

**MINUTES OF CALHOUN COUNTY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
June 14, 2021  
5:30 P.M.**

Calhoun County Council held its regular meeting, on Monday, June 14, 2021. The meeting was live-streamed on the County's Facebook page.

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

**Call to Order**

Chairman Summers called the meeting to order.

**Invocation**

Invocation was offered by Councilman John Nelson.

**Public Hearing**

Chairman Summers opened Public Hearings on the following:

**1. Ordinance 2021-5 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.** There were no questions or comments and the hearing was closed.

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Ordinance 2021-5 was then presented for **Third Reading**. Councilman Westbury made a motion to pass Third Reading of Ordinance 2021-5. Councilman Thornton seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**2. Ordinance 2021-6 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.** There were no questions or comments and the hearing was closed.

Ordinance 2021-6 was then presented for **Third Reading**. Councilman Haigler made a motion to pass Third Reading of Ordinance 2021-6. Councilman Westbury seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**3. Ordinance 2021-7 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.** There were no questions or comments and the hearing was closed.

Ordinance 2021-7 was then presented for **Third Reading**. Councilman Thornton made a motion to pass Third Reading of Ordinance 2021-7. Councilman Westbury seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**4. Ordinance 2021-8 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.** There were no questions or comments and the hearing was closed.

Ordinance 2021-8 was then presented for **Third Reading**. Councilman Westbury made a motion to pass Second Reading of Ordinance 2021-8. Councilman Haigler seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**5. Ordinance 2021-9 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**

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AFFAIRS OF THE SANDY RUN FIRE DISTRICT. There were no questions or comments and the hearing was closed.

Ordinance 2021-9 was then presented for **Third Reading**. Councilman Nelson made a motion to pass Third Reading of Ordinance 2021-9. Councilman Westbury seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**6. Ordinance 2021-10 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 TWO (2) MILLS FOR DEBT SERVICE, AND TO PROVIDE OTHERWISE FOR THE AFFAIRS OF THE CALHOUN COUNTY RURAL FIRE DISTRICT.** There were no questions or comments and the hearing was closed.

Ordinance 2021-10 was then presented for **Third Reading**. Councilman Thornton made a motion to pass Third Reading of Ordinance 2021-10. Councilman Haigler seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**7. Ordinance 2021-11 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.** There were no questions or comments and the hearing was closed.

Ordinance 2021-11 was then presented for **Third Reading**. Councilman Haigler made a motion to pass Third Reading of Ordinance 2021-11. Councilman Westbury seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**8. Ordinance 2021-12 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE IV, DIVISION 6 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CALHOUN COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA (RMC).** There were no questions or comments and the hearing was closed.

Ordinance 2021-12 was presented for **Third Reading**. Councilman Westbury made a motion to pass Third Reading of Ordinance 2021-12. Councilman Thornton seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes**

1. Minutes of the May 10, 2021 regular meeting were presented for approval. Motion was made by Councilman Haigler and seconded by Councilman Thornton to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

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**Committee Reports**

None

**Appointments**

None

**Proclamations**

A Proclamation honoring Beth Dantzler was postponed until the July 12 meeting.

**Appearances**

1. David Sutherland, CEO of RMC was on the agenda; however, he was unable to attend and will appear at the July 12 meeting.
2. Representative Russell Ott presented to Ms. Rebecca Keller a Certificate from the SC House of Representatives recognizing her over forty years of service to Calhoun County.
3. Jessica Ratliff was listed on the agenda; however, she was not in attendance.

**Resolutions**

1. **Resolution 13-2021** A RESOLUTION AGREEING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE LOWER SAVANNAH REGIONAL HOME CONSORTIUM was presented. Councilman Westbury made a motion to pass Resolution 13-2021, with Councilman Thornton seconding. The motion passed unanimously.

**Old Business**

1. Administrator John McLaughlin asked for approval of an RIA Award of \$500,000.00 for replacement of water lines in the Sandy Run area. Councilman Nelson made a motion to approve of the RIA Award as presented. Councilman Westbury seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
2. After some discussion, Councilman Nelson made a motion to rescind immediately the County's mask ordinance (originally Ordinance 2020-18 passed on December 14, 2020). Councilman Thornton seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

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3. Chairman Summers made a motion to continue with the present Council meeting schedule, which was put in place due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, of having one Council meeting per month, with the ability to call special meetings as needed. Councilman Thornton seconded. Councilman Westbury stated that he felt it was owed to the citizens that meetings be held twice a month. Councilman Haigler added that he has heard from constituents that they would like to go back to two meetings per month. After some discussion, Chairman Summers withdrew his motion, and Councilman Thornton also withdrew his second to the motion. Since the present schedule of one meeting per month was in place until June 30, 2021, Council will return to its previous schedule of the second and fourth Mondays of each month beginning July 1, 2021.

### New Business

Administrator McLauchlin informed Council that he and Deputy Administrator/CFO Denise Christmas had met with members of the Sandy Run Fire Department. The Fire Department has requested a \$150,000 loan from the ARP Stimulus Funds the County received. The loan would be for one year at 1% interest. Councilman Westbury made a motion to loan \$150,000 to the Sandy Run Fire Department, from the ARP Stimulus Funds, at the terms stated. Councilman Nelson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### Ordinances

1. **Ordinance 2021-14** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 2019-2 TO CHANGE THE RENTAL FEES FOR RECREATIONAL FACILITIES OWNED AND OPERATED BY CALHOUN COUNTY was presented for Second Reading. Councilman Haigler made a motion to pass **Second Reading** of Ordinance 2021-14. Councilman Westbury seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

2. **Ordinance 2021-15** AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A UNIFORM ROAD MAINTENANCE FEE FOR CALHOUN COUNTY TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE was presented for First Reading. Councilman Nelson made a motion to pass **First Reading** of Ordinance 2021-15. Councilman Westbury seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

3. **Ordinance 2021-16** AN ORDINANCE TO ADD A VEHICLE FIRE FEE TO ACCOUNT FOR THE RISING COSTS OF FIRE PROTECTION AND FIRE RESCUE SERVICES IN CALHOUN COUNTY was presented for First Reading. Councilman Haigler made a motion to pass **First Reading** of Ordinance 2021-16. Councilman Thornton seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

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4. **Ordinance 2021-17 AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF CALHOUN COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA NOT EXCEEDING \$2,000,000 IN AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT, TO PRESCRIBE THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH THE PROCEEDS OF SAID BONDS SHALL BE EXPENDED, TO PROVIDE FOR THE PAYMENT OF SAID BONDS, AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO** was presented for First Reading. Councilman Thornton made a motion to pass **First Reading** of Ordinance 2021-17. Councilman Westbury seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Administrator**

1. Administrator McLauchlin presented Deputy Administrator/CFO Denise Christmas the National Association of Counties (NACo) High Performance Leadership Master Certificate. Ms. Christmas completed the classes in May.

2. Deputy Administrator/CFO Denise Christmas asked for approval to enter into an agreement with Stephens, Inc. to administer the funds of the \$2,000,000 Recreation Bond for a flat fee of \$25,000. This is a requirement for any bonds over 1.5 million dollars. Councilman Westbury made a motion to enter into an agreement with Stephens, Inc. as stated. Councilman Haigler seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

3. Next, Administrator McLauchlin listed the names of new employees who have been hired since June, 2020, when he last introduced new employees.

4. Administrator McLauchlin reported that there was a county wide litter pick up held on June 11. Over 17,000 pounds of litter was picked up.

5. Administrator McLauchlin advised that the St. Matthews Fireworks Show which was cancelled in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, will be held on Saturday, July 3 across from the Calhoun Convalescent Center. He thanked Megan Yoder for coordinating the event with the Convalescent Center.

**Executive Session**

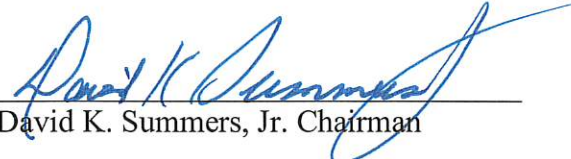
Councilman Thornton made a motion enter into Executive Session to discuss Economic Development projects: Sandy Run Fire Department Substation and project Cloverleaf, as well as a PRT Grant Contract Matter. Councilman Nelson seconded, the motion passed unanimously, and Council entered into Executive Session.


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 6:50 p.m.

  
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David K. Summers, Jr. Chairman

  
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Vickie B. Stoudemire, Clerk to Council

