



**Clarendon County Regular Council Meeting
Monday, March 12, 2012 6:00P.M.
District Office, Turbeville, SC
Meeting Minutes**

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, A. C. English
County Administrator, William Houser
County Attorney, David Epperson
Clerk to Council, Dorothy M. Levy

Press in attendance: Sharon Haley, The Citizen

Others in attendance included: Citizens from Clarendon County

Chairman Stewart called the meeting to order. Following brief introductory remarks from Chairman Stewart, Councilman Blakely led the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

IV. Approval of Agenda

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

V. Approval of Minutes

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and seconded by Councilman Blakely, council voted unanimous approval to the council meeting minutes for February 13, 2012.

VI. Resolution and Presentation to the formal Mayor of Turbeville, Mrs. Virginia J.

Turbeville was moved on the agenda because Ms. Turbeville was not present.

VII. Public Hearing

Chairman Stewart opened the Public Hearing for Ordinance 2011-13 at 6:05 PM. An ordinance Authorizing Pursuant to Title 4, Chapter 1 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as Amended, the Expansion of the Boundaries of the Multi-County Industrial park Jointly Developed with Sumter county to include certain Real Property; The Execution and Delivery of a Credit Agreement by and between Clarendon County,

South Carolina and [Project Miranda], to Provide for Special Source Revenue Credits; To provide for the Manufacturer's Abatement; and other Related Matters.

Ms. Emily Luther, an associate of Parker Poe Law Firm, gave council a summary of Ordinance 2011-13 in which Project Miranda is Alucoil North America. Alucoil is a Spanish company, which is a supplier of aluminum composite, which purchased IntraBond and is investing \$4.7 million dollars in Clarendon County. Alucoil is also retaining the 12 employees employed by IntraBond and creating 18 new jobs.

Mr. Skip Osborne, Chairman of Clarendon County Development Board, thanked County Council for their support in working with the Development Board.

Chairman Stewart thanked everyone for working together on Project Miranda, which is now Alucoil North America.

Being no further comments, the public hearing closed at 6:13 pm.

VIII. Ordinance 2011-13

Special Consideration was given to third and final reading of Ordinance 2011-13, An ordinance Authorizing Pursuant to Title 4, Chapter 1 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as Amended, the Expansion of the Boundaries of the Multi-County Industrial park Jointly Developed with Sumter county to include certain Real Property; The Execution and Delivery of a Credit Agreement by and between Clarendon County, South Carolina and [Project Miranda], to Provide for Special Source Revenue Credits; To provide for the Manufacturer's Abatement; and other Related Matters.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and seconded by Councilman Blakely, council voted unanimous approval to third and final reading of Ordinance 2011-13.

IX. Requests

On Motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Councilman English, council voted unanimous approval to an Intergovernmental Agreement between Clarendon County and the Town of Summerton.

On Motion by Councilman English and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, council voted unanimous approval to an Intergovernmental Agreement between Clarendon County and the City of Manning.

On Motion by Councilman English and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, council voted unanimous approval to a Service Area Agreement relating to Water System between Clarendon County and the City of Manning.

Chairman Stewart stated that County Council is the Transportation Committee and the Transportation Committee is now convene and ready to take action.

Mr. David Epperson asked the Transportation Committee for approval to spend \$100,000 to purchase road material to repair roads where needed.

Councilman Richardson asked if Council could purchase reconditioned asphalt from an area where there is road maintenance now.

County Administrator Houser stated that we have to follow South Carolina Regulations and obtain bids. In addition, the price varies depending on where we are getting the material.

On Motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Councilman Blakely, council voted unanimous approval to spending \$100,000 to purchase reconditioned asphalt to repair damaged roads.

Chairman Stewart stated that the Transportation Committee is now closed.

Resolution 2012-04

On Motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and seconded by Councilman Richardson, council voted unanimous approval to a Multi-Jurisdictional Agreement between Clarendon County Sheriff's Office and other Law Enforcement Agencies throughout the State of South Carolina.

Resolution 2012-05

County Administrator Houser requested Council to amend and adopt Clarendon County Inmate Housing Billing System in which Clarendon County will assess a \$20.00 processing fee per prisoner. He stated that after 8 hours, the arresting agency would be charged a housing fee of \$1.75 per hour, which equates to a rate of \$42.00 for a full day after the initial arrest, with a maximum of \$ 48.00 for the initial day of arrest.

Councilman Blakely asked if Clarendon County could use a prisoner to pick up trash.

Mr. Houser responded by stating that we cannot use a prisoner for manual labor because a prisoner has the same rights as a non-prisoner.

City Administrator, Patrick Goodwin, stated that he has not seen this resolution and wants more discussion on the resolution before council votes on it.

Chairman Stewart stated that we would table this Resolution 2012-05 until the next council meeting allowing time for additional information.

On Motion by Councilman Blakely and seconded by Councilman English, council voted unanimous approval to postponed the approval of Resolution 2012-05.

Clarendon County Aeronautics Commission

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, council voted unanimous approval to appoint Mr. Thomas L. Harvin to serve on Clarendon County Aeronautics Commission Board.

Proclamation

Mr. Houser stated that the Red Cross is a group of volunteers that work hard during emergencies. He stated that the Red Cross helps stock shelters in Clarendon County to aid our citizens.

Councilman Blakely stated that he wanted to recognize the volunteers who collected funds for the Salvation Army in Turbeville.

On motion by Councilman Blakely and seconded by Councilman English, council voted unanimous approval to Declaring March 2012 as Red Cross Month.

Administrator's Report

Mr. Houser informed council as of February 2012, 66% of the budget has been spent. He stated that the Sheriff's Department has overspent \$175,000, Victim Advocate overspent \$10,795, and Weldon has a deficit of \$182,901, whereas Water and Sewer has a net income of \$4,225.

Mr. Houser continued his report by stating the USDA has contributed a tremendous amount of money to Clarendon County and because of this, we will be celebrating the Future of Rural Development on March 29, 2012. This celebrating will be held at the Weldon Auditorium at 10:30 AM.

Mr. Houser continued his report by stating that Dorchester County spent \$11.7 million dollars to build a 47,000 sq. ft. Courthouse, Georgetown County spent \$20 million dollars to build an 80,000 sq. ft. Judicial Center, Lancaster County spent \$33 million dollars to build a 102,332 sq. ft. Courthouse and it will cost Clarendon County \$5 million dollars to renovate the county existing courthouse.

Councilman Blakely asked has any maintenance been done on the Courthouse at any time. Mr. Houser responded by stating that the last major renovation was done in the 70s. Vice Chairman Frierson stated that we have to take one day at a time.

Mr. Houser continued by stating that Mr. Frank Jones made a bid to purchase Parcel # 187-02-05-011-00 for \$30,100.

On motion by Councilman Blakely and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, council voted unanimous to reject Mr. Jones' bid.

Mr. Houser concluded his report by asking council's approval for two employees from the Sheriff's Department to travel out of state to follow up on a criminal case.

On motion by Councilman Blakely and seconded by Councilman Richardson, council voted unanimous approval for two employees from the Sheriff's Department to travel out of state.

XIII. Chairman's Report

Chairman Stewart informed council that he will be meeting with Senator John Land and Representative Kevin Johnson on April 3, 2012. Chairman Stewart also asked David Epperson to give council an update on Dove Lane.

David Epperson stated that he is still working with homeowners trying to get easements.

Mr. Don Lane stated that he spoke with one of the homeowners, Mr. Rickenbaker, and Mr. Rickenbaker stated that he supports the easement and will give his support 200%.

XI. Executive Session

Chairman Stewart asked for a motion to go into Executive Session.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and seconded by Councilman English, council voted unanimous approval to go into Executive Session at 7:20 PM.

Chairman Stewart asked for a motion to come out of Executive Session. On motion by Councilman English and seconded by Councilman Blakely, council voted unanimous approval to come out of Executive Session at 9:35 PM.

Chairman Stewart stated that actions would be taken on the three items from the executive session.

- i. Land Purchase Agreement, to purchase $\frac{3}{4}$ -acre of land located on the back of the New Administration Building for \$14,000.

On motion by Councilman Blakely and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, council voted unanimous approval to purchase the $\frac{3}{4}$ -acre of land for \$14,000 and the money will come out of the Special Project Fund.

- ii. Chairman Stewart stated that the Public Works Department requested to hire an employee on a year-by-year contract basis because the employee has exhausted the amount of time allotted on the TERI Program.

On motion by Councilman English and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, council voted unanimous approval to grant the request of the Public Works Department to hire an employee on a year-by-year contract basic.

- iii. Chairman Stewart asked Council for the authority to negotiable a buy-out of County Administrator Bill Houser's contract effective April 1, 2012.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Councilman Blakely, council voted unanimous approval to give Chairman Stewart the authority to negotiable a buy-out of Administrator Houser's contract effective April 1, 2012.

Chairman Stewart stated that council appreciated the great things that were accomplished under the leadership of County Administrator Bill Houser and wish him much success.

County Administrator Houser stated that it was a pleasure to work for Clarendon County for 11 plus years, and he wanted to commend everyone on their desire to move Clarendon County forward.

Chairman Stewart stated that Deputy County Administrator David Epperson will assume the role of Interim County Administrator effective April 1, 2012.

XVI. Adjournment

On motion by Councilman English and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, council voted unanimous approval to adjourn the council meeting. The meeting ended at 9:43 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Dorothy M. Levy

Dorothy M. Levy
Clerk to Clarendon County Council

