

**MINUTES OF CALHOUN COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
HELD VIRTUALLY
April 12, 2021
5:30 P.M.**

DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, THIS COUNCIL MEETING WAS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC BUT WAS LIVE-STREAMED ON THE COUNTY'S FACEBOOK PAGE

Calhoun County Council held its regular meeting, on Monday, April 12, 2021.

The following were present:

Chairman David K. Summers, Jr., who presided
Vice-Chairman James E. Haigler
Councilman Cecil Thornton
Administrator John McLaughlin
Deputy Administrator/CFO Denise Christmas
Clerk to Council Vickie Stoudemire

Absent: Councilman John Nelson
Councilman Ken Westbury

The following press was notified of the meeting by mail, electronic mail, or by fax in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act: The Calhoun Times, The Times and Democrat, and Sandy Run News. An Agenda was also posted on Calhoun County's website www.calhouncounty.sc.gov.

Call to Order

Chairman Summers called the meeting to order.

Invocation

Invocation was offered by Councilman James Haigler.

Ordinance 2021-13

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE TO REAUTHORIZE AND EXTEND THE USE OF AND STANDARDS FOR ELECTRONIC MEETINGS; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO was presented for vote. Councilman Haigler made a motion to pass Emergency

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Ordinance 2021-13. Councilman Thornton seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The Ordinance will be in effect for 60 days.

Public Hearing

Chairman Summers opened a Public Hearing on Ordinance 2021-4 AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF NOT EXCEEDING SEVEN MILLION DOLLARS (\$7,000,000) AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF CALHOUN COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, TO DEFRAY THE COSTS OF PROJECTS APPROVED PURSUANT TO A CAPITAL PROJECT SALES TAX REFERENDUM ON NOVEMBER 6, 2018; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

Attorney Lawrence Flynn was in attendance and explained that this bond is for the amount of money which was passed by the referendum held in November, 2018, and the proceeds of the bond will be held by a third party, as is required. The County has chosen to use US Bank as the third party responsible for administering the bond funds.

Due to this Public Hearing being held virtually, the Notice of Hearing which was published in The Calhoun Times Leader stated that any public comments should be e-mailed to the Clerk to Council up to one hour before the start of the Hearing. No comments were received prior to the Public Hearing; therefore the Hearing was closed.

Approval of Minutes

1. Minutes of the March 8, 2021 regular meeting and the March 24, 2021 regular meeting were presented for approval. Motion was made by Councilman Thornton and seconded by Councilman Haigler to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

None

Appointments

Chairman Summers asked for nomination of Scott Pate to replace Andy Jackson on the Calhoun County rural Fire District Board of Commissioners from the Midway Station, due to Mr. Jackson's resignation. Councilman Haigler made a motion to appoint Mr. Pate as stated, with Councilman Thornton seconding. The motion passed unanimously.

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Proclamations

None

Appearances

1. Deputy Administrator/CFO Denise Christmas presented a 2020-2021 Budget Summary (copy attached).
2. EMD Director Dave Chojnacki appeared before Council to present and ask approval of the Calhoun County Hazard Mitigation Plan 2020. Mr. Chojnacki stated that the Hazard Mitigation Plan must be updated every five (5) years as a requirement for FEMA funding. He also presented the Calhoun County Emergency Operations plan.
3. Human Resource Director Brandy Roberson advised Council that the County will be changing insurance broker services for the upcoming fiscal year (2021-2022). She asked for the Council's approval to engage Gallagher Consulting as the insurance broker service. Councilman Haigler made a motion to approve using Gallagher Consulting as the insurance broker service for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. Councilman Thornton seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Next, Ms. Roberson advised that she would like approval to continue with the current employee health insurance plan with Blue Choice. She stated that there will be a 4% increase in the cost of the plan for the upcoming fiscal year. Councilman Thornton made a motion to approve staying with the current Blue Choice plan. Councilman Haigler seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Resolutions

1. **Resolution 7-2021** A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING APRIL AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH was presented. Councilman Haigler made a motion to pass Resolution 7-2021, with Councilman Thornton seconding. The motion passed unanimously.
2. **Resolution 8-2021** A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE CALHOUN COUNTY NATURAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN was presented. This is the plan which was discussed earlier in the meeting with EMD Director Chojnacki. Councilman Thornton made a motion to pass Resolution 8-2021 as presented. Councilman Haigler seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

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Old Business

After discussion, Councilman Haigler made a motion to extend Emergency Ordinance 2020-18 AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE REQUIRING THE WEARING OF FACE MASKS TO HELP ALLEVIATE THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 for sixty (60) days until June 10, 2021, with the stipulation that this issue may be re-visited sooner than 60 days, if conditions change. Councilman Thornton seconded, with the same stipulation. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of Councilmen present.

New Business

The annual software contract with QS1 was presented for approval. Administrator McLaughlin advised Council that there is a 2% increase in the cost of this software, which services include Auditor, Treasurer, Tax Collector, Assessor, Utility Billing, and City taxes for both St. Matthews and Cameron, at a total yearly cost of \$175,747.19. Councilman Haigler made a motion to approve the Contract with QS1 as presented. Councilman Thornton seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Ordinances

1. Ordinance 2021-3 Second Reading

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING PURSUANT TO TITLE 12, CHAPTER 44 OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA 1976, AS AMENDED, THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF FEE-IN-LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN CALHOUN COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AND A CERTAIN COMPANY, IDENTIFIED FOR THE TIME BEING AS PROJECT COLA, TO PROVIDE FOR FEE-IN-LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES INCENTIVES AND CERTAIN SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDITS; AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS was presented for Second Reading. Councilman Haigler made a motion to pass Second Reading of Ordinance 2021-3. Councilman Thornton seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

2. Ordinance 2021-4 Second Reading

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF NOT EXCEEDING SEVEN MILLION DOLLARS (\$7,000,000) AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF CALHOUN COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, TO DEFRAY THE COSTS OF PROJECTS APPROVED PURSUANT TO A CAPITAL PROJECT SALES TAX REFERENDUM ON NOVEMBER 6, 2018; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO was presented for Second Reading. Councilman Thornton

made a motion to pass Second Reading of Ordinance 2021-4. Councilman Haigler seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

3. Ordinance 2021-5 First Reading By Title Only

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS AND THE LEVY OF TAXES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 FOR THE OPERATION, DEBT SERVICE, BUILDING FUND AND FOOD SERVICE OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF CALHOUN COUNTY, THE ORANGEBURG-CALHOUN TECHNICAL COLLEGE, AND THE CALHOUN COUNTY DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS BOARD (INCLUDING THE L. MARION GRESSETTE CENTER); TO PROVIDE FOR DEPOSIT AND DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS AND TO PROVIDE OTHERWISE FOR THE AFFAIRS OF PUBLIC EDUCATION IN CALHOUN COUNTY was presented for First Reading By Title Only. Councilman Haigler made a motion to pass First Reading By Title Only of Ordinance 2021-5. Councilman Thornton seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

4. Ordinance 2021-6 First Reading By Title Only

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND DEBT SERVICE FOR CALHOUN COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2021, AND FOR THE EXPENDITURE THEREOF AND OTHER FUNDS, AND TO PROVIDE OTHERWISE FOR THE AFFAIRS OF THE COUNTY was presented for First Reading By Title Only. Councilman Thornton made a motion to pass First Reading By Title Only of Ordinance 2021-6. Councilman Haigler seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

5. Ordinance 2021-7 First Reading By Title Only

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE FEES FOR COUNTY PURPOSES FOR CALHOUN COUNTY TO OPERATE AND MAINTAIN WATER AND WASTEWATER FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2021, FOR THE EXPENDITURES THEREOF AND OTHER FUNDS, AND TO PROVIDE OTHERWISE FOR THE AFFAIRS OF THE COUNTY was presented for First Reading By Title Only. Councilman Haigler made a motion to pass First Reading By Title Only of Ordinance 2021-7. Councilman Thornton seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

6. Ordinance 2021-8 First Reading By Title Only

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE FEES FOR COUNTY PURPOSES FOR CALHOUN COUNTY TO OPERATE AND MAINTAIN CALHOUN HILLS GOLF COMPLEX FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2021, FOR THE

EXPENDITURES THEREOF AND OTHER FUNDS, AND TO PROVIDE OTHERWISE FOR THE AFFAIRS OF CALHOUN HILLS GOLF COMPLEX was presented for First Reading By Title Only. Councilman Thornton made a motion to pass First Reading By Title Only of Ordinance 2021-8. Councilman Haigler seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

7. Ordinance 2021-9 First Reading By Title Only

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF 4.18 MILLS TAXES TO OPERATE AND MAINTAIN THE SANDY RUN FIRE DISTRICT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2021, AND TO APPROPRIATE OTHER FUNDS FOR THE EXPENDITURES THEREOF, AND TO PROVIDE OTHERWISE FOR THE AFFAIRS OF THE SANDY RUN FIRE DISTRICT was presented for First Reading By Title Only. Councilman Haigler made a motion to pass First Reading By Title Only of Ordinance 2021-9. Councilman Thornton seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

8. Ordinance 2021-10 First Reading By Title Only

AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE AND AUTHORIZE FUNDS TO OPERATE AND MAINTAIN THE CALHOUN COUNTY RURAL FIRE DISTRICT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2021, FOR THE EXPENDITURES THEREOF, TO PROVIDE THREE (3) MILLS FOR DEBT SERVICE, AND TO PROVIDE OTHERWISE FOR THE AFFAIRS OF THE CALHOUN COUNTY RURAL FIRE DISTRICT was presented for First Reading By Title Only. Councilman Thornton made a motion to pass First Reading By Title Only of Ordinance 2021-10. Councilman Haigler seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

9. Ordinance 2021-11 First Reading By Title Only

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES FOR COUNTY PURPOSES FOR CALHOUN COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2021, AND FOR THE EXPENDITURES THEREOF AND OTHER FUNDS, AND TO PROVIDE OTHERWISE FOR THE AFFAIRS OF THE COUNTY was presented for First Reading By Title Only. Councilman Haigler made a motion to pass First Reading By Title Only of Ordinance 2021-11. Councilman Thornton seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

10. Ordinance 2021-12 First Reading

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE IV, DIVISION 6 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CALHOUN COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA (RMC) was presented for First Reading. Councilman Haigler made a motion to pass First Reading of Ordinance 2021-12. Councilman Thornton seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

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Administrator

1. Administrator McLauchlin presented new fees he is recommending be adopted for the Recreation Department (copy attached). He asked Council to consider the new fees and be prepared to vote on them at the next Council meeting.

2. Next, Administrator McLauchlin reported on the RIA Grant application for waterline replacements in the Sandy Run area. He stated that there is a \$500,000.00 grant available which requires no match from the County.

3. Administrator McLauchlin asked for approval of the annual contract with SafeBuilt for Building and Planning services. The total for the 2021-2022 fiscal year is \$137,640.00. Councilman Haigler made a motion to approve the contract with SafeBuilt as presented. Councilman Thornton seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

4. Administrator McLauchlin next asked for approval of the contract with US Bank to administer the \$7,000,000.00 bond funds to be used for the Penny Sales Tax Referendum projects. This contract is for \$2,000.00 per year for the term of the Referendum. Councilman Thornton made a motion to approve the contract with US Bank as presented. Councilman Haigler seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

5. Next, Administrator McLauchlin asked for approval of a lease with Cub Car for 40 golf carts to be used at the Calhoun County Hills Golf Complex. The leased carts presently at the Complex were part of the inventory bought with the golf course and need to be replaced. The new lease will include 40 carts with service for \$32,800 per year. Councilman Haigler made a motion to approve the lease with Cub Car as presented. Councilman Thornton seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

6. Administrator McLauchlin asked Council to consider re-opening the Council meetings to the public. Councilman Haigler made a motion to re-open the Council meetings to the public, provided CDC Guidelines are followed, beginning with the May 10 scheduled meeting. Councilman Thornton seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session

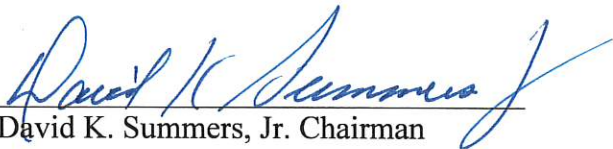
Councilman Thornton made a motion enter into Executive Session to discuss an Economic Development Matter concerning the Lake Marion Regional Water Agency; and a Personnel Matter concerning the Magistrate's office. Councilman Haigler seconded, the motion passed unanimously, and Council entered into Executive Session.

Council returned from Executive Session, having taken no action.


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Adjournment

Councilman Thornton made a motion to adjourn with Councilman Haigler seconding. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.



David K. Summers, Jr. Chairman



Vickie B. Stoudemire, Clerk to Council

