

**ABBEVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 22, 2013
MINUTES**

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

ABSENT: None

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman McClain called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

INVOCATION:

Councilman Calhoun gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Councilman Calhoun 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 Thomas made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 8, 2013, regular county council meeting. Councilman Campbell seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.
- b) Vice Chairman Stone made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 16, 2013, budget workshop. Councilman Calhoun seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0-1 with Councilman Norris abstaining.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Third reading of Ordinance (2013-03) to authorize the County Director to enter into the Agreement, a copy of which is attached hereto, for the sale of the Veterans Affairs Building located in Abbeville County. Councilman Norris made a motion to approve third reading. Councilman McCord seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a) First Readings: Policy – All first readings are read into the record by the Chairman, and a vote is not necessary per Ordinance 05-11.
 - 1) Ordinance (2013-04) to establish operating and capital budgets for the operation of the County Government of Abbeville County for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2013.
 - 2) Ordinance (2013-05) making provision for Tax Anticipation borrowing by Abbeville County, South Carolina, in the principal amount of not exceeding \$1,000,000, in anticipation of the collection of Ad Valorem Taxes for the fiscal year beginning the first day of July, 2013 and ending the 30th day of June, 2014; 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.
 - 3) Ordinance (2013-06) to provide for the issuance and sale of a not exceeding one hundred ninety five thousand dollars (\$195,000) General Obligation Bond of Abbeville County, South Carolina, to prescribe the purposes for which the proceeds of said bond shall be expended, to provide for the payment of said bond, and other matters relating thereto.
 - 4) Ordinance (2013-07) to adopt new, updated guidelines for Abbeville County Boards and Commissions and to rescind all prior ordinances or resolutions that may be in conflict.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a) Finance Committee—Bryan McClain, Claude Thomas and Rick Campbell. Chairman McClain informed all that a report on the Auditor's findings in the Sheriff's Office will be presented at the May 13th meeting.
- b) Personnel and Administration—Charlie Stone, Rick Campbell and Claude Thomas. Committee Chairman Stone informed Council that the committee updated the Boards and Commissions Ordinance with a 90 day clause which would notify the Councilperson whose district nominations terms were about to expire. He requested input from Council on the evaluation form for the County Director, the employee personnel manual and the public comment ordinance. He made a committee recommendation to Council for all exit interviews to be performed by the Human Resources Department. Council unanimously approved this recommendation. Chairman McClain requested this recommendation be included in the update to the Employee Manual.
- c) Public Works—John Calhoun, Billy Norris and James McCord. No report was given.
- d) Intergovernmental Relations—Rick Campbell, John Calhoun and Charlie Stone. Committee Chairman Campbell made a committee nomination for Ms. Angela Lee to be appointed to the Title III Committee to represent District 2. This committee recommendation was passed unanimously.

- e) Planning and Industrial Development—Claude Thomas, James McCord and Charlie Stone. No report was given.
- f) Education, Recreation, Health and Welfare—James McCord, Billy Norris and Bryan McClain. No report was given.
- g) Public Safety—Billy Norris, John Calhoun and Bryan McClain. No report was given.

PUBLIC COMMENT (sign in sheet only): None

A motion was made by Councilman Norris to go into Executive Session for personnel issues pertaining to the County Director, Sheriff and Fire Departments; plus a legal issue pertaining to the Sheriff's Office. 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 Norris made a motion to adjourn. Vice Chairman Stone seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

BUDGET WORKSHOP:

Chairman McClain moved the attendees to the Conference room and asked if there were any questions on the budget which had been in their packets. Vice Chairman Stone requested they look at borrowing the money for the 4 mils from the landfill this year. The County Director would research this option for him. Councilman McCord noticed that lease payments would need to be budgeted for next year. Councilman Norris informed all that he thought it was a good working budget. He also requested a report on items sold on GovDeals. Councilman Campbell asked if one of the cars being replaced at the Sheriff's Department could be used for addressing and was informed those cars were unable to be used. Councilman Thomas was not in favor of raising taxes. Councilman Norris stated "you will pay one way or the other, stick with the budget proposed". Councilman Campbell stated "there is no good way out of it, just bite the bullet". Councilman Calhoun reiterated that Council wanted to bring peoples salaries up. A lot of money is lost training people who leave for more money in another county once trained. County Director Cooley stated "this is not County Councils doing; it is the State Legislature. If they would fund the local government fund as the law states then County Council would not be in this predicament". Chairman McClain went around the table and observed that most of Council was in favor of the proposed budget.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

The workshop adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Done this 13th day of May, 2013

Abbeville County Council

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

ATTEST:

By: Lynn Sopolosky
Lynn Sopolosky, Clerk to Council