

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE FLORENCE COUNTY COUNCIL,
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015, 9:00 A.M., COUNTY COMPLEX,
180 N. IRBY STREET, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ROOM 804,
FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA**

PRESENT:

Roger M. Poston, Chairman
James T. Schofield, Vice Chairman
Mitchell Kirby, Secretary-Chaplain
Waymon Mumford, Council Member
Alphonso Bradley, Council Member
Kent C. Caudle, Council Member
Willard Dorriety, Jr., Council Member
Jason M. Springs, Council Member
H. Steven DeBerry, IV, Council Member
K. G. Rusty Smith, Jr., County Administrator
D. Malloy McEachin, Jr., County Attorney
Connie Y. Haselden, Clerk to Council

ALSO PRESENT:

Sheriff Kenney Boone
Chief Deputy Glen Kirby
Arthur C. Gregg, Jr., Public Works Director
Kevin V. Yokim, Finance Director
Dusty Owens, Emergency Management Department Director
Ryon Watkins, EMS Director
Jonathan B. Graham, III, Planning Director
Ronnie Pridgen, Parks & Recreation Department Director
Patrick Fletcher, Procurement Director
Bill Griffenberg, CIO
Sam Brockington, Fire/Rescue Services Coordinator
Delaine Martin, County Complex Building Administrator
Alan Smith, Library Director
David Alford, Voter Registration/Elections Director
Joshua Lloyd, Morning News Staffwriter

A notice of the regular meeting of the Florence County Council appeared in the October 14, 2015 edition of the **MORNING NEWS**. In compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, copies of the meeting Agenda and Proposed Additions to the Agenda were provided to members of the media, members of the public requesting copies, posted in the lobby of the County Complex, provided for posting at the Doctors Bruce and Lee Foundation Public Library, all branch libraries, and on the County's website (www.florenceco.org).

Chairman Poston called the meeting to order. Secretary/Chaplain Kirby provided the invocation and Vice Chairman Schofield led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Chairman Poston welcomed everyone attending the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Kirby made a motion Council Approve The Minutes Of The September 17, 2015 Regular Meeting And The October 4, 2015 Emergency Meeting Of County Council. Councilman Schofield seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

The Clerk Published The Titles And The Chairman Opened Public Hearing For The Following Items:

RESOLUTION NO. 05-2015/16

A Resolution In Support Of The Issuance By The South Carolina Jobs-Economic Development Authority Of Its Economic Development Revenue Refunding Bond (Goodwill Project) Series 2015, Pursuant To The Provisions Of Title 41, Chapter 43, Of The Code Of Laws Of South Carolina 1976, As Amended, In The Aggregate Principal Amount Of Not Exceeding \$20,000,000.

RESOLUTION NO. 06-2015/16

A Resolution Authorizing The Cessation Of Maintenance On And Abandonment And Closure Of Lynda's Lane Located In The Johnsonville Area.

ORDINANCE NO. 07-2015/16

An Ordinance Providing For The Issuance And Sale Of Not Exceeding Three Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$3,500,000) Hospitality Fee Refunding Revenue Bonds Of Florence County To Be Designated Series 2015 And Other Matters Relating Thereto.

ORDINANCE NO. 08-2015/16

An Ordinance Providing For The Issuance And Sale From Time To Time Of Accommodations Fee Revenue Bonds Of Florence County, Providing For The Pledge Of Accommodations Fees For The Payment Of Such Bonds, Prescribing The Terms And Conditions Under Which Such Bonds May Be Issued, Providing For The Payment Thereof, And Other Matters Relating Thereto.

ORDINANCE NO. 09-2015/16

An Ordinance Providing For The Issuance And Sale Of Not Exceeding Twenty-Four Million Dollars (\$24,000,000) Accommodations Fee Revenue Bonds Of Florence County To Be Designated Series 2015 And Other Matters Relating Thereto.

ORDINANCE NO. 13-2015/16

An Ordinance For Text Amendments To The Florence County Code Of Ordinances, Chapter 30, ZONING ORDINANCE, ARTICLE II. – ZONING DISTRICT REGULATIONS, DIVISION I. – GENERALLY, Section 30-29, Table II: Schedule Of Permitted And Conditional Uses And Off-Street Parking Requirements For Business & Rural Districts And Section 30-30, Table III: Zoning Setbacks, To Add New Zoning District RU-1A (Rural Community District) With Reduced Intensity Of Land Uses From The Current RU-1 District.

The Chairman Stated That Because Certain Terms Of The Bonds Were Not Yet Established, Full Versions Of Ordinances No. 07, 08 And 09-2015/16 Were Not Completed And Provided To Council Or The Public Prior To The Public Hearing Held At Its Regular Meeting Of September 17, 2015 Therefore Second Reading Of The Ordinances Was Deferred To The October 15th Meeting, At Which Time An Additional Public Hearing On Each Of The Ordinances Would Be Held. Copies Of The Ordinances Were Made Available To The Public Prior To The Meeting.

APPEARANCES:

BOARD MEMBER SANDRA SEA AND MAJOR GIFTS OFFICER NICOLE ECHOLS

Ms. Sea And Ms. Echols Appeared Before Council To Present Information About How The American Red Cross Supports The Florence Community. Ms. Echols stated that 91 cents of every dollar goes for direct support of families in the Pee Dee Region. The Chairman and members of Council commended the work of the American Red Cross.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

EDUCATION, RECREATION, HEALTH & WELFARE

Committee Chairman Caudle requested that Parks & Recreation Department Director Ronnie Pridgen provide an update on programs. Mr. Pridgen reported that the County experienced some minor issues at various parks and delays in programs due to the flooding, but nothing major and fall programs were continuing to progress.

RESOLUTIONS/PROCLAMATIONS:

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH PROCLAMATION

Councilman Mumford made a motion Council approve A Proclamation To Recognize October 2015 As Domestic Violence Awareness Month In Florence County. Councilman Schofield seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. The Clerk published the Proclamation in its entirety and Councilman Mumford presented the framed Proclamation to Ellen Hamilton-Executive Director of the Pee Dee Coalition and Sheriff Boone. Councilman Mumford and Sheriff Boone expressed appreciation for the work that Ms. Hamilton and the staff of the Pee Dee Coalition do for citizens of Florence County to strive to minimize domestic violence in our region.

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION AND RECOGNITION

Councilman Mumford made a motion Council approve A Resolution Of Appreciation And Recognition For Reverend Reedy Saverance For His Meritorious Community Service. Councilman DeBerry seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. The Clerk published the Resolution in its entirety. Councilman DeBerry presented the framed Resolution to Rev. Saverance and commended his over 80,000 hours of community service and the impact of that service on the community. Chairman Poston thanked Rev. Saverance for his service to the citizens of Florence County and the State of South Carolina.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

There Being No Signatures On The Sign-In Sheets For Public Hearings, The Chairman Closed The Public Hearings.

RESOLUTION NO. 05-2015/16

The Clerk published the title of Resolution No. 05-2015/16: A Resolution In Support Of The Issuance By The South Carolina Jobs-Economic Development Authority Of Its Economic Development Revenue Refunding Bond (Goodwill Project) Series 2015, Pursuant To The Provisions Of Title 41, Chapter 43, Of The Code Of Laws Of South Carolina 1976, As Amended, In The Aggregate Principal Amount Of Not Exceeding \$20,000,000. Councilman Springs made a motion Council approve the Resolution as presented. Councilman Schofield seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 06-2015/16

The Clerk published the title of Resolution No. 06-2015/16: A Resolution Authorizing The Cessation Of Maintenance On And Abandonment And Closure Of Lynda's Lane Located In The Johnsonville Area. Councilman DeBerry made a motion Council approve the Resolution as presented. Councilman Dorriety seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

ORDINANCES IN POSITION:

ORDINANCE NO. 10-2015/16 – THIRD READING

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 10-2015/16: An Ordinance Establishing The Developing Communities Commission, Providing For Appointment Of The Members Of The Commission, Setting Forth The Duties Of The Commission, And Other Matters Relating Thereto. Councilman DeBerry made a motion Council Approve Third Reading Of The Ordinance. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion. Councilman Springs made a motion that, Based On The Recommendation Of Administration, Council Amend The Ordinance To Have The Project Manager Report Directly To The Director Of The Florence County Economic Development Partnership. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. Third Reading of the Ordinance as amended was approved unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 11-2015/16 – THIRD READING

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 11-2015/16: An Ordinance Authorizing Pursuant To Title 12, Chapter 44 Of The Code Of Laws Of South Carolina 1976, As Amended, The Execution And Delivery Of A Fee-In-Lieu Of Ad Valorem Taxes Agreement, By And Between Florence County, South Carolina, And Olanta Solar, LLC, As Sponsor, And One Or More Sponsor Affiliates To Provide For A Fee-In-Lieu Of Ad Valorem Taxes Incentive And Certain Special Source Revenue Credits; And Other Related Matters. Councilman Caudle made a motion Council approve third reading of the Ordinance. Councilman Springs seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. Chairman Poston called attention to the insertion of the company name: Olanta Solar, LLC.

ORDINANCE NO. 38-2014/15 – SECOND READING DEFERRED

Chairman Poston stated second reading of Ordinance No. 38-2014/15 would be deferred: An Ordinance To Zone Properties Inclusive Of All Unzoned Properties In Council Districts Five And Six Bounded By Freedom Boulevard, Jefferies Creek, Francis Marion Road, Wickerwood Road, Flowers Road, Pamplico Highway, South Vance Drive, Furches Avenue, And The Westernmost Boundary Of Council District Six That Connects Furches Avenue And Freedom Boulevard, Florence, SC From Unzoned To The Following Zoning Designations Of RU-1, Rural Community District, B-1, Limited Business District, B-2, Convenience Business District And B-3, General Commercial District; Consistent With The Land Use Element And Map Of The Florence County Comprehensive Plan; And Other Matters Related Thereto.

ORDINANCE NO. 07-2015/16 – SECOND READING

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 07-2015/16: An Ordinance Providing For The Issuance And Sale Of Not Exceeding Three Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$3,500,000) Hospitality Fee Refunding Revenue Bonds Of Florence County To Be Designated Series 2015 And Other Matters Relating Thereto. Councilman Schofield made a motion Council approve second reading of the Ordinance. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved with a seven (7) to two (2) vote. Voting in the 'Affirmative' were Chairman Poston, Councilmen DeBerry, Mumford, Schofield, Caudle, Dorriety, and Springs. Voting 'No' were Councilmen Kirby and Bradley.

ORDINANCE NO. 08-2015/16 – SECOND READING

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 08-2015/16: An Ordinance Providing For The Issuance And Sale From Time To Time Of Accommodations Fee Revenue Bonds Of Florence County, Providing For The Pledge Of Accommodations Fees For The Payment Of Such Bonds, Prescribing The Terms And Conditions Under Which Such Bonds May Be Issued, Providing For The Payment Thereof, And Other Matters Relating Thereto. Councilman Schofield made a motion Council approve second reading of the Ordinance. Councilman DeBerry seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 09-2015/16 – SECOND READING

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 09-2015/16: An Ordinance Providing For The Issuance And Sale Of Not Exceeding Twenty-Four Million Dollars (\$24,000,000) Accommodations Fee Revenue Bonds Of Florence County To Be Designated Series 2015 And Other Matters Relating Thereto. Councilman Schofield made a motion Council approve second reading of the Ordinance. Councilman Dorriety seconded the motion. Councilman Caudle made a motion to Amend The Ordinance To Reduce the Amount From \$24,000,000 To \$18,000,000. Councilman Dorriety seconded the motion to Amend.

In response to a question from Councilman Dorriety, County Administrator K. G. Rusty Smith, Jr. responded that the project called for \$15 million, \$0.4 million issuance costs, \$1.8 in capitalized interest and the original debt to be paid off in May of 2018. The additional funding (\$800,000) would not be utilized; thus the terminology 'not exceeding.' Councilman Caudle asked if the County had received any confirmation from the City regarding its commitment to fund the project. Mr. Smith stated that City

Manager Drew Griffin advised him that the City had numerous meetings regarding this matter and were 100% committed to the project and already had funding in place. Mr. Smith pointed out that funding for this would come from the 3% accommodations tax so no ad valorem taxes would be used for this purpose (no ad valorem taxes had been used for the Civic Center for the last 15+ years). It was anticipated that the proposed project would yield approximately \$250,000 in increased annual revenue for the County in accommodations tax. Councilman Schofield stated this project would make a significant change in the Civic Center to allow it to accommodate more conferences by providing break-out spaces.

Council unanimously approved the Amendment to the Ordinance. Council approved second reading of the Ordinance as amended with an eight (8) to one (1) vote. Voting in the 'Affirmative' were Chairman Poston, Councilmen DeBerry, Mumford, Bradley, Schofield, Caudle, Dorriety, and Springs. Voting 'No' was Councilman Kirby.

ORDINANCE NO. 12-2015/16 – SECOND READING

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 12-2015/16: An Ordinance To Rezone Property Owned By Cheryl Poston Located At 513 North Pamplico Highway, Pamplico, As Shown On Florence County Tax Map No. 00349, Block 02, Parcel 012; Consisting Of Approximately 2.72 Acres From R-1, Single-Family Residential District To RU-1, Rural Community District; And Other Matters Related Thereto. Councilman Schofield made a motion Council approve second reading of the Ordinance. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 13-2015/16 – SECOND READING

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 13-2015/16: An Ordinance For Text Amendments To The Florence County Code Of Ordinances, Chapter 30, ZONING ORDINANCE, ARTICLE II. – ZONING DISTRICT REGULATIONS, DIVISION I. – GENERALLY, Section 30-29, Table II: Schedule Of Permitted And Conditional Uses And Off-Street Parking Requirements For Business & Rural Districts And Section 30-30, Table III: Zoning Setbacks, To Add New Zoning District RU-1A (Rural Community District) With Reduced Intensity Of Land Uses From The Current RU-1 District. Councilman Caudle made a motion Council approve second reading of the Ordinance. Councilman Dorriety seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

ORDINANCES INTRODUCED

The Clerk published the titles of the following Ordinances and the Chairman declared the Ordinances Introduced:

ORDINANCE NO. 14-2015/16 – INTRODUCED

An Ordinance For Text Amendments To The Florence County Code Of Ordinances, Chapter 28.6, LAND DEVELOPMENT AND SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE, ARTICLE III. – PROCEDURES FOR SUBDIVISION PLAT APPROVAL, Section 28.6-32, Filing Fees; ARTICLE VI. – SUBDIVISION IMPROVEMENTS AND GUARANTEES, Section 28.6-100, Setup, Extensions, And Reduction Of Guarantee And Chapter 30, ZONING ORDINANCE, ARTICLE III. – CONDITIONAL USE REGULATIONS,

Section 30-105, Sexually Oriented Business, (d) Fees; ARTICLE VIII. – ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT, Section 30-266, Filing Applications; Fees; And ARTICLE IX. – APPLICATIONS FOR CHANGE AND/OR RELIEF, Section 30-296, Application Requirements And Fees, For The Purpose Of Creating A Comprehensive Fee Schedule To Reflect All Current Fees For Florence County Planning And Zoning Applications; And Other Matters Related Thereto.

ORDINANCE NO. 15-2015/16 – INTRODUCED

An Ordinance For Text Amendments To The FLORENCE COUNTY CODE, CHAPTER 28.6, LAND DEVELOPMENT AND SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE, ARTICLE V. – MINIMUM LAND PLANNING STANDARDS AND REQUIRED IMPROVEMENTS FOR SUBDIVISIONS AND OTHER LAND DEVELOPMENTS, Section 28.6-63, Lots, (h) Flag Lots: And (i), For The Purpose Of Amending Flag Lot Regulations; And Other Matters Related Thereto.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

MUSEUM BOARD

Councilman Schofield Made A Motion Council Appoint Murriel Calcutt To Serve On The Museum Board, Representing Council District 2, With Appropriate Expiration Term. Councilman Dorriety seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Councilman DeBerry made a motion Council Appoint Dwight Johnson To Serve On The Planning Commission (Filling A Seat Left Vacant By The Resignation Of David Hobbs), Representing Council District 6, With Appropriate Expiration Term. Councilman Dorriety seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

POLICY COMMISSION ON RECREATION

Councilman Springs Made A Motion Council Re-Appoint Eric Sebnick To Serve On The Policy Commission on Recreation, Representing Council District 1, With Appropriate Expiration Term. Councilman Dorriety seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

UNIFIED FIRE DISTRICT FINANCIAL ADVISORY BOARD

Councilman Springs made a motion Council Appoint Henry Glover To Serve On The Unified Fire District Financial Advisory Board, Representing the Hannah-Salem-Friendfield Fire District. Councilman Schofield seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL:

ADMINISTRATION

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS

Mr. Smith Stated Monthly Financial Reports Were Provided To Council Members For Their Edification And An Item For The Record.

CPST I & II UPDATE

County Administrator K. G. Rusty Smith, Jr. stated updates on the CPST I and II were provided to Council as well as a report on the most recent meeting of Department Heads. The SIB reaffirmed its position on the CPST I that the SIB would draw the request for the \$90 million only after the expenditure of the Bank's original \$250 million and all County sales tax revenue, including earned interest.

The SCDOT was working extremely well with the County on both the CPST I and the CPST II. Mr. Smith received a letter stating the bids had been received for the SC51 Widening Project Sections 1 And 2 and the apparent low bidder was Palmetto Corp of Conway with a bid of \$48,793,927.29. Mr. Smith stated that if there was no objection, the County would proceed with the concurrence so that the project could proceed in a timely manner. The recent storm caused additional damage to the roadway so if DOT could proceed with the proposed timeframe, repairs to the road could be incorporated into the project so that the work would not have to be done twice. In response to a question from Councilman Caudle, Mr. Smith stated it was slightly over budget but well within the parameters and other projects had come in under budget so funding was sufficient to proceed with these two sections at this time. There were no expressed objections to proceeding with concurrence of the project with SCDOT.

ADMINISTRATION/FINANCE/SHERIFF

ADDITION OF UNPAID CHIEF PILOT POSITION

Councilman Schofield made a motion Council Approve The Addition Of An Unpaid Chief Pilot Position To The County's Compensation And Classification Plan For The Sheriff's Office. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

ADMINISTRATION/FINANCE/SOLICITOR

LEASE AGREEMENT FOR SPACE

Councilman DeBerry made a motion Council Approve Entering Into A Lease Agreement With Gene Brown For Space At The Old Post Office Necessary To House Solicitor's Staff Members. Councilman Schofield seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. In response to question from Councilman Caudle, Mr. Smith responded that first floor space was \$15.50 per square foot for 2,850 square feet and second floor space was \$14.50 per square foot for 1,400 square feet.

PROCUREMENT

REVIEW PANEL APPOINTMENT

There being no objections expressed, Chairman Poston appointed Councilman Springs To Serve On The Review Panel For RFP No. 12-15/16, Stand-By Debris Monitoring And Recovery Planning Services And RFP No. 13-15/16, Stand-By Debris Management And Removal Services.

SARDIS-TIMMONSVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT/PROCUREMENT

PURCHASE OF PUMPERS

Councilman Schofield made a motion Council Authorize The Use Of The Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC) Cooperative Purchasing Contract No. FS12-13 Awarded To Smeal Fire Apparatus For The Purchase Of Two (2) Midship 1250 Pumpers With The Necessary Equipment For The Total Cost Of \$931,254 (Including \$600 Vehicle Tax) As Funded By Bond Funds. Councilman Bradley seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

PURCHASE OF TANKER

Councilman Kirby made a motion Council Authorize The Use Of The Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC) Cooperative Purchasing Contract No. FS12-13 Awarded To US Tanker Fire Apparatus For The Purchase Of One (1) Heritage Wet Side KW Tanker With The Necessary Equipment For The Total Cost Of \$253,419 (Including \$300 Vehicle Tax) As Funded By Bond Funds. Councilman DeBerry seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

WEST FLORENCE & WINDY HILL FIRE STATION/PROCUREMENT

AWARD BID NO. 10-15/16

Councilman Dorriety made a motion Council Award Bid No. 10-15/16, West Florence And Windy Hill Fire Station, In The Amount Of \$1,725,893 (Primary Bid Amounts Plus Alternates 2 And 3) To FBI Construction Inc. Of Florence, SC From The Capital Project Sales Tax II Funds. Councilman Caudle seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

ADMINISTRATION

STORM REPORT

Mr. Smith stated that with the recent storm he felt it prudent to have staff apprise Council and the public of the effects of the storm and subsequent recovery efforts. Public Works Director Carlie Gregg provided a summary of the effects of the storm on his department and its efforts to maintain the roadways, etc.

Mr. Gregg stated that anytime a storm was forecasted he would sit down with his staff and look at the worst possible scenario and formulate a plan to deal with that scenario. The first task was to build additional barricades. The department built 90 additional barricades to add to the approximately 30-40 barricades already in stock. Barricades were put into place beginning Saturday, October 3rd, and by Sunday night, October 4th, the department had to utilize other devices to block the roads because they ran out of barricades. He stated he didn't think anyone, including himself, anticipated the magnitude of this event. By Friday evening, October 9th, no citizen in Florence County was blocked in. The department could not perform any restoration work on Monday, but began on Tuesday. The original assessment indicated there were 75 roadways in the lower part of the County and 50 in the upper area that were known to be apparently washed out. The last washed out road should be put back in operation that day and all roads should be fully operational by the end of that week; additional work may need to be done on some

of the roads, but traffic could resume to travel on those roads. The plan was to have roads back to pre-flood conditions by Friday, October 23rd. Virtually 85% of the roads in the upper area were plowed and approximately 50-55% in the lower area had been plowed, plus the County still had some roads with running water that would have to be addressed.

Two outstanding things about the flood Mr. Gregg wanted to bring to light: 1) you would think the higher price repairs would be in the lower part of the County but they were not - he contributed that to the elevation and water velocity differences; and 2) in the first assessment as far as cost, you had to assume that at the least pipes were misaligned, but the pipes were left intact still laying in the trenches. He commended the employees of the public works department for their dedication, quality and volume of work under the conditions.

Mr. Gregg stated another task he was assigned was to look into debris removal. He was asked to address debris pickup on County roads as a result of flood events. Public Works met with Waste Management (WM) regarding additional tonnage or loads of brown goods, etc. Average collection for the past 12 – 36 months or as required by FEMA would be calculated for Florence County and the County would request reimbursement by FEMA for the overage. The current contract between the County and WM states that in the case of an event that if the average goes up, WM could increase the reimbursement costs to the County. One of the concerns was the placement of debris on County maintained roads that had little or no shoulder to place the debris. The transporter of the debris must sort the goods prior to placing in the disposal receptacles at the manned convenience centers.

Mr. Gregg asked WM to provide a cost for curbside pickup but WM was not interested in providing that service. WM's pull cost for all 15 sites would be \$325 per pull; this was an average for all sites. Mr. Gregg was of the opinion that it was a fair price. The bulk of the debris would come from the lower part of the County, which was the longest pull. There was an existing contract with Pee Dee Environmental for brown goods at a cost of \$55 per pull for a 40 yard box, which came to a total of \$380 per 40 cubic yard container. This was total cost; there would be no additional costs.

Emergency Management Director Dusty Owens provided a summary of the events that occurred as a result of the flooding. Unprecedented amounts of rainfall in a very short period of time created a great deal of damage across the County. The County was struggling through a drought when the rain began, which actually worked to the County's advantage. For instance, Lynches River flood stage was 14 feet and when the rain first started, the river was down in the 5 feet range, which actually minimized the flooding to some degree. The last time County Council issued an Emergency Proclamation was during Hurricane Floyd. The implementation of the Emergency Proclamation on October 4th was necessary for several reasons, one of which was the authority given for the Sheriff's Office, Administrator, Fire Districts, and Emergency Management to enact a mandatory evacuation to get people out of dangerous/hazardous areas in an attempt to preserve life. It also provided the tool to implement a curfew to keep vehicular traffic off the roads after sundown to minimize accidents as much as possible. Over 125 County roads were either blocked or washed out, numerous State roads, including I95 and I20 were also either blocked or washed out. Due to the flooding, Central Dispatch and EMS

had to coordinate for ambulances to operate along roadways that were open to transport patients from the incident sites or homes to hospitals due to all the blocked roadways. The peak population in shelters during the flood was 125.

The GIS Department for Florence County created a software program called DART that was instrumental in assisting departments in assessing damage during this event and coordinating the data between the various departments involved. As of noon on Wednesday, October 14th, the estimated flood damage was almost \$4.5 million in damages to 475 private residents. That total does not reflect homes damaged by the rainfall, just the actual flood damage. Based on the initial damage assessment the County was able to qualify for a Presidential Disaster Declaration for individual assistance, which meant that citizens or businesses experiencing damage could apply directly to FEMA and other Federal agencies for financial compensation and assistance. Public Assistance (PA), the reimbursement to government agencies and other non-profit agencies such as McLeod Hospital, for sustained damage or costs to haul debris had not yet been approved, but he had been told that it was just a matter of the paperwork being passed through the process for the approval. US Agricultural assistance was also available.

Mr. Owens stated that during the course of the event one of the ways staff worked to improve response was through public information. The department released 29 press releases that went out not only to the media, but also to municipalities, all emergency response organizations, school districts and local businesses and industries. The County received four national inquiries from news media, particularly in response to a photo posted by the department on the website that went viral with over 300,000 views. The photo was a vehicle that went around a barricade and the roadway gave way so the vehicle was submerged. Windy Hill Fire District responded to the incident and there was no loss of life.

Citizens had already been reimbursed over \$300,000 so the system was up and running. A center had been established in Lake City to file for assistance and was operating 7 days a week until there was no longer a need. An additional site would be set up in Quinby later that day. He provided a summary of assistance currently available from distribution centers with food and supplies for those affected by the flooding to teams that would conduct repair work on homes and businesses. Community support had been outstanding. There was a call center established to accept donations as well as assist those in need. In response to a question from Councilman Springs, Mr. Owens responded that the County was very fortunate and there were no flood related deaths in Florence County nor, to his knowledge, any major injuries.

Planning Director Jay Graham stated it was a privilege to live and work in a community with such a well-coordinated team. He provided information on a comparison/contrast for two options for Council's consideration in dealing with debris: 1) through the manned convenience centers; and 2) curbside. The Southern Baptist Assistance (SBA) group was a national organization established to respond to disasters. This group made a proposal to the County to provide assistance to those in need. The group has trained people that come in the community, go door-to-door asking if the homeowner would like free assistance to remove the flood damage and mitigate the property for mold (typically flood waters

would cause black mold), which would entail fumigation of the home and crawl space and treat it so that it would be ready for necessary repairs. SCDOT was already on board to hire a contractor to pick up debris in front of homes located on State maintained roadways. SBA approached the County and asked if the County would agree to curbside pickup, then they would remove damage and pre-sort goods (e.g. white, e-goods, C&D) for pick up. It was estimated there were approximately 300 homes along County maintained roadways that were damaged. SBA advised that a typical residential home with 3 feet of water inside would produce 40 cubic yards of C&D.

Option 1 to enter into a C&D agreement with SCDOT for \$14 per cubic yard to provide curbside pickup on County maintained roadways was a 15/85 match for the first 30 days, next 30 days 20/80, and 90/180 days was 75/25 match, which came to a total of \$168,000 for C&D only. Estimated tipping fees for the estimated 12,000 cubic yards of C&D would be \$50,000 so the total cost would be \$218,000 and the County's 25% would come to \$54,500. Mr. Graham reiterated that the difficulty with curbside pickup on County maintained roads was the lack of adequate shoulder or right-of-way for SBA or citizens to place the debris. SCDOT and the County were both prohibited from entering onto private property with government owned equipment so the debris would be required to be placed in the right-of-way.

Option 2 would be where the public would be required to handle their own demolition and carry C&D to the manned convenience centers. If you kept the same 75/25 match, the total would be \$385 per 40 cubic yard container or an estimate of \$32,585 for the County's match.

In response to a question regarding monitoring costs, Mr. Owens responded that in discussions with the SCDOT officials, in the initial contract there was an hourly rate for a separate company from the company picking up the debris, but the rate had not been provided and the County would be expected to pay a percentage of that rate but it was anticipated to be a relatively minor amount, maybe \$100 per hour.

Councilman Kirby asked if the County could implement a change in the acceptance policy at the manned convenience center sites for a limited time period to accept the C&D from damaged homes. Mr. Owens stated the County could probably do so, but there would more than likely be additional costs to the County to do so. Councilman Schofield asked if the County could issue a certificate to homeowners to provide authorization for the C&D to be hauled to the centers. Councilman Springs asked if Council decided to allow this temporary arrangement, would it require Council action or could staff handle it. County Attorney Malloy McEachin stated his opinion was that it would require an action of Council because it was a change in policy. Councilman DeBerry stated he was of the opinion that the centers probably made it most convenient for the homeowners dealing with the debris and it was urgent that Council move as expeditiously as possible to try to minimize the amount of debris that ends up being illegally dumped. Councilman Caudle stated his opinion was that the County needed to make it as convenient for its citizens as possible and move forward. Councilman Dorriety agreed and asked what type of motion would be needed to move forward.

Mr. Smith expressed concerns regarding allowing the debris being placed in the right-of-way and additional overtime that would be required for staff to provide door-to-door services. Councilman Mumford stated he wanted to ensure the County was fair with the decision made and that it benefitted the citizens as much as possible.

Councilman Schofield made a motion that Council Instruct The Administrator To Move Forward With Handling It The Best Way Possible Through The Manned Convenience Centers And Develop Some Type Of Exception As Staff Recommends. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion. Councilman Schofield brought attention to the fact that the first responders were the ones that were there for the citizens during this event. He commended the first responders, mostly volunteers for their dedication and service to the citizens during the event. He commended Council for its support of the first responders and its investment in those services. Councilman Springs asked that the County look into expanding the hours of the manned convenience centers on Tuesdays and Thursdays, realizing the additional cost, but also recognizing the need. He suggested that staff could monitor the need and as the debris began to be accepted in reduced amounts, return to the original schedule. Councilman Caudle concurred. After additional discussion, it was the recommendation of the County Attorney that Council direct the County Administrator to implement a policy to allow contractors with a certificate to access the manned convenience centers for a 60-day period. Councilman Springs made a motion to amend the original motion to include the language recommended by the County Attorney. Councilman Dorriety seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. Council unanimously approved the motion as amended.

Kyle Berry with SCDOT provided a report on the flood damage from the SCDOT perspective. Mr. Berry expressed his appreciation for the cooperative effort by County representatives. On October 1st, SCDOT mobilized crews and had worked 24 hours per day since then on making repairs to roadways in Florence County. The majority of the damage was in the lower section of the County. Since that time, SCDOT performed repairs on over 100 State maintained roads. The plan was to perform all work that could be done in-house by the end of the week. Two emergency repair contracts had already been let for two damaged sections of Friendfield Road and one section on Pamplico Highway, which would begin that day. A contract was also let on three sections of Old River Road and work would start that day. There was severe damage to a bridge on Old River Road and DOT was in the process of letting a design/build bridge contract to replace the bridge, which would be more extensive work but DOT was moving as quickly as possible to get that in place. Another contract was in the process to perform repairs on Hill-Harrell Road, North Country Club Road and a section of SC41 in Johnsonville, hopefully today that would be finalized. Chairman Poston thanked Mr. Berry for his attendance, service and report.

VOTER REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS

DELETION & ADDITION OF POSITION

Councilman DeBerry made a motion Council Authorize The Deletion Of The Assistant Director Of Voter Registration (Slot #002) And The Addition Of The Election Analyst In The Voter Registration And Elections Commission To Be Funded From FY16 Budgeted Funds. Councilman Schofield seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. Voter Registration/Elections Director David Alford provided an overview of the need for the action and the benefits to the department, as well as upcoming elections.

FINANCE/FACILITIES/PROCUREMENT

AWARD BID NO. 07-15/16

Councilman Schofield made a motion Council Award The Base Bid For Bid No. 07-15/16, Switchboard Replacement For The Complex In The Amount Of \$653,728 To L&L Contractor Of Andrews, SC From The Capital Project Sales Tax II Funds. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

JOHNSONVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT/PROCUREMENT

PURCHASE PUMPERS, TANKERS & EQUIPMENT

Councilman Schofield made a motion Council Authorize The Use Of The Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC) Cooperative Purchasing Contract No. FS12-13 Awarded To Pierce Manufacturing Co., Inc. For The Purchase Of Two (2) Pierce Saber Pumps And 2 Freightliner 2 Door Tankers With The Necessary Equipment For The Total Cost Of \$1,600,000.00 (Including \$1,200 Vehicle Tax) As Funded By Bond Funds. Councilman Springs seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

OLANTA FIRE DEPARTMENT/PROCUREMENT

PURCHASE PUMPER

Councilman Springs made a motion Council Authorize The Use Of The Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC) Cooperative Purchasing Contract No. FS12-13 Awarded To Pierce Manufacturing Co., Inc. For The Purchase Of One (1) Pierce 65' Impel Sky Boom Pumper With The Necessary Equipment For The Total Cost Of \$649,820 (Including \$300 Vehicle Tax) As Funded By Bond Funds. Councilman Caudle seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

WINDY HILL FIRE DEPARTMENT/PROCUREMENT

PURCHASE PUMPERS

Councilman Mumford made a motion Council Authorize The Use Of The Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC) Cooperative Purchasing Contract No. FS12-13 Awarded To Kovath Mobile Equipment Corp. (KME) For The Purchase Of Three (3) Custom 4-Door Aluminum Cab Pumps With The Necessary Equipment For The Total Cost Of \$1,551,072 (Including \$900 Vehicle Tax) As Funded By Bond Funds (\$1,034,048) and CPST II Funds (\$517,024). Councilman DeBerry seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

ADMINISTRATION/PROCUREMENT

AWARD BID NO. 11-15/16

Councilman Caudle made a motion Council Award Bid No. 11-15/16, 2015 CPST II Dirt Road Paving Project (Phase II) In The Amount Of \$1,153,526.00 to C. R. Jackson, Inc. of Darlington, SC From The Capital Project Sales Tax II Funds And The District 5 Road System Maintenance Fund. Councilman Dorriety seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS:

INFRASTRUCTURE

DOROTHY G. HINES NATURE TRAIL

Councilman Bradley made a motion Council Approve The Reallocation Of An Expenditure Of Up To \$20,269 From Council District 3 Infrastructure Funding Allocation To Assist The City Of Florence With Asphaltting The Dorothy G. Hines Nature Trail (*Original Request Was Approved At The February 20, 2014 Regular Meeting Of Council; However, Due To Inactivity On The Project, The Funds Were De-Obligated But The City Is Now Ready To Move Forward With That Project*). Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

There being no further business to come before Council, Councilman Springs made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Schofield seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:23 A.M.