

**Minutes  
Regular Meeting  
Sumter County Council  
December 2, 1997 -- 6:00 P.M.  
SUMTER COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
County Council Chambers**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** James A. Campbell, Chairman; Frank E. Williams, Jr., Vice Chairman; Artie Baker, Carol Burr, Charles E. Fienning, Louis Fleming, and Naomi Sanders.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:** William T. Noonan, County Administrator; Mary W. Lewis, Clerk to Council; Kathy Cuttino, County Attorney; John Duffie, County Engineer; Faith Line, County Librarian, Elizabeth Hair, County Treasurer; Mrs. Verna Moore, County Coroner; and Nathaniel Benbow, Election Commission Staff Member.

**MEDIA PRESENT:** The Item

**PUBLIC PRESENT:** Approximately 50 members of the public were in attendance.

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Chairman Campbell, and the Reverend James Blassingame, Pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, gave the invocation.

**ACTION ON MINUTES:** MOTION was made by Councilman Fleming, seconded by Councilman Fienning, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the minutes of November 25, 1997, as presented by the Clerk.

**LAND USE MATTERS AND REZONING REQUESTS  
Planned Development/Rezoning Requests -- None**

**Street Name Change -- None**

**Grants -- None**

**PUBLIC HEARING -- None**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- (1) Approval to Amend the Lease of Property on Spencer Road to Construct and Operate a Recycling Center.

The County Attorney presented this matter before Council indicating that at a former meeting of County Council, Council approved a lease agreement on Spencer Road in order to construct a recycling center. The lease is for a five-year term with an automatic renewal

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at the end of each year after the initial five years. The property owner informed the Public Works Director, Mr. Eddie Newman, that he does not want to commit the use of his property beyond ten years. Therefore, the Attorney prepared an amendment to the lease agreement to include language which would allow for the property owner, at the end of the tenth year, to terminate the lease upon giving the County a ninety-day written notice. The County, however, can terminate the lease at any time prior to the ten year period.

**ACTION:** MOTION was made by Councilwoman Sanders, seconded by Councilman Fienning, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the amendment as presented and directed the Chairman, the Clerk, and other appropriate staff to execute and deliver the amended lease on behalf of the County.

(2) 97-338 -- First Reading -- An Ordinance Amending the Sumter Business License Ordinance.

This matter was deferred until a later meeting.

**The Chairman of Council had to leave the meeting at this point for another meeting and the meeting was then Chaired by the Vice Chairman, The Honorable Frank E. Williams, Jr.**

(3) Briefing by Representatives from the Sumter County Library Concerning Construction Needs of the Library.

The following information was presented by the Chairman of the Library Board and Ms. Faith Line, the Librarian.

**Existing Facility Expanded:**

**Pros:**

- Complete and complement governmental mall on south side by eastern expansion.
- Utilize existing facility and maintain downtown presence.
- Less expensive initial monetary investment for facility.

**Cons:**

- Inadequate parking.
- Congested construction site.
- Remove opportunity for future governmental expansion in both existing library facility and adjacent vacant property.
- Staffing problem for multi-level facility including internal security and supervision.
- No practical expansion of facility for next generation.
- Added construction cost to meet structural loading and ADA requirements for new addition and rehabilitating existing facility to meet automation requirements.
- Intermittent short term and long term interruption of Library services during construction.

**New Facility Construction:**

**Pros:**

- Minimum interruption of existing Library services during construction.
- Potential future expansion for next generation.
- Adequate/expandable parking.
- Opportunity of providing more centrally demographically located services to entire county.
- Better supervision and staff of single level facility.

**Cons:**

Larger initial monetary investment for facility.

Additional land cost.

Existing Facility -- Expanded and Altered:

Existing square footage	15,374 x	\$ 50 per square foot	\$ 768,700
New square footage	31,188 x	\$102 per square foot	\$3,181,176
Total square footage	46,562		
		Subtotal Structure Cost	\$3,949,876
		Furniture and Shelving	\$ 537,048
		Automation Equipment	\$ 196,187
		Automation Software	\$ 101,614
		Book Security System	<u>\$ 22,500</u>
		Total Construction Cost	\$4,807,225

New Facility Construction

Square Footage	44,754 x	\$102 per square foot	\$4,564,908
		Subtotal Structure Cost	\$4,564,908
		Furniture and Shelving	\$ 537,048
		Automation Equipment	\$ 196,187
		Automation Software	\$ 101,614
		Book Security System	<u>\$ 27,000</u>
		Total Construction Cost	\$5,426,757

Land cost at 4.08 acre minimum	x \$300,000/acre	\$1,224,000
5.83 acre optimum	x \$300,000/acre	\$1,749,000

The architect for the project, Mr. Danny Shelley, presented a detailed overview of the construction requirements for the existing facility and for a newly constructed facility. Afterwards, Council took action on its support on this construction project.

**ACTION:** MOTION was made by Councilman Burr, seconded by Councilman Fleming, and unanimously carried by Council to support the concept of constructing a new library building; location will be decided upon at a later date.

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(4) Briefing by the Director of the Sumter Conventions and Visitors Bureau Concerning Tourism.

Mrs. Patsy Lewis, the Director of the Sumter Conventions and Visitors Bureau, presented an overview of the role of the Visitors Bureau in Sumter County and the City of Sumter. She stated that Sumter needs to be marketed as an overnight-stay city which will provide a great deal of visitors in the community. Sumter can also be packaged as a historical area, provide tours for those interested in cotton, gingko, plantations, the Civil War, the Revolutionary War, Shaw and Poinsette Combat Range, nature base, heritage, gardens, Afro-American history, Cultural events, lakes, and hunting and fishing.

The Director indicated that she is developing new and revising former profile sheets, fact sheet, maps, nature brochures, and combined resource brochures. Mrs. Lewis added that the following is needed in her department: additional personnel, more brochures, creative minds, Internet capability, more office space, a welcome center on the interstate, and sign markers on I-95, I-20, I-26, and Highway 378.

**ACTION:** MOTION was made by Councilman Burr, seconded by Councilman Fienning, and unanimously carried by Council to direct the Administrator to come back before Council, after meeting with the Director of Tourism, to inform Council of the needs of the Tourism and Convention Bureau in order for this department to be marketed better to bring additional revenue into the County and City. This should be done within the next sixty days from this meeting.

(5) Sumter County Council Regular Meeting Calendar for 1998

MONTH OF MEETING	FIRST MEETING DATE	SECOND MEETING DATE
January	13	27
February	10	24
March	10	24
April	14	28
May	12	26
June	9	23
July	14	28
August	11	25
September	8	22
October	13	27
November	10	24
December	8	none

**ACTION:** MOTION was made by Councilman Fienning, seconded by Councilman Burr, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the 1998 meeting schedule calendar of County Council as presented by the Clerk.

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- (6) Suggested To Hold Executive Session To Discuss Contractual And/Or Personnel Matters. (The Executive Session, If Approved By Council, Will Be Held After All Business Matters Have Been Completed.)

No executive session was held.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- (1) 97-339 -- Second Reading -- An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 97-328 Respecting An Inducement Agreement With Peace Textile, Inc. And Other Matters Related to the Foregoing .

The County Attorney presented this ordinance and indicated that there have been no changes to this ordinance from first reading. This ordinance will allow for the County and the Peace Textile, Inc. to be the only two parties involved in an inducement agreement by removing the City of Sumter from the original agreement.

**ACTION:** MOTION was made by Councilman Burr, seconded by Councilman Fienning, and unanimously carried by Council to grant second reading to the proposed ordinance.

**COMMITTEE REPORT:**

- (1) Internal Affairs Committee Meeting On Tuesday, December 2, 1997, At 4:30 P.M. In Council's Conference Room. (Members: Williams, Fienning, and Sanders)

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

Accommodations Tax Advisory Board

Appoint: Mr. Elliott Thomas, Jr., Mr. Jule Eldridge

Reappoint: Mrs. McKenzie Sholtz

Planning Commission:

Reappoint: Mr. Charles T. Edens and Mr. Jerry Bozeman

Cable Vision Board:

Reappoint: Mr. James Chandler and Mrs. Susan Ward Smith

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Building Codes of Adjustment:

Appoint: Mr. James Ross and one appointment remained vacant until the Attorney makes a determination concerning the proposed appointment.

Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission:

Reappoint: Susie Shepard, Frances D. Hill, Howard McFadden, Shaw AFB Representative

Library Board:

Appoint: Mr. William Nock

Cultural Commission:

Appoint: Mr. Sep Harvin

**ACTION:** MOTION was made by Councilwoman Sanders, seconded by Councilman Burr, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the recommendations as presented.

(2) Fiscal, Tax, And Property Committee Meeting On Tuesday, December 2, 1997, At 5:30 P.M. In Council's Conference Room. (Members: Campbell, Fienning, and Fleming)

Councilman Louis Fleming, a member of the Committee, gave the following report and recommendation.

- **Parking Lot of St. John Shiloh Community Center:** After receiving a report from the Administrator, the committee recommended that Council approve \$16,301.00 to rock out 1 1/2" and replace with 1 1/2" of asphalt paving. At Council's meeting of November 25, 1997, Council recommended the use of \$12,000 from its contingency fund for this project; however, the cost to complete the project is \$4,301 more than originally approved. Therefore, the committee recommended the approval of an additional \$4,301 for this project.

**ACTION:** MOTION was made by Councilman Fienning, seconded by Councilman Fleming, and carried by Council to approve the recommendation of an additional \$4,301 from Council's contingency fund to be used with the previously approved \$12,000 allocation (total of \$16,301) to pave the parking lot at St. John Shiloh Community Center. Councilwoman Sanders abstained.

**MONTHLY REPORT:**

None

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

- **Correctional New Classification System Conference:** The Administrator, the Correctional Director, and the Assistant Director attended a Conference in Georgetown, SC sponsored by the State Department of Corrections and South Carolina Association of Counties. New

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inmate classifications will be forthcoming and this meeting was held to prepare correctional directors state-wide to be prepared for the new classifications.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

There were no additional comments from the public.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business and no additional comments from the public, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman or Vice Chairman  
Sumter County Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk to 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:        Agenda posted on bulletin board outside the County Administrator's Office and bulletin board on the first floor of the Administration Building.

Date Posted:              November 26, 1997

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:            November 26, 1997

Respectfully submitted,

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Mary W. Lewis