

Minutes
Sumter County Council
Regular Meeting
June 8, 1999 - Held at 6:00 p.m.
SUMTER COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
County Council Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT: James A. Campbell, Chairman; Louis Fleming; Vice Chairman; Carol Burr, Charles T. Edens, Naomi Sanders, Rudy Singleton, and Frank E. Williams, Jr.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Mary W. Lewis, Clerk to County Council; Mr. William T. Noonan, County Administrator; Ms. Kathy Cuttino, County Attorney; Mr. Tony Criscitiello, Planning Director; Mr. Bill Hoge, Planning Coordinator; Mrs. Carolina Richardson, Accounts Payable Supervisor; Mrs. Jeanette Mixon, Finance Director; Mr. John Duffie, County Engineer; Ms. Faith Line, Librarian; Mrs. Lorraine Washington-Dennis, Human Resources Director; Mr. Eddie Newman, Public Works Director; Mrs. Pam Craven, Grants Writer; Major Simon Major, Correctional Center Director; Mr. Victor Jones, Public Safety Director; and the Honorable Elizabeth Hair, County Treasurer.

MEDIA PRESENT: The Item, and WIBZ Radio

PUBLIC PRESENT: Approximately 85 members of the public were in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Campbell, and the Vice Chairman of Council, Councilman Fleming, gave the invocation.

ACTION ON MINUTES: MOTION was made by Councilman Edens, seconded by Councilwoman Sanders, and unanimously carried by Council that the minutes of May 25, 1999, be approved as presented by the Clerk.

LAND USE MATTERS AND REZONING REQUESTS
Planned Development/Rezoning Requests -

- (1) RZ-99-10 - Otis Atkinson - **Third Reading** - A Request To Rezone Property Located On Highway 15, South Across From Pocalla Springs Golf Course (Tax Map 225-00-03-013) From Rural Agricultural To General Commercial District In Order To Market The Property For Commercial Use.

Mr. Hoge stated that this request is to allow Rural Agricultural property to be rezoned to General Commercial on Highway 15, South. The property is located directly across from Pocalla Springs Golf Course. This request is in line with other businesses located on this four-lane highway. The Planning Commission and staff recommended approval of the request. The public hearing was held during second reading on May 25, 1999.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Burr, seconded by Councilman Singleton, and unanimously carried by Council to grant third reading and adoption of this rezoning request.

- (2) RZ-99-12 - Terry L. McIntosh - **Third Reading** - A Request To Rezone Property Located At 2275 Thomas Sumter Highway (Tax Map 202-00-01-001) From Rural Agricultural To General Commercial District In Order To Allow For Retail Motorcycle Sales.

Mr. Hoge, the Planning Coordinator, stated that this request (located on Thomas Sumter Highway) will allow for the development of a retail motorcycle sales business. The property is currently vacant. Mr. Hoge added that the Planning Commission and Planning staff recommended approval for this rezoning. The public hearing was held at second reading.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Williams, seconded by Councilman Burr, and unanimously carried to grant third reading and adoption to this rezoning request.

- (3) RZ-99-13 - Big Time Properties - **First Reading** - A Request To Rezone Property Located At 2561 Broad Street (Across Highway 76/378 From Boyle Motor Company) (Tax Map 203-07-01-004) From General Residential To General Commercial In Order To Market The Entire Property For Commercial Development.

Mr. Hoge stated that the applicant is requesting to rezone a portion of 4.88 acres from General Residential to General Commercial. The front 300 feet in depth is currently zoned General Commercial, and the applicant would like the remainder of the property to be rezoned to General Commercial. Also, the applicant plans to market the entire property for commercial development.

Mr. Hoge stated that the Planning staff has visited the site, reviewed the request, and recommended approval. He added that the request complies with the 2005 Land Development Plan. It was also stated that the Planning Commission also recommended approval.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Vice Chairman Fleming, seconded by Councilman Burr, and unanimously carried by Council to granted first reading to the proposed rezoning request.

Street Name Changes - None

Grant Awards: None

PUBLIC HEARINGS -- None

NEW BUSINESS

- (1) A 1999-2000 Budget Presentation by Sumter County School District #2.

Dr. Frank Baker, Superintendent for School District #2, presented the following proposed 1999-2000 budget requirements for the school district. He stated that the requested amount for this district is \$10,727,191.

1998-1999 Allocation	\$ 9,258,411
Maintenance of Required Local Effort 1999-2000	336,397
Additional Personnel Required for 1999-2000	\$ 1,051,458
10.0 Primary Teachers	

13.0 Elementary Teachers
3.0 High School Teachers
1.0 Assistant Principal

New Teacher Stipends (partially funded) 80,925

1999-2000 Requested Allocation **\$10,727,191**

ACTION: MOTION this matter was received as information.

(3) A 1999-2000 Budget Presentation by Sumter County School District #17.

Dr. Andrena Ray, Superintendent of School District #17, presented the School District's proposed 1999-2000 budget requirement.

Additional Requests Above Minimum

Chestnut Oaks Middle School Operations	\$ 700,588
Four (4) Percent Salary Increase for Non-teaching Staff	308,000
Amount Required To Balance Budget and Maintain Programs	<u>243,103</u>
Total Request Above E.I.A. Minimum Effort	\$ 1,251,691

Suggested Funding Sources

Reduction of Debt Service Fund Millage	\$ 685,000
Transfer of General Fund Millage	
 New Funding Requests	 \$ 1,251,691

Total Request:

Last Year's Appropriation	\$10,941,557
Plus Required E.I.A. Effort	512,358
Plus Additional Request	<u>1,251,691</u>
Total Needed Funds for 1999-2000	<u>\$12,705,606</u>

ACTION: MOTION this matter was received as information.

(3) A 1999-2000 Budget Request Presentation by the Director of the Sumter County Career Center.

The Director of Sumter County Career Center, Mr. Bobby Anderson presented the Sumter County Career Center's Budget. He asked Council to consider granting the Career Center and increase of \$144,000 from the previous year's budget of \$502,000. The total request for the Career Center is \$646,000.

ACTION: MOTION this matter was received as information.

(4) Suggested To Hold Executive Session To Discus A Legal Matter Concerning A Former Resolution Authorizing The Employment By Sumter County Of The Law Firm Of Young, Clement, Rivers, and Tisdale And/Or To Discuss Personnel Matters. (The Executive Session, If Approved By Council, Will Be Held After All Business Matters Have Been Completed.)

This matter was held at the end of the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS -- None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

(1) Internal Affairs Committee Meeting, Tuesday, June 8, 1999, at 4:00 p.m. in County Council's Conference Room. (Committee Members: Williams, Edens, and Campbell)

The Chairman of the Committee, Councilman Williams, presented the following recommendations for action by Council.

- **Cultural Commission:** Reappoint Ms. Jane G. Collins and Ms. Cara-Linn Getty.
- **Development Board:** Extend the terms of Mr. Eli Sumter and Mr. Bobby Boykin by one year to meet the new term appointment of three years instead of a two-year-term.
- **Library Board:** Reappoint Mrs. Margaret W. Curlovic, Mrs. Jean E. Gray, and Mrs. Lucinda Macias. Appoint Mr. Ben Griffith to replace Mr. Johnny Cooke.
- **Zoning Board of Adjustment:** Reappoint Mr. Vernon Disney, Mr. John Price, and Mr. Edward McDowell.
- **Penny Sales Tax Project Commission:** No recommendation for appointments were made at this time, but will be recommended in the next sixty days.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Burr, seconded by Councilwoman Sanders, and unanimously carried by Council to grant approval to the appointments as presented.

(2) Fiscal Tax, and Property Committee Meeting Tuesday, June 8, 1999, at 5:00 p.m. in County Council's Conference Room. (Committee Members: Campbell, Fleming, and Edens).

The Chairman of the Committee, Chairman Campbell, gave the following report and recommendations:

- **Resolution from Santee Senior Services:** The Committee recommended the endorsement of the following resolution from Santee Senior Services:

Be It Resolved, that Sumter County Council does hereby endorse and support the merging of Senior Center Improvement (PIP) funds allocated by Department of Health and Human Services, Division on Aging, to the Wedgefield Community (\$35,000) and the Catchall Community (\$33,000) with the \$433,000 allocated to Santee Senior Services.

Be it Further Resolved that its is recognized and understood by the Sumter County Council that this new aggregate fund of \$501,000 will allow Santee Senior Services to construct a new, more adequate, senior center facility on the O'Donnell House grounds for use by all senior citizens in Sumter County, and that transportation from rural areas of the County, including Wedgefield and Catchall, will be provided to the new center by Santee Senior Services.

Several Council members made comments concerning this matter and asked the Committee that this matter be addressed at Council's Budget Workshop scheduled for June 15, 1999, at 10:00

a.m. The members stated that Catchall and Wedgefield Community Centers were NOT in agreement with this transferal of funds. After discussions, Council took action on this matter.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Burr, seconded by Councilwoman Sanders, and unanimously carried by Council that this matter be deferred until Council's June 15, 1999, meeting when all concerned parties can discuss this matter in detail with County Council.

- **Carpeting of the Old Liberty Street School:** The Committee recommended that Council approve the re-carpeting of the Old Liberty Street School which is owned by the County and housed by St. Francis Xavier Catholic High School. The re-carpeting will cost approximately \$8,000 (743 square yards) which will be secured from Council's Contingency Fund.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Burr, seconded by Councilman Singleton, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the expenditure of \$8,000 from Council's Contingency fund to re-carpet the Old Liberty Street School building (743 square yards). (Council asked that they be informed about the amount of the rental fee for this building.)

- **Funding for Removal of Dilapidated Mobile Homes:** This matter was deferred until additional information is received.

MONTHLY REPORTS --

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT -No Report.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

The following persons spoke to Council during public comment.

- **Curtis Jones** stated that he represents the senior citizens of the Spectrum Center and asked that Council keep them informed as to what is happening with this Center. He added that they own certain items in the County building and they would need an appropriate place to house these items if they must move.
- **Mr. H. D. Hodge** voiced his concerns about dilapidated mobile homes being placed on property in his community. He added that these homes were moved into the community illegally. Mr. Hodge asked Council to please have some follow-up on this matter to ensure that this matter is cleared up immediately.
- **Ms. Amy Schrader** stated that she is a teacher at Bates Middle School, which is a part of School District #17. She asked Council to support the school district's budget.
- **Mr. Nigel Lee**, President of the District Area PTA, asked Council to support the school districts budgets. He also asked Council to consider the needs of the children.
- **Ms. Mary Logan** spoke to Council concerning Wilbur Brown an inmate of Sumter County Correctional facility.
- **Ms. Laurel Sipel**, a representative of Rural Development, which is an Agency in the Department of Agriculture, spoke to Council concerning Homeownership Week. This agency is working to bring more dollars into Sumter to help in providing homes for low to moderate-income families.

- **Ms. Dorothy Cannon** asked that there be a review of the policy on graduation from School District #2's Schools. She asked that Council review specifically the parts that deal with the "walking process" and the amount of money that is expected from the parents/students long before graduation and then the student not being notified until the last minute that he/she cannot walk on graduation day. Ms. Cannon asked that this investigation be done specifically for Lakewood and Furman High Schools.
- **Mr. Moses Hudson** stated that he is a part/full-time bus driver for School District #17. He thanked Council for what they plan to do. However, he asked that consideration be given to the drivers, who must have CDL Licenses, for a larger pay increase.
- **Ms. Debra Hamilton** thanked Council for working with the City to remove the "dead trees" that were hanging over in her yard from her neighbor's yard.
- **Dr. Patricia Ali** thanked Council for its commitment to education as expressed in comments made during the meeting. She added that she is a parent of students in District #17. Dr. Ali reminded Council that a community is judged by the quality of its schools.
- **Ms. Marilyn Moore** asked the public to be careful about what they say about another community in this or any area. The people that live in the community may not have caused the community's deterioration, but have remained in that location. Those that are remaining do not want others degrading the community, but would prefer people to help the community if there is a need.
- **Mr. Alphonzo Johnson** stated his support for education. He added that he is concerned about the bus drivers, food service workers, class sizes, teachers' pay, the lack of enough teachers' aids, and no prayer in schools.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Prior to entering executive session, the Chairman indicated that he would entertain a motion to enter executive session to discuss a contractual matter.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Williams, seconded by Councilwoman Sanders, and unanimously carried by Council to enter executive session to discuss a contractual matter. At the conclusion of executive session, Council re-entered open session.

OPEN SESSION

After returning from executive session, the Chairman indicated that he would entertain a motion to re-enter open session.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Vice Chairman Fleming, seconded by Councilman Singleton, and unanimously carried by Council to enter open session.

REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Chairman reported that there was no action to be taken from executive session. The Chairman then stated that he would entertain a motion to re-enter executive session to discuss a personnel matter.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Singleton, seconded by Councilman Williams, and unanimously carried by Council to enter executive session to discuss a personnel matter. At the conclusion of executive session, Council re-entered open session.

OPEN SESSION

After returning from executive session, the Chairman indicated that he would entertain a motion to re-enter open session.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Burr, seconded by Councilman Edens, and unanimously carried by Council to enter open session.

REPOT FROM EXECTUIVE SESSION

The Chairman reported that there was no action to be taken from executive session.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business and no additional comments from the public, the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman or Vice Chairman
Sumter County Council

Clerk to County Council

Approved: _____

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

- Public Notified: Yes
- Manner Notified: Agenda posted on bulletin board outside the County Administrator's office and bulletin board on the first floor of the Administration Building.
- Date Posted: June 3, 1999
- Media Notified: Yes
- Manner Notified: Agendas were sent to most radio stations, television stations, and newspapers in the Sumter, Columbia, Manning, and Florence communities.
- Date Notified: June 3, 1999

Respectfully submitted,

Mary W. Lewis

