



Minutes
Clarendon County Council
Regular Council Meeting
November 8, 2010, 6:00P.M.
F.E. Du Bose Career Center Auditorium
Manning, South Carolina

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

1. County Council Chairman Dwight L. Stewart, Jr.
2. Vice-Chairman W. J. Frierson
3. County Councilman A.C. English, Jr.
4. County Councilman Billy Richardson
5. County Councilman Benton Blakely

MEDIA PRESENT:

-Cathy Gilbert, Clarendon Citizen

RESIDENTS PRESENT:

-Approximately 15-20 present

COUNTY STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

- William F. Houser, County Administrator
- Mia R. Jackson, Clerk to County Council
- David W. Epperson, County Attorney

COUNTY EMPLOYEES PRESENT:

- Linda P. Lemon, Dir. of Human Resources
- Nancy Cave- Archives
- Lynden Anthony- Controller
- Sandy Tucker-Weldon Auditorium
- John Truluck, Dir. of Development Board

- I. **Chairman Stewart called to order at 6:02 P.M.**
- II. **Invocation was performed by Chairman Stewart**
- III. **Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.**
- IV. **Approval of Council Agenda:** After reviewing the agenda as presented, a motion by Councilman English, seconded by Councilman Richardson to accept November 8, 2010 council meeting agenda as presented with no changes. **ACTION:** Motion passed unanimously.
- V. **Approval of October 11, 2010 Meeting minutes:** Council was presented with the minutes of the October 11, 2010 Council meeting minutes for review and editing. With no comments, questions, or changes, Chairman Stewart entertained a motion to accept the minutes as presented. **ACTION:** A motion made by Councilman Richardson, seconded by Councilman English to accept the minutes of October 11, 2010 Council meeting as presented. **Motion passed unanimously.**
- VI. **Third Reading of Ordinance No. 2010-11-** *To Authorize Issuance of General Obligation Bonds in one or more series to be used to fund one or more capital projects; and Other Related Matters.* Chairman Stewart advised council that the ordinance has successfully passed 2 readings and a public hearing before the third reading. He advised council that Bond Attorney Michael Kozlarek was also present to answer any questions regarding the ordinance should council have any questions. With no questions or comments from council, Chairman Stewart stated that he would entertain a motion to accept third and final reading of Ordinance no. 2010-11. **ACTION:** A motion made by Vice-Chairman Frierson, seconded by Councilman English to accept third and final reading of Ordinance No. 2010-11 as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**
Prior to moving on: Administrator Houser requested to make a comment to council. Houser stated that the results from the trip to New York had proven to be extremely successful. Administrator Houser read a brief email sent by Brent Robertson stating, "you guys run a heck of an operation and make it easy for guys like me and Kozlarek to come in and package it up for New York City consumption. You've gone from a BBB rating in 1995 to an A+ in just 15 years. The S&P (Standard and Poors) guys are impressed (and said as much) and so am I."

Mr. Houser went on to say that the rating companies are normally “tight lipped” about giving their thoughts on an organization, but from this quote it was clear that they were truly impressed.

- VII. **Third Reading of Ordinance No. 2010-12-** *To Authorize Execution of FILOT Agreement by and between Clarendon County and Project Pegasus as sponsor, and one or more sponsor affiliates.* Chairman Stewart advised council that this ordinance had also passed two readings and a public hearing. Chairman Stewart stated that if there were no questions or concerns from council, he would entertain a motion to accept third and final reading of ordinance no. 2010-12.

ACTION: A motion was made by Councilman Blakely, seconded by Vice-Chairman Frierson to accept third and final reading of Ordinance No. 2010-12 as presented. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

- VIII. **First Reading of Ordinance No. 2010-13-** *Authorizing the Ratification of the Existing Multi-County Park (MCP) Agreement Between Clarendon County, South Carolina and Sumter County, South Carolina; Ratifying the Existing Park Boundaries, Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of a Revised and Restated Multi-County Park Agreement; and Other Related Matters.* Chairman Stewart turned the floor over to Michael Kozlarek who explained this ordinance in detail. Mr. Kozlarek stated that this ordinance is an ordinance that has already been in effect for about 10-15 years. He explained that the ordinance is an agreement by and between Clarendon County and Sumter County. He further said that the “Multi-County Park” is not a physical park or location but are simply agreed upon parcels of properties that are “tagged” as property within the park. He stated that the Multi-County Park Agreement allows companies based on these parcels of land a FILOT credit and or a State based job credit. He added that some counties have multiple parks 2, 3, or even as many as 5 parks in one county. **Vice-Chairman Frierson** asked Mr. Kozlarek if this is similar to the agreement made with Anderson County several years prior. Mr. Kozlarek replied yes, that in fact that agreement is still in effect however has not been used as much as they thought it would. He stated that many jobs began going to the Greenville area instead of in the MCP. Mr. Kozlarek stated that at this time there were no additional properties being added to the agreement; however it does need to be read and restated again. With no further questions or comments from council, Chairman Stewart thanked Mr. Kozlarek for his explanation and advised council that he would entertain a motion for first reading of the ordinance.

ACTION: A motion was made by Councilman Richardson, seconded by Councilman Blakely to accept first reading of Ordinance No. 2010-13 as presented. ***Motion passed unanimously.***

- IX. **Board Appointments:** Chairman Stewart turned the council floor over to Mia Jackson, Clerk to County Council to review the nominations for numerous Clarendon County Boards. Ms. Jackson reviewed the applicants by board in their entirety.

i. Clarendon County Behavioral Health & Services Board

- a. Henrietta Campbell-** Ms. Jackson stated that Ms. Campbell will be replacing a former board member who recently excused themselves from the board due to scheduling conflicts.
- b. William T. Benton & Harold Allan-** Ms Jackson advised council that both applicants are former board members whose term was set to expire in December 31, 2010 and expressed interest in serving another four year term if reappointed.

ACTION: Motion by Councilman English, seconded by Vice-Chairman Frierson to approved the applicants for the Clarendon County Behavioral Health & Services Board. ***Motion passed unanimously.***

ii. Clarendon County Archives Board

- a. **Cynthia Mack-** Ms. Jackson advised council that Ms. Mack was a new applicant for the Archives Board. She stated that Ms. Mack would be replacing a member of the board who recently resigned. She stated that Ms. Mack has experience working with the Archives Board and is currently an employee with the Clarendon County Water and Sewer Department.

ACTION: Motion made by Councilman Blakely, seconded by Vice-Chairman Frierson to approve the application of Ms. Cynthia Mack to the Clarendon County Water and Sewer Department. *Motion passed unanimously.*

iii. Clarendon County Re-Assessment Appeals Board

- a. **Roy C. Fletcher, J. Charlton Watts, Jr., Julie Rickenbaker, and Ted Gardner-**

Ms. Jackson advised council that all four applicants are current board members whose terms expired. She advised council that the Re-assessment Appeals Board is a board that holds a seat for only one year at a time. She also stated that the board hears appeals cases only when a tax payer and/or the Assessor has not come to an agreement over the value of a particular piece of property.

ACTION: A motion was made by Councilman Richardson, seconded by Vice-Chairman Frierson to approve the application of the four former Appeals Board members. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Chairman Stewart thanked Clerk Jackson for the presentation and asked her to express councils appreciation in serving on the different boards. He stated that he understood that many of the members of the various county boards hold full-time careers and their time is very important. He stated that their contribution to the county is always greatly appreciated.

- X. **Administrator's Report-** Administrator Houser thanked Chairman Stewart for the floor then reviewed the county's financial reports as follows:

➤ **Clarendon County Finances -As of October 31, 2010-**

October Monthly Financial

October Revenue	\$943, 318
October Expenditures	- \$1, 539, 938

Year to Date TOTALS

YTD Revenue TOTAL	\$ 2, 552, 972 or 14% of Budget
YTD Expenditure TOTAL	\$5, 764, 016 or 32% of Budget

Remaining Budget

Remaining Revenue Budget	\$15, 362, 555 or 86%
Remaining Expenditure Budget	\$12, 151, 511 or 69%

➤ **Clarendon County Water & Sewer-As of October 30, 2010**

TOTAL Operating Revenue	\$112, 039
TOTAL Operating Expenses	\$107, 970
TOTAL Depreciation	\$ (11, 760)
TOTAL Income/(Loss)	\$ (7, 691)

*Administrator Houser commented that the Water and Sewer Department recently changed the lagoon motor from a 25horse power to 75horse power which allows the lagoon to run much better and more efficiently.

➤ C-Fund Report-As of October 30, 2010

Cash Balance	\$940, 640	
Cash Received-September	\$ 95, 753 (Tax + Interest)	
Funds Available October 1	\$1, 036, 393	
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September Project Expenditures	Local \$150, 392	
	State \$	0
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Committed Cash balance	Local- \$225, 418	= \$644, 244
	State- \$418, 614	
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Uncommitted Balance	\$241, 757	

After Administrator Houser reviewed the financials for the county, he discussed the various projects going on in and around Clarendon County.

Weldon Auditorium: Administrator Houser stated that Weldon Auditorium is progressing quite well. He stated that the seating, flooring, and lighting are all just about complete. He stated that Weldon is scheduled to be open in 5 weeks, with a GALA and several opening events. He advised council that there is a construction company that will begin paving the parking lot around Nov. 9th and that too should be complete in the coming weeks.

New Administrative Building: Mr. Houser announced that the county received 15 bids from contractors on the design/build RFP that went out. He stated that there has been a committee established to review the bids; he advised that the committee is scheduled to meet in the coming weeks. Mr. Houser stated that Michael Kozlarek and Brent Robertson are working to have the bonds on the market before Thanksgiving. He stated that they are currently watching the market to try and judge the best day to put the bonds on the market.

Oakdale Recycling Center- Administrator Houser stated that on November 4th the Oakdale Recycling Center had a Grand Re-opening of its new site. He stated that the new site is located adjacent to the previous one. He reminded council that about a year ago the county purchased the property next to the former center with plans to make another center on county property. Administrator Houser stated that over the past several years Clarendon County has been purchasing various parcels of land that serve as the recycling centers for the county. He stated that the Oakdale site is run by Waste Management, it has better equipment, a cleaner facility for staff is a safer place for the residents to come and deposit their trash and recyclables. Mr. Houser stated that the Chamber of Commerce and several community leaders attended the ribbon cutting ceremony.

USDA-Hwy 260 Waterline Project- Administrator Houser stated that currently the project is ready to go; however USDA has required a certain amount of easements to be completed prior to approval for RFP's. Mr. Houser stated that there were 133 easements to obtain and currently Bob Dennis, Director of Water & Sewer has obtained all but about 36 of them. **Cathy Gilbert** of the Clarendon Citizen asked Mr. Houser how many house taps are currently signed up for service. Mr. Houser replied, about 200-300 already signed up. He advised that the 200-300 is in addition to the 133 other easements. He stated that because Clarendon County acquired the Wyboo Water system, the homes were incorporated into the plans for phase I. He stated that although there are 36 yet to obtain, some of the owners live out of town, are deceased, and many have multiple owners where each is required to sign. Mr. Houser stated that he hopes to be able to begin this project within the next two months.

Animal Control Department/Shelter- Mr. Houser announced that he and several staff members recently met with the board members of the Second Chance Animal Shelter to negotiate a possible agreement to work together and to discuss the terms of a contract. Mr. Houser stated that the county is still looking to open a Animal Control Department by January 2011. **Cathy Gilbert** of the Clarendon Citizen asked Mr. Houser if the county had hired an Animal Control Officer, he replied no, that the responsibility of hiring of an officer would be with the Sheriff.

Mr. Houser stated that he hoped to have a contract in the coming weeks and hopes to have the County Engineer preparing a facility soon.

Awards- Mr. Houser reviewed two articles that were recently published in the local newspapers on the Economic Development Board and Communications Department. Mr. Houser announced that the Development Board received five awards from the Southern Economic Development Council (SEDC). He also stated that three Emergency Communications staff members received top state awards. He stated Dispatcher Candice Elms was recognized as South Carolina Telecommunicator of the Year along with Dwayne Baldwin and Danny Floyd. Mr. Houser stated that he was quite proud of the E911 center, he said that Anthony Mack and the Communications staff does a great job and often is commended for their professionalism and contributions to assist our citizens in need.

- XI. **Chairman's Report-** Chairman Stewart stated that although council received his report in their packets, he wanted to echo what Administrator Houser said about the trip to New York. He stated that the trip to New York was quite exciting. He stated to council, "You would have been proud of our team and how we presented to the folks in New York." After a few comments on the traffic and the amount of people in New York, Mr. Stewart reviewed the upcoming events going on around the county. Chairman Stewart discussed the Veteran's Day program at Scotts Branch High School on Nov. 9th as well as the numerous events going on at the Weldon Auditorium in preparation for its grand opening. He stated there will be 65 Clarendon County children performing in the opening event of the Nutcracker on December 14th. He stated that the county has purchased the entire auditorium for Clarendon School Districts 1, 2, and 3 including the Laurence Manning and Clarendon Hall for the Primary school age children to see Rudolph performed by the Columbia City Ballet. Chairman Stewart gave the dates for the other Weldon events: December 4th will be the Ribbon cutting followed by the Manning Parade. He stated that the Town of Turbeville will also be having their parade on the 4th and Councilman Blakely will be hosting as Santa for both parades. Chairman Stewart concluded his report by mentioning a performance by David Osborne that will be held on November 12th in Summerton. After his report he stated that council was ready to move to the next item on the agenda which was Executive Session.

Prior to Executive Session- A gentleman (no name provided) raised a question about the Bi-Lo building. He stated, "Excuse me, so what will be going into the Bi-lo building?" Administrator Houser replied that Clarendon County recently acquired the building and will be utilizing it as their new Administrative Building. He stated that the county's various departments like the Tax Assessor, Treasurer, Auditor, Planning Commission, Human Resources, and Administration will be in one location. He called it a "One Stop Shop" location. Cathy Gilbert of the Clarendon Citizen asked Mr. Houser if he could give a time line as to the opening of the new administrative building. He stated that he believed that now through mid-December the committee that is made up of employees and community citizens will review the bids, then narrow the selection down to 3 or 4 to conduct a more in depth presentation/interview. He stated that from his best guess he is looking at a grand-opening around January 2012 if all goes well, and he reminded her that that was his best guess, he had no solid information to give on that. **Councilman Blakely** then asked what the status with Clemson Extension was. Mr. Houser answered by stating that Mr. Russell Duncan (acting Director of Clemson Extension) is currently retired. He stated that Mr. Duncan is balancing the duties as acting director and is overseeing the duties throughout the several counties. Councilman Blakely replied stating, "So are we footing the bill for a multi-county working?" Administrator Houser reminded council that during the budget review Clemson Extension applied for a grant through Clarendon County. Houser reminded council that after negotiations-

between Clemson and the county, Clemson arranged to have matching funds supplied through Williamsburg County; however that would that the already stretched CE schedule would incorporate traveling throughout the three (3) Clarendon school district and Williamsburg County Schools as well. **Chairman Stewart** addressed Town Administrator Pat Goodwin and asked if he had a schedule of when and where the Clemson Extension travels to throughout the school year, his reply was no. **Donald Evans**, resident stood and asked to speak to council. Chairman Stewart reminded the public that normally we do not deviate from the already set and approved agenda, however he would be allowed to ask his question, but council would not be able to have any action on it at this meeting. Mr. Evans stood and said thank you. He proceeded with his request by stating that he was a former Clarendon County employee who worked at the landfill. He stated that although he no longer works at the landfill he would from time to time stop there and speak with the staff. He went on to say that he enjoys restoring bicycles for the disadvantaged youth in and around South Carolina. He stated that many times he has taken the restored bikes to them to the Carolina Children's Home and he is able to see the joy the bikes bring the children. He stated that there was a time when he was allowed to go to the landfill and take broken bikes and bike parts to piece together for restoration. He also said that the bicycle shop in Columbia, SC has donated old bike parts to him occasionally. His request was for permission to enter into the Clarendon County landfill to remove old bikes and bike parts from the landfill at his own discretion. He stated that he is willing to sign a waiver, that he will be happy to keep an inventory of what he removes and return any parts not used. He stated that he is not selling the metal, but simply enjoys making bicycles for the youth who cannot afford it. He concluded by asking council for approval to enter into the county landfill to retrieve the bicycles parts to use as repair parts for bicycle restoration. He stated again that he would be happy to sign any waiver of rights in case he was hurt or injured, that he would take full responsibility. Chairman Stewart thanked Mr. Evans and commended him on such a great service. He reminded Mr. Evans that since he was not on the agenda, council could not act on the matter, however, he advised him that council will get back with him soon.

XII. **Executive Session-** With no further business to discuss, Chairman Stewart entertained a motion to enter into Executive Session at pprox. 6:40p.m.

ACTION: A motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss a Legal Matter was made by Vice-Chairman Frierson, seconded by Councilman Richardson. ***Motion passed unanimously.***

7:51p.m. Return from Executive Session- Upon conclusion of Executive Session, a motion made by Councilman English, seconded by Vice-Chairman Frierson to return to Open Session. ***Motion passed unanimously.*** Chairman Stewart advised the public that during executive session council received legal briefing from Attorney Epperson, however no action was taken

XIII. **Adjournment:** The agenda being exhausted and no further business to discuss, ***a motion that unanimously carried*** to conclude and adjourn the November 8, 2010 Clarendon County Council meeting.

There being no further business, Council adjourned at 8:00P.M. without objection.

Respectfully Submitted,

By: Mia R. Jackson
Mia R. Jackson, Clerk to County Council

Date: November 15, 2010

By: Dwight L. Stewart, Jr.
Dwight L. Stewart, Jr., Council Chairman

CERTIFICATION OF PUBLIC AND MEDIA NOTIFICATION

I, Mia R. Jackson, Clerk to Council, Clarendon County Council, Manning, South Carolina, do hereby certify that public and media notification of the County Council Meeting of November 5, 2010, was given prior thereto by the following means:

PUBLIC NOTIFIED: Yes

MANNER NOTIFIED: Agenda placed on the bulletin board in the Clarendon County Courthouse and the Clarendon County Website

DATE POSTED: November 5, 2010

MEDIA NOTIFIED: Yes

MANNER NOTIFIED: Agenda emailed to THE MANNING TIMES, THE ITEM, THE CLARENDON CITIZEN and THE FLORENCE MORNING NEWS

DATE NOTIFIED: November 5, 2010

PUBLIC HEARINGS ADVERTISED: NO PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULED FOR THIS MEETING

Respectfully submitted,

Mia R. Jackson
Mia R. Jackson, Clerk to Council