



Minutes
Sumter County Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday, May 9, 2023 -- Held at 6:00 p.m.
Sumter County Administration Building
Third Floor, County Council Chambers
13 E. Canal Street, Sumter, SC

Social Distancing Is Encouraged At All County Council's Meetings, And Seating Is On A First Come First Serve Basis.

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

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Gary Mixon, Mary W. Blanding, Johnathan Bryan, Joe Perry, and two Sheriff Deputies.

MEDIA PRESENT: Shelbie Goulding, The Item Newspaper, was in attendance.

PUBLIC PRESENT: There were no members of the public in attendance at this meeting.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Or Vice Chairman Of Sumter County Council
Chairman James T. McCain, Jr. called to order Council's meeting of May 9, 2023.

INVOCATION: Council Member Vivian Fleming McGhaney gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was led by James T. McCain, Jr., Chairman of Sumter County Council.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Regular Meeting Tuesday, May 9, 2023
Chairman McCain asked the Clerk to Council if there were any changes to the May 9, 2023, agenda. Mrs. Blanding stated that there were no changes to the agenda. Then the Chairman called for a motion on the agenda.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Vice Chairman Byrd, seconded by Councilman Edens, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the agenda as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting Tuesday, April 25, 2023
Chairman McCain asked for a motion concerning approval of the minutes of April 25, 2023.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baten, seconded by Councilman Baker, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the minutes of April 25, 2023, as presented.

LAND USE MATTERS AND REZONING REQUESTS:
Planned Development/Rezoning Requests: **None**

NOTE: RZ = Rezoning Of Property As Applicable In Sumter County Zoning and Development Standards.
AC = Agricultural Conservation As Applicable In Sumter County Zoning and Development Standards.
NC = Neighborhood Commercial As Applicable In Sumter County Zoning and Development Standards.

LI-W = Light Industrial-Warehouse As Applicable in Sumter County Zoning and Development Standards.

OTHER PUBLIC HEARINGS:

(1) None

NEW BUSINESS:

- (1) **Ordinance #23-988 - First Reading** – An Ordinance Authorizing The Issuance And Sale Of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2023, Or Such Other Appropriate Series Designation, Of Sumter County, South Carolina, In The Principal Amount Of Not Exceeding \$3,500,000; Fixing The Form And Details Of The Bonds; Authorizing The County Administrator To Prescribe Certain Details Relating To The Bonds; Providing For The Payment Of The Bonds And The Disposition Of The Proceeds Thereof; And Other Matters Relating Thereto. (Title Only)

Mr. Gary Mixon, the County Administrator, presented this proposed ordinance to Council for first reading consideration, by Title Only. He stated that this ordinance is commonly known as the Bond Ordinance for \$3,500,000. Council has reviewed the list of projects that staff have suggested. Second reading will be held at Council’s meeting on May 23, 2023, along with the public hearing. More specific information will be provided at that time as it relates to the Bond Ordinance. After all comments, the Chairman called for a motion on this ordinance.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Vice Chairman Byrd, seconded by Councilman Baker, and unanimously carried by Council to grant first reading approval by Title Only to this proposed ordinance as presented.

- (2) **Ordinance #23-987 - First Reading** – An Ordinance To Provide For A Levy Of Taxes For County Purposes Of Sumter County, S. C., (Known As The Budget Ordinance) For The Fiscal Year Of Said County Beginning July 1, 2023, To Direct The Expenditures Of Said Taxes And Other Funds Of Said County, And To Provide For Other Matters Related Thereto. (Title Only)

Mr. Mixon also presented this proposed ordinance to Council for first reading consideration by Title Only. The Administrator stated that the General Fund Budget Ordinance is projected with revenue of \$58,718,334 and expenditures of \$59,982,350; with a deficit of \$1,064,016. Mr. Mixon stated that additional work is being done on the ordinance and will be ready for review at the next meeting when the ordinance will have a public hearing, and second reading. After all comments, the Chairman called for a motion on first reading.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Vice Chairman Byrd, seconded by Councilman Baker, and carried by Council to grant first reading approval by Title Only to this proposed ordinance as presented. Councilman Baten voted in opposition. The motion carried.

- (3) **Ordinance #23-986 - First Reading** – An Ordinance To Approve A Storm Water Drainage Easement On Property Adjacent To Brewington Road.

Mr. Johnathan Bryan, the County Attorney, stated that Sumter County owns the property identified on the 2023 Sumter County Tax Maps as parcel 201-00-04-016 having received a deed to the parcel from Graytop Builders, LLC recorded November 18, 2021, in Book 1294 at Page 2152 in the Office of the

Register of Deeds for Sumter County. He also provided two pictures of the property to help Council members understand the magnitude of the program for the property owner.

Mr. Bryan informed Council that Justin David Gause owns the adjoining property on the north of the Sumter County property and has requested a storm water drainage easement across the Sumter County property, parallel to Brewington Road, so that he may construct a ditch from his property to a 24-inch reinforced concrete pipe which crosses under Brewington Road and connects to a drainage ditch in the right-of-way on north side of Hill Road. The County Attorney also informed County Council that granting the easement to Mr. Gause will assist with the drainage of storm water in the area as requested by Mr. Gause. It was also noted that the drainage is in the best interest of the citizens of Sumter County and this request will not interfere with any public purpose.



After receiving the presentation from Mr. Bryan, Chairman McCain called for a motion on first reading.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Vice Chairman Byrd, seconded by Councilman Edens, and carried by Council to grant first reading approval by Title Only to this proposed ordinance as presented. Councilman Baten voted in opposition. The motion carried.

- (4) It May Be Necessary To Hold An Executive Session To Discuss An Employment Matter, An Economic Development Matter, A Legal Briefing, Or Other Matters Pertaining To An Executive Session, And Take Appropriate Actions Thereafter In Open Session If Necessary.

No executive session was held.

OLD BUSINESS

- (1) None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

(1) **Budget Workshop Scheduled For Tuesday, May 9, 2023, At 5:00 p.m. In The County Administrator’s Conference Room, 13 E. Canal Street, Sumter, SC 29150.**

The County Administrator informed Council that the information concerning the County’s Budget Workshop for the 2023-2024 fiscal year budget was provided to Council during first reading of Ordinance 23-987, listed above.

(2) **Report From Council Members On Other Meetings, Trainings, And/Or Conferences.**

Councilman Carlton Washington reported that he just left the Delaine Elementary School where he and approximately 100 other community members along with representatives from Sumter School District toured the facility. He also stated that Dr. Wright did an excellent job in handling the tour for those that were present. The community members were well pleased how the school has been maintained and the condition that the building is in at this point. Accolades were also given by the citizens concerning the amenities that are in the building. Councilman Washington noted that the media was at the meeting and at the end of the session the community members expressed their desire that Council member have conversation with the Sumter School District about possibly using the north end of the building as a Community Center. Therefore, Councilman Washington said that he will be talking to the County Administrator and the Chairman of County Council concerning the desire of the community members and a portion of the Delaine School being used as a Community Center.

Councilman Washington noted that he was late for Council’s meeting because he was on the tour which ran a little late.

MONTHLY REPORTS

- 1) Pinewood Site Custodial Trust Session, Tour, and Lunch – May 11, 2023
- 2) Mary McLeod Bethune Festival and Golf Tournament – May 19-20, 2023
- 3) Memorial Day 2023 Activities – May 25-27, 2023
- 4) Planning Department Yearly Report
- 5) Sheriff’s Office Monthly Report
- 6) Bluegrass and Barbeque Upcoming Event – May 17, 2023
- 7) Unity Day - Catchall-Shaw Community Center – May 23, 2023
- 8) Long Range Transportation Planning Info

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Mr. Gary Mixon, the County Administrator, said that Sumter County’s staff is preparing for the submission of an application to the South Carolina Association of Counties’ J. Graham Mitchell Award Competition. This has been discussed earlier with Council members and this is the formal process taking place which will pertain to Stash The Trash litter efforts. Mr. Mixon said that he believes this will be something that can be modeled by other Counties and thereby help the entire State to combat litter problems statewide. The application is due May 15, 2023, however, the proposed packet was sent in earlier as part of the application process. On May 24, 2023, a formal presentation will be given to the award competition judges. There will also be a video portion of this presentation; Joe Perry is handling the video portion of the presentation.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Citizens Desiring To Speak Are Limited To No More Than Three (3) Minutes; Comments Are To Be Made Through The Chairman Of Sumter County Council.

No members of the public were in attendance at this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for Sumter County Council, and no comments from the public, the meeting was adjourned at 6:12 p.m. after a motion by Vice Chairman Byrd, seconded by Councilman Baker, and unanimously carried by Council.

Respectfully submitted,

James T. McCain, Jr.
Chairman or Vice Chairman
Sumter County Council

Mary W. Blanding
Clerk to County Council
Sumter County Council

Approved: May 23, 2023

I certify that public and media notification of the above-mentioned meeting was given prior thereto as follows required by Freedom of Information:

- Public Notified: Yes
- Manner Notified: Agendas posted on Television on first floor of the Administration Building.
- Date Posted: May 5, 2023
- Media Notified: Yes
- Manner Notified: Agenda Information is listed on Sumter County's Home Page, and E-mailed to The Item, The Chamber, WIS-TV, WBTW, and Spectrum Cable.
- Date Notified: May 5, 2023

Respectfully submitted,
Mary W. Blanding
Clerk To County Council