



Clarendon County Regular Council Meeting
Monday, June 10, 2013, 6:00 PM
Council Chambers
Regular County Council Meeting

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: Sharron Haley, The Item-Clarendon Bureau and Konstantin Vengerowsky, Clarendon Citizen

Others in attendance included:

Lynden Anthony	Vickie Williams	Charlotte Johnston
Nancy Cave	Linda Lemon	Lee Bledsoe
Sandi Tucker	Maria Rose	Connie Bledsoe
Fred Tucker	Richard Canaday	Frank Newman
Patricia Pringle	Robert McFadden	Paul Shoemaker
Richard Stokes	And other citizens of Clarendon County	

Chairman Stewart called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm with opening comments. He thanked the Sheriff's Department, all Law Enforcement Officers, the Fire Department, and First Responders for the fast response during the tragedy in New Zion. Councilman Blakely thanked the staff of the Weldon for allowing Clarendon School District III to hold their graduation ceremony at the Weldon. 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 May 13, 2013 with minor changes.

V. Requests

Administrator Epperson presented Council with a Memorandum of Agreement between Clarendon County Sheriff's Department and Shaw Air Force Base.

On motion by Councilman Blakely and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted unanimous approval to the Memorandum of Agreement between Clarendon County Sheriff's Department and Shaw Air Force Base.

Ms. Vickie Williams, Grants Coordinator, presented Council with a request to submit the 2013 Local Solicitation Edward Byrne's Memorial JAG Grant in the amount of \$12,190.

Administrator Epperson stated that this grant would be used to update the camera in vehicles for the Sheriff's Department.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted unanimous approval giving Ms. Williams authorization to submit the 2013 Local Solicitation Edward Byrne's Memorial JAG Grant in the amount of \$12,190.

VI. Ordinance 2013-03

Consideration was given to third and final reading of Ordinance 2013-03, an Ordinance of the County Council of Clarendon, South Carolina to amend the County's Unified Development Code (UDC).

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and seconded by Councilman English, council voted unanimous approval to the third and final reading of Ordinance 2013-03.

VII. Ordinance 2013-02

Consideration was given to the third and final reading of Ordinance 2013-02, an Ordinance to provide for a Levy of Taxes for County Purposes of Clarendon County, S.C., for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2013, and ending June, 30, 2014, to direct the Expenditures of said Taxes and other Funds for Clarendon County, and to provide for other matters related thereto including the Administrative Accountability procedures to be followed during implementation of the Budget (Operating and Capital) for Clarendon County for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2013 and Ending June 30, 2014.

Mr. Lynden Anthony, Controller, thanked Tammy Rodvansky for her efforts on working on the county budget. He continued by stating that Administration and the Finance Department are presenting a balanced budget to Council for final reading. Mr. Anthony stated that several minor Revenue adjustments had to be made to obtain a balanced budget.

He continued by stating that the Sheriff's Department will not have any new growth, he continued by stating that Health Insurance Premiums increased more than expected, and Property and Liability Premiums did not increase as much as expected.

Mr. Anthony further stated that Clarendon School District One was the only school district that requested a Tax Anticipation Note. He concluded by stating that all three school districts requested a 2.07 per cent millage increase.

Chairman Stewart thanked Mr. Anthony for working on the budget.

Administrator Epperson thanked Mr. Anthony and his Staff and Department Heads and their Staff for working with the budget process.

Councilman Blakely stated that we all feel bad that we would not be able to do anything for our employees this year, but as we discuss in our meeting, the first opportunity we get we are going to help them in some way. He concluded by stating that we have a great team and everyone is doing a great job.

On motion by Councilman English and seconded by Councilman Richardson, council voted unanimous approval to the third and final reading of our Fiscal year 2013/2014 budget Ordinance 2013-02.

VIII. Finance Report

Mr. Anthony began his report by stating that the Revenue figures as of May 31, 2013 were not available. He continued by stating that the Expenditures for the General Fund year-to-date was \$16,765,000. Mr. Anthony stated that Council appropriated \$18,766,000 last year and we spent well less than that.

Mr. Anthony stated that the C Fund project is ongoing. He stated that roads are being marked and we are getting equipment in place. He continued by stating that Water and Sewer department had \$668,562 in Operational Revenue for the 11 months that ended in May. Mr. Anthony further stated that Water and Sewer had Operational Expenses of \$408,286, less depreciation and debt services of \$122,263, leaving a net Utility Income of \$138,013.

Mr. Anthony concluded his report by stating that the Weldon Auditorium had Revenue for the 11 months ending May 31, 2013 of \$76,677 and Expenses of \$152,045 leaving a deficit after transfers of \$57,045.

IX. Administrator's Report

Administrator Epperson began his reports by thanking the Sheriff's Department, all Law Enforcement Officers, and the other agencies for working tirelessly for 4-days straight during the tragedy in New Zion. He continued by sending his condolences out to the families of the victims.

Mr. Epperson continued by stating that the Recreation Department will be having All Stars for older girls and boys and will be traveling to Turbeville and other areas for All Stars games. He continued by stating that there will also be numerous summer activities

held at the Weldon as well as the Community Complex. Mr. Epperson further stated that there would be a Theatre camp for the youth in the mornings and other activities in the afternoons for a fee of \$150.00 a week. The hours for the camp will be 9 am to 4 pm. He continued by stating that the Library will be having their reading program as well.

Mr. Epperson stated that the Road Construction projects would be moving forward with Pompey Town Road and William Gibbons Road when the weather permits. He continued by stating that the obstruction removal on the runway of the airport will begin as soon as we get all of the agreements finalized. Mr. Epperson stated that the initial meeting with the property owners went well.

Mr. Epperson stated that we would like to recognize Deputy Fire Chief Jonathan Jones who would be sworn in as the President of the South Carolina Fire Fighters Association. He continued by stating that the Animal Shelter took in 68 dogs last month. Fifty-Eight were brought in by Animal Control and the remaining 10 were brought in by the public.

- Councilman English asked for an update on the Courthouse.

Administrator Epperson stated that everyone has moved out of the courthouse and are now working in their new locations. He stated that everything is still on target, and he does not anticipate any delays. Mr. Epperson further stated that we would be expecting the bids in a couple of months and the construction to begin thereafter. He concluded by stating that the contractors will give a presentation of the Courthouse Renovation at the July's Council meeting.

X. Chairman's Report

Chairman Stewart began his report by stating that he and Councilman Richardson would be graduating from the Riley Institute on Wednesday, June 12, 2013. He concluded by thanking the Media for all of the coverage given to Clarendon County.

- Ms. Haley stated that Senator John Land would be receiving the Order of the Palmetto from Governor Nikki Haley on Thursday, June 13, 2013 at the State House in Columbia.
- Councilman Blakely asked could Council do something to recognize the East Clarendon High School Girls Softball Team for winning the state championship.

Chairman Stewart stated that we would present a Resolution for an Outstanding Achievement to East Clarendon High School Girls Softball Team at the next council meeting.

XI. Executive Session

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted unanimous approval to go into Executive Session to discuss a Legal Matter relating to the Water & Sewer Department. The Executive Session began at 6:42 pm.

On motion by Councilman English 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 7:28 pm.

XIII. Open Session

Chairman Stewart stated that in Executive Session Council discussed a Legal Matter in the Water and Sewer department. He stated that the county has the opportunity to purchase a private water system and Administrator Epperson wants authorization to enter into negotiation with the owner. Chairman Stewart concluded by stating that we do not have a contract or a written agreement at this time.

On motion by Councilman English and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted unanimous to give Administrator Epperson authorization to proceed with the negotiation to purchase the private water system.

XIII. 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 7:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted


Dorothy M. Levy
Clerk to Clarendon County Council

