



Clarendon County Regular Council Meeting

Monday, May 13, 2024

6:00 PM

Council Chambers, 411 Sunset Drive, Manning, SC 29102

Those in attendance:

Chairman Dwight L. Stewart, Jr.
Councilman John P. Coker
Administrator Lynden Anthony
Clerk to Council, Dorothy M. Levy

Councilman Billy G. Richardson
Councilman A.C. English
Deputy Administrator Sharmane Anderson

Absent: Vice Chairman W.J. Frierson

Press in attendance: None

Others in attendance included:

Kathleen Gibson Emma Thomas
George Frierson Annie Hord
Michael A. Johnson, Jr. Mary Cooper
Johnny Wilson Tammy Hicks
Patricia Pringle Willie Briggs
And Other Clarendon County Residents

Elaine Wood
Maree Roger
Diane D. Georgia
Sadie Williams
Celestine J. Cooper

Terry Streath
Maureen Calvo
Valarie Hilton
Roderick Walker
Jacqueline Blackwell

Mike Streath
Jose Calvo
Angie Jordan
Yana K. Mathis

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 May 13, 2024.

2. Approval of Minutes

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Councilman Coker, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the minutes for the following meetings: Regular Council Meeting, which was held on Monday, April 8, 2024, Special Called Council Meeting, which was held on Wednesday, April 17, 2024, and Special Called Meeting, which was held on Monday, April 29, 2024.

3. Service Awards

Deputy Administrator Anderson and Chairman Stewart presented two employees with service awards:
Patrick Goodwin 10 years James Hilton 5 Years

Chairman Stewart thanked everyone for their service.

4. Public Comments

- Mr. Willie Briggs asked how long will the \$60 solid waste fee be on the books.
- Administrator Anthony replied by stating that the solid waste fee is included in the budget for this upcoming year.

5. Presentation – Chairman Stewart

Chairman Stewart presented the SCAC's 2024 Board of Directors Scholarship award to Parah Anderson, a 2024 graduate of Manning High School.

6. Resolutions

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Councilman Coker, Council voted Unanimous Approval to a Resolution Acknowledging the service of Public Safety Telecommunications Officers and First Responders in Clarendon County, South Carolina and Other Matters Relating Thereto.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Councilman Coker, Council voted Unanimous Approval to an Addendum to Employer Resolution for Participation in the State Insurance Benefits Program regarding County/Municipality Councilmembers Insurance Coverage.

7. Ordinance 2024-02

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Councilman Coker, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the Third and Final Reading of Ordinance 2024-02 – An Ordinance of the County Council of Clarendon County, South Carolina to Amend the County's Official Zoning Map Designation for Tax Map Parcel #170-00-03-050-00 (PR); From General Commercial (GF) to Residential Multifamily (RMF) and Providing an Effective Date.

8. Presentation of the FY2024-2025 Budget – Mr. Lynden Anthony

Administrator Anthony began his presentation by stating that in the two weeks since our Budget Workshop, you have had an opportunity to review the proposed budget and have asked a lot of questions as to its details. Before he touched on a few of the changes, he said that the General fund budget we are presenting this afternoon is balanced with no increase in taxes.

General Fund:

After consulting with Council and under their instructions; the following changes have been made to the General Fund budget since the workshop two weeks ago bringing it into balance:

We have removed requests that fall outside of the County's Classification and Compensation Policy; as well as the new request from the State Mental Health division. We have reduced the supplemental appropriation to both the Solicitor's office and the office of the Public Defender to a 5% increase over the current year. The requested changes in personnel for the Coroner and the Auditor have been removed. The requested \$100,000 increase to Central Carolina Technical College (CCTC) and the new Coroner transport van have been removed; each to be revisited next year.

We have removed an item from Capital purchases; the trailered pipe cleaning equipment for Public Works.

After these changes, and modifications to anticipated revenue sources; our current General Fund is now balanced at \$29.6 million. As he stated at the budget workshop; we are recommending an increase to the Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) Credit of an additional \$100,000, bringing the total credit to \$4.4 million.

The Library fund is balanced; also, with no tax increase. Both the Weldon Auditorium and Water System budgets, as Enterprise Funds, are anticipated to generate sufficient revenue to meet cash flow needs.

Our Fire Rescue fund is still reflecting a deficit of \$364,557 with a tax increase of two (2) mills – we still have work to do.

This year we have three (3) separate borrowing requests.

1. The first is a \$400,000 five (5) year lease to acquire a new ambulance to close in March of 2025.
2. A second issuance in June of 2025 in the amount of \$700,000 to acquire a new fire support tanker; also, a five (5) year installment.
3. Lastly; we have the General Obligation issuance associated with the debt service requirements on the Courthouse and 2022 Facilities Corp IPRB projects, to close in February of 2025.

In summary, we are looking at a preliminary General Fund budget that is balanced; and, we have a deficit in our Fire Rescue operating budget to address.

9. Public Hearing – Ordinance 2023-03

Chairman Stewart stated that the public hearing is now open for Ordinance 2024-03 - An Ordinance to Provide for a Levy of Taxes for County Purposes of Clarendon County, SC., for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2024 and Ending June 30, 2025, 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, 2024 and Ending June 30, 2025.

The public hearing began at 6:21 pm. Chairman Stewart asked if there were any comments.

- Mr. George Frierson asked did Fire Rescue submitted a budget since their budget has a deficit.
- Administrator Anthony responded by stating that yes Fire Rescue submitted a budget, and we are still working with them on balancing their budget.
- Auditor Patricia Pringle stated that the items that were not funded that are outside of the Compensation Study, how can we get it inside of the Compensation Study.
- Administrator Anthony responded by stating that she would have to discuss that with the HR Director, Linda Lemon.

Chairman Stewart stated that the Public Hearing will close. The Public hearing closed at 6:27 pm

10. Ordinance 2024-03

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Councilman English, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the Second Reading of Ordinance 2024-03 – An Ordinance to Provide for a Levy of Taxes for County Purposes of Clarendon County, SC., for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2024 and Ending June 30, 2025, 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, 2024 and Ending June 30, 2025.

11. Public Hearing – Ordinance 2024-04

Chairman Stewart stated that the Public Hearing is now open for Ordinance 2024-04 – An Ordinance to Authorize the Granting of an Easement Across Property Owned by Clarendon County, South Carolina and Identified as Clarendon County Tax map Parcel Number 187-02-04-020-00. He stated that they want to add a retention pond to the facility and improve the drainage system.

Administrator Anthony stated that this Public Hearing is for Easement Across property owned by Clarendon County which is located behind Clarendon County Behavioral Health Services and Behavioral Health Services has plans to expand its facility.

The public hearing began at 6:29 pm. Chairman Stewart asked if there were any comments. Hearing none, he stated

that the Public Hearing will close. The Public Hearing closed at 6:30 pm.

12. Ordinance 2024-04

On motion by Councilman English and Seconded by Councilman Coker, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the Second Reading of Ordinance 2024-04 - An Ordinance to Authorize the Granting of an Easement Across Property Owned by Clarendon County, South Carolina and Identified as Clarendon County Tax map Parcel Number 187-02-04-020-00.

13. Financial Report

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

- **The General Fund** had Expenditures of \$24,463,300 and Revenue was not available as of April 30, 2024.
- **Weldon Auditorium** had Revenue of \$43,321 for the month ending April 30, 2024 and total Expenses were \$139,590. He stated that the Weldon Auditorium ended the month of April, 2024 (after transfers) with a deficit of \$1,269.
- **Water and Sewer Department** had total Revenue of \$1,189,681 for the month ending April 30, 2024 and total Expenses were \$849,941. After Depreciation, Bond Interest Expense, Transfers, Interest income and Grant Revenue, the Water and Sewer Department ended the month of April 30, 2024, with a Net Utility Income of \$813,407; of which was reinvested into system expansion.
- **The C-Fund Program** - for the month ending April 30, 2024, The C-Fund program had a Cash Balance of \$6,811,887 of which \$5,264,766 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 \$1,547,121 as of the end of April 2024.

14. Administrator's Report

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

✓ **Water System**

Wyboo Wastewater Treatment Plant Diversion Project: Project is complete.

Facilities:

EOC/Communication Center: Contract has been awarded to the architectural firm of Rosenblum Coe. The contract has been signed and we continue to work with them in clearly identifying our expectations and needs for the space.

Turbeville Fire Station: Contract for design/build services has been awarded to Hawkins and Kolb. Site plan has been submitted to the Planning Commission for approval.

Public Works, Fleet Maintenance, Animal Control: We closed on the property and are scheduled to release a Request for Proposal (RFP) for design/build services soon.

SCIIP Grant: We have executed our contract for engineering /design services and work has begun designing both the well and storage tank. We will soon contract for the drilling of our associated test well on the site when the permit has been approved by DHEC.

Weldon Auditorium Renovations: No change from last month on Weldon Auditorium renovations: currently expect that design and specifications will be completed and bid packages ready in early May, possibly June. Recent delay in subcontracting civil engineering out for a component of the work.

Other:

Palmetto Trails Foundation: Work continues on the Lake Marion Trailhead project at the foot of the old SR301 bridge. We will be submitting documentation to SCDNR for our grant portion of the project.

Turbeville Library: A request has been made and contained within the House budget for an appropriation to the County for the project.

North Shore Summerton Development Project: A site has been identified and the owner has agreed to a utility easement that we hope to have executed and recorded soon, so that engineering design and site work can begin.

Law Enforcement Joint Training Facility: We are finishing up developing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the City of Manning, Sheriff's Department, and the County to build and operate the facility.

✓ **Recreation:**

- Baseball and softball season will be wrapping up in a few weeks with games on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays.
- Thursday nights pickleball has been a great success so far and everyone is invited to join our daytime session three days a week.
- We are currently advertising for summer adult co-ed kickball and a church league softball program.

✓ **Miscellaneous:**

- Just a reminder that County offices will be closed Monday May 27th in observance of Memorial Day.

15. Chairman's Report

Chairman Stewart stated he did not have anything to add.

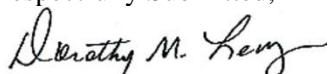
16. Adjourn

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 Coker and Seconded by Councilman English, Council voted Unanimous Approval to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting.

The Council Meeting adjourned at 6:48 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dorothy M. Levy
Clerk to Clarendon County Council, CCC