

**MINUTES OF CALHOUN COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
May 13, 2024
5:30 P.M.**

Calhoun County Council held its regular meeting on Monday, May 13, 2024.

The following were present:

Chairman James E. Haigler, who presided
Vice-Chairman Ken Westbury
Councilwoman Rebecca Bonnette
Councilman Richard Carson
Councilman Cecil Thornton
Administrator John McLaughlin
Deputy Administrator Richard Hall
Clerk to Council Shayla Jenkins
Human Resources Director Brandy Roberson

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 calhouncounty.sc.gov.

Call to Order

Chairman Haigler called the meeting to order.

Invocation

Invocation was offered by Councilwoman Bonnette.

Approval of Agenda

Councilman Carson made the motion to approve the May 13, 2024 meeting agenda as presented and was seconded by Vice-Chairman Westbury. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments

None

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the April 22, 2024 Regular Meeting were presented for approval. Motion was made by Councilwoman Bonnette and seconded by Councilman Thornton to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes of the April 24, 2024 Budget Work Session were presented for approval. Motion was made by Councilman Carson and seconded by Councilwoman Bonnette to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

Natural Resources Committee met today regarding Animal Control. Chair Bonnette called on Richard Hall to report and he spoke regarding improvements for Animal Control. A recommendation will be brought back to full Council at a future meeting.

Appearances

Dr. Bill Molnar, Executive Director of Lower Savannah Council of Governments, presented Council with updates of the various programs of the COG and highlighted a long-range transportation plan, Area on Aging, initiatives, and the Mobile Workforce unit. The mobile unit can go where it is needed and is encouraged at county events.

Mrs. Eleanor Boyd, Mr. Larry Felder and Mr. Andrew Coston of Midlands Fatherhood Coalition presented on the organization, which is expanding into an Orangeburg office, and endeavors to serve Calhoun County residents through this site. The organization currently offers services in the surrounding counties of Richland, Lexington and Sumter, and has impacted approximately 400 participants and 1,000 children. Services are free and the organization is seeking partnership of Council, eventually to include financial contributions.

Resolutions

Resolution 8-2024 A Resolution Honoring Mr. Pat Black for years of service as Chairman of the Calhoun County Economic Development Commission, was presented to Mr. Black, who gave comments.

New Business

Recommendation from Historical Commission for Museum Director – Mrs. Jennie Redmond, Chair of the Historical Commission, reported to Council the recommendation of the Commission to hire Jeremy Stoudenmire as Museum Director. Councilman Carson made the motion to approve, with a second by Vice-Chairman Westbury. The motion passed unanimously.

Ordinances

Ordinance 2024-2 AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS AND THE LEVY OF TAXES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 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**. Vice-Chairman Westbury made a motion to pass First Reading of Ordinance 2024-2. Councilman Carson seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ordinance 2024-3 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, 2024, AND FOR THE EXPENDITURES THEREOF AND OTHER

FUNDS, AND TO PROVIDE OTHERWISE FOR THE AFFAIRS OF THE COUNTY was presented for **First Reading**. Councilman Carson made a motion to pass First Reading of Ordinance 2024-3. Vice-Chairman Westbury seconded, and the motion passed unanimously

Ordinance 2024-4 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, 2024, FOR THE EXPENDITURES THEREOF AND OTHER FUNDS, AND TO PROVIDE OTHERWISE FOR THE AFFAIRS OF THE COUNTY was presented for **First Reading**. Councilwoman Bonnette made a motion to pass First Reading of Ordinance 2024-4. Vice-Chairman Westbury seconded, and the motion passed unanimously

Ordinance 2024-5 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, 2024, FOR THE EXPENDITURES THEREOF AND OTHER FUNDS, AND TO PROVIDE OTHERWISE FOR THE AFFAIRS OF CALHOUN HILLS GOLF COMPLEX was presented for **First Reading**. Councilman Thornton made a motion to pass First Reading of Ordinance 2024-5. Vice-Chairman Westbury seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ordinance 2024-6 AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF 4.2 MILLS TAXES TO OPERATE AND MAINTAIN THE SANDY RUN FIRE DISTRICT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2024, 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**. Councilman Carson made a motion to pass First Reading of Ordinance 2024-6. Councilwoman Bonnette seconded, and the motion passed unanimously

Ordinance 2024-7 AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE AND AUTHORIZE FUNDS TO OPERATE AND MAINTAIN THE CALHOUN COUNTY RURAL FIRE DISTRICT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2024, FOR THE EXPENDITURES THEREOF, TO PROVIDE 2 MILLS FOR DEBT SERVICE, AND TO PROVIDE OTHERWISE FOR THE AFFAIRS OF THE CALHOUN COUNTY RURAL FIRE DISTRICT was presented for **First Reading**. Councilman Thornton made a motion to pass First Reading of Ordinance 2024-7. Councilman Carson seconded, and the motion passed unanimously

Ordinance 2024-8 AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES FOR COUNTY PURPOSES FOR CALHOUN COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2024, AND FOR THE EXPENDITURES THEREOF AND OTHER FUNDS, AND TO PROVIDE OTHERWISE FOR THE AFFAIRS OF THE COUNTY was presented for **First Reading**. Vice-

Chairman Westbury made a motion to pass First Reading of Ordinance 2024-8. Councilman Carson seconded, and the motion passed unanimously

Administrator

Administrator McLaughlin announced an increase in Landfill fees that will be absorbed into the upcoming budget. Also announced was the Sandy Run Community Block Party to be held on July 20, 2024 at Heyward Community Park.

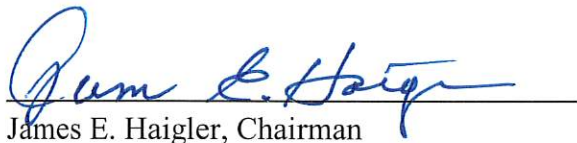
Executive Session

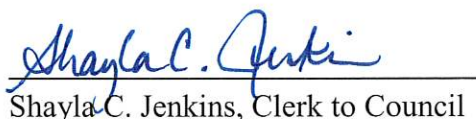
Council went into Executive Session to discuss an Economic Development Matter – Project Co-Op and a Personnel Matter. Motion was made by Vice-Chairman Westbury to enter Executive Session bringing no matters forward, seconded by Councilwoman Bonnette and passed unanimously.

Motion to return to open session was made by Councilman Thornton, seconded by Councilman Carson and passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Councilman Carson made a motion to adjourn with second by Vice-Chairman Westbury. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.


James E. Haigler, Chairman


Shayla C. Jenkins, Clerk to Council