

ANDERSON COUNTY COUNCIL
ANDERSON, SOUTH CAROLINA
Regular Meeting – December 6, 2005 - 6:00 p.m.
Linda N. Eddleman, Clerk to Council

MINUTES

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

PRESENT

Chairperson Gracie S. Floyd, Presiding
Vice Chairman Larry E. Greer - District #3
G. Fred Tolly – District #1
Bill McAbee – District #4
Michael Thompson – District #5
William C. Dees – District #6
Cindy Wilson – District #7
Joey Preston – Administrator
Tom Martin – County Attorney
Linda N. Eddleman - Clerk to Council
Tammie Shealy – Deputy Clerk to Council

(During times of discussion and presentations the minutes are condensed and paraphrased.)

The official meeting of the Anderson County Council convened in the Council Chambers of the Historic Courthouse on Tuesday, December 6, 2005 at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Tolly gave the invocation and everyone stood and pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Thompson moved to approve the minutes from the November 1, 2005 meeting as mailed and amended. Ms. Wilson seconded and vote was unanimous. Ms. Wilson moved to approve the November 15, 2005 minutes and Mr. McAbee seconded. Ms. Wilson asked that the words "██████████" be added to the second sentence, second paragraph, page 1 of the minutes. The sentence will now read: "Ms. Wilson invited everyone, ██████████, to join her in reciting the Lord's Prayer." Vote was unanimous to amend the minutes as discussed.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: Agenda Matters

Ms. Bennie Sue West wished everyone a Merry Christmas. She said that she had a copy of the resolution (#R2005-055) and in the first "Whereas" clause it states - "...levy a sales and use tax of one percent on the gross proceeds of sales within said county for specific purposes for a limited amount of time to collect..." She said it would have been nice if the resolution named the specific purposes that the resolution is addressing. She also asked if the projects would come before County Council for approval. Another question regarding third "whereas" clause - "...sales tax will generate revenues which may be used to fund or defray the costs of capital improvements within the County, and other related matters." She asked for the definition of "capital improvements". She said that it was her understanding that the purpose was for improvements of roads and bridges. She asked if the road money had been spent on other non-essentials. Mr. Dan Harvell talked about the possibility of imposition of a new sales tax in Anderson County. He said on behalf of the Anderson County Taxpayers Association, that they were uniformly opposed to the imposition of more sales tax to be directed to what they have been told would be infrastructure improvement on roads. Mr. Charles D. Crowe said that sales tax wasn't anything but another tax and the poor and elderly people on fixed incomes have to pay those taxes. He said that if Council had a priority on fixing roads then the County would not have this problem. Mr. David Cothran of Dixie Road in the Centerville Community, and a member of the Centerville Volunteer Fire Department said that they were opposed to the rezoning in the area since the voters of the community voted overwhelmingly for zoning as it is. He said that the time frame should be more than a couple of years. He said that this would increase the traffic flow on Whitehall Road. He asked Council to deny the request. Mr. Brooks Brown, IV said that he was against the 1-cent sales tax proposal. He said that state law requires that a specific use must be decided. He suggested to Council that they come up with some other idea or method. Mr. David King, Vice Chairman of the Anderson County Development Partnership, said that the partnership was in support of Resolution #R2005-055 to establish a commission to consider proposals for funding capital projects in Anderson County. Mr. Ed Hensch said that this would impact our "poverty" level citizens. He said that he understood that the purpose was to fund roads and bridges. He said that a gasoline tax, taxing the ones who use the roads and bridges, would be more appropriate. He said it was no question that the County needed the improvements but he believed there were better ways of funding. Mr. Jim Broyles, Chair Elect at the Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce, said that a 1-cent sales tax was not an issue that would be decided by Anderson County Council but by the voters of Anderson County. The purpose of the

commission is to begin the debate in the county as to whether or not the County should have a sales tax. Then through the debate the citizens can make up their own mind and voice their opinions at the polls. He said that the Chamber of Commerce was in support of appointing the commission to begin the debate within the County. He encouraged Council to appoint the commission by passing Resolution #R2005-055.

Chairperson Floyd moved to amend the agenda to add a presentation on Veterans' Affairs by Ms. Lib Peace and a proclamation. Mr. McAbee seconded. Vote was unanimous.

PRESENTATION: Concerned Citizens Church Group – Pastor W.T. Lewis said that within recent weeks seven black churches in and around the city of Anderson have experienced a serious crisis of break ins. The churches are on the south and southwest sides of the City limits of Anderson and some are outside the city limits. They are all located in low-income economically disadvantaged black communities. The robbers hit the churches very heavy. They called the law enforcement officials as soon as they discovered the break ins but their slowness to respond was very sad and disappointing. He said that they call upon the elected public officials of Anderson to come up with and at least help with a solution to this serious problem. They proposed – resources be set up for rehabilitation of drug addicts, counseling on the dangers of drug use, the robbers be brought to justice and for counseling, and more patrolling by law enforcement in the areas where the black churches were broken in. Pastor Eddie Thomas LaGroone also spoke and said that drugs was one of the biggest problems in the community. The communities would be safer if the County could get a "handle" on the drug problem. He said that someone called him and said that she had an identification of one of the thieves and the law enforcement was called and they never showed up. He asked for help with law enforcement. Mr. Tim Busha of the Sheriff's Office said that he made the instruction for the officers to leave a note in the door that they had been by but the Pastors so far have received nothing. He said that on December 1 a warrant was signed on Carl Tripp for burglary – second degree of Mt. Olive Church. The pastors said that they were not aware of the warrant. He said that the Sheriff's office has dedicated a number of resources to this problem. Ms. Floyd asked Chief Busha to keep everyone informed of what was happening. Council received as information.

Ms. Elizabeth M. Peace said at the last Council meeting, Chairperson Floyd talked about a Veterans' Day Parade to honor the veterans. She said that she told Ms. Floyd that in the past the County had a Veterans' Day Parade in the 70's and the 80's. Ms. Peace said that if Anderson County sponsor's it - then she suggested that it be done right. She said that November 12, 2006 at 3 p.m. is the planned time for the parade.

Chairperson Floyd read #R2005-049 – a resolution recognizing and honoring the Pendleton High School Boys Cross Country Team for winning the 2005 South Carolina 1A/2A State Championship; and other matters related thereto. Mr. McAbee moved to approve and Mr. Dees seconded. Vote was unanimous. The resolution was presented to members of the Boys Cross Country Team after Mr. McAbee read the resolution in its' entirety.

Chairperson Floyd read #R2005-050 – a resolution recognizing and honoring the Pendleton High School Girls Cross Country Team for winning their tenth consecutive South Carolina Skyline Class AA Region Championship and finishing second at the 2005 1A/2A State Championship; and other matters related thereto. Mr. McAbee read the resolution in its' entirety and then moved to approve and Mr. Tolly seconded. Vote was unanimous. Members of the team were recognized and then the resolution was presented to them.

Chairperson Floyd called for a 5-minute break. The chairperson called the meeting back to order.

NOTE: This item was removed from the agenda for consideration at the next meeting of Council.
#R2005-052 – a resolution recognizing and honoring the Westside High School Football Team for winning its Class AAAA, Division II First Round Playoff Game; and other matters related thereto.

Chairperson Floyd read #R2005-055 – a resolution to establish a commission to consider proposals for funding capital projects in Anderson County, South Carolina, pursuant to Section 4-10-330 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended, to provide for the appointment, composition, duties, and responsibilities of such commission; and other matters relating thereto. Mr. Tolly moved to approve and Mr. Dees seconded. Ms. Wilson said that there would be lots of reasons that she could vote for the resolution if only there were real assurances that the projects that are needed in the lower end of the County would be assured and constructed in the best cost effective way. She said that Anderson County, for the last 7 years, has failed to increase spending on roads – certainly not sufficient to the needs. She said that there has been many, many years of waste that could be substantiated by looking at any of the ledger reports. She said that at least 5-10 million dollars a year has been "blown" on silly stuff and if you took \$5 million dollars a year times 8 years that equals to 40 million. She asked how many roads and bridges would that have repaired. It appears that the engineering firm has been preordained that another person who is a former council member may be on the board of commissions here, she said. The City of Anderson appears to be in the most powerful position because they get to pick 3 members of the 6-member commission, she said. She saw in the ledger reports where cost of living increases for a number of departments have gone to pay for something at the Chamber of Commerce. Between that and some dues and subscriptions in a one-week period the County spend over

\$23,000 with the Chamber of Commerce and there is no substantiation for it, Ms. Wilson reported. There is nothing in, what she reads before her, that assures her that the most desperately needed projects in her district or even Highway 24 which should have been prioritized for years, will be done and without those assurances and without the proper stewardship of what the County has had in the past several years in the form of excellent revenues – District 7 very sadly cannot vote for this, she said. Mr. Thompson asked Mr. Martin if the resolution was to form a commission. Mr. Martin replied yes. He also asked if Council would be voting to increase taxes and Mr. Martin replied that was not correct. So the council is simply forming a commission and they are not voting to raise taxes or endorsing a tax, Mr. Thompson stated. The Commission would generate a project list for Council. The list recommended by the commission is placed in the form of the referendum question to be presented to the voters and that is the only referendum question that can be presented to the voters. Mr. Thompson said to clarify – Council was not voting to increase taxes. Mr. Martin said that was correct. So the citizens of the County will have to vote on whether or not they want to implement this tax. He said that the County was known to be a conservative county. Mr. Thompson - "So from my perspective, I see this tax as having an up hill battle because you are asking conservative voters to implement a tax who are already upset over taxes but yet there are a lot of people out there shedding a lot of unnecessary grief saying that you're not upholding your commitment to vote against taxes and that is absolutely not the truth. I am not voting to increase taxes. I am voting to form a commission, therefore I have kept my word and I will continue to keep my word to my constituents. Also, I'm a numbers person. This sales tax that you have read will create 131 million dollars in tax revenue over 7 years. Seventy-three point four (73.4) million of that will come from Anderson County residents and that is because 44% of our sales tax historically has come from non-residents. In addition to that the State Infrastructure bank will contribute up to another 150 million dollars. So we are looking at a total of \$281 million to improve our roads and our bridges. Okay. If you subtract the 73.4 million which is our contribution from the 281 that means there are, that is 207.6 million dollars divided by our contribution that means our return on investment, which is a basic principal of mine, what are we getting out of this, that means we have a 283% return on our investment.

It sounds like a simple process to me. Thank you, Madam Chair." Mr. McAbee said that he was concerned that within the last two years (the prior Council) chose to keep the money from reassessment rather than roll back millage and it had the net effect of being a tax increase upon the citizens of this county. Again, this council raised millage this year in the current budget. He said he was concerned at the county and its' competitiveness. He said he wanted Anderson County to be a county that could compete in economic development and the county needed to be careful that they are not raising the cost of doing business in this county. It is often thought that the sales tax does not affect the manufacturing base but it does, he said. He said that the Council was adding to the cost of doing business in Anderson County and were this to pass it will make Anderson County a less competitive County in the economic development arena, Mr. McAbee stated. Mr. Greer said that historically he has opposed to capital projects sales tax and he has made efforts to keep it out of the County's goals and objectives for this Council, he said. He said that he made the statements in meetings that he's attended that he led the charge to take it out of the County's budgetary process back in February. He said that part of the sales tax money would be spent to maintain county roads but the vast majority of the money generated under the proposal, if it were to pass by the voters in November 2006 would be spent on state road not County roads. Three of the project that will probably end up topping out the list if we get the State Infrastructure would be highway 24 and Highway 247 out of Belton to Ware Place and Highway 76 out of Honea Path to Princeton. If those three top out the list then the vast majority would be spent on state roads. If a total of \$210 million was granted from the state infrastructure, has been mentioned – talk now is \$150 million but it could go as high as \$210 million – then the County would have to match that with \$74 million from the capital project sales tax that would leave \$56 million to take care of the County's roads and bridges. He said the statement that the county was not doing a good job maintaining their roads and bridges is incorrect. The funds have not been there, over the long haul, to make the necessary repairs. A small bridge can deplete a whole years' worth of paving funds. He said that he did not believe that as a member of council that he has the right to make the decision for Anderson County of whether or not the County wants to accept \$110-210 million from the State Infrastructure Bank. He said that was a decision that the people of the county have a right to make and he doesn't have the right to make it for them. The statement that this Council or this Administration can play games with this money is erroneous and State law governs it. If it was to pass in November the list would be mandatory. Mr. Greer said he was not voting to raise taxes but he was voting to give the people of this County the opportunity to make their wishes known in November. Chairperson Floyd said that the resolution was to establish a commission to consider a proposal for funding capital projects in Anderson County. Mr. Preston read the following list of endorsements – Town of Honea Path, Town of Belton, Town of Pendleton, Town of Starr, Chamber of Commerce, City of Anderson, Economic Development Advisory, and Economic Development Partnership Vote was five in favor and two opposed (Wilson, McAbee). Motion carried.

ORDINANCES – THIRD READING:

Chairperson Floyd read the title of Ordinance #2005-033 – an ordinance amending Ordinance #99-004, the Anderson County Zoning Ordinance, as adopted July 20, 1999, by amending the Anderson County Official Zoning Map to rezone from R-20 (Single-Family Residential) to C1-N, 1 (one) parcel of land comprising approximately +/- 1.36 acres of property in the Hopewell Precinct on Highway 81 North at Sam McGee Road. The property is identified by

TMS #147-09-01-001. Ms. Wilson moved to approve and Mr. McAbee seconded. Vote was unanimous to approve on third and final reading.

Chairperson Floyd read the title of Ordinance #2005-034 – an ordinance amending Ordinance #99-004, the Anderson County Zoning Ordinance, as adopted July 20, 1999, by amending the Anderson County Official Zoning Map to rezone from R-20 (Single-Family Residential) to C-1, a portion of 1 (one) parcel of land, the portion being comprised of approximately +/- 0.5 acres of property in the Hopewell Precinct on Evergreen Road near Highway 81 North. The property is identified by TMS #145-00-04-001. Ms. Wilson moved to approve and Mr. Dees seconded. Vote was unanimous to approve on third reading.

Chairperson Floyd read the title of Ordinance #2005-039 – an ordinance amending Ordinance #99-004, the Anderson County Zoning Ordinance, as adopted July 20, 1999, by amending the Anderson County Official Zoning Map to rezone from R-20 (Single-Family Residential) to P-D (Planned Development District) a portion of a parcel of land, said portion being comprised of approximately +/- 34.0 acres of property in the Hammond School Precinct on Edgebrook Drive. The property is a portion of TMS #147-00-03-001, and is generally described on Sheet CV-3 of a Preliminary Development Plan for Edgebrook Forest prepared by Gray Engineering Consultants, Inc., and further described in a Statement of Intent for Edgebrook Forest, Anderson, South Carolina, dated October 7, 2005. Mr. Thompson move to approve the ordinance and third reading and Mr. McAbee seconded. Vote was five in favor and two opposed (Tolly, Wilson). Motion carried.

ORDINANCES – SECOND READING:

Chairperson Floyd read the title of Ordinance #2005-040 – an ordinance authorizing the issuance of an Infrastructure Credit to S & T Enterprises of Anderson, Inc., a South Carolina S-Company, and its majority-owned and Controlled Limited Liability Company, Destination Hospitality LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company (together, the "Company") pursuant to an infrastructure financing agreement between the Company and Anderson County, South Carolina; and other matters relating to the foregoing. Mr. McAbee recused himself because of a possible conflict of interest. A public hearing was held and the following citizens spoke. Mr. Lee Luff, Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce spoke in favor of the project, Mr. Dan Harvell of the Anderson County Taxpayers Association spoke in opposition, Mr. Charles Crowe spoke in opposition for the tax break for S & T Enterprises because they are a commercial business and not an industrial facility. He also talked about the difficulty that everyone will have getting out of the business onto the highway. Mr. Glen Brill spoke in favor of the Hilton Garden Inn and the money and out of town visitors that the company will bring. Mr. Gary Price said that even though they are a Delaware LLC – they are not foreigners. They chose the Delaware LLC because it presents them to the Internal Revenue Code certain benefits on a Federal level and not a State level. He said that they were in the process of finalizing their health insurance – over 90% will qualify for health insurance and that is a challenge for most companies. They want to be received in the community as someone who cares about their employees and more importantly a company who cares about their community. No further comments, the public hearing was declared closed. Mr. Dees moved to approve and Mr. Tolly seconded. Ms. Wilson said it was hard to see what the adjacent properties would have to do with their need for an incentive package for the conference center. Why should the County have to provide them with tax incentives for their adjoining properties? She said that there was another developer at the meeting developing an excellent project on a main thoroughfare. He's paid for his own infrastructure and he's creating a real tax base. He has not requested tax incentives. We are giving it to one and we don't give it to all. Ms. Wilson: "And we were told last meeting by the County Attorney, who also wrote the ordinance for S & T, his firm represents this company. He took – he went behind closed doors with our chairman and discussed this issue with her and that's just a glaring conflict of interest. And we were told that there would be no payments or fees in lieu of tax that they would pay ad valorem taxes and it would be simply a matter of taking a portion of their taxes to pay down their infrastructure cost. Well in the very first paragraph it does state that financing is secured by and payable solely from the revenues of the County derived from payments in lieu of Ad valorem taxes for the purpose of defraying the cost of "da da da". Well, that certainly makes it sound like that there's a fee in lieu of taxes doesn't it? It's just absolutely bizarre that we are doing this. If we had simply the conference center to consider you might even get me considering it because it's nice to have new facilities to locate in the County but not when you have all the adjoining properties. This is just travesty to the taxpaying public and to the other developers. Thank you." Mr. Lummus stated to Ms. Wilson that this was not a fee-in-lieu of tax. When something is put in a multi county industrial park – the language says a fee in lieu of tax but it's not – it's a special source revenue credit. He said he negotiated the agreement. All of the improvements to the main property and the adjacent property will go towards the convention center only. Ms. Wilson said that the ordinance clearly states "adjacent properties". What is said is not the law but what is written, she said. Mr. Preston said that Robert Galloway with the Haynsworth Law firm represented the County on the ordinance. He reviewed the document and made his recommendations. Mr. Martin said that on every occasion he has clarified that he does not represent the County on economic development matters on those occasions where his firm does he clarifies that as well. He said he does not represent the County but Robert Galloway represents the County. He is not a partner but he is with a competing law firm. On no occasion has he ever spoken to an economic development project that his firm has represented. During the last meeting, he went to great lengths to address only procedural matters that he was asked by Council, he said. He said he was asked specifically about parliamentary procedures and he did not address the merits of the case and he

was asked specifically about law and parliamentary procedure. When the chair invited him out of the Council Chambers to discuss a matter, and the chair can clarify this, it was a procedural matter dealing with parliamentary procedures, he said. Specifically how the process of reconsideration of question could be undertaken. Vote was four in favor (Dees, Tolly, Thompson, Floyd), two opposed (Greer, Wilson), and one abstention (McAbee). Motion carried to approve the ordinance on second reading.

Chairperson Floyd read the title of Ordinance #2005-041 for second reading – an ordinance amending, in limited particulars only, the Master Road List of all County roads located in and maintained by the County of Anderson, South Carolina, created by Ordinance 2001-007; and other matters related thereto. (Secret Lane P-18-0044) A public hearing was held and no comments were received. Mr. Greer moved to approve and Mr. McAbee seconded. Ms. Wilson said that at the last meeting it was agreed that the funds for this project would be derived from County Council District 3 paving account. Ms. Wilson moved that on page 2 – item 3 - add that "the funding for the project to be derived from County Council District 3 paving account." Mr. Greer seconded the amendment. Vote was unanimous. Mr. Greer said that he has no problem with the amendment and he fully supported it. Vote on the original motion as amended was unanimous.

Chairperson Floyd read the title of Ordinance #2005-042 – an ordinance authorizing an amendment to a lease agreement dated as of December 1, 1996 between Anderson County, South Carolina (The "County") and Michelin North America, Inc. (The "Company") with regard to the criteria for qualification for an infrastructure credit and other matters relating to the foregoing. A public hearing was held; no comments were received. Mr. Dees moved to approve and Mr. McAbee seconded. Vote was unanimous to approve on second reading.

Chairperson Floyd read the title of Ordinance #2005-043 – an ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 98-019, as previously amended by Ordinance Nos. 99-029, 2000-063, 2001-014, 2001-046, 2002-017, 2002-036, 2003-022, 2003-047, 2003-051, 2003-053, 2003-054, 2004-004, 2004-044, 2004-047, 2004-048 and 2005-032 relating to the Industrial/Business Park of Anderson and Greenville Counties so as to enlarge the park. Mr. McAbee recused himself because of a possible conflict of interest. Mr. Dees moved to approve and Mr. Tolly seconded. Ms. Wilson said that S & T was most welcomed into this county and for all the previously stated reasons she cannot support a commercial enterprise being in an industrial park even if there has been some language "jiggering" that. It provides an unfair advantage for commercial interest in this area, she stated. Vote was four in favor the ordinance on second reading (Floyd, Dees, Thompson, Tolly), two opposed (Greer, Wilson), and one abstention (McAbee).

Council took a five minutes recess at 8:10 p.m. Chairperson Floyd called the meeting back to order at 8:15.

ORDINANCES – FIRST READING:

Chairperson Floyd read first reading title of Ordinance #2005-045 – an ordinance to approve a rezoning request by Jimmy Davis to rezone 41 acres on Sullivan Road near the intersection with Hwy. 28 Bypass from C-1 (Commercial) to R-8 (Residential). A public hearing was held and the following citizens spoke. Mr. Jimmy Davis asked Council to approve the rezone request. Mr. Dwight Edwards a resident of the area for 38 years asked council to deny the request. Mr. Tommy Dunn suggested keeping it like it is and he asked Council to deny the request. Another citizen spoke and he asked council to deny the request because of the traffic problem the development will cause. Ms. Glenda Saygh provided council with a packet showing traffic problems and a petition was mentioned. The packets included traffic accident reports. She asked Council to consider several suggestions when rezoning. She asked Council to defer until a third traffic lane can be added. No further comments the public hearing was declared closed. Mr. Thompson moved to approve and Mr. Tolly seconded. Vote was zero in favor, six opposed and one abstention (Greer). Ordinance #2005-045 was voted down.

On the motion of Mr. Greer, seconded by Mr. Thompson, Council voted unanimously to approve a proclamation proclaiming December as Arbor Day Month in Anderson County.

RESOLUTIONS:

Chairperson Floyd read title to Resolution #R2005-054 – a resolution authorizing Anderson County to acquire ownership from the South Carolina Research Authority of all real property owned by it in the Clemson Research Park and to develop the same, to enter into agreements for the management and development thereof, and to accept grants and transfers of funds therefore; and other matters related thereto. Mr. McAbee moved to approve and Mr. Thompson seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Chairman Floyd read title to Resolution #R2005-053 – a resolution expressing intent to cease county maintenance on and to authorize County consent to Judicial abandonment and closure of a section of a certain Anderson County Road; granting encroachment permits as to such section of said Anderson County road; and other matters related thereto. (Bradley Road C-06-0019) Ms. Wilson moved to approve and Mr. Thompson seconded. Vote was unanimous to approve the resolution with one condition. The new road will be built to county standards.

ACCOMMODATIONS TAX (ATAX) TOURISM-RELATED FUNDING REVIEWS AND APPROVALS

Mr. Thompson moved to approve the distribution of the 2005-2006 Accommodations Tax as recommended by the ATAX Advisory Committee in the amount of \$128,643. Mr. Greer seconded. Chairperson Floyd said that the Main Street program of Anderson was not funded again this year. She said that this program benefits everyone. She suggested that Council make a reduction in the Arts Center's allotment. She then moved to amend by reducing the Arts Center's allotment by \$2,000 in order to give \$1,500 to the Main Street Program Holiday Walk and \$500 for the Main Street Walking Tour. Mr. Greer seconded. Mr. Greer said that he noticed the City of Belton had requested monies for a tourism center and they were denied. Mr. Greer moved to amend by taking \$2,000 from the Arts Center also and add to the Belton Partnership (Standpipe Festival for a tourism feasibility study) and Mr. Thompson seconded. Vote was unanimous. Ms. Wilson moved to amend the motion to provide \$1,500 from the Arts Center to the Honea Path Merchants Association. Mr. Greer seconded. Mr. Dees said that he would like to recommend that Council allow Ms. Wilson and Mr. McAbee the same privilege of voting on their recommendation. Vote was six in favor and one opposed (Floyd). Chairperson Floyd talked about the three requests that did not receive anything. She said she did not intend to take money from the Arts center to beef up other areas. Vote on the original motion as amended was unanimous. The Arts Center was reduced by \$5,500 leaving a total of \$24,500. Vote on the original motion to approve as amended twice was unanimous. Mr. Dees moved to dispense use of the ATAX Committee. Mr. McAbee seconded. Mr. Martin stated that the Accommodation Tax Advisory Committee was established by state law and cannot be dissolved. Mr. Dees and Mr. McAbee both withdrew their motion and second.

APPOINTMENTS:

All Districts – none

Appalachian Council of Governments

Chairperson Floyd asked that Council reappoint Mr. Joe Davenport to the S.C. Appalachian Council of Governments as the County's citizen member representative. Mr. Greer moved to reappoint Mr. Davenport. Motion died from a lack of a second. Council agreed that the appointment would be done in January 2006.

REQUESTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

District #1 – none

District #2 - Chairperson Floyd moved to appropriate \$50,000 from District #2 paving funds for a study by the US Army Corps of Engineer to stop the flooding on Byrum Creek and Ms. Wilson seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Chairperson Floyd moved to appropriate \$3,000 from District #2 Recreation Account for a Phase 1 Environmental Review for Appleton Mill site. A second was heard and vote was unanimous.

Chairperson Floyd moved to appropriate \$7,000 for playground equipment from District #2 Recreation Account for the Westside Community Center. Mr. Tolly seconded and vote was unanimous.

Chairperson Floyd moved to appropriate \$1,500 for (CYT) Christian Youth Theater for help with training of students and Mr. McAbee seconded. Vote was unanimous. The funds to come from District #2 Recreation Account.

Mr. Greer moved to appropriate \$14,399.62 to complete funding of the Belton Standpipe Industrial Park Drive. The funds to come from District #3 Paving Account. Mr. Dees seconded and vote was unanimous.

Mr. Greer moved to appropriate \$70,000 from District #3 paving account and to reallocate of \$65,000 previously appropriated for the Sam Turner Road Bridge for the Wentzky Road Culvert. Engineering has recommended postponement of the Sam Turn Road Bridge Project due to low traffic volume on the road. Mr. Dees seconded and vote was unanimous.

Mr. McAbee moved to appropriate \$63,000 from District #4 Paving Account for the Wigfall Drive Culvert and Ms. Wilson seconded. Vote was unanimous.

District 5 – none

District 6 – none

District 7

Ms. Wilson moved to appropriate \$1,000 from District #7's Recreation Account for the Free Clinic in Honea Path. Mr. McAbee seconded and vote was unanimous.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

a. Letters of Appreciation:

1. For: County Council and Mr. Joey Preston From: Anderson Crime Stoppers
2. For: Mr. Joey Preston From: Special Olympics

3. For: Mr. Jerry Stamp's Road Maintenance Crew – Mr. James Smith, Mr. Scott Goodon, and Mr. Steve Shirley
From: Mr. Ed McClain
4. For: Mr. Jerry Cash's Road Maintenance Crew – Mr. Matt Wages, Mr. Barry Smith, Mr. Carl Dutton, Mr. Jeremy Zelenko, Mr. Ray Johnson, Mr. Robert Mattison. Also Vegetation supervisor Jerry Stamps and sign shop supervisor Jay Patterson. From: Mr. John Wentzky
- b. Meetings/Minutes: Anderson Regional Airport meeting of November 21, 2005, Minutes of October 17
- c. Reports: Recreation Fund Report
- d. County Receives Prestigious Budget award
- e. News Article in The Commissioner
- f. News Article – Representative Dan Cooper
- g. Letter to Art Braswell (SCDHEC Bureau of Land and Waste Management) Regarding C & D Landfill
- h. \$230,000 Business Development Grant Awarded
- i. Departmental Transfers

REMARKS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Bill Dees reminded everyone in the county about the County's Veterans – SOME gave some and some gave ALL, he said. God Bless them and America, he said.

Mr. McAbee – no remarks

Mr. Greer – Mr. Greer wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mr. Tolly – Mr. Tolly also wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Great New Year.

Mr. Thompson – Mr. Thompson wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. He also asked everyone to think about the real reason for the season.

Ms. Wilson: "Thank you, Madam Chair. Now is a good time to examine the need to take our County Attorney position back to an in-house position. And also, I would like to inquire as to why the work at the Jockey Lot Convenience Center, which was to be moved to Highway 29 and I think the last 2 or 3 GOBs we were told that that center was in that bond and I understand that the work has stopped now and wonder if the purchase of properties in Powdersville may have circumvented the completion of a project that has been on the books for many, many years. And also a question, has Mr. Forrest Thomas closed his purchase of our county building over in Powdersville? Also, if we could be provided some accounting for the Stichery purchase and also for the construction work going on over there? There may have been a cost over-run. But if our Administrator could please respond to this or provide documentation, I would appreciate it. In mean while a very Merry Christmas, we are so blessed in this country. Thank you."

Chairperson Floyd said that she was ready to get back to work in District 2. She report that the "Gang" committee had been reenacted and work on the mill sites are in process. Another committee has been established to work with the Sheriff. She said she was very excited about it. She said that she doesn't think she has been the best chair put she hasn't been the worst either. She said that during 2005 Council shortened their meeting time. She asked Mr. Preston when the White Street Convenience Center would be opened. Mr. Vic Carpenter said that it was complete with only a few minor landscaping problems. They hope to be opened for Christmas. She asked Mr. Preston if the bond counsels could be present at a Council meeting if he feels that if an item calls for more information or more discussion that he has them present for Council to ask questions. She said that next year she would like to work with Council with putting all the transportation road money together. Ms. Floyd asked Ms. Wilson who she had heard would be sitting on the Board for the 1-cent sales tax committee. Ms. Wilson said she would discuss it with the Chair after the meeting.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda N. Eddleman
Clerk to County Council