



**Clarendon County Regular Council Meeting
Monday, July 9, 2012 6:00 P.M.
Weldon Auditorium
Meeting Minutes**

Those in attendance:

County Council Chairman, Dwight L. Stewart, Jr.
County Council Vice Chairman, William J. Frierson
Councilman, Billy G. Richardson
Councilman, A.C. English
Councilman, Benton Blakely
County Administrator, David Epperson
Clerk to Council, Dorothy M. Levy

Press in attendance: Sharon Haley, The Citizen and Jason Lesley, The Manning Times

Others in attendance included:

Lynden Anthony	Lee Bledsoe	Connie Bledsoe
Fred Tucker	Linda Lemon	Randy Garrett
Nathaniel Dyson	Archie Lemon	Charlotte Johnson
And other citizens of Clarendon County		

Chairman Stewart called the meeting to order at 5:58 pm. Chairman Stewart thanked Sheriff Garrett and all law enforcement officers for the work that was done on the Dubose kidnapping. Councilman Richardson led the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

IV. Approval of Agenda

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and seconded by Councilman Richardson, council voted unanimous approval to the agenda as presented.

V. Approval of Minutes

On motion by Councilman English and seconded by Councilman Blakely, council voted unanimous approval to the council meeting minutes for Regular Meeting which was held on June 11, 2012.

VI. Requests

- i. Administrator Epperson stated that the Fire Department made a request to travel out of state. This will allow a county employee to teach a class on Record Management.

On motion by Councilman Blakely and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, council voted unanimous approval to grant the request of the Fire Department for an out of state travel.

- ii. Administrator Epperson presented council with a Resolution that will transfer Lee County's Promissory Note to the Business Development Corporation.

On motion by Councilman English and seconded by Councilman Blakely, council voted unanimous approval to Resolution 2012-09, a resolution transferring the Promissory Note of Lee County to the Business Development Corporation.

VII. Presentation from the Association of Counties

Mr. Wes Covington and Mr. Tim Winslow attended the meeting representing the Association of Counties. Mr. Covington presented council with an overview of the services provided by the Association of Counties. He stated that the Association of Counties provides legal services as well as printed documents that will enable the counties to work more efficiently. Mr. Covington stated that the Association of Counties also prints and distributes the Model Practices Manual, The County Focus Manual, the Carolina Counties Newsletter, and the weekly Friday Report. He continued by stating that the Association of Counties provides the Annual Wage and Salary Survey, the Home Rule Handbook, the Freedom of Information Handbook, and the Handbook for local County Officials.

Mr. Covington continued by stating that the Association of Counties also provides OSHA, DHEC, and various training through Web Cast. He stated that the worker's compensation premium for Clarendon County decreased by \$120,000 this year and the County is listed as the third best county, for worker's compensation, in the state of South Carolina. Mr. Covington concluded his presentation by stating that Clarendon County is doing an excellent job and that the General Assembly approved an increase in the Local Government Fund of 30 million dollars.

Chairman Stewart stated that the county has been depending on the Local Government Fund since 2007. He also stated that the Association of Counties is a tremendous resource for learning about government. He thanked Mr. Covington and Mr. Winslow for keeping Clarendon County informed of the services that the Association of Counties provides. He concluded by stating that the Friday Report is available on the Association of Counties website for all Citizens of Clarendon County.

IX. Administrator's Report

Administrator Epperson stated that the expenses for the month of June were \$1,718,082. He continued by stating that the county spent \$18,658,723 which is 96% of the budget that was appropriated by council for FY2011/2012. He continued by stating that C Fund has an uncommitted balance of \$271,599 as of the end of May. Mr.

Epperson stated that Water and Sewer is holding steady and doing well. He continued by stating that Weldon has a deficit of \$102,552.

Administrator Epperson stated that the candidates that applied for the position of Events Coordinator would be interviewed in the next couple of weeks. He stated that we hope to have someone in place by the first of August. He continued by stating that everything is going well with the Administration Building and hopefully we would be moving the next couples of weeks. Mr. Epperson gave an update on the water projects:

Phase I - Target date is set for the end of August.

Phase IB - We are waiting for the letter of conditions and approval from USDA

Phase 2 - We are working on the letter of Conditions

Administrator Epperson continued his report by stating that three pieces of property were sold, the Planning Commission, the Development Board, and the Assessor Building as well as the adjacent lots. Mr. Epperson concluded his report by congratulating the Sherriff's Department, the Fire Department, and all other agencies for the work that was done on the Dubose kidnapping.

Administrator Epperson stated that the county has started recycling glass.

XII. Chairman's Report

Chairman Stewart stated that he would be attending a Down Town Stakeholder meeting on July 10, 2012. He continued by stating that the Executive Director of Santee Lynches Regional Council of Government (COG), Mr. Jim Darby, will be retiring in September and COG is in the process of searching for a replacement.

XVI. Adjournment

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted unanimous approval to adjourn the council meeting. The meeting adjourned at 6:33 PM.

Respectfully Submitted



Dorothy M. Levy
Clerk to Clarendon County Council

