

March 30, 2015

DINNER MEETING
DARLINGTON COUNTY'S MUNICIPAL COUNCILS,
COUNTY COUNCIL, BOARD OF EDUCATION, &
LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION
DARLINGTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

The City of Darlington hosted a dinner meeting of Darlington County's Municipal Councils, County Council, Board of Education, and Legislative Delegation on March 30, 2015, at 6 p.m., at Darlington Country Club, 125 Country Club Road, 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 posted on the bulletin board in the County Administrator's Office and mailed in advance to Darlington County's Municipal Mayors/Managers/Clerks, Darlington County School District Superintendent, Darlington County Board of Education Chairman, Darlington County Legislative Delegation, Darlington County Council members, and the local newspapers.

COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairman Bobby Hudson, Vice Chairman Robbin Brock, Chaplain Dannie Douglas, Jr., Mrs. Wilhelmina P. Johnson, and Mr. Robert L. Kilgo, Jr.

COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. David Coker, Mr. Marvin Le Flowers, and Ms. Mozella Nicholson.

ALSO PRESENT

County Administrator Terence Arrington, Clerk to Council J. JaNet Bishop, Economic Development Director Frank Willis, Darlington County Board Of Education Members Connell Delanie, Billy Baldwin, and Wanda Hassler, City of Darlington Mayor Tony Watkins, City of Darlington Council Members Dyan Cohen, James Cooper, III, and Coleman Cannon, Sr., City of Darlington Administrator Howard Garland, City of Darlington Clerk Gloria Pridgen, City of Darlington Police Chief Daniel Watson, Hartsville Council Members Adlena Graham, Teresa Mack, Bob Braddock, and Billy Shirley, Society Hill Mayor Tommy Bradshaw, Society Hill Council Members Deborah Harrell and Carolyn Oliver, Lamar Council Members Willie Howell and Guy Clements, and Representative Robert Williams.

REPORTERS PRESENT

Ms. Samantha Lyles of the News and Press.

Welcome / Invocation

Mayor Watkins welcomed everyone to the meeting. Darlington City Councilman Coleman Cannon presented the invocation.

Items From The Floor

After dinner, Mayor Watkins introduced Mr. Terence Arrington, the county's new County Administrator. Mr. Arrington briefly talked about collaboration and his vision for Darlington County.

Mayor Watkins talked about the need for baseball/softball fields in Darlington; the new Wal-Mart; the installation of new waterlines in the downtown area; and their police officers already wearing body cameras.

County Council Chairman Bobby talked about the need for more local government funds; the state wanting to give more roads to the county to maintain; and the status of the I-20/340 Industrial Park. He urged everyone to communicate and work together.

Darlington County Councilwoman Wilhelmina Johnson talked about the information she received from the South Carolina Association of Counties regarding H.3579 and a resolution opposing mandatory devolution of state roads.

Darlington County Councilman Robert Kilgo also talked about H. 3759 and asked Representative Robert Williams to vote for the amendment giving County Councils the option, not the CTC, of whether to accept state roads. He also mentioned his tour of Sonoco and invited officials to contact Economic Development Director Frank Willis to schedule tours with the various industries in the county.

Society Hill Mayor Tommy Bradshaw reported on the restoration of the Train Depot and boat landing, and the installation of lights around the town.

Lamar Councilman Guy Clements briefly talked about the new health care facility in Lamar. County Councilman Bobby Hudson also mentioned the availability of Timewarner Cable services in Lamar areas.

Representative Robert Williams asked officials to provide their email address if they would like to receive a copy of his monthly report. He mentioned his support for local government funds going back to the counties; the bill to transfer state roads to counties; restructuring of the South Carolina Department of Transportation; and the Governor's appointment of various state officials.

Hartsville Councilman Bob Braddock talked about Coker College building new residence halls, events happening in Hartsville, and revenue from their hospitality tax.

Board of Education Member Connell Delaine briefly mentioned the school district's renovations, plans for securing schools, resources available to students, the safety of students traveling to and from schools, growing the county's population, and beautifying the entryways into the county.

Economic Development Director Frank Willis talked about existing companies/industries expanding in Darlington County and prospects for the old Wellman property.

Mayor Watkins talked about Pee Dee Regional Transportation Authority's (PDRTA) services in Darlington area and PDRTA's Ride-Along scheduled for April 9 and April 16, 2015.

County Administrator Terence Arrington talked about the importance of collaboration and utilizing available resources.

There being no further discussion, Mayor Watkins announced that the meeting was adjourned at 8 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

J. JaNet Bishop
Clerk to Council

Bobby Hudson, Chairman
Darlington County Council

Approved at meeting of April 20, 2015.