

PUBLIC HEARING & SPECIAL MEETING  
DARLINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL  
DARLINGTON, SC

August 15, 2022

A Public Hearing and Special Meeting of the County Council of Darlington County was held this 15<sup>th</sup> day of August 2022 at the Courthouse Annex/EMS Building, 1625 Harry Byrd Highway (Hwy. 151), Darlington, South Carolina.

**NOTICE OF MEETING**

In compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, a copy of the agenda providing the date, time, and place of the meeting was emailed to the local newspapers, persons requesting notification, and posted on the county's website and on the bulletin board in the lobby of the courthouse.

A Notice of Public Hearing for Ordinance No 22-13 was published in the Hartsville Messenger and News and Press on July 20, 2022, July 27, 2022, and August 3, 2022.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT**

Chairman Bobby Hudson, Vice Chairman Marvin Le Flowers, Chaplain Dannie Douglas, Jr., Mr. M. Kirk Askins, Mr. David Coker, Mr. Albert Davis, III, Mrs. Angie Stone Godbold, and Joyce W. Thomas.

**ALSO PRESENT**

County Administrator Marion Charles Stewart, III, Clerk to Council J. JaNet Bishop, Acting County Attorney Jacob Godwin, Central Communications Director Michelle Hall, Codes Enforcement Director Terri Cribb, Emergency Management Coordinator Molly Odom, Emergency Services Director Kenny Bowen, Environmental Services Director Gary White, Finance Director Sherman Dibble, Fire District Chief Ricky Flowers, Human Resources Manager Ginger Winburn, Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd Attorney Ben Zeigler, and others.

**REPORTERS PRESENT**

None.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Ordinance No. 22-13, An Ordinance To Reconstitute and Reestablish The Hartsville Fire Protection District In Darlington County, South Carolina Pursuant To Title 4, Chapter 19 Of The Code Of Laws Of South Carolina, 1976, As Amended, To Approve The Annual Levy And Collection Of Ad Valorem Taxes And The Imposition Of Rates And Charges For The Operation And Maintenance Thereof, To Authorize The Issuance Of General Obligation Bonds On Behalf Of The District From Time To Time, And Other Matters Relating Thereto -THIRD READING

Chairman Hudson declared the public hearing open at 6 p.m. to receive comments on Ordinance No. 22-13. There being no comments the public hearing was closed.

## **SPECIAL MEETING**

### Call To Order / Invocation / Pledge Of Allegiance C

Chairman Hudson called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. Mr. Douglas presented the invocation and Mr. Askins led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### Ordinances

Ordinance No. 22-11, An Ordinance To Amend Ordinance No. 22-08 (Darlington County FY22/23 Budget Ordinance) For A Supplemental Appropriation To All Funds For An Additional Three Percent Salary Increase For Employee Positions Budgeted Below \$50,000 And/Or Any First Responder Position Working 24 Hour Shifts Providing Emergency Scene Response As The Primary Position Duty; For An Adjustment To The Pay Scale For Class I Law Enforcement Officers To A Minimum Of \$42,000 And Class II Correctional Officers To A Minimum Of \$36,000; To Increase The County Monthly Premium Contribution For Retiree Health Insurance Assistance From \$100 Per Month Max To \$250 Per Month For Qualified Retirees; To Provide For The State Budget Adjustment In The Local Government Funds, Salary Supplement Program As Directed By The State Of South Carolina For The Sheriff Of \$15,000 For FY23, For The Clerk Of Court Of \$15,000 For FY23, For The Probate Judge Of \$15,000 For FY23, And The Coroner Of \$1,500 For FY23, And New Coroner Program Supplement As Directed By The State Of South Carolina For The Coroner Of \$35,000 For FY23; And Establish The Effective Date Of This Ordinance - THIRD READING

**MOTION** made by Chairman Hudson and seconded by Mr. Flowers to approve third reading of Ordinance No. 22-11.

**MOTION** made by Mr. Flowers and seconded by Mr. Douglas to amend third reading of Ordinance No. 22-11 to adopt Exhibit A.

*(The amendments provided for in Exhibit A included those employees making more than \$50,000 into the three percent employee cost of living adjustment increase with the amended budget. The additional cost for the amendments provided for in Exhibit A totaled an additional \$66,126.)*

The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Hudson called for the vote on third reading of Ordinance No. 22-11, as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance No. 22-12, An Ordinance To Amend The Darlington County Code Of Ordinances, Chapter 40 (Personnel), Article III. (Retiree Health Insurance Assistance Program), To Update The Definition Of Eligible Retirees And The Monthly Premium Contribution For The County's Retiree Health Insurance Assistance Program; And Establish The Effective Date Of This Ordinance - THIRD READING

**MOTION** made by Mr. Flowers and seconded by Mr. Davis to approve third reading of Ordinance No. 22-12.

The motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance No. 22-13, An Ordinance To Reconstitute and Reestablish The Hartsville Fire Protection District In Darlington County, South Carolina Pursuant To Title 4, Chapter 19 Of The Code Of Laws Of South Carolina, 1976, As Amended, To Approve The Annual Levy And Collection Of Ad Valorem Taxes And The Imposition Of Rates And Charges For The Operation And Maintenance Thereof, To Authorize The Issuance Of General Obligation Bonds On Behalf Of The District From Time To Time, And Other Matters Relating Thereto -THIRD READING

**MOTION** made by Mr. Flowers and seconded by Mr. Douglas to approve third reading of Ordinance No. 22-13.

Mrs. Godbold recused herself from the vote. The motion carried with Mrs. Godbold being recused.

Change In Meeting Location For September Council Meeting

Mr. Stewart explained that the agenda for this meeting was posted before the location for the September 12<sup>th</sup> meeting was finalized. The agenda shows that the September 12<sup>th</sup> meeting will be at the Courthouse Annex/EMS Building. However, the location has been changed and the meeting will be held at Elizabeth Boatwright Coker Performing Arts Center at Coker College, 300 E. College Avenue in Hartsville, to provide ample space for the public to attend to hear South Carolina Office of Resilience's update on the countywide watershed study and a presentation about the CDBG Mitigation Voluntary Buyout Program should the engineers return, as anticipated, with properties that fall within this category. Each Council member was given a flyer containing information about the voluntary buyout program. The information on the flyer will be published in the local newspapers next week.

Adjournment

**MOTION** made by Mr. Flowers to adjourn the meeting. There being no further comments, the meeting was adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



J. Janet Bishop  
Clerk to Council



Bobby Hudson, Chairman  
Darlington County Council

Approved at meeting of September 12, 2022.