

State of South Carolina     )  
County of           Anderson     )

ANDERSON COUNTY COUNCIL  
BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING  
JUNE 11, 2015

IN ATTENDANCE:  
TOMMY DUNN, CHAIRMAN  
FRANCIS CROWDER  
TOM ALLEN  
GRACIE M. FLOYD

ALSO PRESENT:  
RUSTY BURNS  
RITA DAVIS  
KIM POULIN

1 TOMMY DUNN: At this time I'd like to call  
2 the budget workshop of June 11th to order. At this  
3 time I'd like to ask Councilman Tom Allen if he'd lead  
4 us in the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

5 TOM ALLEN: All rise, please.

6 **(INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE BY TOM ALLEN)**

7 TOMMY DUNN: If we could, fellow Council  
8 members, we've got a good bit to go over. So we'll  
9 try to keep things moving on as possible. These are  
10 all items on the agenda that's been brought up one way  
11 or another by Council members. What staff had on some  
12 of these things, different proposals, for us to come  
13 back. There won't be no votes taken today. All this  
14 if for information for third reading to take in to  
15 make comments or changes or events on third reading of  
16 the budget Tuesday night. If you would, twelve  
17 o'clock, we'll break for lunch, but we'll come back in  
18 here and try to eat and work. This is sort of an  
19 informal thing. We'll try to get through this.

20 First on the agenda, I believe some Council  
21 members asked for I believe Mr. Steve Dean from New  
22 Foundations to come up and have some discussion. Yes,  
23 sir. You -- right there. Mr. Burns, make sure the  
24 mike's on and get it situated for him, if you would.

25 STEVE DEAN: All righty. I believe I was  
26 asked to come to share a little bit today about some  
27 problems that New Foundations has had from 2007, 2010.  
28 Just kind of getting to the point, we had, and of  
29 course, it's been in the media and all that, but we  
30 had some folks in our administrative department that  
31 misappropriated funds for about a three year period.  
32 In terms of sort of what happened and how that  
33 happened, basically, the person that worked in our  
34 payroll department had too much control. There was  
35 not enough segregation of duties. The external  
36 auditing process really kind of broke down. And in a  
37 nutshell I think just too trusting. New Foundations  
38 has been around since 1974. Used to be on Old County  
39 Home Road and we've been providing group care for  
40 children, foster children, and as well as services to  
41 go in homes and community counseling services and a  
42 lot of services. We serve thousands of each year, so  
43 obviously we are very saddened and angry to hear about  
44 that.

45 Basically it happened with an employee tip that  
46 came to me. In 2010 I became the Interim Executive  
47 Director. And I guess a couple of months into that  
48 role, someone came to me and said you might want to  
49 look into this. Something doesn't seem right. So I  
50 began to do that and through that process realized

1 that, again, the person in charge of payroll had been  
2 paying themselves, overpaying themselves, as well as  
3 other employees. Some steps that we took to begin to  
4 address that; immediately did an audit internally of  
5 all of our staff to find out if anyone -- or find out  
6 who all may have been overpaid. So we did that. As a  
7 result of that there were five employees that had  
8 received too much compensation. Some significantly  
9 too much. So at that time, in 2010 and early 2011,  
10 all five of those folks were terminated from our  
11 employment. Reported that incident to our local law  
12 enforcement. When we did that after working with  
13 Sheriff's department for probably a month or so, they  
14 determined that it was more of a federal crime because  
15 most of this had happened through direct deposits, so  
16 there was a transfer of funds across state lines. So  
17 the case was turned over to the Department of Secret  
18 Service.

19 So they began investigating in 2011 and began to  
20 interview those folks and gather obviously an enormous  
21 amount of information. The next step we took in terms  
22 of correcting the problem -- the problem stopped when  
23 we identified what was happening and who was doing it.  
24 Then it was a matter of determining how that happened  
25 and what do we need to do to correct that going  
26 forward. We contracted with an external CPA firm to  
27 come in and do an assessment for us of our financial  
28 procedures, policies, controls and all of that and  
29 worked with the firm out of Greenville for a while.  
30 So they came in and did an assessment and said this is  
31 where you're strong, this is where you're weak, this  
32 is what you need to do. So they helped us implement  
33 various things, segregation of duties and that type  
34 thing. For the most part, fairly simple, basic  
35 finance department accounting policies and procedures  
36 that I think over time under the previous  
37 administration had just grown to be too slack.  
38 Additionally, part of the problem that caused it to  
39 happen was just a lack of oversight with timekeeping  
40 and payroll. So we outsourced our timekeeping -- went  
41 to an automated system with ADP. We also outsourced  
42 our payroll. Another problem that really contributed  
43 was again our external audit that we do annually.  
44 When I came into the role, that process was probably  
45 about two years in the making at that process, which  
46 was really inappropriate for an external auditing firm  
47 and in terms of our board oversight. I know -- I  
48 wasn't in those circles, but I know that our board had  
49 brought the auditing firm in a couple of times and  
50 said what's the problem, what's the hold-up? Well,

1 the problem was the person that was perpetrating the  
2 crime was the one engaging with the auditors. So  
3 there was a lot of smoke screens going on and that  
4 person blaming the auditor and the auditor blaming  
5 that person. And of course by the time it was, you  
6 know, fully discovered, the damage was done.

7 But needless to say, we changed auditing --  
8 auditing firms, and our audits have been clean. The  
9 first year that that new firm did it, they couldn't  
10 render an opinion because the controls were not such  
11 that they could give a statement on that. But since  
12 that time, our opinions have been clean audits. And I  
13 brought our most recent, actually. So we outsourced  
14 timekeeping and payroll. We also established an  
15 independent whistle blowing contract. We do that  
16 where we get reports and those go to various people in  
17 our agencies, because that's really how this came to  
18 light. And then with participation from our board,  
19 independent CPAs, external auditors, we've revised our  
20 financial risk management process. Really, again,  
21 there were fairly basic things. There was simply too  
22 much control and power in one person's hand. There  
23 was not enough oversight. I think our agency fell  
24 subject to what a lot of, especially non-profits,  
25 small businesses, fall prey to. It's just too much  
26 trust and not enough verification. So I do want to  
27 emphasize that happened between 2007 and 2010. It was  
28 reported in 2010. To be very honest, the Secret  
29 Service took a long time to really -- and we had to  
30 push them -- to proceed with this process. And as a  
31 result some of you may know, in -- I think last  
32 October there were five people indicted federally and  
33 they had their first appearance in court. They'll  
34 have their next appearance in court on June 30th in  
35 Greenville, at which time those folks will enter their  
36 pleas on these charges. And I anticipate that all  
37 will plead guilty. We do anticipate restitution.  
38 We're quite sure that will be a part of the sentence.  
39 But in addition to that, I think that some of them are  
40 going to be ready to make good on as much restitution  
41 as they can.

42 So we really wanted to be clear that obviously  
43 that should not have happened and significant action  
44 has been taken to restore controls or establish  
45 controls that should have been in place. But since  
46 that time -- again, the misappropriations stopped in  
47 2010. And, of course, since that time our agency has  
48 moved forward in every way, in terms of our financial  
49 position, our services were never really interrupted,  
50 but we've continued to grow and strengthen and reach

1 more children and families, really, than we ever have.  
2 And we hope, again, that will come out in the  
3 media in June, no doubt when those folks go to court  
4 and whatever their pleas are, typically the federal  
5 system there'll be probably thirty to ninety days  
6 before they're sentenced. Then we hope that that will  
7 be an end to that. I think after they go to court,  
8 we'll be communicating with all of our supporters and  
9 all that, letting people know pretty much what I'm  
10 telling you. We're kind of limited in what we could  
11 share because it was under investigation until the  
12 folks were indicted. But, again, we're very saddened  
13 and angry that that happened. But that's been  
14 corrected, actually years ago.

15 Any questions that I can answer? I'll be glad to  
16 answer.

17 TOMMY DUNN: Any Council members have  
18 any questions for Mr. Dean? Mr. Allen?

19 TOM ALLEN: Chair, yeah. Do you know  
20 what percentage of -- what percentage of your revenues  
21 go towards overhead versus---

22 STEVE DEAN: I would say in the  
23 neighborhood of fifteen to twenty percent ---

24 TOM ALLEN: Goes to overhead?

25 STEVE DEAN: Yes, sir.

26 TOM ALLEN: Okay. And let me ask, too,  
27 I can't recall -- I couldn't find it, how much is  
28 being allotted this year; dollar amount?

29 RITA DAVIS: On first and second  
30 reading, ten thousand.

31 TOM ALLEN: I couldn't remember, okay.  
32 I couldn't find it. All right. Thank you, sir.

33 STEVE DEAN: Yes, sir.

34 TOMMY DUNN: Anyone else?

35 Thank you, Mr. Dean, we appreciate your time  
36 coming here today. Thank you.

37 Mr. Burns, moving on.

38 RITA DAVIS: I think Mr. Holt Hopkins  
39 wanted to discuss the condition of the roads, or Mr.  
40 Tony Owens, whoever.

41 HOLT HOPKINS: Good morning. Thanks for  
42 this opportunity to talk about our road system. Just  
43 want to kind of make sure everybody's aware of how big  
44 our system is. Out of the nearly three thousand miles  
45 of road in Anderson County, Anderson County government  
46 itself maintains about a little over fifteen hundred  
47 miles. The other two agencies is the state, of  
48 course, they maintain twelve hundred and fifty-eight  
49 miles plus the interstate. And the municipalities  
50 maintain a hundred and eighty-one miles.

1 Our county road system is made up of mostly hard  
2 surface roads. Our supervisor back in the '60's and  
3 '70's did a pretty good job of paving or putting tar  
4 and gravel on most of our roads. But we still have  
5 about twenty-three -- a little more than twenty-three  
6 miles of unimproved roads, whether it be gravel or  
7 dirt.

8 Question came up about dirt roads recently and I  
9 just wanted to talk about what our policy is with dirt  
10 roads. This used to actually be in the code of  
11 ordinances. But there was a major revision of road  
12 standards in 2003, so this language is not in there,  
13 but we've been practicing this for -- way before I  
14 came to work for the county. Basically, if somebody  
15 starts building on a dirt road, we -- if they will  
16 present us with a building permit we'll go out and  
17 open it up -- open up their county dirt road and we'll  
18 put down gravel so that their construction vehicles  
19 can get to that site, or those sites, whatever. Once  
20 three or more houses are built on that road, we  
21 consider it to be eligible for paving. But that is  
22 based on whether there's any funding available. And  
23 most of the time that's something we'd come back to  
24 Council to ask for the funding, if it was just going  
25 to be paved. Now, in some instances, we have put tar  
26 and gravel on it because that's a much cheaper way to  
27 seal it out. But anyway, we wouldn't even take it  
28 that far until there's three houses built.

29 This chart kind of breaks down the mileage per  
30 district. It shows a little bit -- on the very top is  
31 the dirt roads that are in your particular district.  
32 As you can see, District 3 is the largest with over  
33 three hundred and eighty miles of road. District 4  
34 comes in close second, or fairly close second. And  
35 then 5, 6, and 7 are about the same at around two  
36 hundred and twenty miles. Districts 1 and 2 are very  
37 low mileage, but they're more urban. And since  
38 municipalities are not counted in the county's miles,  
39 as far as our maintained system, since these two  
40 districts are mostly made up of the city of Anderson,  
41 the city's miles are not reflected in these numbers.

42 When we're -- I want to talk about how we rate our  
43 roads and inspect our roads. We follow the U.S. Army  
44 Corp of Engineers method of how to inspect asphalt  
45 surfaces, and we try to do it on a three year cycle.  
46 We only have a couple of folks that do this regularly  
47 and it takes about three years to get all the way  
48 around the county and start over again.

49 We -- I want to play about three minutes of this  
50 video that kind of demonstrates the inspection process

1 of inspecting roads. Let me get to the -- to save  
2 time, get to the pertinent area.

3 **(MEDIA PRESENTATION)**

4 HOLT HOPKINS: All right. I'll stop it  
5 there. Mainly I wanted you to see roughly how they do  
6 this inspection now. When he was talking about the  
7 distresses, it could be five or ten different types of  
8 distresses on a particular road. All those are  
9 combined into one score; a score of zero to one  
10 hundred, a hundred being a perfect, new, brand-new  
11 road. No flaws whatsoever. Zero meaning it's  
12 completely done. It's probably not even a surface  
13 there if it gets zero. The yellow line you see here  
14 is kind of a model of how a road -- or an asphalt road  
15 deteriorates. The asphalt itself deteriorates over  
16 time. About mid-ways is the twenty year mark and you  
17 can see it starts dropping pretty bad right there and  
18 then once it's bad it stays bad. But the first five  
19 to ten years it stays in the excellent category, up at  
20 the very top.

21 When it's in the first five years, nothing really  
22 is ever needed to do to a road. But once it starts  
23 falling down into the eighty to ninety scale or very  
24 good category, that's the ideal time, believe it or  
25 not, for us to start doing something on these roads.  
26 If we start at this stage, there's no potholes,  
27 there's no bad places on the road, and the structure  
28 is in good condition and intact. So if we come back  
29 in and put a sealant, a fog seal or a chip seal or  
30 other treatments on this road, we can actually prevent  
31 the sun damage that is probably the biggest culprit of  
32 degrading a road, an asphalt road, is the sun. This  
33 puts -- this seals it out, keeps the water from  
34 getting in it and that kind of thing.

35 Now if it deteriorates a little more, we have to  
36 do a little bit more. We have to maybe patch a couple  
37 of places and then come back and we can do a chip  
38 seal. That's what we're doing now on a lot of the  
39 roads, is putting a chip seal after we've patched it.  
40 But the majority of our roads now fall in this  
41 category, in the fair condition. That's where we have  
42 to start doing a lot of paving -- I mean a lot of  
43 patching, and to pave it is costing us about a hundred  
44 thousand. That's including the patching and the  
45 paving.

46 But, again, let me back up. If we can catch it  
47 before it starts getting to this point, we can just do  
48 a little bit of patch and doing chip seal and we keep,  
49 we keep those roads up in that good to very good  
50 condition, rather than letting it fall on down. Even

1 at this point, we can pave a much thinner, if we  
2 wanted to pave it, we could pave it with a lot thinner  
3 coating, which is a lot cheaper than normal pave --  
4 patch and pave is.

5 As we progress on down the deterioration model, if  
6 you'll notice the price starts going up. At some  
7 point between poor and very poor, we actually have to  
8 plow the roads up. I mean, because it's cheaper than  
9 trying to patch all the potholes and getting it  
10 prepared to pave, it's cheaper to actually bring in a  
11 machine and grind it all up, mix a little cement in  
12 the base and then come back with a brand new asphalt  
13 mat on top of it.

14 If we let them get to this point, we're basically  
15 rebuilding the whole road. We may have to bring in  
16 fill, a lot of gravel, and the price can go from a  
17 hundred and fifty a mile on up. We've -- it depends  
18 on what kind of road it is.

19 Now, as I mentioned, most of our roads today are  
20 in the fair condition. Or a majority, not all of  
21 them, but a majority, or the biggest spike I guess  
22 you'd say. The blue represents the most recent data  
23 we have. And you notice that the peak of that is in  
24 the fair condition. The yellow represents eleven  
25 years ago. If you'll notice, that wave or that crest  
26 is sliding down the scale because we're falling behind  
27 on doing some paving and some other preventative  
28 maintenance. And if you'll remember, the  
29 deterioration curve, when you get to fair, it's  
30 starting to drop quickly, so what could have taken ten  
31 or fifteen years to get in fair condition, now it will  
32 only take five years to get in very poor condition, is  
33 the way it deteriorates.

34 Now, I kind of changed this -- this is supposed to  
35 be the deterioration curve, but I've changed it a  
36 little bit for -- so I can demonstrate what I'm about  
37 ready to say now. All right. Say the first twenty  
38 years -- this is the way we've normally paved. We've  
39 paved the road, forgot about it, patched a few  
40 potholes toward the end of its life, and then boom, we  
41 come back and pave it again. It shoots right back up  
42 to a hundred -- a perfect or excellent road. And we  
43 do this every twenty years. We just pave. All right.  
44 What we are trying to get to now that we have some new  
45 tools in our toolbox, we're trying to do maintenance  
46 on time, just like I was talking about, you can do  
47 some things cheaper and keep it in a good condition  
48 and you can keep repeating this every five to ten  
49 years and what you're doing is just keep bumping that  
50 condition back up. And in theory, if you don't take



1 in account of traffic, but in theory, if you do the  
2 right maintenance at the right time, you can actually  
3 prolong having to spend big money indefinitely on  
4 these roads. But you have to, you have to catch them  
5 when they're still in good shape.

6 Now in reality what happens, if we start spending  
7 money on good roads, the public is not going to get  
8 it. They're going to say why are you, why are you  
9 putting that sealant on this perfectly good road?  
10 Well, if it's five or ten years old, that's the time  
11 we're supposed to be putting that sealant on there and  
12 the general public is going -- it's going to be hard  
13 to explain but that is the right time for us to be  
14 doing it, to prevent us from having to pave it.

15 And again, just want to show you this again. To  
16 do -- if you, if we pick just the very good roads,  
17 that's the ideal ones for us to put this maintenance  
18 seal on or tar and gravel or whatever treatment that  
19 we use. It costs us about ten thousand dollars a mile  
20 to do that type of treatment. Just to do those very  
21 good roads, it wouldn't be effective on anything else,  
22 just those very good roads, it would cost us two  
23 million dollars just to do that treatment. But that  
24 alone -- that would prevent two hundred miles from  
25 getting into a paving situation that could cost us  
26 twenty million dollars. Two million instead of twenty  
27 million. So that's why we're wanting ahead to trying  
28 to preserve our roads rather than pave them all the  
29 time.

30 Now, going back to -- we've talked about this  
31 before. This is a simple formula of -- if we go back  
32 to just paving and don't do anything else. But it's  
33 kind of a good, good way to demonstrate paving funding  
34 needs. We have over fifteen hundred miles of roads.  
35 If you divide that -- ideally twenty years is about  
36 the life expectancy of asphalt. It could vary, some  
37 may make it thirty years, some may make it ten years.  
38 But if we want -- if we choose to be on a twenty year  
39 cycle, and you do divide it out, assume a hundred  
40 thousand dollars a mile to pave, that's where we come  
41 up with the seven point seven million is what we need,  
42 because we need to be paving seventy-seven miles every  
43 year to be on a twenty year paving plan. If you look  
44 on down, you can see, you know, if -- it just bumps  
45 that paving cycle way out to seventy-five, hundred,  
46 years depending on how much money we have.

47 I hope everybody got the little booklet that I  
48 passed out with our budget. In that budget  
49 preparation, the one I gave to Kim a week or two ago,  
50 if you'll look in the Council district, we've actually

1 listed some of the -- well, the roads list that we  
2 would like you to approve this year in this budget, so  
3 we can get -- hit the ground running a lot quicker  
4 this year.

5 Mr. Crowder, if you don't mind, I'll pick on your  
6 district a minute, just to explain how this is laid  
7 out in your budget book. If you'll look at the second  
8 line, that is the total amount of money we think will  
9 be available for this district. That is C funds and  
10 the two and a half million dollars that is currently  
11 in the budget. Now, if you add to it, we can add more  
12 to it. But, and it also takes away anything that's  
13 already been promised out. So, it's still going to be  
14 rolled over into the accounts.

15 But anyway, going down about midways, for those  
16 that have a municipality in there -- and I'll explain  
17 how we came up with this recommendation in a minute --  
18 we're actually asking you to go ahead and let us know  
19 and let the towns know what you think you can allocate  
20 to them -- I mean, you're not under obligation to do  
21 so, legally, but if you do, we'd like to know that as  
22 early as possible so we can make plans on our paving  
23 contract on what we need to do. And then on the  
24 bottom is the actual roads and just like to point out  
25 paving is resurfacing. I mean, what you'd normally  
26 think. The FDP and ST, that is full depth patching  
27 and single treatment. That's what we've been doing to  
28 quite a few roads the past few years, just trying to  
29 keep them in good condition until we could come back  
30 and pave them.

31 I can stop on any one, but I won't delay it any  
32 longer, but each one of you have this in your -- in  
33 that booklet. Yes, ma'am?

34 GRACIE FLOYD: I've got something ????

35 HOLT HOPKINS: It just says public works  
36 budget. It's a little white binder.

37 FRANCIS CROWDER: Is it this one?

38 HOLT HOPKINS: Yes, sir, that.

39 FRANCIS CROWDER: That one right there.

40 HOLT HOPKINS: And I can get it to you in  
41 a different format. I just wanted to point out where  
42 it was in that. All right. And going back to the  
43 city allocation, I wanted to point this out. Again,  
44 this is just a recommendation. It's up to Council to  
45 decide how much you want to allocate, if any, to the  
46 towns. But we've been meeting with the city regarding  
47 a C fund match and they did this study in preparation  
48 for that, and we kind of went along with their  
49 recommendation as far as putting our budget together.

50 What they did, they looked at road miles,

1 population, and property assessed value and they kind  
2 of picked the ones that would best suit each town.  
3 Well, population did the most -- or gave them the  
4 highest percentage of the county -- total county  
5 makeup for all but two; Pelzer and Starr. Pelzer and  
6 Starr did better -- had a higher percentage if you  
7 looked at the total miles of road they had inside  
8 their town. So what that means is, like the city of  
9 Anderson, it came in at fourteen percent of the total  
10 county population. And we applied that same fourteen  
11 percent to the two and a half million in new dollars,  
12 new paving dollars, and recommended fourteen percent  
13 of the two point five million go back to the city of  
14 Anderson. I do not recommend exceeding that, but I'm  
15 sure they'd like for you to. And then in the case of  
16 like Starr -- well, we'll pick on Pelzer, yeah. We'll  
17 pick on Pelzer a minute. Pelzer did better with road  
18 miles. And with road miles that means that Pelzer  
19 would get point one percent of the two point five  
20 million, which is only about twenty-five hundred  
21 dollars.

22 So, that's how we put together our recommendation.  
23 Again, it's just a recommendation. It's up to Council  
24 if you want to allocate any funds to municipalities.  
25 You're not legally obligated to do so. We've just  
26 traditionally done so. Now once you ---

27 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Crowder's got a  
28 question.

29 HOLT HOPKINS: Yes, sir.

30 FRANCIS CROWDER: Help me with this. You  
31 want District 1 to allocate a hundred and seventy-  
32 eight thousand dollars to the city and the city's  
33 going to pick the roads?

34 HOLT HOPKINS: Yes, sir. Inside their  
35 town only. And, Mr. Crowder, the reason ---

36 FRANCIS CROWDER: Wishful thinking.

37 HOLT HOPKINS: Okay. The reason we  
38 recommend ---

39 FRANCIS CROWDER: At least for me.

40 HOLT HOPKINS: Well, the reason we started  
41 recommending it this way is Council members of that  
42 time and myself and Mr. McClure, my predecessor, and  
43 whatever, used to get in a mess when we got to  
44 favoring one ward over another ward when it's really  
45 not our jurisdiction. So we just said, hey, y'all  
46 fight it out amongst yourselves. We're going to tell  
47 you how much money we can give you. How you spend it  
48 from that point as long as you spend it on streets,  
49 and don't waste it on something else, we're not going  
50 to get into your town politics and tell you how to do

1 your job. We kind of left that up to them to fight it  
2 out amongst themselves. Because at one time we were  
3 getting in the middle of it and half the town was  
4 hating us on the county side and the other half was  
5 loving us. So we tried to just get out of that  
6 politics.

7 TOMMY DUNN: Yes, sir.

8 FRANCIS CROWDER: I thought that -- well, I  
9 know this is a hypothetical, but in Columbia the  
10 deliberation over the road bill, if it ever were to  
11 get out of the Senate and into the House, and in  
12 whatever form, it's my understanding that the current  
13 semi-preferred one, is to allocate the money to C-  
14 funds for secondary roads. Right?

15 HOLT HOPKINS: There's a lot of versions,  
16 but ---

17 FRANCIS CROWDER: But that is one of the  
18 versions. Well, if that were the case, then a  
19 tremendous amount of dollars then would flow into  
20 District 1 because we have so much -- I mean, state  
21 roads, secondary roads. In fact the city is made up  
22 of basically state secondary roads, other than 178,  
23 76, 28, 81. Is that not right?

24 HOLT HOPKINS: Yes, sir. And it just  
25 depends on what comes down from -- or comes up from  
26 Columbia. But if it goes -- the way I understand it,  
27 talking to the C fund committee members and some  
28 legislators, the way I understand it is, the money --  
29 say that the C fund gets two more million a year to  
30 work with, they're going to still split half of it  
31 with the state and the other half is going to go to  
32 the locals -- meaning the towns and the county -- to  
33 take care of local roads. So only fifty percent of  
34 that new money, which would -- if they added two  
35 million, that would be five million in all that C  
36 funds gets each year. So two and a half million of it  
37 would go to the state roads and the other two and a  
38 half million would go to local roads.

39 And the C funds -- their committee -- anything  
40 inside that town, wherever the town is, they require  
41 the town council to submit their requests by  
42 resolution. So they'd be getting their direction for  
43 anything inside the town from the town council.  
44 Anything on the outside, in the unincorporated areas,  
45 they'd be looking at whatever list you approved as a  
46 group for us to bring to them to fund.

47 FRANCIS CROWDER: Thank you.

48 TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Floyd?

49 GRACIE FLOYD: I have some questions.

50 Holt, I have some questions I want to ask. Okay? I

1 just want to bring it down, you know, to the floor.  
2 Your presentation today was to help us to realize how  
3 bad our roads are; is that correct, and how much money  
4 is needed to fix it up. Is that what the purpose of  
5 the whole thing?

6 HOLT HOPKINS: Just to show you what the  
7 need was; yes, ma'am.

8 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. All right. I'm  
9 hoping that we are all fully aware that the needs are  
10 there and we need to make a move on this thing. But  
11 can we talk about. can we talk about the fee part of  
12 it?

13 HOLT HOPKINS: I think Rita's going to get  
14 -- I've got two more slides and then I'm done. And I  
15 think Rita's going to get into the road fee part.

16 GRACIE FLOYD: So we are going to get down  
17 to the nitty-gritty part of this thing, ---

18 TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma'am.

19 GRACIE FLOYD: --- the fee? Okay. All  
20 right. But you said lunch was at twelve.

21 TOMMY DUNN: Yeah. I'm just trying to  
22 let Mr. Hopkins finish up.

23 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. Well, Mr. Hopkins  
24 would you just---

25 HOLT HOPKINS: Very briefly.

26 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay.

27 HOLT HOPKINS: Just want to let you know  
28 what we been working on the past several months. We  
29 still have a road striking contract that's being  
30 completed, full depths patching and single treatment  
31 contract that was approved back in February-March time  
32 frame. That's -- the contractor will begin work on  
33 that in a week or two. The parking lots all around  
34 the county, Civic Center, Annex Building, all those,  
35 we're doing punch list items on that, wrapping that  
36 contract up. And we're currently paving roads up in  
37 Piedmont. But remember, those were paid for by the  
38 encroachment permit fees money, and a little bit of C  
39 fund money to go with it.

40 GRACIE FLOYD: May I ask a question?

41 HOLT HOPKINS: Yes, ma'am.

42 GRACIE FLOYD: Parking lot contract. Now,  
43 we're talking about county parking lots at this point.

44 HOLT HOPKINS: Yes, ma'am.

45 GRACIE FLOYD: Because there are times  
46 when we do go out and help others with parking lots.

47 HOLT HOPKINS: We do, but this is county  
48 maintained, county owned, that we needed to do some  
49 work to.

50 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. Gotcha. Thank you.

1                   HOLT HOPKINS:       And hope to do another  
2     contract in the fall, again.

3                   Real quick, we're trying to change our schedule.  
4     We were coming to y'all in November with a list of  
5     roads. We want to back that up. We would like to do  
6     that now. Or within the next few weeks, as soon as we  
7     know how much money we get from the state and the  
8     county, because what we'd like to do, once we get it  
9     budget approved, we'd like to go to the C funds and be  
10    able to say, hey, we have this amount of money. Can  
11    you give us this much more? And that can occur in  
12    July. Then, soon as that meeting is over with, we're  
13    ready to go to bid on a new contract. That contract  
14    could be awarded as early as October 1st and we can  
15    open up this paving season for a twelve month period  
16    which would allow contractors to do a better  
17    scheduling, working some winter work in -- because  
18    they can do patching in the winter. They can't do  
19    heavy paving, but they can do patch work and  
20    preparation work. They can do that during the winter,  
21    keeps them busy during the winter. And then they can  
22    start hitting the ground running in the spring, doing  
23    their mainline paving. If they don't have enough  
24    work, they could even do the paving this fall.

25                  TOMMY DUNN:       If I can, Mr. Hopkins, just  
26    to wrap this thing up right quick. If we were to just  
27    say hypothetical have five million -- I'm getting to  
28    you, Mr. Crowder -- if we had a contract to go out say  
29    five million dollars. How quick could you put it on  
30    the street? If we had our roads -- if you had that  
31    road list give you today?

32                  HOLT HOPKINS:     It takes about two months  
33    to get it bid out, awarded, all that.

34                  TOMMY DUNN:       But if you're going to do a  
35    full, a full -- number one, if you're going to do a  
36    full -- I'm talking about asphalt now on paved roads.  
37    If you wouldn't want to do that -- too late in the  
38    year now, ain't it?

39                  HOLT HOPKINS:     Well, ---

40                  TOMMY DUNN:       Get anything done. I mean,  
41    I think most people's covered up. They backed up and  
42    can't get to nothing. So what I'm saying is,  
43    theoretically, really and true, we ought to shoot for  
44    January, I would think, to get a contract out no later  
45    than January to start in March and have a quick date  
46    as far as asphalt is.

47                  HOLT HOPKINS:     Right. We're kind of  
48    saying the same thing, I think. But what we're doing  
49    is giving a twelve month contract instead of a six  
50    month contract.

1 TOMMY DUNN: What I -- what I -- I'm  
2 just throwing this out there. I ain't in the road  
3 business. But I'm just thinking. If you -- on my  
4 business, if you're asking me to give you a price on  
5 something I can't start until March. I got -- I mean,  
6 we know how asphalt fluctuates. And right now, with  
7 everybody being as busy as they are, I don't think  
8 would be a -- the more work people's got what you call  
9 it, they ain't -- you ain't going to get a very good  
10 contract.

11 HOLT HOPKINS: What we're saying is,  
12 though, that we'll award it in October and that's too  
13 late for them to do any major work, unless they're  
14 just starving already, which I don't think anybody  
15 will be.

16 TOMMY DUNN: If they are, we don't want  
17 them working for us, I wouldn't think, if anybody  
18 ain't doing nothing right now.

19 HOLT HOPKINS: Exactly. But by them  
20 knowing, hey, we have this contract now, it's  
21 November, they get November, December, January to  
22 start planning how their work's going to be for the  
23 next spring.

24 TOMMY DUNN: So what I'm saying they  
25 ain't going to start work till March?

26 HOLT HOPKINS: They won't start paving.

27 TOMMY DUNN: Asphalt. Paving, and  
28 that's what I'm talking about. I'm talking about just  
29 strictly paving.

30 HOLT HOPKINS: Right. They can do some of  
31 the patching prior to paving.

32 TOMMY DUNN: That's right. But as far  
33 as paving goes. I'm just saying, if you asking  
34 somebody -- I'm just, you know, thinking out loud, if  
35 you asking somebody to give a contract, to bid on work  
36 that they can't start eight months down the road, not  
37 knowing what asphalt's going to be, you know, you're  
38 going, we're going to be -- if asphalt were to go  
39 down, we're going to still be paying today's prices on  
40 asphalt. I mean, that's what I'm trying to get best  
41 bang for the buck.

42 HOLT HOPKINS: Okay. But we can slide it.  
43 But we still need to get it on the streets before  
44 Christmas to give them plenty of time.

45 TOMMY DUNN: No doubt about it. That's  
46 my whole point. I think we need to get something out  
47 no later than January, but as soon as you get your  
48 thing to get something or other to get it on the  
49 street to get something done. The whole thing -- my  
50 thing would be, was trying to beat the state or

1 anybody else getting your contracts out.

2 HOLT HOPKINS: Exactly. That's what we're  
3 hoping to do, too.

4 TOMMY DUNN: It's a timing thing.

5 HOLT HOPKINS: Cause if they get a lot of  
6 money, they're going to be busy.

7 TOMMY DUNN: I don't think they're going  
8 to get a whole lot of money, but I mean, they're going  
9 to have money like they do right now, it's a lot of, a  
10 lot of stuff going on that ...

11 Second question and I'll let Mr. Crowder and then  
12 we'll wrap this thing up, this part and then go eat  
13 lunch. The gravel we talked about a while ago,  
14 putting on roads, what fund does that come out of?

15 HOLT HOPKINS: Just the maintenance  
16 account.

17 TOMMY DUNN: Maintenance account. Okay.  
18 Mr. Crowder?

19 FRANCIS CROWDER: Two quick questions. Where  
20 does the money come from to pave our parking lots?

21 HOLT HOPKINS: Building fund.

22 FRANCIS CROWDER: Building fund. Okay.

23 Number two, what is the status of the money that we  
24 had in current year budget plus the one point five  
25 million dollars that was contained in the supplemental  
26 appropriations that we did several months ago, not to  
27 count the one million dollars that we had in C funds  
28 match. Have the contracts for that been done? You  
29 know, we gave you a list that said here's our  
30 priorities and that was way back, January, February.

31 HOLT HOPKINS: Yes, sir. By then we had  
32 already -- the paving contract had already been bid  
33 out. And we were ready to receive the bids back in  
34 April. And most of the contractors have already got  
35 their summer set, like Mr. Dunn was talking. If we'd  
36 have put a contract on the street in May, we would  
37 have -- we don't feel like we would get the best  
38 prices because everybody's already busy. They're not  
39 much of a contractor if they don't already have their  
40 summer lined up.

41 TOMMY DUNN: But chances are, they  
42 couldn't get to it anyway.

43 FRANCIS CROWDER: Yep. No questions.

44 TOMMY DUNN: You got anything else, Mr.  
45 Hopkins, before we adjourn for lunch?

46 We'll take a short break for lunch and come back.

47 **(ADJOURNED FOR LUNCH)**

48 TOMMY DUNN: If you're all ready we'll  
49 go back in session here. If you would, we left off  
50 and we'll go back into, if you would, Ms. Davis, road



1 fees. And I want you to -- like we talked about, the  
2 vehicle tax.

3 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir.

4 TOMMY DUNN: Take it now and going to  
5 the road fees thing, if you would.

6 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir, I'd be most happy  
7 to. In light of Mr. Hopkins' presentation, I'd like  
8 to kind of show you the money that we've got to help  
9 pave those roads. As you see, this is fiscal year  
10 '14. These are actual dollars. The county collected  
11 twenty-seven point four million. Of that, we got to  
12 keep twenty-six percent or about seven million. We --  
13 per the levy we passed, it gets distributed just like  
14 real estate property does. So seven million -- now,  
15 that's not just general fund, keep in mind. That's  
16 capital projects, the sewer fund, debt service; that's  
17 the county ordinary. That's across the county. We  
18 all got to divvy up seven million of road vehicle tax.  
19 So I prepared this, because as you recall starting  
20 January 1, 2007, the General Assembly voted to ratchet  
21 down the vehicle assessment ratio from ten and a half  
22 to six. And you say, well, what does that mean to us?  
23 Well, that means that we lose about four point four  
24 million dollars in vehicle taxes that we otherwise  
25 would have collected, since they ratcheted that down.

26 TOMMY DUNN: Now keep that in mind,  
27 that's four point two million, did you say?

28 RITA DAVIS: Four point four.

29 TOMMY DUNN: Four point four.

30 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir, we just lost four  
31 point four million in vehicle taxes as a result. When  
32 it was fully implemented they decreased it point seven  
33 five or three quarters of one percent every year until  
34 they got to fully ratcheted down at six percent. And  
35 keep in mind, the local government fund is not funded  
36 according to the statutory formula. Next year that's  
37 going to be about two point seven million. So  
38 basically we're losing about seven point two million  
39 ---

40 TOMMY DUNN: Total.

41 RITA DAVIS: --- dollars. Yes, sir.

42 And so, the number of registered vehicles per our  
43 auditor's office is about a hundred and ninety-two  
44 thousand. You divide that -- the road portion only --  
45 the four million three hundred ninety-nine thousand to  
46 find out what kind of road fee we would need to  
47 replenish that four point four we're losing and it's  
48 about twenty-three dollars. Okay?

49 GRACIE FLOYD: Excuse me.

50 RITA DAVIS: Yes, ma'am.

1 GRACIE FLOYD: Do you have this on a hard  
2 copy?  
3 RITA DAVIS: I can get it.  
4 GRACIE FLOYD: You don't have it now?  
5 RITA DAVIS: We can get it like that.  
6 Neil can run and print it out for you, ma'am.  
7 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. Well as you go along  
8 with it, I would appreciate having a hard copy so I  
9 can make my notes.  
10 RITA DAVIS: Make notes? Yes, ma'am. I  
11 apologize. All righty. So then we'll go on to the  
12 next slide. I just put this in here. This is the  
13 local government fund per the statutory basis what we  
14 actually get and since '09 up to next year budget,  
15 probably about fourteen point four million that we  
16 didn't get according to the statutory formula.  
17 Okay. So you say, well, you know, not just  
18 Anderson County; all counties had to absorb that  
19 reduction, that four point five percent reduction.  
20 What have they done? Well, as you see twenty-one  
21 counties have implemented a road fee with the average  
22 being about twenty-three dollars, which  
23 coincidentally, as I showed you, we would need a  
24 twenty-three dollar road fee to recoup that four point  
25 four million that we're losing. So, just wanted to  
26 show Council that.  
27 And then, so then I -- I think Mr. Allen brought  
28 up the fact that, well, your vehicle taxes typically  
29 go down about five percent because it depreciates  
30 every year. I took a 2013 Toyota Camry and I  
31 contacted the auditor's office. It had about a  
32 thirty-one thousand fair market value and a six  
33 percent ratio. You'll see that your decreases -- your  
34 decrease in taxes -- and even if we put -- Council  
35 voted to place a twenty dollar fee on there, it would  
36 go down like eleven dollars in 2016, about twenty-  
37 eight dollars, you know, after that. So that's just  
38 for, you know, your review. The vehicle tax does go  
39 down typically about five percent and then they -- if  
40 you had a 2013 Toyota Camry, it would go down that  
41 much. And I just down at the bottom, I just wanted to  
42 show Council that's one vehicle, a Camry with a twenty  
43 dollar road fee would be about six hundred and two  
44 dollars in taxes. And I just took District 1's school  
45 district millage, I just took the very first line on  
46 the tax levy. It'd be about six hundred and two total  
47 dollars. County doesn't get all of that, of course,  
48 we get about a quarter of that. But if the county --  
49 if General Assembly had kept it at ten and a half  
50 percent you'd have been paying about a thousand

1 dollars in vehicle taxes. Here is a comparison if  
2 Council decided to implement a twenty dollar road fee.  
3 They would have about five point five million dollars  
4 to distribute among the Council districts. This is  
5 with twenty-five percent even and the other -- no,  
6 excuse me, twenty-five cent mileage, seventy-five  
7 percent evenly distributed among the Council members.  
8 And then the second column is, if we just keep the  
9 three point four million that has been discussed.  
10 You'll see down below that's the one point five  
11 million and the million that Council approved in the  
12 supplemental budget, with eight hundred and eighty-six  
13 projected carry-over, for a total of three million  
14 three eighty-five seven ninety. That's what's in the  
15 current budget on first and second reading.

16 TOMMY DUNN: And on that, Rita, that's  
17 one -- I just wanted to make a point on Ms. Davis,  
18 excuse me, that wasn't counting no -- nothing we'd get  
19 from C fund.

20 RITA DAVIS: That's right. That does  
21 not include C fund -- we're just talking about general  
22 fund.

23 TOMMY DUNN: County money.

24 RITA DAVIS: That is correct. Very  
25 valid statement, sir. All right. Was that it on the  
26 -- any more questions on the road fee before we move  
27 on to new positions?

28 GRACIE FLOYD: Yeah. May I?

29 TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma'am.

30 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. Rita, let's go back  
31 to the ????. Rita, what ---

32 TOMMY DUNN: I'm sorry. Ms. Floyd -- so  
33 we can hear you, get you recorded.

34 GRACIE FLOYD: I'm sorry. I apologize.  
35 All this time, I'm still --- I want my old one back.  
36 Okay. Rita, who set the road fee, the road fee at  
37 what it was set to? Turn back to where we were.

38 RITA DAVIS: Right there, ma'am?

39 GRACIE FLOYD: No, no, no, the one right  
40 before -- the one you had on there. That one. That's  
41 not it.

42 UNKNOWN MALE: ???

43 RITA DAVIS: That's where I was and she  
44 said no. Not that one.

45 GRACIE FLOYD: Is that it?

46 TOMMY DUNN: Is that it? Pie shaped?

47 GRACIE FLOYD: No, it was the one where it  
48 showed what each district would receive.

49 RITA DAVIS: Oh, okay. Yes, ma'am.  
50 That one right there.

1 GRACIE FLOYD: That one. Yeah.  
2 RITA DAVIS: Yes, ma'am.  
3 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. Rita, could you tell  
4 me, who set that road fee at, was it twenty dollars  
5 per person? Who did that?  
6 RITA DAVIS: Well, that was -- I was  
7 flipping back to this one to show you, ma'am. The  
8 average on the twenty-one counties that have a road  
9 fee, is twenty-three. So it was felt that we could go  
10 twenty or twenty-five and it was suggested to go to  
11 twenty.  
12 GRACIE FLOYD: Twenty.  
13 RITA DAVIS: Yes, ma'am.  
14 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. I see that the  
15 bigger counties, Spartanburg, Charleston, Greenville  
16 and Richland -- Richland, yeah, have all done this.  
17 But what about the counties that did not raise a road  
18 fee or did not generate a road fee?  
19 RITA DAVIS: I assume they had to raise  
20 millage, ma'am, but I wouldn't know that for a fact.  
21 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. We don't have the  
22 information on that.  
23 RITA DAVIS: No, ma'am.  
24 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. Is the state, is the  
25 state going to give counties the money for the roads,  
26 especially the new ones that we're supposed to be  
27 taking in from the state?  
28 RITA DAVIS: Mr. Burns.  
29 RUSTY BURNS: Right now we have no idea  
30 what they're going to do. What plan they're going to  
31 adopt. There are several competing plans. They may  
32 end up this year without any road plan whatsoever.  
33 Take the C fund separately, they have expressed --  
34 which is not part of the road bill -- that -- which  
35 the idea that seems to have a lot of popularity, but  
36 it is not law, if they would increase the amount of C  
37 fund money on state secondary roads.  
38 TOMMY DUNN: If I can just a second.  
39 Let's clear something up, and correct me if I'm wrong,  
40 Mr. Burns. Ms. Floyd was also alluding to like we  
41 talked about on Council before, or anyways, it's dead  
42 in the water as far as the state giving us any roads  
43 back, making us take any state roads because Senate  
44 didn't pass nothing, so that ain't going to come back.  
45 Road bill is dead for that. So that's ---  
46 RUSTY BURNS: They're operating on a  
47 continuing resolution and they probably won't have a  
48 budget by July 1.  
49 TOMMY DUNN: I'm talking about ---  
50 RUSTY BURNS: We don't know.

1 TOMMY DUNN: Yeah, but I'm talking about  
2 as far as -- the budget's one thing, but the road  
3 bill, the Senate, they can't adopt one. Time has run  
4 out so that means they can't give us -- we're not  
5 going to take no more state -- they're not going to  
6 give us state roads this year's budget. They can't.  
7 All we can get is -- Mr. Hunter.

8 MR. HUNTER: May I make a statement?

9 TOMMY DUNN: Yes, sir. Would you mind  
10 coming up here? But all we can get is -- all we can  
11 get is get more money, or no money. But as far as  
12 giving us roads, that can't happen this year.

13 RUSTY BURNS: No, sir.

14 TOMMY DUNN: Yes, sir. Thank you. Mr.  
15 Hunter.

16 MR. HUNTER: I'm not necessarily against  
17 the road fee and any of this, but -- and I get cussed  
18 out enough; okay? Let me explain where we are. And  
19 I'm going to give them y'all's phone number if y'all  
20 do this. And that's fine. But I'm getting tired of  
21 being fussed at. But a majority or probably forty  
22 percent of the cars we deal with are fifteen years  
23 old. They're paying fifteen dollars tax. Can you  
24 imagine what I'm going to say? When you put twenty or  
25 twenty-five on there, and it happens to be the year  
26 they got the tag fee, too, if you don't think I'm not  
27 going to hear it, and you're not going to hear it ---

28 TOMMY DUNN: Hey.

29 MR. HUNTER: --- and I'm just saying  
30 that so you'll understand why I'm ---

31 TOMMY DUNN: Yes, sir, and I appreciate  
32 it, but keep in mind this is just for discussion and  
33 we ain't said -- the majority of Council ---

34 MR. HUNTER: You understand where I'm  
35 coming from.

36 TOMMY DUNN: Yeah, but I want you to  
37 understand, believe you me, we've heard these  
38 conversation.

39 MR. HUNTER: I wanted to make sure  
40 everybody understood what our problem in my office is.  
41 We get fussed at anyway because of taxes. When we do  
42 something like -- and I just wanted to make sure  
43 everybody understands that.

44 TOMMY DUNN: I understand. Ms. Floyd.

45 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. One of my questions  
46 I had, how much will it generate? Well, you did a  
47 really good job in showing us that, breaking it down.  
48 But the thing is this, if we didn't do that fee, what  
49 would happen to us?

50 RITA DAVIS: Well, ma'am, we would have

1 three point four million plus C fund money for paving,  
2 full depth patching for the roads next year.  
3 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay.  
4 RITA DAVIS: It would just be -- I would  
5 just assume, I can't speak for Mr. Hopkins, but more  
6 of your roads would stay in that fair ---  
7 GRACIE FLOYD: Yeah. Okay. The one point  
8 five million dollars that we put aside last ---  
9 TOMMY DUNN: Just say January.  
10 GRACIE FLOYD: --- fiscal year ---  
11 RITA DAVIS: Yes, ma'am.  
12 GRACIE FLOYD: --- for the supplementary  
13 road fund, does that count into that figure as well?  
14 RITA DAVIS: Most definitely. That is  
15 majority of what is counting, ma'am, because it has  
16 not been spent. So in essence, if we keep the budget  
17 as it is on first and second, Council wouldn't have  
18 any new money next year. You'd have the amount that  
19 you already appropriated in supplementary budget to  
20 spend next year.  
21 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. All right. I'm  
22 going to ask this question of ---  
23 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Burns?  
24 GRACIE FLOYD: --- Chairman and Rusty down  
25 there, okay? All right. If we appropriated -- if we  
26 were able to appropriate that one point five  
27 supplementary money in the last budget, couldn't we  
28 appropriate some more in this coming -- in the  
29 upcoming budget to cover the roads?  
30 RUSTY BURNS: I don't know what type of  
31 budget Council's going to pass, but I don't believe we  
32 would have the money necessary to do a supplemental  
33 budget again this time for that amount without  
34 endangering our fund balance.  
35 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. It just happened to  
36 show up in the last -- I mean at the end? Because I  
37 think it was the Chairman's suggestion that we do ---  
38 TOMMY DUNN: We had a -- we had the  
39 growth to come on it. Plus the savings. We hadn't no  
40 -- the Administrator and his staff the savings, we had  
41 the Council due diligence. All that just worked out  
42 and we took some money out of -- I keep calling it  
43 reserve, but it's ---  
44 RUSTY BURNS: We took it out of the fund  
45 balance.  
46 TOMMY DUNN: Fund balance.  
47 GRACIE FLOYD: We did.  
48 RUSTY BURNS: There's that philosophical  
49 debate on how large should the county's savings  
50 account be.

1 GRACIE FLOYD: I subscribe to three  
2 months.

3 RUSTY BURNS: And then that's where we  
4 are and under various scenarios, that's where ---

5 TOMMY DUNN: We had to keep it under  
6 three months. My thing is, people don't pay taxes to  
7 put into savings account. Long as we can keep three  
8 months and Ms. Davis feels comfortable then that's --  
9 all this added up. I feel like between now and  
10 January there'll be some savings. There won't be no  
11 one point five million dollars to put in it. But  
12 there'll be something.

13 GRACIE FLOYD: My question then is  
14 centered around the fact of this money. Now, I know  
15 that, you know, I will pay, I will pay what the law  
16 says I have to pay. I don't pick and choose the laws  
17 that I follow. I try to follow what the law says,  
18 okay. But then there are some others that's not going  
19 to be able to do that and the phone calls and the talk  
20 that I've been hearing and getting is not, is not  
21 good. Is not good.

22 TOMMY DUNN: For a road fee? For a road  
23 fee?

24 GRACIE FLOYD: For the road fee. And I  
25 was trying to figure out, isn't there something else  
26 that could be done? Another thing, Ms. Davis, the  
27 road fee that you just showed us broken down by  
28 districts, is there -- are there any exclusions in  
29 this?

30 RITA DAVIS: No, ma'am. None at all.

31 GRACIE FLOYD: That's everybody, then?

32 RITA DAVIS: It's a fee. That's right.  
33 So we can't exclude.

34 TOMMY DUNN: Don't know if you've been  
35 told or not, but according to the Administrator  
36 checked on this because it was brought up; can't  
37 nobody by law can't be excluded.

38 GRACIE FLOYD: Good.

39 TOMMY DUNN: Nobody.

40 GRACIE FLOYD: Well, good. Well, see that  
41 was the thing that was getting me. We exclude ---

42 TOMMY DUNN: As long as it's a fee.

43 GRACIE FLOYD: Yeah. But I came up with  
44 this yesterday after I left a meeting that I attended.  
45 I came up with this yesterday. I could go for that in  
46 the best interest of the county if, number one,  
47 everybody paid it. Number two, if our employees got a  
48 raise. Because you know, we have some at the bottom  
49 now. And it was a third thing but being that I'm  
50 seventy years old now, I can't remember what it was.

1 There was third thing coming to that. But anyway, I  
2 was trying my best to figure out what could we do  
3 without having to go into a road fee and the state's  
4 not going to help us again. We can just forget that,  
5 right?

6 TOMMY DUNN: I think not totally, but I  
7 think there'll be more money in C funds. I feel  
8 confident the money they got thing is, that's what  
9 they -- the fight is just how much more money they're  
10 going to put in and they're going back to C funds or  
11 local money. I think there'll some more money there.

12 But you got to keep in mind, too, as we go through  
13 this, just in the back of your mind, it's hard to do  
14 planning when you're just saying, you know, this year  
15 we got, let's just say, we can put five million  
16 dollars, but next year you don't know what you're  
17 going to have. If you had a car fee, you would -- you  
18 would know more about a plan. You'd know based you're  
19 going to have roughly four million dollars coming in  
20 that money every year.

21 GRACIE FLOYD: Question I wanted to ask  
22 Mr. ---

23 TOMMY DUNN: Hopkins? I mean Mr. Burns?  
24 Mr. Hunter, come up one more time.

25 GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Hunter, yes. While  
26 he's coming up, let me -- while he's coming up, what  
27 we're doing is really paying back the money that  
28 they've racheted down a couple of years ago.

29 TOMMY DUNN: Somewhat, yes, ma'am.

30 GRACIE FLOYD: Yeah, that's all it is,  
31 because they said, well, we're going to lessen it, you  
32 don't have to pay as much. And I remember fighting  
33 against that thing tooth and ---

34 TOMMY DUNN: And it has been -- excuse  
35 me, I'm sorry. Go ahead.

36 GRACIE FLOYD: And they did it so that now  
37 we have to come back with -- you know, to pay that  
38 money again, that's all ---

39 MR. HUNTER: We fight the legislature all  
40 year. They go down there and they decide they're  
41 going to help their buddy, and they introduce some  
42 kind of -- and I end up going before the state Senate  
43 Finance Committee or somebody saying this is stupid,  
44 you know. And it goes around and around.

45 Let me explain a couple of things. We got  
46 veterans who are not -- we don't charge them taxes at  
47 all. We've got paraplegics, we've got some of these  
48 folks it's going to be very difficult from our  
49 accounting system. In fairness, probably, too, I  
50 don't know. You know a lot of veterans can give us a



1 hard time anyway, and y'all talk to them and I don't  
2 have any problem with it, I'm a veteran too. But you  
3 know, if we -- we're not charging them anything ---  
4 TOMMY DUNN: That's a good point.  
5 MR. HUNTER: People that's purple heart,  
6 those kind of folks. And to be honest with you, I  
7 have to mail bills forty-five days before due date so  
8 the July bill is already in somebody's -- so if that's  
9 in this calculation ---  
10 RITA DAVIS: No, it's not.  
11 MR. HUNTER: Cause, see, I have to mail  
12 them under stature early. And of course, we've got  
13 the problem with ---  
14 TOMMY DUNN: We'll give you time ---  
15 MR. HUNTER: --- ?? tags, we got all  
16 kinds of problems.  
17 TOMMY DUNN: We'll give you time to mail  
18 them, Jackie, and get out of town.  
19 GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Hunter.  
20 MR. HUNTER: My employees are going to  
21 catch this.  
22 GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Hunter, my question is  
23 this, and I thank you for bringing up the veterans  
24 because I intended to say if anybody was going to get  
25 an exemption, I think it ought to be the veterans.  
26 Now, but ---  
27 MR. HUNTER: The wheelchair folks, and  
28 you know, people that have been -- we don't charge  
29 those any taxes. The spouses of veterans now, there's  
30 a law I don't know if it's passed. It makes it more  
31 and more complicated when you say everybody's driving  
32 a car, you know, if everybody that's paying tax today  
33 that's fine, because that's what we do. But ---  
34 TOMMY DUNN: My understanding, if you  
35 call it a fee, there's no exceptions, that's state  
36 law.  
37 GRACIE FLOYD: My question is --  
38 MR. HUNTER: But I'm just telling you, I  
39 don't know how we're going to know who those people  
40 are.  
41 GRACIE FLOYD: My question for you is  
42 this, if this tax comes in and everybody's got to pay  
43 it, and what do we -- do we make allowances for people  
44 who really cannot take on that additional tax? None  
45 whatsoever, right? All right. Mr. Chairman, I thank  
46 you.  
47 MR. HUNTER: I'm sorry, I just need to  
48 make sure everybody understood.  
49 TOMMY DUNN: That's a good point.  
50 Appreciate it. Mr. Crowder.

1                   FRANCIS CROWDER: Rita, would you put up the  
2 slide that's got the counties on it, please, ma'am.  
3 Counties.

4                   TOMMY DUNN:               Forty-six counties.

5                   TOM ALLEN:               Twenty-one counties that  
6 have the fee.

7                   FRANCIS CROWDER: I'd like for you --  
8 everybody closely pay attention, you know. Abbeville  
9 County, thirteen ninety-nine. Aiken County, about our  
10 own size, twenty dollars. Let's go down,  
11 Chesterfield, I mean very, you know, poor county,  
12 thirty dollars. Clarendon County, twenty-five  
13 dollars. Colleton County, wow, twenty-five dollars.  
14 All right. Let's go down to Edgefield County, wow,  
15 right down there, you know, forty-fifth or forty-sixth  
16 in the state, twenty dollars. Let's take a look at  
17 Laurens County, fifteen dollars. Pickens County,  
18 twenty dollars. Sumter County, fifteen dollars.  
19 Williamsburg County, thirty dollars.

20                  Now, I reckon, you know, I was very much concerned  
21 about voting for a road fee. In fact, I had several  
22 constituents, as each of you have had, one minister  
23 calling me about he could hardly make ends meet and a  
24 lot of other elderly people. So I came to Mr. Burns  
25 and to Mr. Leon and said, is there a way we can  
26 exclude people? And, of course, I got criticized for  
27 I wanted to exclude myself because I was seventy years  
28 of age. I was thinking about other people, not me.  
29 So another person actually came up with a good idea,  
30 but I'm not sure how we can do it. They said, well,  
31 why don't you cut three point five million dollars out  
32 of the county budget? Now, hey, it's going to be a  
33 tough decision. It really is. I know we need to pave  
34 our roads. I'm fully convinced that we cannot count  
35 on Columbia to pave county roads, at least in my  
36 lifetime. And so, you know, whatever bill they pass,  
37 it's going to take care of state roads, federal roads,  
38 state secondary roads. So I wished there were another  
39 way. And I haven't fully decided how I'm going to  
40 vote on this issue. But we do need to pave roads.  
41 And basically I tell people, well, if we don't get  
42 money we can't pave roads. If we don't get more money  
43 we can pave some roads, but it'll be at a slower pace.

44                  When you couple that with the fact that we have  
45 requests for increases in personnel, increases in  
46 salaries, increases in operating costs. Keep in mind,  
47 this is probably the most important part of what I'm  
48 going to say, for the last two years and this is the  
49 third year, we will be having spent out of our fund  
50 balance every year approximately two point four

1 million dollars. Which literally means that in order  
2 for us to do things, instead of raising taxes, which  
3 none of us want to do, we've taken our fund balance  
4 down and we are quickly approaching what a nice fund  
5 balance should be. So anyway, thank you, Chairman.

6 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Mr. Allen?

7 TOM ALLEN: Am I on here? Yeah. I had  
8 a couple of things I wanted to say. Rita, great  
9 presentation. I wish you could tell that to the  
10 twenty-seven thousand people in my district, but I  
11 don't know how to get that word out to everyone of  
12 them. Your points were excellent.

13 TOMMY DUNN: Let me ask you a question.  
14 What did you bring this up for then?

15 TOM ALLEN: Well, I brought it up  
16 because I really thought it was a good idea. Thought  
17 it was a good idea until I started getting my shorts  
18 handed to me. Put it on the record. As it stands now  
19 I'm going to have to vote against this thing. And  
20 I'll tell you why. I've received a number of emails  
21 and just to give you an example, one guy lives out on  
22 the lake. No, he said I paid sixteen hundred and  
23 twenty-six dollars in vehicle taxes for three cars  
24 last year. Seems like enough to take care of roads  
25 without adding another sixty to seventy-five dollars  
26 to my bill. We do not look favorably on Mr. Crowder  
27 or Mr. Allen for supporting this proposal. Neither do  
28 we look favorably on Ms. Wilson who abstained because  
29 she didn't have an answer to that question. Got  
30 another guy here, we folks live on the lake, pay more  
31 taxes than anybody else. We will not accept any more.  
32 In case you do not understand my position, I will  
33 repeat. I adamantly oppose the additional taxes on  
34 auto. I've got several more here that I could read.  
35 People are very upset. I've had other individuals  
36 come to me, they're living on social security and I  
37 really feel sorry for them. That's their main income  
38 and twenty-five dollars would mean a lot to them if  
39 they had to give that up, believe it or not. I had a  
40 church minister call me from a very large church  
41 congregation speaking on behalf of the congregation.  
42 They do not want this tax. Spoke to another  
43 individual who owned eighteen antique automobiles that  
44 he drives maybe each one fifty miles a year or  
45 something. He said that's going to cost me another  
46 five hundred dollars. Of course, I could have  
47 answered him and said if you've got eighteen  
48 automobiles, you're rich, it won't hurt you to pay  
49 five hundred bucks. He was not in the mood to hear  
50 that chit-chat from me. So I did not bring that up.

1 Motorcyclists. Why do I have to pay twenty-five  
2 dollars and the guy here with the eighteen wheeler is  
3 only paying twenty-five dollars? And we cannot make  
4 any exceptions to this law.

5 So, the racket down, you talk about that. You've  
6 got the racket down plus the fact that your car  
7 decreases tax-wise every year any way. They don't  
8 care. They do not care. They do not want another tax  
9 added on.

10 So my answer to this is, if you've got a chuck  
11 hole out in your street, go to one of your local home  
12 improvement stores, buy a bag of -- I won't mention  
13 any names -- buy a fifty pound bag of cold patch  
14 asphalt, go out there and dump it in the dad-gum hole  
15 and fix it. You don't want the tax, I'm not going to  
16 vote for the tax. Thank you.

17 FRANCIS CROWDER: Will you vote for -- may I  
18 ask him a question?

19 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Allen, can I ask you a  
20 question first? How you going to vote for that again?  
21 You didn't make yourself plain. I want to make sure.  
22 Mr. Crowder?

23 FRANCIS CROWDER: So will you go along with  
24 me? We need to find three point five million dollars  
25 to cut out of the budget, not add anything else? I'm  
26 kidding you. You don't have to answer it.

27 TOM ALLEN: My suggestion at the very  
28 beginning of this process this year is freeze  
29 everything. Stick with where we were last year.

30 TOMMY DUNN: And we're going to talk  
31 about that.

32 TOM ALLEN: We're going to talk about  
33 that.

34 GRACIE FLOYD: And my thing is, that's  
35 fine with me as long as it's not salaries.

36 TOMMY DUNN: Rita, you got anything else  
37 on the road fee? Or the car thing.

38 RITA DAVIS: No, sir. Not if Council  
39 doesn't. I'm ---

40 TOMMY DUNN: I think everybody's pretty  
41 good. I just want to -- I wish there would be more  
42 people that -- two things I want to get out of this  
43 and I asked Ms. Davis to put this on the agenda  
44 because of some statements. I understand perfectly  
45 what Tom said and I can show you, and I know everybody  
46 ain't emails and texts that I got. One guy owns a  
47 driving school, got eight vehicles. He ain't got a  
48 problem with it. It seems like your rich friends  
49 always the ones that don't want to pay no taxes, Tom.  
50 Balancing the budget on the back of -- balancing on

1 the back of my poor people. But anyway, what I want  
2 to say is, the two things -- perception is -- all that  
3 people, if people look at their taxes, we get the  
4 blunt of things on all property taxes. You got to  
5 look what the school gets versus what Anderson County  
6 gets and same way with the car tax. And the two  
7 things, we've lost two big funding mechanisms, local  
8 aid to subdivisions has been decreased and our car  
9 thing that Ms. Davis talked about. We've lost seven  
10 million dollars we'd be in right now, have to make up  
11 this. And if it wasn't for the growth of the jobs and  
12 houses been here, we'd be in a heck of a bad shape.  
13 And you got to keep in mind, too, some of the growth  
14 the businesses got, like First Quality, McLaughlin,  
15 some of them, they ain't been here long enough to get  
16 on the bus to give us the full benefit we're going to  
17 be getting. But it's coming.

18 TOM ALLEN: Right. And this is  
19 something I did want to say, too. Some of these  
20 things we may not be able to do this year, but, right,  
21 these industries that have come in here have not  
22 really come into full fruition yet.

23 TOMMY DUNN: I got you, Mr. Allen.

24 TOM ALLEN: And that's going to --  
25 we'll see that over the next two or three years.

26 TOMMY DUNN: You're one of them wants to  
27 kick it down the road again.

28 TOM ALLEN: There you go.

29 TOMMY DUNN: Kick it down the roads.  
30 Thank you. Ms. Davis, we'll moving on then.

31 Next on the agenda, please.

32 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir. We just want to  
33 revisit real briefly the new positions that were  
34 requested as far as like the media team. This is the  
35 cap of the projected costs for the first year about  
36 two hundred and twenty thousand dollars. It's been  
37 suggested that we could use three existing vacant  
38 positions that are not expected to be filled. They're  
39 in the first and second reading of the budget. So  
40 that would mean we'd need about seventy-five thousand  
41 new money in order to fund the media crew. Put down  
42 at the bottom that could be funded from our franchise  
43 fees, the money we get from Cable. That would be  
44 about two hundred and ten thousand, from what we  
45 receive -- actually receive fiscal year '14 and what  
46 we're projecting to receive this year. So there has  
47 been an increase.

48 TOMMY DUNN: I want to reiterate that.  
49 I know you can say this is a money-making shell game,  
50 but we do let license and fees, franchise fees and

1 that's -- and we're looking at two hundred thousand  
2 dollars of new money projected that we didn't get in  
3 last year's budget ---

4 RITA DAVIS: That's correct.

5 TOMMY DUNN: --- this budget we're in  
6 now, the coming budget. And plus if we're to vote for  
7 this, go to this, there wouldn't be no new positions.  
8 No more added employees to Anderson County. For  
9 instance, to keep it simple, if we had a hundred  
10 county employees today, when this thing's -- if this  
11 thing was done, we'd still have a hundred county  
12 employees.

13 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir.

14 TOMMY DUNN: I think, arguing back and  
15 forth, what I look at is the benefits as far as, as I  
16 said before, education people as far as the litter  
17 thing. It's un -- I think sky's the limit what could  
18 be done about educating people on litter and  
19 recycling. I went to the -- didn't get to stay long  
20 like I said earlier -- you know about the Litter  
21 Summit they had at the Civic Center here a few weeks  
22 ago, and I think the number I heard was around half  
23 million dollars it's costing us in litter or better in  
24 a year. And then you've got to look at the animal  
25 shelter, what it could do on adoption and educating  
26 people on spay and neuter. Benefits of educating.  
27 But know that this TV station or news media or  
28 whatever you call it, it won't reach everybody in  
29 Anderson County, but no kind of news media we use --  
30 you got does; neither will the newspaper, radio  
31 station, nothing's going to reach everybody. Thing  
32 that we can try to do the best we can. But I look  
33 very favorably on this and I've talked to my  
34 constituents -- not everyone of them -- but some of  
35 them explained to this. I think this is money  
36 investment and you'll get return on your dollar come  
37 back in on doing this. And again, it is -- we're in a  
38 tight budget getting this, but this is no new money.

39 GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Chairman, also -- also,  
40 could that media be used for advertisement? I was  
41 thinking about that last night when I was watching the  
42 city and the Anderson County station. That's two  
43 stations. One is done by the city, one done by the  
44 County -- I don't know who is doing that second one.  
45 But anyway, they had a lot of advertisements on that  
46 one. If we -- if we -- okay. We can't use it for  
47 advertise. But I am all for that. I am all for that.

48 It was told to me, and I love the way it was said,  
49 that we need to tell our own story without allowing  
50 somebody to tell it for us. Council member Gracie

1 Floyd storms out of budget meeting. I never stormed.  
2 If I stormed, you would know it. All right. But I  
3 picked up my paraphernalia and I walked quietly and  
4 gently to the door. Okay. If we had our own thing  
5 like this, then people would see. All right. Here's  
6 another one. Crowder, officials have to be willing to  
7 consider a hike. Now, when I read this, I thought it  
8 was a done deal. Hey, we got to be willing to do this  
9 because he said we got to be -- the newspaper said it.  
10 We should have had our own stuff there telling our  
11 story. And I had another one here, but I can't find  
12 it. But this is something whose time has come. We  
13 need now to be up on the innovative edge of what we're  
14 doing for our county and we need to be telling our own  
15 story. I'm voting for this. I am going to vote for  
16 this. And I'm going to twist everybody's arm that I  
17 know. Yeah. And yeah, we are going to get -- we are  
18 going to have this in Anderson County because it's  
19 needed. I want the people in my district to know what  
20 I'm doing. I work hard. I work hard. But a lot of  
21 them don't know that. A lot of them don't even know  
22 who I am. And I want them to know -- I want my  
23 picture up there, too, just like they do for the city.  
24 So this is something that we need to implement.

25 Oh, I was sitting home in bed late at night and I  
26 was watching the South Carolina channel and all of a  
27 sudden they put a robot in a hole and the robot was  
28 going through the hole telling them where all the  
29 pipes were -- problems were. And I thought that was  
30 awesome, only to find out from Holt Hopkins that we  
31 have the same thing here in Anderson County. Did you  
32 know that? We've got it. But we don't have a way to  
33 let people know what we have here and what we're doing  
34 here, so it's a good thing. I don't know whose idea  
35 it is, but I think it's wonderful. My only regret is  
36 that I would like for it to be a little more -- little  
37 more diversity in it. That's it. And I sure do thank  
38 you for letting me say this.

39 TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma'am. Mr. Allen, you  
40 have anything?

41 TOM ALLEN: No.

42 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Crowder?

43 FRANCIS CROWDER: Okay. Several questions.

44 Number one, this franchise fee, does that go into the  
45 General Fund?

46 RITA DAVIS: It does, yes, sir.

47 FRANCIS CROWDER: Okay. Second part of that.

48 Is that extra two hundred and nine thousand dollars  
49 already factored into the current budget?

50 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir, it is.

1                   FRANCIS CROWDER: So really it's not new  
2 money.  
3                   RITA DAVIS: It's new to Anderson County  
4 but not new to our ---  
5                   FRANCIS CROWDER: It's included in the budget  
6 that we have.  
7                   RITA DAVIS: It's new to Anderson  
8 County, yes, sir.  
9                   FRANCIS CROWDER: But it's already -- all  
10 right. Third and last question. Who are the three  
11 positions that are going to be vacant that we don't  
12 have?  
13                   RITA DAVIS: There's one in the IT  
14 department. One in the Treasurer's office. And one  
15 -- I apologize, I've forgotten the third one. I've  
16 talked to those department heads and they do not  
17 anticipate filling those positions.  
18                   FRANCIS CROWDER: I'm just curious. Thank  
19 you.  
20                   TOMMY DUNN: Clarify one thing. You  
21 said that money, that two hundred thousand dollars, is  
22 in the budget we voted on already took. But it's also  
23 the budget we have now includes the media -- the media  
24 team.  
25                   FRANCIS CROWDER: It already does.  
26                   RITA DAVIS: That third position is the  
27 marketing director at ASEC.  
28                   FRANCIS CROWDER: It's already covered. Yep.  
29                   TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Mr. Crowder, in  
30 talking to you, and I don't want to put you on the  
31 spot, but in talking to you the other day, you had a  
32 suggestion about this. You want to throw it out now?  
33                   FRANCIS CROWDER: Well, actually I had lots  
34 of people tell me that they don't look at one ninety-  
35 two, one ninety-three, one ninety-four or whatever it  
36 is. I did call the lady who's going to take charge of  
37 John Moore --  
38                   TOMMY DUNN: Ms. McConnell.  
39                   FRANCIS CROWDER: Yeah. Ms. McConnell, thank  
40 you. Having a mental lapse, I'm approaching a  
41 hundred. I'm joking. And she indicated to me that  
42 they actually ran the program out of the IT  
43 department. That they had a web master in the IT  
44 department so that they could be used for not only the  
45 TV station, but they could also keep up the website.  
46 So, of course, Council cannot tell the Administrator  
47 what to do, we can only appropriate money, in concept,  
48 but that is something that would be wise to consider,  
49 because keep in mind, we've asked for an updated web  
50 site for a year, two years. We finally got one, the



1 Council approved one and it just draws out and out and  
2 I think that if we had a full time staff member in the  
3 IT department that was not only a web master, but also  
4 somebody who had skills in art work. Because one of  
5 the central things about a web page is the art work.  
6 It's the art work, pictures, the art work, it's not  
7 just to type. You've heard of the old expression a  
8 thousand -- well, a picture's worth a thousand words.  
9 So ...

10 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Crowder. I  
11 just thought that was -- I think that's worth  
12 something to consider. Anything else on that?

13 FRANCIS CROWDER: But I will be supporting  
14 that.

15 TOMMY DUNN: Anything else, Ms. Davis?

16 RITA DAVIS: No, sir, I just have  
17 included some PAWS and solid waste bullets and how  
18 they would use the TV station, for your review.

19 TOMMY DUNN: And I think another thing,  
20 too, just talk about, you know, be valuable, too, I  
21 think for the Sheriff's department. Crime prevention,  
22 I know the Anderson County I think has got a Top Ten  
23 wanted list or a mug list or whatnot. Help out on  
24 that and Crime Stoppers, help them out. I know Crime  
25 Stoppers very influent (verbatim) on the city of  
26 Anderson's TV station. I think all of those would be  
27 benefit. Like I say, I think just about all county  
28 departments could benefit.

29 RITA DAVIS: Farmers Market.

30 TOMMY DUNN: Educating Farmers Market  
31 would be big.

32 GRACIE FLOYD: And also those community  
33 meetings.

34 TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma'am. Thank you, Ms.  
35 Davis. Moving on.

36 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir. And, I've been  
37 asked to look at the litter crew alternatives. In the  
38 originally adopted budget the costs that I could gleam  
39 from the detail submitted is about a hundred and  
40 eighty-three thousand. Of course, that includes  
41 capital and operations cost. It was specifically  
42 linked to the litter crew. This would be starting  
43 October -- of the second quarter of the fiscal year.  
44 And then, on the change sheet that was given at the  
45 last Council meeting on second reading, it was asked  
46 that part time personnel, three part time personnel be  
47 looked at. And that we could use the proceeds from  
48 the bone yard, if you will, to purchase a vehicle.  
49 Mr. Stone reviewed those assets and thought that we  
50 could get maybe forty to fifty thousand dollars if we

1 could sell those cars in the condition that they're  
2 in. And then the third is that if county hired a full  
3 time detention litter officer to supervise an inmate  
4 crew, and these are Major Gary Bryant's cost of about  
5 ninety thousand dollars. So I just wanted to present  
6 those to Council for their review and input.

7 TOMMY DUNN: I think one thing that was  
8 brought up -- budget started off with something and  
9 come up first with the part time crew, then talking  
10 with -- Major Bryant sent us some information about,  
11 you know, the crew. I think I'll let Sheriff, if he  
12 wants to chime in or correct me if I'm wrong. He  
13 feels like I believe you can -- there's no guarantees  
14 in life, but he could not fund, ain't the word, but  
15 staff out of detention people a crew. And that way  
16 we'd have them full time. You know, on rainy days or  
17 whatnot keeping up with them. And we could try this  
18 and, you know, if Council members think about this and  
19 something happening and, you know, we're look at it  
20 after three months, if we ain't getting the detention  
21 prisoners, we could go back and look at doing  
22 something part time or something. But I know Mr. Cole  
23 was very -- don't want to speak for him, he's not here  
24 today -- but I know that's one thing he's been very  
25 adamant about, a litter crew in the budget.

26 RUSTY BURNS: And this concept with the  
27 litter officer and the inmates, I like the sound of  
28 that.

29 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Allen, go ahead.

30 TOM ALLEN: Just very quickly for  
31 clarification, too, with the Sheriff, you kind of  
32 answered my question, Tommy, but anybody that's put on  
33 that crew, correct me if I'm wrong, Sheriff, has to  
34 already have been convicted and has to be willing ---

35 TOMMY DUNN: No.

36 TOM ALLEN: --- to do that?

37 TOMMY DUNN: The biggest part would be  
38 right. Talk to Major Bryant and I'll let Sheriff  
39 explain. I think they can get state inmates to do  
40 this.

41 JOHN SKIPPER: All of our work crew is  
42 state inmates. They have a big list throughout the  
43 state, people who are available for work release. So  
44 they are serving time. When they come to our  
45 facility, then they get so much credit off their time  
46 if they continue to do good work here. So, yeah,  
47 that's already -- that's not local people that are  
48 arrested and put in there for getting drunk or CDV or  
49 something. These are state inmates, already  
50 convicted.

1 TOM ALLEN: All right. That answers my  
2 question. Now, I see a lady officer, she's got a  
3 crew.

4 JOHN SKIPPER: Ms. Witt.

5 TOM ALLEN: Are those state prisoners?

6 JOHN SKIPPER: Yes.

7 TOM ALLEN: Okay. All right. Thank  
8 you, sir.

9 JOHN SKIPPER: We have, at any given time,  
10 I think, thirty or thirty-five state inmates depending  
11 on, you know, the population at any given time doing  
12 -- I mean, you know, we supply one to every city,  
13 every city's asked for one. We usually have a --  
14 Holt's not here -- Holt is here -- you know, we had a  
15 juggling because he's got people all over the place,  
16 too, and every time we get them in we have to  
17 prioritize who needs who and sometimes when they get  
18 low. But right now we've been pretty full, haven't  
19 we, Holt, in the last year probably from state  
20 inmates. Okay. You know, they come and go. You  
21 know, just so you'll know, I mean they are inmates, so  
22 they screw up and we had two or three that were doing  
23 some work around the county, we sent them back the  
24 other day because they screwed up. Now we've got some  
25 more coming.

26 TOM ALLEN: Sheriff, just need to make  
27 sure crime stays at a high level, then, so we have  
28 inmates for the litter crew. Okay.

29 TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Floyd?

30 GRACIE FLOYD: Yeah, my thing is this,  
31 though, these are state inmates.

32 JOHN SKIPPER: That's correct.

33 GRACIE FLOYD: Now one time we were using  
34 local people, right?

35 JOHN SKIPPER: Local, as in?

36 GRACIE FLOYD: As in people just sitting  
37 around and ---

38 JOHN SKIPPER: Well, we do have an  
39 opportunity for those people that are sentenced -- you  
40 have to be sentenced. These aren't people waiting to  
41 go to court.

42 GRACIE FLOYD: Yeah, I understand.

43 JOHN SKIPPER: So you're probably  
44 referring to some of those that have to come in on  
45 weekends to do family court orders and those kinds of  
46 things and they can -- we can have them do certain  
47 amount of things. But that's probably what you're  
48 talking about.

49 GRACIE FLOYD: Yeah. But the thing that  
50 I'm interested in, this is a new -- it's not a new

1 idea, but it's one that I didn't know that we were  
2 flirting with. But if we go to this one instead of  
3 hiring people outright to do this, will these people  
4 be -- will we be able to depend that they're going to  
5 be out there and they're going to do -- be doing what  
6 we -- what they're supposed to do? Because I think  
7 the last time if they didn't feel like going out, they  
8 didn't have to go out.

9 JOHN SKIPPER: No, no, no, no. These  
10 state inmates, when they're here, they're here to do a  
11 specific function. I mean, you know, we have sick  
12 days now. Obviously if somebody's sick and ate some  
13 bad food, they can't go. But Ms. Witt's about out  
14 every day with her crew, well, not recently because  
15 she got run in -- somebody run in the back of the  
16 trailer not long ago and we had to buy a new one, so  
17 that's here now. But you're right, I mean, these are  
18 inmates, they sign up from the state. They come here  
19 to do a specific functions, so they got to do it. If  
20 they don't do it, we sent them back to wherever they  
21 come from. We get somebody else to fill the spot.

22 GRACIE FLOYD: And we only get three of  
23 them?

24 JOHN SKIPPER: Oh, we can get as many as  
25 we can supply -- well, that's a whole other thing, you  
26 know. We only got so many beds in the jail. So I  
27 don't want to go there, but you know where that goes.

28 GRACIE FLOYD: Well, I meant ---

29 JOHN SKIPPER: If we've got a place to put  
30 them, we can get them.

31 GRACIE FLOYD: I met Ms. Witt. I saw this  
32 trash truck pulled over into the woods and I went down  
33 the street, turned around and I came back. I was  
34 going to fix -- find out what was going on. And she's  
35 a sweet lady. But she had those guys with her.

36 JOHN SKIPPER: Oh, yeah.

37 GRACIE FLOYD: And she explained to me  
38 what they were doing. It's kind of scary. But  
39 anyway, I think -- I think it ---

40 JOHN SKIPPER: She handles it well. And  
41 anyone else -- and Rita, I would point out that that  
42 salary there obviously wherever the salary adjustment  
43 goes, if there's adjustment for starting salary that  
44 will -- that'll be tweaked a little bit. I would  
45 hope.

46 GRACIE FLOYD: All right. While we're on  
47 this subject, I have a question to ask you. No, to  
48 ask the man behind you out in the audience, Mr. Greg.  
49 Somebody told me that it was put up about a sign about  
50 the ten messiest road in the district and the county.

1 Did y'all see that?  
2 TOMMY DUNN: He done it. He done it at  
3 his litter summit.  
4 GRACIE FLOYD: Yeah, yeah. Who did that?  
5 GREG SMITH: That was staff. Basically  
6 our staff.  
7 GRACIE FLOYD: Well, you tell -- -  
8 GREG SMITH: Environmental enforcement  
9 officer ---  
10 GRACIE FLOYD: You tell staff I'm mighty  
11 upset. Okay?  
12 GREG SMITH: Okay.  
13 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. Because my house was  
14 between two of the roads that the ten dirtiest -- and  
15 it's not the truth. It's not the truth; okay? But  
16 you just tell staff that we're going to have to go  
17 down and redo that list. Because Amity Road is a  
18 dirty road, but it's not any dirtier than anybody  
19 else's and Bellhaven Road is really bad. But there  
20 are some in Anderson County that's worse. And I just  
21 resent having my district just shown up like that and  
22 nobody told me first. Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
23 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Ms. Davis?  
24 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir.  
25 FRANCIS CROWDER: Can we move on?  
26 TOMMY DUNN: Moving on.  
27 RITA DAVIS: The third one is the flood  
28 plain manager. Just wanted to bring that up again.  
29 That, I believe, is Finance Committee recommended I  
30 think removing that position. It would add forty-two  
31 six eighty to the budget that -- and it would be -- my  
32 understanding, they would be cross training  
33 development standards arena as well.  
34 TOMMY DUNN: Just want to bring up one  
35 person not here today to talk to, but Ms. Davis, I'm  
36 sorry, Ms. Wilson is one of the ones that asked for  
37 this ---  
38 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir.  
39 TOMMY DUNN: --- to be put back up and  
40 ---  
41 RITA DAVIS: It was.  
42 TOMMY DUNN: --- bringing up about the  
43 cross training. Ms. Hunter, would you mind -- put you  
44 on the spot -- would you mind speaking about the cross  
45 training, how -- what person could help your whole  
46 department? I know you could probably do what you  
47 asked for, do storm water full time, but that person -  
48 ---  
49 ALISHA HUNTER: No, sir. That is a total,  
50 complete discipline, Mr. Chair. I've spoken with John

1 Batson.

2 TOMMY DUNN: I'm sorry. I didn't mean  
3 storm water, I meant flood plain, the flood plain and  
4 development standard. Your office is what I'm talking  
5 about; it would be cross training to do more than just  
6 flood plain stuff.

7 ALISHA HUNTER: Yes, sir, they'll be doing  
8 the -- our central duties as development comes in.  
9 That's commercial, land use development, multi-family  
10 subdivision; all the duties that I have I need someone  
11 to assist me with those duties.

12 TOMMY DUNN: If you were to be out for a  
13 week, vacation or sick or something, that put -- and I  
14 know it depends on what's going on, coming up, but you  
15 could be -- get real behind in a hurry, couldn't you?

16 ALISHA HUNTER: Yes, sir, our projects will  
17 be delayed.

18 TOMMY DUNN: Don't really have a -- you  
19 ain't got a whole lot of help.

20 ALISHA HUNTER: We currently don't have  
21 anyone on staff that has that technical ability to  
22 keep our projects moving forward, Mr. Chair.

23 TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Davis, you got anything  
24 -- anybody got any questions or comments for Ms.  
25 Hunter? Appreciate it, thank you.

26 RITA DAVIS: Okay. Moving right along.  
27 If you don't mind, sir, we're wanting to talk about  
28 the cost of living adjustment. Definitely need input  
29 from Council on this. These are just some  
30 recommendations that's been tossed around. This is  
31 General Fund cost only. I want to point out some  
32 things that have been discussed is bringing all  
33 employees up to a minimum salary of twenty thousand  
34 dollars. That would mainly affect your animal shelter  
35 and your building and grounds custodians. That's  
36 about fifty-four thousand dollars. Bringing everybody  
37 up to the minimum of the new pay grade recommended by  
38 the consultant; that's about four hundred and thirty-  
39 one thousand. And then, your Detention, deputies, and  
40 your compliance officers, bringing them up to a  
41 minimum starting salary of thirty-one thousand.  
42 You'll see the numbers there in the cost of the  
43 stipulation column if Council decided that they wanted  
44 to recommend that. If you did not get a raise in any  
45 one of those categories, everybody else would get a  
46 thousand dollar increase, possibly. And that's six  
47 hundred and nine thousand dollars. And then as late  
48 as yesterday we were talking about the communications  
49 starting salary.

50 TOMMY DUNN: Hold off on that just a

1 minute, Ms. Davis.  
2 RITA DAVIS: I'll hold off on that.  
3 Okay. Prior to ---  
4 TOMMY DUNN: Going back to what you just  
5 said on this other thing, about pay raises, what --  
6 somebody -- the year we're in right now, fiscal year  
7 ---  
8 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir.  
9 TOMMY DUNN: --- not the calendar year.  
10 But fiscal year. The budget we're in right now.  
11 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir.  
12 TOMMY DUNN: If anybody has gotten a pay  
13 raise, we've given quite a few. I know it's been -- I  
14 know along with those pay raises the job descriptions  
15 have changed somewhat or whatnot, but my point being,  
16 are they on this list to get a pay raise, too? Then  
17 they're going to get two pay raises?  
18 RITA DAVIS: At the current time, but we  
19 can take them off prior to Tuesday night's third  
20 reading. That has recently been another option.  
21 TOMMY DUNN: Well, I just think -- I  
22 just think that something that Council out to look at  
23 but I'm just one person. We ain't got but so much. I  
24 want to help our employees do all we can, but you  
25 know, you take some people ain't got none, and you're  
26 going to give some people two, that's, you know, you  
27 can't -- can't hardly -- we can't do that.  
28 FRANCIS CROWDER: Nope.  
29 GRACIE FLOYD: Piggy-backing on that, what  
30 about people who are retired and have come back and  
31 all of that? They don't get pay raises.  
32 RITA DAVIS: In these numbers.  
33 GRACIE FLOYD: I beg your pardon.  
34 RITA DAVIS: They are included in these  
35 numbers.  
36 TOMMY DUNN: They are in those numbers.  
37 GRACIE FLOYD: Oh, no, wait a minute. Let  
38 me understand. Okay. I'm cool. You mean to tell me  
39 that I retired, I worked five years, I've got my TERI  
40 money and then I retire and I come back. And in this  
41 pay raise is a pay raise for them, too?  
42 RITA DAVIS: Yes, ma'am. It's current  
43 time.  
44 GRACIE FLOYD: How can we get that out?  
45 RITA DAVIS: We are at Council's  
46 disposal. Whatever numbers you direct us to run,  
47 we'll be happy to do so.  
48 GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Chairman.  
49 TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma'am.  
50 GRACIE FLOYD: Would you please guide me

1 on this. How do we get that out of there?  
2 TOMMY DUNN: It's not in there now. We  
3 got -- all this has got to be put into a motion.  
4 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. But she said those  
5 figures are ---  
6 RITA DAVIS: Oh! I beg your pardon.  
7 TOMMY DUNN: They're not in the budget.  
8 All this has got to be made a motion to be put into  
9 the budget, so whoever makes a motion to do something  
10 can either leave that out or -- these numbers here  
11 that she's talking about is not part of the budget.  
12 RITA DAVIS: No, ma'am. I apologize. I  
13 misunderstood your question.  
14 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. All right. Good.  
15 Because I was having a hissy fit.  
16 RITA DAVIS: But they are in the current  
17 budget, sir, as far as two percent across the board.  
18 That was everybody, they're in there. So I'll just  
19 let -- make Council aware of that.  
20 TOMMY DUNN: I think that'll be changed,  
21 tweaked somewhat in one way, shape or form.  
22 RITA DAVIS: Okay. Yes, sir.  
23 TOMMY DUNN: The two percent across the  
24 board, I'm just saying I think it's the majority of  
25 Council that will be tweaked some way, shape or form.  
26 She was saying that was already -- the state retirees  
27 and the peoples that's already got a pay raise once  
28 this year, whatnot, they in the current budget we  
29 voted on twice for two readings. Two mil across the  
30 board.  
31 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. I thank you.  
32 TOMMY DUNN: You through? Mr. Allen's  
33 got something.  
34 TOM ALLEN: No, no, I'm just thinking.  
35 TOMMY DUNN: Okay. I just want to say  
36 -- Mr. Crowder?  
37 FRANCIS CROWDER: Help me a little bit,  
38 please, Ms. Davis. Let's just take the first -- the  
39 second line item, minimum of new pay grade four  
40 hundred and thirty-one thousand. But then over there  
41 total cost four hundred and eighty-six -- does that  
42 just mean that's the fringe benefits in there, too?  
43 RITA DAVIS: No, sir, that's just  
44 accumulative cost on the far right hand---  
45 FRANCIS CROWDER: Oh, accumulative.  
46 RITA DAVIS: --- column of each one of  
47 these options. Yes, sir.  
48 FRANCIS CROWDER: Thank you.  
49 TOMMY DUNN: If I could, I just want to  
50 clarify something other with Ms. Floyd something.



1 Sheriff, could I ask you to step up for just a --  
2 don't want to put you on the spot or nothing, but I  
3 know you don't mind.

4 JOHN SKIPPER: You can put me on the spot.

5 TOMMY DUNN: I just want to ask you  
6 about -- because I'm sure you've gotten some people  
7 that works for you that has retired and come back.

8 JOHN SKIPPER: I have.

9 TOMMY DUNN: And I just want to throw  
10 this -- everybody's got their own opinion about this,  
11 but -- and correct me if I'm wrong, but most I guess  
12 people you got working for you that's retired come  
13 back that's doing the same job maybe that the guy next  
14 to him is doing. I guess that's where I'm coming from  
15 about the pay raise for the people that's retired.  
16 They are doing the -- even though they retired, they  
17 earned that retirement, they are actually doing a job  
18 though that the guy or person next to him --

19 JOHN SKIPPER: And just so everybody's  
20 clear on how this works. You know, we, our whole  
21 system was put in a situation, especially, what a year  
22 and a half ago, when the police retirement went to --  
23 if you retire and you come back you can only make up  
24 to ten thousand dollars. So that took a whole lot of  
25 people started going out. I had probably fifteen  
26 people. Way back when this was allowed to come back  
27 and work, we took a position at the Sheriff's office  
28 under a different Sheriff, under Sheriff Taylor,  
29 Sheriff Crenshaw continued the process. And my  
30 position is this, if you retire and come back, and you  
31 come back and I keep you in the same position because  
32 of your experience and all, then I'm going to pay you  
33 for the job you're doing. So we have -- I think I'm  
34 safe to say this -- the majority of those who did that  
35 have done that. We have other people that retired and  
36 came back, but they took a different job. So I know  
37 one of them was a ranking person. He wanted to come  
38 back and do something else. We took his rank away  
39 from him, we dropped him down to the pay level where  
40 that position that he was doing is paid and that's  
41 what he's getting paid. He's not getting the original  
42 salary that he was making as a ranking person. So we  
43 adjust that. So the, I guess the rule of thumb is,  
44 you come -- you know, if I'm paying you to be the  
45 Chairman of Council, you retire and come back, you're  
46 going to continue to be the Chairman of Council, then  
47 you would get that -- whatever that equal is doing  
48 that function.

49 TOMMY DUNN: But I'm just saying, too,  
50 like -- just say a deputy retires and he come back a

1 straight deputy.

2 JOHN SKIPPER: Right.

3 TOMMY DUNN: And he's doing his job and  
4 you're paying him as a deputy. But he's doing the same  
5 job a new deputy is so if that new deputy is getting a  
6 pay raise that's been there two years versus somebody  
7 twenty years doing the same job, would you or would  
8 you not think he ought to get a pay raise?

9 JOHN SKIPPER: I would think he should  
10 because he's still doing the same function. And like  
11 I said, you know, this is not a thing that we created.  
12 The system allows people to do that. And I don't  
13 think I need to be -- or anyone needs to be -- in a  
14 position to say, well, the system allowed you to do  
15 this and you are in that system but now we're going to  
16 punish you for it.

17 TOMMY DUNN: And I think you alluded on  
18 this when you first said something or other. The  
19 system really -- if you're going to be smart about it  
20 -- forced him to retire because if he didn't he was  
21 going to lose his ---

22 JOHN SKIPPER: This last twelve or so  
23 people, otherwise they wouldn't have retired because  
24 they'd still be -- you know, they'd be booking up to  
25 forty years retirement instead of taking their thirty  
26 or whatever they did because it pushed them into that  
27 position where if they waited then and came back and  
28 then say they went to Anderson City, they could only  
29 make ten thousand dollars a year.

30 TOMMY DUNN: Yeah.

31 JOHN SKIPPER: And so, with that, I think  
32 the logical process now is, is these will be cut out.  
33 We won't be having a whole bunch of people in the  
34 future that will retire with twenty-eight, twenty-nine  
35 years and want to come back to work for Anderson  
36 County. Because they'll probably go to private  
37 industry or something else, make a whole lot more than  
38 ten thousand dollars. So I mean that actually has  
39 probably created that position where that will in  
40 longevity fix itself.

41 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Mr. Crowder,  
42 did you have something?

43 FRANCIS CROWDER: Just quickly, Ms. Davis,  
44 kind of two thirds of the way down the page where it  
45 says additional amount needed.

46 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir.

47 FRANCIS CROWDER: Right after first and  
48 second reading, in the first and second reading we  
49 actually have a two percent across the board; is that  
50 right?

1                   RITA DAVIS:           Yes, sir, and that's the  
2   six hundred and forty thousand three fifty.  
3                   FRANCIS CROWDER:   So if we did these things  
4   to get people up to minimum pay grades and all that  
5   kind of stuff ---  
6                   RITA DAVIS:           Yes, sir.  
7                   FRANCIS CROWDER:   --- and we kept the two  
8   percent raise in pay, then we would have to have one  
9   million twenty-six thousand dollars additional money.  
10                  RITA DAVIS:           Well, that would be in  
11   lieu of the two percent. That was just a starting  
12   point for discussion.  
13                  FRANCIS CROWDER:   Okay. That's just in lieu  
14   of the two percent?  
15                  RITA DAVIS:           That's right. That's  
16   right. People won't get the two percent plus the  
17   other. Yeah.  
18                  FRANCIS CROWDER:   That's what I wanted to  
19   ask. I wanted to know what that additional ---  
20                  RITA DAVIS:           And ---  
21                  TOMMY DUNN:           Wait a minute, Ms. Davis, I  
22   just wanted to clarify something, make sure we're all  
23   on the same page. What this is showing, what you just  
24   said, bringing minimum people up to minimum, bringing  
25   everybody up to at least twenty thousand, bring the  
26   minimum up, and ones that don't fall in that effect,  
27   according to this screen, everybody else gets a  
28   thousand dollars.  
29                  RITA DAVIS:           Or seven hundred fifty or  
30   five hundred. We put those numbers in there for  
31   consideration.  
32                  TOMMY DUNN:           Not necessarily two  
33   percent.  
34                  RITA DAVIS:           Oh, no, two percent, that's  
35   kind of out the window, but that was the starting  
36   point.  
37                  TOMMY DUNN:           And then, the numbers that  
38   you got is including state retiree people.  
39                  RITA DAVIS:           It does.  
40                  TOMMY DUNN:           And people that got pay  
41   raises already this past fiscal year.  
42                  RITA DAVIS:           Yes, sir, it does. It  
43   does.  
44                  TOMMY DUNN:           Okay. Thank you. Yes,  
45   sir, Mr. Crowder. I just wanted to clarify that.  
46                  FRANCIS CROWDER:   Yeah, thank you. Pursuing  
47   that, so in other words, we would still need to come  
48   up with an additional million dollars.  
49                  RITA DAVIS:           Yes, sir.  
50                  FRANCIS CROWDER:   All right. So that equates

1 to -- well, see right now the budget that was passed  
2 on the first and second reading did two things.  
3 Number one, it required us to spend two point four  
4 million dollars out of fund balance.

5 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir.

6 FRANCIS CROWDER: And number two, it says we  
7 were going to increase our millage -- well, it's two  
8 mils minus the stuff for other things. So about one  
9 point three mils. Right?

10 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir.

11 FRANCIS CROWDER: So this then means we --  
12 for a million dollars each mil brings on another six  
13 hundred thousand dollars so this will be about another  
14 one point six mil. So we'd have to raise taxes  
15 instead of one point four mils, three mils.

16 RITA DAVIS: Well, in actuality, you  
17 know, when we -- as we go on we'll see the usage of  
18 fund balance potentially for Council's consideration.

19 FRANCIS CROWDER: Well, I know that, but  
20 saying the ---

21 RITA DAVIS: If you did not want to use  
22 fund balance.

23 FRANCIS CROWDER: Do not take any more out of  
24 fund balance, and quite frankly I think that we need  
25 to stop taking money out of fund balance. I don't  
26 mind going along another time taking two point four  
27 million out, but I think at some point we need to stop  
28 spending fund balance, because we are reaching the  
29 point, don't you agree, that we're now, you know, at a  
30 tipping point of where we don't need to do it so we  
31 can maintain our average operating reserve.

32 RITA DAVIS: I think Mr. Dunn wants to  
33 comment.

34 TOMMY DUNN: I was going to say, and I  
35 understand what you're saying Mr. Crowder, and if she  
36 gets through this, and I've asked her, she's supposed  
37 to have those things -- show where this money's coming  
38 for to be paid for. Not just fund balance, but other  
39 things. Different options for Council to speak to.  
40 But on any of your scenarios that you got or you put  
41 together, correct me if I'm wrong, you got a fund  
42 balance of three million dollars. I mean, I'm sorry,  
43 of three months.

44 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir.

45 TOMMY DUNN: Keep that.

46 RITA DAVIS: That's our critical  
47 threshold.

48 TOMMY DUNN: And ---

49 FRANCIS CROWDER: And do all these things?

50 TOMMY DUNN: Yes.

1 FRANCIS CROWDER: Do all this?  
2 TOMMY DUNN: Keep the fund balance.  
3 FRANCIS CROWDER: I don't believe it, but I  
4 mean, I'm sorry.  
5 TOMMY DUNN: And you've gotten -- we've  
6 got a slide on here about fund balance to show what  
7 we've done with fund balance every year. Keep in mind  
8 ---  
9 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir, a little bit  
10 later on.  
11 TOMMY DUNN: But I think Sheriff's  
12 wanting to say -- Sheriff.  
13 JOHN SKIPPER: I just -- and this retiree  
14 come back and the interesting process of that and we,  
15 our industry, has asked this question of the state and  
16 they've ruled us down, but just so you'll know. And I  
17 don't know if you can give me off the top of your  
18 head. If I've got a guy making forty thousand dollars  
19 and he was putting into the retirement system that  
20 would be how much he's putting into the retirement,  
21 whatever that percentage is. So, you haven't retired  
22 yet, and you're putting in every month so that when  
23 you retire you've got that money to come out. Now you  
24 do retire. So now you start collecting that. I hire  
25 you back at that same forty thousand dollars, you are  
26 still putting in that amount of retirement in the  
27 retirement system and you're not getting any benefit  
28 of it back out.  
29 GRACIE FLOYD: Well, why retire?  
30 JOHN SKIPPER: That's because the state --  
31 I mean actually the FOP I think took the state to  
32 court on that and the court ruled against law  
33 enforcement.  
34 TOMMY DUNN: Explain to Ms. Floyd about  
35 reasons some of your officers, the last ten or twelve  
36 probably retired, about the state changed the law.  
37 JOHN SKIPPER: Yeah. The state changed  
38 the law July of last year?  
39 RITA DAVIS: July 1, 2012, I believe.  
40 JOHN SKIPPER: 2012. July 2012. Says  
41 that -- Ms. Floyd, you're one of my deputies and  
42 you've been there, you're a captain, and you -- and  
43 see, and here's where our people have got into this.  
44 I'm one of them. I started when I -- I turned 21  
45 years of age in October of '72 and I started in  
46 November of '72. So when I got to twenty-eight or  
47 twenty-five years of retirement I certainly didn't  
48 think I was old. You know. So you have -- we have a  
49 lot of those that are still working, you know, twenty-  
50 five, thirty, forty years into it because they're

1 still young folks. But what happened was, is the  
2 state said in 2012 or whatever it was, if you retire  
3 you can retire and start collecting your retirement,  
4 but if you come back to work for the same police  
5 retirement system, you leave the Sheriff's office in  
6 Anderson and you go to Richland County, and they hire  
7 you, you can only make ten thousand ---

8 RITA DAVIS: Ten thousand.

9 JOHN SKIPPER: --- ten thousand dollars.

10 So that means Richland County would hire you and when  
11 you work -- and if they're hiring you at a patrol  
12 lieutenant then you're only going to work -- they're  
13 not going to do that because you can only work two,  
14 three, four months and you're at that ten thousand.  
15 You've got to quit working for the rest of year. So  
16 that caused a bunch of people that were past that  
17 twenty-five years to say, well, I need to go ahead and  
18 retire now, especially if my agency or another agency  
19 will take me at a higher salary, because it went in  
20 effect the July of that next -- I mean the January of  
21 that -- there was a six month's period. I had a whole  
22 bunch of people retire in June-ish of 2012 or whatever  
23 it was. Because then they come back in the system and  
24 stay at the -- at whatever we could pay them for the  
25 job that they do.

26 So I mean, that's where we -- and with that said,  
27 like -- that's why I said that will probably not  
28 happen in the future. We will not have many people --  
29 I mean they -- if they do, they only come back and  
30 work ten -- they're going to get ten thousand dollars.  
31 We have them doing deliveries or something. I don't  
32 know, it's a part time job.

33 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Sheriff,  
34 appreciate it. Ms. Davis.

35 RITA DAVIS: All righty. Moving on to  
36 the next item, we're going to just briefly remind  
37 Council that there was fifteen million GOB provided  
38 for in the budget that was one point eight mils was  
39 provided for debt service. That's in the current  
40 budget that was approved on first and second reading.

41 Next.

42 TOMMY DUNN: No, we're going to talk  
43 about this.

44 GRACIE FLOYD: Yeah, we sure do. You want  
45 to go first?

46 TOMMY DUNN: You can go.

47 GRACIE FLOYD: I didn't like this from the  
48 get-go. All right? The new building is needed, but  
49 not this year. We've got too many other things that  
50 now are coming to the front because -- I apologize.

1 We have too many other things now since this new  
2 economy is just beginning to get started and all those  
3 things that we put off in the past that we've got to  
4 take care of. And this building is like the big  
5 elephant that surrounds the little fleas. Okay?

6 There are other things that we can do that will  
7 help us reach that goal of getting a new building, but  
8 I don't think this is the year. And you know I have  
9 been very, very adamant against putting that Dolly  
10 Cooper Park in there. And I will say it and I will  
11 say it every day and every time I get a chance to, I  
12 will say it. The hospitality tax -- you don't need to  
13 laugh, Mr. Dunn, you know I'm right. The hospitality  
14 tax would have taken care of this. You saw where the  
15 city took one month revenue from the hospitality tax  
16 of a hundred and ninety-nine thousand dollars and  
17 bought that old Anderson County education building.  
18 This particular district could have voted a long time  
19 ago for us to have that hospitality tax, but he told  
20 me that his people told him, all two hundred of them  
21 -- I think he has about twenty-two thousand -- but all  
22 two hundred of his people told him they did not want  
23 that hospitality tax, which would have done a penny  
24 when they go out to dinner or something. Because most  
25 of them live in Greenville, so they go over to  
26 Greenville to pay it. But now, here is two hundred  
27 and sixty-five thousand dollars on the backs of the  
28 taxpayers to build that park up there. I resent it.  
29 I resent it with everything in me. The hospitality  
30 tax is needed here in Anderson County. I am  
31 scratching for money for the children to get into the  
32 camps this year. The need out there is great. This  
33 money could have gone for recreational purposes. I  
34 think that that bond, that GOB bond, could be a way  
35 for us to use it this year to generate income for the  
36 salary positions that may be needed or -- I mean the  
37 new positions that may be needed and salaries. That  
38 is the biggest thing right now as far as District 2 is  
39 concerned.

40 A new building, fourteen million dollars, when we  
41 have a jail to build. I brought that information out  
42 the last time. If we don't build that jail, they're  
43 going to build it for us and then they're going to  
44 hand us the bill. And then what are we going to do?  
45 There are places where we can house the folks across  
46 the street from us until we can do better, until we  
47 can do better, and that's what I'm all for. The  
48 newspaper said that we needed a new economic  
49 development building because the one we got is not  
50 pretty enough, or some words like that. You know.

1 The heck with that, we're trying to help people to buy  
2 bread and maybe a little piece of bacon to go with it.  
3 We can get pretty two or three years from now. But  
4 there's five million GOB bond, the people will hold  
5 our feet to the fire for this one. And that's what  
6 I've got to say.

7 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Ms. Floyd.  
8 Anybody else have anything? On the building? I just  
9 want to say, I'll start off and just say this about  
10 the building. I think we need a building, need it. I  
11 don't like paying rent, but we got that. We had to, I  
12 think everybody agreed -- the Council agreed that we  
13 need to get this building behind us tore down and get  
14 the folks out of it and that's what we're in the  
15 process of doing. I know Council should know this,  
16 but we have started work on the Bank of America  
17 building which is being leased for the voter  
18 registration office to get those people moved in  
19 there, as soon as possible. That work is progressing  
20 along.

21 My thoughts are this on the building, I said we  
22 needed about that -- I feel like we need a building,  
23 you know, for the voter registration office. Along  
24 with Ms. Floyd I want to make sure I'm right, if we  
25 don't build a building this year, or come back on that  
26 bond, that's going to free up about eight hundred and  
27 fifty thousand dollars?

28 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir.

29 TOMMY DUNN: Just wanted to make sure  
30 that's out there. The thing on the building is and  
31 this is a GOB bond is for how much, Ms. Davis; the  
32 bond?

33 RITA DAVIS: Fifteen million.

34 TOMMY DUNN: Fifteen million.

35 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir.

36 TOMMY DUNN: My thoughts is on this --  
37 that building. We need to decide what's going to go  
38 in the building. That building might cost two million  
39 dollars and it could cost twenty million dollars. We  
40 need to get that decided. First how we can afford and  
41 what needs to go in there. I think all Council  
42 members needs to get together and have a plan. You  
43 know, we wouldn't start a business or a house and not  
44 knowing what the cost is going to be and just some  
45 fictitious number. And I know that's because the bond  
46 was there, but I think we need to know -- get a layout  
47 on it. And we need to get that building took down. I  
48 think that's going to take some -- take a little time  
49 to do these things. To get the building took down, to  
50 get a plan together and a cost -- what all we can



1 agree on what all goes in there. Because I know  
2 everybody's got different thoughts about it. And I  
3 still go back about our talk from day one about this  
4 building process. I think there's -- myself,  
5 personally -- I think there's room there for a private  
6 public partnership. I would like to see that explored  
7 to the fullest because I think that's a way that would  
8 save -- we would get what we need possibly and save  
9 the taxpayers a thing. And I think you'll have a lot  
10 more interest in this site over here once the  
11 building's gone. I think you've got people that's --  
12 you know, we've talked about different things over the  
13 years and don't nothing happened but once people --  
14 people get more excited once they see something  
15 happening. That is, I think a prime location and  
16 it'll be -- cause there ain't no more -- there ain't  
17 no more location like that. And I think it would be  
18 -- we haven't got that. But just wanted to throw that  
19 out there and my thoughts on that so people know.  
20 Anyone else?

21 FRANCIS CROWDER: Yes, sir.

22 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Crowder.

23 FRANCIS CROWDER: Well, you know, all of us  
24 on Council get these books every month, quarter, what-  
25 have-you from the Association of Counties. I thank  
26 you for locating at least these two. I do not keep  
27 mine like I should. At one point in life I kept  
28 everything. But after two moves I realized that's  
29 impossible. Both of these were new county buildings,  
30 built in 2013. Cherokee County. One of them's in  
31 Cherokee County. By far does not have the wealth and  
32 probably has less resources than any of us. Number 2  
33 is a new building in Sumter County. The same size.  
34 These people are standing there -- they're Council  
35 members, by the way one of which is on the Council of  
36 Governments. I sat right next to -- well, right  
37 across from him. His picture's right in the middle.  
38 They just got all kinds of good joy from being able to  
39 have that in their community and they were proud. Mr.  
40 Burns wasn't able to find the other one, but it was  
41 either McCormick or Edgefield County right below us.  
42 They built a new building. Just recently Aiken County  
43 built a new building. I know it's similar to the  
44 twenty-one counties that have passed a road fee.

45 Had we not -- remember we currently have a GO bond  
46 that's being paid off. Had we taken the money for  
47 that GO bond and just a few extra dollars we would not  
48 have had to increase taxes or anything to build a new  
49 building. Now, a building sets an image for the  
50 county. Did you realize that at the last full Council

1 meeting, in less than fifteen to twenty minutes, we  
2 approved the equivalent of one point four mills  
3 increase for next year -- not next year, the year  
4 after next -- for number one, a building that we don't  
5 even own. Number two, we don't even know what it's  
6 going to look like. Number three, it's a student  
7 center. So they're not going to be having very many  
8 classes in it to train in technology or manufacturing  
9 or nursing or anything like that.

10 So you know, I'm just amazed that Anderson County  
11 just sort of be put on the back burner. It's kind of  
12 like a lady who is in the meeting that we had on the  
13 Highway 81 overlay. And she walked up to me, she was  
14 in her seventies, with her husband. And she said the  
15 following. She looked me right in my eyes, she said,  
16 it's time that somebody in Anderson County had a  
17 vision for the future for Anderson County. And she  
18 thanked me for promoting the Highway 81 overlay. Now  
19 I realize that we are in financial straits. And I  
20 realize the building may not be built. But you know,  
21 that's the democratic process. That's what democracy  
22 is all about. All I can say is, I would like to have  
23 a vision for Anderson County. And so, with that, I  
24 yield the floor back, sir.

25 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Allen.

26 TOM ALLEN: Yeah, just a comment on the  
27 building, too. Mr. Crowder and I are probably on the  
28 opposite side of the coin there on the building  
29 because I can't see doing a building this year either  
30 and obligating the county -- that would be about an  
31 eight hundred and sixty thousand dollar a year  
32 payment, Rita, for the bond? Is that right?

33 RITA DAVIS: It'd be more than that,  
34 sir, for ---

35 TOM ALLEN: Okay. Anyway, a lot of  
36 money we'd have to put out. Now, it's been mentioned  
37 that Cherokee, Sumter, maybe McCormick, Edgefield, and  
38 Aiken have all built nice new government buildings.  
39 That's the image they're going to put out there. And  
40 we have just a poor little meek old rectory building  
41 over here for economic development which apparently  
42 doesn't look very good. So I told Mr. Crowder the  
43 other day, I said, now remember, the meek shall  
44 inherit the earth. We have kicked those other  
45 counties rear ends up and down 85 over and over again  
46 when it comes to economic development out of our meek  
47 little building over here. So just remember, clothes  
48 don't make the man. The building doesn't make the  
49 economic department, either. Thank you.

50 GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Chair?

1 TOMMY DUNN: I think Mr. Crowder has  
2 something and then we'll come to you. Mr. Crowder.  
3 FRANCIS CROWDER: Three of those counties are  
4 not on I-85. Cherokee County is. Now Cherokee County  
5 has done some pretty good stuff. They got a huge Belk  
6 distribution center that within how many months  
7 announced a huge addition to it? So Cherokee County  
8 is on the roll. Plus they've got that big nuclear  
9 energy plant going there. So thank you, sir.  
10 TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Floyd.  
11 GRACIE FLOYD: Thank you. The economic  
12 development building is a good building. It suits the  
13 purpose of what we need. When we get people to come  
14 to our town to look for maybe building here among us,  
15 they don't -- they aren't supposed to be sitting  
16 around in the building. They're supposed to be  
17 getting out, looking out. Where we need some work is  
18 right here. Do you know you sit in 1926 -- 1920  
19 seats? These seats are hard. We have people who come  
20 here to stay for hours sitting in these seats. And we  
21 have people complaining. I have not heard not one  
22 economic development person that comes to Anderson to  
23 complain about that building over there. Let's start  
24 where it hurts and that's our behinds. If we're going  
25 to spend some money on something, let's tear out these  
26 seats and let's do what the city did. Let's get us  
27 some nice comfortable seats so people can go out and  
28 talk about where people really sit for a long time.  
29 This -- at the next meeting, Mr. Chair, we will again,  
30 visit this thing here, and at that time we will be  
31 voting -- we'll be voting up or down or taking out and  
32 all that kind of stuff.  
33 TOMMY DUNN: Yes, sir -- I mean, yes,  
34 ma'am. I'm sorry. That's the plan.  
35 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. All right. Thank  
36 you.  
37 TOMMY DUNN: Moving on, Ms. Davis.  
38 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir. Briefly, if you  
39 don't mind, I'll talk about the capital lease.  
40 Contained in the budget as it stands today, there's  
41 five point three million dollars in there, up to five  
42 point three, to have a capital lease. If -- with  
43 Council's indulgence, we would love for Council to  
44 approve that five point three million, albeit one  
45 million three hundred and eighty-five thousand Mr.  
46 Smith could probably use for his equipment for which  
47 he would pay us back. And the Sheriff has one point  
48 five million that he's requested in cars. We would  
49 love for Council to approve that on third reading and  
50 Mr. Stone would come back to Council for an itemized

1 list and an amount at the lowest possible price for  
2 your cars and your equipment. It would take -- the  
3 debt instrument would take three readings of Council  
4 anyway. If we issued that, it has to come before you  
5 in the form of a separate ordinance anyway. So I'm  
6 just, you know, pointing those items out.

7 GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Chair?

8 TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma'am.

9 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. I want to ask the  
10 Sheriff a question. Mr. Sheriff, why is it that when  
11 a Sheriff officer is not working, he has his time off  
12 and everything, why isn't his car put back into  
13 rotation until it's time for him to go back to work?  
14 Wouldn't it help us save on the cost of cars, because  
15 sometimes we have cars just sitting there, you know,  
16 until he goes back to work.

17 JOHN SKIPPER: There are studies all over  
18 the country that we look at and even this Council and  
19 other Councils have looked at. When you assign an  
20 officer a car, he keeps better care of it, it keeps  
21 better maintained. And the other flip side of that is  
22 he's on call. We just started looking for this little  
23 baby last Saturday. I called out some almost twenty  
24 or thirty people from home on their days off and they  
25 were able to get in their car at home and come to the  
26 scene, versus getting in their personal car, drive all  
27 the way to the Sheriff's office where their car would  
28 be parked, if you parked it, and they'd have to get in  
29 that car and then come to the scene. If we have an  
30 emergency, you know, during weather events and all  
31 this, we can have people go from the home right to the  
32 scene, block off roads, those kinds of things. And if  
33 you're talking about less cars and more people driving  
34 them, that is usually a disaster. If you'll remember,  
35 the city of Anderson used to do that. And they just  
36 went through a process where they got enough cars to  
37 issue everyone of their deputies -- officers cars,  
38 even if they live way out in the county. Because  
39 here's what happens. The car runs twenty-four hours a  
40 day. I get out of it at five o'clock, well, in our  
41 case twelve hour shifts. If I were to get out of the  
42 car at 6:45 at night, and park it in the parking lot  
43 and get in my personal car and go home, now you get in  
44 that same car, now you're going to drive it until  
45 seven o'clock in the morning. You're going to park it  
46 and Mr. Crowder's going to get out and seven o'clock  
47 in the morning and drive it and it just goes twenty-  
48 four hours a day. I tell the old story that Richland  
49 County Council years ago took it upon themselves to  
50 order cars and they ordered Ford Fairmonts with six

1 cylinders, and we didn't have take home cars. It was  
2 a rotation and them suckers fell apart in six months.  
3 I mean absolutely fell apart.

4 But that's the theory behind it. They're on call.  
5 The other -- the peripheral of that, studies show --  
6 because we do let them use the cars, they have to have  
7 a presentable uniform on -- if they're in the car,  
8 they're on call. So if they hear a call, we have  
9 quite a few. Randy Creamer, several years ago, was  
10 going to the store and caught a house robber right  
11 down the street from him because he happened to be on  
12 the radio. And when that car is out in the  
13 neighborhood and moving, the studies show that people  
14 see the car. The crooks see the car moving, and I  
15 mean all the advantages of having a take home car, far  
16 out weigh the parking the car so somebody else can  
17 then drive it.

18 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. Is it a -- is it a  
19 fact that they can use that patrol car to do personal  
20 things at times?

21 JOHN SKIPPER: Yeah, like I said, if they  
22 want to run down to the store and get something, they  
23 have to be presentable in appropriate pair of pants  
24 and a shirt designating -- we have issue with that  
25 with a few people every once in a while. We usually  
26 have dress code ---

27 GRACIE FLOYD: You have issues with that  
28 when?

29 JOHN SKIPPER: Every once in a while we'll  
30 have an officer, you know, hey, I'm just going to run  
31 out here and jump in there and he's a little T shirt  
32 or something. Well, they get disciplined for that.

33 GRACIE FLOYD: But I've never seen that.

34 JOHN SKIPPER: Exactly. So the point is,  
35 if they need to run to buy groceries, we allow them to  
36 do that. That car's going down the road, it's sitting  
37 at the parking lot of the grocery store, it's sitting  
38 in the neighborhood, it's moving and the more movement  
39 you see of a marked unit, the better off the community  
40 is.

41 GRACIE FLOYD: Now, I want to make  
42 something perfectly clear. Okay. So we got over  
43 there in the newspaper, I want to make this perfectly  
44 clear. I live across the street from an officer;  
45 okay, who has a patrol car. Okay. This has nothing  
46 to do with him. All right. This is what I've been  
47 hearing from folks, because I talk to a lot of people.  
48 Going to the grocery store is a social affair for me.  
49 But I want to -- I do not want to implicate my  
50 neighbor. He's a good officer. He does what he can

1 for the community and everything, but I'm asking these  
2 questions because I'm hearing other things out there  
3 in the street.

4 JOHN SKIPPER: Right.

5 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay.

6 JOHN SKIPPER: And like I said, there are  
7 -- there have been instances where we have a major  
8 incidence -- some of our guys they sit home and have  
9 the radio on. And when they hear something going on  
10 down the street from them, they'll jump in the car and  
11 go and sign on and say they're going there to be the  
12 first on the scene, which obviously makes them arrive  
13 a lot quicker than somebody else coming from somewhere  
14 else.

15 GRACIE FLOYD: Well, this is some of the  
16 complaints, you know, that I hear out there.

17 JOHN SKIPPER: Right.

18 GRACIE FLOYD: That I promised that I  
19 would bring to the floor.

20 JOHN SKIPPER: You know, in our business  
21 we -- over the years -- and like I said before, I've  
22 been doing this a while, all the studies always point  
23 toward assigned cars last you longer. We drive those  
24 cars -- a uniform patrol guy put a hundred and twenty  
25 thousand miles on a car in a year. Investigator puts  
26 that same amount in about five years. Forensic guys  
27 about seven years. And that's something we set up  
28 with Holt Hopkins and his group years ago; that kind  
29 of mileage rotation for those folks.

30 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Sheriff.

31 Appreciate it. Thank you, Ms. Floyd.

32 Moving on.

33 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir. And I just want  
34 to point out, sir, you might ask, where did we get  
35 five point three. That's in your blue book, what was  
36 recommended.

37 TOMMY DUNN: I'm good with us moving on,  
38 but I wanted to touch on this just a minute, on this  
39 capital lease -- everybody understands this capital  
40 lease. This is the thing we gone back -- Rita, do you  
41 need to touch on anything about the lease, about we  
42 need this equipment. Anybody got anything. It's self  
43 explanatory. I see Mr. Stone. Hey, Mr. Stone, you  
44 got anything you'd like add anything about capital  
45 thing? I don't want to put you on the spot neither.  
46 I know you ---

47 MR. STONE: As far as whether we need  
48 it or not?

49 TOMMY DUNN: Yeah, I mean you got  
50 anything? You keep up records. You're the one that's

1 going to be putting the plan together, recommending  
2 what needs to be -- whatnot.

3 MR. STONE: ??? and without a doubt our  
4 vehicles are going down. The hope in by doing this is  
5 going to allow me to streamline this a little bit  
6 better. So that we get a little bit more control from  
7 finance and all because a lot of times we're trying to  
8 catch up. By doing it this way will allow me to buy  
9 things over a period of time, as we need them versus  
10 having to wait around for the budget. There's a lot  
11 of grants and things that I've been looking forward to  
12 doing. I can't do that because a lot of times with  
13 grants you need the money now. And with the way our  
14 budget works it's not always possible. I hope doing  
15 things like this and the way we're moving is going to  
16 help us.

17 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Stone, just right  
18 quick. I know it got brought up before. I think it  
19 got tabled and we'll be talking about it later on  
20 coming up. Me and you talked about it personally  
21 about disposing of equipment. Have you got a good bit  
22 of equipment out there now that needs to be disposed  
23 of?

24 MR. STONE: Yes, we have a good bit of  
25 equipment. The estimate that I gave her is basically,  
26 I hate to say it, almost scrap price. The bone yard  
27 is in really bad shape. Rusting away. It's been  
28 broken into. A catalytic converter stole, batteries  
29 are gone. It's -- it will cost the county thousands  
30 of dollars to reinvest batteries and catalytic  
31 converters to try to even get them running again. The  
32 reason we brought up the online auction was we believe  
33 we can get more money for those. And it also will  
34 allow us not to even have to have a bone yard. So  
35 once something's turned in, we can immediately put it  
36 online and we can sell it.

37 TOMMY DUNN: Bring more money when it's  
38 running.

39 MR. STONE: More money in and we don't  
40 have to worry about nobody stealing anything. We get  
41 the bigger value for it before it can degrade.

42 TOMMY DUNN: I just think that's  
43 something that's going to have to be addressed here  
44 shortly. Hope we can get -- y'all can get out of this  
45 thing, get the most bang for our buck on the thing.  
46 And I think we can get the word out, if anybody wants  
47 to go online, ain't trying to keep nobody getting  
48 nothing. We're just trying to get stuff moving and  
49 keep things up about it. I just know the last time we  
50 had -- I know you worked on it, you wasn't over the

1 shop then, but when we had an auction probably four  
2 years ago, Mr. Carroll? Three years ago? It was a  
3 time consuming. I don't know if you could actually  
4 put a dollar figure on it, but the man hour y'all put  
5 in that thing getting ready for it, the day of the  
6 sale, then the day after the sale helping get the  
7 stuff ---

8 MR. STONE: I personally worked in that.  
9 We spend two weeks solid every day, me and another  
10 mechanic, getting the vehicles ready, trying to jump  
11 them off, doing the whole process. A tremendous  
12 amount of effort went into that.

13 TOMMY DUNN: Then you can get into a  
14 thing where this auction company got it, this one  
15 didn't. Holt, you can keep on playing that, what if,  
16 certain thing.

17 MR. STONE: Right. And you was talking  
18 about the media thing, I believe we could run the ads,  
19 the pictures. We can also have it on, if we have to  
20 run in the paper, which costs money, I don't know if  
21 we'll be able to do that. I believe we can work this  
22 out to work real well.

23 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Stone.

24 Anybody got any questions, comments for Mr. Stone?

25 GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Stone, I first heard of  
26 this project when you were so kind to come talk with  
27 me about your budget thing. And I think -- I thought  
28 then, as I do now, that it was a -- it was a really  
29 good idea. And I commend you. I commend you on the  
30 idea and the job that you're doing for us. I just  
31 hope that we can give you the kind of money to show  
32 you how much we appreciate you.

33 MR. STONE: I appreciate that.

34 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Stone. Ms.  
35 Davis.

36 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir. I just wanted to  
37 show the fund balance. Originally adopted the budget  
38 usages as Mr. Crowder was saying was two point five  
39 million dollars.

40 TOMMY DUNN: This budget we in now.

41 RITA DAVIS: Budget, yes, sir, adopted  
42 on first and second reading. If the Finance Committee  
43 and the Administrator changes were adopted that was  
44 passed out last Council meeting on second reading,  
45 we'd have an increase in fund balance of one point  
46 four million dollars. But then, let's talk about if  
47 we did some of the changes that we've just been  
48 discussing. Originally adopted usage there in the  
49 middle of the page is two point five. The General  
50 Fund changes with the new proposed positions, no road



1 fee, and no building, we would add back to fund  
 2 balance about three hundred and seventy-eight  
 3 thousand. And I can get Council a work paper, you  
 4 know, showing that three hundred and seventy-eight  
 5 thousand. Also, if the Sheriff had the same millage  
 6 as the rest of the General Fund, restating his  
 7 salaries per his staffing schedule, as, you know, the  
 8 county does it, and other expenses, it'd be a net  
 9 usage of fund balance of about a hundred and fifty-six  
 10 thousand. Then I would love to, if Council would  
 11 agree, to put that three hundred thousand in  
 12 contingency because we could potentially be tweaking  
 13 some of those expenses. So ---

14 TOMMY DUNN: Slow down, Rita. I  
 15 understand what you're saying. We've had many a  
 16 discussion on this, but for our other Council members  
 17 where this three hundred thousand's coming from. It's  
 18 coming out of 9-1-1 overtime, right?

19 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir. The two hundred  
 20 and twenty-five thousand would be left in their  
 21 overtime. We would take the two sixty-two five  
 22 hundred that was on that potential raise sheet and do  
 23 that. So that ---

24 GRACIE FLOYD: I thought it was a hundred  
 25 thousand dollars out of the overtime fund.

26 TOMMY DUNN: No, ma'am. That's what  
 27 discussion was yesterday. Yesterday, yes, ma'am. But  
 28 this is what Ms. Davis and them is recommending.  
 29 We're talking about getting it and I can explain some  
 30 numbers on that that don't add up. Yesterday -- and  
 31 Ms. Davis, she's looked at this, her and her staff,  
 32 hours on hours on this.

33 RITA DAVIS: Oh, yes, sir.

34 GRACIE FLOYD: I ?? that, okay.

35 RITA DAVIS: The fourth line item down  
 36 now, ma'am. What you're talking about, reducing  
 37 overtime to a hundred thousand in communications, it's  
 38 wrapped up in that four million dollar savings. So it  
 39 is on that top portion, yes, ma'am.

40 TOM ALLEN: Mr. Chair?

41 TOMMY DUNN: Go ahead, Mr. Allen.

42 TOM ALLEN: Yeah, if I'm understanding  
 43 this correctly, that three hundred thousand was coming  
 44 out of overtime ---

45 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir.

46 TOM ALLEN: --- for -- okay.

47 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir.

48 TOM ALLEN: You're not going to have  
 49 that unless we change the system.

50 TOMMY DUNN: Keep in mind, let's start

1 here. If the budget that we had -- I'm rounding off,  
2 okay? It was right at five hundred thousand dollars  
3 requested for overtime.  
4 TOM ALLEN: Okay.  
5 TOMMY DUNN: But they still almost two  
6 hundred thousand dollars in it for overtime, okay?  
7 TOM ALLEN: Okay.  
8 TOMMY DUNN: And what she's talking  
9 about doing, and they have met with the Sheriff, is  
10 exactly right. Reschedule -- doing a rescheduling.  
11 TOM ALLEN: Okay. You have to revamp  
12 it, otherwise you're going to have to pay that  
13 contingency out in overtime.  
14 TOMMY DUNN: That's the whole point  
15 about getting this back in line about getting it and  
16 treating everybody the same.  
17 TOM ALLEN: Okay. Just so we're clear.  
18 Okay.  
19 TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Davis.  
20 RITA DAVIS: And then we added that  
21 million dollars there for potential additional raises.  
22 That's the maximum, but we put that number there to  
23 show you that the bottom line usage of fund balance  
24 would be about three point six million dollars. We're  
25 projecting at 6/30/15, your General Fund balance will  
26 be about twenty million, so consequently you'd have  
27 about sixteen and a half million dollars in fund  
28 balance at 6/30/16 and that would be three months'  
29 worth of fund balance.  
30 TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Davis, I asked you how  
31 much money do we use out of fund balance -- we  
32 projected to use out of fund balance the budget we in  
33 right now?  
34 RITA DAVIS: We're estimating about a  
35 million dollars.  
36 TOMMY DUNN: I mean, how much did we  
37 budget for?  
38 RITA DAVIS: Seven point nine with the  
39 supplemental budget included.  
40 TOMMY DUNN: We was going to use how  
41 much of the fund balance -- we budgeted how much of  
42 the fund balance, for this budget we in now?  
43 RITA DAVIS: Seven point nine with the  
44 supplemental budget included.  
45 TOMMY DUNN: And how much are we going  
46 to end up using?  
47 RITA DAVIS: I'm sorry, a million.  
48 TOMMY DUNN: And how much are we going  
49 to end up using, you projecting?  
50 RITA DAVIS: A million. Projecting.

1 TOMMY DUNN: A million?  
2 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir. And I might  
3 mention that we're projecting about six hundred  
4 thousand we'll probably have to move over. Six  
5 hundred thousand of that is we're going to have to  
6 move over to the Sheriff's savings account, probably.  
7 TOMMY DUNN: We didn't use as much as we  
8 budgeted is the bottom line.  
9 GRACIE FLOYD: Yes. Okay. And so, we  
10 have -- we have ---  
11 TOMMY DUNN: Excuse me, if you would.  
12 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. I'm not going to put  
13 this thing on my shirt. If I cuss everybody will hear  
14 me. So what we have done is that we have fixed the  
15 problem of the overtime. Mr. Dunn, look at me,  
16 please.  
17 TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma'am.  
18 GRACIE FLOYD: We have fixed the problem  
19 of the overtime that the Sheriff was having that we  
20 said the Sheriff was having, right?  
21 TOMMY DUNN: That's eighty percent  
22 correct.  
23 GRACIE FLOYD: That's eighty percent  
24 correct. Okay.  
25 TOMMY DUNN: It ain't been finalized  
26 yet; working on it.  
27 GRACIE FLOYD: All right. But now  
28 yesterday's meeting it was a hundred thousand dollars.  
29 TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma'am.  
30 GRACIE FLOYD: And we backed out of that.  
31 TOMMY DUNN: Well, I had a meeting after  
32 y'all met yesterday with the state and explained a few  
33 things to them.  
34 GRACIE FLOYD: To who?  
35 TOMMY DUNN: To the staff. Pointed out  
36 a couple of things they need to look at. And Rita  
37 agreed. The whole time Rita agreed that this was  
38 coming out of the overtime. She was going to take  
39 overtime money to do this here that wasn't discussed  
40 yesterday. It's a shell game. Ms. Floyd, go ahead,  
41 I'm sorry.  
42 GRACIE FLOYD: You throwing me curves.  
43 TOMMY DUNN: Okay. Go ahead.  
44 GRACIE FLOYD: You telling me one thing  
45 and I'm pleased. I understand and I go home and while  
46 I'm sitting there watching Gun Smoke, y'all making  
47 more plans, you know. And you changed the plans on  
48 me.  
49 TOMMY DUNN: Nothing's been changed.  
50 Nothing's been said. Council's got to vote on

1 everything. It's just a contingency. What we needed  
2 to start with was X amount of dollars to get pay  
3 raises and adjustments.  
4 GRACIE FLOYD: Yes.  
5 TOMMY DUNN: They come up with a hundred  
6 thousand dollars of cuts. Not cuts, I'm sorry. Of  
7 adjustments of overtime.  
8 GRACIE FLOYD: Adjustments, yes. And it  
9 was good.  
10 TOMMY DUNN: And that -- but there  
11 needed to be more and there can be more and the staff  
12 has looked at this ---  
13 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. So what did you tell  
14 them?  
15 TOMMY DUNN: The numbers that they need  
16 to be sort of shooting for. And the thing was, Ms.  
17 Floyd, to put it in a nutshell, this was it. I'm  
18 going to try to be as simple as I can. They come in  
19 with five hundred thousand dollars. Okay? They said  
20 they needed to cut a hundred thousand. They could cut  
21 a hundred thousand. Okay. Then they said we need --  
22 to cut that, we need to adjust salaries to get them up  
23 where we won't have to pay overtime and keep people.  
24 But they didn't pay for those salary adjustments. So  
25 we was going to take out -- we was going to take that  
26 out of General Fund. And when it was all said and  
27 done, they wasn't really going to cut no hundred  
28 thousand dollars.  
29 GRACIE FLOYD: Yeah, but yesterday it  
30 wasn't salary adjustment, it was taking training off  
31 of -- off of the clock and put it back on the clock.  
32 In other words, you get training while you're working  
33 ---  
34 TOMMY DUNN: That's part of it. That  
35 was part of it.  
36 GRACIE FLOYD: The other part of it, the  
37 biggest part about it was the holidays, when somebody  
38 works on 4th of July ---  
39 TOMMY DUNN: Yeah, that's covered.  
40 That's covered.  
41 GRACIE FLOYD: They had to get that money.  
42 TOMMY DUNN: And that's covered. Ms.  
43 Davis, was or was not it talked about salary  
44 adjustments somebody getting salaries up?  
45 RITA DAVIS: We did, yes, sir.  
46 GRACIE FLOYD: Well, when they had that  
47 conversation we were having another conversation at  
48 the -- I kind of missed that one.  
49 TOMMY DUNN: And that was the whole  
50 point of this whole -- this whole thing ain't -- it's

1 to get salaries where they need to be at. And doing  
 2 this, they weren't paying for the salaries. We would  
 3 still have to come back, so really there wasn't losing  
 4 nothing -- not losing. They wasn't reducing a hundred  
 5 thousand dollars when it was all said and done. This  
 6 way it'll be -- it'll be looked at. And when I say  
 7 it's not completely done because they've got to go  
 8 over and come up with scheduling plan that they can --  
 9 and they're working on this, to do this. They  
 10 understand where it needs to be.

11 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. I got to go back to  
 12 the table, Mr. Rusty, because I don't understand it  
 13 any more. But we did find out, after looking at this  
 14 thing -- and Mr. Chairman, please allow me to say  
 15 this, okay. The whole thing started out making the  
 16 Sheriff department look really bad. But when you got  
 17 down to digging in there and throwing out these pieces  
 18 of what happening, what happened, a lot of what was  
 19 going on down there before 9-1-1 started years and  
 20 years ago ---

21 TOMMY DUNN: No doubt about it.

22 GRACIE FLOYD: --- yeah, Sheriff was not  
 23 -- the Sheriff department was not doing anything  
 24 wrong. They were following guidelines set way back  
 25 then. And then the thing is, they found out that they  
 26 could save money by training these people while they  
 27 were working rather than when they were not working  
 28 with pay overtime. But I applaud them. And I'm going  
 29 to be criticized for this, but I have been having  
 30 phone calls about moving the thing, moving it back.  
 31 But it doesn't need to be moved back. It needs to be  
 32 straightened out. And it seems like this is where  
 33 we're headed.

34 TOMMY DUNN: Well, I just want to say  
 35 for the record and everything. No stone, nothing  
 36 thrown at nobody about this. This is just something  
 37 Finance Department, I'm sorry, the Finance Committee  
 38 made a recommendation about overtime. It kept going  
 39 up, we looked at this, and I'll let Ms. Davis -- I  
 40 wasn't in on the meeting, but I think they understand  
 41 where this -- what was happening. And they agreed the  
 42 system needs to be fixed and could be fixed and I  
 43 think we're all headed there.

44 GRACIE FLOYD: And Mr. Chair, when you  
 45 have another meeting ?? meeting, let me know so I can  
 46 stay.

47 TOMMY DUNN: I'll let y'all know. Thank  
 48 you, Ms. Davis.

49 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir.

50 TOMMY DUNN: Any -- any -- I'm sorry to

1 interrupt. Go ahead. I was wanting to make everybody  
2 understood where this money's coming from. Go ahead.

3 RITA DAVIS: Okay. And moving on, the  
4 Finance Committee talked about telephone expense.  
5 Wanted a hundred thousand dollars reduced from the  
6 telephone expense. Brief recap, it increased twenty-  
7 two thousand in next year's budget with about seven  
8 thousand of that being for the media team and six  
9 thousand seven twenty being for communications and all  
10 the telephone lines they have coming into our dispatch  
11 center. So that leaves about eight thousand five  
12 hundred and fifty-five being spread among all the  
13 other departments. A voice over internet protocol  
14 will eventually save the county money, but as you  
15 know, the IT department's working with a consultant  
16 now to inventory all the phones throughout the county.  
17 Every line and what the features that each department  
18 will want and need. And about October 2015, they  
19 think that that survey and installation will be  
20 completed. But even after that installation, they're  
21 requesting that they run three months parallel so make  
22 sure we haven't cut off any critical lines by mistake.  
23 And I might add, also, we're having -- AT&T and  
24 Charter are doing some work for us they have to do,  
25 you know, in order that these lines can be installed.

26 TOMMY DUNN: Part of this was supposed  
27 to be done to start with, I thought when they come in  
28 and done an overview to see what kind of system we  
29 needed to find out about not cutting ---

30 RITA DAVIS: They did, but they're  
31 doing their work and we're -- they're surveying and  
32 inventorying and Mr. Gambrell's here for any specific  
33 questions on that. But even after that is installed,  
34 that three months to run parallel. So about December,  
35 January, we figure we'll be strictly on voice over IP  
36 and at that time we'll start incurring savings.  
37 However, at this point in time, we do not know what  
38 departments those savings will be identified. Some  
39 departments will have a voice mail, some will have  
40 extension only. There's different costs for that. So  
41 we do not know how and which departments to cut, but  
42 we anticipate there will be savings. I think the  
43 consultant said it'd be about six thousand a month  
44 when it's fully implemented and we're up and going.  
45 But we can't tell you at this point in time exactly  
46 what departments that will be and how much.

47 TOMMY DUNN: Let me cut to the chase on  
48 two things.

49 RITA DAVIS: Okay.

50 TOMMY DUNN: You might be going to get

1 one of them and I ain't putting you on the spot. But  
2 we was told in meeting and I understand things have  
3 changed, we're going to save so much money going with  
4 voice over IP. So that's -- Council didn't just---

5 RITA DAVIS: That's right.

6 TOMMY DUNN: --- dream up a number.

7 This was what we were told to be sold on voice over  
8 IP, okay.

9 RITA DAVIS: Bona fide fact, yes, sir.

10 TOMMY DUNN: Number two, before you know  
11 how we got there, but you might be going on this next  
12 slide here or something and tell me before and I'll  
13 stop and wait. But the gist part of this phone thing  
14 was, these iPads and iCards -- everybody have an --  
15 you know, have an iPad is one thing. You know,  
16 Council members that chose to get one has got iPads.  
17 I don't have no iCard with mine. There's no need.  
18 Everybody don't need an iCard if we have to pay for  
19 it. And if we could, the simply comes down to the  
20 fact what we can afford to pay for and what we can't  
21 afford to pay for. You know, we got -- my Daddy used  
22 to say we got our have-to's and we got our wants.

23 RITA DAVIS: Right. And, well, sir, we  
24 did go back to the division directors and they came up  
25 with this. They took the listing and they put a  
26 legend on how their employees are using the air cards.  
27 It's labeled one through six, and the iPads. And  
28 you'll see by each person who has one, how they are  
29 using that. And in essence to save money, because  
30 like Mr. Hopkins doesn't have to get in his vehicle  
31 and go to Piedmont to look at a hole in the ground,  
32 you know, and advise the road maintenance crew what to  
33 do. They can just sit at their desk, they can talk  
34 about it and the workers can continue to work. And  
35 they can enter their work orders. They can review  
36 work orders from field.

37 But Mr. Hopkins and Mr. Carroll are here if they  
38 -- to answer any specific questions regarding those  
39 iPads. They have -- between the two of them said that  
40 they could give up seven air cards for a total of  
41 savings of about thirty-two hundred dollars annually.

42 GRACIE FLOYD: Well, see, if I could stop  
43 you right there, Mr. Chair?

44 TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma'am.

45 GRACIE FLOYD: I was looking at this and  
46 everybody knows that I am not technical proficient  
47 even though I have everything you can name, I've got  
48 it because my sons are. But do we really -- we can  
49 only get rid of eight of those -- I mean seven of  
50 those cards? We couldn't do any better than that? It

1 seems like somebody ought to be able to get up and --  
2 they got cars.

3 TOMMY DUNN: Well, I just want -- if I  
4 can -- I don't want to Ms. Davis on the spot for  
5 having to defend a bunch of people got what you call  
6 it.

7 GRACIE FLOYD: I'm not asking for ---

8 TOMMY DUNN: I know and I appreciate  
9 that, but I've got the same thing. And my thing is,  
10 is we got to get this down. I asked staff to do it.  
11 If staff can't do it, Council will do it. I mean we  
12 got a number we got to come up -- somehow or another  
13 we got to get this number down from where it's at.

14 GRACIE FLOYD: You mean from this iCard  
15 thing here?

16 TOMMY DUNN: Yeah.

17 GRACIE FLOYD: Yeah. Because okay,  
18 they've got cars, they have telephones, now I see  
19 where some people could really use that. Yeah, to  
20 keep them in the office a little more. But eighty  
21 something ... I don't know what the thing is.

22 TOMMY DUNN: In a year's time.

23 GRACIE FLOYD: He just told me what it  
24 was, but I don't see where it's all that -- Mr. Dunn  
25 -- Mr. Rusty Burns, you got one?

26 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Crowder?

27 FRANCIS CROWDER: Ah, well, you know, I don't  
28 want to go into great detail because I don't want to  
29 make a mole out of -- a mole hill out of a small  
30 thing. I reckon my concern was that we were told that  
31 it was going to be money saved. I'll try to put it as  
32 simple as I can.

33 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir.

34 FRANCIS CROWDER: And I think what bothers me  
35 is -- and I know your definition of equipment varies  
36 from my definition of equipment, okay? That seventy-  
37 five or eighty devices were purchased and you were  
38 utilizing lapsing money, okay? Using lapsing money  
39 because it was no money budgeted for them. And so,  
40 you know, my -- I'm going to put in, as a part of my  
41 vote to approve the next budget, a provision that  
42 regardless of whether it meets your definition of  
43 equipment, if it's anything that's going to be  
44 inventoried, like an asset, and it has a sticker on  
45 the back of it, that it's got to be approved.

46 RITA DAVIS: Okay. Sir, might I add  
47 something? For accounting purposes in GASB, it's a  
48 thousand and more. However, our code currently has  
49 two hundred dollars or more is on another inventory.  
50 We have to keep two inventories.



1 FRANCIS CROWDER: Well, I realize -- I  
2 understand all you're saying. But I'm saying to be  
3 able to go out and to buy thousands and thousands and  
4 thousands of dollars of iPads, which then bring along  
5 -- I don't know -- I don't want no argument. I want  
6 no argument. Please, sir, I apologize. You wanting  
7 to come down. You know, it brought along the need to  
8 buy all these air cards.

9 TOMMY DUNN: Reoccurring money.

10 FRANCIS CROWDER: And incur future money.  
11 Now I know the software package that you all have  
12 purchased that I had some reservation about -- and  
13 still have some reservation about it, because it  
14 doesn't really meet my needs. I use it, I go around  
15 with my little iPhone and if I have a person,  
16 constituent, that calls and says I'd like for you to  
17 come over and see all the junk cars in a yard. I go  
18 over and use your software package and take a picture  
19 and put in the definition of why I'm doing this.  
20 That's great. I mean I really complement you for  
21 that, for having that, I really do. But what irks me  
22 is when I get a response back, response just says item  
23 completed. They don't tell me anything about what  
24 happened. Item completed would be, well, like we saw  
25 it, but we didn't do anything about it so it's  
26 complete. And I know of several like that. Okay?  
27 That you could not do anything, but yet when I saw it  
28 complete, to me that says if I ride by Concord Circle  
29 that would tell me that the complaint I got on Concord  
30 Circle, which I've had three times, has been resolved.  
31 But yet the problem's still there, because your  
32 response from the computer says item completed.

33 Now the second point I want to make, and I'll be  
34 quick, is my original concept when I voted for this  
35 thing, was that you were going, you know, be able to  
36 produce what I call a work order from this system and  
37 you were going to hand this work order out to your  
38 inspectors and people and you were going to say go out  
39 and do it and fill out the form and bring it back and  
40 have some clerk input it. Okay? Because that's  
41 really effectively what you're doing. Because see,  
42 you could have the picture of the lot right on the  
43 piece of printout and you could have the description  
44 and all that kind of good stuff. And so, instead of  
45 having one clerk part time to be able to input this  
46 stuff, we now have seventy-five iCards -- I mean  
47 iPhones and we've got telephone bills that go along  
48 with it. But, you know, if you were to come to us and  
49 ask us, you know, we would have worked with you on it.  
50 But, you know, I have no, I have no -- I mean we got

1       it and we got it, you know -- anyway, I applaud you  
2       for wanting to use technology, I really do. All  
3       right.  
4               TOMMY DUNN:           Thank you, Mr. Crowder.  
5       Anything else, Mr. Crowder?  
6               FRANCIS CROWDER: No, sir. I don't think  
7       they liked what I said.  
8               RITA DAVIS:           Moving on to the next item.  
9               GRACIE FLOYD:       Wait a minute.  
10              RITA DAVIS:           Okay, I'm sorry.  
11              TOMMY DUNN:           Excuse me. Hang on Ms.  
12       Davis.  
13              GRACIE FLOYD:       Look at this, I'm looking  
14       at the usage. I just thought we just got ---  
15              RITA DAVIS:           Yes, ma'am.  
16              GRACIE FLOYD:       I'm looking at the usage  
17       and one use was to use to record costs and document  
18       the work. All right. That was with notes and photos  
19       and stuff. Another use was for use for scheduling,  
20       emails, large documents on the go. And the last one  
21       was used for training of others. Now, in my knowledge  
22       -- I wish I'd had this -- is something wrong out  
23       there, y'all?  
24              TOMMY DUNN:           I think everything's fine.  
25              GRACIE FLOYD:       Everything's okay? Okay.  
26       Making me a little nervous. Okay. It says used to  
27       perform inspection of the fields and dispatch through  
28       the iPad while in the fields. Used as a hot spot for  
29       laptop connections and then training -- well, anyway,  
30       I went through this thing and I crossed out what I  
31       thought three, four and six, which really didn't have  
32       to be done. And when you look at it, you only have  
33       the two things that could maybe assist in the cuts.  
34       But please realize that this is my limited knowledge  
35       of what this is all about and ---  
36              RITA DAVIS:           Yes, ma'am.  
37              GRACIE FLOYD:       --- and I was just thinking  
38       that maybe this -- there is something that could be  
39       done further, you know, with that after we learn more  
40       about it.  
41              TOMMY DUNN:           Yes, ma'am. Okay.  
42              RITA DAVIS:           Okay. Yes, sir. It was  
43       suggested that we freeze operations and contractual  
44       costs for next budget year at the current level and  
45       Neil is passing out a work paper highlighting those  
46       areas that increased or decreased from the current  
47       budget year. We would point out that we anticipate  
48       there would be numerous transfers required if we just  
49       adopted the current budget. And the top page here is  
50       a summary of each department of their operational --

1 operation and contractual accounts that Ms. Pressley  
2 prepared for you. And you'll see on the second page  
3 that operations and contractual, all departments  
4 increased two hundred and fifty-six thousand dollars.  
5 That is discounting district paving and rec. We  
6 pulled those out of the equation. So it would be  
7 about two hundred and fifty-six thousand and she put  
8 explanations out to the side as to why we needed more  
9 in each of those operation and contractual accounts.  
10 So I guess the bottom line is, we really don't  
11 recommend that. We have looked at it and we've got a  
12 work paper here describing why it probably wouldn't  
13 work in a lot of accounts.

14 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Crowder?

15 FRANCIS CROWDER: It would be a nightmare.  
16 It would really be a budgeting nightmare. I really  
17 feel sorry for the state of South Carolina if it  
18 doesn't pass a budget by the first pay period in July.  
19 Because it will be horrendous to try to operate under  
20 last year's budget, then roll forward, put in a brand  
21 new budget, then transfer all those transactions over.  
22 That's what she would have to do on a much smaller  
23 scale, but it's lots of work, so I would not recommend  
24 that we go back to last year's budget.

25 TOMMY DUNN: Another way to look at it,  
26 is -- another way to look at it, too, is I guess  
27 saying Council people do it, being a little lazy and  
28 not doing their job, not going through the budget and  
29 seeing what needs to be added and not being cut. It'd  
30 be nice if we could just -- and that's what TV talks  
31 and a lot of people say we're going to freeze the  
32 budget and what you call it, but there's more to it,  
33 nuts and bolts of that.

34 Mr. Allen, you got any questions or comments?

35 TOM ALLEN: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.  
36 Chairman. No, this is really helpful, Rita. This is  
37 very good information. The thing I was looking at and  
38 I'm not a financial person, my very simplistic way of  
39 looking at things. You take last year's budget. Now  
40 how much more revenue is estimated to come in this  
41 year? Let's say we've got a million dollars more  
42 revenue coming in this year. Okay?

43 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir.

44 TOM ALLEN: Okay. What can we do with  
45 that million dollars? We don't have to increase  
46 taxes, no millage rates, that's the money -- new money  
47 that we have coming in due to revenue growth, economic  
48 development, and so on. What can we buy with that?  
49 What do we need to have to buy with that? That's what  
50 I was looking at.

1                   RITA DAVIS:           Right. Yes, sir.  
2                   TOM ALLEN:           And then you can take that  
3 money, the new revenues coming in, and move it into  
4 places where it's needed, whatever Council votes on.  
5 That's all I was saying. Maybe that can't be done.  
6 Maybe it's too simplistic. That's -- I'm no guru when  
7 it comes to finances. So that's all I had.  
8                   TOMMY DUNN:          Thank you, Mr. Allen. One  
9 thing, as you well know, is you know anything on, you  
10 know, insurance, like I said we're giving pay raises,  
11 those things. That money's got to -- it's got to be  
12 adjusted, so you couldn't just freeze that. If you  
13 freeze that department line item, you've got to take  
14 something -- take it somewhere else, something or  
15 another to be able to get it. Thank you.  
16                   TOM ALLEN:           I was just saying freeze as  
17 a baseline.  
18                   GRACIE FLOYD:       Mr. Chair, the ones in the  
19 red now, differences in operations and contractual.  
20                   RITA DAVIS:        Yes, ma'am.  
21                   GRACIE FLOYD:       Explain that really quickly  
22 so I can -- when I take it home and look at it again.  
23 The red represents the ---  
24                   RITA DAVIS:        That it actually decreased  
25 from fiscal year '15.  
26                   GRACIE FLOYD:       Okay.  
27                   RITA DAVIS:        Operation and contractual  
28 added together.  
29                   GRACIE FLOYD:       Okay. Thank you.  
30                   RITA DAVIS:        Yes, ma'am.  
31                   TOMMY DUNN:        Moving on, Rita.  
32                   RITA DAVIS:        Yes, sir. Just wanted to  
33 remind Council that the budget on first and second  
34 reading had the broken down millage share for thirty  
35 point eight mils, other General Fund departments  
36 thirty-five point six, for a total of sixty-six point  
37 four. You ask -- the Sheriff's millage covers the  
38 Detention center, the drug lab and the Sheriff's  
39 office for a total of twenty-three million. And  
40 expenditures the other departments covered by our  
41 millage and, of course, all the other departments in  
42 the General Fund, Sheriff's support services,  
43 emergency service, communications, technical services,  
44 for a total of five point eight million dollars.  
45                   TOMMY DUNN:        I asked you to put those --  
46 because my thing is the Sheriff -- we talking about --  
47 I'm talking about the Sheriff and the jail, okay?  
48                   RITA DAVIS:        Yes, sir.  
49                   TOMMY DUNN:        Right now. Those things  
50 coming back under -- like it was pre-David Crenshaw

1 days.

2 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir.

3 TOMMY DUNN: Go back that way, and I  
4 think in discussions with you and staff, things would  
5 be more streamlined, more easier for y'all. Was that  
6 not the conversation we had or not?

7 RITA DAVIS: It would be more  
8 simplistic, yes, sir. We wouldn't have to have that  
9 separate calculation and transfer money into his ---

10 TOMMY DUNN: Number one. Number two, it  
11 would stop a lot of this stuff and we had -- during  
12 the time we had our conversation, we get on -- off  
13 sometime another saying, y'all's money, our money.  
14 It's all our money and we'd cut that out.

15 RITA DAVIS: Exactly.

16 TOMMY DUNN: Not hurting nobody cutting.  
17 And the third and most important thing to me, the way  
18 I'm looking at it, is to give pay raises. That's why  
19 all this conversation, for me, my point of view  
20 started with to give pay raises namely not just -- not  
21 just them, but when they first come to me and were  
22 talked about the Sheriff losing -- losing deputies  
23 because they can go to Williamston and start out  
24 making more money what he's paying deputies now. And  
25 trying to get equality there. And to get that,  
26 without giving him more millage, we got to take money  
27 out of the General Fund to do. And if we're going to  
28 do that, we need to keep it uniform, easier to keep up  
29 with. It's my thinking and where I'm coming from on  
30 that.

31 Sheriff, you got anything you want to say -- I  
32 want to give you a chance to ---

33 JOHN SKIPPER: Budgets are what they are.  
34 And you, the Council, do have the power to, because  
35 you have the ultimate say in the bottom dollars of  
36 what you give anybody in this county; all the elected  
37 officials and everything. This millage thing was set  
38 up by Sheriff Crenshaw and, you know, good or bad,  
39 there are goods and bads of there. Ain't no doubt  
40 about it. All I'm trying to do is survive ---

41 TOMMY DUNN: We all are.

42 JOHN SKIPPER: --- and give the citizens  
43 the help and the services they need. You and I talked  
44 yesterday and I hope that after this budget process we  
45 really sit down and talk about what we do in the  
46 future ---

47 TOMMY DUNN: Yes, sir.

48 JOHN SKIPPER: --- for increasing staff,  
49 because our calls for services are going up ten  
50 thousand calls -- I'm talking just the Sheriff's

1 office, not counting fire and EMS and all them others  
2 -- ten thousand a year. And to get people out here to  
3 answer the calls. But you do have the ultimate say in  
4 how you fix the bottom line.

5 Now, with that said, I've been around the block a  
6 few times. I've stood at this microphone over the  
7 years, and under the line item budget have a Council  
8 -- and I don't think any of y'all -- none of y'all  
9 were on it at the time, but the one Council member sat  
10 right where Mr. Allen was, and on the third reading  
11 come in line item by line item and not just Sheriff's  
12 office, he did it for several accounts. Oh, we see  
13 where you want four or five thousand dollars for the  
14 copy machine, we're going to reclude you back to  
15 twenty-five. Which, at that point the Council had  
16 actually signed a contract -- or the computer services  
17 signed a contract for the five thousand dollars we'd  
18 asked for to start with. But he struck that line.  
19 And I guess my biggest concern is, you get into those  
20 positions and I still have an issue the way we have to  
21 buy cars because we do it with our fund balance and  
22 we, you know, manipulate that. I still think the  
23 county ought to do all cars. But I guess my biggest  
24 concern is I went through this in Richland County and  
25 I went through here in Anderson County, that the  
26 Council sat up there on third reading and says, the  
27 Sheriff's department has asked for forty cars,  
28 documentation that they're all falling apart and some  
29 Council member make a motion, well, we're going to cut  
30 that down to twenty cars. So what the Council is  
31 doing is taking the Sheriff's budget line item by line  
32 item and giving that final number. And at that point  
33 you have the authority to do that. Once you  
34 appropriate that money, then I can deal with what you  
35 give me. And if that's what y'all do, then I'll deal  
36 with what you give me. And I -- you know, and I guess  
37 my accountant says he would rather keep the millage  
38 side. It's easier for him to manage it, and it's  
39 easier for him to know what we're doing and to be able  
40 to do those things. Because the ultimate is, is if  
41 it's a line item budget, I'm going to give you a prime  
42 example, I guess. We took over the vehicle  
43 maintenance because we thought we could do a savings,  
44 and I think we have proven that, and under a line item  
45 budget that would give a body of Council money over  
46 here to do something else with it in the world versus  
47 putting it back into our cars, if y'all so voted to  
48 do.

49 So I don't have an answer for you. Guess the  
50 answer is, y'all are the Council, you come up with how

1       you want to divvy out the money and then whatever  
2       little or most I get, I'll use it appropriately.  
3       TOMMY DUNN:           Sheriff, I appreciate that.  
4       And I just want to say, you asked me the other day, I  
5       think me and you was talking, you give me your word on  
6       something. Remember that?  
7       JOHN SKIPPER:       Yes, sir.  
8       TOMMY DUNN:       Well, I'm giving you my  
9       word, no way am I going to micro-manage the Sheriff's  
10      office. I ain't but one vote, but I don't think  
11      Council as a whole has got any intentions ---  
12      FRANCIS CROWDER:   I'm not going to micro-  
13      manage your budget.  
14      TOMMY DUNN:       --- is going to cut your  
15      funding any. We're trying to give you more. That's  
16      this whole point about being -- trying to give out  
17      things. And I commend you for what you done on the  
18      maintenance shop and I told anybody I talked to if  
19      that's the way you want to continue to do things, I  
20      mean, I hope -- and one thing I do hope this will do,  
21      if the Council decides to do this, you need to be out  
22      fighting crime, not worrying coming before Council  
23      fighting us about what you call it. That's what I  
24      want to make -- and worrying about money as much.  
25      GRACIE FLOYD:       Amen.  
26      JOHN SKIPPER:       And I agree with that, Mr.  
27      Dunn. But under the process, under some of the county  
28      ordinances, with the number values, it almost mandates  
29      that we come up here and -- because we've been ---  
30      TOMMY DUNN:       And saying that, that's  
31      another thing I was going to say, is the way it's been  
32      -- even though the millage is set up the way it is  
33      now, me and you have had this discussion, you know,  
34      can be debatable, but you having to come ask Council  
35      for this and that. And so, you know, and me and Mr.  
36      Allen has talked and some other Council members. We  
37      want to try to get with Mr. Carroll and other Council  
38      members and work to make this process a lot easier.  
39      We run into something the other night in Executive  
40      Session about people inside -- all I can say about  
41      this -- that's already working for the county, how  
42      hard it is for them versus the person on the street to  
43      get a promotion. I mean to put in for a job. What  
44      I'm saying we need to look at stuff to make things  
45      easier and that's what we want to do. But no way  
46      shape or form we trying -- this whole thing's come  
47      about is trying to get pay raises where it needs to  
48      be. And I've talked to numerous people that works for  
49      you and, you know, I hear them loud and clear about  
50      not just the starting, but I mean definitely the

1 starting people. When you sit in here and people's  
2 got to take this and think about this a minute. When  
3 you can go to Williamston and make more money than you  
4 can make in Anderson County, I know wherever you at is  
5 dangerous, but they don't got near the workload in  
6 Williamston that Anderson County's got. So ---

7 JOHN SKIPPER: And I know you're going to  
8 get to the pay raises here in a little bit, but I know  
9 you're all working hard on that, but there's still  
10 going to be a problem there. And we'll discuss that  
11 at that point in time or another time.

12 I guess here's my other question because in  
13 the budget workshop, when we gave that promotion that  
14 came up, you know, we historically in the Sheriff's  
15 office have given longevity raises. And the longevity  
16 has -- some people might not have understood. That's  
17 not every year. Every year we have some, but it's  
18 usually two or three people over a period of years.  
19 There's a five year, ten year, fifteen and twenty  
20 year. So if you take us back under the line item  
21 general fund, does that mean y'all are going to do  
22 away with that for our employees?

23 TOMMY DUNN: Not my intention.

24 JOHN SKIPPER: My suggestion would be you  
25 go back and give it to all county employees.

26 GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Chair, if I may?

27 TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma'am.

28 GRACIE FLOYD: Sheriff, I have been one of  
29 your biggest supporters because you know how I have  
30 been ---

31 TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Floyd, would you mind  
32 if I step out?

33 GRACIE FLOYD: Oh, yeah, you go, I'm  
34 talking to the Sheriff right now. You know how I feel  
35 about the employee -- the Sheriff's raises. I think  
36 they're the ones that should be making eighty  
37 thousands and the ninety thousands of dollars because  
38 these people put their lives on the line for us. So,  
39 I hope that you've never had any problems with me  
40 trying to micro-manage. But I do remember the time  
41 you're talking about. The last minute they cut this  
42 and cut that out because that's the year they were  
43 going to cut your ammunition, you remember that?

44 JOHN SKIPPER: We were cut -- I mean  
45 historically cars are always cut because we ask for  
46 the number we need and cars are cut in half.

47 GRACIE FLOYD: Yeah. But there was a time  
48 when it was so, you were so micro -- the sheriff's  
49 office was so micro-managed that they wanted to cut  
50 out how much ammunition that you were using.



1                   JOHN SKIPPER:       That's correct.  
2                   GRACIE FLOYD:       And that's the part that  
3       just really got me. But when we get through with this  
4       pay raise thing, it's always -- everybody's not going  
5       to be satisfied.  
6                   RITA DAVIS:        That's right.  
7                   GRACIE FLOYD:       But if we could just  
8       satisfy the -- I'm not going even to say the majority  
9       -- if we could satisfy enough so we can get these  
10      people off of the bottom line. You know, Sheriff, do  
11      you know how bad it sounds for our Sheriff's folks to  
12      have to go to get assistance, you know.  
13                  JOHN SKIPPER:       I've been asking for that  
14      raise for many years, Ms. Floyd.  
15                  GRACIE FLOYD:       I know. I know. And I've  
16      been fighting for you for a long time.  
17                  JOHN SKIPPER:       And that's not me not  
18      making it happen.  
19                  GRACIE FLOYD:       I know, I know. But this  
20      year, I think that, I think -- I've got a good feeling  
21      this year about it. And that's one thing I want to go  
22      back over one more time before we leave here today. I  
23      want to do that with the Chairman's permission. I  
24      want to go back through it just one more time. And  
25      that's all I've got to say. Now who's going to take  
26      over? You will?  
27                  FRANCIS CROWDER:    Sheriff, I will be voting  
28      to increase the minimum pay of your people up to the  
29      pay scale. I've already told you that. I've  
30      committed to that and I will be faithful to vote for  
31      at least that much.  
32                  JOHN SKIPPER:       Yes, sir.  
33                  FRANCIS CROWDER:    I don't know what the other  
34      ----  
35                  JOHN SKIPPER:       And I understand that, Mr.  
36      Crowder. And I guess since you brought that up I'm  
37      going to stand here -- and we certainly appreciate  
38      your vote to do that. But I'm telling you, I've got  
39      people that just was standing out in the dumpster with  
40      me last weekend, knee deep in the stuff that had been  
41      here for five and six and seven years, and this  
42      increase -- I mean, and I've got the names here --  
43      we've got a deputy in the academy right now that is  
44      making twenty-five thousand dollars. When he  
45      graduates the academy, he'll get a fifteen hundred  
46      dollar bump because he graduated. When y'all move  
47      this up, and like I said, and I'm agreeing with that,  
48      but without being able to address the other folks --  
49      the guy that has been with me, and I've got a list of  
50      them -- for six and seven years at twenty-eight

1 thousand, when that guy walks back from the academy,  
2 he's going to be making thirty-one, whatever your  
3 number is, and the guy that's been here for six years  
4 is going to be making thirty-one. And the guy coming  
5 from the academy is going to walk in there and say I'm  
6 ---

7 TOMMY DUNN: Sheriff, can I stop you  
8 right there?

9 JOHN SKIPPER: Yeah.

10 TOMMY DUNN: In my -- Rita, correct me  
11 if I'm wrong -- in my discussions, and I'm just one  
12 person, with Finance Department, your scenario as far  
13 as you have somebody with you making twenty-eight  
14 thousand dollars for six years and somebody else  
15 coming back, that's supposed to be fixed. That ain't  
16 supposed to ---

17 JOHN SKIPPER: And that's -- and I'll just  
18 say, the way we got into this is he just mentioned  
19 he'd be voting for that and I told him -- and I know  
20 that we're looking at it. But I keep hearing from  
21 over here that everybody's going up to that, whatever  
22 number you got, twenty-nine, thirty-one, and everybody  
23 else has that. And that ---

24 TOMMY DUNN: But I asked and we'll get  
25 together on this before -- I asked the Finance  
26 Department to look for that to not to happen. No  
27 where. Not just the Sheriff's department, but  
28 anybody. That shouldn't happen.

29 JOHN SKIPPER: I'll be glad to sit and  
30 talk.

31 TOMMY DUNN: And we went over this with  
32 9-1-1 dispatch and that should not happening. Okay?

33 JOHN SKIPPER: Okay. Thank you.

34 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you.

35 Okay. Rita, moving on.

36 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir. Moving on. Just  
37 wanted to point out that under the new contractual  
38 arrangement that we'll be saving twenty thousand  
39 monthly or annual savings two hundred forty thousand  
40 by Mr. Shore taking over.

41 TOMMY DUNN: Want to bring this out two  
42 things. That's money this is savings. Be done  
43 something or other. Number two, I think it was  
44 reported earlier a week ago or so the numbers they had  
45 them backwards, where we would be paying Greg Shore.  
46 It was reported we was going to be paying Greg Shore  
47 more than what -- than what they was getting paid now.  
48 And that's incorrect. It'll be a savings. That was  
49 not correct. It's a savings instead of more. And to  
50 keep in mind, I don't want to start spending money,

1 but you know it has been talked about us getting a  
2 consultant or a group to come in to look at our whole  
3 system and putting together something. So just keep  
4 that in mind for Council to be thinking about.

5 Yes, ma'am, Ms. Floyd.

6 GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Chair, where is -- Mr.  
7 Chair, the two hundred and forty thousand dollars  
8 savings will be going where?

9 RITA DAVIS: EMS fund, ma'am.

10 GRACIE FLOYD: Oh, back into the EMS fund.  
11 Okay.

12 TOMMY DUNN: And that's part of the  
13 money that I said, even though it's going to EMS fund,  
14 we can use for -- it ain't going to take two hundred  
15 and forty thousand dollars, but a small part, portion,  
16 if Council chose fit, as some of them have suggested,  
17 to do -- have a consultant come in to look at our  
18 system. Yes, ma'am.

19 GRACIE FLOYD: All right.

20 FRANCIS CROWDER: Mr. Chairman.

21 TOMMY DUNN: Just a minute. Ms. Floyd.

22 FRANCIS CROWDER: Oh, I'm sorry.

23 GRACIE FLOYD: No, I'm finished.

24 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Crowder, go ahead. I'm  
25 sorry. Go ahead.

26 FRANCIS CROWDER: All right. The EMS fund is  
27 an independent millage.

28 RITA DAVIS: It is, sir. Yes, sir. Six  
29 point eight mils.

30 FRANCIS CROWDER: All right. This is just a  
31 what-if technical question.

32 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir.

33 FRANCIS CROWDER: Say if we're now going to  
34 budget two hundred forty thousand dollar list, then  
35 when they set the millage, is this not going to cut  
36 the current millage because we won't need it?

37 RITA DAVIS: No, sir. We may need some  
38 ---

39 FRANCIS CROWDER: I'm just asking.

40 RITA DAVIS: We may need some for a  
41 consultant study like he said, and we had budgeted  
42 ninety thousand four four five to use in fund balance.  
43 So that means we won't need to use that.

44 FRANCIS CROWDER: Thank you. That's all I  
45 wanted to know.

46 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Crowder.  
47 Mr. Allen?

48 TOM ALLEN: Just very quickly. The  
49 Emergency part is what Shore will be picking up,  
50 correct?

1 TOMMY DUNN: And Mr. Allen, it's my  
2 understanding he starts today, is that correct?  
3 TOM ALLEN: Okay. Now what about the  
4 convalescent runs?  
5 TOMMY DUNN: That's private -- I'll let  
6 Mr. Burns answer that.  
7 TOM ALLEN: Yeah, who's going to do  
8 that?  
9 RUSTY BURNS: Anderson County is not in  
10 the convalescent business. Williamston EMS had one  
11 convalescent patient when they went down. I also  
12 might point out that they lost their ability on Friday  
13 to dispense certain drugs. That's why we're moving  
14 Mr. Shore in at a faster rate. Belton can pick up the  
15 convalescent patients.  
16 TOMMY DUNN: Pelzer.  
17 RUSTY BURNS: Can pick them up.  
18 TOM ALLEN: Okay. That's what I wanted  
19 to know; how they were going to get picked up. Okay.  
20 Thank you.  
21 TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Davis.  
22 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir. Moving on. The  
23 next item we wanted to talk about is our sewer summer  
24 adjustments. As you recall, Council voted to go from  
25 six months to four months. We wanted to make it  
26 uniform for all customers throughout the county and so  
27 we're at four months. But I believe we have had some  
28 complaints. And before you I passed out -- if Council  
29 were to approve this, it would come before you for  
30 three separate readings of an ordinance to go back to  
31 six months and that's because in the summer months  
32 there's -- honestly there's more flow in the summer  
33 months, but people fill their pool, they water their  
34 lawns, they can get an irrigation meter. But they  
35 cost like fourteen hundred dollars and they don't want  
36 to have to do that, so this is -- it would cost us  
37 about two hundred thousand dollars, we would lose in  
38 the process, but that is up for your consideration.  
39 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Ms. Davis. I'm  
40 the one that brought this up and asked for just to  
41 consider it and for discussion because it was six  
42 months and we done it -- our sewer fund was -- when we  
43 were trying to help fix our sewer fund we changed a  
44 couple of years ago, took those two months out. I've  
45 had several complaints trying to do a compromise of  
46 five months cost. And the other thing is, I know this  
47 don't have nothing to do with us, but people in -- and  
48 probably everybody on this, the four of us, anyway --  
49 on Council has got somebody it's going to affect. As  
50 you all well know the city of Anderson, and if

1 anybody's in Belton they're doing the same thing, but  
2 the city of Anderson is going up another fifteen  
3 percent on sewer. It's trying to give somebody a  
4 little bit thing. And I'm -- I hear this a lot, Ms.  
5 Davis, don't take this -- I'm not fussing at you at  
6 all. I hear this a lot about, well, they can get  
7 another meter. A separate meter. Well, that's really  
8 not an option. I mean a meter fourteen hundred  
9 dollars is cheap. I don't know if you can get -- I  
10 don't know whether you can get a water meter fourteen  
11 hundred. Some of them -- most of them running average  
12 now around two thousand dollars. Then you got -- then  
13 you got that monthly minimum bill on it every month.  
14 And this thing going, you know, what you call it. But  
15 this -- if this can fix some people on the -- and it's  
16 the other thing, too, keep in mind. They're not using  
17 it. That's what brought me, I mean, this is not going  
18 in the sewer. If they're watering their yard, dump  
19 their swimming pool, most of them is yard work like  
20 that, they're not using the sewer. So you know, so  
21 add them up. And I just want to bring this up. And  
22 see what it is because I don't -- I know our sewer  
23 ain't the -- in the best of shape but it's a lot  
24 better off than what it was. And sometime you have to  
25 do what's right for the citizens and try and be fair.  
26 That's why I come up with this, try and come up with a  
27 compromise and talk to Ms. Davis whatnot. We made a  
28 -- I think it was two years ago, Ms. Davis, we done  
29 that?

30 RITA DAVIS: That's about right.

31 TOMMY DUNN: We done this overhaul on  
32 our sewer thing. And I've gotten numerous phone calls  
33 over the thing because we have -- our rate flows and  
34 all that has changed. We made some drastic changes to  
35 try to help -- we had to do something to fix the sewer  
36 thing. But some people it's put a hardship on.

37 GRACIE FLOYD: But will now, since we're  
38 going to go back to the six months ---

39 TOMMY DUNN: Only five months. It'd be  
40 one month, we still be going back. It'll be a  
41 compromise.

42 GRACIE FLOYD: --- a six months summer  
43 savings program.

44 RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir. Because we have  
45 bi-monthly customers, so it has to be four or six.

46 TOMMY DUNN: Oh, I'm sorry. Okay.

47 GRACIE FLOYD: So we go back to the six  
48 months now, and this water is not going through our  
49 sewer system so this would act as a savings now, like  
50 a decrease in the amount of the water bill.

1                   RITA DAVIS:           Right, yes, ma'am. We look  
2 back at their winter usage and they pay the lesser of  
3 the two.

4                   GRACIE FLOYD:       Okay. All right. Sounds  
5 good.

6                   RITA DAVIS:           Okay.

7                   GRACIE FLOYD:       Sounds good. All right.

8                   TOMMY DUNN:          Anything, Mr. Crowder?

9                   FRANCIS CROWDER:   Yep. From time to time, at  
10 least several members of Council, I've mentioned the  
11 fact that it was -- I thought we need to actually  
12 start looking to install a new financial management  
13 system. And so, I would like, since it's a multi-year  
14 process, a system normally will cost a million dollars  
15 plus. And what I'd like to do is consider at least  
16 having in the budget for reading -- third reading  
17 Tuesday night, consider a half a million dollars to  
18 being appropriated and then in the following year's  
19 budget a half million dollars. That's number one.

20                   Number two, I think that I'd like Mr. Burns,  
21 if he would be so kind to, there are a couple of  
22 members in the IT department that need to have their  
23 salaries upgraded. I don't know these people  
24 individually, but the network engineer -- and we have  
25 two of them, well, we have one and then we have a  
26 vacant -- do we still have a vacant position? Yeah.  
27 And the pay that we have on our system, I can tell you  
28 unequivocally in the private sector, you will not be  
29 able to find too many people at that -- huh?

30                   TOMMY DUNN:          I'm trying to explain  
31 something to Ms. Floyd.

32                   FRANCIS CROWDER:   A network engineer, he  
33 actually you know, is a very key person, so I would  
34 like for Mr. Burns to provide the figure so that we  
35 can have it for discussion at the third reading of  
36 what it would take to get those two positions. And I  
37 think we also needed some supplemental money to pay a  
38 part time programmer or a full time programmer,  
39 because what possibly can happen is the person who's  
40 keeping up our financial management system here, which  
41 is a home grown one, is being kept up by one person  
42 who is at retirement age. His wife's at retirement  
43 age. And he could walk out the front door today and  
44 we wouldn't know what was going on. That's one of the  
45 dangers of continuing a home grown system. So other  
46 Council members may not agree with that, that's what  
47 the democracy is all about, but I'd at least like to  
48 have it on the budget for discussion.

49                   Thank you, Chairman.

50                   TOMMY DUNN:          Any more comments on summer

1 adjustments before we jump around to something else?  
2 GRACIE FLOYD: On what adjustments?  
3 TOMMY DUNN: Summer adjustments. The  
4 sewer thing we just talked about.  
5 FRANCIS CROWDER: I thought you finished  
6 that.  
7 TOMMY DUNN: That's fine. I was going  
8 -- I know Derrick wanted to say something. Mr.  
9 Singleton, I'm sorry.  
10 DERRICK SINGLETON: I thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
11 Just to bring you up to date on summer adjustments.  
12 Some of the concerns that I have is in the summer  
13 months we do see an increase in our flows at our  
14 treatments plants. And you know, I guess we can  
15 relate this to kids coming home from college. Just  
16 more use -- summer homes being used. The thing we  
17 don't realize is the fact that even though we don't  
18 charge our customers, we still have to pay the city of  
19 Anderson treatment fees. So I just wanted to bring  
20 that to your attention.  
21 TOMMY DUNN: And I appreciate that.  
22 Thank you.  
23 GRACIE FLOYD: Wait a minute.  
24 TOMMY DUNN: I'm sorry. Yes.  
25 GRACIE FLOYD: So what are you saying?  
26 DERRICK SINGLETON: Like for six months out of  
27 the year ---  
28 GRACIE FLOYD: I understand what you're  
29 saying.  
30 TOMMY DUNN: He don't want us to do  
31 that, Ms. Floyd.  
32 GRACIE FLOYD: That's what I'm trying to  
33 get him to come out and say. You know, like what are  
34 you saying?  
35 TOMMY DUNN: That's what he means. He  
36 just don't want to say it. Say it, Derrick.  
37 GRACIE FLOYD: Say it. Talk to us.  
38 DERRICK SINGLETON: Six months out of the year  
39 we're not going to be able to charge the customers for  
40 what they actually use. Now, Mr. Dunn, you are right,  
41 there's a lot of water that goes into the garden and  
42 washing cars and filling swimming pools. But we do  
43 see an increase at our treatment plants. That flow is  
44 coming through the sewer into our plants. Now we have  
45 created a little formula sheet, too, that we're giving  
46 additional adjustments outside our four month period  
47 that we have in place right now. But you know, just  
48 wanted to let you know that we are seeing an increase  
49 in ---  
50 TOMMY DUNN: Explain what you just said.

1       you got that four month outside adjustment sheet.  
2       What's that?

3               DERRICK SINGLETON: Yeah, we've got a four  
4       month summer adjustment period. And one time a year  
5       we will give an additional adjustment and that's just  
6       one time.

7               RITA DAVIS:               Seventy-five percent.

8               DERRICK SINGLETON: Filling a swimming pool,  
9       we'll give you seventy-five percent reduction on  
10      filling the swimming pool. If you have a -- and I  
11      don't have that -- I'm sorry I don't have that formula  
12      sheet in front of me, but if you have a busted water  
13      heater, I think it's fifty percent reduction.

14              TOMMY DUNN:              Let me ask this, this might  
15      be something other, and like I said we got to have  
16      three readings on this, if the Council decides to do  
17      something another. It might be something we can do  
18      instead of going the route I was talking about doing.  
19      Maybe we can do something about your adjustment sheet.

20              DERRICK SINGLETON: Right, right. And you  
21      know, I am sympathetic with everybody out there that's  
22      on sewer because I know it's expensive. It's  
23      expensive for them, it's expensive for us. You know,  
24      we've got an aging system that we're going to have to  
25      continue to repair and the costs are going up daily.

26              TOMMY DUNN:              And y'all are causing my  
27      drinking water to be bad.

28              DERRICK SINGLETON: I'll meet you after the  
29      meeting.

30              GRACIE FLOYD:            I'll just want you to pay  
31      my Walgreen bill for my water I have to buy. The  
32      aquafina. Just paid the bill, I'll be all right.

33              DERRICK SINGLETON: Look, we're on the other  
34      end of it. We're on the receiving end of it, so we're  
35      not producing, we're just taking it in.

36              TOMMY DUNN:              So we need to get together,  
37      you and Ms. Davis and Mr. Burns, and look at  
38      adjustment sheet then.

39              DERRICK SINGLETON: I'd like to.

40              TOMMY DUNN:              Come up with something.  
41      Okay?

42              GRACIE FLOYD:            So this was not a part of  
43      the budget thing coming up for the next meeting?

44              TOMMY DUNN:              No, it's got to have three  
45      readings, but I wanted to talk about it and get people  
46      thinking about to do it to do it. What you call it.

47              GRACIE FLOYD:            I understand. I  
48      understand. So this was more of adjustment for a new  
49      ordinance to add to the new ordinance, but not for the  
50      budget. Thank you.



1 DERRICK SINGLETON: Okay.  
2 GRACIE FLOYD: Now, this other thing, a  
3 million dollars for what now? Financial ---  
4 TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Floyd. Can I answer  
5 that?  
6 GRACIE FLOYD: Somebody's going to have to  
7 answer because I don't know what's going on.  
8 TOMMY DUNN: We have -- we have -- we  
9 have -- and I'll let Ms. Davis or Mr. Burns -- what  
10 this is, we -- and I've asked Mr. Crowder to look at  
11 this over the period of time because there's different  
12 situations. Our financial accounting, our computer  
13 system is -- how old is it, Ms. Davis?  
14 RITA DAVIS: 1826. I think, whenever we  
15 were incorporated, it was here.  
16 GRACIE FLOYD: When these chairs came with  
17 it?  
18 RITA DAVIS: It's been here. I've been  
19 here seventeen years and ---  
20 TOMMY DUNN: And it's real fluid and  
21 it's hard to keep up with it for the penny. You know,  
22 like if, you know ---  
23 GRACIE FLOYD: I understand what you're  
24 saying. Go ahead.  
25 TOMMY DUNN: And that's what we're  
26 trying to get updated system. Keep up. That way if  
27 the -- if Derrick's department writes a check -- not  
28 writes a check, but spends money or something he'll  
29 know right then and there how much money he's got left  
30 in his thing. And keep up just easy and be easy for  
31 everybody to keep up with the system and everything.  
32 It's more to it then that, you want to elaborate any?  
33 GRACIE FLOYD: No, no, no, no, no. I  
34 understand. But it seems like -- it seems like this  
35 thing just fell out from the ceiling all of a sudden  
36 and it was just, you know, the person was saying,  
37 well, I think we need to add a million dollars for  
38 this. You know, I think we should have been told that  
39 this was a research thing that was mandated by the  
40 Chairman, that we look into this to see how this is  
41 going to be done.  
42 TOMMY DUNN: Can I ---  
43 GRACIE FLOYD: But I was getting a little,  
44 you know, little thing here, like nobody told me  
45 anything about this.  
46 TOMMY DUNN: Well, I just asked, because  
47 this is -- I know it's a problem talking to the  
48 department heads, but it was news to me about -- and  
49 every Council member's got every right to do whatever  
50 they want to do to ask for half million dollars in

1       this year's budget. You know, that's news to me, too.  
2       But everybody's got a right to do something or other  
3       and there's other, I'm sure there's other things you  
4       know, about payment plans whatnot, about looking at  
5       things and different costs and whatnot be looking at  
6       about something or other. That's a start. And Mr.  
7       Crowder I'm sure is just trying to get discussion  
8       started about trying to get something done. It's been  
9       kicked around awhile.  
10       GRACIE FLOYD:       Okay. Mr. Chair, could we  
11       go back to the employee raises now?  
12       TOMMY DUNN:       Yes, ma'am.  
13       GRACIE FLOYD:       Okay. Rita, I want to go  
14       back to the employee raises. To the raises.  
15       TOMMY DUNN:       If you don't mind, Ms.  
16       Floyd.  
17       GRACIE FLOYD:       If you don't mind. You're  
18       picking on me today. You know I don't like this  
19       thing. That man back there took the other ones away.  
20       What's his name?  
21       TOMMY DUNN:       Mr. Carroll.  
22       GRACIE FLOYD:       Mr. Carroll came and  
23       removed the other ones. I never had any problems with  
24       them. Well, I'm asking you to bring them back, how's  
25       that? Can you do it? Can you bring mine back? Okay.  
26       Where was that, now?  
27       RITA DAVIS:       A cost of living  
28       adjustment. Is it on your screen, ma'am? Can you see  
29       it?  
30       TOMMY DUNN:       Cost of living adjustment.  
31       GRACIE FLOYD:       Yeah. It is, but I'm  
32       having trouble with seeing it.  
33       RITA DAVIS:       Neil, you know the page  
34       number?  
35       GRACIE FLOYD:       Oh, keep the camera off me.  
36       RITA DAVIS:       I'm sorry. I didn't page  
37       it. It's page fourteen.  
38       GRACIE FLOYD:       Explain to me again, now,  
39       here, about this. I want to know in plain layman's  
40       language what is the best salary here that we're  
41       offering? The best raise, for lack of a better way of  
42       saying it, that we're offering our employees this  
43       year?  
44       RITA DAVIS:       Ma'am, not to skirt the  
45       issue, but it just depends what position you hold and  
46       how much you get paid.  
47       TOMMY DUNN:       Let me -- that ain't what  
48       she's asking I don't think. We got what's on -- what  
49       we voted on twice is a two percent ---  
50       GRACIE FLOYD:       To certain.

1 TOMMY DUNN: No, it can be two percent  
2 across the board, what we voted on the first two  
3 readings. Two percent across the board and that's  
4 with salary adjustments bringing up also, right? Mr.  
5 Burns, bringing salary adjustments up to the ones that  
6 the consultant recommended. Okay? That's what we  
7 voted on twice.

8 GRACIE FLOYD: I thought that we were  
9 voting on those things that the consultant  
10 recommended; the animal shelter, the technological  
11 people and all of that.

12 RITA DAVIS: What's in the budget  
13 Council's voted on first and second reading, two  
14 percent across the board everybody. That's it.

15 GRACIE FLOYD: Everybody.

16 RITA DAVIS: Yes, ma'am.

17 TOMMY DUNN: That's what we voted for.

18 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay.

19 TOMMY DUNN: What Ms. Davis is talking  
20 about today is bringing everybody up -- say like  
21 somebody at the animal shelter is making eighteen  
22 thousand dollars instead of nineteen. Bringing  
23 everybody up to minimum would be twenty thousand  
24 dollars.

25 GRACIE FLOYD: The minimum.

26 RITA DAVIS: Custodian. That's right.

27 TOMMY DUNN: And then after that, it  
28 would go to the consultant's recommendations, okay?

29 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. All right.

30 TOMMY DUNN: Then after that, it would  
31 be going -- making deputies pay ---

32 RITA DAVIS: Sheriff.

33 TOMMY DUNN: Sheriff's pay their pay at  
34 thirty-one, starting at thirty-one. Then everybody  
35 that it didn't affect, now this ain't on her thing,  
36 everybody that didn't affect would get a thousand  
37 dollars. But now on her thing also what they talked  
38 about today, that would include retirees and that  
39 would include people that has gotten a pay raise  
40 sometime this fiscal year, on that scenario.

41 RITA DAVIS: That's correct.

42 GRACIE FLOYD: May I parrot you, please?

43 TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma'am.

44 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. Everybody will get  
45 up to the minimum ---

46 TOMMY DUNN: Of twenty thousand.

47 GRACIE FLOYD: --- twenty thousand  
48 dollars.

49 TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma'am.

50 GRACIE FLOYD: Who's not already there?

1                   RUSTY BURNS:        Rita, everybody -- one of  
2     the things that has been discussed by more than one  
3     Council person is that nobody who went to work for  
4     Anderson County would make less than twenty thousand  
5     dollars.  
6                   TOMMY DUNN:        Full time.  
7                   RUSTY BURNS:        Full time. We had somebody  
8     who signed up for the animal shelter this week at  
9     sixteen thousand five hundred dollars. And that would  
10    do away with that. Twenty would be the base.  
11                  GRACIE FLOYD:        Twenty would be the base.  
12    Okay.  
13                  RUSTY BURNS:        Then we take the  
14    consultant's recommendations. Rita, continue.  
15                  RITA DAVIS:         And then the Sheriff's  
16    office employees, the deputies, Detention Center,  
17    compliance, get their minimum to thirty-one thousand.  
18                  GRACIE FLOYD:        Let's go back to the  
19    consultant recommendation.  
20                  RITA DAVIS:         Yes, ma'am.  
21                  GRACIE FLOYD:        All right. That would be a  
22    two percent?  
23                  RITA DAVIS:         It just depends, ma'am, on  
24    what they're making now and what the consultant's  
25    minimum of the new paygrade.  
26                  TOMMY DUNN:         You got that, haven't you,  
27    Rita?  
28                  RITA DAVIS:         We do, and it varies by  
29    employee by department. It truly does, ma'am. What  
30    that percentage is.  
31                  GRACIE FLOYD:        Rita, is this the same  
32    thing that was discussed the first time we started  
33    talking about it? Is this the thing that we discussed  
34    the first time we started talking about it when we  
35    said the idea was everybody gets up to the minimum  
36    wage and then two percent after that?  
37                  RITA DAVIS:         No, ma'am.  
38                  GRACIE FLOYD:        That's not the same thing.  
39    Okay.  
40                  RITA DAVIS:         This is every department in  
41    the study ---  
42                  TOMMY DUNN:         Wouldn't necessarily be two  
43    percent. Some people to get them up to that  
44    consultant thing -- go ahead, Mr. Burns.  
45                  RUSTY BURNS:        Mr. Dunn, case in point,  
46    the person we hired who makes sixteen thousand five  
47    hundred dollars, that's entry pay, okay? If the  
48    floor, the minimum for everybody who works for  
49    Anderson County is twenty thousand dollars, that's  
50    much more than two percent.

1 TOMMY DUNN: That's right.  
2 RUSTY BURNS: So, what Rita's trying to  
3 say is it varies. You could be way down here and get  
4 brought up a lot. Or you could be semi close and only  
5 get fifteen hundred dollars.  
6 TOMMY DUNN: Only get a percentage.  
7 RUSTY BURNS: Something like that. Take  
8 the two percent and make that disappear.  
9 GRACIE FLOYD: So, I can conclude that at  
10 -- with the consent of the full Council, if this  
11 should pass, that our employees would get a  
12 substantial raise this year.  
13 RUSTY BURNS: Ms. Floyd, this hasn't  
14 passed. This is cobbled together from numerous  
15 conversations with different Council people. Case in  
16 point, we had one Council person who is adamantly  
17 opposed to a percentage increase. And with good  
18 reason, I do think, because those on the top get more,  
19 those on the bottom get can buy another loaf of bread,  
20 okay? So taking the ideas of Council, there's several  
21 ideas, this is just one of them. But what you would  
22 do, twenty's the floor. Then we take the study, bring  
23 everybody up to those minimums. If you don't get  
24 anything, you get a thousand dollars.  
25 TOMMY DUNN: And, you would have to be  
26 here how long?  
27 RUSTY BURNS: Well, you would have to be  
28 here at least one year to qualify under one of the  
29 scenarios. Because if you just walked in ---  
30 TOMMY DUNN: Not the starting scenario,  
31 actually.  
32 RUSTY BURNS: No. No.  
33 GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Burns, Rita, Ms. Davis,  
34 and anybody else that would like to join, I'd like to  
35 meet with you because everything's coming together  
36 now. And it's got a little confusion in there, okay?  
37 I don't get a dime out of this. I get nothing. Like  
38 I told you one time, I don't even get travel, my own  
39 doing. But I am adamant that the employees get it.  
40 So please let's get with me again, and explain it to  
41 me again, and bring a pillow because this is my last  
42 time coming up from the last -- so bring a pillow.  
43 RUSTY BURNS: We already got them.  
44 TOMMY DUNN: If that's it, one other  
45 thing. I think Ms. Wilson asked this. Y'all want to  
46 touch on the ---  
47 RUSTY BURNS: I would like to explain  
48 this, Mr. Chairman. For a long time we have had no  
49 regular procedure to deal with large animals,  
50 specifically horses. And what the Sheriff's

1 department has to do and the Sheriff can assist me  
2 with this, is we have to go hunt, peck, and try to  
3 find some place to put horses.

4 FRANCIS CROWDER: You told me about that.

5 RUSTY BURNS: There's just no place to  
6 put them. We have identified a place that the  
7 Sheriff's office is using now. It's a gentleman who  
8 boards houses, he's been thoroughly inspected, looked  
9 at ---

10 TOMMY DUNN: Boards horses.

11 RUSTY BURNS: Boards horses. And  
12 currently he has two of our horses right now.

13 JOHN SKIPPER: I believe that's correct.  
14 I'm a little vague on this, too. Because Gary Bryant  
15 handles it, but we do have a process.

16 RUSTY BURNS: But what we would do, we  
17 would pay the gentleman a retainer then we would pay  
18 him a set fee for the board on those horses. We would  
19 suggest that we put it in the animal -- under the  
20 animal shelter budget. It would be a separate line  
21 item. Why would be put it there? Well, A, because it  
22 has to do with animals that we're currently not  
23 providing best service for.

24 In addition to that, there are a lot of people who  
25 expressed an interest in making donations. The animal  
26 shelter is already set up to take donations and you  
27 can already receive tax benefits from that. All you  
28 would have to do is make a delineation that this was  
29 for the large animal fund and then we would be there.  
30 So it would make -- it would give us some rhythm or  
31 reason, it would keep the Sheriff having to run around  
32 at night trying to figure out who could pick these  
33 animals up, who's going to take care of them and who's  
34 going to be with them.

35 JOHN SKIPPER: And who's going to pay for  
36 the hay.

37 TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Floyd's got a ---

38 GRACIE FLOYD: Yeah. I have something to  
39 say about this, okay. First of all, this is the man  
40 out of Greenwood County, I think I told you about it.  
41 Some problems. Was that you?

42 RUSTY BURNS: Those problems were created  
43 for him.

44 GRACIE FLOYD: Yeah, there were some  
45 problems down there. I came to the county a couple of  
46 years ago after talking with Doctor Whitaker from  
47 Anderson College -- is his name Whitaker?

48 TOMMY DUNN: Yes, that's his name. He's  
49 president.

50 GRACIE FLOYD: I sat down with him and

1 right after they took over the fairgrounds, we went  
2 out there together and he showed me that stable. And  
3 at that time he said that we could use that stable to  
4 house animals and other things. He also said that he  
5 was going to start a -- help me with this word, it  
6 means horses -- a program at Anderson College and he  
7 said that some of his students who were into that kind  
8 of thing, could -- it could be a program where they  
9 could learn how to do that right out there with the  
10 animals that we put there.

11 And I think that we did not discuss cost  
12 because that was above my head. I brought it back to  
13 the Administrator and talked to the Administrator  
14 about it and I think that they got together again.  
15 I'm not sure about that part. But I don't know how  
16 much it was going to cost us, but it was right here in  
17 Anderson County right over at the fair grounds. I  
18 think that before we do this, I think that we need to  
19 explore that one as well.

20 JOHN SKIPPER: Rusty, help me if I'm --  
21 help me here. Them barns ain't there no more.  
22 They're ballfields.

23 RUSTY BURNS: They're ballfields. And I  
24 don't think they've started the equestrian program  
25 yet.

26 JOHN SKIPPER: Yeah. At AU.

27 GRACIE FLOYD: Torn down?

28 JOHN SKIPPER: Well, I don't know if they  
29 tore it down, but that's -- I flew over it the other  
30 day in a helicopter and it's big ballfields, dirt and  
31 grass all over that place out there.

32 TOMMY DUNN: But regardless, if we  
33 decide to do something we can put the money in for a  
34 placeholder and then decide where it's going to go.

35 JOHN SKIPPER: Yeah, I mean, you know, we  
36 got to have something if something happens today. So,  
37 and this is the best we can come up with so far.

38 GRACIE FLOYD: Well, Sheriff, if it's  
39 okay, I would like for you to -- let's pursue that as  
40 well, to see if it's still a viable option for us.

41 JOHN SKIPPER: Certainly always willing to  
42 look at anything.

43 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. And that problem  
44 that they had, you did straighten that one out? You  
45 did straighten it out?

46 RUSTY BURNS: Yes, ma'am.

47 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay.

48 TOMMY DUNN: Anything else? I got, if  
49 you would, I got one thing. Okay. Go ahead Tom, Mr.  
50 Allen, I'm sorry.

1 TOM ALLEN: On other matters, other  
2 budget.

3 TOMMY DUNN: Yeah.

4 TOM ALLEN: I just wanted to read very  
5 quickly, this won't take long, but a problem that  
6 we're not facing immediately, but we may well be doing  
7 it next year. This came out of the Charlotte  
8 Observer. To cut costs local governments ending  
9 health care coverage for spouses. Now, according to  
10 this article to combat spiraling medical costs, some  
11 local governments in the Charlotte area are joining a  
12 national trend of dropping health care coverage for  
13 employee spouses. The latest action came Thursday in  
14 Lincolnton City. We're out of options, said the city  
15 manager. They're having some real problems there.  
16 Hickory announced this year it was making that change,  
17 too, and expects to save about five hundred thousand  
18 dollars annually. Some private sector companies,  
19 including UPS, also ended coverage for spouses  
20 eligible for insurance at their own job. In 2013 the  
21 Kroger Company ended their benefits for spouses. The  
22 -- let me get to the one item here. So they're  
23 talking, all of these places, because of the spiraling  
24 medical costs, are running into this problem, and I  
25 don't know how much ours may go up next year. I've  
26 heard all kinds of numbers, so what we might run into.  
27 But as an example, just one example, if they  
28 took out, eliminated the coverage for spouses in this  
29 one town it was costing about eight -- it was costing  
30 eight hundred dollars a month for the city to pay for  
31 the spouses' insurance. Now if they eliminate that,  
32 the employee now has to go out and find insurance for  
33 his or her spouse. The article says that they can  
34 probably find it for less than eight hundred a month.  
35 Well, let's say they can find insurance for that  
36 spouse for four hundred a month, times twelve months,  
37 that's forty-eight hundred dollars that employee's  
38 going to have to take out of his pocket to pay for  
39 insurance for the spouse. That's a forty-eight  
40 hundred dollar pay cut in one way. So this is  
41 happening all over the place and I just want to  
42 mention it. It's not something that we're dealing  
43 with this year, but I've heard horrendous numbers as  
44 to what health care costs may go up next year. I  
45 don't know and I think, Rita, I believe for the past  
46 several years they've averaged about three or four  
47 percent.

48 RITA DAVIS: They told us to budget four  
49 and a half percent, Colonel, for next year.

50 TOM ALLEN: And so this place, they



1       were talking about thirty percent increases and  
2       eighteen percent increases. So I don't know if that's  
3       something to look forward to or not. So the city was  
4       staring at another year of a thirty-four percent  
5       increase in premiums and that's in Hickory, North  
6       Carolina. So I just wanted to throw that out. We  
7       don't have to worry about this year, I don't think,  
8       but it might be something to look forward to.

9               Thank you, Mr. Chair.

10              TOMMY DUNN:       Thank you. Now what I  
11       wanted to bring up right quick. Talk about. As y'all  
12       have seen here today, this is a very complex, or not  
13       complex, but a very fluid document. And me and Ms.  
14       Davis talked yesterday and for some reason -- I'm not  
15       picking on Ms. Davis or throwing her under the bus or  
16       nothing -- but for some reason, she didn't get the  
17       memo about third reading Tuesday night for the budget  
18       and I thought everybody knew we was on that track.  
19       I'm just saying, something happens, we need another  
20       day, keep that in mind to let the Administrator or Mr.  
21       Burns. I know some of us are going out of town, don't  
22       want to do it. But we might have to have another day  
23       to get a budget in because we got a lot of stuff to  
24       talk about Tuesday night to get something another.  
25       And you got to keep in mind, this ain't just numbers.  
26       Ms. Davis has got to get a thing in for the millage  
27       and also language that the budget's going to say. You  
28       got anything you'd like to add to that?

29              RITA DAVIS:       No, sir. You succinctly  
30       summarized it. The dilemma. And we can work at  
31       getting a change sheet ready for discussion for  
32       Tuesday night.

33              TOMMY DUNN:       We need that.

34              RITA DAVIS:       But you know, we need your  
35       input exactly what we want in it.

36              TOMMY DUNN:       Yep.

37              GRACIE FLOYD:     Mr. Chair. I will be -- I  
38       will make myself available for what your need is going  
39       to be for us to get this budget done.

40              TOMMY DUNN:       Thank you. Mr. Crowder.

41              FRANCIS CROWDER:  I would like for us ????  
42       pretty quick.

43              TOMMY DUNN:       Yes, I know you told me you  
44       were going out of town.

45              FRANCIS CROWDER:  Plus my sixty-????

46              TOMMY DUNN:       Yes, sir, and I know and  
47       keeping that in mind.

48              At this time we'll take -- if it's all right  
49       we'll take citizens comments. Ms. Fant.

50              ELIZABETH FANT:   Boy, that's like taking a

1       whipping with one of these things. I'm sorry I had  
2       another meeting at lunch I had to go to and I missed  
3       part of it. Y'all are working very hard, really are.  
4       I think sometimes when I get up here to some people I  
5       may sound negative. It's not that at all, it's just  
6       that I see the tsunami coming. Is that how you  
7       pronounce that word? You know, the water coming where  
8       it comes over and ---

9               TOMMY DUNN:               Tsunami.

10              ELIZABETH FANT:    Yeah, that's the word I'm  
11       looking for. Tsunami. Folks, it's just  
12       unsustainable. It's just no way to keep up if we keep  
13       on going the way we are. We can't keep wanting things  
14       and adding things without taking care of what we  
15       already got. That's why I'm against the buildings  
16       right now. It's not that I don't see a need in the  
17       future. It's why I'm against the media team for right  
18       now. We just can't afford it. If you're going to do  
19       what it is that you say you want to do about helping  
20       the employees, you got to cut somewhere.

21              So you've either got to have less employees  
22       that are costing you higher amount per person. You  
23       got to consolidate services somehow. Or you got to  
24       somehow or another make more money. Well,  
25       government's not in the business of making money.  
26       There's not many ways that it can. And County Council  
27       is in big constraints because of the agreements that  
28       were made with the city. And so some of those things  
29       you really have no control over.

30              But I hope I've got more then three minutes  
31       here, because I may take it. The business about  
32       salaries is just really a conundrum. We all know that  
33       we have good employees. We want to keep our  
34       employees. But we've got people out here in the  
35       private sector that are just as good and working just  
36       as hard if not ten times as hard with a tenth less  
37       resources. And I know economic development and I know  
38       we've got a three hundred extra million supposedly in  
39       the coffers, but that money is kind of like a one time  
40       thing. And every time we get money coming in, though,  
41       we've already spent it.

42              Now, I want to talk about the litter crew.  
43       Litter is a big beef for me and I would like to see it  
44       all disappear. But we were talking about a litter  
45       crew and we finally got done talking about two people  
46       part time and the first time it got mentioned is like  
47       they were going to be paid nine dollars an hour. This  
48       last time all of a sudden it's twelve dollars an  
49       hours. Well, if you put a part time person out there  
50       who's working twenty-five hours at twelve dollars an

1 hour, they're going to bring in three hundred dollars.  
2 You put a full time person out here who's working  
3 forty hours for the county, like some of them are,  
4 people who cut grass, animal control people who are  
5 working nine dollars an hour and for forty hours,  
6 they're bringing home three hundred and sixty. So  
7 you're going to reward somebody that's only working  
8 twenty-five hours with three hundred dollars and you  
9 got somebody out here who's working forty hours and  
10 they're only going to be making sixty dollars more  
11 than the ones who are working part time. But once you  
12 start raising salaries for this level, just like the  
13 Sheriff said, then the person who's been here six  
14 years, these new people are suddenly up or above the  
15 people who have been working here six years. So  
16 therefore their level has to go up and everybody  
17 else's level has to go up in order to compensate. And  
18 we just can't afford it. So I really don't know what  
19 y'all are going to come up with. It's a tough thing.  
20 Mr. Allen is reiterating exactly what I said the other  
21 day, the article that I read, that Blue Shield/Blue  
22 Cross was going to go up at least twenty-six percent.  
23 And I've heard since then up to thirty-eight percent  
24 with other insurance companies. There's no way we can  
25 sustain this. So you've either got to face it today,  
26 and cut somewhere. My thing is to cross train some  
27 employees, just like you do in school district where  
28 you've got one speech technician that goes to three  
29 schools. You've got somebody that's doing one job and  
30 they only really -- you know, they've still got some  
31 busy time, cross train them to do something else. And  
32 cut out an employee. You're either going to have to  
33 cut somewhere to be able to reward what you're  
34 keeping. There's no way you can keep adding.

35 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Ms. Fant. I  
36 want to thank all the Council members for coming out  
37 and working. I know everybody's got their opinions.  
38 And please keep that in mind. Everybody's got their  
39 own opinions about things, working on it and we'll get  
40 through this. I appreciate you very much. Meeting --  
41 Ms. Floyd.

42 GRACIE FLOYD: Before you do the gavel, I  
43 want to commend you on a budget workshop that was --  
44 may I use the word fulfilling and warranted -- and I  
45 feel like we've got through some good work today and I  
46 just want to thank you for that and Ms. Davis. Ms.  
47 Davis, I know that we are riding your back hard,  
48 because we have no one else to carry us, so please  
49 just hold on to us.

50 TOMMY DUNN: Thank everybody. Meeting

1       will be adjourned.

2

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**(MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3:28 PM)**

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