

ANDERSON COUNTY COUNCIL
ANDERSON, SOUTH CAROLINA

Regular Meeting - September 18, 2001 - 6:00 p.m.
Linda N. Gilstrap, Clerk to Council

AMENDED
MINUTES

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

PRESENT

Chairman Clint Wright - District #4 - Presiding
G. Fred Tolly - District #1
Gracie S. Floyd - District #2
Larry E. Greer - District #3
Vice Chairman Mike Holden - District #5
William C. Dees - District #6
M. Cindy Wilson - District #7
Joey Preston - Administrator
Tom Martin - County Attorney
Linda N. Gilstrap - Clerk to Council
Tammie Shealy - Deputy Clerk to Council

The official meeting of the Anderson County Council convened in the Council Chambers of the Historic Courthouse on Tuesday, September 18, 2001 at 6:00 p.m.

Ms. Gracie Floyd gave the invocation and everyone stood and pledged allegiance to the flag.

Mr. William Dees introduced Ms. Nancy Upton as the Choir Director from Shiloh *Methodist* Church and Mr. David Watson the pianist, Ms. Upton sang the *National Anthem* as Mr. Watson played the piano. Council thanked Mr. Watson and Ms. Upton for their outstanding presentation.

Mr. Dees took a moment of personal privilege to read a statement that he wrote concerning the tragic events of Tuesday, September 11, 2001.

Citizens Agenda: #1. *Mr. David Quinnelly* of American Outdoors spoke to Council concerning the proposed billboard ordinance changes. He asked for consideration to the following recommendations: 4 (a) Spacing - 1,000 feet of any other billboard - should be on same side of road, 6(a) Height Restrictions - 70' on the interstate go to 100', 6(b) - 50' change to 70' 7(a) Minimum Setbacks. - Recommend within 5' of right-of-way instead of 15' of paved road, 9 - Annual Fee - they have a concern with clause "subject to periodic adjustment by County Council", 10 - (c) and (d) 3 square foot of sign faces to be taken down for every 1 square foot to be put up. #2. *Mr. Bill Lesley* spoke to Council regarding the American Legion Baseball Program in Williamston. He said that the purpose and scope of the American Legion Baseball was to inculcate in our American youth a better understanding of the American way of life and to promote 100% Americanism, to install in our Nation's American youth a sincere desire to develop within themselves a feeling of citizenship, sportsmanship, loyalty, and team spirit. Also to aid in the improvement and development of the physical fitness of the country's youth, to build the nation's future through the development of our youth. The American Legion's main goal is building citizens their; vehicle is baseball. He said that it took approximately \$7,000 to fund the program in Williamston. He asked Council for financial assistance for this worthwhile program. Council received as information. #3. *Mr. Ed Jean* stated that as a citizen and taxpayer he was proud of the distinction that the County has earned and received as an All America City. He asked Council to act and function as an All America Council and for council members to act and function as All America Council Members. He recommended that when addressing a fellow Councilperson to do so in a civil manner and not to feel like Council must get the last word in. He said perception is reality. #4. *Ms. Tina Watkins* spoke to Council concerning the proposed Michelin Avenue. She asked Council to take try to delay the ground breaking proposed for the phase 4 of Michelin to be done by October 1. She said that a route down Highway 24 would be less congested and publicly safer and not to run the road in front of the schools. She said that the route she proposes would benefit the County a lot more but would cost more. Mr. Mike Holden stated for the record that he and Mr. Greer had met with officials and it was Mr. Greer's idea to have a 4-lane highway - not Michelin. 17-20 property owners have agreed to the project and three property owners have not agreed to it. The project is being funded by the State and Department of Commerce. The only portion of the project that was funded

by Anderson County was phase 3, which is the portion by the County Maintenance facility on the other side of Hwy. 24. Mr. Preston stated that a memorandum had been prepared explaining the process and the time frame that the State is under. The State, the Department of Commerce, and Michelin did agree to the route and there has been several routes looked at which it actually comes down to the issue of having enough money to be able to relocate the road. Mr. Greer stated that the Michelin road was to be four lanes the entire time from the 28 Bypass down to the Michelin Plant. The part that he pushed for four lanes was the Cherokee Trail portion, which connects the Michelin Road at Masters Boulevard to 29 Highway, because this opens the southern part of the County through a 4-lane connector to Interstate 85. The Michelin Road was scheduled to be 4-lanes from the plant site to the 28 Bypass from the very beginning. #5. *Mr. Todd Campbell* stated that item #5 (a) a rezoning request by Mr. Robert Douglas Chapman from residential to service district was not appropriate for the area and asked Council not to approve the request. #6. *Mr. Jim Mize* spoke in opposition also on the property request for rezoning. He explained that the property in question had 49 heirs and somewhere down the road an heir may come in and want title to property. He said that he hated to think that he spent \$400,000 on a house only to have a mulch business behind it. #7. *Ms. Patsy Mize* - yielded her time. #8. *Mr. Dan Harvell* stated that he was concerned with item 6 (a), which is the resolution for the commissioning of law enforcement officers. He asked if this is the way that the Council always does the commissioning of law enforcement personnel. Is this for the one officer? Or does this resolution allow for an "open ended" situation for further commissioning? He asked if the officers commissioned in this manner, have arrest authority and whom would this person/persons answer to? Are the deputies commissioned under the term of "convenience" of Anderson County? #9. *Mr. Jerry Smith* stated that he was opposed to the rezoning request for the Williamston Mill Voting Precinct by Mr. Robert Douglas Chapman. #10 *Mr. Steve Smith* requested that Council oppose the rezoning request and the zoning remain residential. #11 *Mr. Bob Shord* also expressed opposition to the rezoning request. No other citizens wished to speak under the Citizens Agenda.

Mr. Fred Tolly presented to Mr. Howard Resolution #R2001-036 - a resolution recognizing and honoring Gerald K. Howard for his four year tenure with Anderson County. Mr. Howard will be leaving Anderson County

to work with Greenville County. On the motion of Mr. Tolly, seconded Mr. Dees, Council voted unanimously to approve the Resolution. Council thanked Mr. Howard for his dedicated work for Anderson County.

Mr. Larry Greer presented Resolution #R2001-045 - a resolution honoring and recognizing retiring Craytonville Volunteer Fireman and former Treasurer of the Anderson County Fire Commission, Leonard Wilson, for his many years of public service. Mr. Greer stated that there would be a gathering on September 25 at which time he will present the Resolution to Mr. Wilson. Mr. Greer moved to approve and Mr. Tolly seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Michael Cunningham presented Ms. Julia Nichols, from the Communications Department as the Employee of the Month for August 2001. Mr. Gerald Shealy nominated Ms. Nichols for her outstanding work on a mapping project that has changed the way the Communications Department and for her other outstanding job qualities and projects. Ms. Nichols was presented the "Day Off" certificate, plaque, and gift certificate to local restaurant. Council thanked Ms. Nichols for her outstanding job performance. Mr. Cunningham thanked the participants of the Special Populations group for handing out the American flags to everyone present. The following were thanked for their participation: Mr. David A. Hearn, Mr. Brad Hammond, Mr. Ed Benton, and Ms. Sandra Harris.

Mr. Mike Holden moved to go into Executive Session at 7:00 p.m. to discuss Contractual Matters. Mr. Holden asked that only Council members attend the closed-door session. Mr. Tolly seconded and vote was unanimous.

The Chairman called the meeting back to order at 7:45 p.m. Mr. Dees moved to come out of Executive Session back into regular session and Mr. Tolly seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Chairman Wright stated that no action was taken in executive session.

Mr. Tom Martin, County Attorney, read third reading of Ordinance #2001-028 - an ordinance authorizing the transfer and sale of certain Anderson County real property to Westwind, Inc., authorizing the execution and delivery of real property deeds related to the same; and other matters

related thereto. A public hearing was held; however, no citizens wished to speak. The public hearing was declared closed. Mr. Holden moved to approve on third and Mr. Tolly seconded. Ms. Wilson asked Mr. Preston what the cost of the land for expanding the runway would be in relation to this. *Mr. Preston stated that the runway expansion acquisition was \$8,000 per acre.* Mr. Preston stated that he had a final report by W.K. Dickson that he would give her after the meeting. He could not recall what the cost of the land was, but he would check and let her know. Ms. Wilson stated that because there was not a MIA appraisal attached to this and the fact that she wanted to know if the County was paying less than what the County had to pay for the property at the end of the runway made it difficult for her to vote on the issue before receiving the requested information. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Martin read third reading of Ordinance #2001-029 - an ordinance directing that the implementation of real property reassessment in Anderson County be delayed for one (1) year, as authorized by statute; and other matters related thereto. A public hearing was held; no comments were received. Mr. Holden moved to approve on third reading and Mr. Tolly seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Martin presented second reading of Ordinance #2001-034 - an ordinance prohibiting the excavation or other alteration of an Anderson County Maintained Road without a permit issued in accordance with Section 57-7-60 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended, and creating and establishing the procedures whereby a utility, business, or other entity or individual may obtain a permit for such excavation or alteration; and other matters related thereto. Mr. Holden asked if an ordinance was already in place concerning this. Mr. Martin replied yes that this ordinance required the companies to post a bond to secure their performance to make sure that they will follow through on this. A public hearing was held; no comments were received. Mr. Tolly moved to approve second reading of Ordinance #2001-034 and Mr. Holden seconded. Mr. Greer stated that at the last meeting he asked for a cost-analysis on what it would cost to implement and enforce. He received some of the information and from discussions with Mr. Hopkins other things may need to be addressed to make the ordinance strong enough to insure that the roads are

maintained in good condition so he moved to table the ordinance and Mr. Tolly seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Martin presented first reading of Ordinance #2001-030 - an ordinance to consider a rezoning request by Mr. Robert Douglas Chapman to rezone a +/- 4-acre parcel in the Williamston Mill Zoning Precinct from R-20 (Single Family Residential) to S-1 (Service District). This parcel is located on Beaverdam Road near the intersection with SC-20 (Anderson Drive) and is adjacent to Dacus Down/Beaver Run Lane Subdivision and across the street from Badcock Home Furnishings. A public hearing was held and the following individuals spoke: 1. Mr. Bob Shord of 102 Ida Dacus Way asked that Council deny the request to change the zoning classification as requested by Mr. Robert Douglas Chapman. 2. Mr. James Mize of Dacus Downs also asked that Council vote against the proposed rezoning classification for Mulch business. He said that there were also 46 more acres owned by D.R. Chastain and was represented by Dickey McClellan. He paid an attorney to investigate the title and he said that there were 47 heirs to the property and was in a life-estate of Ms. Ruth Walker Witted when Doug Chapman purchased it. 3. Mr. Todd Campbell of 111 Ida Dacus Way asked that the rezoning classification be denied by Council. He said that Mr. Chapman was currently operating a mulch business adjacent to his property and he experiences a strong dirt odor. The public hearing was closed. Ms. Wilson moved to approve the rezoning change and Mr. Holden seconded. Ms. Wilson respectfully requested that all Members of Council vote the rezoning change down. The Zoning Advisory Board and the Planning Commission also turned down the request. Vote was zero in favor and 7 opposed. Motion failed. Ordinance #2001-030 is now officially DEAD.

Mr. Martin read first reading of Ordinance #2001-035 - an ordinance regulating and permitting residential, industrial and commercial security and/or burglar alarm systems by establishing audible alarm standards, prohibiting automatic dialing telephone alarm systems, prohibiting automatic dialing telephone alarm systems, imposing fines for excessive false alarms, and establishing the procedures whereby alarm system monitoring companies obtain alarm permits; and other matters related thereto. Council heard from the Sheriff and from Mr. Jerry Shealy on the ordinance. Mr. Dees moved to approve on first reading and Mr. Tolly seconded. Mr. Greer stated that he would vote on first reading for the ordinance; however, he would like

clarification on several issues prior to second. Mr. Wright also stated that he wanted to know why the council needed to regulate the industry and also permit it into a home. Ms. Floyd also stated that she would like to know how many calls would be considered in excessive. 2-3-or? Ms. Wilson said would it be possible for the Sheriff, Mr. Dees and Mr. Martin to get together to draft additional information on how this ordinance would/could be implemented. Mr. Dees apologized for not having all the information at this time. He said the intent of the Ordinance was not to punish those who have alarms in their homes. Vote was unanimous.

Ms. Gracie Floyd asked for a Point of Personal Privilege and the Chairman granted her this. Ms. Floyd asked the Sheriff to please give the Council Members an update on the Noise Ordinance committee. He stated that a meeting had been set up and minor suggestions were expected and he would present these concerns to the County Attorney after the meeting was held. Ms. Floyd stated that the Council obtained a copy of the Myrtle Beach Noise Ordinance for the committee to look over.

Mr. Martin read Resolution #R2001-042. Mr. Bill Dees moved to approve Resolution #R2001-042 - a resolution to provide for the commissioning of certain named law enforcement officers, to provide for the proper security, general welfare, and convenience of Anderson County. Mr. Tolly seconded the motion. Council discussed. Ms. Floyd stated that she didn't know Mr. Leo Gilstrap and she didn't understand the complete process. Mr. Holden asked what his position would be and Mr. Preston replied he would be a Compliance Officer. Ms. Floyd stated that she resented being laughed at and if she did not understand something she would not vote on it. Because Ms. Floyd does not know Mr. Gilstrap she stated she would abstain from voting. Ms. Wilson stated that she was concerned that after the last meeting a man who asked for a public hearing concerning a job and if he didn't get a proper hearing he would be forced to litigate. After the last meeting when she returned home she had a message by that individual that one of the guards in the room had followed him out and told him if he ever came on county property again that he would be arrested for trespassing. Mr. Holden also stated that he would like to know if this really happened. Mr. Preston stated that he would investigate and let them know his findings. Mr. Dees asked if these individuals have the power to make an arrest. Mr. Floyd said she would like to find out if there was an injunction against this person from the legal system

for him not to appear on public property. She asked that this be investigated. She said that the Sheriff needs more deputies and there was not enough back up on this. Ms. Floyd said that these officers are badly needed. Mr. Holden also asked for answers on some of these issues. Who is being replaced? Who are the officers now and how many do we have? Mr. Jerry Shealy was asked to respond. He said that this was replacing an officer who left about a month-month and a half ago. Chairman Wright stated that this is the County's routine procedure for commissioning officers, and most of them do not have arrest authorities. They answer to Mr. Shealy for Public Safety. Mr. Greer asked Mr. Shealy to state for the record what this individual will be doing. Mr. Shealy stated that he would enforce all the ordinances, which would include the litter ordinances of the County. Since Mr. Greer came on Council, the County has made a concerted effort to reduce the amount of litter on our highways and our roads to try to clean the county up and these officers have been a big part of this. Vote on the resolution was 6 in favor and one abstention (Ms. Floyd). Motion carried.

Mr. Martin read Resolution #R2001-043 - a resolution repealing resolution #R2001-035 which approved the execution and delivery of an equipment lease purchase agreement in the amount of not exceeding \$1,770,860 to defray the cost of acquiring various equipment as approved in the County's 2001-2002 annual budget; accepting the offer of Bank of America; and other matters relating thereto. Mr. Holden moved to approve and Mr. Dees and Ms. Wilson seconded. Mr. Tolly stated that the Council would like a spreadsheet of what the County's investments are in regard to the fund balance. One point seven million dollars is needed in liquid funds - if their interest rate is greater or less than what the interest rate we could project from the lease-council needs to know whether or not to use fund balances verses a lease and Council would like to know the difference in the projected interest rates. Council would like to know by the next Council meeting. Council also wishes to have an analytical survey made as to the interest rates of the bonds that the County now has and what the County could possibly do in the way of refinancing those bonds. Council believes in the next 6-12 months that there will be a "window of opportunity" to save the County a lot of money. Council would like that information by the next meeting also. Chairman Wright asked for clarification of the Resolution - the resolution appeals one resolution and also in the same resolution Council is accepting an

offer, which is also made. The Council may not want to accept this bid because Council might be able to use existing funds cheaper than the County can put this out for lease. Mr. Holden stated that in his opinion there have been some "shenanigans" going on. Ms. Wilson said that Council would like full back up information in the packets. Mr. Greer called for the question. Vote on Resolution #R2001-043 was zero in favor and seven opposed. Motion failed.

Mr. Greer moved to reconsider Resolution #R2001-035 approving the execution and delivery of an equipment lease purchase agreement in the amount of not exceeding \$1,770,860 to defray the cost of acquiring various equipment as approved in the County's 2001-2002 Annual budget. Mr. Dees seconded. Mr. Greer called for the question to reconsider. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Martin stated that now Resolution R2001-035 was back before Council for reconsideration. Mr. Greer called for the question. Vote was zero in favor and seven opposed. Resolution R2001-035 is DEAD.

Mr. Martin read Resolution #R2001-044. Mr. Tolly moved to approve Resolution #R2001-044 - a resolution certifying the Facilitator's Final Report for the FIN Process regarding Anderson Regional Landfill. Mr. Dees seconded and vote was unanimous.

Mr. Martin read Resolution #R2001-046 - a resolution condemning the cowardly and deadly actions of terrorist; and supporting the President of the United States. Mr. Dees moved to approve and Ms. Wilson seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Chairman Wright appointed Mr. Bill Dees, Mr. Larry Greer and Ms. Gracie Floyd to a committee to work with the Sheriff on the Resident Deputy Program.

Mr. Holden thanked Mr. Shealy for agreeing to furnish copies of resumes. Council doesn't necessarily need to know who they are, he said. He also said that he didn't believe that the purchasing ordinance requirements were being met totally and he asked Mr. Preston to see something by the next meeting whether the County is/is not meeting these requirements.

Mr. Holden also asked that why so many employees were leaving the County and returning as consultants. He would like an explanation by the next Council meeting. Mr. Holden also asked Mr. Preston to look into, on a routine basis, the possibility of bidding out the County's engineering, auditing, and legal services. He said it was hard getting explanations on certain things. He asked Mr. Preston to furnish him some information on the requests by the next Council meeting.

On the motion of Mr. Dees, seconded by Ms. Floyd, Council voted unanimously to approve a pallet of "cold patch" for the Town of West Pelzer for patching potholes in the amount of \$560. The funds will come from District #6 - Paving Account.

Mr. Dees moved to approve an appropriation of \$5,000 for the Piedmont Ball Park from District #6 Recreation funds for restrooms and facilities for the public use at the park. Mr. Holden seconded and vote was unanimous.

Mr. Holden moved to appropriate \$2,263 from District #5 Paving Account to help with the purchase of stainless steel cages for Public Safety. Mr. Tolly and Mr. Greer seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Ms. Wilson moved to appropriate \$1,000 for the Williamston American Legion Ball program from District #7 Recreation funds. Mr. Holden seconded. Mr. Holden amended the motion to include \$1,000 from District #5 Recreation funds for the same purpose. Ms. Wilson seconded the amendment. Vote on the amendment was unanimous. Vote on the original motion as amended was unanimous. Mr. Dees stated that he would like to reserve his money for another project that will be brought up at a later time.

Ms. Wilson moved to appropriate \$1,400 for the Piercetown Fire Department from District #7 Recreation funds. Mr. Holden seconded. Chairman Wright amended the motion to appropriate \$1,400 from District #4 to help cover the cost. Mr. Holden seconded the amendment and vote was unanimous. Vote on the original motion as amended was unanimous.

Ms. Wilson moved to approve an appropriation of \$2,200 to tar and gravel a County maintained road (no name - C-18-0071D). Mr. Tolly seconded and vote was unanimous.

Chairman Wright moved to appropriate \$1,500 for Zion Fire Department from District #4 Recreation funds for assistance with the building, which is a community center and a polling place. Mr. Holden seconded and vote was unanimous.

Ms. Floyd talked about a new organization in District 2 called IMPACT. This is an organization in which the County's juvenile offenders are given an opportunity to work with neighbors in a neighborhood setting to pay for the mistakes that they have done. This is the first in the State of South Carolina. This will be done on the east side of the county. She then moved to appropriate \$2,000 from District #2 Recreation account for the organization and Mr. Holden seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Greer stated that the Legislative Delegation approved a PART grant for the Town of Iva in the amount of \$10,000 for improvements to their ball field next to the school district office. He moved to appropriate \$2,000 from District 3 Recreation Account, which would serve as a 20% match for the grant. Mr. Dees seconded and vote was unanimous.

Mr. Dees moved to appropriate \$500 each for the Salvation Army and the Red Cross from District #6 Recreation funds for the NY and DC incidents. He challenged all other members to do the same. Mr. Greer seconded. Mr. Greer moved to amend the motion by adding the same amount and Mr. Holden, Ms. Wilson and Mr. Tolly will give \$500 for each Salvation Army and Red Cross from their Recreation Accounts. Ms. Floyd and Mr. Wright will give \$500 for the American Red Cross from their respective recreation accounts. Mr. Tolly seconded and vote was unanimous. Vote on the original motion as amended was unanimous.

Mr. Preston presented Ms. Wilson a copy of the report on the runway at the Airport. Ms. Wilson asked for a copy of the June budget transfers by the next meeting.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

- (a) Executive Order No. 2001-24 from the Office of the Governor - World Trade Center/Acts of Terrorism
- (b) Memorandum from Office of the Adjutant General - Terrorism Attack on United States
- (c) Coroners' Alert - To Whom it May Concern:
- (d) County Fund Raising - New York/Washington Tragedy
- (e) Attack on America - Black ribbons
- (f) Councilman Greer's suggested alternative to the proposed billboard ordinances - from the office of Planning Director, Mr. Jeff Ricketson
- (g) Certificates and Training:
 - 1. Mr. Tommy Thompson, Mr. V. Taylor Jones - Incident Command System/emergency Operations Center
 - 2. Mr. Teresa L. Beam, Ms. Jennifer A. Black, Ms. Nancy W. Combs, Ms. Miranda K. Erwin, Mr. William Henson, Ms. Karen D. McMahan, Ms. Jessica N. Trimble, Ms. Shannon Wyatt - Fire Communications Training
 - 3. Mr. Tommy Thompson, Mr. V. Taylor Jones - Emergency Operations Center Management and Operations Course
 - 4. Ms. Karen D. McMahan, Ms. Jessica N. Trimble, Ms. Teresa L. Beam - Certified Emergency Medical Dispatcher
- (h) Letters of Appreciation:
 - 1. For: Mrs. Susan Pierce - From: Councilman Bill Dees
 - 2. For: Mr. Bob Daly, inmates and Sgt. Debbie Clinkscales - From: Ms. Anna Marie Brock
- (i) Minutes:
 - 1. Transportation Division Safety Meeting Minutes - September 7, 2001
 - 2. Pendleton District Workforce Investment Board Minutes
- (j) Reports:
 - 1. Recreation Fund Account Report
 - 2. District Paving Account Report
 - 3. Building & Codes August Monthly Report

4. Road Maintenance Litter Report - July 30 to August 31, 2001
 5. Detention Center Litter Report - August 28 to August 31, 2001 and September 4 to September 7, 2001
 6. Public Safety Environmental Enforcement August Monthly Report
 7. Public Safety Compliance August Monthly Report
 8. Public Safety Number of Calls Report by Department - Complaint
- (k) News Release: Michelin North America
- (l) Letter from Attorney Steven C. Kirven - Re: Highway 81 North "overlay" district
- (m) Anderson County Legislative Delegation Meeting on Monday, September 17, 2001/ News Release/ Agenda
- (n) Beaverdam Community Association vs. South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control
- (o) Overcrowding News Articles in the Detention Facilities in Charleston and Greenville

COUNCIL MEMBERS COMMENTS:

Ms. Floyd talked about the difficulty in doing her Council job and how all her decisions were based on research. She also asks questions, and a lot of times when she asks these questions, it might sound dumb, silly, stupid or etc. As an educator, she has taught that there are no dumb or stupid questions so she asked that when she asks a question that it is in all sincerity that she needs an answer. Some awful things have been said about her, called everything and she has had to listen to ridicule, but she said she could not stand to be laughed at and will not be laughed at openly about any question or comment that she makes. Council members are due a certain amount of respect. She does the best that she can to perform her job.

Mr. Greer asked that Mr. Preston draft a letter to the Department of Commerce and SDOT exploring the option of transferring Michelin Road - Phase 4 from its' present route out 24 across the double bridges, up Wild Hog Road to merge with Interstate 85 at that location, and exploring the possibilities, the methods of financing, any positive or negative aspects of

the possibility of doing this and the SCDOT and Dept. of Commerce's position on this route. Also, he would like a letter drafted to Michelin wishing to explore this route and the possibility of how this would work into their plans of the Michelin Plant. He encouraged Mr. Preston to try to get them to give Council a response by the next Council meeting, if possible. He said that the last week had been a very sobering experience. He said that he was scheduled to be in Washington, DC last Tuesday at 4 p.m. and would have been on a plane in route to DC sometime Tuesday morning. He said that he would defend a persons rights all day long for their comments, but when you look at the situation of the Washington, DC and New York families are in makes some of the problems that we place so much importance on are all of a sudden not quit as important as we thought they were. He suggested that everyone put everything in prospective and look at what is going on and try to move forward and do what is in the best interest of the people of this area.

Ms. Wilson wanted to comment on Ms. Nichols who was recognized earlier in the meeting as Employee of the Month. She also said that she would support what Mr. Greer did regarding the Michelin road. Ms. Wilson asked for a copy of the June transfers by the next Council meeting.

Mr. Holden said that he thought the members of Council deserved respect and commended Ms. Floyd for her remarks on that issue. He said that when any council member requests anything he would do all he can to get it.

Mr. Tolly recommended that Mr. Dees go into writing because he would make a great author and he was greatly impressed by his speech. Mr. Tolly informed the people of Anderson County that a couple days before the September 11 incident the County had a bomb threat and the entire County offices were evacuated for a period of 3-4 hours. He said that it goes to show you that there is a little group of anti-government people in Anderson County that are mean-spirited people and that's the type of people that we do not need in this County, this country, or this world.

Chairman Wright asked Mr. Preston to check into the following things: He said that he knew the County was in the process of looking at job descriptions and upgrades and the Council would like to see if there were any pay raises, pay changes based on re-classifications of these jobs simply for a

point of information and see what effects it may have on our budget. Mr. Wright also asked for the total property value of primary residence is in Anderson County, what is classified at 4%. He also asked that Mr. Preston check to see what the 1 cent sales tax would generate and look at the possibilities as Charleston County has done - capping reassessment at 15% based on reassessment for personal property. He would like to see what effect that would have on other properties within the County. He asked Mr. Preston to contact his counterpart in Charleston County to see what effect it has had there. He asked to receive the information on the primary residences in the County and 1 cent sales tax request as soon as possible. Mr. Wright read parts of the song *MY COUNTRY TIS OF THEE*. He said that the first says - this is our country and we will defend it, "Our land of sweet liberty" - no question that it is and we must maintain and defend those liberties against all intruders. "Where our fathers died" - may have been our fathers, uncles, brothers died in foreign countries defending our liberty and liberty all around this world. We have tremendous pride in our history and heritage from the pilgrims all the way to today, he said. The 5th and 6th verses, in his opinion, are the most important: From every mountainside let freedom ring. He then adjourned the meeting.

There being no further business, Council adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda N. Gilstrap, Clerk to Council
ANDERSON COUNTY COUNCIL