

MINUTES OF BAMBERG COUNTY COUNCIL CALLED MEETING - June 30, 2015

In compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, agendas for the following meeting were mailed to all members of Council, County Attorney Richard Ness, Lower Savannah COG, *The Advertiser-Herald*, *The Times and Democrat*, Bamberg County Library, Bamberg County Website, and a copy posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway of the County Courthouse.

Bamberg County Council met 6:00 p.m., June 30, 2015, in the courtroom of the Bamberg County Courthouse. **Present:** Chairman Joe Guess, Jr., Councilmen Trent Kinard, Evert Comer, Jr., Larry Haynes and Rev. Isaiah Odom. **Absent:** Councilwoman Alzena Robinson and Councilman Clint Carter.. **Others Present:** Administrator Joey R. Preston, T.M. Thomas, Phyllis Overstreet, Jerry Halmon, Ed Darnell, Sean, Alice Johnson, and Gina Smith.

Bamberg County Council meeting was called to order by Chairman Guess at 6:00 p.m., in the Bamberg County Courtroom. Invocation was rendered by Councilman Trent Kinard, followed with the pledge of allegiance by Councilman Larry Haynes.

On motion by Reverend Odom, seconded by Councilman Comer, council approved the agenda as submitted.

Chairman Guess called for public comments to an ordinance to adopt the operating and capital budgets of Bamberg County for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2016, and to make appropriations for such Bamberg County budgets for county ordinary purposes and for other county purposes for which the county may levy a tax; to provide for the levy of taxes on all taxable personal and real estate properties in Bamberg County for such county ordinary purposes, including sufficient tax to pay the principal and interest on outstanding indebtedness of Bamberg County maturing during said fiscal year; and to provide for other matters relating to Bamberg County. No public comments were made. Administrator Preston stated that a public hearing was scheduled for June 23, no public showed up.

On motion by Councilman Comer, seconded by Councilman Haynes, council gave third and final reading to an ordinance to adopt the operating and capital budgets of Bamberg County for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2016, and to make appropriations for such Bamberg County budgets for county ordinary purposes and for other county purposes for which the county may levy a tax; to provide for the levy of taxes on all taxable personal and real estate properties in Bamberg County for such county ordinary purposes, including sufficient tax to pay the principal and interest on outstanding indebtedness of Bamberg County maturing during said fiscal year; and to provide for other matters relating to Bamberg County. The approved budget amount is \$13,600,238.

On motion by Reverend Odom, seconded by Councilman Haynes, council approved a mutual aid agreement between the Lexington County's Sheriff's Department and the Bamberg County's Sheriff's Department. Bamberg County Sheriff Ed Darnell noted the two departments have had

June 30, 2015....continued

a mutual aid agreement pact in place for several years but this is the first time it has had to be signed by him and the chairman of county council. Sheriff Darnell thanked council for the approval for the purchase of new cars for his department and seven of the cars will be arriving in about six to eight weeks.

At this time, Chairman Guess called for comments.

- Councilman Kinard - Thanked Administrator Preston and everyone involved in the preparation of the budget.
- Councilman Haynes - Thanked everyone for all they do.
- Councilman Odom - Dittoed the comments of what the other councilman stated.

It was announced that groundbreaking at CrossRhodes Industrial Park will be held Tuesday, July 7 at 10:00 a.m. and all were invited to attend.

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rose R. Shepherd, CCC