

5. Board Appointment

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Councilman Coker, Council voted Unanimous Approval to appoint Mr. Franklin D. Postell to serve a 3 year-term on the Clarendon County Planning Commission representing District One.

6. Clarendon County 2024 Holiday Observance Closing Schedule

Administrator Epperson presented Council with the 2024 Holiday Observance Closing Schedule. He stated that the holidays observed are the same as the prior year: New Year's Day, Martin Luth Kings, Jr. Day, President's Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Juneteenth, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day, Day After Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and Day After Christmas.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and Seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the 2024 Holiday Observance Closing Schedule that was presented by Administrated Epperson.

7. Ordinance 2023-07

Ms. Tabitha Hanna presented Council with Ordinance 2023-07 – An Ordinance of the County Council of Clarendon County, South Carolina to Amend Ordinance 2018-11 A/K/A the 2018 Comprehensive Plan and to Adopt the Attached Amendments Identified as Exhibit A in Conformance with the Requirements of Section 6-29 st.seq., Code of Laws of South Carolina; Providing for Severability and an Effective Date.

Ms. Hanna stated that the amendment combines the school districts into one consolidated school district that serves 4,329 students from Pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade. She concluded by giving a list of priority improvements to Clarendon County in three-time frames: Sheriff's Office Improvement, New ball field at JC Britton Park, Public Works department relocation, Summerton Park improvements, Summerton and Turbeville Branch Libraries, Davis Station, Wyboo, and Turbeville Fire Sub-Station, Water system expansions projects, Alcolu Industrial and Technology Park and Mega site Rail Spur.

On motion by Councilman English and Seconded by Councilman Coker, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the First Reading of Ordinance 2023-07 - An Ordinance of the County Council of Clarendon County, South Carolina to Amend Ordinance 2018-11 A/K/A the 2018 Comprehensive Plan and to Adopt the Attached Amendments Identified as Exhibit A in Conformance with the Requirements of Section 6-29 st.seq., Code of Laws of South Carolina; Providing for Severability and an Effective Date

8. Financial Report

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

- **The General Fund** had Expenditures of \$8,702,123 and Revenue was not available as of October 31, 2023.
- **Weldon Auditorium** had Revenue of \$12,150 for the month ending October 31, 2023 and total Expenses were \$44,195. He stated that the Weldon Auditorium ended the month of October, 2023 after transfers with a zero balance.
- **Water and Sewer Department** had total Revenue of \$540,563 for the month ending October 31, 2023 and total Expenses were \$394,715. After Depreciation, Bond Interest Expense, Transfers, Interest income and Grant Revenue, the Water and Sewer Department ended the month of October, 2023 with a Net Utility Income of \$377,802.
- **The C-Fund Program** - for the month ending October 31, 2023, The C-Fund program had a Cash Balance of \$6,237,926 of which \$4,363,539 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 \$1,874,386 as of the end of October, 2023.

9. Administrator's Report

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

✓ **Water and Sewer**

Wyboo Wastewater Treatment Plant Diversion Project: Work is continuing as planned. Completion is expected by December 2023. We are excited about the growth potential this will bring to the HWY 260 corridor.

✓ **Facilities:**

Project Clarendon (911/EOC Center, Turbeville Fire Station, Public Works Facility, Fleet Maintenance Facility, and Law Enforcement Annex (animal control):

An Architectural Firm has been selected for the 911/EOC Facility and they have been issued a notice to proceed. Interviews to select a Design/Build Firm for the Turbeville Fires Station Project will be held soon. Also, the location of the future Public Work, Fleet and Law Enforcement Facilities will be finalized by mid-December. Once that takes place, a solicitation for Architectural Services will be released..

Turbeville Library – We recently received a cost estimate on the facility. The estimate is between 3.2 and 3.5 million dollars. As you know, the land is being donated by a private benefactor and the Town of Turbeville and we have received \$1,550,000 for the project made up of grant funding and appropriations from the State of SC. We have also been assured that the remainder funding needed for the project will be provided by other resources and that Clarendon County will not be responsible for the difference in funds needed to complete the project. Clarendon County’s only obligation will be to oversee the construction and to own, operate and maintain the project once it is completed.

Northshore Sewer Project – A solicitation for a water and sewer engineer is in the process of being completed. Once finalized, it will be advertised so an engineer can be selected with final design and constructions to follow..

Lake Marion/Palmetto Trails Trailhead – Project details and costs have been finalized and construction should begin soon. We are excited to have this facility available to our citizens and visitors. Thanks to all who attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for the pedestrian bridge re-opening last month.

✓ **Miscellaneous:**

- Clarendon County Recreation basketball registrations are ongoing. Games will be held in Turbeville, Manning and Summerton. If interested, please go online, and register or call the Clarendon County Recreation Department.
- The County Offices – will be closed on November 23 and 24, 2023, in observance of Thanksgiving.
- As many of you know, Ted Felder, Clarendon County Deputy Administrator, will be leaving the County. His last day with us is Wednesday, November 15, 2023. I just wanted to take time to thank him for all the work he has done to assist the citizens and staff of Clarendon County during his time with us. It has been a pleasure working with him. On behalf of the Clarendon County staff and myself, we wish you great success in your new endeavor.

10. Chairman’s Report

Chairman Stewart stated that things are changing in Clarendon County, and he wishes Ted Felder the best in his future endeavor.

11. Executive Session

Chairman Stewart asked for a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a Personnel Matter within the Administration Department.

On motion by Councilman English and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to go into Executive Session to discuss a Personnel Matter within the Administration Department.

The Executive Session began at 6:36 pm

12. 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 Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to come out of Executive Session and back into Open Session.

The Executive Session ended at 7:32 pm

Chairman Stewart stated that in Executive Session, Administrator Epperson stated that he will be resigning his position as County Administrator/Attorney effective December 31, 2023.

Chairman Stewart asked for a motion to accept Administrator Epperson's resignation and authorization to begin searching for a new Administrator.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and Seconded by Councilman English, Council voted Unanimous Approval to accept Administrator Epperson's resignation and to begin searching for a new Administrator.

- Administrator Epperson stated that he was presented with a job opportunity to return to private practice of law which would allow him to utilize his knowledge and experience to represent private and governmental clients. He stated that he had the honor and privilege of working for Clarendon County since 2006 when he joined the staff as County Attorney. Administrator Epperson continued by stating that we have accomplished many things that have moved this County forward into a new era. He concluded by saying thank you for our time together as work colleagues and friends and he will leave Clarendon with a full heart and a promise to follow closely the progress of everything we've worked on together as "Team Clarendon."
- Chairman Stewart thanked Administrator Epperson for his comments, and he stated that County Council appreciate everything that he had done.

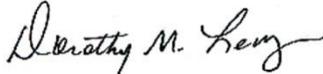
13. Adjourn

Chairman Stewart stated that we had a short 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 7:41 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dorothy M. Levy
Clerk to Clarendon County Council, CCC