Beaufort County News Release

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH SECTION | COMMUNICATIONS AND ACCOUNTABILITY DEPARTMENT

Contact: Alicia Holland Assistant County Administrator for Finance 843-255-2296 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 6, 2016



State Recognizes Beaufort County for Financial Transparency

The South Carolina Office of the Comptroller General recently congratulated Beaufort County for making the County's check register available online. In a letter sent to Beaufort County Administrator Gary Kubic, South Carolina Comptroller General Richard Eckstrom acknowledged that access to this information is a valuable service to citizens and demonstrates Beaufort County's commitment to fiscal transparency.

Last year, the County introduced its online financial transparency site as a user-friendly resource to help provide meaningful information about how the County utilizes public funds. The information is available via the County's website homepage at <u>www.bcgov.net</u> via the "Financial Transparency" button.

The data found within the Financial Transparency site is updated weekly. Anyone with access to the internet can sort, search, analyze, and download the County's financial information. Users can review total spending to date, examine how funds are appropriated by department, see which vendors receive payments in a given year, or research spending for any area of the County, including non-tax dollar expenditures. Interactive charts and graphs allow for easy analysis of the data and give meaning and clarity to those numbers.

The Office of the Comptroller General likewise maintains the <u>South Carolina Fiscal</u> <u>Transparency Website</u> for state government, which contains the expenditures for all state agencies and features links to the transparency portals of many local governments, school districts, colleges and universities across South Carolina. A link to <u>Beaufort County's financial</u> <u>transparency website</u> is also included.

Administration Building | 100 Ribaut Road | Post Office Drawer 1228 |Beaufort, South Carolina 29901 www.bcgov.net | communications@bcgov.net