

Ricky Waring, Mayor

Town Administrator

Council Members:

Bob Jackson
Walter Bailey
Aaron Brown
Terry Jenkins
Kima Garten-Schmidt
William McIntosh



Town Clerk
Beth Messervy

Town Attorney
G.W. Parker

Town of Summerville
SPECIAL CALLED COUNCIL MEETING
June 23, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ricky Waring called the Special Called Council meeting to order at 5:32pm on Wednesday, June 23, 2021. The meeting was held in Council Chambers on the third floor of the annex building at 200 South Main Street.

ATTENDANCE

Present: Mayor Waring, Councilmembers Terry Jenkins, Bill McIntosh, Aaron Brown, and Bob Jackson. Councilmember Walter Bailey called in via phone to attend the meeting electronically. Councilmember Kima Garten-Schmidt was unable to be reached by phone. A quorum was met. Staff was also present. Public and press were duly notified and present.

HIRING OF TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Jenkins made a motion, seconded by Mr. McIntosh, to offer the position of Town Administrator to Ms. Lisa Wallace. He stated the following:

“With permission, I would like to give reasoning for this motion. I would like to address why it was felt that doing another search for this position was not necessary. First and foremost, it is not a requirement to do so from a legal perspective. Second and more importantly, Ms. Wallace was a part of our search last year and was in fact our leading candidate. However, she withdrew her name for consideration after the process began. Following the termination of our previous administrator, Ms. Wallace contacted Mayor Waring to inquire as to what in the world was going on. After some discussion on that, the Mayor said to Ms. Wallace that you turned us down last year, do you feel any differently this time. To which she responded, yes, I do and I would love to come back to Summerville if given the opportunity. And that is why we are back here so quickly on this matter. Ms. Wallace served the Town of Summerville for over

two decades in different capacities including acting Administrator. She has had experience leading other communities in this capacity and is currently Assistant Administrator in Myrtle Beach. We are fortunate to have someone of Ms. Wallace’s caliber become available to us in such a timely fashion and I, for one, am greatly thankful for this. I would like us to authorize our Town Attorney to negotiate an employment agreement with a salary not to exceed \$170,000 with reasonable and customary benefits.”

Mr. Jackson stated that he agrees that Ms. Wallace is qualified for the position, and that he worked well with her when she worked for the Town previously. He stated that he would be voting in opposition of hiring Ms. Wallace because he does not agree with the way that the situation has been handled. He stated that Ms. Rebecca Vance, the now former Town Administrator, was in Myrtle Beach being sworn in as the first female President of the South Carolina City and County Management Association on the same day that Council voted to terminate her employment with the Town. Mr. Jackson went on to state that Ms. Vance “spoke her mind,” “always had integrity,” and “was not intimidated.”

The motion carried 5-1, with Mr. Jackson voting in opposition. Mr. Bailey registered his vote via telephone in agreement with the motion.

ADJOURN

Mr. McIntosh made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jenkins, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 5:36pm.

Respectfully submitted:

APPROVED:

Beth Messervy, Town Clerk

Ricky Waring, Mayor