

GEORGE H. BAILEY, SR.
CHAIRMAN

C. DAVID CHINNIS
VICE CHAIRMAN

JASON L. WARD
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

TRACEY L. LANGLEY
CLERK TO COUNCIL



JAMES LEX BYARS, III

EDWARD IVY CROSBY, JR.

WILLIAM R. HEARN, JR.

LARRY S. HARGETT

HARRIET A. HOLMAN

COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER COUNTY

500 N. MAIN STREET, SUITE 2
SUMMERVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA 29483
(843) 832-0196 or (843) 563-0196

MINUTES DORCHESTER COUNTY COUNCIL DORCHESTER COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING COUNCIL CHAMBERS, SUMMERVILLE APRIL 22, 2019 6:00 P.M.

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, a notice was posted on the bulletin board 24 hours before the meeting, and the following media outlets were notified: The Eagle-Record, The Summerville Journal Scene, The Post and Courier, WCBD Channel 2, WCIV Channel 4 and WCSC Channel 5.

PRESENT: Mr. George H. Bailey, Chairman
Mr. David Chinnis, Vice Chairman
Mr. Jay Byars
Mr. Larry S. Hargett
Mr. William R. Hearn, Jr.
Ms. Harriet A. Holman
Mr. Jason L. Ward, County Administrator
Mr. Daniel Prentice, Deputy Administrator/CFO
Ms. Rebecca Vance, Deputy Administrator/Community Services
Mr. John Frampton, County Attorney
Mr. Bradley Mitchell, Deputy County Attorney
Ms. Tracey L. Langley, Clerk to Council

ABSENT: Mr. Eddie Crosby (Attended Via Teleconference)

Chairman Bailey called to order the meeting of Dorchester County Council. He invited all to stand for the invocation, which was given by Councilman Hargett and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

CHAIRMAN'S TIME – MR. GEORGE BAILEY

REQUESTS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

- Ms. Hazel Lowe, 42 Peppertree Lane, North Charleston, she said they will pay more millage to keep Ashley River Fire Department open and would not vote for any members of County Council.
- Mr. Douglas Lowe, 42 Peppertree Lane, North Charleston, he declined to speak.
- Mr. Juan Santiago, Jr., 4613 McCandy Lane, North Charleston, he said he is concerned about the dissolution of Ashley River Fire Department. He requested Council look at the budget numbers again as he believes someone made a mistake. He believes they have enough money to stay open.
- Mr. Jack Furr, 144 Palmetto Bluff Drive, North Charleston, he said he has a petition supporting a referendum to keep Ashley River Fire Department open. He said everyone in his community will pay more taxes to support Ashley River Fire Department.
- Ms. Chris Kindt, 106 Gatewood Street, North Charleston, she said what is difficult about the process is and what she hasn't heard is why this is a good decision or reason for the special tax district. She asked that Council tell them why it is a good plan for her and other community members.
- Mr. James Roberts, 108 Beret Street, North Charleston, he thanked Council for the check he has received for the last thirty years. He said he won't receive that check once the fire department is dissolved.
- Mr. John Mott, 244 Luden Drive, Apartment B, Summerville, he requested the public hearing for agenda item 7E be moved and held before items 7A through 7D.
- Mr. Tim Fries, 101 Lake Drive, Summerville, he spoke about the purchase of the lot next to EMS Headquarters. He then spoke about the purchase of the lot on the other side of EMS Headquarters and said he believes funds could be used in a more useful way.
- Mr. Joe Tedetls, 511 Barfield Drive, Summerville, he announced he was relinquishing his time to the folks of the Ashley River Fire Department.
- Ms. Peggy Bangle, 114 Ravenwood Court, Summerville, she reminded Council to look at everything they do and consider the unintended consequences. She also spoke about the Local Government Fund and the changes in law.

MINUTES

1. On the motion of Councilman Chinnis, seconded by Councilman Hearn, County Council voted six in favor, with one absent (Crosby), to adopt the minutes from the April 01, 2019, County Council Meeting.

PROCLAMATION #19-03, PROCLAIMING APRIL 2019, CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

2. On the motion of Councilman Chinnis, seconded by Councilman Hearn, County Council voted six in favor, with one absent (Crosby), to adopt Proclamation #19-03, Proclaiming April 2019, Child Abuse Prevention Month. The proclamation was presented to Dr. Kay Phillips with Dorchester Children's Advocacy Center.

3RD READING OF ORDINANCE #19-12, TO PROHIBIT THE PASSING OF OBJECTS TO AND FROM MOTOR VEHICLES IN THE RIGHT OF WAY

3. On the motion of Councilman Hearn, seconded by Councilman Hargett, County Council voted six in favor, with one absent (Crosby), to give 3rd reading of Ordinance #19-12, an Ordinance to Prohibit the Passing of Objects to and from Motor Vehicles in the Right of Way in Dorchester County.

CORRESPONDENCE: No correspondence received.

GUESTS

MS. LEONITTA TURNER, HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR, EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER RECOGNITION

At this time, County Council recognized Ms. Melanie Hay as Employee of the Quarter during the second quarter of fiscal year 2019. She was nominated by Ms. Jessica Shuler, Director of Business Services.

Ms. Hay went above and beyond to provide training to help the department be successful in the future as well as brought issues

and concerns to the attention of administration along the way. She is always willing to improve processes and rectify situations that are causing issues in the process flow. She truly cares and wants to make improvements to help the County as a whole. She has developed a wonderful rapport with all the departments she works with, as well as many outside agencies. Ms. Hay is a huge asset to Dorchester County and deserves to be recognized for her efforts and for always being someone that steps up.

MS. LEONITTA TURNER, HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR, PRESENTATION OF DISPATCHER OF THE YEAR, DEPUTY OF THE YEAR AND DETENTION OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Ms. Turner announced the Dispatcher of the Year is Caitlyn Hansford. Ms. Hansford has been employed with the Sheriff's Office since December of 2013. In that time, she has proven to be an asset to the citizens of Dorchester County as well as the Sheriff's Office. In September, Ms. Hansford received a call for a suicidal male that had cut himself and was going to jump off a bridge. The only location that the male would give was to his parent's residence which was in our jurisdiction and disconnected the line several times. After making contact with the subject's mother, it was determined that he was not at her location. Ms. Hansford kept him on the line and was able to determine that he was in fact in Binghamton, New York on a bridge preparing to jump. Ms. Hansford along with her teammates contacted the Binghamton Police Department and advised them of the information. The Binghamton Police Department arrived on scene about 30 minutes later and took the subject into custody. Had it not been for her compassion and understanding, the outcome could have been much different. There is no doubt that Ms. Hansford saved this man's life that day.

Ms. Turner then announced Deputy of the Year is Michael Contino. Deputy Contino was diagnosed with cancer in late 2017. During treatment, he worked in the Crime Scene Unit assisting with evidence processing. He returned to full duty in February of 2018. Deputy Contino works hard and his supervisors have remarked how well he communicates with the public and his peers. Since returning to full duty, Deputy Contino became a member of the Special Entry Team. His desire to mentor new recruits lead him to become a Field Training Officer, which shows his dedication and passion for the job. Deputy Contino could have easily stepped back because of his health, however, his love for the job wouldn't allow that. During and after his treatment, Deputy Contino never slowed down. He did not call out sick and strived to beat cancer, being the best law enforcement officer possible. The Deputy of the Year award recognizes feats of courage, outstanding performance or the ability to overcome adversity. Deputy Michael Contino personifies all three affirmed by his recent promotion to Corporal.

Additionally, Ms. Turner announced Detention Officer of the Year is Tori Stokes-Riley. Corporal Stokes-Riley is self-motivated and willing to help when needed. It doesn't matter what is asked of Corporal Stokes-Riley, she remains positive and professional. Her attitude and smile are contagious and compels others around her to be better.

MR. CHIP JOHNSON, SOUTH CAROLINA POLICE ACCREDITATION COUNCIL

Mr. Johnson recognized the achievements of the Dorchester County Sheriff's Office and presented Sheriff Knight with a Certificate of Re-Accreditation on behalf of the South Carolina Police Accreditation Council.

MS. BROOKS CROM, REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE SOUTH CAROLINA CHAPTER OF PUBLIC RELATIONS SOCIETY OF AMERICA (PRSA)

Ms. Crom presented the Silver Wing Award to Ms. Tiffany Norton, Dorchester County Public Information Officer and recognized staff for their 2018 online newsroom.

MR. DANIEL PRENTICE, DORCHESTER COUNTY DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR/CFO

Mr. Prentice gave a summary of revenues and expenditures for the County's major funds through March 31, 2019. He also included a summary of cash on hand in the major funds and status updates on major Water & Sewer, and Stormwater projects.

Chairman Bailey announced that Councilman Crosby was connected and participating via teleconference.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S TIME – MR. JASON WARD

3RD READING OF REZONING REQUEST #781

4. On the motion of Councilman Hearn, seconded by Councilman Hargett, County Council voted six in favor, with one absent (Crosby), to give 3rd reading of Rezoning Request #781 by Doug Richardson to rezone 3.6 acres on Dorchester Road, near Summerville from Multi-Family Residential District (R-4) to Neighborhood Commercial District (CN), TMS #153-00-00-056.

3RD READING OF REZONING REQUEST #782

5. On the motion of Councilman Hearn, seconded by Councilman Chinnis, County Council voted five in favor, with one abstention (Byars) and one absent (Crosby), to give 3rd reading of Rezoning Request #782 by Michele Costanzo to rezone .84 acre on Dorchester Road, near Summerville, TMS #153-00-00-006; .92 acre on Dorchester Road, near Summerville, TMS #153-00-00-039; and 1.93 acres on Dorchester Road, near Summerville, TMS #153-00-00-052, from Multi-Family Residential District (R-4) to Neighborhood Commercial District (CN).

1ST READING OF REZONING REQUEST #787

6. On the motion of Councilman Hearn, seconded by Councilwoman Holman, County Council voted six in favor, with one absent (Crosby), to give 1st reading and referral to the Planning Commission and the Planning, Development, and Building Committee for public hearings and recommendations regarding Rezoning Request #787 by Dorchester County to rezone .77 acre located at 299 Pidgeon Bay Road near Summerville from Multi-Family Residential District (R-4) to Single-Family Residential Manufactured Housing District (R-2M), TMS #129-16-0-025.

1ST READING OF REZONING REQUEST #789

7. On the motion of Councilman Hearn, seconded by Councilwoman Holman, County Council voted six in favor, with one absent (Crosby), to give 1st reading and referral to the Planning Commission and the Planning, Development, and Building Committee for public hearings and recommendations regarding Rezoning Request #789 by Thedasia Smalls to rezone .65 acre located at Central Avenue near Summerville, from Multi-Family Residential District (R-4) to Single-Family Residential Manufactured Housing District (R-1M), TMS #135-16-00-051.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO USE PERSONNEL SAVINGS IN THE ROAD MAINTENANCE DIVISION TO REPLACE A DUMP TRUCK

8. On the motion of Councilman Chinnis, seconded by Councilman Hargett, County Council voted six in favor, with one absent (Crosby), to approve a request to use personnel savings in the Road Maintenance Division to replace a dump truck.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

9. On the motion of Councilman Byars, seconded by Councilman Hearn, County Council voted six in favor, with one absent (Crosby), to reappoint Mr. Walter Skip Elliott to the Dorchester County Economic Development Corporation.

10. On the motion of Chairman Bailey, seconded by Councilman Byars, County Council voted six in favor, with one absent (Crosby), to reappoint Mr. Ronnie Givens to the Dorchester County Economic Development Corporation.
11. On the motion of Chairman Bailey, seconded by Councilman Byars, County Council voted six in favor, with one absent (Crosby), to appoint Mr. Jack Lewis to the Dorchester County Board of Disabilities and Special Needs.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S TIME – MR. JOHN FRAMPTON

PUBLIC HEARING FOR AN ORDINANCE ABOLISHING AND DISSOLVING THE SPECIAL TAX DISTRICT KNOWN AS THE ASHLEY RIVER FIRE DISTRICT

The County Attorney requested Council's consideration to open the public hearing, so County Council can receive public comments regarding an Ordinance Abolishing and Dissolving the Special Tax District Known as the Ashley River Fire District and Repealing Ordinance No. 79-09 and Ordinance No. 85-03, Which Established a Special Tax District Known as the Ashley River Fire District and the Resolution Adopted September 17, 1984, Which Added Additional Property to the Original Special Tax District.

Chairman Bailey struck the gavel, opening the public hearing. He then recognized Ms. Rebecca Vance, Dorchester County Deputy Administrator.

Ms. Vance gave an update and presented a PowerPoint regarding Ashley River Fire District. She announced the County had more accurate numbers from the County Auditor's Office. Ms. Vance also said the County had received Ashley River Fire Department's budget request.

Chairman Bailey then invited the public to come forward to speak on this issue.

- Mr. Douglas Lowe, 42 Peppertree Lane, North Charleston, he said taxing the Ashley River Fire District at 15 mills after the dissolution is wrong.
- Mr. Jack Furr, 144 Palmetto Bluff Drive, North Charleston, he said the information he is getting conflicts with information presented by the County.
- Mr. Juan Santiago, Jr., 4613 McCandy Lane, North Charleston, he commended Ashley River Fire Department for running an efficient operation. He also spoke about response times for each fire department and man power for each fire station and truck.
- Mr. Jeffrey Phipps, 7907 Elderberry Circle, North Charleston, he said he has been affiliated with Ashley River Fire Department since 2005. He said Council told them they weren't closing Ashley River Fire Department.
- Mr. Dean Hinson, 111 Haynesworth Drive, North Charleston, he said he moved to the area for the convenience of services. He said the County is letting North Charleston annex properties in Dorchester County.
- Mr. James Roberts, 108 Beret Street, North Charleston, he apologized for getting upset during the requests to address. He asked if the fire department agreed to a name change from Ashley River Fire Department to Dorchester County would Council keep the fire station open.
- Mr. Scott Inabinet, 651 Gahagan Road, Summerville, he said they did not approach the County about merging with Dorchester County Fire Rescue. He said his budget numbers are correct and the department is still to the good with regards to the numbers.
- Mr. Jim Atkinson, 6005 Mansfield Boulevard, North Charleston, he believes things should have been done differently. He said Council should have spoken with them from the beginning.
- Mr. Joe Friend, he said he was a member with Ashley River Fire Department for 33 years. He said they are an ISO 1. He said he doesn't understand and appreciates serving the people of Dorchester County.
- Mr. Timothy Lewis, 613 East Main Street, Harleyville, he spoke about decidedness and excellence.

In the absence of additional requests to speak, Chairman Bailey struck the gavel, closing the public hearing.

RECESS

12. On the motion of Councilman Byars, seconded by Councilman Chinnis, County Council voted six in favor, with one absent (Crosby), to take a five-minute recess.

3RD READING OF ORDINANCE #19-13, AN ORDINANCE ABOLISHING AND DISSOLVING THE SPECIAL TAX DISTRICT KNOWN AS THE ASHLEY RIVER FIRE DISTRICT

13. On the motion of Councilman Hearn, seconded by Councilman Hargett, County Council voted unanimously, with Councilman Crosby participating by phone, to give 3rd reading of Ordinance #19-13, an Ordinance Abolishing and Dissolving the Special Tax District Known as the Ashley River Fire District and Repealing Ordinance No. 79-09 and Ordinance No. 85-03, Which Established a Special Tax District Known as the Ashley River Fire District and the Resolution Adopted September 17, 1984, Which Added Additional Property to the Original Special Tax District.

PUBLIC HEARING OF AN ORDINANCE PURSUANT TO S.C. CODE ANN. SEC. 4-19-10, ET SEQ. ABOLISHING AND DISSOLVING AN AREA OF DORCHESTER COUNTY WHICH WAS ADDED TO THE ORIGINAL SPECIAL TAX DISTRICT KNOWN AS THE ASHLEY RIVER FIRE DISTRICT

The County Attorney requested Council's consideration to open the public hearing, so County Council can receive public comments regarding an Ordinance Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Sec. 4-19-10, Et Seq. Abolishing and Dissolving an Area of Dorchester County Which Was Added to the Original Special Tax District Known as the Ashley River Fire District by Resolution Adopted September 17, 1984.

Chairman Bailey struck the gavel, opening the public hearing.

- Ms. Chris Kindt, 106 Gatewood Street, North Charleston, she said she doesn't think this was done very well in terms of communication. She said she would appreciate Council's thought and consideration regarding the continuum of service.
- Mr. Scott Inabinet, 651 Gahagan Road, Summerville, he asked if there would be a contract monitor and suggested that someone in the fire district monitor the contract to ensure the stipulations of the contract is being met.

In the absence of additional requests to speak, Chairman Bailey struck the gavel, closing the public hearing.

1ST READING OF AN ORDINANCE PURSUANT TO S.C. CODE ANN. SEC. 4-19-10, ET SEQ. ABOLISHING AND DISSOLVING AN AREA OF DORCHESTER COUNTY WHICH WAS ADDED TO THE ORIGINAL SPECIAL TAX DISTRICT KNOWN AS THE ASHLEY RIVER FIRE DISTRICT BY RESOLUTION ADOPTED SEPTEMBER 17, 1984

14. On the motion of Councilman Chinnis, seconded by Councilman Byars, County Council voted unanimously, with Councilman Crosby participating by phone, to give 1st reading of an Ordinance Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Sec. 4-19-10, Et Seq. Abolishing and Dissolving an Area of Dorchester County Which Was Added to the Original Special Tax District Known as the Ashley River Fire District by Resolution Adopted September 17, 1984.

PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE PROPOSED CONVEYANCE OF A PARCEL OF LAND OWNED BY DORCHESTER COUNTY CURRENTLY BEING USED AS A FIRE STATION AT 706 MILES JAMESON ROAD, SUMMERVILLE, TMS #145-12-07-032 TO THE MILES ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH FOR THE SUM OF \$100,000

The County Attorney requested Council's consideration to open the public hearing, so County Council can receive public comments regarding the proposed conveyance of a parcel of land owned by Dorchester County currently being used as a fire station at 706 Miles Jameson Road, Summerville, TMS #145-12-07-032 to the Miles Road Baptist Church for the sum of \$100,000.

Chairman Bailey struck the gavel, opening the public hearing.

- Mr. John Mott, 244 Luden Drive, Apartment B, Summerville, he said he looked at the property and believes it could be better used for other county services with improvements.

In the absence of additional requests to speak, Chairman Bailey struck the gavel, closing the public hearing.

2ND READING OF AN ORDINANCE, PROJECT JENNIFER II

15. On the motion of Councilman Chinnis, seconded by Councilman Hargett, County Council voted unanimously, with Councilman Crosby participating by phone, to give 2nd reading of an Ordinance Authorizing, Pursuant to Chapter 44 of Title 12, South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, as Amended, the Execution and Delivery of a Fee Agreement Between Dorchester County, South Carolina and Project Jennifer II to Provide for a Fee-In-Lieu of Ad Valorem Taxes Incentive and Certain Special Source Revenue Credits, and Matters Relating Thereto.

1ST READING (BY TITLE ONLY) OF AN ORDINANCE, PROJECT LEX

16. On the motion of Councilman Byars, seconded by Councilwoman Holman, County Council voted unanimously, with Councilman Crosby participating by phone, to give 1st reading (by title only) of an Ordinance Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of an Infrastructure Credit Agreement by and Between Dorchester County, South Carolina, and a Company Known for the Time Being as Project Lex, and One or More Affiliates, to Provide for Special Source Revenue Credits; Authorizing the Expansion of the Joint County Industrial Park Formed with Orangeburg County to Include Property Located in Dorchester County; and Other Matters Related Thereto.

APPROVAL OF US HIGHWAY 78 PHASE 2A CONDEMNATION AS REQUESTED BY THE DORCHESTER COUNTY SALES TAX AUTHORITY, A PORTION OF TMS #098-00-00-267, 098-00-00-003, AND 086-00-00-007

17. On the motion of Councilman Chinnis, seconded by Councilwoman Holman, County Council voted unanimously, with Councilman Crosby participating by phone, to approve a request for US Highway 78 phase 2A condemnation as requested by the Dorchester County Sales Tax Authority, a portion of TMS #098-00-00-267, 098-00-00-003, and 086-00-00-007.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The County Attorney requested Council's consideration to enter into Executive Session at 8:32 p.m. to discuss the following:

- Contractual Matters
 - Potential Purchase of Property Near EMS Headquarters on US 78
 - Potential Sale of Property to Miles Road Baptist Church
 - Potential Lease with Upper Dorchester County Community Ministries
- Legal Advice
 - Dorchester County Water Authority

RECONVENE FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

At approximately 9:59 p.m., Mr. Frampton reported that Council discussed the previously announced items, but no action was taken.

POTENTIAL PURCHASE OF PROPERTY NEAR EMS HEADQUARTERS ON US 78

18. On the motion of Councilman Hargett, seconded by Councilman Chinnis, County Council voted six in favor, with one absent (Crosby), to authorize the County Administrator to execute the Non-Binding Agreement for the negotiation for the purchase of property near EMS Headquarters on US 78.

POTENTIAL LEASE WITH UPPER DORCHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

19. On the motion of Councilwoman Holman, seconded by Councilman Hearn, County Council voted six in favor, with one absent (Crosby), to authorize the County Administrator to execute a lease with Upper Dorchester County Community Ministries.

ADJOURNMENT

20. On the motion of Councilwoman Holman, seconded by Councilman Chinnis, County Council voted six in favor, with one absent (Crosby), to adjourn at approximately 10:02 p.m.

Tracey L. Langley

Tracey L. Langley, Clerk to Council