

## MINUTES OF BAMBERG COUNTY COUNCIL CALLED MEETING - June 9, 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.

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Bamberg County Council met 6:00 p.m., June 9, 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, Alice Johnson, and Gina Smith.

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Bamberg County Council meeting was called to order by Chairman Joe 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 Kinard, approved the agenda as submitted.

Council gave second 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 General Fund budget for the coming year totals \$6,505,149, with additional funds of special revenue, enterprise fund, debt service and capital projects, bringing the amount of the proposed budget to \$13,600,230.

Administrator Preston discussed the need to increase the county's capital reserve fund. The current value of a mill in Bamberg County is \$25,709. Mr. Preston asked council to give some consideration to increasing capital reserves and make a decision regarding a possible tax millage rate increase at third reading of the budget. Chairman Guess referred to a previous statement he made that if we could count on the state to give us the money they owe us, we wouldn't have to raise taxes on residents.

On motion by Councilman Kinard, seconded by Reverend Odom, council directed Administrator Preston to develop a clear set of guidelines for community groups to follow when applying for county recreation funds.

There being no further business for discussion, on motion by Councilman Kinard, seconded by Reverend Odom, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Rose R. Shepherd, CCC