



Clarendon County Regular Council Meeting Monday, August 13, 2012 6:00 P.M. Council Chambers 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 W. Epperson
Clerk to Council, Dorothy M. Levy

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

Others in attendance included:

Lynden Anthony	Lee Bledsoe	Connie Bledsoe
Fred Tucker	Linda Lemon	Randy Garrett
Cynthia B. Mack	Archie Lemon	Charlotte Johnson
Sam Levy	Louis Griffith	Dawn Griffith
Toni Baker	Johnny Baker	Hank Boudreau
Marilyn Fletcher	Tammy Rodvansky	Thomas Harvin
Patricia Pringle	Diane Georgia	Nancy Cave
Sherrie Stewart	Kay Frierson	Jim Darby
And other citizens of Clarendon County		Ansley Durant

Chairman Stewart called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm with opening comments. Councilman Richardson led the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

IV. Approval of Agenda

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

V. Approval of Minutes

On motion by Councilman English and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, council voted unanimous approval to the council meeting minutes for Regular Meeting which was held on July 9, 2012.

VI. Request

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and seconded by Councilman English, council voted unanimous approval to appoint Mr. Charles Gavin to the Clarendon County Development Board.

VII. Mutual Aid Agreement

Administrator Epperson presented council with a Mutual Aid Agreement between South Carolina State University Police Department and Clarendon County Sheriff's Office.

On motion by Councilman Blakely and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, council voted unanimous approval to authorize the Mutual Aid Agreement between South Carolina State University Police Department and Clarendon County Sheriff's Office

Administrator Epperson asked council for authorization authorizing Sheriff Randy Garrett to sign the Mutual Aid Agreement.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and seconded by Councilman Blakely, council voted unanimous approval authorizing Sheriff Garrett to sign the Mutual Aid Agreement between South Carolina State University Police Department and Clarendon County Sheriff's Office.

VIII. Resolution 2012-10

Chairman Stewart stated that this is a bittersweet moment for him because he is on the committee to find a replacement for Mr. Jim Darby, who will be retiring on September 30, 2012 after serving as the Executive Director for Santee Lynches Regional Council of Government for 25 years.

Chairman Stewart presented Mr. Darby with a Resolution declaring Tuesday, August 14, 2012 Jim Darby Day in Clarendon County.

Mr. Darby thanked council and stated that he is proud of Clarendon County and very happy to be in the New Council Chambers. Mr. Darby stated that Clarendon County is on the cuff of great things. He concluded by stating that everything that was accomplished by Santee Lynches Regional Council of Government was done with the help of a lot of great people working with him.

IX. Administrator's Report

Administrator Epperson stated that the expenses for the month of July were \$1,565,984. He stated that the tax bills would be going out in October as scheduled. He continued by stating that Water & Sewer are doing well. Customers are still being connected to the new water system and should be completed by the end of the month. He stated that for Phase 1B we are still waiting on USDA. He continued by stating that C Fund

has an uncommitted balance of \$272,541 as of the end of June. Mr. Epperson introduced Ms. Ansley Durant, the new Event Administrator for the Weldon, and he stated that the ticket sales for the Gatlin Brothers' concert are going well.

Administrator Epperson thanked Mr. Thomas Harvin and his department and all departments and department heads for coordinating the move into the New Administration Building. He stated that we are excited and pleased to have a facility that the citizens of Clarendon County would be very proud of. He continued by stating that the grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for September 16, 2012, 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm and will be open to the public. Mr. Epperson stated that we have requested a Pre-Clearance letter from the Justice Department to have the absentee ballots voting place moved to the New Voters Registration Office. He stated that if we do not get the pre-clearance letter, the absentee ballots would have to be accepted at the old Voters Registration office in the basement of the courthouse. He concluded his report by thanking Ms. Sarah Jeffrey, the Muralist, and Mr. Jamie Tate, from Meadors Construction for their hard work.

X. Chairman's Report

Chairman Stewart stated that he attended National Night Out and it was a great success. He thanked all law enforcement officers for all their hard work and he stated that National Night Out was a great affair for our community and the citizens of Clarendon County. Mr. Stewart concluded his report by stating that he also attended a meeting on alternative Energy Source.

Councilman English and Vice Chairman Frierson stated that it is nice to have a place that we can call home.

XI. Executive Session

On motion by Councilman English and seconded by Councilman Richardson, council voted unanimous approval to go into Executive Session. The Executive Session started at 6:26 pm.

On motion by Councilman Blakely and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, council voted unanimous approval to come out of Executive Session and go back into Regular Session. The Executive Session ended at 7:11 PM.

i. Legal Briefing (Courthouse renovation project financing and project construction)

Chairman Stewart stated that no action would be taken at this time on the courthouse renovation project. Thomas Harvin stated that something would have to be done soon because the situation is not getting any better.

ii Legal Briefing (Lake Marion Regional Water System)

Chairman Stewart stated that we would request a refund from Lake Marion Regional Water System. He instructed Administrator Epperson to draft a letter to Lake Marion Regional Water System requesting that the funds be reimbursed to the county.

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 7:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Dorothy M. Levy
Clerk to Clarendon County Council