

SPECIAL MEETING  
DARLINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL  
DARLINGTON, SC

September 11, 2014

A special meeting of the County Council of Darlington County was held September 11, 2014, at 4 p.m., at the Darlington County Courthouse Annex/EMS Building, 1625 Harry Byrd Highway, Darlington, South Carolina.

NOTICE OF MEETING

In compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, a copy of the agenda, giving the date, time, and place of the meeting was mailed in advance to the local newspapers, persons requesting notification, and posted on the bulletin board at the entrance to the County Administrator's Office and the Courthouse Annex/EMS Building.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairman Wesley Blackwell, Chaplain Dannie Douglas, Jr., Mr. Robbin Brock, Mr. Bobby Hudson, and Mrs. Wilhelmina P. Johnson.

COUNCIL MEMBER ABSENT

Vice Chairwoman Ms. Mozella "Pennie" Nicholson, Mr. Marvin Le Flowers, and Mr. Robert L. Kilgo, Jr.

ALSO PRESENT

Interim County Administrator Thomas W. Edwards, Jr., Clerk to Council J. JaNet Bishop, Economic Development Director Frank Willis, Finance Director Perry Strickland, Materials Manager Sherman Dibble, and others.

REPORTERS PRESENT

Ms. Samantha Lyles of the News and Press.

Call To Order / Invocation / Pledge Of Allegiance

Chairman Blackwell called the meeting to order at 4 p.m. Mr. Douglas presented the invocation and Mr. Hudson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Bid Award For The Construction Of The I-20/Hwy. 340 Industrial Park Entrance Road

**MOTION** was made by Mr. Brock and seconded by Mrs. Johnson to approve the recommendation to award the bid contract to C.R. Jackson in the amount of \$1,968,000 to construct the I-20/340 Industrial Park entrance road.

The motion carried unanimously.

Refunding Of Bond Issue / Request To Set Debt Service Mills for FY14/15

In reference to the \$3,575,000 General Obligation Bond, Chairman Blackwell explained that Council wanted to clarify that the county would pay back some of the old

bonds (1994 bond for the Darlington Library and the 1998 bond for the rental t-hangars) that were at higher interest rates. He stated that Bond Attorney Ben Zeigler previously appeared before Council and presented this option.

Chairman Blackwell said Council also wanted to authorize the Auditor, the Treasurer, and the County Administrator to set the millage for the repayment of the new General Obligation Bond. He wanted to know whether Council members had any concerns regarding this authorization. He also mentioned that this was being requested because the tax bills would be prepared/printed before Council's next meeting.

Chairman Blackwell stated that there would be an ordinance setting the millage (Ordinance No. 14-16) to make clear that the millage rate would repay the General Obligation Bond.

Mr. Douglas commented on the interest rate for the 1994 and 1998 bonds.

Mr. Edwards indicated that new bond would have an interest rate of 1.47 percent as provided in the information that was handed to Council prior to the meeting.

Mr. Douglas asked about the county paying off all of the bonds.

Mr. Brock asked where the 2014 Fire District bond came from and what it would be used for.

Chairman Blackwell explained that the \$500,000 General Obligation Bond for the Fire District was obtained to build the additional fire stations. He said Council had discussed a larger bond to purchase fire trucks, which would be done in the future.

Chairman Blackwell announced that there were no objections to refunding the 1994 and 1998 bonds - meaning to repay those bonds.

**MOTION** was made by Mr. Douglas and seconded by Mrs. Johnson to accept the \$3,575,000 General Obligation Bond and repay the 1994 and 1998 bonds.

The motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance No. 14-16, An Ordinance To Set The Millage Rate For Bond Indebtedness For FY14/15, First Reading - TITLE ONLY

Mr. Edwards indicated that the staff would present the exact figure at a later date.

Chairman Blackwell read the title of Ordinance No. 14-16 for first reading. No action required.

Adjournment

**MOTION** was made by Mr. Brock to adjourn the meeting. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mrs. J. JaNet Bishop  
Clerk to Council

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Mr. Wesley Blackwell, Chairman  
Darlington County Council

Approved at meeting of October 6, 2014.