



**Clarendon County Regular Council Meeting
Monday, December 17, 2012 5:00 P.M.
Council Chambers
Special Called 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: Jack Justice, Clarendon Citizen and The Manning Times

Others in attendance included:

Lynden Anthony	Lori Salley	Patricia Pringle
Sam Levy	Linda Lemon	James Chandler
Rachel Chandler	John Truluck	Beulah Roberts
Nelson Walker	And other citizens of Clarendon County	

Chairman Stewart called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm with opening comments. Vice Chairman Frierson led the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

IV. Public Hearing

Chairman Stewart stated that the public hearing was now open for 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. The public hearing opened at 5:03 pm.

Patricia Pringle, County Auditor, asked if the school districts would be getting any money from the Fee agreement.

John Truluck, Economic Development Director, stated that it would be up to council to make that decision.

Chairman Stewart stated that the decision had not been made in reference to who would be getting what.

Chairman Stewart stated that if there were no other discussions, that the public hearing will close. The public hearing closed at 5:06 pm.

V. Ordinance 2012-05

Consideration was given to third and final 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.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, council voted unanimous approval to the third and final reading of Ordinance 2012-05.

VI. Requests

Administrator Epperson presented council with a pending request, which was tabled at the last meeting, to construct and maintain a water point access road in the Alcolu community. Mr. Epperson stated that it would cost the county \$24,000 to construct the road. He also stated that if the county used employees from the Public Works' Department, and the equipment and materials that are on hand, the cost to construct the road will be lower.

Mr. Epperson stated that we are looking into extending the pipe from the pond to the main road. He stated that this would divide the field in half and the owner of the field does not oppose dividing the field. We would have to get an easement from the owner before proceeding.

He concluded by stating that Westminister Presbyterian Church Church will have to install the dry hydrant.

Chairman Stewart asked council if they were ready to make a decision.

On motion by Councilman Blakely and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, council voted unanimous approval to the lesser of constructing a water point access road in the Alcolu Community or extending the pipe from the pond to the main road.

Chairman Stewart stated that council is giving Administrator Epperson the authority to proceed with the request from Westminister Presbyterian Church Church.

Administrator Epperson stated that any requests like this would be done on a case-by-case basis and this case does not set a precedent.

Chairman Stewart informed the members of Westminister Presbyterian Church Church, who came in late, that their request to construct a water point access road was approved but the church will have to install the dry hydrant.

One of the members of Westminister Presbyterian Church Church stated that this would be a big help, and they thanked council and said that the church would install the dry hydrant.

VII. Presentation – Ms. Lori Salley, McGregor and Co., LLP

Ms. Salley began her presentation by stating that Clarendon County received the best opinion that you can get from an audit, which is an Unqualified Opinion. She stated that the General Fund reported a fund balance of \$3.2 million, which was less than the prior year and better than the standard of 15%. She stated that the ending balance equates to 17% of General Fund expenditures for the year.

Ms. Salley continued by stating that the total capital project transfer for the Summerton Fire Department was \$ 753,000.

Ms. Salley continued by stating that the Water and Sewer Fund related to USDA loan/grant needed to be adjusted on the books and needed to have stronger control. She stated that the total Federal Assistance to the county was \$5,168,370.

Ms. Salley stated that the good news is that last year's issues have been cleared up. She continued by stating that there was an internal weakness which was the same as last year in which a receipt for a hotel bill was not turned in. She stated that if the Magistrate's office has funds totaling over \$100 due to unknown reasons or has more money than they can account for, that money should be turned over to the county so that the state can get their share. She continued by stating that more care should be taken when sending out requests for multi-judicial grants.

Ms. Salley concluded by stating that the Clerk to Court's Office had \$1,625 in overtime wages that were not reflected on W2s. She thanked the Finance Department for all of the help that she was giving during the audit.

Mr. Lynden Anthony stated that everyone was excited about the move into the new building and most of the expenses and items purchased were anticipated and expected.

Chairman Stewart thanked Ms. Salley, Mr. Anthony, Administrator Epperson, and staff for the work that was done on the audit.

XII. Executive Session

On motion by Councilman English and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson,

Council voted unanimous approval to go into Executive Session. The Executive Session began at 5:47 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 5:57 pm.

Chairman Stewart stated that action would be taken from the Executive Session.

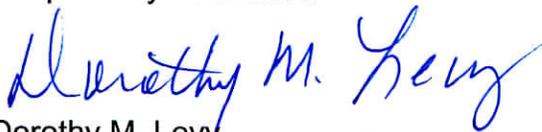
i. Personnel Matter

On Motion by Councilman Blakely and seconded by Councilman English, Council voted unanimous approval to accept the recommendation from the Clerk of Court's Office to grant an employee the option to retire and return at current salary.

XIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:59 pm.

Respectfully Submitted



Dorothy M. Levy
Clerk to Clarendon County Council

