



MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 25, 2018 – 5:00 P.M.

LAURENS COUNTY COUNCIL COMMITTEE  
PLANNING AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS  
HISTORIC COURTHOUSE – PUBLIC SQUARE

(ANDERSON, CHAIR – JONES AND PITTS)

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ATTENDANCE - COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT- Committee Chairman David Pitts; Council Committee Members Garret McDaniel and Stewart Jones.

COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE – Council Members, Joe Wood and Ted Nash.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF- Laurens County Administrator Jon Caime; Laurens County Clerk to Council Betty Walsh and County Attorney Sandy Cruickshanks.

DEPARTMENT HEADS PRESENT – Andy Howard, Director, Parks, Recreation and Tourism; Chuck Bobo, Code Enforcement Officer; Joey Avery, Director, E/911 – Communications; Greg Lindley, Director, County Fire Services; Billy Wilson, Director, Vehicle Maintenance / Procurement and Debi Park, Director of Human Resources.

PRESS – Iva Cadmus, WLBG-Radio; Vic McDanald, *The Clinton Chronicle*.

MEETING NOTIFICATION - The County Council Committee Members and media were informed of the meeting in a timely manner. Postings of the Agenda were posted in County facilities on their bulletin boards and also posted on the County Web Site

CALL TO ORDER – County Council Committee Chairwoman Diane Anderson called the September 25, 2018 meeting of the County Council Committee on Planning and Intergovernmental Affairs to order at 5:05 P.M.

Committee Chairwoman Anderson omitted the pray and pledge of allegiance due to time restraints.

Committee Chairwoman Anderson stated that the purpose of the Committee Meeting was to review and make recommendation to the full Council on the establishment of the County IT and Planning Departments as well of the job descriptions for all.

Continuing Committee Chairwoman Anderson stated that she only wanted the management positions for these two departments to be discussed as she felt that the managers should be the ones to hire and set the job descriptions. There was a COUNCIL COMMITTEE CONSENSUS.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE DISCUSSION – Administrator Caime agreed with the decision to hire the Managers first but I am concerned over the proposed salaries and securing the right people for the jobs. This person would work hand n hand with Mr. Jim Anderson to get up to speed with the program.

- a.) INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY “IT” - Councilman Jones said, “I am one hundred percent (100%) against adding any new positions that could be outsourced. I like the idea of looking at bids and this has been outsourced by the County for a very long time and its worked. Mr. Anderson has done a great job with managing all the networks and addressing the needs of departments and staff. I do have experience and do know that better resources are there if outsourced. We all know that government positions do not go away”.

Administrator Caime stated, “There is a complexity of what to do here. There are all kinds of software necessary for County Government such as with the State mandates with the Courts, GIS, Assessor, Treasurer and general business within a County. This is a twenty four seven (24/7) and I add caution to the complexity and of losing institutional knowledge which would end up with us not getting the true service that we need from the governmental aspects ”.

Mr. Avery said, “I somewhat agree with Mr. Jones but I also will have to disagree if outsourced. The price tag could skyrocket. I have friends that require one hundred ten dollars (\$110.00) an hour and with some that does not include windshield time in traveling to a destination needing help. I personally feel that Council needs to hire, not outsourcing, and to keep us moving along with in-house IT Department”.

Councilman Jones said, “Most IT is outsourced. My company works with QS1. Outsourcing would eliminate a lot of things such as benefits. The County would be much better off outsourcing. We need to establish a monthly set fee for IT and go with it. A lot of technology can be and is handled remotely”.

Mr. Avery replied, “In my personal opinion, and in my line of work, there is a need for personal contact. My department uses complicated software as does several other departments. Our Department Heads need to be face to face with our IT Department. To attest to the matter, on Sundays and Holidays, I have had to call upon Mr. Anderson to help with matters and he has always been right there with me”.

Committee Chairwoman Anderson said, “With the many classes held through the South Carolina Association of Counties, I have taken several classes on IT. Listening to those representatives speak, from the negative side, most were from larger Counties than Laurens County. And, on the positive side, having IT onsite was the most positive comments. Plus it was decided by this full Council to support having an in-house IT department”.

Councilman Pitts said,”

IT Manager Job Description – Page 5:

- Stated in draft - “Minimum Education and Experience Requirements: Bachelor’s Degree preferred. Alternate education requirements; five to seven years of experience of working with or in tandem with IT management staff or a degree in Information Systems Technology”
- Requested to add to this requirement - “Minimum Education and Experience Requirements: Bachelor’s Degree preferred. Alternate education requirements; five to seven years of **Government IT / Networking** experience of working with or in tandem with IT management staff or a degree in Information Systems Technology”

Councilman Pitts asked if this Council was under the assumption that this Manager would oversee all IT and software, including E911 and GIS? Mr. Avery replied, “Yes, as we take this program and grow it, they would oversee but not to dictate. Review what we have and protect institutionally county government”.

COUNCILMAN PITTS made the MOTION to approve the IT Manager job description with the added statement within the job description. COUNCILWOMAN ANDERSON SECONDING; VOTE 2-1 (Councilman Jones was in opposition).

Councilman Jones again said, “I do not wish to grow government”.

- b.) **PLANNING DEPARTMENT:** Administrator Caime said, “This is a position that Laurens County needs to help control growth especially in the Northern most part of the County. A position with a plan and a vision”.

Councilman Pitts stated that the job description was very thorough.

Councilman Jones stated that he would again be voting against this due to growing government.

COUNCILMAN PITTS made the MOTION to approve the Planning Manager job description as noted COUNCILWOMAN ANDERSON SECONDING; VOTE 2-1 (Councilman Jones was in opposition).

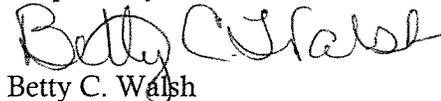
There was a Council Committee MAJORITY CONSENSUS to make recommendation to the full Council for the approval of the two (2) Manager Job descriptions discussed. Considered as a motion and a second from the Committee Chairwoman Anderson will present this to the full Council for approval at the next meeting of Council.

**CONCLUSIVE COMMITTEE MOTIONS:**

- 1.) **MANAGER(S) JOB DESCRIPTIONS** - Upon the recommendation of Committee Chairwoman Anderson, there was a COMMITTEE CONSENSUS to only review and approve the management positions for these two (2) departments being discussed; as she felt that the managers should be the ones to hire and set the job descriptions.
- 2.) **IT DEPARTMENT** - COUNCILMAN PITTS made the MOTION to approve the IT Manager job description with the added statement within the job description. COUNCILWOMAN ANDERSON SECONDING; VOTE 2-1 (Councilman Jones was in opposition).
- 3.) **PLANNING DEPARTMENT** - COUNCILMAN PITTS made the MOTION to approve the Planning Manager job description as noted COUNCILWOMAN ANDERSON SECONDING; VOTE 2-1 (Councilman Jones was in opposition).

**ADJOURNMENT** – Committee Chairman Pitts adjourned the meeting at 5:27 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted



Betty C. Walsh  
Laurens County Clerk to Council