



Clarendon County Council Meeting
Monday, November 14, 2011, 6:00P.M.
Weldon Auditorium, Manning, SC
Meeting Minutes

Those in attendance:

County Council Chairman, Dwight L. Stewart, Jr.
County Council Vice Chairman, William J. Frierson
Councilman, Billy Richardson
Councilman, Benton Blakely
Councilman, A. C. English
County Administrator, William Houser
County Attorney, David Epperson

Press in attendance: Sharon Haley, The Citizen, Robert J. Baker, The Item and Vic MacDonald, The Manning Times.

Others in attendance included:

Lyndon Anthony	Sam Levy
Patricia Pringle	Fred Tucker
Linda Lemon	Sandy Tucker
Linda Taylor	Charlotte Johnston
Archie Lemon	Attorney Emily Luther
Dorothy Levy	

Chairman Stewart called the meeting to order at 6:00PM. Following brief introductory remarks from Chairman Stewart, Vice Chairman Frierson led the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

IV. Approval of Agenda

On motion by Councilman English and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, council voted unanimous approval to the agenda as presented.

V. Approval of Minutes

On motion by Councilman English and seconded by Councilman Blakely, council voted unanimous approval to the council meeting minutes for October 10, 2011, with minor corrections.

VI. Public Hearing

Mr. Houser stated that Ordinance 2011-10 will provide funding for Phase 1B and Phase II of the Clarendon County Water System. Phase 1B will include the construction of a new elevated water storage tank and a groundwater well to be located near James Crossroads. Phase II includes the construction of approximately nine (9) miles of main transmission lines extending from the current ending points of the Phase I on SC Highway 260 and from Davis Station down to W.M. Rickenbacker Road as well as lateral extensions on side roads.

Having no remarks or questions from the floor, Chairman Stewart considered the public hearing closed.

Attorney Epperson introduced both Ordinance 2011-11 and Ordinance 2011-12. He gave brief explanations of the ordinances and stated that they are similar in scope. He asked council to consider them for second reading, however, he also asked that council take no further action on the ordinances until the South Carolina General Assembly convenes and consider the matters.

Having no remarks or questions from the floor, Chairman Stewart considered the public hearing closed.

VII. Ordinances

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, council voted unanimous approval to the second reading of Ordinance 2011-10 authorizing the issuance and sale of a \$4,080,000.00 Water System Improvement Revenue Bond for the purpose of defraying the cost of improvements to the County's water system.

On motion by Councilman Blakely and seconded by Councilman English, council voted unanimous approval to the second reading of Ordinance 2011-11 to prohibit the use, possession, and sale of synthetic cannabinoids commonly known as Spice and K2. Council will not take further action on this ordinance until the South Carolina General Assembly convenes and consider this matter.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and seconded by Councilman Richardson, council voted unanimous approval to the second reading of Ordinance 2011-12 to prohibit advertisement, use, possession, purchase, or distribution of ~~%Bath Salts+~~ for ingestion/consumption. Council will not take further action on this ordinance until the South Carolina General Assembly convenes and consider this matter.

VIII. Requests

On motion by Councilman English and seconded by Councilman Blakely, council voted unanimous approval to appoint Arlene H. Ham and Mary Beth Gibbons to the Harvin Clarendon County Library Board for 2011-2012.

XII. Administrator's Report

Mr. Houser informed council that Clarendon County paid \$394,000.00 to Workers Compensation for 2011. However, after an audit the county received a refund of \$20,211.00. He continued by stating that all county department expenditures are well within the accepted range for this point in the budget year with the exception of the Sheriff's Department.

Mr. Houser further reported that as of September 30, 2011 the Clarendon County C-Fund Program had a cash balance of \$654,694.00. However, the uncommitted balance is \$39,891.00. He concluded his report by stating that the Clarendon County Water System is operating at breakeven and Weldon Auditorium is operating at a deficit.

Following a brief explanation from Mr. Houser, on motion by Councilman Blakely and seconded by Councilman Richardson, council authorized Mr. Houser to expend \$800.00 for the purchase of a historical marker to mark the site of the Tearcoat Swamp Battle, as requested by the Frances Marion Trail Commission.

Councilman English abstained in the voting because he is a member of the Frances Marion Commission.

XIII. Chairman's Report

Chairman Stewart expressed his appreciation to county employees and citizens that volunteer to serve on county committees and organizations. He said that the efforts of these individuals help to improve the quality of life in Clarendon County. He concluded by wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

XIV. Executive Session

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and seconded by Councilman Richardson, council voted unanimous approval to go into executive session to discuss contractual and personnel issues.

On motion by Councilman Blakely and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, council voted unanimous approval to come out of executive session.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and seconded by Councilman English, council voted to approve the hiring of Dorothy Levy as Clarendon County's Clerk to Council. The Clerk to Council will work under the supervision of the County Administrator.

Councilman Richardson abstained in the voting because he stated that Mrs. Levy is his sister-in-law.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, council voted unanimous approval to change the position of Drug Court Coordinator from part-time position to a full-time position. The Solicitor's Office will provide the funding for this new full-time position.

Chairman Stewart asked Mr. Houser to setup a meeting with the Clarendon County Tax Coordination Committee to plan and coordinate the preparation of tax notices for the upcoming year. Individuals expected to attend this meeting includes the County Administrator, Auditor, Assessor, Treasurer, Tax Collector, IT staff, Controller, Smith Data personnel, and County Council.

XV. Adjournment

On motion by Councilman English and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, council voted unanimous approval to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted

Thomas L. Harvin, Jr.

Thomas L. Harvin, Jr.
Interim Clerk to Council
Clarendon County Council

