

MINUTES  
Budget Workshop  
Sumter County Council  
Thursday, April 15, 2008 - 5:00 p.m.  
Sumter County Council Chambers -- County Administration Building

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Vivian Fleming McGhaney, Eugene Baten, Artie Baker, Larry Blanding, Jimmy Byrd, Charles T. Edens, and Roland Robinson.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Charles T. Edens

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mrs. Mary W. Blanding, Clerk to County Council; Mr. William T. Noonan, County Administrator; Mrs. Lorraine Dennis, Deputy County Administrator, Mr. Gary Mixon, Deputy County Administrator; Mr. Latham Harris, County Assessor; Mrs. Pamela Craven, Finance Director, The Honorable Lauretha McCants, Sumter County Auditor, The Honorable Carolina B. Richardson, Sumter County Treasurer; and Mrs. Keysa Rogers, Budget Analyst.

**MEDIA PRESENT:** The Item

**PUBLIC PRESENT:** No one from the public was present.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairperson, Vivian Fleming McGhaney, called the meeting to order, and the invocation was given by Vice Chairman Eugene Baten.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Everyone present repeated the pledge of allegiance.

**2008-2009 BUDGET DISCUSSIONS -**

The County Administrator, William T. Noonan, stated that the projected revenue would be \$46,797,089 and the projected expenditures for 2008-2009 are \$48,500,190 as of April 15, 2008. The millage capped dollars are projected at \$670,525.

Council members also received a presentation from the County Auditor, Mrs. Lauretha McCants. Mrs. McCants indicated that using a 96% Collection Rate, the County ordinary mill has been calculated at \$257,600; last year the mills were projected at \$260,060. There is a decrease in the mill value for this year due to over projects for last year's mill.

**Other Projections included the following:**

**Fire District #1**

2008-2009	\$43,200
2007-2008	\$41,400

**Fire Districts #2**

2008-2009	\$111,100
2007-2008	\$105,100

Council members also reviewed the funding for other institutions and agencies with a 10% suggested reduction from last year's allocations. Lastly, Council members reviewed a list of budget figures from various areas within the operational budget which have been reduced from the 2008-2009 requested amounts. After review of these figures, Council suggested the

following: (Please note, no formal action was taken on any of these suggestions; however, Council was of consensus that these matters be reviewed and handled accordingly.):

- A. Invite Jay Schwedler to FTP to explain the need for the Central Alliance in the budget.
- B. Maintain the employee's COLA at 2.0% increase (Larry Blanding asked to go on record about this matter being a sacred cow.)
- C. Maintain the Summer Youth Program at its proposed funding.
- D. Start the process of informing the community groups (Rembert Coalition and the Greater Township) about Council's decision to join the two centers into one group.
- E. Insure that the County Recreation Department work's with the ONE community center concept with PROGRAM offerings, etc. as quickly as possible so that the new programs and other new offerings can begin implementation as soon as possible after July 1, 2008.
- F. The effective date for the one-funding for the Rembert Area Community Center will be July 1, 2008.
- G. Consider ways to reduce costs at the Correctional Center including furloughs on non-violent inmates especially if the inmate has potential medical issues.
- H. Hiring Freeze - No Hiring Freeze For Public Safety Employees - The hiring freeze would be for the administrative positions.
- I. Consider automobile fee/tax for all persons including military personnel.
- J. Consider keeping the departments at their last year's budget.
- K. Adjustments presented on 4/15/08 were acceptable except for Summer Youth Program (see "C" above).

Executive Session: It May Be Suggested To Hold An Executive Session To Discuss Contractual Or Personnel Matters Or Receive A Legal Briefing From The County Attorney.

No executive session was held.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mary W. Blanding, Clerk to Council

cc: Sumter County Council  
Mr. William T. Noonan  
Mr. Johnathan Bryan  
Mrs. Pam Craven  
Mrs. Jeanette Mixon