



Minutes
Sumter County Council
Budget Meeting
May 3, 2011 - Held at 5:00 p.m.
County Administration Building County Council Chambers
13 E. Canal Street, Sumter, SC

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COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

1. Chairman Vivian Fleming McGhaney, Council District #5
2. Vice Chairman Eugene Baten, Council District #7
3. Councilman Artie Baker, Council District #2
4. Councilman Larry Blanding, Council District #6
5. Councilman Jimmy Byrd, Council District #3
6. Councilman Charles T. Edens, Council District #4
7. Councilman Naomi D. Sanders, Council District #1

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

William T. Noonan, County Administrator	Mary W. Blanding, Clerk To County Council
Lorraine Dennis, Deputy Administrator/HR	Gary Mixon, Deputy Administrator
Pam Craven, Finance Director	Keysa Rogers, Budget Analyst
The Honorable C. Richardson, Treasurer	Two Sheriff Deputies (Wiley/Bradford)

MEDIA PRESENT:

The media, The Item Newspaper, was present for a portion of the meeting.

THE PUBLIC PRESENT:

Four members of the public were in attendance.

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CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chairman Larry Blanding called the Chairman Vivian Fleming McGhaney called Sumter County Council's special meeting of May 4, 2010, to order.

INVOCATION: Vivian Fleming McGhaney gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLIGIANCE: All in attendance repeated the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Chairwoman McGhaney stated that she would entertain a motion to approve the agenda. The Clerk to Council asked Council to consider adding one item to the agenda pertaining to *Stormwater Utilities Fees*.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Edens, seconded by Councilwoman Sanders, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the agenda as amended.

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:-

- (1) It Is Necessary To Hold An Executive Session And To Take Action Thereafter For One Or All Of The Following:

The Chairman stated that she would entertain a motion to go into executive session to discuss a contractual matter.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman Baten, and unanimously carried by Council to enter executive session to discuss a contractual matter. At the conclusion of executive session, after a motion and a second Council entered open session.

A. A Contractual Matter Pertaining To Utilities.

Council discussed this matter in executive session; no action was taken on this matter.

(2) Fiscal Year Budget Discussion 2010-2011

1. **Stormwater Utilities Fees:** Council members discussed this matter in detail with staff. (See attached documents from this discussion). Council members were informed that the Stormwater Utilities must be fully implemented by February 2011 and it will cost the County approximately \$\$960,257 the first year of implementation. This matter will be discussed further during the budgetary process.
2. **Administrative Fee:** County Council members discussed this matter in detail. The County Auditor and the County Treasurer provided Council members with information concerning the cost for preparing a tax notice. After much discussion on the Administrative Fee, the following action was taken.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Sanders, seconded by Vice Chairman Baten to notify the City of Sumter that the County will continue with the Administrative Fee in the County's budget ordinance. The motion carried. Chairwoman McGhaney voted nay.

After action on this matter, Council continued its discussions concerning the Administrative Fee to determine the specific amount that will be charged and the "fee" that will be placed in the budget ordinance. After all discussions, Council took action on the calculations that will be use to place in the ordinance for preparing a tax notice for local municipalities.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Byrd and seconded by Councilman Edens to collect \$124,095.83 from the City of Sumter for Administrative Fees for preparing tax notices beginning July 1, 2010. Council members, Byrd, Baker, Edens, and McGhaney voted in the affirmative; Council members Sanders, Baten, and Blanding voted in opposition. The motion carried.

Therefore, a letter will be sent to the City of Sumter informing them that Sumter County will implement the Administrative Fee as set forth in Sumter County Council's 2009-2010 budget and will continue in the 2010-2011 budget ordinance. The City of Sumter will be required to pay \$1.92 per tax notice. The \$1.92 equates to half (1/2) of the cost for preparing and collecting a tax notice. Each municipality will be required to pay this fee at the same calculation rate as the City of Sumter.

Then Council members stated that the County needs to discuss providing an overall budget agreement-contract package to the City of Sumter so that the City and County will be able to know how to proceed with their respective budgets. The Chairman called for a motion to enter executive session to discuss potential contractual matters with the City of Sumter.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Edens, seconded by Councilman Byrd, and unanimously carried by Council to enter executive session to discuss potential contractual matters between the City and County of Sumter.

At the conclusion of the executive session, Council entered open session. Staff members were asked to draft a list of potential budgetary agreement/contractual items between the City and the County and have it ready for discussion at the City County Liaison Committee meeting. (A copy of the information will be e-mailed to each County Council member or a hard copy will be provided.

The information that will be given to the City include the following information as well as the information pertaining to the Administrative Fee.

- **Detention Center:** The County will charge a \$55 daily rate per inmate "intake" for each inmate received at the Sumter-Lee Detention Center. (Intake is defined as a one-day rate.) The City will also be required to pay for the inmate's medical costs.
- **Detention Center/Utilities (Water And Sewer):** Sumter County is asking the City of Sumter to charge the Sumter-Lee Detention Center the "City" rate per gallon for the Detention's utility bill.
- **Fire** - Sumter County agrees to pay no more than \$1,750,923 to the City of Sumter for Fire Services during the upcoming Fiscal Year. Fire service rates are to remain as is for 2010-2011.
 - a. ***Fire Advisory Board:*** It is suggested that a Fire Advisory Board be created with three members of Sumter County being a part of the Board (suggested members from the County would be the County Administrator, one Council member, and a member from the County's financial staff.)
 - b. ***Purpose Of Advisory Board:*** The County wants to work with the City in an effort to reduce costs associated with the delivery of fire services in Sumter County.
- 3. **Airport** - Sumter County is willing to pay the \$279,951 bond payments after it receives a deed for the Airport property which is currently in the City's name.
 - a. The City of Sumter is to pay one-half of the environmental studies (Phase I and Phase II) conducted at the Sumter Airport.
- 4. **Patriot Park Sportsplex** - A letter will be prepared and shared with the Liaison Committee indicating that Sumter County Council will write a letter to the City of Sumter indicating that a moratorium will be placed on tournaments held at Patriot Park Sportsplex if the County does not receive at least \$150,000 a year for the next ten years

from the City of Sumter. The funds will be used to pay for the upkeep of the fields, staff to work the tournaments, and other related expenses at Patriot Park Sportsplex.

(3) Additional Item:

It was also stated that approximately six people will be retiring from the County; and the Administrator mentioned that the County is still operating under a hiring freeze.

Councilman Baker stated that he hopes that Sumter County Council would not hurt the County's employees next year. He asked the Administrator if he plans to ask Council to approve any furloughs for next year. The Administrator stated that it has not yet been determined if there will or will not be a need for furloughs next year. Mr. Noonan further stated that he will bring any furlough information to Council as the budget meetings continue.

Additionally, Councilman Baker said he would like to see the employees get at least a one percent increase in salary for this upcoming year, since Council has not approved anything in the last three years. Councilman Baker asked the County Administrator to develop the figures as to how much would be needed for each full-time employee to receive a one percent raise this year if approved by Council.

The Administrator also informed Council that there may be a need to hire some additional staff persons in the Information Technology Department due to new software that is being purchased and that will need to be maintained.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business during this meeting; there was a motion and second to adjourn the meeting at approximately 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eugene R. Baten
Chairman or Vice Chairman
Sumter County Council

Mary W. Blanding
Clerk to County Council
Sumter County Council

Approved: May 10, 2011

I certify that public and media notification of the above-mentioned meeting was given prior thereto as follows:

Public Notified: Yes

Manner Notified: Agendas posted on bulletin board on third floor of the Administration Building.

Date Posted: April 30, 2010

Media Notified: Yes

Manner Notified: An Agenda was sent to The Item.

Date Notified: April 30, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

Mary W. Blanding

Mary W. Blanding

Stormwater Utility Recap

- 1) Permit Requirement: Fully Implemented February 2011
- 2) Staff Recommendations: Budget Proposal – \$960,257
- 3) Funding Sources:

Millage Tax vs. Utility Fee

Utility Fee = \$54.00 (1) Equivalent Drainage Unit (EDU) or 8,000 sq. ft. Impervious Surface

\$27.00 or (.5) EDU Residential Unit Average 4,000 sq. ft. Impervious Surface

\$81.00 or (1.5) EDU Commercial Unit

\$162.00 or (3) EDU Industrial Unit

\$921,078 Revenue or Fee

\$ 40,000 Revenue on Inspection Fees

\$961,078

Tax Millage – Unfunded Mandate

4 Mills Countywide – County Ordinary = \$1,030,400

\$100,000 Home = \$16.00

Or

7 Mills Unincorporated Areas of County = \$998,200

\$100,000 Home = \$28.00

- 4) Ordinance Request (3 Readings to Run Concurrent with Budget Readings)
 - a) Draft Ordinance Based on Utility Fee
 - b) New Ordinance Prepared for Millage Rate for Stormwater

**Average Cost Per Tax Notice
for Billing and Collecting**

Total Real Property Notices	84,665
Total Vehicle Notices	<u>88,355</u>
Total Notices Billed	<u><u>173,020</u></u>
Auditor's Budget	\$ 326,248
Treasurer's Budget	<u>\$ 336,346</u>
	<u><u>\$ 662,594</u></u>
Total Budgets	<u>662,594</u>
Divided by total number of notices	<u>173,020</u>
Equals cost per tax notice	<u><u>\$ 3.83</u></u>


Sumter County Auditor

4/28/10
Date


Sumter County Treasurer

4/28/10
Date