

**Minutes**  
**Sumter County Council**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**August 28, 2007 - Held at 6:00 p.m.**  
**County Administration Building County Council Chambers**  
**13 E. Canal Street, Sumter, SC**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Vivian Fleming-McGhaney, Chairwoman; Eugene Baten, Vice Chairman; Artie Baker, Larry Blanding, Jimmy Byrd, Charles T. Edens, and Roland Robinson.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mr. William T. Noonan, County Administrator; Mrs. Mary W. Blanding, Clerk to County Council; Mr. Gary Mixon, Deputy Administrator; The Honorable Verna Moore, County Coroner; Mrs. Pamela Craven, Finance Director; and Mr. Latham Harris, County Assessor.

**MEDIA PRESENT:** The Item

**PUBLIC PRESENT:** Approximately 4 members of the public were in attendance.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairwoman Vivian Fleming-McGhaney called Sumter County Council's meeting of August 28, 2007, to order.

**INVOCATION:** Councilman Jimmy Byrd gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** All in attendance repeated the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Councilwoman McGhaney stated that she would entertain a motion to approve the August 28, 2007, agenda with any additions or deletions.

**ACTION: MOTION** was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman Robinson, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the August 28, 2007, agenda as presented.

**ACTION ON MINUTES OF AUGUST 14, 2007:** Chairwoman McGhaney stated that she would entertain a motion to approve the minutes of County Council's meeting of August 14, 2007.

**ACTION: MOTION** was made by Vice Chairman Baten, seconded by Councilman Baker, and unanimously carried by Council to grant approval of the minutes of August 14, 2007, as presented by the Clerk.

**LAND USE MATTERS AND REZONING REQUESTS - NONE**

**Planned Development/Rezoning Request - None**

**Street Name Change - None**

**Grant Awards - None**

OTHER PUBLIC HEARINGS – None

NEW BUSINESS

- (1) A Proclamation Proclaiming September 17, 2007, as Constitution Week In Sumter County, South Carolina.

The Clerk informed Council that the proclamation concerning Constitution Week is in Council's notebook for review and approval. After review of the proclamation, as listed below, Council took action on its adoption.

Whereas, we the people did ordain and establish a Constitution for the United States of America to secure the blessings of liberty for ourselves and our posterity; and

Whereas, it is important that all citizens fully understand the provisions, principles, and meaning of the Constitution so they can support, preserve, and defend it against encroachment; and

Whereas, the President and the Congress of the United States have designated September 17th as Citizenship Day and the week of September 17-23 as Constitution Week; and

Whereas, the people of the County of Sumter do enjoy the blessings of liberty, the guarantees of the Bill of Rights, equal protection of the law under the Constitution, and the freedoms derived from it;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Vivian Fleming-McGhaney, Chairwoman of Sumter County Council, do hereby proclaim September 17th as Citizenship Day and the week of September 17th through September 23rd as Constitution Week, and invite every citizen and institution to join in this national commemoration.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set the Seal of Sumter County to be Affixed this 28<sup>th</sup> Day of August 2007.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman Robinson, and unanimously carried by Council to grant approval of the proclamation as presented, and directed the Chairwoman and the Clerk to execute and deliver the proclamation on behalf of the County.

- (2) 07-652 -- First Reading -- An Ordinance Authorizing Sumter County, South Carolina, To Enter Into A Lease/Purchase Transaction Relating To The Financing Of Fire Equipment; Authorizing The Execution And Delivery Of An Equipment Lease Purchase Agreement In An Amount Not To Exceed \$600,000; And Other Matters Relating Thereto.

The Administrator, William T. Noonan, presented this proposed ordinance to Council for first reading consideration. He stated that Council had previously agreed that the County move forward in providing fire protection equipment (air packs and improvement to

transmission towers). This ordinance is in reference to those needs. One of the towers is in the Shiloh Community and one in the Rembert Community.

Mr. Mike Ey from the McNair Firm was present on behalf of the ordinance. Mr. Ey informed Council that this lease purchase arrangement is a straight forward agreement for approximately \$600,000 over a four year period.

The Chairwoman asked if there were any questions for Mr. Ey or the Administrator. There were no questions from Council members; therefore, she called for a motion on first reading.

**ACTION:** MOTION was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman Byrd, and unanimously carried by Council to grant first reading approval of this ordinance.

**NOTE:** Councilman Edens asked that the "types of equipment" be placed within the lease agreement or as an attachment by the time Council has second reading.

- (3) It May Be Suggested To Hold Executive Session To Receive A Legal Briefing From The County Attorney Or Discuss Contractual Or Personnel Matters.

No executive session was held.

#### OLD BUSINESS -

- (1) 07-649 -Third Reading -- An Ordinance Abandoning The County's Interest In Hideaway Court And Authorizing The Transfer Of Hideaway Court To Andrew Merck And Mary Merck.

The County Administrator introduced this ordinance to Council for third reading and adoption. He stated that the County hopes to abandon its interest in Hideaway Court and to authorize the transfer of Hideaway Court.

**ACTION:** MOTION was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman Byrd, and unanimously carried by Council to grant third reading and adoption of this ordinance as presented.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- (1) Fiscal, Tax, and Property Committee Meeting Held On **Tuesday, August 28, 2007, At 4:30 P.M.** In County Council's Conference Room At The County Administration Building (McGhaney, Blanding, and Edens -- All Council Members Are Asked To Attend This Meeting.)

The Chairman of the Committee, Chairwoman McGhaney, gave the following report and recommendations for the meeting.

- Ø Presentation By Mr. Jim Darby Concerning Santee-Lynches Regional Wastewater Service Agreement. This matter was removed from the agenda and will be placed on the Committee's September 11, 2007, agenda.
- Ø Sumter Airport Hanger Construction Project: Mr. Bill Lynam made a presentation to the Committee. No action was taken; however, Mr. Lynam was asked to follow-up on several items and come back to the Committee on September 11, 2007.
- Ø Executive Session Items: Three items were discussed in executive session; the Administrator is to follow-up on these items and report to the Committee on September 11, 2007.
- Ø Replacement of Road Name Signs: The Committee discussed the replacement of road name signs. It was suggested that this item be discussed at the Committee's next meeting on September 11, 2007.

(2) Report From Council Members On Other Meetings, Trainings, and/or Conferences.

No report given.

**MONTHLY REPORTS:**

1. Public Works/Landfill
2. Street Light Letter – Reames Road and Highway 378
3. ManuFacts Newsletter
4. Nuts and Bolts of Community Change
5. Second Annual Employee Family Fund Day, October 5, 2007
6. Emergency Management Activity Report
7. Red Carpet Breakfast – September 12, 2007, Attorney General Henry McMaster is the speaker for the breakfast.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

- Ø Transportation Committee will meet at 10:00 a.m. on August 29, 2007, and there will be two public meetings for input from the public concerning transportation issues (2:00-4:00 and 6:00-8:00 p.m.). Council members are asked to participate in these sessions.
- Ø Council Takes Road Trip – Coastal Observer – Thursday, July 12, 2007.
- Ø SCAC Appointments – The Administrator was reappointed as the Secretary of the SCAC Board and Councilman Charles T. Edens is a member of the Board.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

The Chairwoman asked if anyone from the public would like to make comments to members of Sumter County Council. The following persons spoke:

- Ø Mrs. Marilyn Moore thanked Council members for constructing a Walking-Track at Cherryvale Community Center.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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**There being no further business and no additional comments from the public, the meeting was adjourned at 6:16 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Vivian Fleming-McGhaney

Mary W. Blanding

Chairman or Vice Chairman

Clerk

to County Council  
Sumter County Council

Sumter County Council

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

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I certify that public and media notification of the above-mentioned meeting was given prior thereto as follows:

Public Notified: Yes

Manner Notified: Agendas posted on bulletin board on third floor of the Administration Building.

Date Posted: August 23, 2007

Media Notified: Yes

Manner Notified: Agendas were sent to most radio stations, television stations, and newspapers in the Sumter, Columbia, Manning, and Florence communities. Also, E-Mail notification was sent to Sumter County's Home Page, WIBZ, The Item, The Chamber, Time Warner Cable.

Date Notified: August 23, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

Mary W. Blanding

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