

CALHOUN COUNTY COUNCIL HELD A SPECIAL CALLED MEETING, ON MONDAY, MARCH 24, 2021. DUE TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS, THIS MEETING WAS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF SCHEDULED APPEARANCES. THE MEETING WAS LIVE-STREAMED OVER THE COUNTY'S FACEBOOK PAGE.

**MINUTES OF CALHOUN COUNTY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING**

**March 24, 2021**

**2:00 P.M.**

The following were present:

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

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](http://www.calhouncounty.sc.gov).

**Call to Order**

Chairman Summers called the meeting to order.

**Invocation**

Invocation was offered by Councilman John Nelson.

**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 was presented for First Reading By Title Only. Councilman Westbury made a motion to pass First Reading By Title Only of Ordinance 2021-4, with Councilman Nelson seconding. The motion passed unanimously.

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**New Business**

Administrator McLauchlin advised Council that Calhoun County will be receiving \$2.8 million from the COVID-19 Recovery Clearinghouse Federal Funds. \$1.4 million is to be received in May, 2021; and the remaining \$1.4 million on or before May, 2022.

Mr. McLauchlin recommended using \$260,000 of the monies to fund the switch to 24/72 hour shifts for the County EMS, which has been requested by the EMS Director, with the remainder of the monies going into an interest bearing account for future use, as necessary. He stated that this change is necessary to help with staffing shortfalls at EMS. Councilman Westbury added that he feels this is a critical need.

Councilman Nelson asked if this \$260,000 would be a one-time funding, and if that amount would be a part of the budgeting process in the future. Administrator McLauchlin stated that this amount would fund the change for the up-coming fiscal year, and that the necessary amount would be budgeted in future years. CFO Denise Christmas added that this switch to 24/72 hour shifts should substantially cut down on overtime pay.

Ms. Christmas informed Council that there is a bill being voted on in the SC Senate which would lift the millage cap for fire districts, which if passed would keep the Sandy Run Fire District from having to bond monies necessary for their upkeep and needed items.

Councilman Westbury made a motion to authorize Administration and EMS to move forward with haste to implement the switch to 24/72 hour shifts, using \$260,000 of the COVID-19 Recovery Clearinghouse Federal Funds. Councilman Thornton seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Westbury also made a motion that the remainder of the \$1.4 million go into an interest bearing account to be used as needed. Councilman Nelson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Administrator**

1. Administrator McLauchlin advised Council that a county-wide litter pickup was held on March 19. 21 employees and 8 citizens participated. In three hours, 1,700 pounds of litter was picked up.

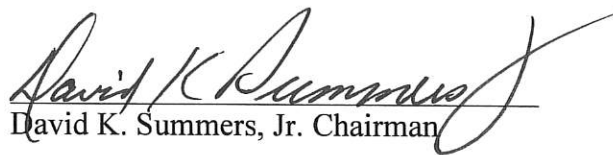
**Executive Session**

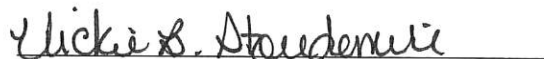
There were no items for Executive Session.

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**Adjournment**

Councilman Haigler made a motion to adjourn with Councilman Westbury seconding. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 2:24 p.m.

  
David K. Summers, Jr. Chairman

  
Vickie B. Stoudemire, Clerk to Council

