

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

FOR COMMISSION USE ONLY:

CASE NUMBER

c 2024-009

COMPLAINT FORM

COMPLAINANT: Edward Paxton

RESPONDENT: Ennis Fant

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

TELEPHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

TELEPHONE NUMBER: [REDACTED]

TITLE: Taxpaying Citizen

TITLE: Greenville County Council District 25

Set forth in detail specific facts upon which you based your complaint against above-named respondent (only detailed, clear factual allegations will be considered. If additional space is needed, attach supplemental sheets).

① At the September 11, 2023 Greenville County Council's Finance Committee meeting the following occurred:

On the agenda was a Community Project application for Vision 25 - Sixty (60) year Observance. (Exhibit A)

The mailing address for this organization is given as 14 West Antrim Drive. The Contact Person Information was left blank. Ennis Fant is listed as one of the council members contributing funds to fulfill this application request (Exhibit B).

Research of this organization shows that Ennis Fant is the founder and head of this organization. He was holding a 60-year gala celebrating something (Exhibit C)

If there is a finding of probable cause, the following documents become public record: the complaint, the response (if any) by respondent, and the notice of hearing. If a hearing is to be held, the final order and all exhibits become public record. If no hearing is held following a finding of probable cause, the final disposition of the matter becomes public record.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF Greenville

Personally appeared before me Edward Paxton who, first being duly sworn, says that he/she has read and knows the contents of the above complaint and that the allegations contained therein, are true and correct to the best of his/her own knowledge, except for those matters therein based upon information and belief, and as to those he/she believes them to be true.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this
26th day of January 2024

[REDACTED]

Complainant Signature

Notary Public for South Carolina
My Commission expires

January 11, 2031

SEC-7 (Revised 3/2022)

REPLY TO: 201 Executive Center Drive, Suite 150, Columbia, South Carolina 29210 (803)253-4192
ELECTRONIC COPIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

C102form

During the Finance Committee meeting, Ennis Fant was involved in all discussions remaining in the room. He never filled out the recusal form as required by the South Carolina Ethics law. The minutes say he recused ~~himself~~ himself, however, the form is missing and there are several references to his involvement in the discussions (Exhibit D).

② At the Greenville County Council Meeting on September 19, 2023, the same Community project application was on the agenda (Exhibit E) (Exhibit A). This time there would be a vote on it by the full Council. This time Ennis Fant "abstained" according to the minutes. He did not fill out the required recusal form nor leave the room as required by the South Carolina Ethics law. (Exhibit F)

③ Following the September 19, 2023 Greenville County Council's meeting, Ennis Fant did an online Facebook Live interview in which he threatened Stan Tzouvelakas, Steve Shaw, and Benton Blount with never voting in favor of any thing they bring before Council because they had voted against his Vision 25 Project Application (Exhibit G)

You should know that this project not only broke the South Carolina Ethics law in the way it was handled, but also broke the Greenville County Council's Community Project Application rules which is the reason Council members and citizens started questioning it. (Exhibit H)

④ Ennis Fant continually - year after year - lists on his Statement of Economic ^{Interests} that his sole income is from the County of Greenville for his role as a Councilman. However, he is a licensed real estate agent and very involved in the affordable housing market (Exhibit I). He is also a licensed health

and life insurance agent, and is active in selling insurance as well. (Exhibit J) He is also the pastor of Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Church (Exhibit K)

Exhibit A

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

September 11, 2023

5:00 P.M.

The meeting will be live streamed via Zoom and open for on-site participation in Committee Meeting Room, 301 University Ridge, Greenville
Citizens may access the meeting at the following web address:
<https://www.greenvillegov.org/livestream.aspx>

1. Call to Order – Chairman Kirven
2. Invocation
3. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting of August 28, 2023
4. Grant Applications: (Ms. Parris)
 - A. SC Opioid Recovery Fund Assistance Agreement – Sheriff’s Office Application
 - B. CDC Foundation Grant – Coroner’s Office County of Greenville Notice of Award Application
 - C. PARD 2024 Grant – Lincoln Park Playground Replacement Application
5. Fee Agreement Termination – NCEES (Mr. Tollison) Ordinance and Termination Agreement Amendment – Ordinance and Termination Agreement
6. Project Little Brother (Gray Development) MCIP (Mr. Tollison) Ordinance
7. Community Project Applications: (Ms. Wood)
 - A. Belmont Fire Department 2023/2024 Community Risk Reduction Campaign Application
 - B. District 25 - Sixty (60) Year Observance Application
 - C. Greenville County Public Works – Artillery Road Traffic Calming Application
 - D. Wayfinding Signs for Swamp Rabbit Trail Application
8. Greenville County – HNRT Report (Mr. Reynolds)
9. Adjournment

Exhibit
B1

From the Finance Committee Agenda Link 9/11/23
last update 9/8/2023 1:28:47 PM

5:00
PM



COMMUNITY PROJECT ACCOUNT
(Small, De Minimus Public Projects)

APPLICATION

1) **Name of Project:** Vision 25 – Sixty (60) Year Observance

Check Project Type:

Nonrecurring community requests for infrastructure:

- Flooding**
- Roads**
- Lights**
- Sewer and drainage**
- Public buildings and grounds**

Community Centers open to residents of Greenville County

Infrastructure related studies

Contractual agreements for social, recreational, and educational programs

Contributions to local governments in Greenville County for community projects

2) **Amount of Funds Requested:** \$30,000

3) **Project Sponsor**

Organization: Vision 25

Mailing Address: 14 West Antrim Drive, Greenville, SC 29607

4) **Contact Person:**

Name _____

Title _____

Telephone _____

Alt. Telephone No. _____

Email _____

Fax No. _____

Council Representative(s) Mr. Fant, Ms. Seman, Mr. Kirven, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Tripp, and Mr. Barnes

5) **Project Timeline ~ Beginning:** September 1, 2023
MONTH/DAY/YEAR

Ending : October 1, 2023
MONTH/DAY/YEAR

6) Date Funds are Needed: September 15, 2023

7) Location of Project: District 25

8) Project Description: (Attach additional pages if necessary)

- a. **General Description:** Community and educational events planned to celebrate the 60th anniversary of District 25.
- b. **Benefit project will provide the Community:** Financial literacy, health and human services and wellness activities planned
- c. **Additional Comments:** _____

9) Project Budget:

- a. **Total Project Budget including all sources of funds:** \$ 130,000
- b. **Percent request equals of the total Project Budget?** 25%

List below all funding sources for this project:

Funding Source	Amount
Mr. Fant Community Project Funds	\$5,000
Ms. Seman Community Project Funds	\$5,000
Mr. Kirven Community Project Funds	\$5,000
Mr. Harrison Community Project Funds	\$5,000
Mr. Tripp Community Project Funds	\$5,000
Mr. Barnes Community Project Funds	\$5,000
Outside Grants and Donations	\$100,000
TOTAL:	\$130,000

Mr. Fant

9/6/23

Signature

Date

Exhibit
A 2

from County Council Meeting Agenda 9/19/2023
last updated 9/15/2023 12:49:49PM 6:00PM



COMMUNITY PROJECT ACCOUNT
(Small, De Minimus Public Projects)

APPLICATION

1) Name of Project: Vision 25 – Sixty (60) Year Observance

Check Project Type:

- Nonrecurring community requests for infrastructure:
 - Flooding
 - Roads
 - Lights
 - Sewer and drainage
 - Public buildings and grounds
 - Community Centers open to residents of Greenville County
 - Infrastructure related studies
- Contractual agreements for social, recreational, and educational programs
- Contributions to local governments in Greenville County for community projects

2) Amount of Funds Requested: \$30,000

3) Project Sponsor

Organization: Vision 25

Mailing Address: 14 West Antrim Drive, Greenville, SC 29607

4) Contact Person:

Name _____	Title _____
Telephone _____	Alt. Telephone No. _____
Email _____	Fax No. _____

Council Representative(s) Mr. Fant, Ms. Seman, Mr. Kirven, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Tripp, and Mr. Barnes

5) Project Timeline ~ Beginning: September 1, 2023 Ending: October 1, 2023
MONTH/DAY/YEAR MONTH/DAY/YEAR

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Mr. Kirven Community Project Funds	\$5,000
Mr. Mitchell Community Project Funds	\$5,000
Mr. Tripp Community Project Funds	\$5,000
Mr. Barnes Community Project Funds	\$5,000
Outside Grants and Donations	\$100,000
TOTAL:	\$130,000

Mr. Fant

9/6/23

Signature

Date

District 25 60 Year Celebration



From January 1963 to today's focus on expanding home ownership, revitalizing the Augusta Road Corridor at I-85, and creating Greenville County's first Urban Development District, the present and future are bright for District 25.

You are invited to join us as we celebrate the 60th year of District 25's contribution to Greenville County. In doing so, we are planning three amazing events that will highlight the rich history of District 25, while creating awareness for businesses and organizations focused to improve the quality of life in our communities. These events allow for targeted resources in areas of education, financial literacy, health and human services with wellness activities in a festive and energetic environment. Ending the year-long celebration with a formal gala

culminating historical milestones and honoring community leaders: past, present, and future.

21
October, 2023

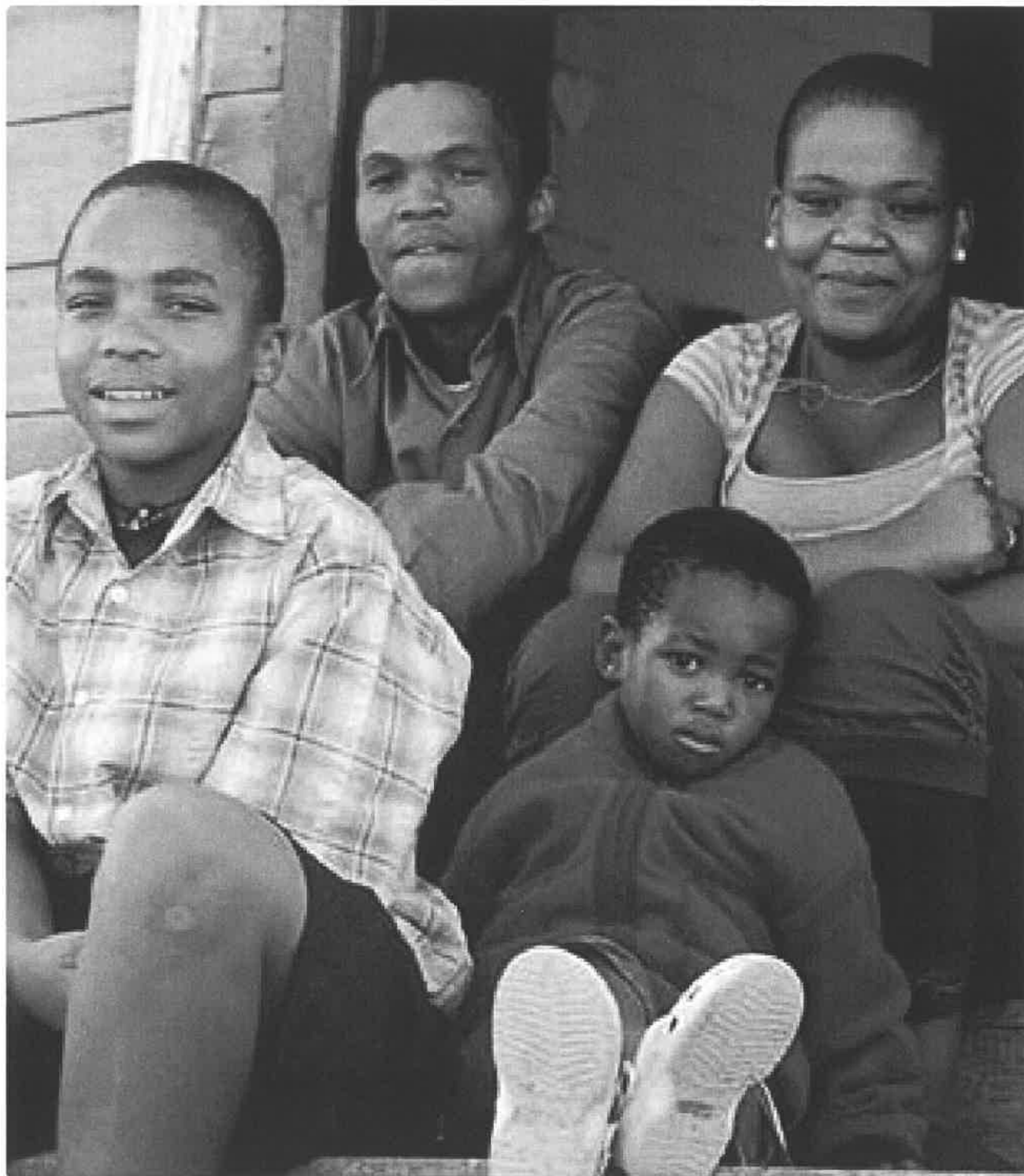
DISTRICT 25 CELEBRATION GALA

Join us at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Greenville Golf Resort & Conference Center - 670 Verdae Boulevard Greenville, SC 29607, as we honor and pay homage to the past, present, and future community leaders representing District 25. This will be a formal gala filled with individuals that have made it their mission to serve the community in the best capacity possible. Excellence will be display for the entire night, and we are thrilled to be a part of this tremendous celebration!

Sold out!

Please call (864) 214-6455 or email denise@visiond25.org for individual ticket availability.

About Vision25



Vision25 is a grassroots community organization that sprang from the vision

for the transformation of District 25 articulated by Dr. Ennis Fant during his bid for Greenville County Council in 2016. The simplicity of the vision - empowering ordinary people to drive change and improve results in their own communities - resonated powerfully with the residents of District 25.

Motivated by the authenticity of his vision, district residents elected Dr. Fant as their County Council representative in November 2016. Subsequently, a committed group of residents and advocates of District 25 organized themselves around four pillars: Resident Engagement, Public Safety, Economic Development and Affordable Housing. Immediately after the installation of Dr. Fant into office in January 2017, Vision25 was officially launched to carry out the vision of the social and economic transformation of Greenville's District 25 community.

In its short span of existence, Vision25 has had an enormous impact in building healthy relationships between local government. The people of what has historically been the most under-served district in South Carolina's most prosperous county is now recognized. Grounded on the principles of community empowerment, responsibility and accountability, Vision25 has been instrumental in shaping strategy around important subjects like economic development, affordable housing and mass transportation that are critical to sustaining a prosperous and vibrant community for us all.

The Vision: A Dream Manifested

Our vision is to transform District 25 into a vibrant, prosperous and healthy community in which to live, work and play.

The Mission: Begin with the End in mind

Our mission is to create an empowered, economically thriving, socially healthy community by connecting people, developing businesses and responsibly leveraging assets and resources.

Councilman Ennis M. Fant, Sr.



A native of Greenville, Ennis Fant attended the public schools of Greenville County. He is an honor student graduate of the University of South Carolina where he obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemical Engineering. While working in research and development in the corporate arena, he was awarded two patents. At the University of South Carolina, he served as President of the Theta Nu Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and was the Southern Region College Brother of the Year. He did his theological studies at Erskine Theological Seminary and The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He currently services as Senior Pastor of Pleasant

View Missionary Baptist Church in Powdersville, SC. He has also served as an adjunct professor of New Testament Studies at N.J. Brockman School of Theology in Greenville, SC. He is a member of the Baptist Ministers Fellowship of Greenville and Vicinity, the South Carolina Education and Missionary Baptist Convention and the Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc.

Dr. Fant has formerly served as a member of Greenville County Council and the South Carolina House of Representatives. While previously serving on Council, he served as Vice-Chairman and Chaired the Finance Committee. As a current member of Council he serves as Chairman of both the Planning and Development Committee and the Affordable Housing Committee. He is also a member of the Finance Committee and the Road, Infrastructure and Public Works Committee. Additionally, he serves on the Board of Directors of the Appalachian Council of Governments and the Greenville Pickens Area Transportation Study Board. He has previously served on the boards of Greenville Technical College, The Greater Greenville Chamber of Commerce, the Urban League of the Upstate and the Phillis Wheatley Association. Also, he is an active member of Gamma Gamma Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. in Greenville, SC.

Being bi-vocational, he has had a long career in the Real Estate and Insurance industries; protecting families and providing homeownership to strengthen our communities.

Dr. Fant has two children, Courtney N. Fant, MD a graduate of The University of South Carolina School of Medicine - Greenville and Ennis Fant, Jr. who is attending Greenville Technical College.

Councilor Fant's Committee Assignments

- Planning & Development, Chair
- Finance
- Roads & Infrastructure
- GPATS
- Appalachian Council of Governments (ACOG)
- Affordable Housing Ad Hoc Committee, Chair

- Greenville Legislative Delegation Liaison

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GREENVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
SEPTEMBER 11, 2023
5:00 P.M.

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting date, time, place and agenda was posted on the bulletin board at the entrance of the Council Office and made available to the newspapers, radio stations and television stations and concerned citizens.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

CHAIRMAN, BUTCH KIRVEN
VICE CHAIRMAN, LIZ SEMAN
BENTON BLOUNT
ENNIS FANT
CHRIS HARRISON
DAN TRIPP

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

ALAN MITCHELL

STAFF PRESENT:

JOE KERNELL, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
REGINA MCCASKILL, CLERK TO COUNTY COUNCIL
RUTH PARRIS, BUDGET DIRECTOR
VANESSA PAYNE, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
MARK TOLLISON, COUNTY ATTORNEY
NICOLE WOOD, ASSISTANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Kirven called the Finance Committee meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

INVOCATION:

Mr. Carlton Owens, HNRT, provided the invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilor Tripp moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 28, 2023. The motion carried unanimously.

GRANT APPLICATIONS:

SC OPIOID RECOVERY FUND ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT – SHERIFF’S OFFICE:

This is the SC Opioid Recovery Fund Assistance Agreement – Sheriff’s Office in the amount of \$561,953.93. This grant would allow the Sheriff’s Office to implement the POWER Collective, which is a collaborative effort between the Sheriff’s Office, local Upstate community organizations, and a nationally recognized provider of prevention tools to decrease opioid related addiction, overdoses, and fatalities in Greenville County. Funds will be used for personnel expenses, event and materials supplies, advertising and marketing, and other related program costs. This grant does not require a County match.

Ruth Parris, Budget Director, was present to answer questions of the committee.

Councilor Seman moved to approve the SC Opioid Recovery Fund Assistance Agreement – Sheriff’s Office in the amount of \$561,953.93. The motion carried unanimously.

CDC FOUNDATION GRANT – CORONER’S OFFICE COUNTY OF GREENVILLE NOTICE OF AWARD:

This is the CDC Foundation Grant – Coroner’s Office County of Greenville Notice of Award in the amount of \$100,000. This grant would allow the Coroner’s Office to implement technology that would make the exchange of information between the Coroner’s Office and other law enforcement partners more secure. This grant does not require a County match.

Ruth Parris, Budget Director, was present to answer questions of the committee.

Councilor Seman moved to approve the CDC Foundation Grant – Coroner’s Office County of Greenville Notice of Award in the amount of \$100,000. The motion carried unanimously.

PARD 2024 GRANT – LINCOLN PARK PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENT:

This is the PARD 2024 Grant – Lincoln Park Playground Replacement in the amount of \$97,327.07. These grant funds will be used to replace the existing playground equipment at Lincoln Park. This grant requires a County match of \$19,465.41 and the PARD portion is \$77,861.66.

Ruth Parris, Budget Director was present to answer questions of the committee.

Councilor Tripp moved to approve the PARD 2024 Grant – Lincoln Park Playground Replacement in the amount of \$97,327.07. The motion carried unanimously.

FEE AGREEMENT TERMINATION - NCEES:

This is an ordinance authorizing the termination of a fee-in-lieu of tax agreement by and between Greenville County and the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying.

Mark Tollison, County Attorney was present to answer questions of the committee.

Councilor Seman moved to approve the ordinance authorizing the termination of a fee-in-lieu of tax agreement by and between Greenville County and NCEES. The motion carried unanimously.

PROJECT LITTLE BROTHER (GRAY DEVELOPMENT) MCIP:

This is an ordinance to amend an agreement for the development of a Joint County Industrial and Business Park of Anderson and Greenville counties so as to enlarge the Park as it relates to Project Little Brother.

Mark Tollison, County Attorney was present to answer questions of the committee.

Councilor Seman moved to approve the amendment to the resolution. The motion carried unanimously. Councilor Seman moved to approve the resolution as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNITY PROJECT APPLICATIONS:

BELMONT FIRE DEPARTMENT 2023/2024 COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION CAMPAIGN:

A Community Project Application in the amount of \$4,500 was requested for the Belmont Fire Department 2023/2024 – Community Risk Reduction Campaign. The funds would be used to provide free smoke detectors, fire prevention literature as well as child safety brochures.

DISTRICT 25 – SIXTY (60) YEAR OBSERVANCE:

A Community Project Application in the amount of \$30,000 was requested for the 60 Year Observance of District 25. The funds would be used to provide financial literacy, health and human services and wellness activities in the community. Six Council Members (Fant, Seman, Kirven, Harrison, Tripp, and Barnes) had agreed to contribute \$5,000 each.

Councilor Fant stated Mr. Harrison had withdrawn his donation and Councilor Mitchell had agreed to donate \$5,000.

Councilor Harrison stated he had already committed all of his Community Project funds to an event and/or needs in his district. He withdrew his contribution of \$5,000. Mr. Harrison stated he had informed Mr. Fant of his decision earlier in the day.

Chairman Kirven stated Councilor Mitchell had agreed to contribute \$5,000 from his Community Project account to the District 25 - Sixty (60) Year Observance. Mr. Mitchell was present at the meeting.

Councilor Blount requested that, moving forward, the section of the Community Project Application regarding grants and donations be split up to indicate which monies were coming from grants and which were coming from Council donations.

Chairman Kirven stated in regards to the item in question, a total of \$130,000 was needed. Of that amount, \$100,000 was raised by the non-profit through donations; with the remaining \$30,000 coming from County Council Members' Community Project Funds.

Councilor Blount stated, for transparency purposes, he would prefer to see what type grants were donated to the non-profit.

Councilor Tripp asked if Vision 25 was a 501(c)(3) or a 501(c)(4).

Councilor Fant stated Vision 25 was a 501(c)(4) – Community. The non-profit dealt with affordable housing and community service.

Councilor Tripp stated there may be some problems with the disclosure of donors given the fact that Vision 25 was a 501(c)(4).

Councilor Fant stated Vision 25 had been raising money for the past year and a half. Primarily, the donations were from the business community, and, he had refrained from asking for donations from developers. Mr. Fant stated since he was a member of the board, he would be recusing himself from voting on the item.

Councilor Seman suggested adding a column to the Community Projects application to show monies that were donated from other sources.

GREENVILLE COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS – ARTILLERY ROAD TRAFFIC CALMING:

A Community Project Application in the amount of \$3,168.34 was requested for Greenville County Public Works – Artillery Road Traffic Calming. The funds would be used to purchase and install automatic radar to calm traffic.

WAYFINDING SIGNS FOR SWAMP RABBIT TRAIL:

A Community Project Application in the amount of \$3,000 was requested for Bike Walk Greenville. The funds would be used to install wayfinding signs along the Swamp Rabbit Trail.

Councilor Tripp moved to approve the four Community Project Applications. Motion carried with Councilor Blount voting in opposition to Item 7.b. and Councilor Fant abstaining from voting on Item 7.b.

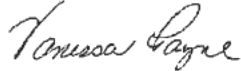
GREENVILLE COUNTY – HNRT REPORT

Carlton Owens, Alex Reynolds, and Mr. Bryant, representatives of the HNRT gave a summary of the upcoming projects as it relates to HNRT. No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no additional business to come before the Finance Committee, the meeting adjourned at 5:31.

Respectfully submitted,



Vanessa Payne
Executive Assistant

Exhibit E

GREENVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
September 19, 2023
6:00 pm
Council Chambers
301 University Ridge, Greenville

Citizens may also access the meeting at the following web address:
<https://www.greenvillecounty.org/livestream.aspx>

1. **Call to Order** Chairman Dan Tripp
2. **Invocation** Councilor Ennis Fant
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**
4. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. September 5, 2023 – Regular County Council meeting
5. **Proclamations and Special Recognition**
 - a. Proclamation Recognizing Constitution Week Chairman Dan Tripp
6. **Appearances - Current Agenda Items**

Anyone wishing to make an appearance regarding a current agenda item will need to register on-site between 5:30 – 6:00 the evening of the meeting.

(* denotes those items that are not eligible due to their having had a public hearing, or have not yet been through a standing committee.)
7. **Public Hearings**

Anyone wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to a public hearing item will need to register on-site between 5:30 – 6:00 the evening of the meeting.

 - a. Workforce Affordable Housing Policy (WAHP) / Village of West Greenville LLC, (formerly Project Woven) – Special Source Credit Agreement Councilor Butch Kirven
 - b. Anderson / Greenville Multi County Industrial Business Park Agreement Amendment - Workforce Affordable Housing Policy (WAHP) Village of West Greenville LLC, (formerly Project Woven) Councilor Butch Kirven
 - c. Lake Cunningham Fire District / Millage Request Councilor Butch Kirven
 - d. Dunklin Fire District / Millage Request Councilor Butch Kirven
 - e. South Greenville Fire District / Millage Request Councilor Butch Kirven
8. **Consent Agenda**
 - a. SC Opioid Recovery Fund Assistance Agreement – Sheriff’s Office (Finance)
 - b. CDC Foundation Grant – Coroner’s Office (Finance)
 - c. PARD 2024 Grant – Lincoln Park Playground Replacement (Finance)
 - d. Community Project Application / Belmont Fire Department 2023/2024 Community Risk Reduction Campaign \$4,500.00 (Finance)
 - e. Community Project Application / District 25 – 60 Year Observance \$30,000.00 (Finance)
 - f. Community Project Application / Greenville County Public Works – Artillery Road Traffic Calming \$3,168.34 (Finance)
 - g. Community Project Application / Wayfinding Signs for Swamp Rabbit Trail \$3,000.00 (Finance)
9. **Resolutions**
 - a. **Lake Cunningham Fire District / Dunklin Fire District / South Greenville Fire District – Millage Request **** Councilor Butch Kirven

A resolution to provide for the continuation of current Ad Valorem Property Tax to be levied by the Lake Cunningham Fire District, the South Greenville Fire District and the Dunklin Fire District.

Resolution
10. **Ordinances – Third Reading**
 - a. **Zoning Ordinances *** Councilor Ennis Fant
 - i. CZ-2023-048 Property of Rita Elaine Holt and William Preston Holt, 209 Orders Street, Greenville (Council District 23), O-D to R-7.5

- ii. [CZ-2023-049](#), Property of John H. Bragg, 2826 Woodruff Road, Simpsonville (Council District 27), R-5 to C-2
 - iii. [CZ-2023-050](#), Property of Log Cabin Enterprises, Inc., 104 West Road, Greer (Council District 18), R-12 to C-3
- b. **Foothills Fire Service Area / Millage Request *** Councilor Butch Kirven

An ordinance to provide for the millage rate to be levied by the Foothills Fire Service Area.

[Ordinance](#)
- c. **Workforce Affordable Housing Policy (WAHP) / Village of West Greenville, LLC, (formerly Project Woven) – Special Source Credit Agreement **** Councilor Butch Kirven

An ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a special source credit agreement by and between Greenville County, South Carolina, and Village of West Greenville, LLC, with respect to certain investment in qualifying infrastructure related to the construction of a mixed-use development in the county, whereby such project will be subject to payments in-lieu-of taxes by virtue of its location in a joint county industrial and business park, and to application of certain special source credits; and other matters related thereto.

[Ordinance](#)
[Agreement](#)
- d. **Anderson / Greenville Multi County Industrial Business Park Agreement Amendment - Workforce Affordable Housing Policy (WAHP) Village of West Greenville, LLC, (formerly Project Woven) **** Councilor Butch Kirven

An ordinance to amend an agreement for the development of a joint county industrial and business park of Anderson and Greenville Counties so as to enlarge the park.

[Ordinance](#)
- e. **Project Power / Fee in Lieu of Tax Agreement** Councilor Butch Kirven

An ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee in lieu of tax agreement by and between Greenville County, South Carolina and Project Power, with respect to certain economic development property in the county, whereby such property will be subject to certain payments in lieu of taxes, including the provision of certain special source credits; and other matters related thereto.

[Ordinance](#)
[Agreement](#)
- f. **Anderson / Greenville Multi County Industrial Business Park (2010 Park) Agreement Amendment – Project Power** Councilor Butch Kirven

An ordinance to amend an agreement for the development of a joint county industrial and business park (2010 Park) of Anderson and Greenville Counties so as to enlarge the park.

[Ordinance](#)
- 11. **Ordinances – Second Reading**
 - a. **Land Development Regulations Amendment / Septic Subdivision Requirements and Riparian Buffers** Councilor Ennis Fant

An ordinance to amend the Greenville County Land Development Regulations to update design standards for septic developments in the unzoned areas of the county and to establish countywide riparian buffer requirements to protect water quality and to implement features of the Plan Greenville County 2020 Comprehensive Plan.

[Ordinance](#)
 - b. **Anderson / Greenville Multi County Industrial Business Park (2010 Park) Agreement Amendment - Project Shoreline** Councilor Butch Kirven

An ordinance to amend an agreement for the development of a joint county industrial and business park (2010 Park) of Anderson and Greenville Counties so as to enlarge the park to include certain property of Lake Hartwell Development Group LLC, D/B/A The Shores of Asbury.

[Ordinance](#)
 - c. **Project Carolina / Fee In Lieu of Tax Agreement** Councilor Butch Kirven

An ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee in lieu of tax agreement by and between Greenville County, South Carolina and a company(ies) identified by the county at this time as Project Carolina with respect to certain economic development property in the county, whereby such property will be subject to certain payments in lieu of taxes; and other matters related thereto.

Ordinance Agreement

- d. **National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) / Fee Agreement Termination *** Councilor Butch Kirven

An ordinance authorizing the termination of a fee-in-lieu of tax agreement by and between Greenville County, South Carolina and National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying.

Current Ordinance
Ordinance with Proposed Amendment (red-lined)
Termination Agreement

12. **Ordinances – First Reading**

- a. **Zoning Ordinances *** Councilor Ennis Fant

- i. CZ-2023-060, Property of James Kirkpatrick, Jr. and Faye K. Kirkpatrick, 5 Lockman Drive, Greenville (Council District 25), R-15 to R-6
- ii. CZ-2023-062, Property of Pinckney Street Partners, LLC, 904 & 910 Pinckney Street and Pete Hollis Blvd., Greenville (Co. District 23), I-1 to FRD
- iii. CZ-2023-063, Property of BI Jones Enterprises, LLC, Stephenson Street Ext., Taylors (Council District 18), R-7.5 to FRD
- iv. CZ-2023-064, Property of Dianne Dooley, 2808 Fork Shoals Road and Talley Scott Road, Piedmont (Council District 28), R-S to R-12

- b. **Anderson / Greenville Multi County Industrial Business Park (2010 Park) Agreement Amendment - Project Little Brother** Councilor Butch Kirven

An ordinance to amend an agreement for the development of a joint county industrial and business park (2010 Park) of Anderson and Greenville Counties so as to enlarge the park.

Ordinance

13. **Committee Reports**

14. **Administrator's Report**

15. **Requests and Motions by Council Members**

- a. **Prohibit Using Public Funds for Lobbyists or Public Relations** Councilor Tzouvelekas

Memo
Ordinance

- b. **Prohibit Mask Requirements** Councilor Tzouvelekas

Memo
Ordinance

16. **Adjournment**

* denotes items that are ineligible for making appearances
** denotes items that have public hearings scheduled on the evening's agenda



GREENVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes
Regular Meeting
September 19, 2023
6:00 p.m.

County Square - Council Chambers

Council Members

- Mr. Dan Tripp, Chairman, District 28**
- Mrs. Liz Seman, Vice-Chairwoman, District 24**
- Mr. Butch Kirven, Chairman Pro Tem, District 27**
- Mr. Joey Russo, District 17**
- Mr. Mike Barnes, District 18**
- Mr. Benton Blount, District 19**
- Mr. Stephen Shaw, District 20**
- Mr. Chris Harrison, District 21**
- Mr. Stan Tzouvelekas, District 22**
- Mr. Alan Mitchell, District 23**
- Mr. Ennis Fant, Sr., District 25**
- Mr. Rick Bradley, District 26**

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting date, time, place and agenda was posted online and on the bulletin board at County Square and made available to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

Council Members Absent

None

Staff Present

- Joe Kernell, County Administrator**
- Mark Tollison, County Attorney**
- Regina McCaskill, Clerk to Council**
- Jessica Stone, Deputy Clerk to Council**
- Pam Gilliam, Administrative Assistant**
- Terrance Galloway, Information Systems**

- Phillip Simmons, Information Systems**
- Bob Mihalic, Governmental Relations Officer**
- Nicole Wood, Assistant County Administrator**
- Tee Coker, Assistant County Administrator**
- Ronald Hollister, Assistant County Administrator**
- Rashida Jeffers-Campbell, Planning Director**

Others Present

- Conway Belangia, Voter Registration**
- Steve Cole, Greater Greenville Sanitation**
- Roy Earnest, Board of Directors - Greater Greenville Sanitation**

Call to Order

Chairman Dan Tripp

Invocation

Councilor Ennis Fant

Pledge of Allegiance

Item (4) **Approval of Minutes**

a. **September 5, 2023 – Regular County Council Meeting**

Action: Vice-Chairwoman Seman moved approval of the minutes from the September 5, 2023, Regular County Council Meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

Item (5) **Proclamations and Special Recognition**

a. **Proclamation Recognizing Constitution Week**

Chairman Tripp presented a proclamation marking September 17, 2023 as the 236th anniversary of the drafting of the Constitution of the United States of America by the Constitutional Convention. Public Law 915 guaranteed the issuance of a proclamation each year by the President of the United States of America, designating September 17–23 as Constitution Week.

Greenville County Council honored and recognized great American heritage and encouraged all citizens to reaffirm the ideals the Framers of the Constitution had in 1787 by protecting those freedoms that were guaranteed through the document; and proclaimed September 17-23, 2023 as Constitution Week in Greenville County.

Item (6) **Appearances – Current Agenda Items**

- **Ed Paxton** – appeared regarding Item 8.e. Community Project Application / District 25 – 60 Year Observance (*Councilor Steve Shaw requested Mr. Paxton's comments be recorded verbatim*)

Mr. Paxton stated, "I am Ed Paxton and I live at 1 York Circle that's in District 25, where I have lived for 60 years. The Donaldson Center was still an active airbase when I moved here in '63. And. That was prior to Greenville County coming under the Home Rule structure. Today's Consent Agenda Item E. for Vision 25 leaves a lot of unanswered questions; therefore, I say it ought to be voted down. I have questions and statements.

1. What are we celebrating? This appears to be a political rally instead of a true celebration, as Greenville's Home Rule system has only been in existence for less than 50 years.
2. Per page 1 of the application, this money is supposed to be used for infrastructure. What specific infrastructure work is being done? What community center is the work being done for, Upstate Circle of Friends, which hosts some of the Vision 25 events? This alleged community center is not open to the public, as required by the application.
3. Page 2 of the application violates the requirements for the non-recurring community infrastructure requests. Instead, it lists the descriptions and benefits as events.
4. A review of the application link to today's agenda is not the same as the one that was voted in the Finance Committee. The application was amended and not properly noted. This breaks the rules and the laws of Council.

5. As per the S.C. Ethics law, where is Mr. Fant's disclosure of Conflict of Interest form? Why have they not been made public?
6. As per the S.C. Ethics law, why was Mr. Fant allowed to be in last week's Finance Committee during the discussion?
7. Why was he not required as per S.C Ethic law to recuse himself?"

Chairman Tripp informed Mr. Paxton he was getting close to being derogatory towards a Council member. He asked him to keep his comments on the application and not individuals.

Mr. Paxton stated, "This \$30,000 needs to be used for communities not on some expensive gala at a high-end hotel, not in the district.

Because of the violations of the S.C. Ethics law and the violations of the goodwill of the citizenry of this county, this application absolutely must be voted no. I'll be glad to answer questions, or explain anything I have said; but, I want to receive those questions in writing. Thank you for your time."

- **Ma'ta Crawford** – appeared regarding Item 8.e. Community Project Application / District 25 – 60 Year Observance
- **David Davis** – appeared regarding Item 8.e. Community Project Application / District 25 – 60 Year Observance (*Councilor Steve Shaw requested Mr. Davis' comments be recorded verbatim*)

Mr. Davis stated, "David Davis, 112 Riverview Drive, Greenville, 29611. My question is why is my Councilman, Mr. Alan Mitchell, using discretionary funds for events celebrating something outside of our district? Are there no items in District 23 that need more attention than a gala? According to the Finance Committee agenda last week, Mr. Mitchell was not part of the donation; but, now this week he is. What changed? Why was the application allowed to be changed to add Mr. Mitchell's name? Why was the application not marked as amended and re-dated after the change was made? Another question I have is, the application says the money was needed September 15. It's now the 19th. How is this working? We need an explanation as to why the dates don't match the final vote. According to Vision 25, this is a gala in a fancy hotel, not in District 25. But, I'm not sure what we are supposed to celebrate; 60 years of what? The County Council district system isn't that old. The Vision 25 website shows that there is a charge of \$100 - \$125 a ticket to attend and they are looking for sponsors. Why should the taxpayers be contributing to something that is a private event that charges for attendance and sponsorship? How many people in District 23, in Greenville County for that matter, can afford a \$100 meal. Who is the gala being held for? Recently, we were told we didn't have enough money in this County to meet basic needs. Therefore, you were forced to raise our taxes, but, now you have an extra \$30,000 to spend on a gala for the elite. Where is the hypocrisy and lies stop? Then, we have the S.C. Ethics laws violations that occurred last week in the Finance Committee. That alone is enough to make last week's vote no..."

Chairman Tripp informed Mr. Davis he would not allow accusations of an ethics violation. There had been no rulings by the Ethics Commission in regards to the previous week's Finance Committee meeting. He asked Mr. Davis to keep his remarks confined to facts and not personalities.

Mr. Davis stated, "It's time for the law-breaking to stop. It's time to be honest and ethical, working for the people."

- **Princeton Williams** – appeared regarding Item 8.e. Community Project Application / District 25 – 60 Year Observance
- **Rosemarie McConnell** – appeared regarding Item 11.a. Land Development Regulations Amendment / Septic Subdivision Requirements and Riparian Buffers
- **Carolina Mahaffey** – appeared regarding Item 11.a. Land Development Regulations Amendment / Septic Subdivision Requirements and Riparian Buffers
- **Robert Hammond** – appeared regarding Item 11.a. Land Development Regulations Amendment / Septic Subdivision Requirements and Riparian Buffers
- **Milton Shockley** – appeared regarding Item 11.a. Land Development Regulations Amendment / Septic Subdivision Requirements and Riparian Buffers (Mr. Shockley opted to forego his remarks)

Item (7) **Public Hearings**

a. Workforce Affordable Housing Policy (WAHP) / Village of West Greenville LLC (formerly Project Woven) – Special Source Credit Agreement

A public hearing was held for the purpose of receiving comments from the public regarding an ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a special source credit agreement by and between Greenville County, South Carolina, and Village of West Greenville LLC, with respect to certain investment in qualifying infrastructure related to the construction of a mixed-use development in the County, whereby such project would be subject to payments in lieu of taxes by virtue of its location in a joint county industrial and business park, and to application of certain special source credits; and other matters related thereto.

- **Brian Schick** – appeared in favor of the proposed
- **Anne King** – appeared in opposition to the proposed
- **Margaret McGinty** – appeared in opposition to the proposed

b. Anderson / Greenville Multi County Industrial Business Park Agreement Amendment – Workforce Affordable Housing Policy (WAHP) Project Woven

A public hearing was held for the purpose of receiving comments from the public regarding an ordinance to amend an agreement for the development of a joint county industrial and business park of Anderson and Greenville Counties so as to enlarge the park.

There being no speakers, Chairman Pro Tem Kirven declared the public hearing closed.

c. Lake Cunningham Fire District / Millage Request

A public hearing was held for the purpose of receiving comments from the public regarding a resolution to provide for the continuation of the current Ad Valorem property tax to be levied by the Lake Cunningham Fire District.

There being no speakers, Chairman Pro Tem Kirven declared the public hearing closed.

d. Dunklin Fire District / Millage Request

A public hearing was held for the purpose of receiving comments from the public regarding a resolution to provide for the continuation of the current Ad Valorem property tax to be levied by the Dunklin Fire District.

There being no speakers, Chairman Pro Tem Kirven declared the public hearing closed.

e. South Greenville Fire District / Millage Request

A public hearing was held for the purpose of receiving comments from the public regarding a resolution to provide for the continuation of the current Ad Valorem property tax to be levied by the South Greenville Fire District.

There being no speakers, Chairman Pro Tem Kirven declared the public hearing closed.

Item (8)

Consent Agenda

- a. SC Opioid Recovery Fund Assistance Agreement - Sheriff's Office**
- b. CDC Foundation Grant – Coroner's Office**
- c. PARD 2024 Grant – Lincoln Park Playground Replacement**
- d. Community Project Application / Belmont Fire Department 2023/2024 Community Risk Reduction Campaign \$4,500.00**
- e. Community Project Application / District 25 – 60 Year Observance \$30,000.00**
- f. Community Project Application / Greenville County Public Works – Artillery Road Traffic Calming \$3,3168.34**
- g. Community Project Application / Wayfinding Signs for Swamp Rabbit Trail \$3,000.00**

Councilor Tzouvelekas requested Item 8.e. Community Project Application / District 25 – 60 Year Observance (\$30,000.00) be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Councilor Fant requested Item 8.f. Community Project Application / Greenville County Public Works – Artillery Road Traffic Calming (\$3,3168.34) and Item 8.g. Community Project Application / Wayfinding Signs for Swamp Rabbit Trail (\$3,000.00) be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Action: Vice-Chairwoman Seman moved to approve Items 8.a. through 8.d. of the Consent Agenda.

Motion carried unanimously.

Items removed from Consent Agenda:

- Chairman Tripp stated Item 8.e. Community Project Application / District 25 – 60 Year Observance (\$30,000.00) was on the floor for discussion. He stated the process for Community Project Applications involved submitting the application to the Administrator for review; Council had the responsibility to approve or deny Mr. Kernell's decision.

Councilor Tzouvelekas requested a roll call vote.

Point of Information Councilor Shaw requested clarification regarding the item in question.

Chairman Tripp stated the item in question was whether or not to approve Item 8.e. Community Project Application / District 25 – 60 Year Observance (\$30,000.00).

Point of Information Councilor Shaw asked if Mr. Kernell made independent decisions regarding the items that were removed from the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Tollison stated a Council vote was required for all Community Project applications.

Councilor Shaw requested clarification regarding the process to approve Community Project applications.

Chairman Tripp stated that, initially, all Community Project applications were submitted to Mr. Kernell for approval. If approved, the applications were then forwarded to the Finance Committee.

Chairwoman Seman stated Mr. Kernell was tasked with ensuring the request met the criteria for Community Project applications.

Point of Information Councilor Shaw asked if Mr. Tollison reviewed the applications or if they were only reviewed by Mr. Kernell.

Mr. Tollison stated he did not review the Community Project applications. Council’s policy stated applications were reviewed by Mr. Kernell, the Finance Committee and County Council; he did not have a role in the process.

Councilor Shaw stated he wanted to clarify that Mr. Tollison was not part of the decision-making process and had no input into the legality of the request.

Mr. Tollison stated Council’s policy in regards to Community Project applications did not prescribe a role for the County Attorney.

Councilor Shaw asked what protected County Council Members from participating in something that was not legal.

Mr. Tollison stated Council Members had to rely on their own judgement, along with the Administrator’s recommendation, when determining their how they would vote on a Community Project application.

Action: Vice-Chairwoman Seman called for the question.

Motion to call for the question carried.

Action: Item 8.e. Community Project Application / District 25 – 60 Year Observance in the amount of \$30,000.00 was approved by a roll call vote of eight (Russo, Barnes, Harrison, Mitchell, Seman, Bradley, Kirven and Tripp) in favor, three (Blount, Shaw and Tzouvelekas) in opposition and one (Fant) abstention.

- Chairman Tripp stated Item 8.f. Community Project Application / Greenville County Public Works – Artillery Road Traffic Calming (\$3,3168.34) was on the floor for discussion.

Councilor Shaw stated there was heavy traffic on Artillery Road and the residents had requested the traffic calming equipment out of safety concerns.

Councilor Fant requested a roll call vote.

Action: Item 8.f. Community Project Application / Greenville County Public Works – Artillery Road Traffic Calming in the amount of \$3,3168.34 was approved by a roll call vote of eleven (Russo, Barnes, Blount, Harrison, Tzouvelekas, Mitchell, Seman, Bradley, Kirven and Tripp) in favor and one (Fant) in opposition.

- Chairman Tripp stated Item 8.g. Community Project Application / Wayfinding Signs for Swamp Rabbit Trail (\$3,000.00) was on the floor for discussion.

Councilor Fant requested a roll call vote.

Action: Item 8.g. Community Project Application / Wayfinding Signs for Swamp Rabbit Trail in the amount of \$3,000.00 was approved by a roll call vote of eleven (Russo, Barnes, Blount, Harrison, Tzouvelekas, Mitchell, Seman, Bradley, Kirven and Tripp) in favor and one (Fant) in opposition.

Item (9) **Resolutions**

- a. **Lake Cunningham Fire District / Dunklin Fire District / South Greenville Fire District – Millage Request**

Action: Chairman Pro Tem Kirven moved for adoption a resolution to provide for the continuation of current Ad Valorem Property Tax to be levied by the Lake Cunningham Fire District, the South Greenville Fire District and the Dunklin Fire District.

Motion carried unanimously.

Item (10) **Ordinances – Third Reading**

- a. **Zoning Ordinances**

- i. **CZ-2023-048:** Property of Rita Elaine Holt and William Preston Holt, located at 209 Orders Street, Greenville, requesting rezoning from O-D to R-7.5.

Action: Councilor Fant moved adoption of the ordinance at third reading.

Motion carried unanimously.

- ii. **CZ-2023-049:** Property of John H. Bragg, located at 2826 Woodruff Road, Simpsonville, requesting rezoning from R-S to C-2.

Action: Councilor Fant moved adoption of the ordinance at third reading.

Motion carried unanimously.

- iii. **CZ-2023-050:** Property of Log Cabin Enterprises, Inc., located at 104 West Road, Greer, requesting rezoning from R-12 to C-3.

Action: Councilor Fant moved adoption of the ordinance at third reading.

Motion carried unanimously.

b. Foothills Fire Service Area / Millage Request

Action: Chairman Pro Tem Kirven moved for adoption at third reading an ordinance to provide for the millage rate to be levied by the Foothills Fire Service Area.

Motion carried unanimously by Council Members present.

c. Workforce Affordable Housing Policy (WAHP) / Village of West Greenville, LLC (formerly Project Woven) – Special Source Credit Agreement

Action: Chairman Pro Tem Kirven moved for adoption at third reading an ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a special source credit agreement by and between Greenville County, South Carolina, and Village of West Greenville, LLC, with respect to certain investment in qualifying infrastructure related to the construction of a mixed-use development in the County, whereby such project would be subject to payments in lieu of taxes by virtue of its location in a joint county industrial and business park, and to application of certain special source credits; and other matters related thereto.

Councilor Mitchell stated the County had a policy in place to promote affordable housing that was passed prior to his election to Council. He stated he was supportive of the policy; however, he was under the impression that the intent of the policy was to encourage developers to provide more affordable housing and not just the "bare minimum" as required by the policy. It was apparent the developer was meeting the minimum requirements. Mr. Mitchell stated he liked to look at the "spirit" and the "letter" of a project. It was important to determine what could be done above and beyond the policy. The residents potentially affected by the development were hurting, their cries were falling on deaf ears. Mr. Mitchell stated he would be voting in opposition to the proposed.

Councilor Harrison stated the project in question was located in the city limits and had already been approved by the City of Greenville. The proposed would not solve the affordable housing problem; however, he was confident it would help the situation. Council was tasked with incentivizing the developer to include affordable units in the development. Councilor Harrison stated he planned to vote in favor of the proposed.

Councilor Fant stated the County's Affordable Housing Policy was not perfect; however, it was a step in the right direction and he hoped to improve it at some point. The item in question would not "fix" the affordable housing problem in Greenville County, but, it would not "hurt" it. It was important to remember that the City of Greenville had already approved the project; it was not Greenville County's project to approve. It was Council's responsibility to determine if the project met the criteria outlined in the County's Affordable Housing Policy. Mr. Fant stated the project met the criteria; it would be hypocritical to state the it met the policy's guidelines but not be in favor of it. He stated he was open to changing or amending the policy, if needed. He was unsure how Council could pick and choose which projects to approve, if a project "checked all the boxes" as indicated in the Affordable Housing Policy. Mr. Fant stated he planned to support the item in question.

Councilor Tzouvelekas asked if all the Community Project applications on the Consent Agenda had been approved and met the criteria.

Chairman Tripp confirmed the applications had been approved and met the required criteria.

Vice-Chairwoman Seman stated she liked the retail component of the project, in terms of keeping aside rent for small businesses. It was a very unique aspect of the project and she would like for Council to look at that component for future multi-use projects.

Councilor Shaw stated it was his understanding that every project with an affordable housing component would be scrutinized individually by Council. He asked Mr. Tollison if Greenville County was allowed to enter into agreements or contracts with non-domesticated, foreign corporations. Mr. Shaw stated a corporation had to be domesticated to do business in the State.

Mr. Tollison stated it was common practice for the County to be allowed to enter into agreements or contracts with non-domesticated, foreign corporations. There was an expectation that all projects presented for approval met GADC's Economic Development Model.

Councilor Shaw asked if a New York corporation could conduct business in South Carolina without registering.

Mr. Tollison stated there were a number of out of state corporations conducting business in the area.

Councilor Shaw asked Mr. Tollison if he could provide a legal statute to verify the legality of the issue.

Mr. Tollison stated he would research the issue and report back his findings.

Councilor Shaw asked if Council should vote on the item in question without having that information.

Mr. Tollison stated the decision to vote on the item or not to vote on the item was up to Council.

Motion as presented carried by a roll call vote of seven (Russo, Barnes, Harrison, Seman, Fant, Kirven and Tripp) in favor and five (Blount, Shaw, Tzouvelekas, Mitchell and Bradley) in opposition.

d. Anderson / Greenville Multi County Industrial Business Park Agreement Amendment – Workforce Affordable Housing Policy (WAHP) Village of West Greenville, LLC (formerly Project Woven)

Action: Chairman Pro Tem Kirven moved for adoption at third reading an ordinance to amend an agreement for the development of a joint county industrial and business park of Anderson and Greenville Counties so as to enlarge the park.

Motion carried unanimously.

e. Project Power / Fee in Lieu of Tax Agreement

Action: Chairman Pro Tem Kirven moved for adoption at third reading an ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee in lieu of tax agreement by and between Greenville County, South Carolina and Project Power with respect to certain economic development property in the County, whereby such property would be subject to certain payments in lieu of taxes, including the provision of certain special source credits; and other matters related thereto.

Action: Chairman Pro Tem Kirven moved to refer the item back to the Finance Committee.

Motion carried unanimously.

f. Anderson / Greenville Multi County Industrial Business Park (2010 Park) Agreement Amendment – Project Power

Action: Chairman Pro Tem Kirven moved for adoption at third reading an ordinance to amend an agreement for the development of a joint county industrial and business park (2010 Park) of Anderson and Greenville Counties so as to enlarge the park.

Action: Chairman Pro Tem Kirven moved to refer the item back to the Finance Committee.

Motion carried unanimously.

Item (11) Ordinances – Second Reading

a. Land Development Regulations Amendment / Septic Subdivision Requirement and Riparian Buffers

Action Councilor Fant moved for approval at second reading an ordinance to amend the Greenville County Land Development Regulations to update design standards for septic development in the unzoned areas of the County and to establish countywide riparian buffer requirements to protect water quality to implement features of the Plan Greenville County 2020 Comprehensive Plan.

Action Chairman Pro Tem Kirven moved to hold the item until October 17, 2023, and to hold a workshop prior to that date.

Motion to hold carried unanimously.

b. Anderson / Greenville Multi County Industrial Business Park (2010 Park) Agreement Amendment – Project Shoreline

Action: Chairman Pro Tem Kirven moved for approval at second reading an ordinance to amend an agreement for the development of a joint county industrial and business park (2010 Park) of Anderson and Greenville Counties so as to enlarge the park to include certain property of Lake Hartwell Development Group LLC, D/B/A The Shores of Asbury.

Motion carried unanimously.

c. Project Carolina / Fee in Lieu of Tax Agreement

Action: Chairman Pro Tem Kirven moved for approval at second reading an ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee in lieu of tax agreement by and between Greenville County, South Carolina and a company(ies) identified by the County at this time as Project Carolina with respect to certain economic development property in the County, whereby such property would be subject to certain payments in lieu of taxes; and other matters related thereto.

Motion carried unanimously.

d. National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) / Fee Agreement Termination

Action: Chairman Pro Tem Kirven moved for approval at second reading an ordinance authorizing the termination of a fee in lieu of tax agreement by and between Greenville County, South Carolina and National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying.

Action: Chairman Pro Tem Kirven moved to amend the ordinance to reflect the changes outlined in the red-lined version that was included in the agenda packet.

Motion to amend carried unanimously.

Action: Chairman Pro Tem Kirven moved approval of the ordinance as amended.

Motion as amended carried unanimously.

Item (12) Ordinances – First Reading

a. Zoning Ordinances

Councilor Fant presented for first reading Zoning Dockets **CZ-2023-060** and **CZ-2023-62 through CZ-2023-64**.

Chairman Tripp referred the items to the Planning and Development Committee.

b. Anderson / Greenville Multi County Industrial Business Park (2010 Park) Agreement Amendment – Project Little Brother

Chairman Pro Tem presented for first reading an ordinance to amend an agreement for the deployment of a joint county industrial and business park (2010 Park) of Anderson and Greenville Counties so as to enlarge the park.

Chairman Tripp stated the item would remain on the floor.

Item (13) Committee Reports

There were no reports.

Item (14)

Administrator's Report

Mr. Kernell invited everyone to attend a free adoption event on Wednesday, September 20, from 11:30 am – 1:30 pm. The event, sponsored by Greenville County Animal Care, would include a Chick-fil-A food truck in the breezeway of the new Administration Building. The event was part of Animal Care's "Fall in Love" with a shelter pet party; staff would be on hand with great animals that could be adopted for free.

Item (15)

Requests and Motions

a. Prohibit Using Public Funds for Lobbyists or Public Relations

Councilor Tzouvelekas stated it appeared that Greenville County hired lobbyists such as the Public Strategists, LLC., a lobbyist for Conestee Foundation, ReWa, Upstate Greenways and Trails Alliance, Erwin Creates, Gateway House Inc., Greenville Water Systems, South Carolina Association of Public Works...

Chairman Tripp stated the issue was not to be debated at that time. He asked Mr. Tzouvelekas to state his intended motion.

Councilor Tzouvelekas continued to read from a scripted narrative.

Chairman Tripp again requested Councilor Tzouvelekas to state his motion. After further attempts to have Mr. Tzouvelekas refrain from reading his narrative, Chairman Tripp ruled him out of order.

Councilor Tzouvelekas requested the item to be referred to the appropriate committee.

Chairman Tripp referred the item to the Finance Committee.

b. Prohibit Mask Requirements

Chairman Tripp reminded Mr. Tzouvelekas the item was not debatable at that time. Once it was sent to a committee, it would then be open for discussion and debate. Mr. Tripp asked Mr. Tzouvelekas to state his motion and then the item would be referred to the appropriate committee.

Councilor Tzouvelekas stated all across America, mask mandates were coming back and schools were shutting down...

Chairman Tripp ruled Councilor Tzouvelekas out of order.

Councilor Tzouvelekas continued to read from a scripted narrative.

Item (16)

Adjournment

Action:

Vice-Chairman Seman moved to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Regina G. McCaskill
Clerk to Council

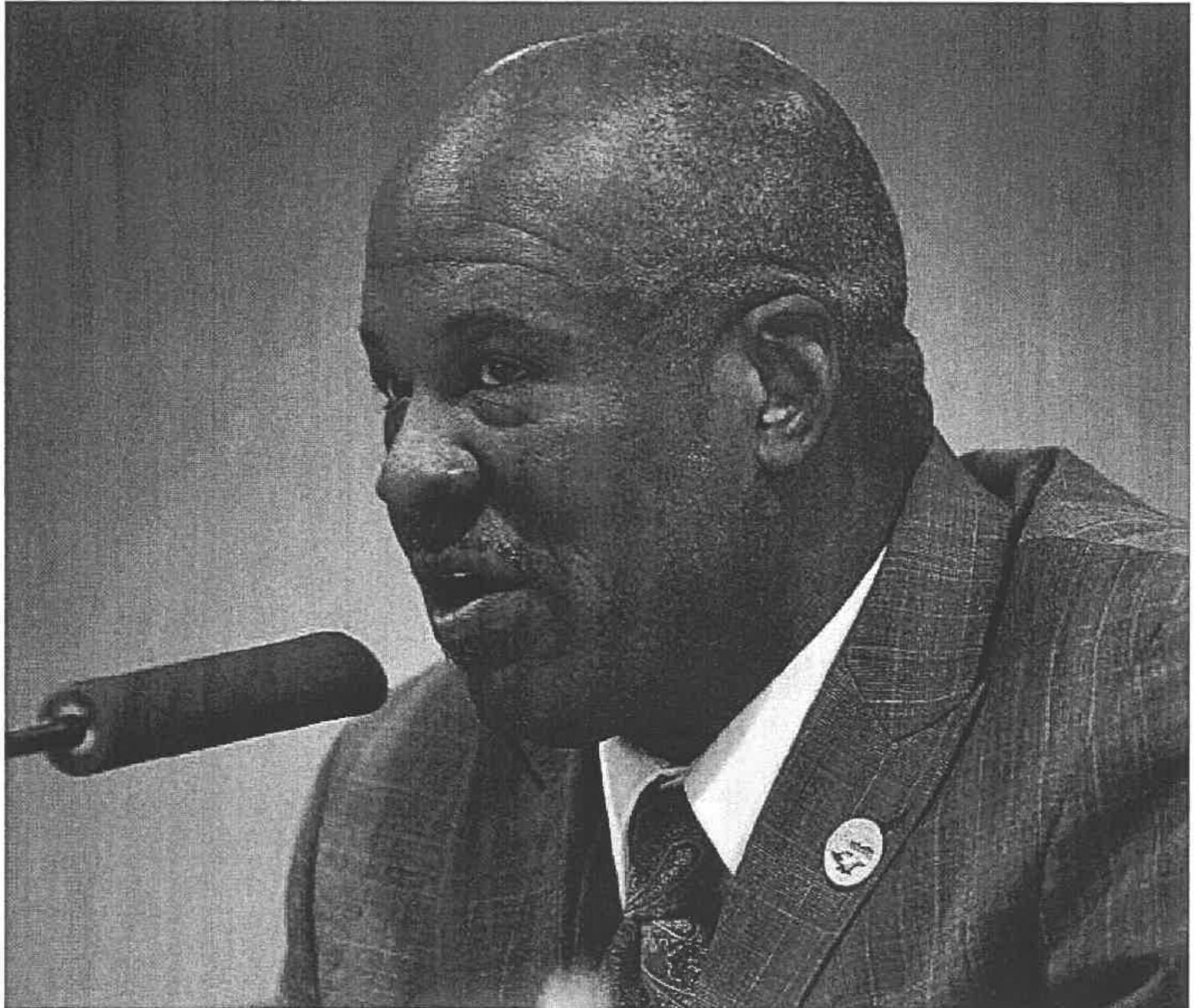
Exhibit G 1

https://www.postandcourier.com/greenville/politics/greenville-county-councilmen-separated-by-deputies-in-clash-with-claims-of-racism/article_c612f934-58ba-11ee-888c-e3723a5901fb.html

Greenville County councilmen separated by deputies in clash with claims of racism

BY CONOR HUGHES CHUGHES@POSTANDCOURIER.COM

SEP 22, 2023



Greenville County Councilman Ennis Fant

TIM KIMZEY

GREENVILLE — Mounting tensions among members of Greenville County Council came to a head earlier this week with a confrontation in which deputies had to separate two councilmen.

During the Sept. 19 run in, which followed a tense council meeting, Councilman Ennis Fant said his fellow Councilman Stan Tzouvelekas approached him in the lobby as he was speaking to constituents. A heated exchange followed.

“I got blasted about, ‘You ain’t nothing, you ain’t gonna be nothing, you ain’t got nothing,’” Fant said, recalling the exchange with Tzouvelekas. “I had to count to 10, and I was like, ‘as an African American man, you cannot hit this White man, because it will be your fault no matter what.’”

Eventually, deputies stepped in and separated the two.

Tzouvelekas couldn’t be reached for comment by The Post and Courier over the course of multiple days.

Councilman Benton Blount, who was outside the County Administrative building during the start of the encounter, said he heard Fant yelling that Tzouvelakas was a “racist bastard” as Fant came out of the building, though Fant denies that.

Later that evening, Fant, a Black man representing Greenville County’s only majority-minority district, appeared on a Facebook Live stream in which he accused Tzouvelekas and Councilman Steve Shaw of racism — a claim Shaw vehemently denied in an interview with The Post and Courier.

“If he doesn’t get his way, he doesn’t care who you are, he’s going to say it’s racist,” Shaw said. “Last year, we were all good friends, but he basically is a cold and calculating politician, and surprisingly, that’s all he’s left with, really. He doesn’t have good ideas anymore, and really he’s back down to his ’80s racism stuff.”



Greenville County Councilman Stan Tzouvelekas

TIM KIMZEY

The rancor was incited by a vote on funding an event.

That evening, the council voted on appropriating \$30,000 to Fant's nonprofit Vision25 for a gala celebrating his district's 60th anniversary.



GREENVILLE POLITICS

Greenville County calls legislators' budget lawsuit a political masquerade

BY ERIC CONNOR ECONNOR@POSTANDCOURIER.COM

Several of Fant's colleagues on the council were contributing from their \$20,000 in discretionary funds to support the event. Fant said it's not unusual for that funding source to be spent on community events such as the Scottish Games or the Travelers Rest Christmas Parade.

But Shaw and Tzouvelekas ahead of the meeting had voiced opposition to using taxpayer money for the event, citing ethical concerns that public dollars were going to Fant's organization.

During the meeting Shaw made a point of asking the clerk that comments made by two people who spoke out against funding the event during the meeting be “recorded verbatim.”



Greenville County Councilman Steve Shaw

TIM KIMZEY

The funding ultimately passed 9-3, with Shaw, Tzouvelekas and Blount voting against it. Fant, in turn, voted against funding requests Shaw and Tzouvelakas had made for their districts.

“Going forward, any community projects that any of those three bring forward, I am going to object to it being on the consent agenda, I’m going to ask that it be moved to the end of the meeting, make them discuss it, ask for a roll call

vote, and then I’m going to vote no,” Fant told The Post and Courier. “I am not their punching bag.”

The discord was reminiscent of chaos that has reigned among the body for the past several years.

Chairman Dan Tripp and Shaw also clashed during the meeting.



GREENVILLE POLITICS

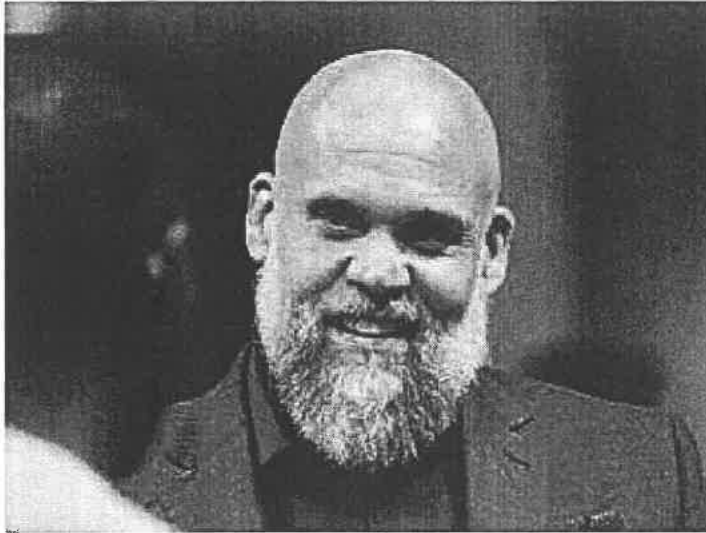
Greenville County approves tax hike, but not without political moves to undermine it

BY NATHANIEL CARY NCARY@POSTANDCOURIER.COM

The meeting ended abruptly as Tzouvelekas, over the sound of Tripp’s gavel pounding, tried to make a motion banning mask mandates in the county. Tripp said Tzouvelekas was out of order and trying to engage in a debate rather than offer a motion, in violation of

council procedures.

The confrontation between Fant and Tzouvelekas in the lobby took place shortly after.



Greenville County Councilman Benton Blount
TIM KIMZEY

During the Facebook Live later that evening, Fant said Shaw, Tzouvelekas and Blount didn't act reasonably as members of council and that their districts are suffering for it.

"Their minds don't work right," he said. "They don't care about working with anybody else, they don't care about the taxpayers, they don't care about what's in the best interest of the citizens of Greenville County, making a positive

difference, making the community for the next generation of children, none of that. What you saw tonight is what I have to deal with every single week. They are absolute lunatics." Shaw and Tzouvelekas' vocal opposition to county funding for initiatives including affordable housing and public transportation are also racially motivated, Fant said, a claim Shaw strongly denied.



GREENVILLE POLITICS

Greenville County roads are failing, staff says. Council is divided on how to address it.

BY CONOR HUGHES CHUGHES@POSTANDCOURIER.COM

The contentious tenor of the meeting earlier this week and its aftermath are a continuation of internal tensions on County Council, in which Tzouvelekas and Shaw consistently contend with other members, particularly Tripp.

The division was pronounced during the pitched political battle this summer over the county's budget, which included Greenville County's first property tax increase in 30 years.

Shaw and Tzouvelekas led opposition to that spending plan, a conflict that pushed Greenville County to the brink of a government shutdown.

The budget was eventually passed in an 8-4 vote, the minimum majority required, over strong objections from the two conservative councilmen.

Republicans in the Greenville area's Statehouse delegation have since filed a lawsuit against the county alleging that its budget process is illegal and that it violated state transparency laws, a move Tripp described as a "political disagreement masquerading as a lawsuit."

In the wake of the Sept. 19 confrontation, Blount took to Facebook to bemoan the state of affairs on County Council and clarify that race wasn't a factor in his vote against funding Fant's event.

In an interview with The Post and Courier, Blount said "I think that we can all, regardless of what side of the issues we're on, have a lot more decorum than we did Tuesday night."

Follow Conor Hughes on Twitter at [@ConorJHughes](https://twitter.com/ConorJHughes) or reach him on his email at chughes@postandcourier.com.

CONOR HUGHES

REPORTER

Exhibit G 2

1

Source: Notes from Facebook Live interview: Williams Beacon Pranceton (P) with Greenville County Councilman Ennis Fant (F) (within hours following County Council's regular meeting on 19 Sep 2023)

P: Tell us what happened

F (~ 4:00):

- **Deal with it every week.** Those two are not Republicans. I would describe them as anarchists.
- Always have 7, 8 or 9 reasonable people. Typically 2-3 who don't care about taxpayers.
- Absolutely lunatic. He yells at me from a distance from time to time. This guy is beyond an anarchist; he's a fascist.
- Always gonna be 2-3 racists. Tzouvelekas and Shaw are a problem. Nine are cool. Spewing racist tropes.

F (~ 9:35): Ran out of people to ask

P: We've raised six figures for these events. They spend \$30,000 on lunch.

F:

- In district funds we loan each other money. Most people that donate don't look like us. Just nice Republicans. Didn't want to ask anyone who comes before my committee. Had no idea these two racists would lose their minds.
- The application was reviewed by administration to see if it meets guidelines. They've given money to the Scottish Games and the TR Christmas parade.
- Five reasonable Republicans will attend the Gala.
- Two racists . . . the policy only applies to white Republicans

P: He was touching you. What are you going to do? You can tell this was personal.

F:

- They're mad. No black people should be in leadership.
- **I've got racist emails where they fought to keep me off P&D**

P:

- Fant doesn't talk about issues if he's not working on them
- I have a video of Stan and will post it. I'm going to call his employer. Stan is not going to be comfortable. He looked like Steve Austin on fentanyl.

F:

- Both Pranceton and "Ma" [Tabitha M.] were outstanding. We shot back twice.
- Those two [Ed Paxton and David Davis] were reading something Shaw wrote.
- Per Council Rules you can't call Councilmen by name
- Shaw set those two men up to look like racists

P: Those guys could barely read and talk

F: "They going to a fancy hotel"

P: We're celebrating the 60th anniversary of taxation with representation

F:

- They almost talked like we're not citizens
- True conservatives can't stand those guys
- Six people on Council are politically savvy
- Retribution is coming
- Every time they have a community project I'm gonna vote no every time

P:

- Stan made Greenville County look bad. Every time they say the Pledge of Allegiance: ". . . with liberty and justice for all" . . . except for black people.
- Like King of the Hill: back woods, hillbilly rednecks that literally have no self-awareness.

F (~34:40):

- Districts 20 and 22 have no representation
- You will never get what you need. Dead on arrival.
- When you've made every Committee Chair mad, your stuff won't get on the agenda
- You are such nut jobs
- **Why, why, why** would you vote for somebody that is **SO mean-spirited and hateful and spew out such vitriolic animus every single day?**
- How many pieces of legislation have either one of them gotten passed this year? **ZERO**
- I've gotten so much passed I've lost count how many and I'm black and a Democrat in Greenville County
- You win in politics through the art of addition, not subtraction. Politics is about relationships. We do not practice political polarization and hyper-partisanship on County Council.
- We have three major responsibilities: Public Safety, Roads & Infrastructure, Land Management and there's nothing Democrat or Republican about any of that
- Nine (9) of us recognize that; three (3) don't and those 3 are out in the cold getting wet in the rain and get absolutely nothing.

P: They tried to do away with the Human Relations Commission; they voted against the Conestee Dam project; voted against the Animal Shelter . . . wanted to make it cost neutral. They fought against things that would affect southern Greenville County that so happens to be District 25 . . . an educated black man.

F (~37:58):

- I'm gonna tell you how stupid they are. You know Greenville County has some of the worst roads in the state and the country. We are trying to figure out how to fix these roads. We have 40 new people moving here every day; 1350 new people every month.
- So how do we fix the roads? Only 3 of 46 counties don't have a 1-cent sales tax: Greenville; Oconee; Georgetown.
- We're spending \$14 million a year on resurfacing roads. We pave about 40 miles a year out of 1850 miles of road.
- A 1-cent sales tax would generate \$100 million a year to fix roads. The sales tax would be paid by people who don't live here (people going to Halls Chophouse). Right now, only people who own a car are paying.
- We can take that \$100 million and list out the projects and do it over seven (7) years. That's the only real way we're gonna make a difference.
- When Stan was asked about it he said we need to cut funding for green space, affordable housing and Greenlink.
- You just can't be a dummy and be on there. Anybody that doesn't understand green space preservation, affordable housing and public transportation are a quintessential component of any comprehensive land management plan . . . if you don't understand that, go home! Let somebody have the seat whose brain functions properly.

P: They really don't know the law. Berating the county attorney . . . ethics violations trickery. You can tell the same person wrote both *[Paxton and Davis]* speeches. Those guys probably can't write. I don't even know how they read.

F:

- I've been knowing them both for years and they can't read that well and some of the words that were being used wouldn't even come out of their head.
- Everybody was texting in the meeting . . . you know Steve Shaw wrote that . . . yea, we know

P: For those that have ears to hear and eyes to see, Greenville is changing for the better.

F: It's failed leadership if we don't adequately plan for the arrival of those people *[220,000 in the next 15-20 years]*

P:

- They say Patriots but sure act like they Nazis to me. Them jokers act like Paw Patrol with the Nazis.
- They don't understand civics, workforce development. You and your leadership and those that think like you on County Council are setting up Greenville County for the next 100 years.
- Fee-in-lieu that you have brought has changed the game *[re: affordable housing]*

F:

- Between me, Chris and Dan, we probably write 70% of the legislation that County Council takes up
- We have people that don't go to no meetings no time. They don't do nothin'. How about you ain't paying attention.
- Did you see the people that got up and left when the septic issue got tabled? Who do you think is regulating and trying to control sprawl in southern Greenville County? You think that just fell out of the sky?
- That's me and they're mad as a wet hen but we're not gonna put these poop septic tanks all over southern Greenville County and pollute the rivers. People at Lake Greenwood drink that water. Act like you care!

F (~47:40):

- I am going to reconstitute Project Genesis. It is an organization we had in 2004 to get the Martin Luther King holiday. The Republicans are loud and they're scaring elected officials to death. Vote them out enmasse in Republican primaries.
- The reasonable Republicans don't vote in the primaries. They're too busy going to softball games, yoga, tennis lessons, whatever for God's sake else they do.
- And then they wait to Nov to vote and it's too late 'cause the crazy person vote won in Nov.
- This is going to be the plan. We need to start getting ready. I'm gonna need volunteers black and white.
- If you are black or white and live in Districts 25 and 23, you're gonna have to get off your behind and go vote in the Republican primaries for reasonable people so we can stop these Tzouvelekas' and Shaws from getting elected. 'Cause if you live on Paris Mountain or whatever the name of that road is that runs at the bottom down there *[State Park Rd]* . . . if you live up there and you call that man, he will not call you back and he hates you.
- If you live in the northern part of the city or Wade Hampton Blvd and call Tzouvelekas, he hates you and he will not call you back.
- How can you be black and have an elected official who hates you so bad he won't even return your call let alone address your concerns?

P: The gotta be put out

F (~49:30):

- We did this in 2004 and it worked. We need reasonable Republicans, white Democrats and African Americans who don't live in District 23 and 25 to vote in the Republican primary for the reasonable Republican . . . somebody that's not racist, who's nice and cares about you, and will address your concerns and call you back when you call them.
- Reasonable Republicans, white Democrats and African Americans out-number racists 3:1
- Get off your behind and go vote **so I don't have to deal with the racism every single week on County Council**
- We can fix this. We can fix it together.

P: Let's do a townhall next at George's amphitheater [*Circle of Friends*]

F (~51:00):

- I thank God for Butch and Liz and Dan and Chris. They cut them old racists off at their knees so I don't have to get started on it
- I told them tonight I don't tell ya'll enough but I appreciate ya'll 'cause **when that ole' racism start, ya'll cut it off so I don't have to say anything** and that means the world to me and then I'm not out there fighting all by myself.
- That lets you know there are more reasonable Republicans than racist ones. They are not the majority; they're just loud and mean and they threaten you and scare you and the elected officials just be trembling in their boots over there.

P: You were like Holyfield under restraint. I do wish I had hit him in the back of the head for full transparency.

Exhibit H

Approved by Council: 9/20/16

COUNCIL COMMUNITY PROJECT ACCOUNT POLICY

Community Project Account appropriations will continue to fund only small, de minimus public projects associated with special, non-recurring requests for infrastructure purposes such as: public buildings and grounds; community centers open to the residents of Greenville County; infrastructure related studies; flooding; roads; lights; sewer and drainage; to fund contractual agreements for social, recreational, and educational programs/services; and contributions to taxing entities providing services in Greenville County for local projects. County Council members will serve as sponsors for any Community Project Account applications submitted. Project applications will be required to go to Finance Committee for review and be approved by County Council. Council Members, at their discretion, may transfer into their Community Project Account any unspent Council District Expense funds not required for business expenses used in the discharge of their public duties.

First Year - \$10,228

Subsequent Years - \$20,456



Exhibit I 1



Home



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Messaging



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50



Dr. Ennis Fant, Sr.

Regional Area Director at Occidental Life Insura...

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Message

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← Experience

Regional Area Director

Occidental Life Insurance Co · Full-time

Jun 2019 - Present · 4 yrs 8 mos

Waco, Texas Area

Redcliffe Realty

15 yrs 6 mos

Greenville, South Carolina Area

Real Estate Broker

Full-time

Apr 2010 - Present · 13 yrs 10 mos



Searching for a New Home?

South Carolina homes for sale from experienced real estate agents at Ennis Fant, South Carolina homes for...

Realtor

Aug 2008 - Present · 15 yrs 6 mos

Buyer's Agent



Redcliffe Realty

Greenville County Council

Greenville County

Jan 2017 - Present · 7 yrs 1 mo

Greenville, South Carolina Area

Member of the governing body. Member of the Finance Committee, Planning and Development Committee and Chairman of the Affordable Housing Committee



Executive Sales Director

Financial Education Services (FES)

Feb 2015 - Present · 9 yrs

Greenville, South Carolina Area

Financial Education Services (FES) and its sales agents have over 25 years of experience helping consumers regain financial control of their lives and improve their credit profiles.

With the financial and credit challenges that so many people are facing today, FES offers some of the most needed financial products and services which help to significantly increase an individual's credit score, as well as protect their identity, family and finances.

Specialties Include:

- Credit Repair
- Credit Restoration
- Credit Education
- Credit Rebuilding
- Wills and Trusts
- Identity Theft Protection
- Debt Restructuring
- FES Protection Plan Membership

For anyone looking to: improve their credit score, purchase a home, buy a car, lower current interest rates, or re-finance a home, we can help. Our

Credit Restoration service can help to remove any inaccurate, erroneous and obsolete information from a credit file, including: Bankruptcies, Foreclosures, Charge-Offs, Late Payments, Judgments, Tax Liens, Repossessions and Student Loans. This service features proven results in as little as 60-90 days, 24/7 access to a personal online website, live interactive customer support and a satisfaction money back guarantee.

FES is managed by an outstanding team of experts in the credit, mortgage, finance, technology, support and creative disciplines. This proven and experienced team lends the finest leadership skills, vision and dedication in creating the highest performance standard and consumer confidence.

www.protectionthatpays.com



Protection That Pays

Helping consumers gain control over their financial lives.

Senior Pastor

Pleasant View Baptist Church

May 1990 - Present · 33 yrs 9 mos

Greenville, South Carolina Area

Pastor and Chief Administrator

Regional Area Director

Lincoln Heritage

Nov 2012 - May 2019 · 6 yrs 7 mos

Greenville, South Carolina Area

Manager of Final Expense Agency



Lincoln Heritage Life - Final Expense Life Insurance, Medicare Supplement Plans, Burial Expense Insurance
Lincoln Heritage Life Insurance Company offers Final Expense insurance, Medicare Supplement insurance an...

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Joey Russo · 3rd

AGM Greenville Industrial Rubber & Gasket/ County Councilman, Greenville County, SC

The 57-house project would sit at the intersection of Augusta and Stratford roads in the Gantt area. Situated on just under 5 acres, the development is an example of dense infill development County Councilman Ennis Fant said is needed to combat sprawl and alleviate the area's growing affordable housing crisis.

Fant is a realtor who is marketing the project.

Final prices have not been set, but Fant said houses at the development, which would be called Stratford Place, would likely sell for around \$180,000. Buyers must make \$70,000 or less a year to qualify. And the properties will be deed-restricted, requiring that they remain owner-occupied for at least 10 years.

“We don't want a doctor who just moved here to work at Prisma to come grab one because it's cheap,” Fant said. “That would defeat the purpose.”



GREENVILLE NEWS

As economic hurdles persist, Greenville affordable housing fund eyes new tactics in 2024

BY SPENCER DONOVAN SDONOVAN@POSTANDCOURIER.COM

Three private developers are fully funding the project, Fant said, and it will not receive any public money or tax subsidies.

Tina Belge, the Greenville Housing Fund's director of advocacy and policy, said as housing costs in the area continue to go up, providing opportunities for affordable home ownership has become increasingly difficult.

Roughly 80 percent of Greenville County residents are currently priced out of buying a house, she said. Expanding access to homeownership is critical to helping working families finding financial stability and building wealth, she said.

The property sits in District 25, which Fant represents. It's Greenville County's last majority-minority district, and established residents have continued to feel the pressure of the rising cost of living in the area.

Since the project was announced, Fant said he's heard from dozens of residents interested in reserving a property for purchase.



GREENVILLE NEWS

Greenville County tax breaks would aid affordable housing at upscale Unity Park high-rise

BY SPENCER DONOVAN SDONOVAN@POSTANDCOURIER.COM

“We have local people, in the community, who have just been desperate for homeownership,” he said. “You can buy that house, and the payment will be cheaper than your rent. Rent is through the roof right now in Greenville County.” Construction is set to begin in spring.

There will be several floor plans ranging from 800 to 1,200 square feet.

Because of the density and layout of the proposed development, the property will need to be rezoned to a “flexible review district” to move forward.

Fant, who chairs the county Planning and Development committee, said he will recuse himself for that vote. He expects the developers will apply for the zoning change next month to allow the project to move forward next year.

Follow Conor Hughes on Twitter at [@ConorJHughes](#) or reach him on his email at chughes@postandcourier.com.

MORE INFORMATION

Habitat Greenville dedicates first Bramlett Park home



License Type: Insurance Producer

This document may serve in lieu of a Letter of Certification or Clearance

Licensee Demographics

Name: FANT, ENNIS M
Domicile Country: United States

NPN: 16164
Resident?: Yes

Domicile State: South Carolina
Business Address:
GREENVILLE, SC 29607

License Quick View

License Class	License Status	Status Date	Effective Date	Expiration Date
Insurance Producer	Active	05/31/2023	07/01/2023	06/30/2025

Phone, Email, Website

Phone

Type	Number
Fax Phone	(864) 235-4339

Email

Type	E-mail
------	--------

Website

No results found.

License Information

Fax Phone (864) 235-4339

License Status: Active
Status Date: 05/31/2023
Designated Home State:

License Type: Insurance Producer
First Active Date: 05/19/1994
Expiration Date: 06/30/2025

License Number: 16164
Effective Date: 07/01/2023
Legacy License ID: 189091

Line Of Authority

Line Name	Qualification	School Code	Exam/Cert Date	Line Status	Status Date	Effective Date
Life	Exam		05/19/1994	Approved	05/31/2023	05/19/1994
Accident & Health or Sickness	Exam		05/19/1994	Approved	05/31/2023	05/19/1994
Property	Exam		04/09/2002	Approved	05/31/2023	04/09/2002
Casualty	Exam		04/09/2002	Approved	05/31/2023	04/09/2002

Designated Responsible Licensed Producer

Name	License #	NPN	License Class	License Status	Resident State	Start Date
CAROLINA FINANCIAL RESOURCES, INC.	1905107453	16860726	Agency	Active	South Carolina	01/04/2024

Alias Names

No results found.

Relationships

No results found.

Continuing Education Information

CE Compliant: No

Compliance Date:

CE Start Date: 07/01/2023

CE End Date: 06/30/2025

Design/Over 25 years: No

CE Exemption Type: Not Exempt

CE Exemption Reason:

Life/Health
Target:

Life/Health
Credits:

Life/Health
Carryover
Credits:

8

6

18

General Target:

General
Credits:

Ethics Target: 3

Ethics Credits:

5

0

0

Property/Casualty
Target:

Property/Casualty
Credits:

Property/Casualty
Carryover Credits:

8

0

0

Appointments

Show 10 entries

Showing 1 to 10 of 12 entries

Filter

Company Name	NAIC CoCode	License Type	Line of Authority	Appointment Type	Appointment Date	Effective Date	Expiration Date
ACCENDO INSURANCE COMPANY	63444	Insurance Producer	Life	Local	08/20/2020	09/01/2022	09/30/2024
AMERICAN GENERAL LIFE INSURANCE CO	60488	Insurance Producer	Life	Local	06/24/2019	09/07/2022	09/30/2024
AMERICAN GENERAL LIFE INSURANCE CO	60488	Insurance Producer	Accident & Health or Sickness	Local	06/24/2019	09/07/2022	09/30/2024
AMERICAN MEMORIAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY	67989	Insurance Producer	Life	Local	01/28/2020	09/06/2022	09/30/2024
ASSURITY LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY	71439	Insurance Producer	Life	Local	04/01/2020	09/08/2022	09/30/2024
ASSURITY LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY	71439	Insurance Producer	Accident & Health or Sickness	Local	04/01/2020	09/08/2022	09/30/2024
BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD OF S C	38520	Insurance Producer	Accident & Health or Sickness	Local	08/02/2012	10/01/2020	09/30/2024
BLUECHOICE HEALTHPLAN OF SOUTH CAROLINA, INC.	95741	Insurance Producer	Accident & Health or Sickness	Local	08/02/2012	10/01/2020	09/30/2024
OCCIDENTAL LIFE INS CO OF NC	67148	Insurance Producer	Life	Local	05/05/2014	09/29/2022	09/30/2024
RENAISSANCE LIFE & HEALTH	61700	Insurance	Life	General	03/11/2014	09/11/2022	09/30/2024

Exhibit K



Ennis M. Fant, Sr.

DISTRICT 25

A native of Greenville, Ennis Fant attended the public schools of Greenville County. He is an honor student graduate of the University of South Carolina where he obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemical Engineering. While working in research and development in the corporate arena, he was awarded two patents. At the University of South Carolina, he served as President of the Theta Nu Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and was the Southern Region College Brother of the Year. He did his theological studies at Erskine Theological Seminary and The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He currently services as Senior Pastor of Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Church in Powdersville, SC. He has also served as an adjunct professor of New Testament Studies at N.J. Brockman School of Theology in Greenville, SC. He is a member of the Baptist Ministers Fellowship of Greenville and Vicinity, the South Carolina Education and Missionary Baptist Convention and the Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc.

Dr. Fant has formerly served as a member of Greenville County Council and the South Carolina House of Representatives. While previously serving on Council, he served as Vice-Chairman and Chaired the Finance Committee. As a current member of Council, he serves as Chairman of both the Planning and Development Committee and the Affordable Housing Committee. He is also a member of the Finance Committee and the Road, Infrastructure and Public Works Committee. Additionally, he serves on the Board of Directors of the Appalachian Council of Governments and the Greenville Pickens Area Transportation Study Board. He has previously served on the boards of Greenville Technical College, The Greater Greenville Chamber of Commerce, the Urban League of the Upstate and the Phillis Wheatley Association. He is also an active member of Gamma Gamma Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. in Greenville, SC.

Being bi-vocational, he has had a long career in the Real Estate and Insurance industries; protecting families and providing homeownership to strengthen our communities.

Dr. Fant has two children, Courtney N. Fant, MD a graduate of The University of South Carolina School of Medicine - Greenville and Ennis Fant, Jr. who is attending Greenville Technical College.

CONTACT INFORMATION

☎ 864.467.2787 Council Phone
864.467.2787 Council Fax

✉ Email

Notice: Email correspondence
may be subject to disclosure
under the Freedom of Information
Act.



Greenville County Council

Ennis Fant, Sr.
County Councilman, District 25
efant@greenvillecounty.org
(864) 467-2787
www.greenvillecounty.org

February 24, 2024

RE: Complaint C2024-009

Dear Ms. Dayson:

I am in receipt of your correspondence dated February 12, 2024, regarding a complaint filed by Mr. Ed Paxton. I am more than happy to address the issues outlined in this complaint.

Let's begin with Edward H. Paxton. Mr. Paxton who is in his late 80s resides in my District at 1 York Circle. Mr. Paxton lashes out at me and the entire Council virtually every week. For starters, It appears that Mr. Paxton didn't write this complaint. Enclosed is a copy of one of his older writings to confirm my suspicion. Additionally, the language used would not be the language that Mr. Paxton would use or know how to use. For further context and motivation, Mr. Paxton lives in the Belle Meade Community, which is virtually an all-African American neighborhood, which use to be all white when Mr. Paxton moved there originally. Mr. Paxton laments that all of these "Blacks have surrounded him" and complains profusely how the neighborhood is no longer a good neighborhood. He has free will to move at any time. He complains about everything from children making too much noise to the lights at the community center across the street staying on too late, shining light into his home.

According to the language used in the complaint, it brings to question did the notary, Michelle Shuman actually witness Mr. Paxton write the complaint. Michelle Shuman is an appointed political hack for the Greenville County Republican Party and spews vitriolic hate and anger toward me routinely. A quick scan of her Facebook Page will verify. I have enclosed a recent one. I have been targeted racially before and politically before, but I don't think I can recall being targeted from both angles at the same time. The question remains, could Michelle Shuman actually be the one who wrote this complaint, not Mr. Paxton as she routinely uses others to do her bidding to keep her name out of everything.

Let's set the record straight, Michelle Shuman never shows up at any Council meetings but possibly provides speeches for others to present at public hearings as if they were their own thoughts and opinions.

Now let's address Mr. Paxton's complaint. In 2023, members of my district wanted to commemorate 60 years of the district's formation which began with the closure of the old Donaldson Air Force Base in January of 1963. Vision25, which was formed back in August of 2016, has become a driving influence in the district in the area of community engagement, affordable housing, public safety, and economic growth. It is a non-profit organization registered with the Secretary of State's Office and registered as a charitable organization as well. Vision25 is run by community volunteers and has no paid positions.

The group made 2023 a year long celebration with a Meet and Greet at the Greenville Convention Center back in April, a plethora of community events and workshops like the importance of adult literacy and financial planning. Everything from how to improve parenting skills to writing a job securing resume. On August 5th we had a Family-Fun Day at Lakeside Park. It was an all-day cook-out with bands, games for the kids and a back to school book bag give away for the children. More than 1500 people were in attendance.

We culminated the year with a Black-Tie Gala at the Embassy Suites which was an epic event that people are still talking about today. I have enclosed a souvenir book for your perusal. Thousands of pictures were taken, and the event received tremendous news coverage throughout the Upstate.

During the year, Vision25 raised tens of thousands of dollars from the community to pay for all of these events. To ensure that there were no shortfalls and that the event would actually take place, I asked the County Administrator for suggestions as to what other businesses we might approach that would be willing to help. The County Administrator suggested that I ask five of my colleagues if they would be willing to contribute \$5k each from their "personal discretionary fund". Each Council member has funds designated each year that they can use for community projects. We all help each other with projects as needed each year. Once the five confirmed with the County Administrator that they would contribute, the County Administrator sent the request through the normal approval process.

So that everyone understands the proper protocol, all requests for funds FIRST have to be approved by the County Administrator. Secondly, the requests must be approved by the County's Finance Committee. Thirdly, final approval must be voted on by the full Council. At the public hearing Mr. Paxton read a statement where he vehemently opposed using taxpayer dollars to fund "Mr. Fant's big party and shindig for his friends". Clearly, Mr. Paxton completely ignored the value and contributions to Greenville County made by the residents of District 25 over the past 60 years.

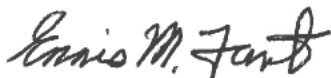
Let's now address recusal verses abstaining verses voting. In speaking with the County Attorney, I was told that I could vote if I wanted to since this request was not benefiting me or anyone in my family financially. The County Administrator came back and said that I was only advocating for my constituency who too are taxpayers of Greenville County. Although I felt that I could vote, I chose to abstain for two reasons; one, by recusal it would have given the impression that I did have a financial interest, which I did not and secondly, I did not want to give any of the racist Council members (Tzouvelakas and Shaw) ammunition if I voted; thus, I abstained. Let me be emphatically clear, Council Members Tzouvelakas and Shaw consistently vote against any and everything that even gives the appearance of benefiting the minority community. These two, along with Michelle Shuman and Ed Paxton made the biggest uproar about how Council members choose to spend their own discretionary funds that I have ever seen in the entire eight years that I have been on Council. Community Project votes are routine and pass on a voice vote on the consent agenda, always without objection. But when it comes to my District and my projects, it always must be a detailed discussion. I have never threatened them, but I do vote NO on virtually all their community project requests since they have such a hard time voting for mine.

This year long celebration what a tremendous success and we are truly grateful to the business community, the citizens of District 25 and my colleagues on the Council who all came together to make this event truly memorable. South Carolina Technology and Aviation Center (SCTAC) received the Corporate Award that evening. Clarence Sevillian, Executive Vice-President, and Chief Operating Officer of Prisma Health was the keynote speaker for the event. Other community awards were given out during the evening as well.

Regarding my business and licenses, I do not do any business with the County of Greenville. The only income that I receive from Greenville County is my County Council salary, which is reflected annually on my Statement of Economic Interest.

In closing, after reviewing multiple handwritten complaints from Mr. Paxton, it is evident as well as questionable if the notary actually witnessed the complaint as it was being written by Mr. Paxton or was the complaint actually written by the notary, Michelle Shuman. Taxation without representation is tyranny. I will always fight to ensure that my constituents are respected and valued as tax paying citizens of Greenville County. It is my sincere hope that this kind of deception, bigotry and vitriolic hate is not given credibility by South Carolina's respected institutions.

Sincerely,



Ennis M. Fant, Sr.
Greenville County Council
District 25

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF GREENVILLE County Council & OTHERS
FROM: E. PAXTON

There seems to be a lot of Confusion about our Magistrate Courts & how we got to where we are today. Mann Dalton is behind the traffic Court - magistrate mess* he want to [redacted] Smith and legislature decided what we got. Here is what we need do to resolve problem for a while & it won't require legislative action.

1. For Person wishing to forfeit bond (traffic case) Person should be let send money Order to central court cashier or deliver same to any magistrate's office in Greenville County.
2. For Person wishing a bench trial (traffic case) Person should be let go to central Court operating in Council Chambers at Co. Square between hours of 11 AM & 8 P.M.
3. For Person taking a jury trial (traffic case) trial should happen in Magistrate Court in Area where ticket was written.

Problem is (with the above) there are [redacted] Magistrates who are trying to expand their sphere of influence by seeing more cases (but at some time morning come they got what they got) & if we go to central court they gonna cry like babies cause their fiefdom is being reduced. For these Magistrates I say quit your double talk!

This magistrate court situation is but tip of the iceberg. Problem in court system in S.C is corrupt because it is an entity of the legislature - its not a justice system - never has been (and if any one wishes to doubt me take me to court on the falling or contempt). Judges of this state universally lie to juries in their instructions to the jury - And its legal as heck - read Spaulf & Henson vs USA - 1894.

* I think Magistrate Run better system in Greenville County than Big Court Run.
at least you can talk to a Magistrate about problems in the system.

Ed Paxton

8 June 99

Michelle Rogier Shuman

Who Made Ennis Fant King?

On January 14, 2024, on Facebook, Ennis Fant made a post about the County Council's Planning and Development agenda for that week. In the post he says the following: "Being 3rd in seniority, I am Chairman of the County Council Planning and Development Committee. We are responsible for all of the land management and rezoning in Greenville County." In a reply to Leola Robinson-Simpson, Mr. Fant goes on to say: "plus as Chairman, I am responsible for all of the land management in Greenville County, which is a huge responsibility."

Last during the County Council meeting (February 6, 2024), Mr. Fant made a request to suspend the council rules and open up a special nominating period to put two members in the vacancies on the Planning Commission. Why did this suddenly become an issue? One of the seats has been vacant for some time. The other is just now becoming vacant. In addition, Mr. Fant made it known that at least one of the replacements would be a black woman. Absolutely nothing was said about finding the best qualified person for the position. After a lot of back-and-forth discussions, an amendment and votes, it was decided to open a special 10-day application period for only one of the positions. The other vacancy would be filled during the normal application process which begins in March.

So, what is the big deal? This opening up of a special application period for the Planning Commission does not break the law or the rules. It is certainly within their purview to do this. However, it is hypocritical on their part considering that they have never been concerned about it before. Members, who in the past have thought it totally unnecessary to fill the vacant position when others both men and women came off, suddenly changed their opinion and now just absolutely had to have a full board. The Planning Commission is only down two members out of 9 which means that they will still have the necessary 5 for a quorum to conduct their meetings. So, this move was not essential for the Commission to function and complete its business.

This same group of Councilpersons is totally unconcerned about other boards under their purview that have vacancies. Here is the list:

Accommodations Tax – 2 seats

Board of Tax Assessment – 1 seat

Board of Zoning Appeals – 1 seat

Buxton Special Tax District – 1 seat

Construction Board of Appeals – 2 seats

Historic Preservation – 1 seat

Human Relations – 1 seat

Lake Forest Special Tax District – 2 seats (Only has one member, does not have a quorum)

Linkside Special Tax District – 1 seat

Sterling Community Special Tax District – 5 seats (This board has no sitting members.)

So, what gives, I think this is because Mr. Fant is desperate to get someone on the Planning Commission that he personally controls and that will do his bidding. He has already said publicly that he is responsible for all of the land management and is in control.

What is even a bigger problem is that Stratford Place has yet to be heard by the Planning Commission and Ennis Fant stands to directly profit from their approval of this subdivision. He is the real estate agent that will be selling the individual houses in this subdivision. He is already marketing them and asking people to apply to reserve a property for themselves.

Now the story gets even more interesting. Last year, our County Council redid the appointment policy for the boards and commissions. Per the new policy, here is the statement concerning filling a vacant seat outside of the normal application period. "Section 12: Vacancies Due to Unexpired Terms

Where County Council fills vacancies due to unexpired and expired terms on the same board or commission in the same appointment cycle, the newly appointed board member serving the unexpired term shall be, first, a new appointee from the same district as the former board member creating the unexpired term, and, after that, a new appointee drawn at random by the Clerk from those board members appointed by County Council in the most recent appointment cycle."

So, the new member must come from District 19, the district represented by Benton Blount. If no one from that district were to apply, then Regina McCaskill would pick a random person from the last group of applicants to fill the position. To me this means putting the name of everyone who was not elected last fall in a hat and publicly drawing a name from the hat. That person would then be the next member of the Planning Commission.

Council absolutely must follow their rules. We the people must help our council representatives do the right thing. If you live in District 19, now is the time to step up. We need someone to fill this position. Applications are due by midnight on February 16, 2024.

Mr. Fant is not a king. He is one member out of 12 and has one vote. He is supposed to be a team player. He has shown us in the last 13 months that he has become anything but a team player. There needs to be a host of qualified men and women of all ethnic groups apply for the open position. The other Council members must stand up and force Mr. Fant to

become a team player or move on. He is only one individual. His role as a chairman is to be a facilitator not a king or a dictator.

As for having yet one more subdivision, let me say this, the situation of too many people is reaching a fever pitch here in Greenville. Our government officials have sold us out for having more and more people while giving up quality of life. Multiple people I know including myself are waiting inordinately long times to see medical professionals for desperately needed medical help because we do not have enough doctors and nurses to take care of the people we have here now, yet we keep asking more and more people to come here. When are we going to decide enough is enough.



All reactions:

55

4 comments

9 shares

Like

Comment

Share

View more comments

Active

Ennis Fant



60 YEARS

DISTRICT 25

EMPOWERED FOR CHANGE!

Celebration Gala

YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER

Embassy Suites

670 Verdae Blvd. • Greenville, SC

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
COUNTY OF RICHLAND)
IN THE MATTER OF:)
Complaint C2024-009)
Edward Paxton)
Complainant.)
Ennis Fant, Jr.)
Respondent.)
_____)

BEFORE THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

NOTICE OF HEARING

The State Ethics Commission has determined that there is probable cause pursuant to Section 8-13-320(10)(i), Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, in the above-captioned complaint. The Commission will convene a formal hearing into the matter in accordance with Section 8-13-320(10)(i) & (j), Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, and State Ethics Commission Regulations, S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 52-707 (1997 Cum. Supp.) on Thursday, October 16, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. at the Commission Hearing Room located at: 201 Executive Center Drive, Suite 150, Columbia, South Carolina 29210.

The following allegations will be heard:

COUNT ONE
USE OF OFFICIAL POSITION FOR FINANCIAL GAIN
SECTION 8-13-700(A), S. C. CODE ANNOTATED, 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, knowingly use his official position to obtain an economic benefit for a business with which he is associated by participating in a September 11, 2023 Finance Committee meeting, in violation of Section 8-13-700(A).

COUNT TWO
**FAILURE TO RECUSE FROM A GOVERNMENTAL DECISION IN WHICH
RESPONDENT HAD AN ECONOMIC INTERESTS
SECTION 8-13-700(B), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED**

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to provide a written recusal statement for the Greenville County Council September 19, 2023 meeting, in violation of Section 8-13-700(B).

COUNT THREE
**FAILURE TO REPORT INCOME ON STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS
SECTION 8-13-1120(A)(10) S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED**

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to report private source of income on his 2020 and 2021 Statements of Economic Interests (SEI), in violation of Section 8-13-1120(A)(10).

COUNT FOUR
**FAILURE TO FILE A PRE-ELECTION CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(D)(1), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED**

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to file a 2020 Pre-Election Campaign Disclosure Report (CDR), in violation of Section 8-13-1308(D)(1).

COUNT FIVE
**FAILURE TO FILE A PRE-ELECTION CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE REPORT
SECTION 8-13-1308(D)(1), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED**

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to file a 2024 Pre-Election CDR, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(D)(1).

COUNT SIX
**FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED**

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to

report a May 29, 2024 personal campaign contribution in the amount of \$200.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT SEVEN
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to report a June 20, 2024 campaign contribution from Watkins, Garrett & Woods Mortuary in the amount of \$1,000.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT EIGHT
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to report a June 26, 2024 campaign contribution from Ray Lattimore in the amount of \$500.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT NINE
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to report a June 26, 2024 campaign contribution from Steve Spinks in the amount of \$250.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT TEN
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to report an April 29, 2024 campaign expenditure to Sarah Fant in the amount of \$1,800.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT ELEVEN
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to report a May 13, 2024 campaign expenditure to Sarah Fant Signs in the amount of \$2,000.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT TWELVE
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to report a May 23, 2024 campaign expenditure to Service Fee EGov in the amount of \$14.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT THIRTEEN
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to report a May 24, 2024 campaign expenditure to Business Filing in the amount of \$39.50, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT FOURTEEN
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to report a May 24, 2024 campaign expenditure to Wilson 5 Cent in the amount of \$3.79, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT FIFTEEN
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to

report a May 28, 2024 campaign expenditure to Service Fee SCI in the amount of \$7.50, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT SIXTEEN
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to report a May 28, 2024 campaign expenditure to Business Filing in the amount of \$13.50, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT SEVENTEEN
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to report a May 25, 2024 campaign expenditure to NGP Van Inc. in the amount of \$59.38, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT EIGHTEEN
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to report a May 28, 2024 campaign expenditure to Textedly in the amount of \$8.48, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT NINETEEN
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to report a May 30, 2024 campaign expenditure to NCNW in the amount of \$200.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT TWENTY
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to report a May 31, 2024 campaign expenditure to The Gathering – Fish Fry in the amount of \$200.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT TWENTY-ONE
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to report a June 4, 2024 campaign expenditure to NGP Van in the amount of \$99.29, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT TWENTY-TWO
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to report a June 7, 2024 campaign expenditure to NGP Van in the amount of \$132.68, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT TWENTY-THREE
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to report a June 12, 2024 campaign expenditure to Krispy Kreme in the amount of \$23.74, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT TWENTY-FOUR
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to

report a June 20, 2024 campaign expenditure to Sarah Fant in the amount of \$100.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT TWENTY-FIC
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to report a June 20, 2024 campaign expenditure to Office Depot in the amount of \$151.58, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT TWENTY-SIX
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to report a June 20, 2024 campaign expenditure to Summit Media in the amount of \$1,976.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT TWENTY-SEVEN
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to report a June 24, 2024 campaign expenditure to Summit Media in the amount of \$1,014.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT TWENTY-EIGHT
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to report a June 25, 2024 campaign expenditure to Sarah Fant in the amount of \$500.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT TWENTY-NINE
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to report a June 25, 2024 campaign expenditure to NGP Van in the amount of \$5.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT TWENTY-THIRTY
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to report a June 26, 2024 campaign expenditure to Textedly in the amount of \$8.48, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT THIRTY-ONE
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to report a June 27, 2024 campaign expenditure to Frances Bishop in the amount of \$200.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT THIRTY-TWO
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to report a June 27, 2024 campaign expenditure to 1234 Food and Spirts in the amount of \$55.58, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT THIRTY-THREE
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to

report a July 1, 2024 campaign expenditure to Minuteman Press in the amount of \$1,390.89, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT THIRTY-FOUR
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to report a July 8, 2024 campaign expenditure to Breanna Spaulding in the amount of \$2,355.00, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT THIRTY-FIVE
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to report a July 26, 2024 campaign expenditure to Textedly in the amount of \$8.48, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT THIRTY-SIX
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to report an August 26, 2024 campaign expenditure to Textedly in the amount of \$8.48, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT THIRTY-SEVEN
FAILURE TO REPORT CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE
SECTION 8-13-1308(F), S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to report a September 26, 2024 campaign expenditure to Textedly in the amount of \$8.48, in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F).

COUNT THIRTY-EIGHT
FAILURE TO DEPOSIT CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS
SECTION 8-13-1312, S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to deposit a \$1,000.00 campaign contribution received from Doug Garrett on June 17, 2024 into his campaign bank account, in violation of Section 8-13-1312.

COUNT THIRTY-NINE
FAILURE TO MAKE EXPENDITURE THROUGH CAMPAIGN BANK ACCOUNT
SECTION 8-13-1312, S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to make an August 11, 2022 campaign expenditure to S.H. Carter Development in the amount of \$100.00 through his campaign bank account, in violation of Section 8-13-1312.

COUNT FORTY
FAILURE TO MAKE EXPENDITURE THROUGH CAMPAIGN BANK ACCOUNT
SECTION 8-13-1312, S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to make a June 10, 2024 campaign expenditure to Breanna Spaulding – Call Center in the amount of \$450.00 through his campaign bank account, in violation of Section 8-13-1312.

COUNT FORTY-ONE
FAILURE TO MAKE EXPENDITURE THROUGH CAMPAIGN BANK ACCOUNT
SECTION 8-13-1312, S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, fail to make a June 15, 2024 campaign expenditure to WJMZ Radio Ads in the amount of \$3,000.00 through his campaign bank account, in violation of Section 8-13-1312.

COUNT FORTY-TWO
USE OF CAMPAIGN FUNDS FOR PERSONAL EXPENSES
SECTION 8-13-1348, S.C. CODE ANN., 1976, AS AMENDED

That Ennis Fant, Jr., Greenville County Councilmember, did in Richland County, use

campaign funds to for personal use on March 28, 2022 by reimbursing himself \$125.00 of campaign funds for a souvenir booklet, in violation of Section 8-13-1348.

You have the right to be represented by counsel, the right to call and examine witnesses, the right to introduce exhibits, and the right to cross-examine opposing witnesses. This hearing will be open to the public as required by Section 8-13-320(10)(j), Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended. The procedures to be followed are set forth in the Administrative Procedures Act, Section 1-23-10, et seq., Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, the State Ethics Act, Section 8-13-100, et seq., Code of Laws, South Carolina, 1976, as amended, and State Ethics Commission Regulations S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 52-707 (1997 Cum. Supp.).

A pre-hearing conference may be scheduled prior to the hearing to allow exchange of witness lists and evidence, marking of exhibits, and disposition of motions or pleadings. In the event you fail to appear, judgment by default will be rendered against you. If there are any questions concerning the above notice or hearing times, please contact the State Ethics Commission.

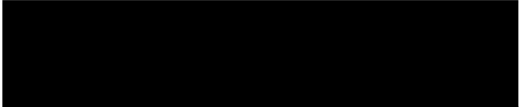


Meghan Walker Dayson, Executive Director
State Ethics Commission

Dated this 28th day,
of July 2025.

Certificate of Service by Certified Mail

I hereby certify that a copy of this **NOTICE OF HEARING** was duly served on RESPONDENT Ennis Fant, 11 Ghana Drive, Greenville, SC 29605 by depositing said **NOTICE OF HEARING** in the United States mail, Columbia, South Carolina on this 20th day of July 2025, by CERTIFIED MAIL, E-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED, appropriate postage affixed, and a return address clearly indicated on said envelope.



Rachael O'Bryan, Administrative Assistant
State Ethics Commission (803) 253-4192

Columbia, South Carolina

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)	
COUNTY OF RICHLAND)	BEFORE THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION
)	
IN THE MATTER OF:)	
COMPLAINT C2024-009)	
)	
Edward Paxton,)	CONSENT ORDER
Complainant,)	
)	
Ennis Fant,)	
Respondent.)	
_____)	

This matter comes before the State Ethics Commission (Commission) by way of a Complaint filed on January 31, 2024. Pursuant to Section 8-13-320(10)(i) of the South Carolina Ethics, Government Accountability, and Campaign Reform Act (Ethics Act), the Complaint against Ennis Fant (Respondent) was considered by the Commission and probable cause was found to warrant an evidentiary hearing. Prior to the call of the case, Respondent agreed to entry of the following:

STATEMENTS OF FACT

1. At all times relevant, Respondent has served on Greenville County (County) Council (Council) and on the County Finance Committee (Finance Committee).
2. As a public official, Respondent has filed Statements of Economic Interests (SEI) each year. From 2020-2023, Respondent did not disclose sources of private income therein.
3. Respondent's most recent election was on November 5, 2024. Respondent did not file a Pre-Election Campaign Disclosure Report (CDR) prior to this election.¹
4. At all times relevant, Respondent has served on the Board of Directors for Vision 25.

¹ Respondent also failed to timely file a 2020 Pre-Election CDR. However, this allegation was not included in the Complaint and Respondent did not receive notice of his failure to file this CDR until the Notice of Hearing was issued in July of 2025. Accordingly, this count is barred by the Commission's four (4) year statute of limitations found in Section 8-13-320(9)(d).

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According to its website, Vision 25 is a non-profit entity created to “empower[] ordinary people to drive change and improve results in their own communities.” Vision 25 has no paid employees and its staff is comprised of volunteers.

5. On September 6, 2023, Vision 25 submitted a Community Project Application seeking County funding to host an event “planned to celebrate the anniversary of District 25.”² The application contained a list of six (6) Councilmembers that had agreed to contribute \$5,000.00 from discretionary project funds allocated to Councilmembers each year.
6. The Finance Committee considered Vision 25’s application during a September 11, 2023 meeting. Prior to discussion on the matter, Respondent announced a substitution in the list of Councilmember-contributors. Additional discussion ensued regarding Vision 25’s tax status according to the Internal Revenue Service. Respondent advised the Finance Committee that Vision 25 was a 501(c)(4) corporation and that he intended to recuse himself from the matter. When the Finance Committee voted on Vision 25’s application, Respondent verbally abstained but did not submit a written statement of recusal. The Finance Committee approved Vision 25’s application and forwarded it to Council for its approval.
7. At a September 19, 2023 Council meeting, Vision 25’s application came before Council. Respondent did not participate in discussion on the matter. When Council voted to approve Vision 25’s application, Respondent verbally abstained but did not submit a written statement of recusal.
8. During the Commission’s investigation, Respondent’s Campaign Disclosure Reports (CDR) were reviewed, revealing that Respondent used \$125.00 in campaign funds to purchase a

² District 25 is Respondent’s County Council District.

souvenir booklet from Vision 25's 60th anniversary event.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based upon the Statements of Fact, the Commission concludes, as a matter of law:

1. At all times relevant, Respondent was a "public official" pursuant to Section 8-13-100(27) and a "candidate" pursuant to Section 8-13-1300(4). Therefore, the Commission has personal and subject matter jurisdiction.
2. Vision 25 is a "business with which [Respondent] is associated" pursuant to Section 8-13-100(4):

a business of which the person or a member of his immediate family is a director, an officer, owner, employee, a compensated agent or holder of stock worth one hundred thousand dollars or more at fair market value and which constitutes five percent or more of the total outstanding stock of any class.

3. Pursuant to Section 8-13-100(11)(a), Vision 25 had an "economic interest" in the approval of its Community Project Application:

. . . an interest distinct from that of the general public in a purchase, sale, lease, contract, option, or other transaction or arrangement involving property or services in which a [public official] may gain an economic benefit of fifty dollars or more.

4. Respondent was therefore prohibited by Section 8-13-700(A) from participating in any matter in which Vision 25 had an economic interest, to include the discussions and votes occurring on September 11, 2023 and September 19, 2023 as referenced herein. In addition, Section 8-13-700(B) required Respondent to submit a written statement of recusal during each of these meetings in accordance with:

(A) No [public official] may knowingly use his official [office] to obtain an economic interest for himself, a family member, an individual with whom he is associated, or a business with which he is associated. This prohibition does not extend to the incidental use of

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public materials, personnel, or equipment, subject to or available for a [public official's] use that does not result in additional public expense.

(B) No [public official] may make, participate in making, or in any way attempt to use his [office] to influence a governmental decision in which he, a family member, an individual with whom he is associated, or a business with which he is associated has an economic interest. A [public official] who, in the discharge of his official responsibilities, is required to take an action or make a decision which affects an economic interest of himself, a family member, an individual with whom he is associated, or a business with which he is associated shall:

(1) prepare a written statement describing the matter requiring action or decisions and the nature of his potential conflict of interest with respect to the action or decision;

...

(4) if he is a public official, other than a member of the General Assembly, he shall furnish a copy of the statement to the presiding officer of the governing body of an agency, commission, board, or of a county, municipality, or a political subdivision thereof, on which he serves, who shall cause the statement to be printed in the minutes and require that the member be excused from any votes, deliberations, and other actions on the matter on which the potential conflict of interest exists and shall cause the disqualification and the reasons for it to be noted in the minutes.

5. Respondent was required to file a Pre-Election CDR prior to the November 5, 2024 election in accordance with Section 8-13-1308(D)(1), which provides, in relevant part:

At least fifteen days before an election, a certified campaign report must be filed showing contributions of more than one hundred dollars and expenditures to or by the candidate or committee for the period ending twenty days before the election . . .

6. Respondent was not permitted to use campaign funds to purchase the aforementioned souvenir booklet according to Section 8-13-1348(A), which provides, in relevant part:

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No candidate, committee, public official, or political party may use campaign funds to defray personal expenses which are unrelated to the campaign or the office if the candidate is an officeholder nor may these funds be converted to personal use . . .

7. In accordance with Section 8-13-1510(A), Respondent has accrued a late-filing penalty of \$100.00 with regard to the 2024 Pre-Election CDR:

. . . a person required to file a report or statement under this chapter who files a late statement or report . . . must be assessed a civil penalty as follows: (1) a fine of one hundred dollars if the statement or report is not filed within five days after the established deadline provided by law in this chapter . . .

8. Section 8-13-320(10)(l) allows the Commission to issue a civil penalty of up to \$2,000.00 for each violation of the Ethics Act.
9. Section 8-13-130 allows the Commission to “levy an enforcement or administrative fee on a person who is in violation” of the Ethics Act.

DISCUSSION

The Commission found probable cause to charge Respondent with the following: one (1) count of Section 8-13-700(A) for participating in the September 11, 2023 Finance Committee discussion; one (1) count of Section 8-13-700(B) for failing to submit a written recusal during the September 19, 2023 County Council meeting; one (1) count of Section 8-13-1308(D)(1) for failing to file a 2024 Pre-Election CDR prior to the November 5, 2024 election; and one (1) count of Section 8-13-1348 for using campaign funds to purchase the aforementioned souvenir booklet.³

³ The Commission also found probable cause to charge Respondent with (1) failing to disclose campaign contributions and expenditures in violation of Section 8-13-1308(F) and (2) failing to disclose private sources of income on his SEIs from 2020 through 2023 in violation of Section 8-13-1120(A)(10). Respondent has since made all necessary disclosures and, therefore, the Commission declines to proceed as to these counts. The Commission also found probable cause to believe Respondent violated Section 8-13-1312 by failing to deposit a \$1,000.00 campaign contribution from Doug Garrett into his campaign bank account. Commission staff has since discovered that Respondent did in fact properly deposit the

Through this Consent Order, Respondent admits he violated the Ethics Act in these instances. In mitigation, Respondent states it has been the common practice of Councilmembers to verbally abstain from votes without submitting written recusals. Respondent further states that he spoke with the County Attorney prior the Finance Committee meeting and the County Council meeting and that the County Attorney advised Respondent that he was permitted to participate because he was not receiving any personal economic interest.⁴ Respondent stated he only abstained to avoid the appearance of impropriety, not because he believed there was an actual conflict of interest.

DISPOSITION

1. The Commission hereby finds Respondent in violation of one (1) count of Section 8-13-700(A) for participating in the September 11, 2023 Finance Committee discussion; one (1) count of Section 8-13-700(B) for failing to submit a written recusal statement during the September 19, 2023 County Council meeting; one (1) count of Section 8-13-1308(D)(1) for failing to timely file a 2024 Pre-Election CDR; and one (1) count of Section 8-13-1348 for using campaign funds to purchase the aforementioned souvenir booklet.
2. The Commission hereby adopts the Statements of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Discussion, and Disposition as agreed upon by the Respondent.

THEREFORE, the Commission hereby orders Respondent to pay the Commission, within six (6) months from receipt of this Order, a late-filing penalty of \$100.00 for the 2024 Pre-Election CDR, a reduced civil penalty of \$400.00 for the violation of Section 8-13-700(A), and an

contribution into his campaign bank account. The Commission therefore declines to proceed as to this count.

⁴ During the Commission's investigation, a Commission Investigator spoke with Mark Tollison, former County Attorney. Tollison could not recall the specifics of any conversation, but acknowledged he could have advised Respondent in this manner.

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administrative fee of \$400.00, for a total of \$900.00. The Commission declines to assess any civil penalties for the violations of Section 8-13-700(B) and Section 8-13-1348(A) in light of the mitigation stated herein.

FURTHER, the Commission orders Respondent to remit \$125.00 to the Children's Trust Fund and to provide proof of such payment to the Commission within six (6) months from receipt of this Order.

By executing this Consent Order, Respondent understands that he is not only admitting to a violation of the Ethics Act, but also confessing to a judgment of \$1,025.00 in the event he does not make payment as provided for in this Order, in which case the Commission shall file a Judgment against Respondent with the Clerk of Court in Respondent's last known County of residence, who shall enter this Order in the amount of \$1,025.00 (less any money paid) in its Judgment Rolls, without cost to the Commission.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 20TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2025.

STATE ETHICS COMMISSION


ENNIS FANT
RESPONDENT


JOSHUA SNOW KENDRICK
RESPONDENT'S ATTORNEY