

Minutes  
Special Meeting – And Budget Workshop  
Sumter County Council  
Tuesday, May 15, 2007, 5:00 p.m.  
Sumter County Council Chambers  
13 E. Canal Street – Sumter, SC

**COUNCIL PRESENT:** Vivian Fleming McGhaney, Eugene Baten, Artie Baker, Larry Blanding, Jimmy Byrd, Charles T. Edens, and Roland Robinson.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Mary W. Blanding, Pam Craven, Lorraine Dennis, Angie Graham, Gary Mixon, William T. Noonan, Patricia Jefferson, Simon Major, Robert Galloway, and Ginny Yonson.

**PUBLIC PRESENT:** Two members of the public were present.

**MEDIA PRESENT:** The Item: Leslie Cantu

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairwoman, Vivian Fleming McGhaney, called the meeting to order.

**INVOCATION:** Councilman Roland Robinson gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** All in attendance repeated the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** The Chairwoman stated that she would entertain a motion concerning the agenda; prior to Council approving the agenda, the Clerk asked Council to consider adding an Executive Session Contractual Matter Pertaining To The City Of Sumter.

**ACTION:** MOTION was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman Robinson, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the agenda with the addition of an *Executive Session Item Pertaining To A Contractual Matter Between The City And County Of Sumter.*

**ITEM TO BE DISCUSSED:**

**Discussion On Water Rates For the Shiloh Water System.**

Mr. Robert Galloway and Ms. Ginny Yonson were present on behalf of this matter. Mrs. Yonson presented Council members with a Comparison Of Monthly Charges for the Shiloh Water System and other water rates throughout the County. She asked Council to approve the new rates as listed in the chart below. Prior to taking action on this matter, Council members informed the staff that they want the Shiloh Water System customers and potential customers to be notified of the increases and the date for implementation of the new rates.

<b>Shiloh Water System – Request For Rate Increase – Effective July 1, 2007</b>					
<b>Minimum: \$16.50 for 2,000 gallons</b>					
<b>All over 2,000: \$2.60 per 1,000 gallons</b>					
<b>Customer Classification</b>	<b>Number of Customers</b>	<b>Average Monthly Use</b>	<b>Average Bill</b>	<b>Monthly Revenue</b>	<b>Annual Revenue</b>
Residential	280	4,200	\$22.22	\$6,221.60	\$74,659.20
Small Commercial	15	2,000	\$16.50	247.50	\$2,970.00
St. John Church	1	3,650	\$20.79	\$20.79	\$249.48
St. John Day Care	1	4,850	\$23.91	\$23.91	\$286.92
SCDOT Rest Areas	1	721,000	\$1,885.90	\$1,885.90	\$22,630.80
<b>Totals</b>	<b>298</b>			<b>\$8,399.70</b>	<b>\$100,796.40</b>

It was recommended that Council increase the monthly water rates as listed in the chart above with the minimum monthly rate changing from \$14.00 to \$16.50 per month effective July 1, 2007.

**ACTION: MOTION** was made by Councilman Edens, seconded by Councilman Baker, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the recommendation as presented.

Ms. Yonson also talked to Council about increasing tap fees for the Shiloh Water System. See chart below.

<b>Sumter County - Shiloh Water system</b>				
<b>Water System Tap Fees</b>				
<b>Recommended Increase – Effective Date July 1, 2007</b>				
<b>Water Meter Size</b>	<b>Capacity Multiplier</b>	<b>Current Tap Fee</b>	<b>Preconstruction Discounted Fee</b>	<b>Recommended Tap Fees</b>
¾ Inch	1	\$500.00	\$250.00	\$800.00
1-Inch	1.6	\$800.00	\$400.00	\$1,280.00
1 ½-Inch	3.3	\$1,650.00	\$825.00	\$2,640.00
2-Inch	5.3	\$2,650.00	\$1,325.00	\$4,240.00
3-inch	10.6	\$5,300.00	\$2,650.00	\$8,480.00
4-Inch	16.6	\$8,300.00	\$4,150.00	\$13,280.00
6-Inch	33.3	\$16,650.00	\$8,325.00	\$26,640.00

The above recommended tap fees are suggested as the minimum fee structure that should be adopted by Sumter County Council for implementation in the second half of Fiscal Year 2007. In addition to the above, each new connection to the system would also pay a \$50.00 non-refundable service charge.

After reviewing the chart, Council took action on its adoption.

**ACTION: MOTION** was made by Councilman Edens, seconded by Councilman Baker, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the recommendation as presented.

#### Discussion On Operational Policies Concerning The Shiloh Water System

Council members received this document and asked that it be placed on Council's agenda for its next meeting on May 22, 2007.

**Discussion On The 2007-2008 Fiscal Year Budget.**

The Administrator, William T. Noonan, and the financial staff presented the 2008 proposed budget items to Council. He stated that The Honorable Lauretha A. McCants, the County Auditor, and Latham Harris, the County Assessor, provided him with a revised millage value for 2007. Council reviewed the information concerning the millage value for 2007 Tax Year.

	2006 Actual	2007 estimate	X 96% = 2007 est.
County Ordinary	263,403,990	270,885,040	260,049,640
Fire District #1	42,445,880	43,157,837	41,431,523
Fire District #2	106,792,020	109,507,594	105,127,290
<b>Based on the 2007 estimated Assessed Values, the value of a mill is:</b>			
County Ordinary		260,050	
Fire District #1		41,400	
Fire District 2		105,100	

This was received as information.

**New Requests To Consider:**

The Administrator and the financial staff asked Council members to consider making a decision on the new requests for the 2008 budget. Several of these items have received funding in the past but are not currently listed in the budget as a line item.

<b>New Requests To Consider</b>		
<b>Requests To Consider</b>	<b>FY07 Budget</b>	<b>FY08 Request</b>
American Red Cross	\$3,000	\$5,000
Diamonds/United Way	\$20,000	\$30,000
Disabilities and Special Needs	\$26,028	\$18,700
First Tee		\$2,500
Salvation Army		\$44,101
Sumter-Shaw Community Concert	\$10,000	\$10,000
Wateree AIDS Task Force		\$25,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$59,028</b>	<b>\$135,301</b>

After reviewing the list above, Council members voted on approving the funding of these requests as listed below.

**ACTION:** MOTION was made by Vice Chairman Baten, seconded by Councilman Robinson, and carried by Council to grant approval of the \$5,000 request from the American Red Cross. Councilmen Blanding and Byrd voted in opposition.

**ACTION:** MOTION was made by Councilman Robinson and seconded by Vice Chairman Baten to approve \$20,000 for the Diamonds Program instead of the \$30,000 that was requested, Councilmen Blanding, Edens, Byrd, and Baker voted in opposition. Council members Robinson, Baten, and McGhaney voted in the affirmative. The motion failed.

**ACTION:** MOTION was made by Vice Chairman Baten, seconded by Councilman Robinson, and carried by Council to grant approval of the \$18,700 request from the Disabilities and Special Needs Board. Councilman Byrd voted in opposition; the motion carried.

**ACTION: MOTION** was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Vice Chairman Baten, and carried by Council to grant approval of the \$2,500 request from the First Tee. Councilman Blanding voted in opposition. The motion carried.

**NOTE:** No motion was offered for Salvation Army.

**ACTION: MOTION** was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Vice Chairman Baten, and carried by Council to grant approval of the \$10,000 request from the Sumter-Shaw Community Concert. Councilman Blanding and Councilman Byrd voted in opposition. The motion carried.

**ACTION: MOTION** was made by Councilman Robinson, seconded by Vice Chairman Baten, and carried by Council to grant approval of the \$25,000 request from the Wateree AIDS Task Force. Councilmen Baker, Byrd, and Edens voted in opposition. The motion carried.

Council directed the Administrator to write a letter to the various agencies receiving funds from the County and asked them to consider reducing their requests due to the dilemma that the County finds itself concerning the new tax limitations for millage increases to fund the upcoming budget.

**Executive Session Matters.** (1) Contractual Matter Pertaining To A Property Matter and (2) Contractual Matter Pertaining To The City Of Sumter.

The Chairwoman stated that she would entertain a motion concerning the contractual matters pertaining to property and a contractual matter pertaining to the City of Sumter.

**ACTION: MOTION** was made by Councilman Robinson, seconded by Councilman Byrd, and unanimously carried by Council to enter executive session to discuss the two aforementioned items. At the conclusion of executive session, Council re-entered open session.

The Chairwoman reported that no action would be taken; however, she stated that staff will continue to research both executive session matters and report back to Council accordingly.

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS – None**

**Adjournment**

After all business, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary W. Blanding, Clerk  
Sumter County Council

cc: Sumter County Council  
Mr. William T. Noonan