

**DILLON COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 27, 2016
4:00 PM**

The Dillon County Council held a regular meeting on January 27, 2016 at 4:00 pm in the County Council Chambers, 109 S 3rd Ave, Dillon SC. Present were T.F. Finklea, Harold Moody, Archie Scott, Randy Goings, Bobby Moody, Robbie Coward, and Stevie Grice. Also present were: Clay Young (County Administrator), Alan Berry (County Attorney), Richard Gaddy (Finance Director), Betsy Finklea (The Dillon Herald), and Jamie Sue Stephens (Clerk to Council).

The following were notified of the meeting and provided an agenda: By e-mail – Charles Curry, Randy Grimsley (Dillon County EMS), The Dillon Herald, Susan Norton (Perdue), Tim Ammons (Attorney), Tonny McNeil (Dillon County Economic Development), Yolanda McCormick (Dillon County Librarian), Gabriel Salmon (PDCAA), Larry Abraham (Chief Deputy), Les Jackson (County Deputy), Terry Morris, Alvin Nobles, Dillon County Planning/Code Enforcement Office, WMBF News, Sheriff Major Hulon, Jerry Rivers, Dan Gruszka, Bobby Holland (SCANA), Jamie Estes (Dillon County Treasurer), Dillon County Finance, Sonny McRae (Dillon County E911), Alan Lane, Steve Johnson and Randy Rouse (Hometown TV), Manufactured Housing Institute of SC, Ron Bartley and Cathy Pelfrey (NETC), Karl McColleston (Agenda Repository), Haywood Proctor, Bo McInnis, Helen & Carley Wiggins, Danny Holder (Dillon County IT), Florence Morning News Room, Kenneth Smith, Calvin Matthews, Charlie Bailey, Rhonda Leonard, Gerry Flemming, Tonie Martin, Rosco Oxendine, Delores Smith, Terry Brown, Winna Miller, Jacorie M., Gerry Berry, Mary Miller, Bob Newton, Laurel Ammons Hayes, Chuck Talbert, Greg Ackerman (Webster Rogers); By fax – Farm Bureau and Pee Dee Electric.

Chairman T.F. Finklea presided over the meeting.

INVOCATION

Invocation was given by Chaplain Randy Goings.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Robbie Coward motioned to approve agenda. Randy Goings seconded and all were in favor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 12/09/15, 01/06/16(CALLED)

Stevie Grice motioned to approve the minutes. Harold Moody seconded and all were in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

DILLON COUNTY ACCOMMODATION TAX REPORT (2014-2015)

Mr. Young told Council that he had asked Gerald Berry, chairman of the Dillon Historic School Foundation. Mr. Berry said that he would like to introduce the goals and objectives of the Dillon Historic School Foundation and share the itemized report that they had presented to Dillon County Accommodations Tax Committee. There was discussion about the Foundation. Archie Scott commented that he did not see where the Criterion Club was listed under Accommodation Tax. Bob Newton, chairman of the Dillon County Accommodation Tax Advisory Committee, explained that they have contributed to the Criterion Club but the Accommodation Tax laws changed where a State Oversight Committee was formed, they saw the report and determined that the Criterion Club is a local club and did not qualify for Accommodation Tax, therefore the money was not allocated for the Criterion Club. Archie Scott said it seemed that if the Dillon Historic School Foundation qualified then the Criterion Club should qualify because the things that Mr. Berry said they would do is the same that the Criterion Club does. Bob Newton explained that they are not sure that the Dillon Historic School Foundation qualifies. He told that they approved the marker for the Dillon Historic School Foundation and that the Oversight Committee will meet in February and that they can come back and let the Council know of their decision. **Robbie Coward motioned to postpone until next month. Archie Scott seconded and all were in favor.**

McDONALD CEMETERY TO BE ADDED TO COUNTY CEMETERY LIST

Mr. Young explained to Council that he and staff member, Melissa Thompson, have been working on this cemetery. This cemetery does qualify and meets the 10 year requirement. Mr. Young told that the property owners have consented to sign easements provided it is put into the system. **Stevie Grice motioned to have McDonald Cemetery added to County Cemetery list. Robbie Coward seconded and all were in favor.**

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AGREEMENT BETWEEN RANDY BERRY AND DILLON COUNTY TO EXCAVATE MATERIAL AND CONVEYANCE OF RIGHT TO EXCAVATE MATERIAL

Chairman Finklea explained that this borrow pit is about seven acres and that we need to get sand from that part of the County. **Archie Scott motioned to accept agreement between Randy Berry and Dillon County. Harold Moody seconded and all were in favor.**

RECREATION REQUESTS

Archie Scott motioned to give \$250.00 from the general fund, for a table of eight, to Dillon County Branch NAACP, Freedom Fund Banquet on Saturday, February 6, 2016. Robbie Coward seconded and all were in favor. Jamie Sue Stephens told Council that the Criterion Club was requesting a donation of \$3000.00. Archie Scott said that this needed to be put on hold until further information is received from the Accommodations Tax.

OLD BUSINESS

DILLON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION RESOLUTION

Tim Ammons spoke on behalf of the Dillon County Bar and thanked Council for letting them be on the agenda. He suggested to Council to adopt their resolution which supports moving General Sessions to the new Judicial Center; opposes moving Common Pleas to the new Judicial Center; opposes moving Family Court to the new Judicial Center; and recommends that all of the Clerk of Court's record be maintained at the Dillon County Courthouse in the manner in which they are currently maintained or as the Clerk of Court may deem necessary. Archie Scott commented that he did not have a problem with the resolution but the problem he had would be the cost of the upkeep in the future. He explained that we already have a state of the art facility and the Courthouse is an older building, it will need new maintenance and security. Attorney Alan Berry told Council that they could accept their resolution but he felt that they would need to do their own resolution. **Stevie Grice motioned to accept the Dillon County Bar Association Resolution. Robbie Coward seconded. Voting for the motion were Stevie Grice, Robbie Coward, Harold Moody, T.F. Finklea and Randy Goings. Opposed were Archie Scott and Bobby Moody.**

AUDIT REPORT – FY 2014-2015

Mr. Young introduced Chuck Talbert who gave a brief overview of the year end 06/30/15 audit and told that it was a clean audit opinion. He also introduced Greg Ackerman, manager of audit procedure for Dillon County and Walda Wildman, who is the contract accountant for Dillon County. Archie Scott wanted further information on sampling procedures that was explained by Greg Ackerman. Mr. Scott also asked what kind of accounting system that the County uses. Chuck Talbert responded that the County software is CSI and the type of accounting is fund accounting.

FINANCE REPORT

Mr. Gaddy reported that currently we have a negative 173,124.13 more expenses than revenues. Mr. Gaddy stated the following; the total computer upgrade is \$347,012.53 which will be funded from the issuance of the general obligation bond. Also, the upgrade for E-911 is \$215,951.75, which will be funded by a reimbursement from CMRS in the amount of \$196,993.75 and the balance in the amount of \$18,958.00 will be funded by the equipment lease purchase. **Robbie Coward motioned to approve the computer upgrades and the E-911 upgrades. Archie Scott seconded and all were in favor.**

ORDINANCE READINGS

FIRST READING – AN ORDINANCE FOR INSTALLMENT PAYMENT OF REAL PROPERTY TAXES

Attorney Berry told Council that state law allows a County governing body to allow for prepayment of real property taxes. There are some requirements that a taxpayer cannot be behind and they must notify the treasurer within a certain period of time that they are going to participate in the installment payment. Taxes will be paid installment first on February 15 and remaining balance after five payments are made will be due on or before January 15 of the following taxable year. This simply allows a taxpayer to spread out instead of making a lump sum on January 15th. **Archie Scott motioned to have first reading. Robbie Coward seconded and all were in favor.**

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APPOINTMENTS

DILLON COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

District One – No appointment at this time. **District Six** – No appointment at this time.

Randy Goings commented on the possibility of having a Council Workshop to discuss crime in Dillon County. Several options are prayer through churches and meeting with the City of Dillon to discuss crime.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – CONTRACTUAL & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MATTERS AND PERSONNEL MATTER

Robbie Coward motioned to go into executive session. **Bobby Moody** seconded and all were in favor. **Archie Scott** motioned to come out of executive session. **Harold Moody** seconded and all were in favor.

RESULTS OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Archie Scott motioned to give **Teresa Campbell** a five percent increase. **Robbie Coward** seconded and all were in favor.

Robbie Coward motioned to buy a 1991 International Truck in the amount of \$15,000.00 and a 1990 Grumman Truck in the amount of \$15,000.00 for Station #3 and Station #5. **Archie Scott** seconded and all were in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

Archie Scott motioned to adjourn. **Robbie Coward** seconded and all were in favor.

T.F. Finklea, Chairman

Jamie Sue Stephens, Clerk to Council

Date approved _____