



Minutes
Sumter County Council
Budget Workshop - Special Meeting
Tuesday, May 11, 2021 - Held at 5:00 p.m.
Sumter County Administration Building, Third Floor
County Council Conference Room
13 East Canal Street, Sumter, SC

County Staff Members, Council Members, And The Public Will Be Required To Wear A Facemask And Have Temperatures Checked Upon Arrival To The Meeting. Social Distancing Is Required And Seating Is On A First Come First Serve Basis.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAHjiqzPaonQ9LFS2kO37tA>

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman James T. McCain; Vice Chairman James R. Byrd; Artie Baker, Eugene R. Baten, Charles T. Edens, Vivian Fleming McGhaney, and Carlton B. Washington.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Gary Mixon, Mary W. Blanding, Johnathan Bryan, Keysa Rogers, Joe Perry, Uvette Rogers, Kelsey Andrews, the Honorable Lauretha McCants, two Sheriff Deputies.

PUBLIC PRESENT: There was one member from the public present at this meeting.

MEDIA PRESENT: Shelby Goulding - The Item Newspaper, was present at the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER - County Council Chairman, The Honorable James T. McCain, Jr.

INVOCATION: Councilman Vivian Fleming McGhaney gave the invocation to this meeting.

ACTION ON BUDGET WORKSHOP AGENDA: Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Chairman McCain called for a motion on approval of the agenda of May 11, 2021, for Council's Budget Workshop and Special meeting.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Vice Chairman Byrd, and unanimously carried by Council to amend the agenda by hearing Item "B" first and Item "A" second listed under New Business.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget Requests and Discussions, And If Necessary, Council May Take Action On Items Discussed.

B. Recap And Action On (1) Personnel Needs and (2) Other Agencies.

Council members discussed the new personnel needs in detail. After all discussions concerning the positions, the Chairman called for a motion on this matter.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Vice Chairman Byrd, and carried by Council to grant approval of the four positions requested in this year's budget and to add an additional mill to cover the costs of the following positions equaling \$342,600 as shown in the chart below. Councilman Edens voted in opposition to this action. The motion carried.

<u>Treasurer</u> Administrative Assistant/ Legal Clerk	\$30,000	\$39,000	Full-time	To perform added duties efficiently - duties include: collection and remittance of DNR Fees, issue SCDMV Decals, issue Tax Sale Deeds in a timelier manner...
<u>Coroner</u> Deputy Coroner	\$32,000	\$41,600	1FT 35 hrs. /wk.	Increased Call Volume, will add on call investigator. Currently worked approximately 300 deaths and project an increase in annual call volume by the end of the year.
Additional request	\$5,000	\$6,000	n/a	Increase PT employee hours from 20 to 25 hours per week.
<u>Solicitor</u> 2 - Attorneys	\$140,000	\$182,000	Full-time	To assist with reducing large case back log
Additional request	\$40,000	\$48,000	n/a	Increase salaries for key personnel
<u>Veterans Affairs</u> Benefits Counselor	\$20,000	\$26,000	1 Full-time	Needed to assist veterans more efficiently and respond to the increasing number of requests for service from veterans and their dependents

Budget Requests By Agencies and Board:

Council members discussed concerns about providing funding for agencies and boards without knowing exactly what they will be using the funds for during the upcoming fiscal year. Council also had concerns about the following:

- It appears that some agencies are receiving funds from both the County and the State which is like double dipping for funds.
- The County is being asked to provide funds for a State supported agency.
- The State is requesting that certain programs are implemented, but without funds to the County to implement and carry out the needs of the program.
- The State will be receiving additional Funding which is over three billion dollars; the State Agencies should be seeking additional funds from the State and not the County.
- The Council members should develop a list of projects that they would like to have sent to the State to fund as they have done in the past for other Cities and Counties throughout the State of South Carolina.
- Use County funds for basic needs for the County's citizens.
- Provide funds to recreation to help with the summer programs so that the families do not have to pay \$10 per week per child for using recreation facilities.

- Some agencies need to have matching funds from the County to draw down funds from the State and Federal Agencies.

The Administrator and the Finance Staff were asked to contact Disabilities and Special Needs Board and the Mental Health Agency requesting that these two agencies provide the County with justification as to why they need the funds from the County. Mr. Mixon and the Finance Department will have this information ready for the May 18, 2020, Budget workshop.

It was also noted that beginning the upcoming Fiscal Year, staff will develop a mechanism which will require that agencies and boards provide justification for their funds and what the funds will be used for the upcoming fiscal year.

It was noted that Boards and Commission are asked to provide minutes and financial information to the county through the fiscal year.

Local Option Sales Tax (LOST): Councilman Baker asked the Administrator how will the additional mill(s) and the LOST have an effect on the taxpayers and the effects of the assessment this year. The Administrator stated that he and the Finance Department are working on comparisons at this time but should have this information ready by first or second reading of the Budget.

A. Capital Needs For Sumter County.

Council members reviewed the Capital Requests from the departments. Mr. Mixon along with the Finance Staff provided detailed information concerning the Capital Requests from each department. There were requests from the County's Department Heads equaling \$14,305,689. However, the following requests were recommended for inclusion in the Capital Requests for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 as listed below.

Description	Amount
Public Buildings	\$1,775,000
IT	591,103
Library	114,126
Recreation	95,276
Register of Deeds	65,000
Voter Registration	52,140
Emergency Management	50,000
Crystal Lakes	32,167
Detention Center	25,428
Sheriff	19,000
Vehicles - Sheriff	630,760
Vehicles - Other	50,000
Total Capital Request FY 2022	\$3,500,000

Additional Ambulances will be purchased through the American Recovery Rescue Program. Sumter County is expected to receive \$20,079,302; half of the funds will be received this year and the other half will be received in 2022.

Mr. Mixon also informed Council if he and the staff finds out that the Sheriff's Vehicles can be purchased through the ARRP Funds, then he will review along with the Sheriff, how many vehicles will be funded through the General Fund and others through the ARRP Funds.

Councilman Byrd asked if the IT Department can received funds through the ARR for funding the PEN Test. Ms. Uvette Rogers, Finance Director, stated that the IT Director has asked for equipment and software, but did not see a request for the PIN Test.

- C. If Necessary County Council May Hold An Executive Session To Discuss Matters Appropriate For Executive Session, And Take Appropriate Actions Thereafter.

No Executive session was held at this meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

1. None

ADJOURNMENT

After all business, Motion was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman Baten, and unanimously carried by Council to adjourn the Budget Workshop of May 11, 2021, 5:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary W. Blanding, Clerk
Sumter County Council

Approved: May 25, 2021