

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

Ordinance (2012-04) to establish the operating and capital budgets for the operation of the County Government of Abbeville County for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2012. Mr. Jim Irwin of 625 Highway 20, Abbeville compared the County's budget to the School Boards budget; stating neither one knows where they stand. Past County Directors have left the county in a disaster; \$600,000 over projection in last year's budget alone. Wake up and start cutting spending instead of transferring gas to the Safety Fee. You cut your meetings to once a month, but did not cut your salaries and stop going to Hilton Head. You are having first reading for a TAN. Is the county running out of money already? No new industry has come our way; time for results or change the house. It is the Mom and Pop business' that will be catching the flack from this budget. Hearing no further comments, Chairman McClain closed the public hearing.

**ABBEVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
MAY 14, 2012  
MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Chairman McClain, Vice Chairman Campbell, Councilmen Klugh, Stone, Norris, Thomas and Calhoun.

**ABSENT:** None

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman McClain called the meeting to order at 7:41 p.m.

**INVOCATION:**

Councilman Norris gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Councilman Norris led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT:**

Chairman McClain stated for the record that the agenda has been posted and notice has been provided to the local news media as required by the Freedom of Information Act.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- a) Councilman Norris made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 23, 2012, regular county council meeting. Councilman Calhoun seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.

## **PRESENTATION:**

Mr. Hal Johnson; CEO of the Upstate Alliance informed Council on what their mission is; to get the word out on what the alliance has to offer. The spec building is a good attraction for the county. They also offer additional staff support to the Economic Development Directors if needed.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- 1) Third reading of Ordinance (2012-03) to change the form of County Government from Council form to Council-Manager form and to provide for a referendum to be held in Abbeville County on November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012, for the qualified electors in Abbeville County to determine whether they desire to approve such change in the form of County Government from Council form to Council-Manager form. Councilman Thomas made a motion to approve third reading. Councilman Calhoun seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-1-0 with Councilman Klugh opposed.
- 2) Second reading of Ordinance (2012-04) to establish operating and capital budgets for the operation of the County Government of Abbeville County for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2012. Councilman Norris made a motion to approve second reading. Councilman Thomas seconded the motion. Councilman Stone urged Council to reconsider the budget; cuts need to be made before third reading to make up for a dwindling fund balance. Vice Chairman Campbell agreed stating options other than raising taxes should be considered; I had several suggestions and none of them were made. Council agreed to hold a budget workshop before third reading. The motion carried 5-2-0 with Vice Chairman Campbell and Councilman Stone opposed.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

- a) First Readings: New Policy – All first readings are read into the record by the Chairman, and a vote is not necessary per Ordinance 05-11.
  - 1) Ordinance (2012-05) making provision for tax anticipation borrowing by Abbeville County, South Carolina, in the principal amount of not exceeding \$1,000,000.00, in anticipation of the collection of Ad Valorem taxes for the fiscal year beginning the first day of July, 2012 and ending the 30<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2013; to prescribe the terms and conditions of such borrowing and the form of note to be executed evidencing the same; and to make provision for the payment thereof.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

County Director Bruce Cooley informed all that the reason for having the readings on the TAN now were so when needed we would be ready; this is not an indication that we need money early.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- a) Finance Committee—Bryan McClain, Claude Thomas and Billy Norris. No report was given.
- b) Personnel and Administration—Don Campbell, Charlie Stone and Claude Thomas. No report was given.
- c) Public Works—John Calhoun, Billy Norris and Oscar Klugh. No report was given.
- d) Intergovernmental Relations—Charlie Stone, Oscar Klugh and Don Campbell. Committee Chairman Stone requested Council to look at the list of vacancies.
- e) Planning and Industrial Development—Claude Thomas, Don Campbell and Charlie Stone. No report was given.
- f) Education, Recreation, Health and Welfare—Oscar Klugh, Bryan McClain and John Calhoun. No report was given.
- g) Public Safety—Billy Norris, John Calhoun and Bryan McClain. No report was given.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT/COMMENTS:**

District 5 - Councilman Klugh reported a road request for Horizon Lane and had been forwarded to Buddy Agan.

District 1 - Councilman Stone announced that the new Donald's EMS building has been completed. A ribbon cutting ceremony has been scheduled for May 24, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** (sign in sheet only): None

A motion was made by Councilman Thomas to go into Executive Session for an Economic Development issue pertaining to O'Dell Mop and legal issues regarding Delinquent Tax and the budget. Councilman Calhoun seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Chairman McClain reconvened the meeting following executive session and announced that no items needed to be addressed.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further items of discussion Councilman Stone made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Norris seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.

The meeting adjourned at 9:33 p.m.

Done this 11 day of June, 2012

**Abbeville County Council**

By: Robert B. McClain  
Robert B. McClain, Chairman

ATTEST:

By: Lynn Sopolosky  
Lynn Sopolosky, Clerk to Council