was doing it was wrong. However, he was looking through Robert's Rules and it is a fine line. He stated that when something is brought before Council and there is a second, according to Robert's Rules, to place it before the Council, the Chair has to do that. Attorney Lucas said he talked with Mr. Stewart and before he could recommend continuing the way Council has been doing it, he wanted to have time to work out a little change to the way it was being done. However, he did not think that Council was doing it wrong. In reading a section from Robert's Rules, he wanted to error on the side of being safe. He may come back next time and tell Council the

way to do it with members participating in reading the ordinances and it goes back to the Chair to present.

Mr. Flowers asked whether Council, as a body, should adopt and codify the way Council reads the ordinances to not have to worry about whether Council is following the actual way it is written.

Attorney Lucas reiterated that he was not saying that what Council was doing was incorrect by allowing everyone to read the title of the ordinances. In reading the information, it appears that the Chair has to put it before the Council which is a procedural ruling. He requested time to look at this and to talk with the South Carolina Association of Counties.

Mr. Flowers stated that he would like to continue the way Council has been doing it (reading the ordinance titles) and suggested changing the rules to ensure that Council is following its own rules. He was fine with waiting for Attorney Lucas' response.

Mr. Askins asked whether there was an appropriate way to address the animal ordinance issue such as bringing together the affected parties, Council members, animal shelter representatives, citizens, etc. to hash out an ordinance outside of a Council meeting. He stated that the issue will not go away until Council deals with it.

Mr. Stewart responded that Council could appoint a task force/committee to review and come back to Council with recommendations. He also pointed out that if Council does not control who is at the table, one side of differences of opinion may be overrepresented. However, Council can appoint a committee and trust the committee to bring back good recommendations.

Mr. Askins mentioned that an Interim Elections Director has been serving since the retirement of former Elections/Voter Registration Director Hoyt Campbell, and the Election Commission was talking about reducing/eliminating the requirement for experience and formal education to fill this position. He was concerned about bringing in someone with no experience to run the county's elections.

Mr. Stewart clarified that Darlington County Council and the County Administrator have no authority over the Election/Voter Registration Commission which is appointed by the state legislative delegation and/or Governor. The only thing that the county has done is to help them modify their job description at their request and advertise the job on the county's website. This person would be a county employee just like any elected or appointed official in the county. However, this matter was not under County Council's purview. Mr. Stewart reiterated that the job description could only be changed as they (the Election Commission) request for it to be changed and it would not be appropriate or ethical to reduce this department's budget because Council does not like what the Commission is doing.

Mrs. Godbold agreed that the animal issue was not going away, and Council may need to appoint a task force and take tiny steps to address the matter in some way. She was glad to hear that the Sheriff was looking at the issues as well as other Council members wanting to make a difference. Mrs. Godbold stated that Council was just hearing one side of the issue

because people who are abusing animals will not come before Council. She reiterated that the proposed changes were not intended to criminalize anyone.

Chairman Hudson thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Adjournment

MOTION made by Chairman Hudson to adjourn. There being no further comments, the meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



J. Janet Bishop
Clerk to Council



Bobby Hudson, Chairman
Darlington County Council

Approved at meeting of May 6, 2024.