

ANDERSON COUNTY COUNCIL
ANDERSON, SOUTH CAROLINA

Regular Meeting - February 2, 1999 - 6:00 p.m.
Linda N. Gilstrap, Clerk to Council

MINUTES

All area newspapers, radio stations and television stations were informed of this meeting in compliance with guidelines of the Freedom of Information Act.

PRESENT

G. Fred Tolly - District #1
Chairman William A. Floyd - District #2
Larry E. Greer - District #3
Vice Chairman Clint Wright - District #4
J. Mike Holden - District #5
Joey Preston - Administrator
Tom Martin - County Attorney
Linda N. Gilstrap - Clerk to Council
Stacey R. Russ - Assistant Clerk to Council

The official meeting of the Anderson County Council convened in the Council Chambers of the Historic Courthouse on Tuesday, February 2, 1999 at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Larry Greer gave the invocation and everyone stood and pledged allegiance to the flag.

Chairman Floyd announced that the agenda had a couple of changes: #1 is now #3 and there is a new #1 and a new #2. The new ideas are: #1. OWENS CORNING FEE-IN-LIEU OF TAXES. - Mr. Mike Holden #2. PRESENTATION OF SOUTH CAROLINA DHEC AWARD - FROM: Mr. Leo Marsden.

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On the motion of Mr. Tolly, seconded by Mr. Wright, Council voted unanimously to approve the changes to the agenda as explained by Chairman Floyd.

On the motion of Mr. Tolly, seconded by Mr. Greer, Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the January 19, 1999 meeting as mailed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Mr. Rodney Sanders said he attended the last Council meeting and was surprised because he had questions when he went in and had questions when he left. He said that the public needs access to answers and would like to see dialogue between citizens and Council. The chairman pointed out that the Council's proceedings are based on Home Rule and Robert's Rules and there may be a need at different times for dialogue. Council received as information. Ms. Jody Brodock, Vice President of the Anderson Humane Society, explained that animal over-population was a problem in Anderson County. She thanked Mr. Holden for helping with an animal problem on Saturday. Council received as information.

Mr. Mike Holden stated that he had documents pertaining to the Owens Corning and the fee-in-lieu agreement. He said he felt that all of the obligations of the document are not being made. He instructed Mr. Preston to get with the bond attorneys and completely research these documents within the next two weeks and report back for some action at the next meeting. Mr. Holden moved that the Bond Attorney's research all the documents concerning Owens Corning Fiberglas and make sure that they are in compliance and report back at the next council meeting. Mr. Tolly seconded and vote was unanimous.

Mr. Leo Marsden presented Anderson County with the DHEC award the County won for the Best Individual Recycling Project. This was a joint effort between the Chambert Forest community, Ms. Sally Bird Chairman, and the County. Ms. Bird was recognized for removal of 72 tons of garbage, and over 800 tires. Mr. Larry Greer commended Ms. Bird for her community effort.

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On the motion of Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Tolly, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution #R99-003 - a resolution directing the Anderson County Administrator and Anderson County Management Services Division Director to adopt and carry out the provisions of Anderson County's Year 2000 Compliance Plan.

Mr. Joey Preston read Resolution #R99-004 - a resolution recognizing the Foothills Resource Conservation and Development Council, Incorporated as an important agent and partner in the coordination and furtherance of resource conservation and development in Anderson County. Anderson County Council also endorses the stated purpose of and confers its sponsorship upon the Foothills Resource Conservation and Development Council. On the motion of Mr. Greer, seconded by Mr. Wright, Council voted unanimously to approve the resolution as presented.

Mr. Preston presented the sublease agreement between Skip-J, Inc. and Anderson County for the purpose of an annual payment of \$500 for a weapons range on the property. On the motion of Mr. Holden, seconded by Mr. Wright, Council voted unanimously to approve the annual lease.

Mr. Greer moved to appoint Mr. M.J. Bobo who will replace Mr. Wendell Cox on the Human Relations Council, and appoint Mr. Ronald W. Mattison to replace Mr. Robert Thornton on the Land Use Board of Appeals. Mr. Holden seconded the appointments and vote was unanimous.

Mr. Preston presented a request to approve the low bid from Harold A. Pickens and Sons for GNP Sanitary Sewer Service in the amount of \$71,167.50. The project is being paid for by a grant from the State of South Carolina. Mr. Tolly moved to award the bid to Harold A. Pickens and Mr. Holden seconded. Vote was unanimous.

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Mr. Holden moved to ratify prior action to name the new DSS Building the KENNETH R. PRYOR BUILDING. Mr. Wright seconded and vote was unanimous. Council heard from Mr. Pryor who thanked Council for their action.

Mr. Bob Daly gave a report on the Inmate Work program currently being run by Ms. Melinda Benninger. He reported that market value of inmate labor for 1998 figures out to \$1,396,283.52. Mr. Daly reported that the Old County Home building was being renovated with Inmate labor. When the job is finished the Administrative offices will move there. The Detention Center will gain 22 beds for trustees. The 22 trustees will be moved out of the new jail and their beds will be filled with 22 detainees. This means earnings of approximately \$500,000.00 as a result of the project. The grant of \$400,000 received from the State of South Carolina will be used to construct a work camp behind the Jail, which will hold approximately 50 sentenced inmates. This will give us the opportunity with State money to expand the work program even further. Council commended Ms. Benninger for an outstanding job. Council received as information.

Mr. Jeff Ricketson presented a draft of a Flood Control Operating Plan for Broadway Lake. Mr. Ricketson gave an update on the lake. He said Broadway Lake was built during the 1940s and has been managed since then by a quasi-public group called the Broadway Lake Commission for about 50 years. When the County took control of Broadway Lake several years ago the parks around the lake and the dam itself needed work. A couple years ago, the County began an effort to try to upgrade the various facilities at the lake including the parks. In April of 1998 a severe flooding problem occurred which was the second time in three years. The County decided then that it was time to call a professional to evaluate the way Anderson County operates the lake. Funds were budgeted to commission the Army Corps of Engineers. The document that Council received is the preliminary findings of their investigation started in September. The study found that more water can get into the lake at any given time, when you have a heavy rain, event than we can let out. The lake is very shallow and the dam structure was built 50 years ago.

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The report includes several alternatives to eliminate the problem. Their recommendation to upgrade the current dam and drop the existing spillway 9 feet is a good sound recommendation however we need to have costs associated with all the alternatives so Council can make a good sound, economical decision. The cost estimates should be completed within a month. Council received as information.

Mr. Jerry Shealy informed Council that the County was able to acquire some IFLOW rain gauges. These are automatic rain gauges. For the cost of one rain gauge we will be able to install 6 range gauges throughout the county which will allow the county to determine rainfall amounts from various directions. The gauges will allow the County to have rainfall reports to feed to the National Weather Service and into the 911 center. This will increase the County's ability to react to flooding throughout the County. Council received as information.

On the motion of Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Holden, Council voted unanimously to approve the acceptance of Knots Landing Subdivision into the County road system.

Mr. Michael Cunningham presented a request for Federal funding for Teenage Pregnancy Prevention. He said that the State's budget included \$10.5 million in Federal Funding from the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program to create local teen pregnancy prevention programs. A formula has been created based on each County's adolescent population, rate of adolescent pregnancy, and the actual number of adolescent pregnancies. If Anderson County decides to pursue the grant funding they will be eligible to receive \$108,418 per year for the next three years to create local teen pregnancy prevention programs. Council heard from Dr. Becky Campbell regarding the need for pregnancy prevention programs for the community. She said that this also needs to be a community-based project. On the motion of Mr. Greer, seconded by Mr. Wright, Council voted unanimously to approve the application for the three-year grant for Anderson County.

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ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Preston introduced the new 911 dispatchers in training who are preparing for the March 1 on-line target date. The employees stood and were recognized.

(a) Letters of Appreciation:

I. For: Caption Mike Vergis & Detention Center Members
From: Mr. Bob Daly

II. For: Mr. John Chambers - Certificates of Training

(b) Reports & Minutes:

I. Safety Meeting Minutes

II. Economic Advisory Board Minutes

III. County Accommodations Fee Projections:

Mr. Preston stated that there was an Airport meeting last night and there will be recommendations at the next meeting on the direction of the Airport and a report on the County Accommodations Fee and its progress. To date based on the budget the County has over a \$31,000 favorable balance in our fee which is collected to help collect the debt for the construction of the sports complex.

IV. Recreation Fund Account

V. Paving Account Report

(c) Diversity Training

(d) Public Hearings on Recreation Master Plan

Mr. Greer requested that when the public hearings for the Recreation Master Plan that one meeting be scheduled in Belton, Honea Path, and the Starr-Iva area and employees of the Planning Department be present.

Mr. Greer stated that he had requested from the Planning Department to help prepare a survey which should have ran in the News Chronicle today concerning the proposed Belton bypass. The survey gives four route options and one "do nothing" option. He said that he was interested citizens' comments.

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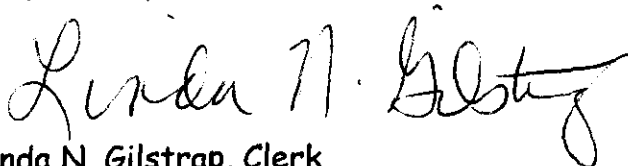
Mr. Holden explained that he had some Building & Codes situations with Cornerstone Church. He asked that Mr. Preston and Jeff Ricketson to get together to resolve the problems.

Mr. Holden said there was a joint paving project with the City and asked that Mr. McClure provide more information. This is concerning on Southwood Street at the City garage. Mr. Holden asked that he be allowed to spend up to \$5,000 from District #5 asphalt account to assist the City with the paving project at the City garage. Mr. Holden moved that this be allowed and Mr. Wright seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Floyd made the following remarks. He said that the Chairman of County Council is a ceremonial position, and can not dictate to other members what to say and what to do. Each Council member is elected by the people in the their respectful districts and they are responsible to the people of that area. He said that the Council functions as a team, serves the people of their respective areas, and are elected by the people. He would report the following process as requested by Mr. Greer. The process for which the public may get on the agenda is they must call in by 5:00 p.m. on the Wednesday prior to the Tuesday's meeting. They must put the request in writing as to what they want to discuss and must be accepted for agenda. The same action must be approved for action items on the agenda. The citizen's agenda - you can walk in and sign up.

There being no further business, Council adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Linda N. Gilstrap".

Linda N. Gilstrap, Clerk
ANDERSON COUNTY COUNCIL