



Minutes

Clarendon County Council
Regular Council Meeting
August 9, 2010, 6:00 P.M.
F.E. DuBose Career Center Auditorium
Manning, South Carolina

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

1. County Council Chairman Dwight L. Stewart, Jr.
2. County Council Vice-Chairman W. J. Frierson
3. County Councilman A.C. English, Jr.
4. County Councilman Billy Richardson
5. County Councilman Benton Blakely

COUNTY STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Mia R. Jackson, Clerk to County Council
- William F. Houser, County Administrator
- David W. Epperson, County Attorney
- Linda P. Lemon, Director of Human Resources
- Vicki Williams, Grants Administrator
- W. Robert Dennis, Director of CCWS

MEDIA PRESENT:

Bobby Baker, The Item Newspaper

- I. Chairman Stewart called to order at 6:00 P.M.
- II. Invocation was performed by Councilman Richardson
- III. Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.
- IV. **Approval of Council Agenda:** Upon unanimous vote by council, the August 9, 2010 agenda was approved as presented.
- V. **Approval of Council Minutes:** Council was presented with minutes from the last four council meetings to include: June 7th Special Called meeting, June 14th Regular Council meeting, June 21st Special Called meeting, and the July 12th Regular Council meeting. The minutes were tabled during the July 12th council meeting to allow time for council to review.
ACTION: Motion made by Councilman Billy Richardson, seconded by Vice-Chairman Frierson to accept the June 7, 2010, June 14, 2010, June 21, 2010, and July 12, 2010 minutes as presented. ***Motion carried unanimously.***
- VI. **PUBLIC HEARING-** Chairman Stewart officially opened the Public Hearing at 6:07P.M. Administrator Houser presented before council Ordinance No. 2010-09. He advised council that the ordinance successfully passed its first reading on July 12, 2010. He re-stated the reasons for consideration of this ordinance; being to consolidate the 13 previously passed ordinances into one codified ordinance. This ordinance will also incorporate additions to the guidelines which include a required minimum meter rate of \$26.50 and the requirement of a back flow valve. Director Dennis of CCWS added that the consolidation and additions to the ordinance will also benefit future businesses as well as private homes by keep their waterline protected. Chairman Stewart opened the floor for public comments or questions. After several minutes, ***No one from the public stood or posed any questions before council.***
6:08P.M. Being no further business discussion under public hearing, Chairman Stewart officially closed the Public Hearing. *No Action taken during public Hearing.*
- VII. **First Reading:** Ordinance No. 2010-10, To Authorize the County to adopt the revised Clarendon County Solid Waste Management Plan. Administrator Houser explained the Solid Waste Management Plan is being presented on behalf of Alliance engineering who compiled the Plan based on South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control regulations. He stated that DHEC requires each county to adopt a plan every 10 years. Administrator Houser detailed the changes in the plan. They are to include: protection to County entities from improper use of permit issuance, updates on the routine maintenance schedules, and the revision to the overall

functionality of the operations of the department. With no questions or comments by council, Chairman Stewart entertained a motion for consideration.

ACTION: Motion made by Vice-Chairman Frierson, seconded by Councilman Richardson to accept First Reading of Ordinance No. 2010-10. *Motion passed Unanimously*

VIII. Second Reading: Ordinance No. 2010-09, To Authorize the County to Revise and Amend Ordinance, pertaining to the Clarendon County Water and Sewer Department; and Other Related Matters. Chairman Stewart advised council that this ordinance presented before them, was recently explained during the public hearing. He stated that this ordinance successfully passed its first reading during the July council meeting and he would entertain a motion on second reading.

ACTION: Motion made by Councilman English, seconded by Councilman Richardson to accept Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2010-09. *Motion passed unanimously.*

IX. Presentations:

*i. **Tyron Williams,*** USDA Rural Development, presentation of Letter of Conditions for the USDA Rural Development grant application for the Community Facilities Grant. Mr. Williams explained that the grant was applied for by Clarendon County in order to purchase vehicles for the Clarendon County Sheriff's Department. He stated that the original grant application was for the purchase of two (2) vehicles with a county match. He explained that the source of funds forced an amendment to the grant award. Mr. Williams advised council that the maximum grant amount was \$37,000, with a county match of \$39,000. This will allow the Sheriff's department 2 new county vehicles. During the presentation of the letter, Mr. Williams advised council that upon acceptance of the letter the award funds must be utilized within 180 days of award. He also stated that he would need a vote from council on acceptance of the Letter of Conditions. Chairman Stewart opened the floor to council to entertain a motion to accept the Letter of Conditions as presented.

ACTION: Motion made by Councilman English, seconded by Vice-Chairman Frierson to accept the USDA Letter of Conditions. *Motion passed unanimously.*

*ii. **Bob Everett,*** Clarendon County Assessor's Office. (Council exited seats to watch presentation) Mr. Everett made a presentation before council to include a PowerPoint display of the upcoming Real Property 2010 Reassessment. Mr. Everett explained why the Clarendon County is preparing for a reassessment this year. He explained that the 2005 assessment was postponed for 2 years. In 2006 the Appraisal was postponed again for lack of staff and software challenges. Mr. Everett continued to explain the dynamics of the reassessment and the projections of the financial outcome of them. He advised council that his expectation of revenue growth is slim to nonexistent. Chairman Stewart asked Mr. Everett about the status on any decisions made from the Tax realignment committee. Mr. Everett stated that he did not have an update, and the last he heard was that the committee was instructed not to consider Act 388. Councilman Blakely asked about the registration of boats and cars outside the county. Mr. Everett said that this is one of the issues in the Assessor's office that is being worked on. He stated in many RV camps you may find RV trailers that have been stationed long enough to build a deck on the back, yet may not have an outdated registration or from another county or state. This is an issue through South Carolina Everett stated. Council thanked Mr. Everett for his presentation and returned to their seats. *No request for action.*

*iii. **Melissa DeVane,*** Director of SC Department of Juvenile Justice, Clarendon County Office. Ms. DeVane thanked council for allowing her make a presentation before them. She stated that she provided each councilman with 2008-2009 statistics of the Clarendon County DJJ office (Included with minutes). She stated of the 116 juvenile cases here in Clarendon County were from (20) disturbing school, (15) Shoplifting, (10) 2nd degree burglary, (9) Petit Larceny, and (8) Lynching 2nd degree. She continued to review the statistics within the county and concluded by stating that currently DJJ has only 2 children committed to the department from Clarendon County at this time. She solicited for mentors and other help with the children and teens on probation or parole under DJJ. She stated that the extra calls, stopping by and checking up from outside sources have proven to help the youth. With her brief presentation she thanked council for their time. Councilman Blakely asked Ms. DeVane what was the definition of lynching. Ms. DeVane stated that she wasn't sure of the specific definition, however she believed it was a mob of 2 or more persons attacking or beating another. She also stated that she believed that the courts are currently if not already changed the title of the crime. She said, she admits the term is very confusing and harsh. Council Blakely agreed. *No request for action*

iv. Mike Briggs, President & CEO of SC Central Alliance, made a PowerPoint presentation of an annual review of the activity of company. He began with an overview of his office staff of 10 people. He provided information on the industrial companies, and financial group throughout South Carolina that have supported Central Alliance this year. His review included an investments and job return evaluations. Mr. Briggs provided Council with an annual

report (included in their packet) that was a guide to the presentation. When asked about Boeing in Charleston, Mr. Briggs referred to his associate Mr. Simmons who talked briefly about the history behind the Boeing supplies. He stated that in the past the suppliers will begin erecting sites within the region of a Boeing plant. He said many of the replicating suppliers may not want to be close to Charleston leaving Clarendon County within a reach as a site for suppliers. Mr. Briggs also mentioned that there seemed to be an “up-tick” of companies interested in South Carolina. He reminded council that there are many aircraft manufacturers in the US and their attitude may be, “if it is good enough for Boeing, it must be good.”

Chairman Stewart thanked Mr. Briggs and his associate for their presentation and made mention of the successful dinner with Georgia Pacific council had on August 4th. He said the county is glad to have them back in Alcolu. With Mr. Briggs being the last presenter and *no requests for action*, concluded the presentations

X. Committee Reports:

1. **CCTC:** At 7:04 PM, Council convened the Clarendon County Transportation Committee. Administrator Houser thanked Chairman Stewart and began by stating the current the Public Works department, under the direction of Tim Hilliard has exhausted road paving and maintenance material for the county roads. Mr. Houser made a request to CCTC for \$150,000 of C-Funds to purchase road maintenance materials to use within Clarendon County. With no further discussion Chairman Stewart entertained a motion.

ACTION: Motion made by Vice-Chairman Frierson, seconded by Councilman Richardson to approve \$150,000 of C-Funds to be utilized in the Public Works Dept. for county road paving maintenance. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Councilman Blakely commented on his recent trip to Hilton Head, Sc for the SCAC Annual Conference. He stated that during the conference he spoke with a company representative that told him about the chemical calcium chloride. It is a chemical that can be used instead of paving; it helps to control the dust from the dirt roads. He stated to council that the representative offered to treat 1 mile of unpaved for free. Mr. Houser replied by telling Council that the county has used the chemical in the past and that it works for about 3 months and then it's back to its original condition. Councilman Blakely explained how the chemical works; the chloride bonds to the sand together, but with the extreme weather and driving the chemical begins to break down after a short time. Mr. Blakely also mentioned that in Williamsburg County the Public Works Dept. paves the roads with an easement. Mr. Houser stated, “the roads are not the problem, it's the drainage.” Vice-Chairman Frierson asked, if the county had places with good drainage we would be able to pave with easements there? Mr. Houser stated no; there are no roads within Clarendon County that has good drainage. Discussion began on whether Clarendon County is required to obtain permission i.e. easements before paving the county roads. Mr. Houser explained that in order to protect the county, it is imperative that the county obtain such permissions from property owners prior to paving the road.

With no further discussion, CCTC concluded and closed.

2. **Board Appointments:** Presented by Clerk to Council Mia Jackson, the Archives Advisory Commission Chairman tenure expired June 30, 2010. Ms. Jackson stated that Ms. Sylvia Clark has agreed to serve another 4-year term as Board Chairman. She also advised that Ms. Cindy Thigpen (Dist. 3) has asked to be replaced on the advisory board. Mr. Blakely stated he would like to suggest Ms. Kelly Brown of Fire Tower Road, New Zion.

ACTION: Upon motion by Councilman Richardson, seconded by Councilman English to approve and accept Ms. Clark as Board Chairman for the CC Archives Advisory Commission for another 4-year term. *Motion carried unanimously.*

XI. Administrator's Report: Mr. Houser began by reviewing the month's end financials to include:

➤ **Clarendon County Finances** *As of July 30, 2010*

Year to Date Budget

9%= (8% Expenditures + 1% Grant Funds)

Year to Date Revenue	\$0
Year to Date Grant Funds	\$42,698
Year to Date Expenditures	\$1,532,394
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Year to Date (Rev.-Exp.)	(-1,532,394)

**He advised that this is normal this time of the year. This is because the tax revenue has not begun to start coming in yet. **

➤ **Clarendon County Water & Sewer**

As of July 30, 2010

July 2010 Revenue	\$27, 639
July 2010 Expenses	\$23, 845
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TOTAL Revenue/ (Loss)	\$3, 794

➤ **C-Fund Report**

As of June 30, 2010

Cash Balance	\$919,869
Project Commitments	-\$153,050-Local Road Paving
	-\$451,571- State Projects
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Commitments of Cash balance	\$604,621

Uncommitted Balance \$315,248

Mr. Houser then stated that he had a short report this month, but would give council updates. **Weldon:** Weldon is about 90% finished; everything should be done by October 15th or the 30th at the latest. He advised that they had some issues with the contractor and his payments; however their bonding has stepped in and has ensured the completion of the project. **Hwy 260 Water Project:** He advised council that at this time he is refusing to spend any more money until USDA follows through with their commitments. He stated that the Town of Turbeville has recently received their letter of conditions for their water system, and is expecting to receive the waste water LOC in the coming weeks. Mr. Houser stated that he had no further business to discuss, that he did not have any “tid-bits” this month, and that this concluded his report.

XII. Chairman’s Report: Chairman Stewart stated that he too did not have much to discuss in his report. Mr. Stewart advised council that he attended the St. Mark AME 25th Anniversary in Summerton on August 8, 2010. He then stated that the meeting with Georgia Pacific went well, and although they are not sure when they will open, they hope to be early to mid spring. Chairman Stewart advised council and the public that he along with Councilman Blakely will participating in the Clarendon County Dancing with the Stars Event on August 21, 2010. He said that anyone could vote for their favorite dancer by logging onto to the events website and selecting a dancer. He also told everyone that the event will be hosted at the Cyprus Center and tickets are \$75 per person.

XIII. Executive Session: Chairman Stewart advised that there was no need to have the Executive Session.

XIV. Adjournment: Chairman Stewart advised everyone that the agenda was exhausted. With that, Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Dwight L. Stewart, Jr.
County Council Chairman

Mia R. Jackson, Clerk to Council

CERTIFICATION OF PUBLIC AND MEDIA NOTIFICATION

I, Mia R. Jackson, Clerk to Council, Clarendon County Council, Manning, South Carolina, do hereby certify that public and media notification of the County Council Meeting of August 9, 2010, was given prior thereto by the following means:

PUBLIC NOTIFIED: Yes

MANNER NOTIFIED: Agenda placed on the Clarendon County Website

DATE POSTED: August 6, 2010

MEDIA NOTIFIED: Yes

MANNER NOTIFIED: Agenda emailed to THE MANNING TIMES, THE ITEM, THE CLARENDON CITIZEN and THE FLORENCE MORNING NEWS

DATE NOTIFIED: August 6, 2010

PUBLIC HEARINGS
ADVERTISED: Advertised in THE ITEM on July 23, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

Mia R. Jackson

Mia R. Jackson, Clerk to Council