

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL

May 5, 2020

6:00 PM

Virtually Via Zoom

Instrument 202000001841 OR Book Page 1805 100

The Edgefield County Council held a called, virtual meeting at 6:00 P M Tuesday, May 5, 2020 via Zoom. The meeting was also streamed live on the Edgefield County Government YouTube page. Notice of this meeting was provided to The Edgefield Advertiser and others as requested.

Members present (virtually)

Scott Cooper, Chairman
Albert Talbert, Vice Chairman
Arthur Biggs, Councilman
Dean Campbell, Councilman
Dr. Jacqueline Kennion, Councilwoman

202000001841
Filed for Record in
EDGEFIELD COUNTY, SC
CHARLES L. REEL, CLERK OF COURT
06-04-2020 At 10:42 am.
Notic nochs .00
OR Book 1805 Page 100 - 109

Others present (virtually)

Tommy Paradise, County Administrator
Dana Waters, Finance Director
Andrew Marine, County Attorney
Jennifer Gilley, Clerk to Council
and others were able to watch live on YouTube or can watch a replay at any time.

Chairman Cooper called the meeting to order. The invocation was given by Councilman Albert Talbert. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was then recited.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the May 5, 2020 agenda, was made by Councilman Biggs, and seconded by Councilman Talbert. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the March 17, 2020 County Council minutes (Budget Work Session) and the April 7, 2020 County Council minutes (Regular Meeting of Council) was made by Councilman Talbert, seconded by Councilwoman Kennion. Motion passed unanimously.

Guest Speakers

None

Comments from the Public

None

Reports

There was no discussion nor questions on the reports.

Consent Agenda

Chairman Cooper asked Council if there were any items that needed to be removed from the Consent Agenda to allow discussion. There were none. Motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented was made by Councilman Campbell, seconded by Councilwoman Kennion. Motion passed unanimously.

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL

May 5, 2020

6:00 PM

Virtually Via Zoom

Instrument 202000001841 OR Book Page 1205 101

- 1. Consideration of reappointment to the Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse.
Michelle SimpkinsAt-Large
- 2. Consideration of appointment to the Edgefield County Water and Sewer Authority Board of Trustees.
Michael WashingtonAt-Large

Public Hearing

- 1. Public Hearing of Ordinance Number 19-20-768, “An Ordinance Providing for the FY 2020-2021 General Operating Budget and Establishing Ancillary Budgets for Debt Service, E-911 Administration, Industrial Park, Solid Waste Disposal, Victims’ Bill of Rights, Emergency Medical Services, Road Maintenance, Tri-County Solicitor, Assistant Solicitor, School Resource Officer #1, School Resource Officer #2, School Resource Officer #3, School Resource Officer #4, School Resource Officer #5, Event Security, Sheriff Grants, Clerk of Court Grants, Pre Trial Intervention, SRO Grant, and Criminal Domestic Violence”

There were no comments regarding this public hearing.

Old Business

- 1. Consideration of Approval of the Second Reading of Ordinance Number 19-20-768, “An Ordinance Providing for the FY 2020-2021 General Operating Budget and Establishing Ancillary Budgets for Debt Service, E-911 Administration, Industrial Park, Solid Waste Disposal, Victims’ Bill of Rights, Emergency Medical Services, Road Maintenance, Tri-County Solicitor, Assistant Solicitor, School Resource Officer #1, School Resource Officer #2, School Resource Officer #3, School Resource Officer #4, School Resource Officer #5, Event Security, Sheriff Grants, Clerk of Court Grants, Pre Trial Intervention, SRO Grant, and Criminal Domestic Violence”

Motion to approve second reading of ordinance number 19-20-768 was made by Councilman Biggs, seconded by Councilman Talbert. This entered Council into discussion.

Mr. Paradise reviewed his memo. It read:

In reviewing the minutes and audio recording of the Budget Work Session, staff realized the Council had indicated a desire to increase the Court Cost Lodging and Budget line item from \$2,000 to \$7,000. This change was missed in the recommendations made to Council at first reading of the budget. Staff would like to make the recommendation to increase this line item to \$7,000.

Staff has received notification from the South Carolina Health and Human Resources Services that the annual contribution as required by the Medically Indigent Assistance Act (MIAA) for FY 20-21 will be \$74,185. This amount is \$9,859 less than the \$84,044 that is in the proposed FY 20-21 budget. Staff would recommend decreasing the amount for the Medically Indigent by \$9,859 to \$74,185.

The Finance Director and I attended a virtual meeting on April 9th regarding revenue projections and budgetary implications. This meeting was conducted by the SC Association of Counties with presentations by Revenue and Fiscal Affairs and economists from the College of Charleston. In regards to sales tax their basic input was it is too early to tell. With the executive orders delaying tax reporting it has pushed

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL

May 5, 2020

6:00 PM

Virtually Via Zoom

Instrument 202000001841 OR Book Page 1805 102

back the reporting for sales tax. The sales lost in one sector may be spent in the grocery, pharmacy, and online sector, but currently there is no data to go either way.

It is also anticipated that the state legislature will pass a Continuing Resolution (CR) to fund the State until the state legislature comes back in the fall to pass a budget. Until a new budget is passed, any revenue from the state will remain the same as the previous year.

Based on this information, staff has revisited revenue lines that may be affected by a CR and a slowdown of the economy. Staff would recommend the following changes to the revenue projections in the proposed FY 20-21 budget.

	<i>Current</i>	<i>Revised</i>	<i>Difference</i>
<i>Motor Carrier</i>	<i>\$90,000.00</i>	<i>\$80,000.00</i>	<i>\$10,000.00</i>
<i>Aid to Subdivisions (LGF)</i>	<i>\$1,167,158.00</i>	<i>\$1,111,158.00</i>	<i>\$56,000.00</i>
<i>Accommodations Tax</i>	<i>\$150,000.00</i>	<i>\$120,000.00</i>	<i>\$30,000.00</i>
<i>Mini Bottle</i>	<i>\$60,000.00</i>	<i>\$45,000.00</i>	<i>\$15,000.00</i>
<i>Building Permits</i>	<i>\$225,000.00</i>	<i>\$200,000.00</i>	<i>\$25,000.00</i>
<i>Total</i>			<i>\$136,000.00</i>

The reduction in expenses for the Medically Indigent and increase in Court Expense will reduce the budget from \$11,225,952 to \$11,221,093. The anticipated reduction in revenue is \$136,000. This will result in an increase from \$127,321 to \$258,462 being brought forward from the fund balance. This will leave a fund balance of \$4,302,127 or 4.6 months.

Councilman Campbell thanked staff for being conservative with the budget. He said no one knows how the economy will be doing in the future due to COVID-19 and he thinks it is smart to plan for a setback. Councilman Biggs echoed Councilman Campbell's comments.

Chairman Cooper made the motion to amend ordinance number 19-20-768 to include the changes proposed by Mr. Paradise. This motion was seconded by Councilman Talbert. Motion passed unanimously. The main motion then passed unanimously.

2. Consideration of Approval of Third Reading of Ordinance Number 19-20-767, "An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 42-10 of the Edgefield County Solid Waste Ordinance."
Mr. Paradise said this ordinance moves the responsibility of the litter control officer from the Sheriff's Office to the County Administrator as directed by County Council. He said this would take place upon the approval of third reading. He also noted the Sheriff is in agreement with this change. Motion to approve third reading of ordinance number 19-20-767 was made by Councilman Biggs, seconded by Councilwoman Kennion. Motion passed unanimously.
3. Consideration of Approval of a Prioritized List of Recommended Projects from County Council to the Capital Project Sales Tax (CPST) Committee.

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL

May 5, 2020

6:00 PM

Virtually Via Zoom

Instrument Book Page
202000001841 DR 1805 103

Chairman Cooper said that due to the unknowns of COVID-19 and how it will affect the economy, he would like to recommend the list only including a jail.

Motion to approve the prioritized list of recommended project(s) from County Council to the Capital Project Sales Tax Committee with the list including only a jail was made by Chairman Cooper, seconded by Councilman Biggs. This entered Council into discussion. Councilman Biggs asked if this should read a law enforcement center rather than just a jail. Chairman Cooper said he had spoken to some of his constituents and they suggested only focusing on one item. Councilman Biggs said that he thinks a law enforcement center would alleviate all of the needs related to law enforcement even though the jail is the main need at this time. Councilman Campbell agreed with Councilman Biggs. He said he thinks it needs to be inclusive to all things law enforcement and the law enforcement center would alleviate all of those needs. He also said that he would only vote in favor of the capital project sales tax if it only lists the jail/law enforcement center. There was no further discussion.

Motion passed unanimously.

New Business

1. Consideration of approval of Resolution Number 19-20-1104 - "A Resolution providing for an Intergovernmental Agreement between Edgefield and McCormick Counties, whereby the two Counties will jointly utilize Edgefield County's Convenience Center located at the Intersection of US Highway 378 and S-19-67."

Mr. Paradise said Edgefield County owns a convenience center on Hwy 378 near the McCormick County line. He explained citizens in McCormick County are permitted to use this site in exchange for McCormick County paying one-half the labor costs at the facility. He said this agreement is renewed each year and has been in effect since July 2002.

Motion to approve resolution number 19-20-1104 was made by Councilwoman Kennion, seconded by Councilman Talbert. This entered Council into discussion. Councilman Campbell asked if sections 3 and 4 of the resolution should be removed since the "green dot" policy is no longer in use. Mr. Paradise said they could be and that is up to Council. Mr. Marine said he didn't have a problem removing those two sections. Councilman Campbell made the motion to amend resolution number 19-20-1104 by removing sections 3 and 4, seconded by Chairman Cooper. Motion passed unanimously. The main motion passed unanimously.

2. Consideration of Approval of Extending the Janitorial Contract with Southern National Services.
Mr. Paradise said this contract for janitorial services expires June 30, 2020. The terms of the contract are for one year and the County may extend the contract for additional terms not to exceed five (5) years in total if it appears to be in the best interest of the County. He said staff would recommend extending the contract with Southern National Services for an additional year, July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020 at the price of \$63,850. He also said this would be the fifth contract extension with Southern National Services. He explained this would have to be bid out again next year.
Motion to approve the extension of the contract with Southern National Services was made by Councilman Campbell, seconded by Councilman Talbert. Motion passed unanimously.
3. Consideration of Approval of Extending the HVAC Contract with Cullum Services, Inc.
Mr. Paradise said the contract for HVAC maintenance service and repairs with Cullum Services, Inc. expires on July 30, 2020. The terms of the contract are for one year and the County may extend the

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL

May 5, 2020

6:00 PM

Virtually Via Zoom

Instrument 202000001841 OR Book Page 1805 104

contract for additional terms not to exceed five (5) years in total if it appears to be in the best interest of the County. He said staff would recommend extending the contract with Cullum Services, Inc. for an additional year, July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020. He also said this would be the third contract extension with Cullum Services, Inc.

Motion to approve the extension of the contract with Cullum Services, Inc. was made by Councilman Biggs, seconded by Councilman Talbert. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Consideration to Approve a Revision of Salary Classifications for the Sheriff's Office.

Mr. Paradise said in June 2019 County Council approved increasing the starting salary of a sheriff's deputy to \$31,191. He said in doing so the starting salary of a deputy was revised to being higher than the starting salary of a corporal. He explained the maximum salary for a deputy is also higher than the maximum salary for a corporal or sergeant. Mr. Paradise said the proposed salary classification changes has been recommended by our Human Resource staff to adequately address the issue. He also presented a memo that read:

Our Human Resource Department has been reviewing the issue to determine how we can correct this issue. The current salary ranges for the Sheriff's Office are below:

Grade	Minimum	Mid Point	Maximum	
15	\$ 32,770.16	\$ 41,316.92	\$ 49,863.68	Sheriff Corporal
17	\$ 36,172.13	\$ 45,606.15	\$ 55,040.17	Sheriff Sergeant, SRO
18	\$ 37,751.18	\$ 47,597.03	\$ 57,442.88	Investigator
20	\$ 41,153.15	\$ 51,886.26	\$ 62,619.37	Sheriff Lieutenant, Narcotics Investigator
24	\$ 46,584.15	\$ 58,404.26	\$ 70,224.37	Captain
34	\$ 60,162.15	\$ 74,697.26	\$ 89,232.37	Sheriff

In order to provide financial incentives for deputy advancement staff would recommend changes to the pay classification of Sheriff Corporal, Sheriff Sergeant, Investigator, Sheriff Lieutenant, Narcotics Investigator, Captain, and Sheriff to the salary classifications below. These classification changes will only apply to those jobs cited above and all current employees are currently within these ranges.

Current Salary Ranges				
Grade	Minimum	Mid Point	Maximum	
13 & 14	\$ 31,191.11	\$ 39,326.04	\$ 47,460.97	Sheriff Deputy - Certified and Uncertified
15	\$ 30,360.00	\$ 36,233.00	\$ 42,105.00	Sheriff Corporal
17	\$ 33,076.00	\$ 39,492.00	\$ 45,907.00	Sheriff Sergeant, SRO
18	\$ 34,434.00	\$ 41,121.00	\$ 47,807.00	Investigator
20	\$ 37,150.00	\$ 44,379.00	\$ 51,611.00	Sheriff Lieutenant, Narcotics Investigator
24	\$ 42,581.00	\$ 50,897.00	\$ 59,213.00	Captain
34	\$ 56,159.00	\$ 67,190.00	\$ 78,222.00	Sheriff

Motion to approve a revision of salary classifications for the Sheriff's Office was made by Councilman Biggs, seconded by Councilman Talbert. This entered Council into discussion. Councilman Biggs

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL

May 5, 2020

6:00 PM

Virtually Via Zoom

Instrument Book Page
202000001841 OR 1805 105

asked if an employee is maxed out in their pay range, if they would be eligible for raises given by Council. Mr. Paradise said they would be eligible for cost of living pay raises. Councilman Biggs asked if an employee is at their max now, would they automatically move to the maximum amount allowed in their new range. Mr. Paradise said they would not but they would be eligible for raises until they met that max.

Motion passed unanimously.

5. Consideration of Approval of First Reading of Ordinance Number 19-20-769, "An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of a General Obligation Bond, Series 2020, or such other Appropriate Series Designation, of Edgefield County, South Carolina, in the Principal Amount of Not Exceeding \$750,000; Fixing the Form and Details of the Bond; Authorizing the County Administrator or his Lawfully Authorized Designee to Determine Certain Matters Relating to the Bond; Providing for the Payment of the Bond and the Disposition of the Proceeds Thereof; and Other Matters Relating Thereto."

Mr. Paradise said Edgefield County has a \$750,000 bond for vehicle purchases that will be paid in full after the last payment to be made in July 2020. He said the proposed \$750,000 bond would be to continue to purchase and pay for vehicles for the next five years. He explained the bond payment for the proposed bond will be payable starting in July 2021 and should be a similar payment resulting in the bond not requiring an increase in taxes.

Motion to approve first reading of ordinance number 19-20-769 was made by Councilman Biggs, seconded by Councilman Talbert. This entered Council into discussion.

Councilman Campbell said the bond uses the word "vehicles" and that in the past most of the vehicles purchased were for the Sheriff's Office. He asked if this would be set up the same way. Mr. Paradise said this ordinance would allow for Council to buy vehicles needed for any County Office. Councilman Biggs asked if vehicles being purchased through this bond would have to be approved by Council on a case by case basis. Mr. Paradise said that is the practice that is in place even though it isn't written in the ordinance. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Consideration of Approval for Payment of Edgefield County's 25% match to Edgefield County Water and Sewer Authority for the Murrah Road Sewer Line Project.

Mr. Paradise said in FY 2019-20 budget, Council budgeted \$162,500 to pay 25% of the Edgefield County Water and Sewer Authority's cost to extend sewer along Murrah Road. The project has been completed at a cost of \$318,457.41 with Edgefield County's portion being \$79,614.35. He said this would authorize the Administrator to pay the county's cost share. The costs associated with this project will be passed on to the developers using the new line with a line extension fee on each new sewer tap.

Motion to approve payment of Edgefield County's 25% match to Edgefield County Water and Sewer Authority for the Murrah Road Sewer Line Project in the amount of \$79,614.35 was made by Councilman Talbert, seconded by Councilman Campbell. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Consideration to Authorize the County Administrator to erect "Deaf Child at Play" signage on each end of Coronet Drive.

Mr. Paradise said during public comments at the Planning Commission meeting, staff became aware of a deaf child living on Coronet Drive when a mother expressed concerns about dangers to her child

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL

May 5, 2020

6:00 PM

Virtually Via Zoom

Instrument Book Page
202000001841 OR 1805 106

from current traffic flow. He said these signs would meet SCDOT standards and would provide a warning to traffic using Coronet Drive. He also said these would be funded through CTC.

Motion to authorize the County Administrator to erect "Deaf Child at Play" signage on each end of Coronet Drive was made by Councilwoman Kennion, seconded by Councilman Talbert. This entered Council into discussion. Chairman Cooper said he went and looked at this area. He said it is very busy and believes this is a great thing to do. Motion passed unanimously.

Comments from the Public

*Read by Jennifer Gilley - Clerk to Council

1. Todd Latham –

Dear County Council and Administrator Tommy Paradise:

In light of the suspension of spring sports in the county due to COVID-19 concerns, the EYCSA Soccer Board would like to propose that we officially cancel the spring season of soccer and make plans to carry on in the fall. To that end, we would like to further propose the following for the fall league:

- Children from the spring season be allowed to play in the fall at no additional cost; i.e. their spring fee will count toward their fall fee as many children never got to play any games in the spring.
- Children who do not wish to play or who cannot play in the fall be refunded their spring season fee.
- All teams will remain intact for the fall season. As stated, many of the children did not get to play actual games, but they did practice and bond as a team in preparation for the season games. Coaches in the league have been consulted on this and are in favor of this move. It will also save on jerseys as we could use the jerseys from the spring season and only order more to cover any additional children who may register for the fall.
- Any additional children who register be absorbed by existing teams or, if numbers warrant, new teams can be made.
- Allow any children who would have aged out this season to play in the fall. However, only those 14 year old children who would have aged out would be allowed to stay for the fall season, and no new 14 year old children would be allowed to register. Again, coaches in the older age division have been consulted on this and feel this is a fair move for those children impacted. Additionally, this possibly involves only about half a dozen players.

As this season presented unprecedented obstacles, we know that there may still be kinks to be worked out, but we feel the above proposal at least gives us a good starting point. We would like your support in implementing this so that we may begin to focus on making our fall season another successful season.

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL

May 5, 2020

6:00 PM

Virtually Via Zoom

Instrument	Book	Page
202000001841 OR	1805	107

Thank you,

The ECYSA Board

Philip and Tiffani Ireland, Brent Pearson, KT Taylor, Todd Latham, Jason Erwin, and Kevin Hall

2. Mark and Arbaugh –

The paving of Windy Ridge has been on the agenda several times to be paved. It is our understanding that it has actually been approved and budgeted to be paved several times in years past. It is also our understanding that one citizen at 190 Windy Ridge was holding up unanimous approval for it to be paved. Ironically, when a portion of it was paved recently, it was paved to this citizen's driveway at 190 Windy Ridge, so they have the benefit of driving on pavement all the way to their home.

There are two (2) curves on Windy Ridge where cars cannot pass each other. In these curves, if a school bus is coming the driver has to stop to let the bus pass. This is dangerous for school age children who must ride the bus. Avoiding injury to children should be a priority of the County. Windy Ridge has huge wash out areas when it rains, and the rain makes portions of it extremely slick. After it rains, the road is very rough until the next time that the motor grader scrapes the road. The County is also spending funds for gravel to be brought in and spread repeatedly during the year.

There is a large huge hump at the railroad track that has caused several trailers to get hung on the tracks. The possibility of a collision with a train is dangerous. There should be a gradual ascent or descent to the tracks, dirt will not hold at the tracks but pavement would alleviate this problem. In one of the narrow areas of the road, our daughter was run off the road when meeting another car. This lead to the struts having to be replaced on her car. Thankfully, our daughter was not injured and a possible lawsuit was avoided.

We have several nice vehicles that we pay high property taxes on, they are being beaten and torn up by the dirt road.

This has become a high traffic road, it is dangerous for drivers, school buses and children, and needs to be paved as soon as possible.

Thank you for time and consideration. We look forward to receiving your comments.

Executive Session

None

County Administrator's Report

Mr. Paradise started his report by saying as of Monday morning, Edgefield County had 32 confirmed cases of Covid-19 with an estimated number of 197 cases. This is 117.30 per 100,000 people which is higher than Charleston County.

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL

May 5, 2020

6:00 PM

Virtually Via Zoom

Instrument Book Page
202000001841 OR 1805 108

Mr. Paradise said staff is still assessing the possibilities of starting spring sports at the beginning of June. Bettis Park, the County Library, Sweetwater Community Center and County Archives are still closed. Other offices are still restricted to public access.

Mr. Paradise then said the first four Welcome to Edgefield County signs have arrived and installation should start on Friday. These will be installed on Martintown Road at Aiken County, Hwy 25 N at Greenwood County, Bettis Academy Rd. at Aiken County, and Hwy 121 at Saluda County. He went on to say staff has obtained SCDOT approval for 3 of the next 4 locations which are Hwy 378 at McCormick County, Hwy 19 at Aiken County, and Hwy 25 at Aiken County. The fourth location is on Hwy 23 at Saluda County which is currently pending approval by SCDOT until approval is allowed by the adjacent property owner.

Mr. Paradise then told Council the Planning Commission meeting in April was canceled because of Covid-19. They are scheduled to meet virtually on May 14th. Public comments should be submitted to Kevin Singletary by 12 noon on May 14th. Staff will be sending a letter to those who signed up to speak at the Planning Commission meeting in March to advise them of the virtual meeting public comment requirements. The meeting will be streamed live on YouTube.

Mr. Paradise said the Land Management Ordinance is progressing. Chapter drafts have been sent to the Steering Committee members and the committee will be meeting virtually on May 7th to make up the missed April meeting. The meeting will be streamed live on YouTube.

Mr. Paradise closed his comments by reporting that as of today, Edgefield County has a census response rate of 48.3%. This is still below the state average of 51.2% and the national average of 56.6%. Staff is working to improve this response by providing a flyer with 2,155 school lunches and distributing 2,000 flyers to area businesses for distribution. Staff will reach out to the faith community to seek their help in improving the response rate this week.

Councilman Campbell asked Mr. Paradise if County Council has a role in issues with Soccer or if those issues are between the Soccer Board and Recreation Commission and Director. Mr. Paradise said he believes County Council could take a policy position on those issues. Councilman Campbell said if County Council needs to put these issues on the agenda to make a final decision, he thinks this needs to be done and handled since it seems to be going back and forth over the last few months.

Comments by County Council Chair

Chairman Cooper started his report by thanking staff for working to make the virtual meetings a possibility for Edgefield County. He also invited everyone to subscribe to the Edgefield County Government YouTube Page. He went on to encourage everyone to respond to the 2020 Census and explained the importance of the Census. He also wished everyone well during the COVID-19 pandemic. Chairman Cooper closed his comments by saying for everyone to keep the Derrick Family in their prayers. He said Charlie Derrick was in a fatal accident earlier that day.

Councilman Biggs asked Chairman Cooper if County Council ever sent a letter to the rail road regarding the Rail Trail or if it still needed to be done. Chairman Cooper said this still needed to be done.

Adjourn

Councilman Talbert made the motion to adjourn at 7:16 PM, seconded by Chairman Cooper. Motion passed unanimously.

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL

May 5, 2020

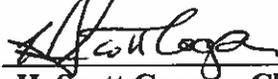
6:00 PM

Virtually Via Zoom

Instrument
202000001841 OR

Book Page
1805 109

Edgefield County Council



H. Scott Cooper, Chair

ATTEST



Jennifer L. Gilley, Clerk to Council