

SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL - GEORGETOWN, DELAWARE, JUNE 20, 2000

Call to Order The regular meeting of the Sussex County Council was held Tuesday, June 20, 2000, at 10:00 a.m., in the Council Chambers, Sussex County Administrative Office Building, Georgetown, Delaware, with the following present:

Lynn J. Rogers	President
Dale R. Dukes	Vice President
George B. Cole	Member
Finley B. Jones, Jr.	Member
Vance Phillips	Member
Robert L. Stickels	County Administrator
David Baker	Finance Director
Eugene Bayard	County Attorney

The meeting was opened by repeating the Lord's Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

M 297 00 A Motion was made by Mr. Dukes, seconded by Mr. Jones, to amend the
Approve Agenda to include "Introduction of Proposed Zoning Ordinance" and to
Agenda approve the Agenda, as amended.

Motion Adopted: 5 Yea.

Vote by Roll Call: Mr. Phillips, Yea; Mr. Cole, Yea;
 Mr. Dukes, Yea; Mr. Jones, Yea;
 Mr. Rogers, Yea

M 298 00 A Motion was made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Dukes, to approve the
Approve minutes of the June 13, 2000 meeting, as distributed.
Minutes

Motion Adopted: 5 Yea.

Vote by Roll Call: Mr. Phillips, Yea; Mr. Cole, Yea;
 Mr. Dukes, Yea; Mr. Jones, Yea;
 Mr. Rogers, Yea

Corre- Mr. Bayard read the following correspondence:
spondence

MICHAEL HASTINGS, COACH, DELAWARE DIAMONDS SOFTBALL TEAM, GEORGETOWN, DELAWARE.

RE: Letter thanking Council for funding received in the past and requesting funding for this year.

Corre-
spondence
(continued)

SUSSEX COUNTY STAMP CLUB, SEAFORD, DELAWARE.

RE: Letter requesting financial assistance for the 9th Annual Stamp Exhibition and Bourse.

Funding
for Rodent
Control
Activities

Mr. Stickels advised Council that the State, in their Fiscal Year 2001 Budget, has made \$10,000 in funding available to Sussex County to use for rodent control activities. Delaware Health and Social Services, Division of Public Health, is charged with the administration and oversight of the funds and related activities. Last year, the County used this money for four projects; most of the money is used for the annual clean-up (project) by County employees. Past clean-up projects have taken place in Ellendale, West Rehoboth, and Lucas Development.

M 299 00
Make
Application
for Funding
for Rodent
Control
Activities

A Motion was made by Mr. Dukes, seconded by Mr. Jones, authorizing the Sussex County Administrator to make application to Delaware Health and Social Services, Division of Public Health, in the amount of \$10,000, for rodent control activities.

Motion Adopted: 5 Yea.

Vote by Roll Call: Mr. Phillips, Yea; Mr. Cole, Yea;
Mr. Dukes, Yea; Mr. Jones, Yea;
Mr. Rogers, Yea

Adminis-
trator's
Report

Mr. Stickels read the following information in his County Administrator's Report:

1. Mobile Command Unit

For Council's information, I am providing you a list of activities that have taken place and that are scheduled for the Mobile Command Unit.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Reason</u>
3/22/00	Lord Baltimore School, Millville	Public Outreach
5/01/00 through 5/05/00	Greenwood Volunteer Fire Company	Firefighter's Death
5/06/00	Roxana Volunteer Fire Company	Public Outreach
5/18/00	Sussex County Road 74 Millsboro Fire Company	Assistance on Multi- Alarm Woods Fire
6/06/00	Rusty Rudder	Public Outreach

Adminis-
trator's
Report
(continued)

- Monthly meet with Pollybranch neighborhood residents.
- Monthly meeting with Troop 7 Neighborhood Watch leaders.
- Special Olympics Torch Run.
- Strong Communities monthly meeting.
- Safety Blitz during Memorial Day holiday.
- Sussex County Council Prayer Breakfast.

3. Linwood Whaley

It is with sadness that I inform the Council of the passing of Mr. Linwood Whaley on June 16, 2000. Mr. Whaley was employed with the County from January 4, 1983, until August 4, 1997. From January 1983 until January 2, 1985, Mr. Whaley was a Deputy Sheriff; from August 1, 1986, until his retirement, he served as a Constable and a Roadside Inspector.

M 300 00
Council-
manic
Grant

A Motion was made by Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. Jones, to give \$250.00, \$50.00 from each Councilmanic Account, to the Sussex County Stamp Club for the 9th Annual Stamp Exhibition and Bourse.

Motion Adopted: 5 Yea.

Vote by Roll Call: Mr. Phillips, Yea; Mr. Cole, Yea;
Mr. Dukes, Yea; Mr. Jones, Yea;
Mr. Rogers, Yea

M 301 00
Youth
Activity
Grant

A Motion was made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Cole, to give \$500.00 (\$100.00 each from Mr. Cole's, Mr. Rogers', and Mr. Phillips' Youth Activity Grant Accounts; \$130.00 from Mr. Dukes' Youth Activity Grant Account; and \$70.00 from Mr. Jones' Youth Activity Grant Account) to the Delaware Diamonds Softball Team for travelling expenses.

Motion Adopted: 5 Yea.

Vote by Roll Call: Mr. Phillips, Yea; Mr. Cole, Yea;
Mr. Dukes, Yea; Mr. Jones, Yea;
Mr. Rogers, Yea

UHF Control
Stations and
Paging
Equipment

Mr. Thomas, Director of Emergency Operations, reviewed bids for Sussex County Project EOC-01-00, UHF Control Stations and Paging Equipment. Special provisions were written into the bid specifications so that the bids could be submitted and/or awarded for the entire project or in part.

M 304 00
(continued)

Vote by Roll Call: Mr. Phillips, Yea; Mr. Cole, Yea;
Mr. Dukes, Yea; Mr. Jones, Yea;
Mr. Rogers, Yea

Bid
Results/
Chevrolet
Extended
Cab
Pickup

Mr. Thomas, Director of Emergency Operations, reported on bids received for a Chevrolet Extended Cab 3/4 Ton 4x4 Truck with Utility Body, as follows:

I. G. Burton	\$30,271.81
Hertrich Fleet	\$30,471.00

A recommendation was made to Council to award the bid to the low bidder, I. G. Burton.

M 305 00
Award
Bid/
Chevrolet
Extended
Cab
Pickup

A Motion was made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Dukes, to award the bid for a Chevrolet Extended Cab 3/4 Ton 4 x 4 Truck with Utility Body to I. G. Burton for the amount of \$30,271.81.

Motion Adopted: 5 Yea.

Vote by Roll Call: Mr. Phillips, Yea; Mr. Cole, Yea;
Mr. Dukes, Yea; Mr. Jones, Yea;
Mr. Rogers, Yea

Bid
Results/
SCRWF/
Blower and
Effluent
System
Materials

Mr. Marvel, Maintenance Division Manager, reported on the bid results for Sussex County Project No. 99-18, South Coastal Regional Wastewater Facility, Blower and Effluent System Materials, as follows:

Untied Electric Supply Co., Inc.	\$157,250.41
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The Engineer's estimate for this project was \$175,000.00. It was recommended that the bid be awarded to United Electric Supply Co., Inc.

M 306 00
Award
Bid/
SCRWF/
Blower and
Effluent
System
Materials

A Motion was made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Dukes, based upon the recommendation of the Sussex County Engineering Department, that Sussex County Project No. 99-18, entitled "South Coastal Regional Wastewater Facility, Blower and Effluent System Material" be awarded to the lowest responsive bidder, United Electric Supply Co., Inc., at the bid amount of \$157,250.41.

Motion Adopted: 5 Yea.

Vote by Roll Call: Mr. Phillips, Yea; Mr. Cole, Yea;
Mr. Dukes, Yea; Mr. Jones, Yea;
Mr. Rogers, Yea

Proposed Ordinance

Mr. Phillips introduced the Proposed Ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE TO GRANT A CONDITIONAL USE OF LAND IN AN AR-1 AGRICULTURAL RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT FOR AN OFFICE AND WAREHOUSE FOR A HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING BUSINESS TO BE LOCATED ON A CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN DAGSBORO HUNDRED, SUSSEX COUNTY, CONTAINING 34,740 SQUARE FEET, MORE OR LESS" (Conditional Use No. 1349) filed on behalf of Ron and Doneita Witke. The Proposed Ordinance will be advertised for Public Hearing.

Correspondence

Mr. Cole read the following correspondence:

TAMARA TOOMEY, PHILLIP C. SHOWELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, SELBYVILLE, DELAWARE.

RE: Letter in appreciation of Councilmanic Grant funding.

ST. MARTHA'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, BETHANY BEACH, DELAWARE.

RE: Letter in appreciation of Councilmanic Grant funding.

Sussex County's Fiscal 2001 Budget

Mr. Stickels highlighted detailed information contained in Sussex County's Fiscal 2001 budget through a power point presentation. Mr. Stickels stated that the FY 2001 budget calls for eliminating all General Fund debt that is tax-supported and fully funding the County's Pension Plan. This will be the first time in County history that the Pension Fund outstanding liabilities will be met. A bond payment of \$3.7 million will ensure that the County will meet all of its General Fund indebtedness. Other goals incorporated in the FY 2001 budget are:

- Balanced budget.
- Maintain an operating reserve of a minimum of 18 percent.
- Limit spending, as much as possible, on non-expanded programs.
- Expand economic employment opportunities, public safety, and library services.
- Upgrade wastewater service and expand user base.
- Reduce sewer service costs.
- Tax Rate – 44.5 ¢ (11 years in a row).

Funding included in the FY 2001 budget includes the following:

- Volunteer Fire & Ambulance - \$1,800,000
- Public Safety - \$9,457,962
- State Police - \$356,455

Public Hearing/
Budget

A Public Hearing was held on the Sussex County Fiscal 2001 Budget for General Fund, Bond Issues, Community Development and Housing Grant Programs, Specialized Transportation Program, Sewer and Water Districts, and Capital Improvement Programs as outlined in the Proposed Ordinance entitled

Public
Hearing/
Fiscal
2001
Budget
(continued)

“AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2001”.

Mr. Cole presented three amendments to the Proposed Fiscal 2001 Budget:

Amendment No. 1

Additional funding for the State Police for additional troopers and vehicles. (Contingent on funding being matched by the State.)

Mr. Stickels advised that this would require \$300,000 additional funding for Fiscal 2001; these funds would have to come out of unobligated reserves.

Amendment No. 2

Increase the funding for Youth Activity Grants by \$10,000 resulting in a net increase for Fiscal 2001 in the amount of \$20,000. In Fiscal 2000, \$30,000 was allocated for Youth Activity Grants; the Proposed Fiscal 2001 Budget provides for that amount to be increased to \$40,000. Mr. Cole recommended that the amount be increased to \$50,000 (\$10,000 for each Councilmanic District).

Amendment No. 3

Establish a program whereby full-time residents of Sussex County would be reimbursed for a portion of fees paid.

Mr. Jones suggested that Council start looking at establishing an additional paramedic unit on the west side of the County, possibly in the Seaford area. It was noted that each additional Paramedic Unit costs approximately \$1 million.

Mr. Rogers remarked that, in the future, the Council is going to have to look at enhancing the Basic Life Support (BLS) program. He noted that the demand on ambulance attendants is growing and that training for the volunteers is hard to accomplish due to the demands of their regular jobs.

Public comments were heard. Mr. Kramer addressed Council and requested that the capitation tax be eliminated. Mr. Kramer also questioned why the County has to provide funding for computers in libraries when schools should carry that responsibility. Mrs. Purnell spoke in agreement with Mr. Cole that additional funding should be allocated for the State Police. There were no additional public comments. The Public Hearing was closed.

Public
Hearing/
Assessment
Rolls

A Public Hearing was held on the Assessment Rolls for Dewey Beach Water District, Dewey Beach Sanitary Sewer District, Bethany Beach Sanitary Sewer District, South Bethany Sanitary Sewer District, Fenwick Island Sanitary Sewer District, Blades Sanitary Sewer District, North Bethany Expansion of the Bethany Beach Sanitary Sewer District, Henlopen Acres Sanitary Sewer

Public
Hearing/
Assessment
Rolls
(continued)

District, Long Neck Sanitary Sewer District, Dagsboro-Frankford Sanitary Sewer District, West Rehoboth Expansion of the Dewey Beach Sanitary Sewer District, Holts Landing Sanitary Sewer District, Ocean View Expansion of the Bethany Beach Sanitary Sewer District, and the Cedar Neck Expansion of the Bethany Beach Sanitary Sewer District.

There were no public comments and the Public Hearing was closed.

Public
Hearing/
Proposed
Ordinance/
Annual
Service
Charges,
Annual
Assessment
Rates, Etc.

A Public Hearing was held on the Proposed Ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING ANNUAL SERVICE CHARGES, ANNUAL ASSESSMENT RATES FOR COLLECTION AND TRANSMISSION AND/OR TREATMENT, AND CONNECTION CHARGES FOR ALL SUSSEX COUNTY WATER AND SANITARY SEWER DISTRICTS".

Mr. Baker noted that there are proposed decreases in assessment rates for four projects: West Rehoboth, Sussex Shores, Ocean Way Estates, and North Bethany. He further noted that there are no proposed rate increases.

Mr. Baker pointed out that \$4,150,000 is being made available to sewer districts in the form of grant funding.

There were no public comments and the Public Hearing was closed.

Proposed
Amendments

Council considered the three amendments to the Fiscal 2001 budget, as proposed by Mr. Cole.

M 307 00
Approve
Amendment
to Fiscal
2001
Budget

A Motion was made by Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. Phillips, to approve the First Amendment to the Fiscal 2001 budget for additional funding for the State Police.

Motion Denied: 4 Nay, 1 Yea.

Vote by Roll Call: Mr. Phillips, Nay; Mr. Cole, Yea;
Mr. Dukes, Nay; Mr. Jones, Nay;
Mr. Rogers, Nay

M 308 00
Approve
Amendment
to Fiscal
2001
Budget

A Motion was made by Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. Jones, to approve the Second Amendment to the Fiscal 2001 budget to increase funding for the Youth Activity Grant program from \$30,000 to \$50,000.

Motion Denied: 3 Nay, 2 Yea.

Vote by Roll Call: Mr. Phillips, Nay; Mr. Cole, Yea;
Mr. Dukes, Nay; Mr. Jones, Nay;
Mr. Rogers, Yea

Proposed
Amendment
to Fiscal
2001
Budget

Council discussed the third amendment proposed by Mr. Cole to establish a rebate program for full-time residents of Sussex County. Mr. Bayard advised that this would require an ordinance amendment; however, a motion could be made to set aside funds for the project, contingent on the adoption of an ordinance.

M 309 00
Approve
Amendment
to Fiscal
2001
Budget

A Motion was made by Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. Dukes, to set aside 10 percent of building and zoning fees for the establishment of a rebate program for full-time residents of Sussex County.

Motion Denied: 3 Nay, 2 Yea.

Vote by Roll Call: Mr. Phillips, Yea; Mr. Cole, Yea;
Mr. Dukes, Nay; Mr. Jones, Nay;
Mr. Rogers, Nay

M 310 00
Adopt
Ordinance
No. 1380

A Motion was made by Mr. Dukes, seconded by Mr. Phillips, to Adopt Ordinance No. 1380 entitled "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2001" to include a property tax rate of 44.5¢ per \$100 of assessed value; a capitation rate of \$3.00; a fireman enhancement funding rate of a 1/4 of 1% of building costs; a property tax subsidy program, a sewer loan grant program, and establishing an unobligated reserve at a minimum of 18 % of General Fund expenditures.

Motion Adopted: 5 Yea.

Vote by Roll Call: Mr. Phillips, Yea; Mr. Cole, Yea;
Mr. Dukes, Yea; Mr. Jones, Yea;
Mr. Rogers, Yea

M 311 00
Adopt
Assessment
Rolls

A Motion was made by Mr. Dukes, seconded by Mr. Phillips, to Adopt the Assessment Rolls for all Sussex County Sanitary Sewer and Water Districts as presented on June 20, 2000 for the period July 1, 2000 to June 30, 2001.

Motion Adopted: 5 Yea.

Vote by Roll Call: Mr. Phillips, Yea; Mr. Cole, Yea;
Mr. Dukes, Yea; Mr. Jones, Yea;
Mr. Rogers, Yea

M 312 00
Adopt
Ordinance
No. 1381

A Motion was made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Cole, to Adopt Ordinance No. 1381 entitled "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING ANNUAL SERVICE CHARGES, ANNUAL ASSESSMENT RATES FOR COLLECTION AND TRANSMISSION AND/OR TREATMENT, AND CONNECTION CHARGES FOR ALL SUSSEX COUNTY WATER AND SANITARY SEWER DISTRICTS", to include a \$4,150,000 grant.

Motion Adopted: 5 Yea.

M 312 00
(continued)

Vote by Roll Call: Mr. Phillips, Yea; Mr. Cole, Yea;
Mr. Dukes, Yea; Mr. Jones, Yea;
Mr. Rogers, Yea

M 313 00
Council-
manic
Grant

A Motion was made by Mr. Dukes, seconded by Mr. Jones, to give \$200.00 from Mr. Dukes' Councilmanic Account to Laurel Pop Warner for operating expenses.

Motion Adopted: 4 Yea, 1 Not Voting.

Vote by Roll Call: Mr. Phillips, Yea; Mr. Cole, Yea;
Mr. Dukes, Yea; Mr. Jones, Not Voting;
Mr. Rogers, Yea

Special
Meeting

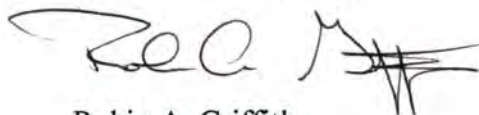
Mr. Stickels reminded Council of the Special Sussex County Council meeting scheduled for Wednesday, June 21, 2000, beginning at 11:00 a.m., which has been scheduled for the purpose of discussing the Delmarva Health Initiative. Governor Carper and the Chief Executive Officers from the three hospitals in the County will be in attendance.

Mr. Cole questioned why the special meeting was called and announced that he would not be in attendance.

M 314 00
Adjourn

A Motion was made by Mr. Dukes, seconded by Mr. Jones, to adjourn at 12:13 p.m. Motion Adopted by Voice Vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Robin A. Griffith
Clerk of the Council