

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE FLORENCE COUNTY COUNCIL,
THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2011, 9:00 A.M., COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ROOM 803, CITY-COUNTY COMPLEX, 180 N. IRBY STREET,
FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA**

PRESENT:

K. G. "Rusty" Smith, Jr., Chairman
Waymon Mumford, Vice-Chairman
H. Morris Anderson, Secretary-Chaplain
Mitchell Kirby, Council Member
Alphonso Bradley, Council Member
James T. Schofield, Council Member
Richard A. Starks, County Administrator
Malloy McEachin, County Attorney
Connie Y. Haselden, Clerk to Council

ALSO PRESENT:

Kevin Yokim, Finance Director
Ryon Watkins, EMS Director
Ray McBride, Library Director
Barbara Coker, Sheriff's Office
Chuck Tomlinson, Morning News

ABSENT:

Russell W. Culberson, Council Member
Johnnie D. Rodgers, Jr., Council Member

A notice of the regular meeting of the Florence County Council appeared in the March 16, 2011 edition of the **MORNING NEWS**. Copies of the agenda were faxed to members of the media and posted in the lobby of the City-County Complex, the Doctors Bruce and Lee Foundation Public Library, and on the County's website (www.florenceco.org).

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order. Secretary/Chaplain Anderson provided the invocation and Vice Chairman Mumford led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Chairman Smith welcomed everyone attending the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Anderson made a motion Council approve the minutes of the February 17, 2011 regular meeting of County Council. Councilman Kirby seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

The Clerk published the titles and Chairman Smith opened Public Hearing for the following Ordinances:

ORDINANCE NO. 16-2010/11

An Ordinance Amending Florence County Code, Chapter 11, Finance And Revenue, To Remove Outdated Sections And Other Matters Relating Thereto.

ORDINANCE NO. 17-2010/11

An Ordinance Dissolving Pursuant To Section 4-9-30(5)(E) Of The Code Of Laws Of South Carolina, 1976, As Amended, The Johnsonville Rural Fire District As A Special Tax Fire District Created Pursuant To Section 4-9-30 Of The Code Of Laws Of South Carolina, 1976, As Amended, Incident To The Establishment Of Said District As A Special Tax Fire District Under Article 19 Of Title 4 Of The Code Of Laws Of South Carolina, 1976, As Amended, Providing For The Conditions With Respect To Said Dissolution, And Other Matters Related Thereto.

ORDINANCE NO. 18-2010/11

An Ordinance To Create And Reestablish The Johnsonville Rural Fire District In Florence County, South Carolina Pursuant To Title 4, Chapter 19 Of The Code Of Laws Of South Carolina, 1976, As Amended, To Approve The Annual Levy And Collection Of Ad Valorem Taxes And The Imposition Of Rates And Charges For The Operation And Maintenance Thereof, To Authorize The Issuance Of General Obligation Bonds On Behalf Of The District From Time To Time, And Other Matters Relating Thereto.

APPEARANCES:

ANDREW STOUT, DIRECTOR – FLORENCE MUSEUM

Mr. Stout Appeared Before Council To Request Council Declare Friday, March 18th As William H. Johnson Day In Honor And Celebration Of What Would Be His 110th Birthday. Councilman Mumford made a motion Council approve a Proclamation Declaring Friday, March 18th As William H. Johnson Day In Florence County. Councilman Bradley seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. The Clerk published the Proclamation in its entirety and Councilman Mumford presented the framed Proclamation to the family and friends of the late William H. Johnson.

CRYSTINE M. RATHBURN, GISP – FLORENCE COUNTY GIS

Ms. Rathburn Appeared Before Council To Inform Council Of the SCARC GIS Achievement Award Presented To Florence County GIS At The Annual SC GIS Conference In February For The Mobile Damage Assessment Tool (DART) In Recognition Of Outstanding Vision, Dedication And Commitment To Excellence In The Field Of GIS In The State Of South Carolina. Ms. Rathburn recognized Robbie Ervin and Caroline Dunlap with the GIS Department and Kristy Hughes with the Emergency Management Department as the key personnel in developing the DART program.

ENVIRONMENTAL DISCOVERY CENTER COMMITTEE

Sterling Sadler, on behalf of the Environmental Discovery Center Committee, Appeared Before Council To Present The Certificate For The LEED Certification For The Environmental Discovery Center.

FLORENCE COUNTY DSN BOARD

Glenda Hyman Singletary With The Florence County DSN Board Appeared Before Council In Regard To March Being ‘Disabilities Awareness Month.’ Chaqueta Stuckey Spoke On The 2011 Campaign. Councilman Mumford made a motion Council approve a Proclamation Declaring March 2011 As Disabilities Awareness Month In Florence County. Councilman Kirby seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. The Clerk published the Proclamation in its entirety and Councilman Bradley presented the framed Proclamation to the group.

FRAN PLYLER – WASTE MANAGEMENT

Ms. Plyler Appeared Before Council To Provide A Brief Summary Of The E-Scrap Recycling Day To Be Held March 19th At The Florence Civic Center. As of July 1, 2011, consumers will no longer be allowed to dispose of electronics in a trash receptacle for pickup or at the manned convenience centers.

PEE DEE VETERANS ADVISORY COUNCIL (PDVAC)

Lloyd Flores, Sr., On Behalf Of PDVAC, American Legion Post 1 and Eastern Carolina Homelessness Organization (ECHO), Along With C. B. Anderson and Dr. Ron Murphy, Appeared Before Council To Present The “Stand Down” Event For Homeless Veterans For Florence And Request Funding For The Event Scheduled To Be Held June 8 – 11, 2011. In response to a question from Councilman Mumford, Mr. Flores responded that it was estimated that there were 125 homeless veterans in Florence County. Councilman Kirby made a motion Council Approve Funding In An Amount Up To \$2,500 From Contingency. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion. Councilman Anderson made a motion to Amend The Motion To Approve Funding In An Amount Up To \$5,000. Councilman Bradley seconded the motion to amend, which was approved unanimously. Council approved the motion as amended unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PUBLIC SERVICES & COUNTY PLANNING

Committee Chairman Schofield Provided An Update On The Status Of The Construction Of The Voter Registration/Elections Building.

CITY-COUNTY CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Committee Chairman Bradley Informed The Members That He Received Letters Of Appreciation From Students At Timrod Elementary School For The Funding Council Provided To Assist The School With Updated And Enhancement Playground Equipment And Fencing For Safety Of The Students.

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 13-2010/11

The Chairman published the title of Resolution No. 13-2010/11: A Resolution to Amend The Florence County Personnel Policy Manual To Modify Vehicle Collision Review Board Penalties For Driving Violations, And Rehire Rates Of Pay Beginning July 1, 2011. Councilman Anderson made a motion Council approve the Resolution. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

ORDINANCES IN POSITION:

ORDINANCE NO. 15-2010/11 – THIRD READING

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 15-2010/11: An Ordinance To Rezone Property Owned By Jack R. Chamberlain Located At 716 Cooktown Road, Lake City From R-4, Multi-Family Residential District To RU-1, Rural Community District Shown On Florence County Tax Map No. 00142, Block 31, Parcel 217 Consisting Of Approximately 3.18 Acres. Councilman Kirby made a motion Council approve third reading of the Ordinance. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

There being no signatures on the sign-in sheets, Chairman Smith declared the Public Hearing closed.

ORDINANCE NO. 16-2010/11 – SECOND READING

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 16-2010/11: An Ordinance Amending Florence County Code, Chapter 11, Finance And Revenue, To Remove Outdated Sections And Other Matters Relating Thereto. Councilman Mumford made a motion Council approve second reading of the Ordinance. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 17-2010/11 – SECOND READING

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 17-2010/11: An Ordinance Dissolving Pursuant To Section 4-9-30(5)(E) Of The Code Of Laws Of South Carolina, 1976, As Amended, The Johnsonville Rural Fire District As A Special Tax Fire District Created Pursuant To Section 4-9-30 Of The Code Of Laws Of South Carolina, 1976, As Amended, Incident To The Establishment Of Said District As A Special Tax Fire District Under Article 19 Of Title 4 Of The Code Of Laws Of South Carolina, 1976, As Amended, Providing For The Conditions With Respect To Said Dissolution, And Other Matters Related Thereto. Councilman Schofield made a motion Council approve second reading of the Ordinance. Councilman Kirby seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 18-2010/11 – SECOND READING

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 18-2010/11: An Ordinance To Create And Reestablish The Johnsonville Rural Fire District In Florence County, South Carolina Pursuant To Title 4, Chapter 19 Of The Code Of Laws Of South Carolina, 1976, As Amended, To Approve The Annual Levy And Collection Of Ad Valorem Taxes And The Imposition Of Rates And Charges For The Operation And Maintenance Thereof, To Authorize The Issuance Of General Obligation Bonds On Behalf Of The District From Time To Time, And Other Matters Relating Thereto. Councilman Anderson made a motion Council approve second reading of the Ordinance. Councilman Bradley seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

There were no appointments.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL:

ADMINISTRATION

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS

Monthly Financial Reports Were Provided To Council For Fiscal Year 2011 Through January 31, 2011 As An Item For The Record.

LIBRARY/PROCUREMENT

DECLARATION OF SURPLUS PROPERTY

Councilman Mumford made a motion Council Declare Various Computer Equipment As Surplus Property And Authorize Disposal By Global Investment Recovery, Inc. In An Amount of \$350 To Be Funded From Previously Budgeted Funds. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS/PROCUREMENT

PEE DEE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC. CONTRACT

Councilman Schofield made a motion Council Approve A Contract Renewal With Pee Dee Environmental Services, Inc. For Waste Disposal Services In The Amount Of Fifty-Five (\$55) Dollars Per Load For DHEC Class II Appendix I Material. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

RECREATION/PROCUREMENT

AWARD BID #15-10/11

Councilman Kirby made a motion Council Authorize The County Administrator To Award Bid #15-10/11 – Tour Events To The Low Bidders For Each Individual Trip To Be Funded By The Participants If The Minimum Participation Numbers Are Met (No Cost To The County). Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

SHERIFF OFFICE/PROCUREMENT

AWARD BID #11-10/11

Councilman Anderson made a motion Council Approve The Award Of Bid #11-10/11 For The Sale Of Confiscated Firearms As A Credit Against The Purchase Of Ammunition To Fludd's Pawn And Gun, LLC, Florence, South Carolina. Councilman Schofield seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

TREASURER – DELINQUENT TAX DIVISION

REPORTS

Pursuant To The Policies Approved September 17, 1998 And Amended June 5, 2003, The Florence County Treasurer's Office, Delinquent Tax Division Provided Council With Quarterly Reports On Properties Coded "I" For Investigation And Tax Notices Processed As Nulla Bona, As Well As Information From The October 4, 2010 Tax Sale As An Item For The Record.

OTHER BUSINESS:

INFRASTRUCTURE

TOWN OF TIMMONSVILLE

Councilman Kirby made a motion Council Approve The Expenditure Of \$49.68 From Council District 4 Infrastructure Funding Allocation To Pay For Street Sign (Harkless Court), Hardware, And Post For The Town Of Timmons ville. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

OLANTA RECREATION PROGRAM

Councilman Anderson made a motion Council Approve The Expenditure Of Up To \$2,000.00 From Council District 5 Infrastructure Funding Allocation To Assist The Olanta Recreation Program With The Purchase Of New Athletic Equipment. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

ROAD SYSTEM MAINTENANCE FEE (RSMF)

MARS HILL DRIVE

Councilman Schofield made a motion Council Approve The Expenditure Of Up To \$35,200.00 From Council District 8 RSMF Funding Allocation To Pay For Resurfacing Mars Hill Drive (S-21-1357) From Bellevue Drive To Converse Drive; Pending Encroachment Permit Being Obtained From SC DOT. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

UTILITY

CITY OF LAKE CITY – WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Councilman Mumford made a motion Council Approve The Expenditure Of Up To \$30,000.00 From Council Districts 1 And 5 Utility Funding Allocations (\$15,000.00 From Each District) To Assist The City Of Lake City In Securing The Matching Monies For A CDBG Grant For An Upgrade Of The City's Wastewater Treatment Plant. Councilman Kirby seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

COWARD ATHLETIC PARK

Councilman Anderson made a motion Council Approve The Expenditure Of Up To \$60,000.00 From Council District 5 Utility Funding Allocation To Pay For 6" MBC Stone And 2" Crushed Asphalt For 1 Acre Parking Lot At Coward Athletic Park. Councilman Kirby seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

CITY OF FLORENCE – WATER LINE EXTENSION

Councilman Mumford made a motion Council Approve The Expenditure Of Up To \$9,405.00 From Council Districts 6 And 7 Utility Funding Allocations (\$4,702.50 From Each District) To Assist The City Of Florence With A 6" Water Line Extension Along A Portion Of Becky's Parkway. Councilman Bradley seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

The following items were additions to the agenda:

REPORTS TO COUNCIL:

ADMINISTRATION

PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY

Councilman Anderson made a motion Council Authorize The Execution Of An Option To Purchase Real Estate And The Subsequent Purchase Of Real Property Owned By Kenneth E. Merriman, Tax Map No. 90167-01-020, In The Amount Of \$155,000 From Previously Allocated Funds. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS:

ROAD SYSTEM MAINTENANCE FEE (RSMF)/UTILITY

HAMPTON DRIVE

Councilman Schofield made a motion Council Approve An Amount Up To \$32,032.00 From Council District 8 RSMF/Utility Funding Allocations To Pay For The Resurfacing Of Hampton Drive From 2nd Loop Road To Pinckney Avenue, Pending Encroachment Permits From SC DOT. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

UTILITY

EBENEZER PARK

Councilman Anderson made a motion Council Approve The Expenditure Of Up To \$10,000.00 From Council District 9 Utility Funding Allocation To Design And Monitor Construction Of A Water Feature At Ebenezer Park. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

There being no further business to come before Council, Councilman Schofield made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Anderson seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:04 A.M.