

Clarendon County Regular Council Meeting
Monday, July 8, 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, Konstantin Vengerowsky, Clarendon Citizen, Eddie Litaker and Sandi Tucker, The Manning Times

Others in attendance included:

Lynden Anthony	Charlotte Johnston	Brian Sanders
Nancy Cave	Linda Lemon	Lee & Connie Bledsoe
Jeremy Tate	Pete Surette, Jr.	John Floyd
Fred & Sandi Tucker	Sylvia Wheeler	Larry Wharton
Linda J. Warren	Cynthia Hardee	Ernie & Beth Sutwach
Devin Johnston	Ernest R. Allen	CW & Margaret Brunson
Kerry & Georgia Floyd	O'Neil McClam	Kim McClam
Woodrow Lawhon	Lydia Shrewer	Ann Windham
Frances Livingston	Barbara A. Duke	Star J.M. Kempner
Patricia Pringle	David Holler	Dow Habrial
Leone Lee	Richard Lee	Randy Marshall
David Former	Pat McCabe	Don Lane
David Woodbury	Jason Woodbury	Sandra Bagnal
Tommy Bennett	Mitchell Gough	Margie Lane
Roy Fletcher	Marilyn Fletcher	Nathaniel Briggs
And other citizens of Clarendon County		

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.

IV. 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 Meeting which

was held on June 10, 2013 and Special Called Meeting which was held on June 13, 2013 with minor changes.

V. Resolution

Chairman Stewart presented a Resolution for Outstanding Achievement to the coach of the East Clarendon girls' softball team, Ms. Lisa Ard. The East Clarendon High School Girls softball team won the 2013 Class A Girls Softball State Championship for the "first time" in school's history.

VI. Executive Session

Chairman Stewart asked for a motion to go into executive session and he invited Mr. David Holler, Attorney, Mr. Tim Hilliard, Public Works Director, and Mr. Billie Timmons, Engineer, to attend the Executive Session to discuss a legal matter regarding the status of Club House Road.

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 regarding the status of Club House Road. The Executive Session began at 6:07 pm.

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 6:47 pm.

VII. Open Session

Chairman Stewart stated that in Executive Session, Council received a legal briefing from Attorney David Holler and Administrator David Epperson regarding the status of Club House Road. Chairman Stewart stated that the county graded that road for a number of years but since has stopped maintaining the road. He further stated that the county has the option to resume maintaining Club House Road if it so chooses.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Councilman English, Council voted unanimous approval to resume maintaining Club House Road, Bo's Road and Paul's Road.

Chairman Stewart stated that Mr. Tim Hilliard asked that the homeowners have patience on his behalf.

One citizen asked if Mr. Johnson owns the road. He further asked if Mr. Johnson was going to abide by Council's decision.

Chairman Stewart stated that in the Legal Briefing, Council received information that Club House Road is a public road that was dedicated years ago on a plat by Mr. Robert E. Lee. He further stated that there is a 35-foot easement along most of Club House Road that would constitute a public easement for the county.

Attorney Holler stated that because of the easement on the road, Mr. Johnson technically owns the road but he cannot do anything to the road because the county has the legal right to maintain the road. He continued by stating that this road was established for public use through the development years ago.

VIII. Requests

1. On motion by Councilman English and seconded by Vice-Chairman Frierson, Council voted unanimous approval to appoint Mr. Lannes Prothro, Mr. Ira Witherspoon, and Mr. Steve Gamble to serve another 3-year term as a member of the Clarendon County Planning Commission.
2. Mr. Pete Surette made a request to Clarendon County Council to have the Plaque that was placed on the old Assessor's building given to his family. He stated that his family did not feel like it would be giving their father and grandfather the proper respect if the plaque was sitting in a closet. He concluded by stating that if the plaque would be displayed in the Archives, it would be acceptable.

On motion by Councilman English and seconded by Councilman Blakely, Council voted unanimous approval to give the plaque to the Surette Family and it would be up to the family to decide if the plaque would hang in the Archives or somewhere else.

3. Mr. Epperson informed County Council that once a School District's Debt was paid in full, the funds from the one cent sales tax could be used for capital Purchases.

Ms. Sandra Bagnal, Clarendon School District III, requested that the one-cent sales tax fund be made available to School District III. She concluded by stating that these funds would be used to upgrade the Computer System at the three schools in Clarendon School District III.

On motion by Councilman Blakely and seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted unanimous approval to allow Clarendon School District III to use the one cent Sales Tax fund to upgrade the Computer Systems in District III schools.

IX. Clarendon County Transportation Committee.

Chairman Stewart called the Clarendon County Transportation Committee meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

1. Administrator Epperson presented Council with a request to purchase reconstituted asphalt in an amount not to exceed \$150,000. He stated that this reconstituted asphalt would be used to repair roads that were damaged due to heavy rain. He concluded by stating that we would like to have this done prior to the start of school in a couple of weeks.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Vice-Chairman Frierson, Council voted unanimous approval to the request to purchase reconstituted asphalt in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 to repair damaged roads.

2. Administrator Epperson presented Council with a request to authorize the transfer of \$70,000 from completed projects surplus funds on account with SC DOT in Columbia, to be applied toward the Oak Grove Church Road paving project because the project was estimated to be \$70,000 more than anticipated.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted unanimous approval to the request to transfer \$70,000 to the Oak Grove Church Road paving project.

Chairman Stewart closed the Transportation Committee meeting at 7:07 pm.

X. Courthouse Renovation Presentation

Jamie Tate, Meador's Architect, gave Council an update on the conditions of the County Courthouse. Mr. Tate presented a Power Point presentation showing the conditions of the external and internal damages of the courthouse. He stated that when the renovation is complete, the County Courthouse would be ADA accessible.

Mr. Tate further stated that the renovation is scheduled to begin the end of this year or the first of next year. He further stated that the renovation should be complete by the Spring or Summer of 2015. Mr. Tate concluded his presentation by stating that the renovation does not include a secure parking lot.

Administration Epperson stated that our main concern is the security in the Court House.

XI. Financial Report

Mr. Lynden Anthony, Controller, began his report by stating that July 1 was the beginning of the new fiscal year and he stated that the books are still open for fiscal year 2012/2013. He continued by stating that as of June 30, 2013, the County spent

\$18,585,493 which was 96% of the budget appropriation for fiscal year 2012/2013. He further stated that this amount does not include any Grants Expense.

Mr. Anthony stated that the Water and Sewer Department finished the 2012/2013 fiscal year with a net income of \$122,993. He further stated that this amount includes debt services reserve and depreciation. Mr. Anthony stated that the Water and Sewer Department had \$3,000 more in net income than what was budgeted.

Mr. Anthony stated that the Weldon Auditorium finished the 2012/2013 fiscal year with a \$69,336 deficit after transfers. He continued by stating that the C Fund had a cash balance of \$1,023,919 as of May 31, 2013. Mr. Anthony concluded his report by stating that the cash balance in the C Fund has been committed for the road paving projects for 2013/2014.

XII. Administrator's Report

Administrator Epperson began his report by stating that we are in our new fiscal year and he thanked all of the departments for putting in their time and efforts in closing out their year-end items by June 30. Mr. Epperson further stated that Clarendon County would be hosting the Dixie Youth District Tournament at the JC Britton Park. He thanked Mr. Joye and his department for working hard to get the fields ready to host the tournament.

Mr. Epperson concluded his report by stating that the approved road pavings are on the way and the topping of the trees at the airport will begin soon.

XIII. Chairman's Report

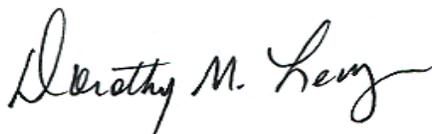
Chairman Stewart began his report by stating that since the paving has begun, his phone calls have decreased. He continued by stating that with all the rain, dirt roads have become a real problem to travel but we are working on them.

Chairman Stewart concluded his report by stating that Dr. Michael Mikota was hired as the Executive Director of Santee Lynches Regional Council of Government.

XIV. Adjournment

On motion by Councilman Blakely and seconded by Councilman English, Council voted unanimous approval to adjourn the council meeting. The Council Meeting ended at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted



Dorothy M. Levy
Clerk to Clarendon County Council

