

**DILLON COUNTY COUNCIL
CALLED MEETING AND BUDGET WORKSHOP
MARCH 11, 2013
2:00 PM**

The Dillon County Council held a called meeting and budget workshop on March 11, 2013 at 2:00 pm in the County Council Chambers, 109 S. 3rd Ave. Dillon SC. Present were: Randy Goings (*arrived late), T.F. Finklea, Harold Moody, Archie Scott, Joe Johnson, Bobby Moody, and Andrew Graves. Not present were Clay Young (County Administrator) and Betsy Finklea (The Dillon Herald). Also present were: Ken DuBose (County Attorney) and Lisa Gray (Clerk to Council).

The following were notified of the meeting and provided an agenda: By e-mail – Charles Curry, Randy Grimsley (Dillon County EMS), Harold Moody, The Dillon Herald, Susan Norton (Perdue), Tim Ammons (Attorney), Tonny McNeil (Dillon County Economic Development), Yolanda McCormick (Dillon County Librarian), Randy Rouse (Hometown TV), Gabriel Salmon (PDCAA), Larry Abraham (Chief Deputy), Ken Dubose (County Attorney), Joe Johnson, 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 (Hometown TV), Manufactured Housing Institute of SC, Ron Bartley & Cathy Pelfrey (NETC), Jamie Rogers (Morning News), Karl McCollester (Agenda Repository), Archie Scott, Haywood Proctor, T.F. Finklea, Frank Brockington, Mike Burns, Brandon Norris, Lisa Morris and Kathy Dawson (McNair Law Firm), and; By fax – Farm Bureau and Pee Dee Electric.

Chairman Archie Scott presided over the meeting.

INVOCATION

Invocation was given by Andrew Graves.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Joe Johnson motioned to approve the agenda. Andrew Graves seconded and all were in favor.

RESOLUTIONS

APPROVING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF JUST COMPENSATION

Mr. DuBose explained this involves the Richard T.D. Bethea et al property to include new parcels due to the road change. This resolution is necessary to obtain federal funding for the purchase involved. ***(Randy Goings arrived)**

Harold Moody motioned to approve the resolution. T.F. Finklea seconded and all, except Randy Goings voted in favor. Mr. Goings had arrived after the explanation was given by Mr. DuBose.

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Mr. DuBose told that officials for Project Tool Shed were engaged in pushing the project forward. He told that a hearing was scheduled for March 20th to close a portion of Farley Road (Industrial Park Boulevard).

ADJOURNMENT

Bobby Moody motioned to adjourn. Andrew Graves seconded and all were in favor.

BUDGET WORKSHOP

A Full Council Budget Workshop was held immediately after the called meeting at approximately 2:10 pm. Present were: T.F. Finklea, Harold Moody, Archie Scott, Joe Johnson, Randy Goings, Bobby Moody and Andrew Graves. Clay Young and Betsy Finklea were not present for the budget workshop. Also present was Ken DuBose and Lisa Gray. The press had been notified that the called meeting was expected to be brief and that the workshop would take place immediately afterwards.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS FUNDING REQUEST

Sheriff Hulon told that Dillon Christian School has expressed their need for a school resource officer also. They indicated to him that they will fund 50 percent of the cost. Randy Goings questioned the legality of this since it was a private school. Mr. DuBose suggested that Dillon Christian School make a formal request and include that they have a non-discrimination policy, etc. Mr. DuBose also told that he would have to look into that situation. Sheriff Hulon stated that if DCS was included, eight new officers would be needed. Harold Moody noted that it may take a three mill increase in taxes to fund, as it will be a recurring expense. Chairman Scott told that we need to know our financial status.

Sheriff Hulon told that the cost per officer is estimated to be \$43,097 X 8 officers equals \$344,886. This does not factor in any overtime. The schools share at one-half is \$172,388 and county's is \$172,388.

Discussion was held concerning the possibility of the State funding the program. Chairman Scott stated Council seems to be in agreement to write a letter to Mr. Young to include considering the funding for the SROs during the upcoming budgeting process. Council agreed for Sheriff Hulon to begin the interview process.

Later in the workshop, Harold Moody asked if we could send funds to the schools instead of to the sheriff's budget. He spoke of the issue of not being able to cut the sheriff's budget, by law, in the future. Other discussion was held concerning school safety and funds seized by the sheriff which have to be in a separate account and have restricted use.

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DISCUSSION OF RECENT EQUIPMENT/VEHICLE PURCHASES

Brief discussion was held concerning the bid process (advertising etc.).

FINANCIAL STATEMENT/BANK STATEMENT REQUEST

Chairman Scott stated the audit report tells we don't have control on the finances. He said that we need a finance director and monthly bank statements. Discussion was held concerning this would not be a true figure due to outstanding checks. Council discussed the monthly treasurer's report furnished to them and also discussed bank accounts. Chairman Scott said he could not accept a generated statement.

Mr. DuBose explained the FOIA process. Chairman Scott stated Council can direct Mr. Young to obtain the information (on accounts with funds governed by Council). He also said Council should be together, not divided, on getting the financial information and stated that the treasurer should be open with it. Discussion was held concerning Ms. Estes issue with security and the safety of her staff.

Chairman Scott stated Council should be given a copy of the payroll check list (without social security #s) at least twice a year.

Harold Moody noted that we should be able to control and account for our funds just as the schools do.

Workshop adjourned.

Robert Archie Scott, Chairman

Lisa B. Gray, Clerk to Council

Date approved _____