

MINUTES OF BAMBERG COUNTY COUNCIL SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
June 27, 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 6:00 p.m., June 27, 2019 in the chamber of the Bamberg County Courthouse Annex. **Present:** Chairman Kerry Trent Kinard, Reverend Isaiah Odom. Councilwoman Sharon Hammond, Councilmen Clint Carter, Evert Comer, Jr., Joe Guess, Jr., and Larry Haynes. **Others Present:** Joey R. Preston, T.M. Thomas, Adam Ness, Jerry Halmon, Dionne Gleaton, Gina Smith Alice Johnson, Ed Darness, Bill Johnson, Carrie McMillan, Clarence McMillan Ken Ahlin Gail Ellis, Bobbi Bunch, Ronald Bunch, John Gleaton, Jessie Collins, Candace Fralix April Campbell, Mary ?, and approximately 15 additional people.

Bamberg County Council meeting was called to order by Chairman Kerry Trent Kinard at 6:00 p.m., in the Chamber of the Bamberg County Courthouse Annex. Invocation was rendered by Councilman Evert Comer, Jr., followed with the pledge of allegiance by Councilman Clint Carter.

On motion by Reverend Odom, seconded by Reverend Odom, council approved the agenda.

On motion by Councilman Carter, second by Reverend Odom, council agreed to add citizens comments to the agenda.

On motion by Councilman Guess, seconded by Councilman Haynes, council agreed to move public comments before the public hearing comments. Those commenting were: Bobbi Bunch, Ken Ahlin, John Gleaton, Candace Fralix and Jessie Collins. All comments were in reference to the proposed budget, capital penny sales tax projects and elevated taxes in Bamberg County.

Chairman Kinard called for public comments on a proposed ordinance to adopt the operating and capital budgets of Bamberg County the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2020 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 and Bamberg County budgetary matters. Public comments were made by the citizens and on motion by Councilman Guess, seconded by Reverend Odom the public hearing was closed at 6:44 p.m.

On motion by Councilman Comer, seconded by Councilman Guess, council approved and passed on third reading a proposed ordinance to adopt the operating and capital budgets of Bamberg

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County the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2020 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 and Bamberg County budgetary matters. The budget was approved with no tax increase. The proposed budget equates to \$24,974,000. Voting in favor of the budget: Councilmen Kinard, Guess, Haynes, Comer and Odom. Voting against the budget: Councilwoman Hammond and Councilman Carter.

Chairman Kinard called for comments from council.

On motion by Councilman Comer, seconded by Councilwoman Hammond, council agreed to enter in executive session at 7:09 p.m. to discuss a contractual matter.

On motion by Councilman Haynes, seconded by Reverend Odom, council voted to reconvene in public session and to act on an executive session matter.

On motion by Councilman Guess, seconded by Councilman Comer, council voted to approve the submitted employment contract for County Administrator Joey Preston. Those voting in favor: Councilmen Kinard, Guess, Haynes, Odom and Comer. Those voting against: Councilwoman Hammond and Councilman Carter.

On motion by Reverend Odom, seconded by Councilman Guess, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rose R. Shepherd, Clerk to Council