

Clarendon County Regular Council Meeting

Monday, September 9, 2024

6:00 PM

Council Chambers, 411 Sunset Drive, Manning, SC 29102

Those in attendance:

Chairman Dwight L. Stewart, Jr
Councilman Billy G. Richardson
Councilman John P. Coker
Deputy Administrator Sharmane Anderson

Vice Chairman W.J. Frierson
Councilman A.C. English
Administrator Lynden Anthony
Clerk to Council, Dorothy M. Levy

Absent: None

Press in attendance: None

Others in attendance included:

Bruce Binney
Tom Madden
Maree Rogers
Michael Richburg
Carolyn Fleming
Kathleen L. Gibson
Delton McAllister
Jacqueline Blackwell
Patricia Pringle
And Other Clarendon County Residents

Kell Culclasure
Terry Streath
Meredith Keller
Jose Calvo
Troy Allan
Annie Robinson
Corey Blackman
Willie Briggs
John Bonaparte

Todd Culclasure
Mike Streath
Eddie D. Keller
Maureen Calvo
Shannon Allen
Mark McCormick
David Tindal IV
Mae Eaddy
Moses Levy, Jr.

Cheryl Windham
Annie Hord
Julius Adger
Rose Ann Infinger
WL McCabe
Michael A. Johnson, Jr.
David Tindal
Julie Wells
Tony Lambert

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

1. Approval of the Agenda

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Councilman Coker, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the Agenda for the Regular scheduled Council Meeting for September 9, 2024.

2. Approval of Minutes

On motion by Councilman English and Seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the minutes for the Regular Council Meeting, which was held on Monday, August 12, 2024.

3. Service Awards

Prior to the business session of the Regular Council Meeting Linda Lemon, HR Director, Chairman Stewart, and Administrator Lynden Anthony recognized four employees for service awards.

• Frank B. Jones	15 years	Keisha Simmons	20 years
• Darrell McCants	20 years	Leon Richburg	30 years

Chairman Stewart thanked everyone for their hard work.

4. Public Comments

- Bruce Binney, Project Developer Charleston, SC, stated that his company have solar projects across Southeast, South Carolina totaling 1.8 Billion Dollars in Capital Investments and 1.5 Million Dollars in Tax Credit. He concluded by asking County Council not to adopt Ordinance 2024-05 in its current version.
- Todd Culclasure – began by asking Clarendon County to invest in a pickle ball court at JC Britton Park. He stated that pickle ball is one of the fastest growing sports in the country. He concluded by stating that right now we are using a makeshift court.
- Administrator Anthony responded by stating that we are currently working with Congressman Clyburn's Office on getting Federal fundings for racket sports.

5. Board Appointment

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Councilman English, Council voted Unanimous Approval to re-appoint Bon Gardner and Julie Rickenbaker to serve another term on the Clarendon County Assessment Appeals Board.

6. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

Administrator Anthony presented Council with a Memorandum of Understanding between Clarendon County, South Carolina and the City of Manning, South Carolina. He stated that the County has received an appropriation from the State of South Carolina to construct, renovate and maintain a shooting range, a firing range, and a training facility as a joint venture with the City of Manning.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and Seconded by Councilman Coker, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the Memorandum of Understanding between Clarendon County, South Carolina and The City of Manning, South Carolina.

7. Executive Session

Chairman Stewart asked for a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss two items:

1. Personnel Issue – Auditor's Office
2. Legal Update – Solar Farm Ordinance

On motion by Councilman English and Seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to go into Executive Session to discuss two issues: A Personnel Issue within the Auditor's Office and a Legal Briefing on the Solar Farm Ordinance.

The Executive Session began at 6:14 pm.

8. Open Session

Chairman Stewart asked for a motion to come out of Executive Session and back into Open Session.

On motion by Councilman English 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 7:28 pm.

Chairman Stewart stated that in Executive Session, Council discussed the Solar Farm Ordinance and he asked for a motion.

On motion by Councilman Coker and Seconded by Councilman English, Council voted Unanimous Approval to Amend the motion to expand section 20-02 Definitions to include any solar energy systems or series of systems that has a capacity rating of one (1) megawatt or greater.

On motion by Councilman English and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the Third and Final Reading of Ordinance 2024-05 as amended - An Ordinance of Clarendon County, South Carolina amending the Unified Development Code of Clarendon County Regarding the Regulation of Solar Energy Facilities and Other Matters Related Thereto.

There was no action taken on the Personnel Issue from the Auditor's Office.

9. Financial Report

Mr. Lynden Anthony, County Administrator, began his report by stating the following:

- **The General Fund** had Expenditures of \$2,316,576 and Revenue was not available as of August 31, 2024.
- **Weldon Auditorium** had Revenue of \$1,350 for the month ending August 31, 2024 and total Expenses were \$21,085. He stated that the Weldon Auditorium ended the month of August, 2024 (after transfers) with zero balance.
- **Water and Sewer Department** had total Revenue of \$248,516 for the month ending August 31, 2024 and total Expenses were \$148,615. After Depreciation and Bond Interest Expense the Water and Sewer Department ended the month of August 31, 2024 with a Net Utility loss of \$11,065.
- **The C-Fund Program** - for the month ending August 31, 2024, The C-Fund program had a Cash Balance of \$7,353,748 of which \$5,089,513 has been committed to remaining local paving projects, State Construction Projects in Progress and State Proviso Funds. He stated that the C-Fund Program had an Uncommitted Balance of \$2,264,236 as of the end of August 2024.

10. Administrator's Report

Administrator Anthony began his report by giving Council an update on the following:

Facilities:

EOC/Communication Center: Architectural firm and Civil Engineering sub-contractors have developed preliminary site plans and internal layout. Currently with third party estimator to get a sense of potential cost in current configuration.

Public Works, Fleet Maintenance, Animal Control: The Request For Proposals (RFP) for design/build services have been released and we had a pre-bid meeting on-site with prospective builders.

SCIIP Grant: We have executed our contract for engineering /design services and work has begun designing both the well and storage tank, Bids are in for the drilling of a test well and we hope to bid the tank phase of the project within the next two weeks.

Weldon Auditorium Renovations: No change from last month on Weldon Auditorium renovations: however, the water drainage issues in the garden area have been identified and a mitigation plan developed.

Turbeville Library: The General Assembly has approved proviso funding in the recently completed budget to move the project forward and our project team met to discuss next steps. The project architect is soliciting a new civil engineering firm to perform site plan.

North Shore Summerton Development Project: Engineering design and site work are moving forward as well.

Law Enforcement Joint Training Facility: The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the City of Manning, Sheriff's Department, and the County to build the facility has been approved and we can finish the design work for their authorization.

✓ Recreation:

- Our fall sports are currently underway with soccer registrations up 21% over last year and football is under from last year.
- The cheer program that rents space at Weldon has returned for their fall season.

✓ **Miscellaneous:**

- For those of you that are going to the South Carolina State Fair in Columbia; we have a wonderful exhibition prepared by our Archives department as part of a larger exhibit representing all 46 counties in the state.
- He had the honor of attending our Fire EMS graduation ceremony the evening of August 27th at Weldon Auditorium. He stated that he is always impressed with their commitment to family and community - service first.
- Our county offices will be closed on Monday, October 14th for Columbus Day and our regularly scheduled County Council meeting will be held that afternoon at 6 pm.
- Tesla will have a charging station behind Shoney's which will start construction in October.

11. Chairman's Report

Chairman Stewart stated that he appreciates everyone coming out tonight.

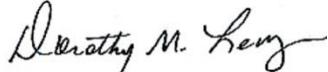
12. Adjourn

Chairman Stewart stated that we had exhausted our agenda, and he asked for a motion to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Councilman Coker Council voted Unanimous Approval to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting.

The Council Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dorothy M. Levy
Clerk to Clarendon County Council, CCC