



**Minutes**  
**Sumter County Council**  
**Budget Workshop - Special Meeting**  
**Tuesday, April 13, 2021 - Held at 5:00 p.m.**  
**Sumter County Administration Building, Third Floor**  
**County Council Conference Room**  
**13 East Canal Street, Sumter, SC**

*County Staff Members, Council Members, And The Public Will Be Required To Wear A Facemask And Have Temperatures Checked Upon Arrival To The Meeting. Social Distancing Is Required And Seating Is On A First Come First Serve Basis.*

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAHjiqzPaonQ9LFS2kO37tA>

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman James T. McCain; Vice Chairman James R. Byrd; Artie Baker, Eugene R. Baten, Charles T. Edens, Vivian Fleming McGhaney, and Carlton B. Washington

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:** Gary Mixon, Mary W. Blanding, Johnathan Bryan, Keysa Rogers, Joe Perry, Uvette Rogers, Lorraine Dennis, Les Vandervander, and Susan Howard

**PUBLIC PRESENT:** No one from the public was present.

**MEDIA PRESENT:** No Media Present.

**CALL TO ORDER** – County Council Chairman, The Honorable James T. McCain

**INVOCATION:** Councilman Vivian Fleming McGhaney gave the invocation to this meeting.

**ACTION ON AGENDA:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021

Chairman McCain called for a motion on approval of the agenda of April 13, 2021, for Council's Budget Workshop and Special meeting and to amend the agenda by moving Item 2b under New Business to the first item after action on the agenda.

**ACTION:** MOTION was made by Councilman McGhaney, seconded by Councilman Baker, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the agenda as amended by moving item 2b as the first item to be heard after action on the agenda.

**NEW BUSINESS: ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS**

- b) Request For Council's Support To Use A Portion Of Council's Property At 115 N. Harvin Street For Space To Erect A Memorial Light At This Location.

The County Administrator, Gary Mixon, reminded Council that Ms. Angel Brown made a request to Council on March 23, 2021, requesting that Council would allow for some property owned by the County to be used for placing a light to be a reminder of those persons that are missing. Ms. Brown stated that she and her family, Brent's Army, are willing to provide the light, signs, etc. if they can use the County's Property. The memorial will be for all citizens of Sumter that are missing. Ms. Brown and her family will be recognizing 19 people, including her son, that are missing at this time.

Mr. Mixon identified the property as 115 N. Harvin Street where the former Holocaust Memorial Marker was placed and was moved to a different location in 2019. The location is in a very public location and it has a lot of foot traffic as well as vehicle traffic that comes by

the area. The location is near the Library, in front of the 7-story building, and across the street from the Judicial Center.

After receiving the information from County Administrator, the Chairman called for a motion on this item.

**ACTION:** MOTION was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilwoman McGhaney, and unanimously carried by Council to grant approval of the request to allow for this site to be used to have a light place at this location in remembrance of those that are missing.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Budget Discussion Concerning Fiscal Year 2021-2022 General Fund Requests, And If Necessary, Council May Take Action On Items Discussed. (See attached information)

- a) Revenue Projections As Of April 13, 2021

Budget Review	General Fund	Capital Request
Revenues	\$51,171,709	\$3,500,000
Expenditures	<u>51,715,024</u>	<u>13,328,947</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>\$(543,315)</u>	<u>\$(9,828,947)</u>

The revenue projections were provided by the County Administrator as follows:

REVENUE PROJECTION	FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Budget	FY 2022 Budget Estimates
Taxes	\$ 29,772,490	\$ 30,409,554	\$ 30,632,835
Intergovernmental	8,103,722	9,061,315	8,713,068
Service and revenue charges	7,240,886	6,272,847	6,168,947
Licenses and permits	3,307,733	2,784,500	2,905,000
Fines and forfeitures	1,244,134	1,518,200	1,448,200
Other financing sources	929,477	892,634	914,159
Miscellaneous	<u>341,457</u>	<u>349,500</u>	<u>389,500</u>
Total revenue and other financing sources	<u>\$ 50,939,899</u>	<u>\$ 51,288,550</u>	<u>\$ 51,171,709</u>

The Tax projections are as follows:

Taxes	FY 2021	FY 2022	Variance
Ad Valorem Taxes	\$ 19,082,497	\$ 19,248,193	+165,696
Fee In Lieu of Taxes	1,837,057	1,894,642	+57,585

<b>Intergovernmental</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>	<b>FY 2022</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Local Government Fund	\$ 4,572,856	\$ 4,809,441	<b>+236,585</b>
Mini Bottle Tax	220,000	220,000	
Merchants Inventory	315,237	315,237	
Grants	897,922	796,975	-100,947
City Hospitality/ Accom Tax	150,000	150,000	
Cooperative Agreements Prisoner	1,500,389	1,303,625	-196,764
Cooperative Agreements Other	324,031	359,031	
Voters Registration	392,700	80,500	-312,200
Sumter City Economic Dev	223,311	224,430	
Other Intergovernmental	464,869	453,829	
<b>Total Intergovernmental</b>	<b>\$ 9,061,315</b>	<b>\$ 8,713,068</b>	<b>-348,247</b>
LOST Taxes	7,700,000	7,700,000	
Penalties	1,165,000	1,165,000	

<b>Service Revenue and Charges</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>	<b>FY 2022</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Airport	\$ 120,128	\$ 120,128	
Recreation	524,500	519,500	
Crystal Lakes Golf Course	425,800	430,800	
EMS Fees	4,243,519	4,243,519	
Technology Fee	260,000	260,000	
Master in Equity Fee	115,000	75,000	-40,000
Sheriff Fee	30,000	10,000	-20,000
CAU Fee	2,500	2,500	
House Arrest Fee	110,000	110,000	
Sex Offender Fee	26,800	10,500	-16,300
Other Service Revenue and Charges	414,600	387,000	-27,600
<b>Total Service Revenue and Charges</b>	<b>\$ 6,272,847</b>	<b>\$ 6,168,947</b>	<b>\$-103,900</b>

<b>Licenses and Permits</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>	<b>FY 2022</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Building Permits	\$ 400,000	\$ 450,000	+50,000
Business Licenses	960,000	960,000	
Recording Fees	660,000	700,000	+40,000
FTC Franchise Fee	180,000	185,000	
Cable TV Franchise Fee	550,000	575,000	+25,000
Other Licenses and Permits	34,500	35,000	

<b>Total Licenses and Permits</b>	\$ 2,784,500	\$ 2,905,000	<b>+120,500</b>
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<b>Fines and Forfeitures</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>	<b>FY 2022</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Court Fines	\$ 76,000	\$ 76,000	
Ticket Fine	510,000	480,000	-30,000
Filing Fee	390,000	350,000	-40,000
Family Court Fee	320,000	320,000	
Probate Judge Fines	185,000	185,000	
Other Fines and Forfeitures	37,200	37,200	
<b>Total Fines and Forfeitures</b>	<b>\$ 1,518,200</b>	<b>\$ 1,448,200</b>	<b>-70,000</b>

Local Option Sales Tax Is expected to go up; however, the County’s staff is waiting for the figures from the next reporting period to get a better view of what the County will be receiving from the Local Option Sales Tax.

- b) Expenditure Requests: Mr. Mixon informed Council that each department has figured in the expensive of a 3% COLA increase. He then proceeded through the budget expenses as follows:

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>FY 2021 Budget</b>	<b>FY22 Budget Request</b>	<b>Variance</b>
GENERAL GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION	14,795,714	14,788,338	-7,376
PUBLIC SAFETY	19,398,719	19,869,393	+470,674
HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES	5,350,097	5,512,998	+162,901
RECREATION	4,177,933	4,198,675	+20,742
JUDICIAL & LEGAL	3,999,129	4,098,014	+98,885
OTHER AGENCIES	3,055,214	3,042,960	-12,254
TRANSPORTATION/SUMTER AIRPORT	469,567	204,646	-264,921
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 51,246,373</b>	<b>\$ 51,715,024</b>	<b>+468,651</b>

<b>GENERAL GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>FY 2021 Budget</b>	<b>FY22 Budget Request</b>	<b>Variance</b>
General	\$2,871,931	\$2,814,979	\$(56,952)
County Council Administration	455,730	442,981	(12,749)
	826,608	795,846	(30,762)

Register of Deeds	414,563	427,246	12,683
County Attorney	172,371	178,871	6,500
Assessor	1,004,584	983,811	(20,773)
Finance	491,028	527,243	36,215
Treasurer	853,827	878,712	24,885
Auditor	550,427	571,063	20,636

GENERAL GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION	FY 2021 Budget	FY22 Budget Request	Variance
Human Resources	316,688	327,252	10,564
Information Technology	1,185,615	1,353,466	167,851
Public Buildings	2,110,630	2,170,856	60,226
Voter Regist/Elections	877,522	514,736	(362,786)
Purchasing	316,320	324,974	8,654
Public Works	1,351,419	1,422,915	71,496
Maintenance Shop	107,100	152,000	44,900
Development Board	742,108	751,081	8,973
Veteran's Affairs	<u>147,243</u>	<u>150,306</u>	<u>3,063</u>
<b>TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>\$14,795,714</b>	<b>\$14,788,338</b>	<b>\$(7,376)</b>

Councilman Washington asked if Council will be discussing personnel need at this time; Mr. Mixon stated that personnel needs and will be discussed at another meeting. Mr. Mixon noted that the Information Technology expenses were up due to licensing on different software throughout the County and some new software and licensing that will need to be purchased in this budget.

PUBLIC SAFETY	FY 2021 Budget	FY22 Budget Request	Variance
Sheriff	\$11,108,433	\$11,604,980	\$496,547
Investigations	7,000	14,000	7,000
Special Operations	2,000	2,500	500
Metro Poly Unit	3,000	17,000	14,000
Traffic Unit	24,638	20,000	(4,638)
Canine	35,000	46,000	11,000
COPS Substations	3,500	0	(3,500)
Animal Control	37,100	43,600	6,500
Detention Center	6,847,122	6,810,188	(36,934)
Inmate Programs	664,243	664,000	(243)
Emergency Management	344,501	291,594	(52,907)
Coroner	<u>322,182</u>	<u>355,531</u>	<u>33,349</u>
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY</b>	<b>\$19,398,719</b>	<b>\$19,869,393</b>	<b>\$470,674</b>

Mr. Mixon also informed Council that although the Sheriff’s budget was up, it includes the 3% COLA, new grants that are off set with revenue, and the fact that the Sheriff’s department has the largest staff.

<b>HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES</b>	<b>FY 2021 Budget</b>	<b>FY22 Budget Request</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Vector Control	\$128,124	\$120,357	\$(7,767)
Indigent Care/Aid to other govt's	148,150	144,816	(3,334)
EMS	<u>5,073,823</u>	<u>5,247,825</u>	<u>174,002</u>
<b>TOTAL HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES</b>	<b>\$5,350,097</b>	<b>\$5,512,998</b>	<b>\$162,901</b>

Councilwoman McGhaney voiced her concern that there is listed a reduction in the Vector Control budget for this upcoming year. She asked the Administrator to reconsider the needs of this line-item due to the spraying of misquotes and spraying of standing water, etc. Mr. Mixon will follow-up with Mr. Penland to ensure that the funding is sufficient for 2021-2022 next year.

<b>RECREATION</b>	<b>FY 2021 Budget</b>	<b>FY22 Budget Request</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Recreation	\$1,571,977	\$1,558,597	\$(13,380)
Crystal Lakes Golf Course	398,481	430,741	32,260
Recreation Programs	281,270	281,270	0
Parks and Centers	953,065	970,550	17,485
Patriot Hall	677,667	719,921	42,254
SSRC	258,506	203,798	(54,708)
Shiloh	<u>36,967</u>	<u>33,798</u>	<u>(3,169)</u>
<b>TOTAL RECREATION</b>	<b>\$4,177,933</b>	<b>\$4,198,675</b>	<b>\$20,742</b>

Councilman Byrd and Baker asked about the reduction in the Recreation budget, especially since the County’s recreation department is under renovation and a new gymnasium is being build. Mr. Mixon stated that he will talk with the Department Head to ensure that funds for the new building are accounted for in the upcoming budget.

<b>JUDICIAL &amp; LEGAL</b>	<b>FY 2021 Budget</b>	<b>FY22 Budget Request</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Clerk of Court	\$795,309	\$825,854	\$30,545
Family Court	613,014	576,680	(36,334)
Summary Court	1,314,517	1,375,750	61,233
Probate	341,490	380,484	38,994
Master in Equity	226,320	230,767	4,447
Solicitor/3rd Judicial Circuit	483,479	483,479	0
Sumter Public Defender	<u>225,000</u>	<u>225,000</u>	<u>0</u>

<b>TOTAL JUDICIAL &amp; LEGAL</b>	<b>\$3,999,129</b>	<b>\$4,098,014</b>	<b>\$98,885</b>
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Mr. Mixon stated that the increase in the Budget for the Clerk of Court is the 3% COLA and some differences with the Family Court, due to some changes with the processes as it relates to the State.

Councilman Washington asked about the Solicitor and his request for staff. The Solicitor's request for staff will be discussed at the April 20, 2021, budget workshop. Also, the Solicitor's office has a 3% COLA built in the budget. The Solicitor's salary is paid by the State Of South Carolina; his staff is paid through the County.

Request For New Positions - 4 ½

- 2 Solicitor
- 1 Veteran Affairs
- 1 Treasure's office
- ½ in the Coroner's Office

Councilman Washington stated that he would like for County Council's Public Safety Committee to review the Proposed Litter Plan prior to going to the City County Litter Advisory Committee. If changes need to be made, then the County could make those changes prior to pushing the Litter Plan out to others and Council will be submitting on unified plan.

Councilman Baker asked if changes can be made to Councilman Washington's Plan or will other Council members need to send their suggestions to the City County Litter Advisory Committee. Councilman Washington stated when the Public Safety Committee discuss the plan as it is currently prepared, other Council members that are not on the Committee can make or submit additional changes or deletions as needed. It is a proposed plan and changes can be made.

Councilman Edens stated that he does not see Councilman Edens stated that he does not see Council members voted on this plan as the document and then making amendments to the Plant.

Councilman Washington added that he never said to adopt the plan before reviewing the plan, but to use it as a guide to development whatever is needed for Sumter County and then send it to the Litter Advisory Board.

Councilman Edens further stated that everything that he sees in the document that Councilman Washington has presented has been discussed over the past year and one-half to help create the Litter Advisory Council. There is nothing new in the Plan that is presented by Councilman Washington; no action has been taken on the suggestions by the Litter Advisory Committee which Councilman Edens has been a part of based on working the Plan by making sure both City and County Councils pass ordinances to create the advisory board - one of the plans in the litter process. Councilman Washington ended his statements by saying that it did not take him a year and one-half to develop the plan that he has presented to Sumter County Council as a proposed plan for review.



Councilman Baten commended Councilman Washington for his enthusiasm on the Litter Problem in Sumter County. He further asked if the City and County are going to try to address their litter needs 50/50 or is it 40/60 or 60/40. How is the litter problem going to be addressed by this Litter Advisory Board?

Mr. Mixon stated that the Litter Advisory Board (LAB) will not try to address the City nor the County's Litter Problems. The LAB will look at the entire community. They will give advice to the City about City issues and give advice to the County about County issues and hopefully, those things will bring the City and County together as they both work on litter issues.

The funding will be determined by each Council. Sumter County may have a need for different equipment than the City and the City likewise may need something different than the County. This is a work in progress. There may be some decisions that must be made prior to the appointments to the LAB.

Councilman Washington also thanked the County Administrator for all that he is doing to being different entities together to review the needs of the County's litter problem. However, Councilman Washington stated that ultimately, the litter issue and resolving the issue is something that Sumter County Council will have to decide on what's needed and how to fund it.

Councilman McGhaney stated that she would like to make sure that the Public Works Department has what it needs to take care of the people in the County with problems on dirt roads. Also, she stated that the County may need to look at its policy where the County said it will not take on anymore new roads or private roads in the County road systems. Mr. Mixon stated that he will get with the Public Works Director and Council's Public Works Committee to schedule a meeting concerning the dirt roads in Sumter County. Councilman Baten agreed with the statements from both Mr. Mixon and Councilman McGhaney.

Councilman Washington stated that there are some changes that are being made on private roads in that if the people living on the private roads are willing to fund the cost of improving their roads, then they can have the road work done by the Public Works Department, per Mr. Mixon.

Also, Mr. Washington stated that there is a ton of "one-time" money in Columbia at the General Assembly, and Sumter has some "heavy hitters" in the General Assembly. Sumter County is receiving some of those funds such as the funds for the Tennis Center, funds for playground equipment at Patriot Park, etc. He further stated that it seems to him that the County needs to talk some of the members of the General Assembly about the needs in the County for repairing of the roads.

The Capital Projects Sales Tax will be discussed within the next few months which will be the best way to help with the roads.

Councilman Baker also asked about the upcoming reassessment and the growth in Sumter County.

Special Consideration



- 3% COLA for County employees -- Estimated cost of \$668,971
- Additional personnel -- 4 ½ new positions
- Litter Program

c) County Council Budget Meetings Calendar

The County Administrator also reviewed the Budget Meeting Calendar again for Council members. See information

- April 13 - Workshop (Budget Introduction)
- April 20 - Workshop ( Elected Offices Budget Presentation / Additional Personnel Request)
- April 27 - Workshop ( Budget Update – New Program Presentation)
- May 4 - Workshop (Budget Update – Capital Request and Other Agencies)
- May 11 - Workshop (Budget Update) FIRST READING ON COUNTY BUDGET
- May 18 - Workshop (School District Presentation) (Budget Update)
- May 24 - Workshop (Budget Update) (Public Hearing) SECOND READING ON COUNTY BUDGET
- June 8 - Workshop (Budget Update) THIRD READING ON COUNTY BUDGET

2. Additional Agenda Item (s):

- a) R-21-04 -- A Resolution Supporting Sumter County’s Application To The House Appropriations Committee For Funding For Several Community Projects.

Mrs. Lorraine Dennis, the Assistant County Administrator, asked Council’s support in adopting the resolution to submit to the House Appropriations Committee as opened up to Congressman Clyburn’s Congressional District. The funds are limited and the application process period has been very short. Councilman McGhaney saw the request online and she contacted the Administrator and Mrs. Dennis. Also, the other two projects were reviewed and will be submitted during the process period. However, there must be a resolution from Sumter County Council supporting the submission of the projects.

The following projects are listed in the resolution:

- Full Court Gymnasium (\$1,300,000) Addition to Shiloh Community Center,
- COP Technology Program (\$500,000) County Law Enforcement Technology
- Dilapidated and Demolition Project (\$850,000) South Sumter Community, And Surrounding Areas With Dilapidated Vacant Houses For Demolition

Councilman Washington thanked Mrs. Dennis for her work in this area. He also stated that this is what Sumter County needs to be doing for funding from the S. C. General Assembly.

After all discussions, Chairman McCain called for a motion on the proposed resolution.

**ACTION:** MOTION was made by Councilman Washington, seconded by Councilwoman McGhaney, and unanimously carried by Council to adopt the resolution and directed the Chairman and Clerk to Council to execute and deliver the resolution on behalf of Sumter County Government.

**WHEREAS,** *the Appropriations Committee of the United States House of Representatives has issued a call to House members to submit requests for funding of*

*Community Projects in the FY 2022 appropriations bills; and*

**WHEREAS,** *the Appropriations Committee is capping funding for such requests at one percent of total FY 2022 discretionary funding and allowing members to submit up to 10 projects across all Appropriations Committee subcommittees; and*

**WHEREAS,** *the Appropriations Committee will only accept Community Project requests from state and local governments and nonprofit organizations; and*

**WHEREAS,** *the House Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies; Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies; and Transportation, Housing and Urban Development and Related Agencies Sub-Committees of the United States House of Representative has called to submit requests for funding of community projects and restore balance on important decisions about how taxpayers dollars are spent; and*

**WHEREAS,** *community stakeholders, and members of Sumter County Council have identified projects to submit to Representative Clyburn for his consideration; and*

**WHEREAS,** *for Appropriations Committee Community Projects, the County has identified renovation and addition to Shiloh Community Center, County Law Enforcement Technology, the South Sumter Community, and surrounding areas with dilapidated vacant houses for demolition.*

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** *that the members of Sumter County Council of Sumter County, South Carolina, via this resolution submits and offers its support to these requests.*

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** *that the Members of Sumter County Council thank Representative Clyburn for the opportunity to submit these requests and for his consideration of them.*

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. None

**ADJOURNMENT:** After all business, the meeting was adjourned after motion by Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman Baten and unanimously carried by Sumter County Council at 6:11 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,**

*Mary W. Blanding*  
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**Mary W. Blanding**

**Approved:** April 27, 2021