



**Clarendon County Regular Council Meeting  
Monday, December 10, 2012 6:00 P.M.  
Council Chambers  
Regular Meeting Minutes**

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**Those in attendance:**

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

**Press in attendance:** Sharon Haley, The Item, Jack Justice, Clarendon Citizen

**Others in attendance included:**

Lynden Anthony	Sarah Garland	Sandi Tucker
Fred Tucker	Nancy Cave	Charlotte Johnson
Lee Bledsoe	Connie Bledsoe	Sonya Mellerson
Emily Luther	Carol D. Eaddy	Patricia Pringle
And other citizens of Clarendon County		

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 Minutes**

On motion by Councilman English and seconded by Councilman Blakely, council voted unanimous approval to the council meeting minutes for the Regular Meeting which was held on November 12, 2012.

**V. Requests**

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, council voted unanimous approval to reappoint Shannon Allen, Ben Jordan, and Joey Moore to serve another four-year term on the Clarendon County Tax Accommodations Commission.

On motion by Councilman English and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, council voted unanimous approval to reappoint J. Barry Ham to serve another three-year term on the Clarendon County Development Board.

On motion by Councilman Blakely and seconded by Councilman Richardson, council voted unanimous approval to the Council Meetings Schedule for 2013.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and seconded by Councilman Blakely, council voted unanimous approval to the Holidays Observance Schedule for 2013.

Administrator Epperson presented council with a request to construct and maintain a water point access road in the Alcolu community. He stated that Westminster Presbyterian Church would like to have a dry hydrant installed as well, which would enable the fire department to refill their fire trucks quicker, in an emergency situation, instead of traveling 5 miles to get a refill, they will only have to travel 1 mile (1/2 mile both ways).

Chairman Stewart stated that council wants to explore all options before making a decision.

Administrator Epperson stated that once the road is constructed, it could be used by anyone in the county.

Fire Chief Richbourg stated that the fire department could utilize the road and hydrant for all areas in the county.

Chairman Stewart stated that since we do not know the cost for constructing the road, we should table this until the next meeting.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and seconded by Councilman Blakely, council voted unanimous approval to table this request until we get a complete breakdown of the cost to construct the road.

## **VI. Ordinance 2012-05**

Consideration was given to second reading of Ordinance 2012-05, an Ordinance Authorizing Pursuant to Title 12, Chapter 44 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as amended, the Execution and delivery of a Fee-in-Lieu of Taxes agreement by and Between Clarendon County, and [Project Fraser]; authorizing the inclusion of the project in a Multi-County Industrial Park; to provide for the manufacturer's abatement; and other related matters.

Emily Luther, Parker Poe, stated that Project Fraser would invest 3.5 million dollars into a 50,000 square foot building with a 6% assessment rate for 20 years.

On motion by Councilman English and seconded by Councilman Blakely, council voted unanimous approval to the second reading of Ordinance 2012-05.

## **VII. Ordinance 2012-04**



Consideration was given to the second reading on Ordinance 2012-04 - an Ordinance to amend Clarendon County, South Carolina Ordinance No. 2011-07, The Procurement Code Regulations of Clarendon County.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and seconded by Councilman Benton, council voted unanimous approval to second reading of Ordinance 2012-04.

### **XIII. Administrator's Report**

Administrator Epperson stated that the expenses for the month of November were \$1,319,592, 40% of what was budgeted. He continued by stating that the C Fund report for October had an uncommitted balance of \$215,554. He continued by stating that Water and Sewer had total revenues of \$329,000 and total expenses of \$212,061 for the month of November.

Mr. Epperson stated that paving should start in March or April of 2013 for the roads that have been approved for paving.

Mr. Epperson continued by stating that Weldon Auditorium had several events scheduled. He stated that the Nut Cracker was scheduled for December 11, 2012, the Youth Council would be showing the movie Polar Express on December 15, 2012, and the 282<sup>nd</sup> Army Band would be performing on December 16, 2012.

Mr. Epperson continued by stating that the Clerk of Court's office would have additional duties because of an unfunded mandate handed down from the Chief Justice. He continued by stating that beginning February 1, 2013 all General Session Docket Cases would be handled by the Clerk of Court's office instead of the Solicitor's office.

Mr. Epperson continued by stating that the plans for the courthouse renovation would take 6 months to complete. He stated that Meadors Construction is eager to get started, and by July 1, 2013, all offices in the courthouse would have to move out of the courthouse for about 18 to 24 months for the renovation.

Mr. Epperson concluded by stating that the County received a favorable Worker's Compensation Audit for 2011/2012 in which we received a refund for \$51,638. He stated that County Council and the Administrator would be having a Capital Improvement planning session in January and he wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

### **XIII. Chairman's Report**

Chairman Stewart stated that we would be having the Swearing in Ceremony of all elected Officials on January 2, 2013, 9:00 am in the Council Chambers.

Councilman Blakely stated that the principal of Clarendon School District 3, Kelvin Lemon, was named the 2013 South Carolina Secondary Principal of the year.

Vice Chairman Frierson stated that Kelvin Lemon is a product of Clarendon School District 2.

## **XII. Executive Session**

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted unanimous approval to go into Executive Session. The Executive Session began at 6:35 pm.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted unanimous approval to come out of Executive Session and back into Open Session. The Executive Session ended at 6:48 pm.

### **i. Legal Briefing – Ongoing Litigation**

Chairman Stewart stated that action would be taken.

Administrator Epperson stated that this litigation is a lawsuit between Mr. Ted Johnson and Clarendon County. This is in reference to trespassing on his property. Clarendon County won the lawsuit. He stated that Mr. Johnson asked the judge to reconsider his decision, in which the Judge did not change his decision. Mr. Epperson stated that Mr. Johnson appealed to the South Carolina Court of Appeals in which Clarendon County also won the appeal. He continued by stating that Mr. Johnson stated that he wants this to end so he presented the County with a settlement that would give the county the right away needed to maintain the road and to accommodate individuals that lived on the road. The settlement states that there would be no cost to the county to use and maintain the road.

On Motion by Councilman English and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted unanimous approval to except the settlement presented from Mr. Ted Johnson.

### **XIII. Adjournment**

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and seconded by Councilman Blakely, Council voted unanimous approval to adjourn the council meeting. The meeting adjourned at 6:52 pm.

Respectfully Submitted



Dorothy M. Levy  
Clerk to Clarendon County Council

