

MINUTES OF BAMBERG COUNTY COUNCIL SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
June 30, 2016

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.

Bamberg County Council met 12:00 p.m., June 30, 2016, in the Council Chambers on the Bamberg County Courthouse annex. **Present:** Chairman Rev. Isaiah Odom, Councilmen Trent Kinard, Joe Guess, Jr., Evert Comer, Jr. and Larry Haynes. **Absent:** Councilman Clint Carter. **Others Present:** Administrator Joey R. Preston, T.M. Thomas, Gina Smith, Alice Johnson, Ed Darnell, Brittany Barnwell, Ben Hay, Candace Wroten and Curtis Tyler.

Bamberg County Council meeting was called to order by Chairman Isaiah Odom at 12 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Bamberg County Courthouse annex. Invocation was rendered by Councilman Evert Comer, Jr., followed with the pledge of allegiance by Councilman Joe Guess, Jr.

On motion by Councilman Comer, seconded by Councilman Guess, council approved the agenda as submitted.

On motion by Councilman Kinard, seconded by Councilman Comer, council approved the presentation of Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Bamberg County Recreation Grant requests as presented by Recreation Committee member Curtis Tyler. Mr. Tyler reported that the committee had \$14,000.00 to work with and they did their best to be fair and comply with the guidelines. There were 20 applicants that applied and all 20 were funded. Each grant was capped at \$1,000 each, with some programs received a little more with the funds left over. The grants were awarded as follows: **1) Bamberg Youth Football** (8 & Under, 12 & Under) \$1,000; **2) Bamberg Youth Football** (6& Under) \$596.69; **3) Bamberg Youth Baseball Pony Tails** (12 & Under) \$596.69; **4) Bamberg Youth Baseball Angels** (10 & Under) \$596.69; **5) Bamberg Youth Baseball Darlings** (8 & Under) \$738.69; **6) Bamberg Youth Baseball Majors** (12 & Under) \$738.69; **7) Bamberg Youth Baseball Machine Pitch** (8 & Under) \$1,000; **8) Bamberg Youth Baseball Tee Ball** (6 & Under) \$1,000; **9) Bamberg Youth Baseball Minor** (10 & Under) \$824.69; **10) Bamberg Youth Baseball Dixie Boys** (14 & Under) \$382.69; **11) Bamberg County First Steps** - \$406.38; **12) K.I.C.K.S. Soccer** - \$1,000; **13) Denmark Youth Soccer** - \$1,000; **14) Denmark Royal Tigers Football** (6-8) \$567.69; **15) Denmark Royal Tigers Football** (9-10) \$553.69; **16) Denmark Royal Tigers Football** (11-12) \$596.69; **17) Denmark Royal Tigers Cheerleaders** - \$411.69; **18) Denmark Royal Tigers Basketball** (6-8) \$881.69; **19) Denmark Royal Tigers Basketball** (9-10) \$525.69 and **20) Denmark Royal Tigers Basketball** (11-12) \$581.69.

On motion by Councilman Guess, seconded by Councilman Kinard, council approved the FY 2016-2017 Budget for Bamberg County. The budget has a general fund balance of \$6.9 million

June 30, 2016....continued

and calls for a total budget of \$14.5 million. The budget includes a 2% cost of living increase for all employees effective January 2017. Also, the budget included proposed upgrades to Sheriff and Detention Center Officers, to assist in reducing/preventing employee turnover and to stay competitive with other competitive employers. Several departments requested additional employees. One part-time position for Voter Registration is included in the FY 2016-2017 Budget. Chairman Odom complimented the staff for doing an outstanding job of submitting the budget in the manner in which it was done. Councilman Guess said the County's budget is the way it is because the state legislature has failed to do its job funding local governments as it is supposed to by state law. Voting in favor of the budget: Odom, Guess, Comer, Haynes and Kinard. Councilman Carter was absent.

There being no further business for discussion, on motion by Councilman Comer, seconded by Councilman Haynes, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Rose R. Shepherd, CCC