



Clarendon County Regular Council Meeting
Monday, June 11, 2018
6:00 PM
Council Chambers

Those in attendance:

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

Vice Chairman W.J. Frierson
Councilman Benton Blakely
County Administrator, David W. Epperson

Press in attendance: Manning Times, Laura Stone

Others in attendance included:

Lynden Anthony
Josh Houben
Joe Witt

Betty Phillips
Kim Johnson
Jennifer Powell

Keith Grice
Charlotte Johnston
And other Clarendon County Residents

Nathaniel Dyson
Tim Baxley

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

I Approval of the Agenda

Chairman Stewart asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

On motion by Councilman Blakely and Seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the agenda for June 11, 2018.

II. 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 May 14, 2018.

III. South Carolina Detention Center Housing Agreement

Administrator Epperson presented Council with a Housing Agreement between the Clarendon County Detention Center and the South Carolina Department of Corrections. He stated with this agreement, the inmates would be able to work inside and outside the jail. Administrator Epperson concluded his presentation by stating that he reviewed the agreement and he does not see any issues with the agreement.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Councilman Blakely, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the Housing Agreement between the Clarendon County Detention Center and the South Carolina Detention Center.

IV. Proclamation

Chairman Stewart read a Proclamation proclaiming June 15, 2018 as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day in Clarendon County. He encouraged all of our communities to recognize and celebrate older adults and their ongoing contributions to the success and vitality of our country.

On motion by Councilman Blakely and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the Proclamation proclaiming June 15, 2018 as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day in Clarendon County.

V. Board Appointments

On motion by Councilman English and Seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to reappoint W. Tommy Benton, Donald Bethune, and Bon Gardner to the Assessment Appeals Board.

VI. Clarendon County Transportation Committee (CCTC)

Chairman Stewart called the CCTC to order at 6:13 pm.

Administrator Epperson presented Council with a request to authorize the repaving and improvements of Benton Road (which is located in District 1 off of S-14-674 East on Dingle Pond Rd) at an estimated cost of \$175,000.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and Seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval authorizing the repaving and improvements of Benton Road at an estimated cost of \$175,000.

The CCTC closed at 6:16 pm.

VII. Clarendon County Accommodations Tax Fund – “Tourism Fund”

Mr. Anthony, Chief Financial Officer, presented Council with requests from five Entities.

- Request to authorize funding to the Clarendon Chamber of Commerce for its tourism promotion initiatives in the amount of \$30,000 for FY2019;
- Request to authorize funding in the amount of \$5,000 to Santee Cooper Country for out-of-area promotional activities;
- Request to authorize funding in the amount of \$39,000 under County control for the operation and maintenance of the I-95 Exit 119 Beautification Project; and,
- Request to authorize funding in the amount of \$2,000 to the Clarendon County Historical Society for the development, production and distribution of promotional materials.
- Request to authorize funding in the amount of \$5,000 to Summerton Revitalization Committee for promotional activities associated with 2018 Duck Fest.

Councilman Blakely asked who are the members of the Accommodation Tax Committee.

Mr. Anthony replied by stating that the members of the Accommodation Tax Committee are as follows: Shannon Allen, Joey Moore, Bob Patel, Arun Bivek, Henry Campbell, and Lebon Joye. He also stated that there is an opening for a member at large.

Councilman Blakely stated that he wants the member at large to come from District 3.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the requests that were made by Mr. Anthony to the five Entities; which are the Clarendon County Chamber tourism promotion in the amount of \$30,000, Santee Cooper Country in the amount of \$5,000, The I-95 Exit 119 Beautification Project in the amount of \$39,000, Clarendon County Historical Society in the amount of \$2,000, and Summerton Revitalization Committee for promotional activities associated with Duck Fest in the amount of \$5,000.

VIII. Clarendon County Accommodation Tax Fund –“Promotion Fund”

Ms. Kimberly O, Johnson, President Clarendon County Chamber of Commerce, presented Council with the Chamber of Commerce’s tourism promotional activities and accounting for FY2018; and she requested that funding be authorized in the amount of \$43,500 to the Chamber for its ongoing tourism promotion program for FY2019.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and Seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the request made by Ms. Johnson in the amount of \$43,500 to the Chamber for its ongoing tourism promotion program for FY2019.

IX. Clarendon County Hospitality Tax Fund

Judge Peggy Sorrell presented Council with a request for the Historic Society for funding in the amount of \$18,000. She stated that the Historic Society will not need the funds until January 2019. Judge Sorrell continued by stating that the Historic Society leases the building from the Bank of Clarendon for \$1.00 per year and the Historic Society has to maintain the building and the yard.

On motion by Councilman English and Seconded by Councilman Blakely, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the request made by Judge Sorrell in the amount of \$18,000 to the Historic Society.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and Seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval authorizing funding to the Clarendon County Chamber in the amount of \$25,000.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Councilman English, Council voted Unanimous Approval authorizing funding to the Summerton Revitalization Commission (formerly the Summerton Downtown Development Association) in the amount of \$3,800.

X. Presentation of Proposed Budget

Mr. Anthony, Chief Financial Officer, began his presentation by thanking the staff of the Finance department, our department managers, elected officials and members of the community that have assisted in producing the balanced budget.

He continued by stating that the budget for Third Reading contains the State allowed millage increase of 2.13% for County operations. Mr. Anthony continued by recommending that Council adopt a Local Option Sales Tax credit back to our taxpayers in the amount of \$2,600,000. He stated that this budget contains a 1% Cost of Living Increase for employees and a 2% Cost of Living Increase for Law Enforcement Commission Staff, Detention Center Officers and Fire Fighters effective July 1.

For Third reading, we are requesting in the form of transfers from the Hospitality Fee Fund to the Weldon Auditorium in the amount of \$50,000. In regards to Fire Service, we are requesting that the Fire Service utilize \$660,000 in available Fund Balance to be used for fire engine equipment and the new Wyboo Fire Station.

Mr. Anthony continued by requesting a \$2,000,000 Tax Anticipation Notes be approved in the event it becomes necessary. He concluded his presentation by requesting to borrow an amount not to exceed \$250,000 in the form of a five-year capital lease for the purchase and equipping of new patrol vehicles within law enforcement and the coroner’s office. He stated that the following expenses would be budgeted within the FY2019 Budget:

- General Fund \$21,288,539
- General County Debt \$ 996,142
- FE Dubose Vo Tec \$ 225,000
- Fire Operating \$ 3,699,522
- Fire Debt \$ 105,163
- Admin Complex Debt Service \$ 486,115
- Courthouse Debt Service \$ 261,800
- \$ 27,062,281

- Water & Sewer (op ex) \$ 503,075
- Weldon Auditorium (op ex) \$ 108,315

On motion by Councilman English and Seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the Third and Final Reading of Ordinance 2018-03, An Ordinance to provide for a Levy of Taxes for County purposes of Clarendon County, SC., for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2018, and ending June 30, 2019, 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, 2018, and ending June 30, 2019.

XI. Consideration of School District budgetary requests:

1. Clarendon School District One

We have not received specifics from Clarendon One therefore; we will table this until we get the specifics from District One.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Councilman English, Council voted Unanimous Approval to table the budget request from Clarendon School District One.

2. Clarendon School District Two

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and Seconded by Councilman English, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the request made by Clarendon School District Two, which was to remain at the same millage rate this Fiscal year as they did last Fiscal year with no Tax Anticipation Note.

3. Clarendon School District Three

On motion by Councilman Blakley and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the request made by Clarendon School District Three, which was to remain at the same millage rate this Fiscal year as they did last Fiscal year with no Tax Anticipation Note.

XII. Ordinance 2018-04

On Motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Councilman English, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the Second Reading of Ordinance 2018-04 - An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of a Not Exceeding \$2,248,000 Water System Improvement Revenue Bond of Clarendon County, South Carolina, for the purpose of Defraying the Cost of Improvements to the County's Water System; Prescribing the Form and details of the Bond; Providing for the Payment of the Principal of and interest on the Bond from the Revenues Derived from the Operation of the System; Creating and Establishing certain Funds and Accounts; and making other Covenants and Agreements in Connection with the Foregoing; and Other Related Matters.

XIII. Financial Report

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

- **The General Fund** had Expenditures of \$1,639,649 and Revenue figures were not available as of May 31, 2018.
- **Water and Sewer Department** had Operating Revenue of \$696,924 and Operating Expenses of \$444,961 as of May 31, 2018. He stated that after depreciation, Bond interest expense, and interest income the Water and Sewer Department had Net Utility Loss of \$62,730.
- **Weldon Auditorium** had total Revenue for the month ending May 31, 2018 of \$13,849 and total Expenses were \$111,893. He stated that after a transfer from the Hospitality Tax Fund, the Weldon Auditorium ended the month of May 2018 with a deficit of \$48,044.
- **The C-Fund Program** for the month of May 2018 had a Cash Balance of \$2,056,659 of which \$1,180,487 has been committed to remaining local paving projects, State Construction Projects in Progress and State

Proviso Funds. He concluded his report by stating that the C-Fund Program had an Uncommitted Balance of \$876,172 as of the end of May 2018.

XIV. Administrator's Report

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

- **USDA Phase IB** – Testing has been completed and we anticipate putting the well online this week.
- **USDA Phase II** - Anticipate authorization to bid and bidding to begin soon.
- **Road Paving**
 - a. 75% C-Funds (County Portion) – The Home on the Green Subdivision paving project has started.
 - b. 25% C-Funds (State Portion) – Country Club Acres resurfacing is nearing completion. Powell Circle should begin this summer.
- **Misc**
 - a. Annual Employee trash pickup day will be Saturday, June 30 in Turbeville.
 - b. Annual E-Waste recycling day was held June 9, 2018, Administration Building Parking lot and we had a very good turnout.
 - c. The Planning Commission will hold its second Community Workshop on June 19 at 6:30 pm in the Council Chambers after its regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting. This meeting is designed to allow the public to speak and provide information to the Planning Commission Staff about topics ranging from transportation, recreation, land use, housing, etc.
 - d. On June 6 the cardboard building at the Clarendon County Landfill burned, causing a total loss. Based on this and our recent change to allow Pratt Industries to pick-up cardboard at our recycling center, we have decided to end our business cardboard pick-up program as of June 15. We have notified the current participating businesses of this decision and provided them with the names of companies who they can work with to pick-up their cardboard.

XV. Chairman's Report

Chairman Stewart began his report by stating that he recommends everyone to pick up a copy of National Geographic for the month of July. It talks about the United States and the World as a throw-away society. There is an ad that says we are now a throw-away society. When you are riding down the road, you see items that are thrown out because we a throwaway society.

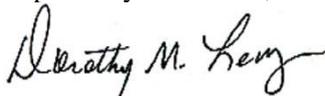
XVI. Adjournment

Chairman Stewart stated that we have exhausted our agenda and he asked for 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 7:53 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dorothy M. Levy
Clerk to Clarendon County Council, CCC

