

**Minutes  
Finance Committee  
September 4, 2014  
6:00 PM  
5<sup>th</sup> committee meeting**

**Members present were Chairman Dale Black and Committee member Gabe Hunter. City Administrator Trey Eubanks were also present. Committee member Larry Goodson and Finance Director Holly Abercrombie were not present due to prior commitments.**

1. Call to order.- Chairman Black
2. Public Comment- None
3. Reading and approval of minutes- Councilman Hunter made a motion to approve the minutes with Chairman Black seconding. The vote was unanimous (2-0).
4. Reports or communications from city officers
  - a. Budget report
5. Unfinished business.
6. New business.

- a. Department head residency requirement

Chairman Black: What do I hear on this item?

Councilman Hunter: I am opposed to the proposal because I think it severely limits our ability to get the best candidates for the position. Some people who live in Shelby, Toccoa, Charlotte, and want to commute, I don't see a problem with that if they are the number one candidate. I don't want to require department heads to move to SC within 60 days because it ties our hands. If a motion has to be made, I would ask that it be stricken, and not moved along to full council.

Chairman Black: I disagree. This will be at a standstill, one to one. I think we should send it to council and let them consider it. You are opposed and I am in favor, I would like everyone to weigh in on this if they want to.

Councilman Hunter: What is Robert's Rules on something like this?

Councilman Crosby: Tie vote doesn't pass.

Trey Eubanks: That is right.

Chairman Black: It can still go to council with no recommendation, but you do as you please. It is a tie one to one so it goes down in defeat. Any public comments?

Mayor Raines: You brought this to committee. Did you have any conversations with any other members prior to this?

Chairman Black: No, but it is my thought that if you derive income from us, get state retirement and benefits, you ought to live in the state. I know you have people all over and all walks of life from other towns, but if you have a permanent job with us, you ought to live in the state.

Mayor Raines: Living in the state means you can live in Charleston. Most people that have children want their children to graduate or at least finish school. I think the 60 day requirement is not a good idea and I agree with Mr. Hunter that this limits our candidates.

Chairman Black: I disagree. The only one now that is required to live in the City is the City Administrator. They must live in the city limits. The department head should live in the state if they are going to get state benefits. That is just my opinion.

Councilman Matney: This situation has a lot of folks with their own opinions. Is it appropriate for this agenda item to be tabled until next month where there is a full committee to either pass on to full council or drop it?

Chairman Black: I don't have a problem with that since it is one one now. It is a tie. One for and one against.

Councilman Matney: The prevailing side has to reconsider, but there is not a prevailing side. I don't know parliamentary procedure well enough on this.

Chairman Black: I don't know either. I appreciate the comment.

Leo Joyce: I think we should find out what other cities do. Do they have a 60 day rule? Has anyone investigated this possibility?

Chairman Black: I asked the administrator to put this item on the agenda and he put 60 days. I don't know where that requirement came from.

Trey Eubanks: The overwhelming majority of cities do not have restrictions like this except for the manager or administrator. The administrator is usually a contracted employee and serves at the pleasure of Council and there is very likely a residency requirement for those positions. For department heads, there is not a residency requirement in the overwhelming majority.

Chairman Black: Do I have a motion to adjourn?

## 7. Public Comment

8. Committee concerns.

9. Adjournment. – Chairman Black adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Miller

Municipal Clerk

**NOTICE:** A majority or quorum of City Council may attend a committee meeting