

**MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
LEXINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL
JUNE 29, 2004**

Lexington County Council held a Special Meeting on Monday, June 29, 2004 in Council Chambers, beginning at 6:15 p.m. The purpose of the meeting was to reconsider third and final reading of Ordinance 04-04 to establish a budget for Fiscal Year 2004-05. Chairman Davis presided; Mr. Owens gave the invocation; Mr. Carrigg led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members attending: George H. Smokey Davis Bruce E. Rucker
 William C. Billy Derrick Jacob R. Wilkerson
 Bobby C. Keisler John W. Carrigg, Jr.
 Johnny W. Jeffcoat Joseph W. Owens
 M. Todd Cullum

Also attending: Art Brooks, County Administrator; Larry Porth, Finance Director/Deputy County Administrator; Katherine Doucett, Personnel Director/Deputy County Administrator; Jeff Anderson, County Attorney; other staff members, citizens of the county and representatives of the media.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, a copy of the agenda was sent to radio and TV stations, newspapers, and posted on the bulletin board located in the lobby of the County Administration Building.

Mr. Davis stated that Mr. Anderson, County Attorney, advised that Council adopt a motion to suspend the rules.

A motion was made by Mr. Rucker and seconded by Mr. Carrigg that the rules of procedure be suspended.

Mr. Davis opened the meeting for discussion; no discussion occurred.

In Favor: Mr. Davis Mr. Rucker
 Mr. Carrigg Mr. Derrick
 Mr. Wilkerson Mr. Keisler
 Mr. Jeffcoat Mr. Owens
 Mr. Cullum

Mr. Davis stated that he would entertain a motion to reconsider third and final reading of Ordinance 04-04 - an Ordinance Adopting an Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2004-05.

A motion was made by Mr. Rucker and seconded by Mr. Owens that Council reconsider third and final reading of Ordinance 04-04.

Mr. Davis opened the meeting for discussion; no discussion occurred.

In Favor: Mr. Davis Mr. Rucker
 Mr. Owens Mr. Derrick
 Mr. Wilkerson Mr. Keisler
 Mr. Jeffcoat Mr. Carrigg
 Mr. Cullum

Ordinances - Ordinance 04-04 - An Ordinance Adopting an Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2004-05 - 3rd & Final Reading - Mr. Davis stated that he would entertain a motion for third and final reading of Ordinance 04-04.

Mr. Derrick stated that Council suspended the rules so that adjustments could be made, but nothing had been done about the state-mandated indigent care .44 millage increase. He stated this was a recurring expense and should be addressed. Mr. Derrick stated that he was voting in opposition to the entire budget so it would not be appropriate for him to make the motion.

Mr. Jeffcoat stated that he purposely left the indigent care question out and had intended to revisit it.

Mr. Rucker stated that if Mr. Jeffcoat's motion includes the indigent care question he thought Council could address it.

Prior to Mr. Jeffcoat restating the motion, Mr. Davis indicated that Mr. Anderson had a comment.

Mr. Anderson stated that if millages were to be considered the prior meeting would have to be reconvened.

Mr. Jeffcoat stated that no millage would be increased.

Mr. Carrigg asked if Council did not merely need to consider the vote on third reading; the motion is on the floor.

Mr. Jeffcoat stated....and adjust it to.....

Mr. Carrigg stated that the millages were adjusted at the 6:00 p.m. meeting and asked Mr. Anderson if this was correct.

Mr. Anderson replied that the millages were adjusted at the prior meeting.

Mr. Carrigg stated that the budget is as the motion was previously voted on; Council is reconsidering third reading and it was up or down at this point.

Mr. Anderson commented that the budget ordinance will include the approved millages.

Mr. Rucker stated that he believed the only change Mr. Jeffcoat is going to make deals with Indigent Care which he believed would come out of fund balance.

After short discussion, Mr. Davis asked that Mr. Jeffcoat restate the motion.

Mr. Jeffcoat stated that his motion is to adjust the millage to add one mill for the Lexington County Library, one mill for the General Fund, the proposed .44 mill increase for Indigent Care would not be made and the funds needed would come from fund balance, 1.50 mills for the Lexington County Recreation and Aging Commission and the millage for Lexington County Community Mental Health would be reduced by .15 mill. The total millage increase would be approximately 3.24 mills. He stated that the one mill for the General Fund would help pay for the increases in the Treasurer's office \$2,721, Registration and Elections \$3,334, less \$625 for Council; Solicitor \$535,993, Coroner \$82,712, Magistrate Court Services \$162,533, Circuit Court Services \$3,000, EMS \$237,500 for a total of \$1,027,168, less the amount projected for the additional mill \$610,000, with a net from the General Fund balance of \$417,168.

Mr. Davis stated this is the motion to approve third and final reading with the adjustments that have come forward from the special meeting. Mr. Davis asked for a second.

Mr. Jeffcoat's motion was seconded by Mr. Keisler.

Mr. Davis opened the meeting for discussion. No discussion occurred.

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| In Favor: | Mr. Jeffcoat | Mr. Keisler |
| | Mr. Rucker | Mr. Wilkerson |
| | Mr. Carrigg | Mr. Owens |
| Opposed: | Mr. Davis | Mr. Derrick |
| | Mr. Cullum | |

Committee Assignments - Mr. Davis stated that a yellow sheet had been prepared and distributed to Council members asking the preference of committee assignments. He asked each member to indicate preferences and return as quickly as possible.

Council/Hospital Meeting - Mr. Davis asked that Council members mark their calendars for September 10, 11, and 12 for a meeting with the Hospital Board concerning governance of the hospital and report from the board. He stated that the meeting will be held in Hilton Head.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy K. Black
Clerk

George H. Smokey Davis
Chairman

Diana W. Burnett
Assistant Clerk to Council