



# Clarendon County Regular Council Meeting

## Monday, June 8, 2015, 6:00 PM

### Council Chambers

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#### Those in attendance:

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

**Press in attendance:** None

#### Others in attendance included:

Lynden Anthony	Tammy Rodvansky	Nancy Cave	John Tindal
Rusty Craven	Billy Timmons	Christine Darby	Linda Lemon
Archie Lemon	Richard Stokes	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 Richardson and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the regular council meeting agenda for June 8, 2015.

#### II. 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 May 11, 2015 with minor corrections.

#### III. Presentations

1. Mr. Rusty Craven, USDA Specialist, presented County Council with the amended Letter of Conditions for Phase 1B Water Project. He stated that the amended letter requested that additional funds be provided to cover the total cost of Phase 1B Project. Mr. Craven further stated that additional funds were granted as an additional loan for \$257,000 with monthly installments over a period of 40 years. He concluded by stating that the size of the water tank will be reduced from 300,000 gallons to a 250,000 gallons.

Administrator Epperson stated that bids came back very high and the second bids were also high which initiated the request for additional funds.

2. Ms. Christina Darby, Executive Director of Clarendon County Chamber of Commerce, presented County Council with the Chamber's plans on working with County Council to help attract Industries to Clarendon County. She continued by stating that the Chamber presents will be seen at Council meetings as well as other meetings in the county. Ms. Darby continued by informing Council that the Chamber of Commerce provides marketing training for small businesses and by partnering with SC Works to provide countywide job

fairs. Ms. Darby concluded her presentation by stating that the Chamber will be co-hosting a new event, along with Clarendon County Council and Clarendon County Development Board, called "We Appreciate Our Clarendon Industries."

#### **IV. Request**

Mr. Billy Timmons, Engineer, requested County Council's approval to award the following contracts to Construction Companies:

- Phase 1C – Water Main Extension Project – awarded to B&B Construction Co., Inc.
- Phase 1B – Division 11- the Ground Water Well/Treatment Systems and other Improvements – awarded to Tom Bringman Contractors, Inc.

On motion by Councilman Blakely and seconded by Councilman English, Council voted unanimous approval to award Phase 1C – Water Main Extension Project to B&B Construction Co., Inc.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Councilman Blakely, Council voted unanimous approval to award Phase 1B – Division 11 – the Ground Water Well/Treatment Systems and other Improvements to Tom Bringman Contractors, Inc.

#### **V. Resolution 2015-07 – Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Administrator Epperson presented Council with the Hazard Mitigation Plan Resolution. He requested Council to adopt the resolution as presented.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted unanimous approval to Resolution 2015-07, the Hazard Mitigation Plan Resolution.

#### **VI. Ordinance 2015-01**

Mr. Lynden Anthony, CFO, presented Council with 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. Mr. Anthony began by thanking everyone that assisted in producing the balanced budget. He continued by stating that the budget for third reading includes the following:

- The State allowed millage increase of 1.62% for County operations, which is a 2.4 mil increase, which will take the County up to 148.5 for General Fund (\$322,000 in ad valorem revenue).
- Recommendation to adopt a Local Option Sales Tax credit back to our taxpayers in the amount of \$2,500,000; which \$100,000 will come from a reduction in the LOST Reserve Fund.
- A \$200,000 increase in delinquent tax collections.
- A 38% increase in health insurance premiums effective January 1, 2016, which is an increase of \$450,000 for the period January 1, 2016 – June 30, 2016, which is over half of our revenue growth.
- A 1% Cost Of Living Allowance for employees effective July 1, 2015.
- A reduction in taxpayer support for Weldon Auditorium to \$15,000.
- An increase in the Hospitality Fee Fund support to the Weldon Auditorium from \$70,000 to \$100,000.
- An increase of a 4.0 Mills to Fire service operations giving Fire service operations a total of 30.5 mills
- A \$2,000,000 Tax Anticipation Note (TAN).

Mr. Anthony concluded his presentation by informing County Council of the expenses within the FY2016 Budget, they are as follows:

• General Fund	\$ 19,864,872
• General County Debt	\$ 700,448
• FE Dubose Vocational Tech.	\$ 210,000
• Fire Operating	\$ 3,045,000
• Fire Debt	\$ 112,618

- Admin. Complex Debt Service \$ 281,853
- Courthouse Debt Service \$ 262,550
- Total Appropriations \$ 24,477,341
  
- Water & Sewer (Operational Exp.) \$ 583,057
- Weldon Auditorium (Operational Exp.) \$ 212,452

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Councilman English, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the Third and Final 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.

Administrator Epperson informed County Council that they needed to approve the requests made by Clarendon School Districts 1, 2, and 3 in a separate motion.

On motion by Councilman Blakely and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the following requests made by Clarendon School Districts 1, 2, and 3.

- Clarendon 1 requested a 1.59% millage increase with no Tax Anticipation Note.
- Clarendon 2 requested a 1.62% millage increase with no Tax Anticipation Note.
- Clarendon 3 did not request a millage increase, but did request a Tax Anticipation Note up to \$300,000.

## VII. Financial Report

Mr. Lynden Anthony, CFO, began his report by stating that the General Fund had Expenditures of \$18,013,082 year-to-date and Revenue figures were not available.

Mr. Anthony further stated that the Water and Sewer Department had Operating Revenue of \$651,040 and Operating Expenses of \$431,133 as of May 31, 2015. He stated that after depreciation, transfers, and interest expense, the Water and Sewer Department had a Net Utility Loss of \$29,168.

Mr. Anthony continued by stating that the Weldon Auditorium had Total Revenue of \$69,466, and Total Expenses of \$187,568. He stated that after transfers, the Weldon Auditorium ended the month of May with a balance of \$15,898.

Mr. Anthony concluded his report by stating that the C-Fund had a cash balance of \$1,076,178 as of April 30, 2015 of which \$1,210,458 has been committed to the remaining local paving projects and the state required projects leaving a deficit of \$134,280.

## VIII. Administrator's Report

Administrator Epperson began his report by stating that the renovation of the County Courthouse is continuing as scheduled and nearing the anticipated completion date. Administrator Epperson continued by giving Council an update on the following items:

- USDA Water Projects – Pre construction meetings and construction should begin within 90 days for Phases 1B and 1C.
  - Clarendon County will be hosting the Dixie Minors All-Star tournament beginning June 26, 2015.
  - 2014 Road Paving projects are completed.
  - 2015 resurfacing projects are 90% completed.
- Design work has begun for Brodgon/Boston Wells, Welsh Poppy Circle, and Maggie Lane.

## IX. Chairman's Report

Chairman Stewart began his report thanking Linda Lemon and her staff for the County Picnic. He concluded his report by stating that he attended the annual Industry Appreciation Golf tournament, which was held on May 21.

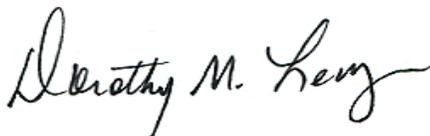
Mr. Richard Stokes, Clarendon Memorial Hospital, stated that the hospital has made a lot of changes. He stated that the hospital turned a \$5,000,000 loss into a profit in 12 months. Mr. Stokes concluded by stating that USDA was instrumental in getting the funds that they needed.

#### **X. 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 and Councilman Blakely, Council voted Unanimous Approval to adjourn the council meeting. The Council Meeting ended at 7:07 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dorothy M. Levy  
Clerk to Clarendon County Council

