



**Clarendon County Regular Council Meeting**  
**Monday, July 13, 2020**  
**6:00 PM**  
**Weldon Auditorium, 7 Maple Street, Manning, SC**

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**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 A.C. English  
County Administrator, David W. Epperson

**Press in attendance:** None

**Others in attendance included:**

Lynden Anthony	Ted Felder	Meesha Witherspoon	Arlene Ham
Charlotte Johnston	Johnny K. Wilson	Michael A. Johnson	Jamie Welch
Robert Pegram	And Other Clarendon County Residents		

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

**1. Approval of the Agenda**

On motion by Councilman Blakely and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the Agenda for July 13, 2020.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

On motion by Councilman English and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the council meeting minutes for the Regular Council Meeting, which was held on Monday, June 8, 2020.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and Seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the council meeting minutes for the Special Called Council Meeting, which was held on Wednesday, June 24, 2020.

**3. Public Hearing**

Chairman Stewart stated that the Public Hearing for the USDA Community Facilities Grant is now open. The Public Hearing opened at 6:04 pm

Mr. Ted Felder, Assistant Administrator, began by stating that the USDA Facilities Grant is to purchase a lift for the Coroner's Office. With this lift, it will help to keep the employees of the Coroner's office safe. Mr. Felder concluded by stating that the cost of the lift is \$48,304.45.

- Councilman English asked if this grant only covered one piece of equipment.
- Mr. Felder replied by stating yes, this is for 1 piece of equipment to be attached to the truck

Chairman Stewart asked if there were any other comments in reference to this Public Hearing. Hearing none, he stated that the Public Hearing will close. The Public Hearing closed at 6:06 pm.

**4. Library Update**

Mrs. Charlotte Johnson, Librarian, thanked County Council for allowing them the opportunity to give County Council an update on the Library.

Mr. Jamie Welch, Chairman of the Library Board, began by stating that the funds that the County gives the Library was well spent. He continued by stating that because of Covid-19, the Library Board eliminated the fines and late fees associated with items checked out of the library. Mr. Welch continued by stating that the Library has over 12,000 active card holders which is about 1/3 of the County. He continued by stating that electronic check out has increased by 20%.

Mr. Welch concluded by stating that the Bookmobile goes out 50 hours per month and The Library is doing the summer reading programs with around 75 virtual participants per day.

- Councilman English thanked Mr. Welch, Mrs. Johnston and the Library Board, he stated that they are doing a good job.
- Chairman Stewart thanked everyone for everything that they are doing.

## 5. Board Appointments

On motion by Councilman English and Seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to re-appoint Ms. Lindsey Moberg and Ms. Katherine Coffey to serve another 4-year term on the Harvin Clarendon County Library Board.

## 6. Memorandum of Understanding – Sheltering and Mass Care Facilities

Mr. Epperson, Administrator, presented Council with a Memorandum of Understanding for Clarendon School District One, Clarendon School District Two, and Clarendon School District Three. He stated that these Memorandums of Understanding are for Sheltering and Mass Care Facilities due to increment weather. Mr. Epperson concluded by stating that these facilities were approved by FEMA as Storm Shelters and in order to get funding from FEMA, we must have a Memorandum of Understanding Agreement for each facility.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the Memorandum of Understanding – Sheltering and Mass Care Facilities Agreements for Clarendon School District One, Clarendon School District Two, and Clarendon School District Three.

## 7. Clarendon County Transportation Committee (CCTC)

Chairman Stewart called the CCTC to Order. The CCTC began at 6:16 pm.

Administrator Epperson presented Council with the Clarendon County Transportation Plan. He stated that we were asked to remove some language and revise the plan.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the revised Transportation Plan for Clarendon County.

The CCTC closed at 6:17 pm.

## 8. Financial Report

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

- **The General Fund** had Expenditures of \$2,180,888 and Revenue figures were not available as of June 30, 2020.
- **Weldon Auditorium** had Revenue of \$13,171 the month ending June 30, 2020 and total Expenses were \$134,000. He stated that the Weldon Auditorium ended the month of June 2020 after transfers with a Zero balance.

- **Water and Sewer Department** had Operating Revenue of \$950,425 and Operating Expenses of \$594,995 as of June 30, 2020. He stated that after depreciation and Bond interest expense, Interest Income, and Grant Revenue, the Water and Sewer Department had Net Utility Income of \$311,874.
- **The C-Fund Program** for the month of June 2020 had a Cash Balance of \$1,939,541 of which \$1,665,386 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 \$274,154 as of the end of June 2020.

## 9. Administrator’s Report

Administrator Epperson began his report by giving Council the following updates:

- **Water Projects-** all projects are moving forward as planned.
- **Clarendon County Fire Rescue-** The merger of CCFD and EMS occurred on July 1 and went well. We are excited for this opportunity and what it means for the Citizens of Clarendon county. All facility upgrades continue and should be finishing soon.
- **Road Paving-** Approved projects are on track. Approved roads have been procured and contracts have been issued. We anticipate work starting this month or in August

- **COVID-19** - As of July 13, 2020

Total Cases in Clarendon County:	489
Active Cases from Last 14 Days:	82
Total Deaths:	47

- **Public Outreach Efforts**

we continue to push out information regarding the pandemic and ways the public can protect itself and their families. Social distancing, wearing a mask and avoiding large gatherings are highly recommended.

- **Update on the Recreation Department**

Parks were opened on a limited basis beginning June 1, 2020. All green spaces to include fields are open for use by groups of no more than 3 people. Walking tracks/trails are also open. Basketball Courts, Tennis Courts, Batting Cages, Picnic Shelters and Bathrooms remain closed.

As of now, fall sports are planning on being held, beginning in September, with practices beginning in August. This will include baseball, softball, volleyball, soccer, flag football and women’s kick ball. Registration will be around the 1<sup>st</sup> of August and we will make sure this information is sent out.

- **Update on Weldon Auditorium**

Events at Weldon Auditorium are canceled through the end of August. Auditoriums remain closed by order of the Governor.

- **Update on Reopening Plan**

Staff returned on Monday, May 18, 2020 with new safety protocols in place. PPE has been provided and separation barriers have been installed in offices where there is direct contact between customers and staff.

The general public returned on Monday, June 1, 2020, to all County Facilities. Currently, there are limitations on the number of individuals who are allowed in our facilities at one time. This will be monitored and will be adjusted accordingly depending on the circumstances.

Non-Exempt County employees continues to work on modified schedules with employees working from home where able.

All County facilities remained open to the public during normal operating hours (8:30 am – 5:00 pm).

- Chief Michael Johnson, Fire Chief, stated that the Clarendon County Fire Rescue is working fully as a Fire/Rescue Service and we had no hiccups.
- Administrator Epperson congratulated Mr. Anthony Mack and his staff for making Clarendon County a Storm Ready County and we have all the certificates.

## 10. Chairman's Report

Chairman Stewart began his report by stating that he sent a letter of Accommodation to Governor McMaster nominating Ms. Ann Kirven for the Order of the Palmetto. He continued by stating that we all should watch out for each other, trust each other, wear masks and take precautions.

## 11. Executive Session

Chairman Stewart stated that he needed a motion to go into Executive Session for a Legal Briefing.

On motion by Councilman Blakely and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to go into Executive Session for a Legal Briefing.

The Executive Session began at 6:40 pm

## 12. Open Session

Chairman Stewart asked for a motion to come out of Executive Session and back into Open Session.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and Seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to come out of Executive Session and back into Open Session.

The Executive Session ended at 7:42 pm

Chairman Stewart stated that in Executive Session they received a Legal Briefing and no action would be taken.

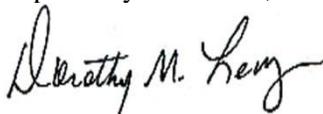
Chairman Stewart stated that we would be having a Special Called Meeting on Thursday, July 16, 2020 at 9:30 am.

## 13. Adjourn

Chairman Stewart stated that we have exhausted our agenda and he declared that the Council Meeting is adjourned.

The Council Meeting adjourned at 7:44 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dorothy M. Levy  
Clerk to Clarendon County Council, CCC

