



Clarendon County Regular Council Meeting Monday, April 13, 2015, 6:00 PM Council Chambers

Those in attendance:

Chairman Dwight L. Stewart, Jr.
Vice Chairman, W.J. Frierson, Sr.
Councilman, Billy G. Richardson
Councilman, Benton Blakely
County Administrator, David W. Epperson
Clerk to Council, Dorothy M. Levy

Absent: Councilman, AC English

Press in attendance: Bobby Baker, The Manning Times, Konstantin Vengerowsky, The Item

Others in attendance included:

Lynden Anthony	Tammy Rodvansky	Hayes F. Samuels, Jr.	Donna Patterson
Shayne Stephens	Stephen Dukes	William T. Benton	Patricia Pringle
Nancy Cave	Kipp Coker	Linda Lemon	Archie Lemon
And other Citizens of Clarendon County			

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

I. Approval of Agenda

Chairman Stewart asked for an approval of the agenda.

On motion by Councilman Blakely and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the regular council meeting agenda for April 13, 2015.

II. Approval of Minutes

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Councilman Blakely, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the council meeting minutes for the Regular Council Meeting, which was held on March 9, 2015.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the council meeting minutes for the Special Called Meeting, which was held on March 25, 2015.

III. Presentations

Senator Kevin Johnson presented a plaque to Judge William Thomas Geddings, Sr. on his retirement as a Magistrate Judge with Clarendon County.

Judge Geddings thanked Senator Johnson for the plaque and he thanked Senator John Land for putting him in the position as a Magistrate Judge for Clarendon County

Senator Kevin Johnson presented a plaque to Patricia Pringle in honor of her father, Rev. Joseph H. Pringle, on his retirement from Clarendon County Board of Education and School Boards. He stated that Rev. Pringle served a total of 32 years on the various school and education boards.

Ms. Pringle thanked Senator Johnson on behalf of her father, Rev. Joseph H. Pringle; she stated that her father enjoyed working for the three school districts for 32 years.

Chairman Stewart presented a Resolution to Ms. Ann Kirven in honor of "Ann Kirven Day". March 28, 2015 was designated as "Ann Kirven Day" in Clarendon County.

Ms. Kirven thanked County Council for all of the support that they have given to her and Clarendon County Behavioral Health services over the years.

IV. Resolutions

- i. Ms. Vickie Williams presented Council with a Resolution declaring the Month of April as Fair Housing Month in Clarendon County.

On motion by Councilman Blakely and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval declaring the Month of April as Fair Housing Month in Clarendon County.

- ii. Administrator Epperson presented Council with a Resolution, from the Association of Counties, supporting finding solutions to Funding Needs for Roads and Bridges. He stated that beginning on July 1, the Clarendon County Transportation Committee would no longer exist and there would be 3000 miles of state roads that the County would have to maintain.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval supporting finding solutions to Funding Needs for Roads and Bridges as requested by The Association of Counties.

- iii. Administrator Epperson presented Council with two Resolutions requesting Law Enforcement Assistance from Clarendon County Sheriff's Department to Darlington County Sheriff's Office and Florence County Sheriff's Office.

On motion by Councilman Blakely and seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the Law Enforcement Assistance for Darlington and Florence Counties Sheriff's Offices.

V. Assistance and Support Contract

Administrator Epperson presented Council with an Annual Contract for Assistance and Support between Clarendon County Detention Center and The City of Myrtle Beach. He continued by stating that this Contract would be renewed on an annual basis and it is the same as prior years.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Councilman Blakely, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the Assistance and Support Contract between Clarendon County Detention Center and The City of Myrtle Beach.

VI. Clarendon County Transportation Committee

Chairman Stewart called the Clarendon County Transportation Committee (CTC) Meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

- i. Administrator Epperson presented the CTC with a request to purchase reconstituted asphalt in an amount not to exceed \$75,000.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to purchase reconstituted asphalt in an amount not to exceed \$75,000.

- ii. Administrator Epperson presented the CTC with a request from the Town of Turbeville to perform repair work on the Intersection of Smith, Park and Calvert Streets, Morris Street and Dogwood Street.

On motion by Councilman Blakely and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the request of the Town of Turbeville to reform repair work at the Intersection of Smith, Park and Calvert Streets as well as Morris and Dogwood Street.

- iii. Administrator Epperson presented the CTC with a request from the City of Manning to extend the Sidewalk on Alfred Henry Drive.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to extend the Sidewalk on Alfred Henry Drive.

- iv. Administrator Epperson presented the CTC with a request to repave Pringle Road. He stated that Pringle Road needs some major repair work and it was paved many years ago.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Councilman Blakely, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the repaving of Pringle Road.

Chairman Stewart stated that the Clarendon County Transportation Committee Meeting was now closed. The CTC closed at 6:35 pm.

VII. Board Appointment

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Councilman Blakely, Council voted Unanimous Approval to appoint Mrs. Antoinette Postell-Nelson to the Clarendon County Library Board to serve a term of 4 years.

VIII. Presentation of Proposed FY2015-2016 Budget

Mr. Lynden Anthony, Controller, began his presentation by thanking the Finance Department, Department Managers, Elected Officials, and everyone who participated in the budgeting process. He continued by stating that for first reading we have an out of balance budget of \$615,822. Mr. Anthony stated that we have to identify the needs and then set priorities. He continued by stating that this year's budget includes a local-option sales tax credit of 2.5 million dollars going back to taxpayers and a 2% cost of living increase for County Employees.

Mr. Anthony stated that there would be a 37% increase in health insurance premiums beginning on January 1, 2016. He further stated that there would be a 1.62% milage increase, which is the cap under Act 388. Mr. Anthony continued by stating that all agencies appropriations are the same as last year. He concluded by stating that this budget contains a \$2,000,000 Tax Anticipation Note.

1. **Ms. Patricia Pringle**, Auditor, began by thanking Council for approving the Auditor's budget in the past. She stated that there is a 2.6% decrease in the Auditor's budget for this year. She continued by requesting an increase in salary for the Deputy Auditor. Ms. Pringle continued by requesting to purchase some updated software (Imaging System). She said that with the updated software, we would be able to receive online payments through smart phones, tablets, and desktop computers. Ms. Pringle concluded her presentation by stating that the Treasurer's Office and the Tax Collection Office would be able to utilize the software as well, which cost \$1500 with the yearly maintenance fee of \$100.
2. **Ms. Beulah Roberts**, Clerk of Court, began by thanking Council for everything that they have done for the Clerk of Court's Office. She stated that her budget is the same but she is requesting a part-time position when the Clerk of Court's Office moves back into the County Courthouse. Ms. Roberts concluded her presentation by stating that Clarendon County had been chosen as a Pilot County, for E-Filing for Civil Court, and there will be no cost to the County to use E Filing.

3. **Mr. Hayes Samuels**, Coroner, began by thanking Council for trying to get the Morgue set up for the County. Mr. Samuels asked why did he received a 1099 for the part-time secretary wages that he has to pay taxes for. He stated that paying taxes on someone else's wages is not fair to him. Mr. Samuels concluded by stating that he needs a driver for the van.

Administrator Epperson stated that the Coroner's budget has a line item for secretarial service and the agreement is to reimburse the Funeral Home that is why he was sent a 1099. He concluded by stating that when the Coroner's Office is renovated, there would be a fulltime secretary to work from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday.

4. **Ms. Kathy Geddings**, Probate Judge, began by thanking Council for everything that they have done for the Probate Office. She continued by informing Council that she did not make any changes to her budget.
5. **Mr. Randy Garrett**, There was no report from the Sheriff's Office.
6. **Mr. Matt Evans**, Treasurer, stated that the Treasurer's budget was the same as last year. He continued by stating that the machines that the Treasurer's Office are using must be exchanged by October 2015. Mr. Evans concluded by stating that the partial payment system is working really well.
7. **Mr. Gregory Holliday**, Chairman of Clarendon County Voters Registration, and Election Board, along with members of the Election Commission, presented their budget request to Council. Mr. Holliday began by stating that the Voters Registration and Election Commission Budget increased because of the number of elections for the next fiscal year. He continued by requesting to buy a new printer. Mr. Holliday concluded his presentation by thanking Council for allowing the hiring of a fulltime employee in the Voters Registration office. He stated that there would be a Voters Registration Fair in Columbia on May 13, 2015.
8. **Mr. Chip Finney**, Solicitor, began by requesting a \$12,000 increase to his budget to upgrade the salary of the Victim Assistance, Assistant Solicitor, and to Update his Technology.
9. **Mr. Jack Howle**, Third Circuit Public Defender, requested an increase in his budget of \$42,000 to hire a full-time public defender. He continued by stating that we need a fulltime Public Defender in Clarendon County, a fulltime Public Defender in Lee County and a swing person to travel back and forth from Clarendon County to Lee County to assist the two fulltime Public Defenders.

IX. Ordinance 2015-01

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and seconded by Councilman Blakely, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the First Reading of Ordinance 2015-01, An Ordinance to provide for a levy of taxes for County Purposes of Clarendon County, SC., for Fiscal Year Beginnings July 1, 2015, and Ending June 30, 2016, 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, 2015, and Ending June 30, 2016.

XI. Financial Report

Mr. Lynden Anthony, Controllor, began his report by stating that the General Fund had Expenditures of \$14,287,485 year-to-date and Revenue figures were not available.

Mr. Anthony further stated that the Water and Sewer Department had Operating Revenue of \$532,406 and Operating Expenses of \$361,448 as of March 31, 2015. He stated that after depreciation, transfers, and interest expense, the Water and Sewer Department had a Net Utility Loss of \$32,506.

Mr. Anthony continued by stating that the Weldon Auditorium had Total Revenue of \$59,676, and Total Expenses of \$156,321. He stated that after transfers, the Weldon Auditorium ended the month of March with a zero balance.

Mr. Anthony concluded his report by stating that the C-Fund had a cash balance of \$1,412,903 as of February 28, 2015 of which \$1,577,049 has been committed to the remaining local paving projects and the state required projects leaving a deficit of \$164,146.

XII. Administrator's Report

Administrator Epperson began his report by stating that the renovation of the County Courthouse is continuing as scheduled. He continued by stating that the windows and doors are being installed. Administrator Epperson further stated that the HVAC System would soon be turned on to regulate the building.

He continued by giving Council an update on the following:

USDA Water Projects

- Phase IB – Bidding has ended.
- Phase IC - Received approval to bid from USDA
- Phase II – Waiting on additional Letter of Conditions from USDA

DSS Complex

- The cost estimates came in over budget
- Reviewing proposal to determine if we can modify the design

XIII. Chairman's Report

Chairman Stewart stated that he did not have a report.

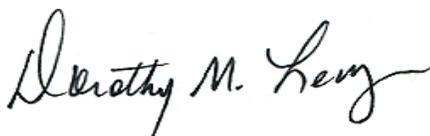
Administrator Epperson stated that on Clarendon School District III Financial Issue - that the Bill Passed the Senate and the House but it was vetoed by the Governor. He concluded by stating that the Bill will have to be voted on by the voters or get enough votes to override the Governor's veto.

XIV. Adjournment

Chairman Stewart stated that we have exhausted our agenda and he asked for a motion to adjourn.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to adjourn the council meeting. The Council Meeting ended at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dorothy M. Levy
Clerk to Clarendon County Council

