

MINUTES OF BAMBERG COUNTY COUNCIL SPECIAL CALLED MEETING - December 30, 2019

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*, SouthernCarolina Regional Alliance, Bamberg County Library, Bamberg County Website, Bamberg County Courthouse Annex and a copy posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway of the County Courthouse.

Bamberg County Council met 12:00 p.m., December 31, 2019 in the chamber of the Bamberg County Courthouse Annex. **Present:** Chairman Kerry Trent Kinard, Reverend Isaiah Odom, Councilwoman Sharon Hammond, Councilmen Evert Comer, Jr., Joe Guess, Jr. and Larry Haynes. **Absent:** Councilman Clint Carter. **Others Present:** Joey R. Preston, T.M. Thomas, Adam Ness, Dionne Gleaton, Shakora Bamberg, Gina Smith, Ruthie Brown. Doretta Elliott, Ken Ahlin, Gina Smith, Mary Tilton, Farrell Pulaski, Tommy Darnell, Sheriff Ed Darnell, June Darnell, William Darnell, Noah Darnell, Nicholas Darnell, Buddy Darnell, Jonathan Darnell, Stephen Darnell, Richard, Simmons, Eva Simmons, Robert Simmons, Tori Simmons, Emily Heape, Carl Oberg, Sheriff Ravenell, Jeanette Driggers, Sue Clayton, and approximately 50 additional people.

Bamberg County Council meeting was called to order by Chairman Kerry Trent Kinard at 12:10 p.m. in the Chamber of the Bamberg County Courthouse Annex. The invocation was rendered by Reverend Odom, followed with the pledge of allegiance by Councilman Joe Guess, Jr.

On motion by Councilman Haynes, seconded by Councilwoman Hammond, council approved the agenda a submitted.

On motion by Reverend Odom, seconded by Councilman Haynes, council approved third reading of a proposed ordinance authorizing the transfer of certain real property from Bamberg County to Southern Carolina Regional Development Alliance and other related matters. A public hearing for this ordinance was given at the December 2, 2019 regular County Council meeting.

On motion by Councilman Guess, seconded by Reverend Odom, council approved Resolution D-19-14, a resolution to name the law enforcement wing of the renovated county hospital building the Ed Darnell Law Enforcement Center, in honor of long-serving Bamberg County Sheriff John Edward "Ed" Darnell. The resolution reads as follows:

RESOLUTION D-19-14

WHEREAS, Sheriff John Edward "Ed" Darnell has given faithful and continued service to Bamberg County for over forty years; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Darnell has served Bamberg County since 1978, making him the third longest serving active Sheriff in the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Darnell has received countless awards and earned various praise throughout his storied career, including Sheriff of the Year in 2001 by his peers; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Darnell's strong advocacy for victim's rights in Bamberg County and the state of South Carolina earned him the title of Sheriff of the Year by the South Carolina Law Enforcement Victim Advocate's Association in 2008; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Darnell has provided a lifetime of dedicated service, contributions, and achievement to Bamberg County, for which its citizens are forever grateful;

December 30, 2019....continued

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by Bamberg County Council, in meeting duly assembled, that Bamberg County, acting by and through the Bamberg County Council, hereby acknowledges, thanks, and praises Sheriff John Edward “Ed” Darnell for his years of dedicated service to Bamberg County and recognizes his contribution to Bamberg County and Bamberg County Law Enforcement by naming the Law Enforcement wing of the renovated County Hospital Building the Ed Darnell Law Enforcement Center.

RESOLVED this 30th day of December, 2019, in meeting duly assembled.

BAMBERG COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

Kerry Trent Kinard, Council Chairman

ATTEST:

Rose R. Shepherd, Clerk to Council

Tommy Darnell, oldest son of Sheriff Ed Darnell, gave remarks referencing his father’s service to mankind. To date, his law enforcement career has spanned for almost fifty years. A copy of Tommy’s remarks will be placed in the Bamberg County’s permanent record. County Administrator Joey Preston along with the Bamberg County Council, unveiled a framed portrait of Sheriff Darnell. The portrait will be placed in an appropriate location in the Ed Darnell Law Enforcement Center and an identical portrait was presented to Sheriff Darnell. After comments were made by Sheriff Darnell, his family, friends, colleagues and law enforcement and legal community members and friends, on motion by Councilman Haynes, seconded by Reverend Odom the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m. Following adjournment, Sheriff Darnell was again amiably honored by the County with a drop-in for all in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,

Rose R. Shepherd, CCC