

Clarendon County Regular Council Meeting
Monday, January 14, 2019
6:00 PM
Council Chambers, 411 Sunset Drive, Manning, SC

Those in attendance:

Chairman Dwight L. Stewart, Jr.
Councilman Billy G. Richardson
Councilman Benton Blakely
Clerk to Council, Dorothy M. Levy

Vice Chairman W.J. Frierson
Councilman AC English
County Administrator, David W. Epperson

Press in attendance: The Manning Times, Laura Stone

Others in attendance included:

Lynden Anthony Willie Briggs Kenneth Clark Tammy Rodvansky Alice Logan
Brad Gerlin Ann Kirven Harold Allan Tommy Benton Rosa Kind
Joe Witt Jamie Welch Mary L Logan Betty Tindal Linda Lemon
And other Clarendon County Residents

Chairman Stewart called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm with opening comments. Vice Chairman Frierson led the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

1 Approval of the Agenda

On motion by Councilman Blakely and Seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the agenda for January 14, 2019.

2. Approval of Minutes

On motion by Councilman English and Seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the council meeting minutes for the Regular Council Meeting, which was held on December 10, 2018.

On motion by Councilman English and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the council meeting minutes for the Special Called Council Meeting, which was held on January 2, 2019.

3. Service Awards Recognition

Prior to the business session of the Regular Council Meeting, Chairman Stewart, Administrator Epperson, and Linda Lemon, Director of Human Resources, presented four employees with service awards. The awards were presented as listed:

- Kenneth Clark 10 Years Rosa Kind 20 Years
- The Honorable AC English 10 Years The Honorable Benton Blakely 20 Years

4. Requests

Administrator Epperson presented Council with the 2019 Council Meeting Schedule.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the 2019 Council Meetings Schedule.

Administrator Epperson presented Council with the 2019 Holidays Observance Schedule.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the 2019 Holidays Observance Schedule.

Administrator Epperson presented Council with the 2019/2020 Budget Schedule stating that the budget must be approved by June 30 of each year.

On motion by Councilman English and Seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the 2019/2020 Budget Schedule.

5. Board Appointments

On motion by Councilman Blakely and Seconded by Councilman English, Council voted Unanimous Approval to appoint Rachel Turner Gainey to the Clarendon County Development Board representing District 3.

6. Clarendon County Behavioral Health Services (CBHS) – Ann Kirven

Ms. Ann Kirven, Chief Operating Officer of CBHS, presented Council with information on the ownership of Clarendon County Behavioral Health Services. She stated that in 1998 a deed was completed deeding the facility to CBHS so that they could obtain a loan from USDA in which the mortgage was paid off in October 2010. Ms. Kirven continued by stating that the County paid their utility bill until 2001 and up until 2 years ago, CBHS received funds from the County annually.

Ms. Kirven continued by stating that the CBHS building has a value of 1.6 million dollars. She stated that they received notification that CBHS has five days to purchase insurance since the building is no longer deeded to Clarendon County. Ms. Kirven continued by requesting that the County continue to pay the Insurance and Maintenance fee on the CBHS facility.

Ms. Kirven concluded her request by stating that the County always provided a building for the CBHS and she the board wants Council to consider re-deeding the CBHS building back to the county.

- Chairman Stewart asked who requires that the county have an Organization like Behavioral Health Services.
- Administrator Epperson replied by stating that it is mandated by the state.
- Ms. Kirven stated that the intention is that the CBHS building will convert back to the County.
- Chairman Stewart asked how the County would fund something that is a state organization.
- Ms. Kirven replied by stating that CBHS is not a state organization.
- Councilman Blakely asked who paid for the building.
- Ms. Kirven replied by stating that we (the board) paid for the building.
- Ms. Kirven stated that the insurance and grass cut is well under \$5,000.
- Councilman Blakely stated that we should create a plan that the County can live with.
- Vice Chairman Frierson stated that the current agreement runs through June 30, 2019.
- Chairman Stewart stated that we need to know who has ownership of the CBHS building.

7. Financial Report

Mr. Lynden Anthony, CFO, began his report by stating the following:

- **The General Fund** had Expenditures of \$1,611,492 and Revenue figures were \$4,642,768 as of December 31, 2018.

- **Water and Sewer Department** had Operating Revenue of \$370,777 and Operating Expenses of \$275,758 as of December 31, 2018. He stated that after depreciation and Bond interest expense the Water and Sewer Department had Net Utility Loss of \$99,455.
- **Weldon Auditorium** had Revenue of \$8,867 for the month ending December 31, 2018 and total Expenses were \$57,676. He stated that the Weldon Auditorium ended the month of December 2018 after transfers with a zero balance.
- **The C-Fund Program** for the month of December 2018 had a Cash Balance of \$1799,290 of which \$804,479 has been committed to remaining local paving projects, State Construction Projects in Progress and State Proviso Funds. He stated that the C-Fund Program had an Uncommitted Balance of \$994,811 as of the end of December 2018.

8. Administrator's Report

Administrator Epperson began his report by giving Council an update on the following projects:

- **USDA Phase II** – The project is underway way. We anticipate the project taking twelve months barring delays.
- **Wyboo Point/Eagle Point Connector project** – The project has been divided into two phases.
 1. **Phase 3A**- involved the water line installation. This phase has been bid and a contract has been awarded.
 2. **Phase 3B**- involves the drilling of the new well and construction of the well house. This phase has also been bid however; the bid amounts came back extremely high and we have decided to re-bid this phase.
- **County Recreation Dept.** – Baseball/softball registration is open and ends February 15., last year we had a large number of children signed up and we anticipate the same this year.
- **Road Paving**
 1. 75% C-Funds (County Portion) - the Bethlehem Group and Winwood Drive project is currently out for bid. We anticipate work to begin within the next couple of months once the project has been awarded barring any delays for weather.
 2. 25% C-Funds (State Portion) – George Harvin Rd and Ram Bay Rd projects are currently out for bid. We anticipate work to begin within the next couple of months once the project has been awarded barring any weather delays.
 3. We are also working with the local SCDOT office to determine additional projects for the 2019 Fiscal Year.
- FEMA – We are continuing to work with FEMA and the SC Emergency Management Office to receive our remaining funding for the 2015 Flood and Hurricane Florence.

9. Chairman's Report

Chairman Stewart began his report by stating that the Local Government Fund is being talked about and Mr. Merrill Smith proposed that the cap on the Local Government Fund is revisited.

Chairman Stewart stated that they will adjourn the Council meeting for 15 minutes to allow Vice Chairman Frierson to speak with some members of Clarendon District Two. The Council Meeting temporarily adjourned at 7:12 pm.

Chairman Stewart stated that the regular Council meeting was back in session. The Council meeting was called to order at 7:22 pm.

10. Executive Session

Chairman asked for a motion to go into Executive Session to receive a Legal Briefing-Update on Current Litigation.

On motion by Councilman Blakely and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson-Council voted Unanimous Approval to go into Executive Session for a Legal Briefing-Update on Current Litigation. The Executive Session began at 7:23 pm.

Administrator Epperson asked Attorney Walt Cartin, Parker Poe, to attend the Executive Session Meeting.

11. Open Session

On motion by Councilman Blakely 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 7:56 pm.

Administrator Epperson began by stating that in Executive Session, Council received and update on the Claim from Farmer Telephone Cooperative (FTC), for tax Exempt Status. He continued by stating that back in 1970, FTC received Tax Exempt Status for Rural Telephone Service and now FTC is requesting Tax Exempt status on the other services that they provide; Cell Phones, Internet, TV, and Security Service.

Administrator Epperson concluded by stating that the case will be heard by the Administrative Law Court in Columbia and this trial is scheduled to start in May. He said that FTC is requesting a refund on the taxes that they paid from 2010.

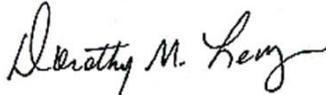
12. Adjournment

Chairman Stewart stated that we have exhausted our agenda and he asked for a motion to adjourn the Council meeting.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to adjourn the Council Meeting.

The Council Meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dorothy M. Levy
Clerk to Clarendon County Council, CCC

