

May 28, 2015  
Charleston, SC

A meeting of County Council of Charleston County was held on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2015, in the Beverly T. Craven Council Chambers, Second Floor of the Lonnie Hamilton, III Public Services Building, located at 4045 Bridge View Drive, North Charleston, South Carolina.

Present at the meeting were the following members of Council: Chairman J. Elliott Summey, who presided; Colleen T. Condon; Henry E. Darby; Anna B. Johnson; Teddie E. Pryor, Sr.; Joseph K. Qualey; A. Victor Rawl; Herbert R. Sass, III; and Dickie Schweers.

Also present were Interim County Administrator Keith Bustraan and County Attorney Joseph Dawson.

Rev. Robert Reid delivered the invocation and Mr. Sass led in the pledge to the flag.

The Clerk reported that in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, notice of meetings and agendas were furnished to all news media and persons requesting notification.

A report was furnished by the Finance Committee under date of May 21, 2015, that it considered the information furnished by Interim County Administrator Keith Bustraan and Budget Director Mack Gile regarding the Environmental Management Capital Improvement Plan.

Environmental  
Management  
CIP

Request to  
Approve

Committee recommended that Council approve the FY 16-20 Environmental Management Capital Improvement Plan.

Mr. Pryor moved approval of the committee recommendation, seconded by Ms. Johnson, and carried. Mr. Qualey voted against the motion.

A report was furnished by the Finance Committee under date of May 21, 2015, that it considered the information furnished by Interim County Administrator Keith Bustraan and Budget Director Mack Gile regarding the Transportation Sales Tax Comprehensive Plan of Expenditures.

TST  
Comprehensive  
Plan of  
Expenditures

Request to  
Approve

Committee recommended that Council approve the FY 16-20 Transportation Sales Tax Comprehensive Plan of Expenditures.

Mr. Pryor moved approval of the committee recommendation, seconded by Ms. Johnson, and carried. Mr. Qualey voted against the motion.

A report was furnished by the Special Finance Committee under date of May 21, 2015, that it considered the information furnished by Interim County Administrator Keith Bustraan and Budget Director Mack Gile regarding the FY 2016 Transportation Sales Tax budget.

Committee recommended that Council approve and give first reading to an ordinance establishing the FY 2016 Transportation Sales Tax budget.

Mr. Pryor moved approval of the committee recommendation, seconded by Mr. Sass, and carried. Mr. Qualey voted against the motion.

An ordinance establishing the FY 2016 Transportation Sales Tax budget was given first reading by title only.

**AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH AND MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016 FROM THE TRANSPORTATION SALES TAX SPECIAL REVENUE FUND FOR PROJECTS AND PURPOSES PERMITTED BY LAW; TO PROVIDE FOR BUDGET CONTROL OF SAID APPROPRIATIONS BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL AND THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO**

**The ordinance in its entirety will appear in the minutes of Charleston County Council at the time of third reading.**

A report was furnished by the Special Finance Committee under date of May 21, 2015, that it considered the information furnished by Interim County Administrator Keith Bustraan and Budget Director Mack Gile regarding the FY 2016 Solid Waste User Fee.

Committee recommended that Council approve and give first reading to an ordinance relating to the imposition of annual Solid Waste Recycling and Disposal Fees.

Mr. Pryor moved approval of the committee recommendation, seconded by Ms. Johnson, and carried.

An ordinance relating to the imposition of annual Solid Waste Recycling and Disposal Fees was given first reading by title only.

**AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE IMPOSITION OF ANNUAL SOLID WASTE RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL FEES FOR THE DISPOSITION OF SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING; PROVIDING FOR CLASSIFICATIONS OF REAL PROPERTY SUBJECT TO ANNUAL SOLID WASTE RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL FEES; AND ESTABLISHING THE AMOUNT OF THE ANNUAL SOLID WASTE RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL FEES.**

FY 2016 TST  
Budget

A) Request to  
Approve  
B) Ordinance 1<sup>st</sup>  
Reading

FY 2016 Solid  
Waste User Fee

A) Request to  
Approve  
B) Ordinance 1<sup>st</sup>  
Reading

**The ordinance in its entirety will appear in the minutes of Charleston County Council at the time of third reading.**

A report was furnished by the Special Finance Committee under date of May 21, 2015, that it considered the information furnished by Interim County Administrator Keith Bustraen and Budget Director Mack Gile regarding the 9-1-1 emergency monthly fee. It was stated that County staff has reviewed the 9-1-1 emergency monthly fee as it compares to other counties in South Carolina and as the fee compares to the costs of supplying various emergency services in Charleston County and that as a result of that inquiry it was determined that the 9-1-1 emergency fee is below the fee charged by other county governments in South Carolina and also does not recover an appropriate portion of the costs of providing the services.

Committee recommended that Council approve and give first reading to an ordinance amending the Charleston County Fee Ordinance to reflect 9-1-1 Emergency Service Fee to be 50 cents per month upon each local exchange facility subscribed by telephone subscribers.

Mr. Pryor moved approval of the committee recommendation, seconded by Mr. Qualey, and carried.

An ordinance amending the Charleston County Fee Ordinance was given first reading by title only.

**AN ORDINANCE  
AMENDING THOSE PORTIONS OF  
CHAPTER 2 / ARTICLE V / DIVISION 2 / SECTION 2 - 137  
DEALING WITH FEES**

**The ordinance in its entirety will appear in the minutes of Charleston County Council at the time of third reading.**

A report was furnished by the Finance Committee under date of May 28, 2015, that it considered the information furnished by Interim County Administrator Keith Bustraen and Budget Director Mack Gile regarding the FY 2016 Charleston County Park and Recreation Commission budget.

Committee recommended that Council approve and give first reading to an ordinance establishing the FY 2016 Charleston County Park and Recreation Commission budget.

Mr. Pryor moved approval of the committee recommendation, seconded by Mr. Sass, and carried. Messrs. Qualey and Schweers voted against the motion.

E-911 Fee  
Ordinance

A) Request to  
Approve  
B) Ordinance 1<sup>st</sup>  
Reading

FY 2016 PRC  
Budget

A) Request to  
Approve  
B) Ordinance 1<sup>st</sup>  
Reading

An ordinance establishing the FY 2016 Charleston County Park and Recreation Commission budget was given first reading by title only.

**AN ORDINANCE  
APPROVING THE BUDGET AND DIRECTING  
THE AUDITOR OF CHARLESTON COUNTY  
TO LEVY THE NECESSARY MILLAGE AND  
THE TREASURER TO COLLECT TAXES  
FOR  
THE CHARLESTON COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION  
COMMISSION  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016,  
AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A  
TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE IN THE AMOUNT UP TO \$3,000,000.**

**The ordinance in its entirety will appear in the minutes of Charleston County Council at the time of third reading.**

A report was furnished by the Finance Committee under date of May 28, 2015, that it considered the information furnished by Interim County Administrator Keith Bustraan and Budget Director Mack Gile regarding the FY 2016 Cooper River Park and Playground Commission budget.

Committee recommended that Council approve and give first reading to an ordinance establishing the FY 2016 Cooper River Park and Playground Commission budget.

Mr. Pryor moved approval of the committee recommendation, seconded by Mr. Rawl, and carried. Messrs. Qualey and Schweers voted against the motion.

An ordinance establishing the FY 2016 Cooper River Park and Playground Commission budget was given first reading by title only.

**AN ORDINANCE  
APPROVING THE BUDGET AND DIRECTING  
THE AUDITOR OF CHARLESTON COUNTY  
TO LEVY THE NECESSARY MILLAGE AND  
THE TREASURER TO COLLECT TAXES  
FOR  
THE COOPER RIVER PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016**

**The ordinance in its entirety will appear in the minutes of Charleston County Council at the time of third reading.**

FY 2016 Cooper  
River Park and  
Playground  
Commission  
Budget

A) Request to  
Approve  
B) Ordinance 1<sup>st</sup>  
Reading

A report was furnished by the Finance Committee under date of May 28, 2015, that it considered the information furnished by Interim County Administrator Keith Bustraan and Budget Director Mack Gile regarding the FY 2016 North Charleston District budget.

FY 2016 North  
Charleston  
District Budget

Committee recommended that Council approve and give first reading to an ordinance establishing the FY 2016 North Charleston District budget.

A) Request to  
Approve  
B) Ordinance 1<sup>st</sup>  
Reading

Mr. Pryor moved approval of the committee recommendation, seconded by Mr. Rawl, and carried. Messrs. Qualey and Schweers voted against the motion.

An ordinance establishing the FY 2016 North Charleston District budget was given first reading by title only.

**AN ORDINANCE  
APPROVING THE BUDGET AND DIRECTING  
THE AUDITOR OF CHARLESTON COUNTY  
TO LEVY THE NECESSARY MILLAGE AND  
THE TREASURER TO COLLECT TAXES  
FOR  
THE NORTH CHARLESTON DISTRICT  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016**

**The ordinance in its entirety will appear in the minutes of Charleston County Council at the time of third reading.**

A report was furnished by the Finance Committee under date of May 28, 2015, that it considered the information furnished by Interim County Administrator Keith Bustraan and Budget Director Mack Gile regarding the FY 2016 St. Andrew's Parish Parks and Playground Commission budget.

FY 2016 St.  
Andrew's Parks  
and Playground  
Commission  
Budget

Committee recommended that Council approve and give first reading to an ordinance establishing the FY 2016 St. Andrew's Parish Parks and Playground Commission budget.

A) Request to  
Approve  
B) Ordinance 1<sup>st</sup>  
Reading

Mr. Pryor moved approval of the committee recommendation, seconded by Mr. Rawl, and carried. Messrs. Qualey and Schweers voted against the motion.

An ordinance establishing the FY 2016 St. Andrew's Parish Parks and Playground Commission budget was given first reading by title only.

**AN ORDINANCE  
APPROVING THE BUDGET AND DIRECTING  
THE AUDITOR OF CHARLESTON COUNTY  
TO LEVY THE NECESSARY MILLAGE AND  
THE TREASURER TO COLLECT TAXES**

**FOR  
THE ST. ANDREW'S PARISH PARKS & PLAYGROUND  
COMMISSION  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016,  
AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A  
TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE IN THE AMOUNT UP TO \$400,000**

**The ordinance in its entirety will appear in the minutes of Charleston County Council at the time of third reading.**

A report was furnished by the Finance Committee under date of May 28, 2015, that it considered the information furnished by Interim County Administrator Keith Bustraan and Budget Director Mack Gile regarding the FY 2016 St. John's Fire District budget.

FY 2016 St.  
John's Fire  
District Budget

A) Request to  
Approve  
B) Ordinance 1<sup>st</sup>  
Reading

Committee recommended that Council approve and give first reading to an ordinance establishing the FY 2016 St. John's Fire District budget.

Ms. Johnson moved approval of the committee recommendation, seconded by Mr. Pryor, and carried. Messrs. Qualey and Schweers voted against the motion.

An ordinance establishing the FY 2016 St. John's Fire District budget was given first reading by title only.

**AN ORDINANCE  
APPROVING THE BUDGET AND DIRECTING  
THE AUDITOR OF CHARLESTON COUNTY  
TO LEVY THE NECESSARY MILLAGE AND  
THE TREASURER TO COLLECT TAXES  
FOR  
THE ST. JOHN'S FIRE DISTRICT  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016,  
AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A  
TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE IN THE AMOUNT UP TO \$2,500,000.**

**The ordinance in its entirety will appear in the minutes of Charleston County Council at the time of third reading.**

A report was furnished by the Finance Committee under date of May 28, 2015, that it considered the information furnished by Interim County Administrator Keith Bustraan and Budget Director Mack Gile regarding the FY 2016 St. Paul's Fire District budget.

FY 2016 St.  
Paul's Fire  
District Budget

A) Request to  
Approve  
B) Ordinance 1<sup>st</sup>  
Reading

Committee recommended that Council approve and give first reading to an ordinance establishing the FY 2016 St. Paul's Fire District budget.

Mr. Pryor moved approval of the committee recommendation, seconded by Ms. Johnson, and carried. Messrs. Qualey and Schweers voted against the motion.

An ordinance establishing the FY 2016 St. Paul's Fire District budget was given first reading by title only.

**AN ORDINANCE  
APPROVING THE BUDGET AND DIRECTING  
THE AUDITOR OF CHARLESTON COUNTY  
TO LEVY THE NECESSARY MILLAGE AND  
THE TREASURER TO COLLECT TAXES  
FOR  
THE ST. PAUL'S FIRE DISTRICT  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016,  
AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A  
TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE IN THE AMOUNT UP TO \$2,500,000.**

**The ordinance in its entirety will appear in the minutes of Charleston County Council at the time of third reading.**

A report was furnished by the Special Finance Committee under date of May 21, 2015, that it considered the information furnished by Interim County Administrator Keith Bustraan and Budget Director Mack Gile regarding the FY 2016 Charleston County budget. It was stated that following the appointment of new magistrates by the Charleston County Legislative Delegation, Budget staff had preliminarily increased the budget for Magistrates' Courts in order to accommodate the new magistrates' staffing needs, but that since that time staff had worked with the Magistrates' Court Administration on accommodating the staffing needs through shared staff.

FY 2016  
County  
Budget/  
Reprogram  
Funds

Request to  
Approve

Committee recommended that Council:

1. Reduce Magistrates' Courts budget by \$160,000 and 1.88 FTEs.
2. Increase County Council's budget by \$160,000 and:
  - Allocate \$40,000 for City of North Charleston: Senior Center
  - Allocate \$40,000 for Town of Mount Pleasant: Senior Center
  - Allocate \$80,000 for Council Contingency

Mr. Pryor moved approval of the committee recommendation. The motion was seconded by Ms. Condon, and carried. Mr. Qualey voted against the motion.

Mr. Schweers asked if the County budget was being increased because of the implementation of merit pay. He stated that he was part of the CAPES Committee which had developed the merit pay program and it had been his understanding that this would not require a budget increase.

Mr. Gile stated that the abundance of the increase to the County budget was to facilitate staffing increases in the Sheriff's Office and EMS department, but that there was a small increase in the County budget due to the new merit pay program.

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion. The motion passed. Mr. Qualey voted against the motion

A report was furnished by the Special Finance Committee under date of May 21, 2015, that it considered the information furnished by Interim County Administrator Keith Bustraan and Budget Director Mack Gile regarding the FY 2016 Charleston County budget.

FY 2016  
County  
Budget  
Ordinance

A) Request to  
Approve  
B) Ordinance  
1<sup>st</sup> Reading

Committee recommended that Council approve and give first reading to the FY 2016 County Budget ordinance including Transportation Sales Tax Budget, Solid Waste Recycling and Disposal Fee, and Emergency 9-1-1 Fee with the understanding that amendments may be made at third reading of the ordinance.

Mr. Pryor moved approval of the committee recommendation. The motion was seconded by Ms. Condon.

Mr. Schweers asked if a portion of the recommended millage increase was due to the implementation of merit pay. He stated that he was part of the CAPES Committee which had developed the merit pay program and it had been his hope that the implementation of merit pay would not require a millage increase, but that less funding would be allocated to longevity and more funding would be allocated to merit.

Mr. Gile stated that the abundance of the millage increase was to facilitate staffing increases in the Sheriff's Office and EMS department.

Mr. Schweers then asked if the General Fund budget went up because of merit pay.

Mr. Gile stated that the General Fund budget went up because the resources that were available went up and within those resources which were available, staff was able to accommodate starting merit pay this year.

Mr. Schweers asked if the County were not implementing merit pay this year would the personnel budget have been less.

Mr. Gile stated it would have been less.

Mr. Schweers stated that he was a little disappointed it seemed like the implementation of merit pay was not as the CAPES committee had envisioned it.



Mr. Bustraan stated that there was a COLA increase in last year's budget and that this year a COLA was not recommended. Last year's COLA had cost \$1.8 million to implement and this year's merit pay program would cost \$600,000-\$700,000 to implement so there was a cost savings.

The Chairman called for a vote on the motion. The motion passed. Messrs. Qualey, Rawl, and Schweers voted against the motion.

An ordinance establishing the FY 2016 Charleston County budget was given first reading by title only.

**AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES FOR CORPORATE PURPOSES OF CHARLESTON COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2015 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2016, HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS FISCAL YEAR 2016; MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FROM THE GENERAL FUND AND OTHER FUNDS OF CHARLESTON COUNTY FOR SUCH PURPOSES; AND FURTHER PROVIDING FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES FOR CORPORATE PURPOSES OF CHARLESTON COUNTY, INCLUDING THE AWENDAW MCCLELLANVILLE CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, EAST COOPER FIRE DISTRICT, NORTHERN CHARLESTON COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT, WEST ST. ANDREW'S FIRE DISTRICT, AND TRIDENT TECHNICAL COLLEGE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016; PROVIDING FOR APPROPRIATIONS FROM SUCH SPECIAL FUNDS CREATED FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE AWENDAW MCCLELLANVILLE CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, EAST COOPER FIRE DISTRICT, NORTHERN CHARLESTON COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT, WEST ST. ANDREW'S FIRE DISTRICT, AND TRIDENT TECHNICAL COLLEGE IN ORDER TO SUPPLY THE NECESSARY FUNCTIONS OF THE UNITS; PROVIDING FOR BUDGET CONTROL OF THE APPROPRIATIONS BY THE CHARLESTON COUNTY COUNCIL AND THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR; MAKING PROVISIONS FOR THE FISCAL AFFAIRS OF CHARLESTON COUNTY; AND PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF TAX ANTICIPATION NOTES IN AN AMOUNT UP TO \$25,000,000 FOR CHARLESTON COUNTY AND UP TO \$400,000 FOR THE AWENDAW MCCLELLANVILLE CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT.**

The ordinance in its entirety will appear in the minutes of Charleston County Council at the time of third reading.

The Chairman asked if any member of Council wished to bring an item before the Body.

Mr. Darby stated that when he was elected in 2004, he had been advised that it was the culture of Council to vote unanimously for Chairman so even though at the time he did not agree with the management styles of various chairmen, he

went along and voted for those chairmen to go along with the culture at the time. Over the years, the culture of Council changed and unanimous voting for the Chairman is a thing of the past. He also stated that from time to time various resolutions had been presented by Council Members and he could never remember a time before tonight's Finance Committee when individual Council Members voted against a resolution proposed by another Council Member and that he hoped it was not the case that the abstentions tonight were not simply because Charleston Pride Week recognizes the community of gay people. He stated that Ms. Condon had been visibly upset and her feelings had been hurt by some of her colleagues and that Council should not be in the practice of hurting other Council Members particularly when it comes to their lifestyles and beliefs.

Mr. Rawl stated that he greatly appreciated the hard work of staff on the budget.

Chairman Summey stated that everyone walks different roads and different paths to find happiness. He said that it is unfortunate that sometimes we allow the best intentions to run amuck. He stated that everyone should be mindful that when we get passionate about politics, there are other people with feelings on the other side of every issue.

There being no further business to come before the body, the Chairman declared the meeting to be adjourned.

Kristen L. Salisbury  
Deputy Clerk of Council