

**ABBEVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL
BUDGET WORKSHOP
APRIL 16, 2013
MINUTES**

PRESENT: Chairman McClain, Vice Chairman Stone, Councilmen Campbell, McCord, Calhoun and Thomas.

ABSENT: Councilman Norris

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman McClain called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

INVOCATION:

Development Services Director Steve Bowles gave the invocation.

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.

BUDGET WORKSHOP:

Development Services Director Steve Bowles informed Council about his departments needs for the coming budget year and requested a plan be implemented to replenish the Infrastructure Millage account. Chairman McClain requested a workshop be held in May to discuss options for raising money and implementing a plan.

County Director Bruce Cooley explained the four (4) scenarios Council requested them to prepare that included their instructions on increasing the EMS, Sheriff and E911 departments.

Councilman Campbell suggested no raises to the positions which the state mandates a salary for and any employee who has received one in the last year. Vice Chairman Stone asked if the computer replacement was included and he was informed yes. Councilman Campbell asked about the new vehicles and was informed four (4) for the Sheriff and one (1) for E911 were included. Vice Chairman Stone was informed this could only be accomplished with a \$15.00 increase to the Public Safety Fee. Chairman McClain asked if there would be a personnel reduction in the Treasurer's office if online bill paying was done and was informed that was what the Treasurer had intended. Councilman Thomas was informed that the EMS Transport was paying for itself and generating revenue also. Council agreed to replenish the Fund Balance four (4) mills over the next three (3) years. Council also requested the following be reviewed: overtime in the Clerk of Courts office, blanket bonds, Intergovernmental expenses, service contract in Magistrates office, cost of running the city's elections, new Sheriff's salary and

Development Services increase. Vice Chairman Stone and Councilman Campbell choose scenario D which included raising EMS, Sheriff and E911 salaries, plus 2% cost of living increase for employees except those who had received one in the last year and those that were mandated by the state. Chairman McClain, Councilmen Calhoun and Thomas choose a blend of scenario's A and D with millage going to Infrastructure Development and only eliminating state mandated salaries. Chairman McClain requested a budget workshop be held after the regular County Council meeting on Monday (4/22/13) and all concurred.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further items of discussion; the workshop was unanimously adjourned.

The workshop adjourned at 9:57 p.m.

Done this 22nd day of April, 2013

Abbeville County Council

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

ATTEST:

By: Lynn Sopolosky
Lynn Sopolosky, Clerk to Council