

REGULAR MEETING
DARLINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL
DARLINGTON, SC

June 21, 2010

A regular meeting of the County Council of Darlington County was held this 21st day of June 2010, at 6 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 (the News and Press, the Messenger, and the Morning News), persons requesting notification, and posted on the bulletin board at the entrance to the County Administrator's Office.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairman Billy Baldwin, Vice Chairman Anne C. Warr, Chaplain Dannie Douglas, Jr., Mr. Wesley Blackwell, Mr. Marvin Le Flowers, Mrs. Wilhelmina P. Johnson, Ms. Mozella "Pennie" Nicholson, and Mr. Alex "Buz" Shaw.

ALSO PRESENT

County Administrator Phyllis Griffiths, County Attorney James C. Cox, Jr., Clerk to Council J. JaNet Bishop, Interim Emergency Services Director Linwood Epps, Codes Enforcement Director Randy Evans, Economic Development Director Robert Long, Fire Chief David Williamson, Special Programs Coordinator Mac McDonald, Finance Director John Williams, Sheriff Wayne Byrd, Captain Andy Locklair, Roads and Bridges Director Bobby Richardson, Library Director Nancy Ray, Planning Director Doug Reimold, Environmental Services Director Mike Dorriety, Alcohol & Drug Abuse Citizen Advisory Committee Member Ruth Baronda, Library Board members and staff, and others.

REPORTERS PRESENT

Mr. Jim Faile of the Messenger and Ms. Samantha Lyles of the News and Press.

Call To Order / Invocation / Pledge Of Allegiance

Chairman Baldwin called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. Mr. Douglas presented the invocation and Mr. Blackwell led the pledge of allegiance.

Citizens' Comments

Ms. Ruth Baronda thanked Council members for their work and presented them with a Certificate of Appreciation.

Mr. Pat Gibson offered his service as a volunteer on a committee of Council. He had served in the military for 20 something years, taught Jr. ROTC at Darlington High School, and will retire next month. Therefore, he would appreciate the opportunity to serve on a Board/Commission/Committee.

Mr. Shaw indicated that Mr. Gibson resides in his Council District and was a hard worker.

Ms. Carolyn Powers stated that she was a volunteer with Darlington County Humane Society, but would not be speaking on behalf of that Board or any individuals with that group. She was present to state her personal opinion. Ms. Powers said she was astounded to read in the *Morning News* that Mrs. Wilhelmina Johnson was requesting \$35,000 for a non-profit organization (CRC) which was not a part of Darlington County this late in the budget year, when just three weeks ago she blasted the Humane Society for doing the same thing. Ms. Powers said Mrs. Johnson made a point of saying that the Humane Society waited too late in the budget year to request funds and that the Humane Society was not a part of Darlington County; therefore, not eligible to receive funds. She said Mrs. Johnson also made the statement that politics must be taken out of government at all levels. Ms. Powers asked what could be more political than for an elected official to request money from the Council on which she serves for her own organization that she founded and serves as executive director?

Approval Of Minutes - Regular Meeting Of June 7, 2010 - CARRY OVER REQUESTED

MOTION was made by Mrs. Johnson and seconded by Mrs. Warr to carry over approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of June 7, 2010.

The motion carried unanimously.

Ordinances

There were no ordinances.

Resolutions

There were no resolutions.

Committee Reports

South Darlington Watershed Project. Mrs. Johnson reported that on June 15th, the South Darlington Watershed Project Committee met with state and federal officials to discuss the project and the funding. She asked the Planning staff to remain abreast of this matter because officials were indicating that more needs to be done regarding wetland mitigation. Mrs. Johnson thought that after 20 years, this project would have been "shovel ready."

Other Items

Appointments To Boards & Commissions

Alcohol & Drug Citizen Advisory Committee

Mrs. Johnson appointed Mrs. Shelia Washington Davis to serve on the Alcohol & Drug Citizen Advisory Committee.

Mr. Shaw appointed Ms. Ruth Baronda to continue serving on the Alcohol & Drug Citizen Advisory Committee and removed Mr. Warren Arthur since both individuals reside in his Council District.

Mr. Baldwin and Mr. Blackwell carried over their appointment to this committee.

Individuals appointed to the Alcohol & Drug Citizen Advisory Committee will serve until they resign or are replaced by County Council.

Ambulance Commission

Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Flowers, and Mr. Blackwell carried over their appointment to the Ambulance Commission.

Board Of Assessment Appeals

Mr. Douglas appointed Mr. Jerry Cox, Sr. for a term to commence on July 1, 2010 and expire on June 30, 2013. At Council's last meeting, Mr. Douglas appointed Mr. Kevin Nicklas Brown who resides in Council District 1 and was appointed by Mr. Baldwin to the Historical Commission.

Mr. Shaw appointed Mr. Pat Gibson for a term to commence on July 1, 2010 and expire on June 30, 2013.

Mr. Blackwell appointed Mr. Sam Ingram for a term to commence on July 1, 2010 and expire on June 30, 2013.

Mr. Baldwin carried over his appointment to this Board.

Construction Board Of Adjustment Appeals

Mr. Flowers carried over his appointment to this Board.

Development Board

Mr. Douglas appointed Mr. Edward Krajack for a term to commence on July 1, 2010 and expire on June 30, 2013. At Council's last meeting, Mr. Douglas appointed Dr. Ernest Helms, III, but he declined this appointment.

Mr. Flowers carried over his appointment to this Board.

Board Of Fire Control

It was the consensus of Council to appoint Mr. Kenny Blankenship (Swift Creek Station 2) to fill an unexpired term through June 30, 2013; to reappoint Mr. Bryan Hopkins (Dovesville Station 13) for a term to commence on July 1, 2010 and expire on June 30, 2014; and appoint Mr. Jason Bell (Lamar Station 14) to fill the unexpired term of Brent Bullard through June 30, 2012.

Historical Commission

Mr. Shaw appointed Mr. Bill Segars to continue serving on the Historical Commission through June 30, 2011 and removed Ms. Judy Norwood Knight since both of these individuals reside in Mr. Shaw's council district.

Jetport Commission

Mrs. Johnson appointed Mr. Reginald Eldridge for a term to commence on July 1, 2010 and expire on June 30, 2013. At Council's last meeting, Mrs. Johnson appointed Mr. Phillip Johnson, but he declined this appointment.

Mr. Blackwell appointed Mr. Bobby Dempsey to fill an unexpired term through June 30, 2012.

Library Board

Mr. Shaw appointed Mr. Warren Arthur for a term to commence on July 1, 2010 and expire on June 30, 2014.

Mr. Baldwin carried over his appointment to decide who would remain on this Board, Mrs. Anne Baldwin or Ms. Ronna Askins.

Mr. Flowers carried over his appointment.

Parks And Recreation Commission

Mr. Shaw appointed Ms. Alesa Saunders for a term to commence on July 1, 2010 and expire on June 30, 2013.

Mr. Flowers and Mr. Blackwell carried over their appointment to this Commission.

Planning Commission

Mrs. Warr appointed Mr. Robert Alexander Warr, Jr. for a term to commence on July 1, 2010 and expire on June 30, 2013. At Council's last meeting, Mrs. Warr appointed Mr. Mitch Tyner who resides in Council District 5.

Mr. Blackwell appointed Ms. Judy Haenni for a term to commence on July 1, 2010 and expire on June 30, 2013.

Mr. Shaw carried over his appointment to this Commission.

Stagger Terms For Historical Commission Members

Mr. Blackwell reported that in reviewing all the committees, the terms of six members on the Historical Commission will expire at the same time. Therefore, he requested that three of the members serve for four years instead of three years, and let the Historical Commission establish which three members would serve for four years.

MOTION was made by Mr. Blackwell, at the request of the Historical Commission Chairman, and seconded by Mrs. Warr for three members of the Historical Commission to serve for four years instead of three years, and let the Historical Commission establish which three members would serve for four years.

Mr. Cox said this would require a change in the ordinance. The ordinance currently states that these members will serve three-year terms.

Mr. Blackwell mentioned that Council had staggered the terms of members before, and it could present a problem when six of eight members go off the Commission at the same time.

Mr. Flowers indicated that Council could change the appointees' date and stagger the terms without changing the length of the terms. The members would still serve three years. Council would change the date as to when the appointees would begin serving.

Mr. Blackwell **withdrew his motion** and requested that this matter be carried over to Council's next meeting to find out what could be done procedurally to resolve this matter. Mrs. Warr **withdrew her second**.

Mr. Cox said he would have to look at this again. Therefore, he suggested that Council allow him time to get with whomever for the next Council meeting.

2008 Local Emergency Management Performance Grant (LEMPG) Supplemental Funds Award, \$8,000

MOTION was made by Mrs. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Blackwell to approve the 2008 LEMPG Supplemental Funds award.

The motion carried unanimously.

FY10 Local Emergency Management Performance Grant (LEMPG) Award, \$53,013

MOTION was made by Mrs. Warr and seconded by Ms. Nicholson to approve the FY10 LEMPG award.

The motion carried unanimously.

Designated Facilities Agreement With S.C. Department Of Corrections To House State Inmates At Darlington County Prison Farm

MOTION was made by Mrs. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Douglas to approve the Designated Facilities Agreement with the South Carolina Department of Corrections.

Mr. Shaw asked whether the county could work the inmates from the State Department of Corrections. He also mentioned that there were people in prison who had to go to other locations for food. Some of the sites were running out of food. Mr. Shaw said that if the inmates have a trade such as electrical, welding, etc., the county should be able to work them.

Mr. Cox said he did not think that the county could work the inmates. However, he would follow up on this. He also stated that just because the inmates have a trade, certain criteria must be met.

Mrs. Griffiths indicated that this was the same agreement.

Mrs. Johnson questioned whether the county receives adequate income to house the inmates.

Mrs. Griffiths explained that this was different. This agreement was for the inmates that the county works at the Prison Farm. This saves the county \$2 million to \$3 million by working inmates in departments such as Roads and Bridges and the landfill. She stated that the Sheriff has pre-sentenced inmates.

Sheriff Byrd indicated that he has trustees, too.

Mr. Cox said this was the same program. However, Mr. Shaw had a general question. What he was asking was already being done. Council considers this same agreement every year and the program works well for the county.

The motion carried unanimously.

Bid Report For Construction Of The New Library In Society Hill

MOTION was made by Mrs. Warr and seconded by Mr. Douglas to award the bid for construction of the library in Society Hill to the low bidder, Heartland Contracting, LLC of Indian Trail, North Carolina, in the amount of \$797,000.

The motion carried unanimously.

Certification Under Section 1511 Of The American Recovery And Reinvestment Act For Funds To Construct The New Library In Society Hill

MOTION was made by Mrs. Warr and seconded by Mr. Douglas to approve the certification under section 1511 of the ARRA for funds to construct the new library in Society Hill.

The motion carried unanimously.

Fire District's Request To Purchase A 1993 Chevrolet 1500 Truck With Service/Rescue Body, \$5,000

MOTION was made by Mrs. Warr and seconded by Mr. Blackwell to approve the Fire District's request to purchase a 1993 Chevrolet 1500 truck with service/rescue body from Lake Robinson Rescue Squad for \$5,000.

The motion carried unanimously.

Budget Transfer Request To Purchase Truck For Fire District, \$5,000

MOTION was made by Mrs. Warr and seconded by Mr. Douglas to approve the request to transfer \$5,000 from the Fire District's Council Discretionary Funds (014-036-42200-80400) to Fire District's Vehicles (014-136-42200-74400) to pay for the 1993 Chevrolet 1500 truck.

The motion carried unanimously.

Contract Between Darlington County And Progress Energy Carolinas, Inc For Progress Energy Carolinas, Inc. To Provide Funds Through The State's License Fee Credit Program For The Addition Of A Rail Spur For PolyQuest Expansion Project

MOTION was made by Mrs. Johnson and seconded by Mrs. Warr to approve the contract with Progress Energy.

The motion carried unanimously.

Planning Commission/Department's Request For Authorization To Accept Pee Dee Regional Council Of Governments' Proposal For Land Development Services To Develop A Land Development (Zoning) Ordinance For The I-20/340 Industrial Park Area, \$3,000

MOTION was made by Ms. Nicholson and seconded by Mrs. Warr to approve the proposal with Pee Dee COG.

Mrs. Johnson commented about the Planning Department focusing on one area of the county and not the entire county. She said the land use plan was needed. She also commented about wetland mitigation and the South Darlington Watershed Project.

The motion carried unanimously.

Budget Transfer Requests (Detention Center, Prison Farm, & Sheriff's Dept.)

MOTION was made by Mr. Blackwell and seconded by Mr. Douglas to approve the budget transfer requests.

The budget transfers were as follows:

Detention Center. \$14,000 to Overtime (021-42320-13000); \$1,000 to State Retirement (021-42320-23400); and \$23,000 to Svcs - Clinical Med. (021-42320-34400) from the following accounts: \$11,700 from Worker's Comp (021-42320-26000) and \$26,300 from Tort (021-42320-52100) to correct budget shortfall in overtime due to personnel shortage/turnover and shortfall in inmate medical invoices.

Prison Farm: \$1,500 to Overtime (027-42350-13000) from Health Insurance (027-42350-21200) to correct budget shortfall in overtime due to personnel shortage and turn over.

Sheriff's Department: \$7,500 to Overtime (035-42100-13000) and \$47,500 to Fuel (035-42100-62100) from the following accounts: \$16,160 from Health Insurance (035-42100-21200); \$2,486 from FICA (035-42100-22000); \$19,715 from Workers Comp (035-

42100-26000); \$6,639 from Tort Insurance (035-42100-52100); and \$10,000 from Salary (035-42100-111000) to correct budget shortfall in overtime due to personnel shortage/turnover and shortfall in fuel due to increase in activity and fleet size.

The motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

Included in the Consent Agenda were the following:

<u>ITEMS</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
A. Letter From Terry "Mac" Josey RE: Appreciation For Service On The Development Board	Receive As Information
B. Building Permit Types Report & Building Inspections Report, May 2010	Receive As Information
C. Letter Of Resignation From Mr. Phillip M. Johnson, Jetport Commission, Council District 3	Receive As Information
D. Letter Of Resignation From Dr. Ernest Helms, III, Development Board, Council District 2	Receive As Information
E. Ribbon Cutting For Saturday Night Jamboree, June 19, 2010	Receive As Information

MOTION was made by Mr. Blackwell and seconded by Mrs. Warr to receive the Consent Agenda items as information.

The motion carried unanimously.

Personal Appearances

There were no personal appearances.

Administrative Update - Mr. J. Wayne Byrd, Sheriff - Update

Sheriff Byrd stated that he did not know what this was about. He was told from the County Administrator's Office that he needed to be placed on the agenda. Therefore, he yielded to the County Administrator to inform Council of what this concerned.

Mrs. Griffiths said her staff had approached her about things that were added to the insurance. She asked the staff to ask Sheriff Byrd to appear before Council to request acceptance of the items (a boat, a jet ski, and a four-wheeler). This was Mrs. Griffiths' understanding from the staff, that the Sheriff had requested to place the items on the county's insurance. Mrs. Griffiths asked Sheriff Byrd whether she was correct in that he had requested the staff to place the three items on the county's insurance.

Sheriff Byrd said the jet ski and the four-wheeler were added to the county's insurance last year and paid from the Sheriff Department's budget. To his knowledge, the Sheriff's Department also had the money to pay for the other item to be added to the insurance.

Mrs. Warr wanted to know when the county received the boat.

Sheriff Byrd said the Sheriff's Department had not received the boat, and he did not know whether he would receive it since Council was having this discussion.

Finance Director John Williams explained that the county was given a four-wheeler and a jet ski by a company that would rather remain anonymous. He said the boat would be a gift from a company that would also like to remain anonymous. Mr. Williams said Council needed to accept these items so that they could be brought in as county property so that they belong to Darlington County as opposed to some other entity. If this was the pleasure of Council, the items could be added to the county's insurance. He said the county had funded the insurance for the jet ski and the four-wheeler. The boat had not been accepted, yet.

Sheriff Byrd pointed out that the Sheriff's Department had not accepted delivery of a boat.

Mr. Williams stated that, to his knowledge, the only thing that the Sheriff's Department had done thus far was taken a test drive of the boat to find out whether it would fit into the scope of what they intend to use it for.

Chairman Baldwin asked whether the boat would be a part of Darlington County or a part of the Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff Byrd responded, "a part of the Sheriff's Office."

Chairman Baldwin clarified that the boat would be the liability of the Sheriff's Department and not the county.

Sheriff Byrd responded, "yes."

Mrs. Warr wanted to know what the boat would be used for.

Sheriff Byrd explained that the boat would be used for search and rescue. The primary purpose would be for Homeland Security around Lake Robinson in case of an emergency.

Mrs. Warr asked what was currently being used and whether the Department of Revenue was providing assistance.

Sheriff Byrd said he could not go into details. However, in the past, they had relied on Wildlife. With the current state of the State's budget, the Sheriff's Office did not have the assurance that Wildlife could fill this obligation, especially if there were another emergency somewhere else in the state. Sheriff Byrd stated that the Sheriff's Office was ultimately liable for filling this void.

Ms. Nicholson asked whether the Sheriff's Office would be given a boat and this would not be similar to the situation involving the dog.

Sheriff Byrd said the Sheriff's Office had been given two of the items and asked by the company that made the donation to not publicize this in any way. He said they told the company donating the boat that the Sheriff's Office would do a public acceptance and give the company a chance to formally present the boat to the Sheriff's Office. However, with everything that was going on tonight, this may not happen.

Mr. Douglas asked the type of boat.

Sheriff Byrd said the boat was a 20-foot center console.

Mr. Cox said any property going to any agency of the county, it acts in the name of the county in order to be placed on the county's insurance. Therefore, he did not know what the problem was with the boat, but there had been some discussion about it. Mr. Cox stated that if the county takes ownership of the property, there was no reason as to why it

should not be placed on the county's insurance. He asked whether the Sheriff had separate insurance from the county's insurance.

Sheriff Byrd said, "no."

Mr. Cox said that to protect his men and equipment, the Sheriff would want the equipment in the name of the county and under the county's insurance.

Ms. Nicholson wanted to make sure that the equipment belonged to the county.

Sheriff Byrd stated that the jet ski and the four-wheeler had been titled and registered with a county property tag for over a year.

Mrs. Johnson questioned the trial balance report that was included in Council's agenda package with the Sheriff's Department budget transfer requests.

Finance Director John Williams explained that the trial balance was included for Council's review because the staff needed to place a significant amount of money in the fuel line item account for the police cars. He made a mistake when he calculated this line item in the budget last year. Therefore, the trial balance would show where the money would come from to correct the shortfall in fuel. Mr. Williams explained that he estimated fuel at \$2.25 per gallon and fuel had not been this cheap all year. Therefore, the report would show what the county was faced with in balancing the budget. The budget transfer would take away the last two weeks of operating the Sheriff's Department. Mr. Williams said this would not stop the operation, but would not leave an excess amount of money to be used.

Mrs. Griffiths informed Council that when the budget books are typed, this information is listed as fixed assets, and these items were not listed. Therefore, she was requesting Council's permission to accept the items into the county to be placed in the budget book as fixed assets. This would be similar to when the number of cars in the Sheriff's Department increased from 65 to 75.

Mrs. Warr asked the amount of money these items would cost in reference to insurance and liability.

Mrs. Griffiths said Materials Manager Teresa Dickerson had submitted this but had not received the figures.

Sheriff Byrd said the cost of insurance last year for the jet ski and four-wheeler was \$400 and the boat would be about \$518, if added.

Mrs. Johnson wanted to know whether the budget would cover everything.

Mrs. Griffiths said the money was transferred from the Sheriff's Office activities.

Mr. Blackwell stated that since the county was responsible for security of the nuclear plant, the county needed these vehicles and Council needed to accept them.

Chairman Baldwin stated that the county had accepted two of the items.

Mrs. Griffiths pointed out that the items had not come before Council. The items were placed on the insurance without her knowledge.

MOTION was made by Mr. Blackwell and seconded by Mr. Shaw to accept the jet ski, the four-wheeler, and the boat.

Mr. Shaw pointed out that the nuclear plant provides over one-half of the money that the county receives to operate. If the county needed to do something to protect the nuclear plant, it should not be a big deal.

Mrs. Warr asked whether Progress Energy was aware of this.

Sheriff Byrd said, "not as of yet." "We don't have it."

Chairman Baldwin stated that there was not a request for the boat, yet.

Sheriff Byrd said the boat was a formality; it was just a matter of time unless the company changes its mind. However, the boat could be accepted tonight or at Council's next meeting.

Mrs. Griffiths said Council needed to accept the request so that the boat could be added to the insurance, when received.

Sheriff Byrd clarified that he would like the boat to be added.

Mr. Blackwell restated his **MOTION** to approve receipt of the boat, the jet ski, and the four-wheeler. This restated motion was seconded by Mr. Douglas.

The motion carried with Mrs. Warr opposing. Mrs. Warr wanted to know Progress Energy's comments about the Sheriff's Department using this boat on their lake.

Administrative Update -Mrs. Phyllis Griffiths, County Administrator - Update

Mrs. Griffiths did not have an update.

Requests / Comments – Members Of Council

Mr. Shaw thanked Roads and Bridges Director Bobby Richardson for his efforts on the roads. He also commended Sheriff Byrd for working with the power company/nuclear plant. Mr. Shaw said it seemed to him that the power company would have had a representative at the meeting, if they were told. He asked Sheriff Byrd whether he had spoken with them.

Sheriff Byrd indicated that he did.

Mr. Shaw said this light company pays a majority of the county's tax, and if they needed something, Council should help Sheriff Byrd get it to make them happy.

In reference to the jet ski, Mr. Flowers said the Big Pee Dee River, Black Creek, Lynches River, and Louther's Lake were in the county. He said there were places where only a jet ski could get in for search and rescue efforts. Therefore, this was an excellent addition to the Sheriff's Office. Mr. Flowers said a regular boat would not fit in some of the places. Therefore, he thanked the companies for their generous gift. He was glad to have these items in the county's "tool box."

Mrs. Johnson stated that she had made a brief report on the South Darlington Watershed Project and something would be forthcoming from Planning. She thanked Reporter Jim Faile for the article that appeared in the newspaper regarding the foreclosure of the Darlington County Cultural Realism Complex (CRC). Mrs. Johnson also commended the person who appeared and talked about the conflict of interest. She handed out information that she had presented at Council's last meeting regarding the CRC, along with various newspaper articles, etc. Mrs. Johnson then talked about services of the CRC, the phase out of non-departmental groups 15 years ago, and preserving non-profit groups that were doing the work for the people in Darlington County. She said nothing was being done by the county; everything was being done by non-profits. Mrs. Johnson said her request for \$35,000 was a small amount when compared to what was needed and what had been done. She also stated that she had not given up on the old post office building. Mrs. Johnson asked Chairman Baldwin to place her request for \$35,000 on Council's next agenda along with a review of the phase out of non-profits. She also stated that a workshop was needed to review the analysis and to discuss what had happened in the past. Mrs.

Johnson indicated that the Humane Society was not active when the phase-out happened. She commented on the efforts of the late Bugg Lunn and the establishment of the Humane Society.

Chairman Baldwin asked County Attorney Jim Cox whether Mrs. Johnson's request would be out of order because this was not an item that Council could fund.

Mr. Cox said it was out of order.

Chairman Baldwin also stated that he did not think that Council could take county money to pay for a person's personal property. He asked whether Council could do this.

Mr. Cox said, "no."

Chairman Baldwin said that based upon these grounds, this was the reason he did not place this matter on this agenda, and he did not think that this request would go forward on Council's next agenda.

Mrs. Johnson said she did not have an attorney. However, she was sensitive to what was going on in America and in Darlington County. She stated that as one of the oldest 501(c) 3 status organization in South Carolina, no one owns anything. All the funds collected were for the people. Again, she asked that her request be placed on Council's next agenda.

Mrs. Warr reported on the status of the 2010 census, the reduction in the Workforce Investment Program and other programs, and possible future cuts. In reference to the non-departmental phase-out, Mrs. Warr said about 15 to 20 organizations wanted assistance. She questioned Council handing out taxpayers' tax dollars to anyone requesting non-departmental funds and pointed out that the animal shelter was a part of the county business and not under non-departmental. Mrs. Warr stated that if citizens want to make a donation, they would do it themselves. She also mentioned that the county could not increase tax this year and has to work with what the county has. Mrs. Warr concluded by stating that she was surprised that Mrs. Johnson had county stationery and her request for funds for CRC was written on that stationery.

Mr. Douglas commended the efforts of Ms. Ruth Baronda and thanked the citizens for attending the meeting.

Ms. Nicholson thanked the staff for providing her with all the historical information from 1993 on the flooding project south of Hartsville.

Mr. Blackwell said the citizens expect Council to spend their money very carefully on EMS, police protection, fire protection, solid waste, and a place for cats and dogs. He shared an incident wherein he found a deer in his back yard. He said the county would probably have to do with less money in the coming years and must be careful with spending.

Audit Services

Mr. Blackwell reported that the Finance Review Committee had met this evening and recommended extending the audit service contract for this year to Hill and Jordan CPA to do the county's audit and that a deadline is established by the staff for completion of the audit.

MOTION was made by Mr. Blackwell and seconded by Mr. Douglas to extend the contract for audit services with Hill and Jordan CPA for one year and for the staff to establish a deadline for completion of the audit.

The motion carried unanimously.

Requests / Comments – Members Of Council Continue

Chairman Baldwin thanked Library Director Nancy Ray, his wife Anne Baldwin, and the Library Board for finally getting to the point to begin construction of the new library in Society Hill. He clarified that he would not place Mrs. Johnson's request for \$35,000 for CRC on Council's next agenda.

Adjournment

MOTION was made by Mrs. Warr and seconded by Mr. Blackwell to adjourn the meeting. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. J. JaNet Bishop, Clerk to Council

Mr. Billy Baldwin, Chairman
Darlington County Council

Approved at meeting of July 6, 2010.