

Aiken City Council Minutes

November 10, 2003

WORK SESSION

Present: Mayor Pro Tem Clyburn, Councilmembers Cuning, Smith, Sprawls, Price and Vaughters.

Absent: Mayor Cavanaugh

Others Present: Roger LeDuc, Gary Smith, Bill Huggins, Richard Pearce, Ed Evans, Sara Ridout, Philip Lord of the Aiken Standard, Josh Gelinas of the Augusta Chronicle, and about 20 citizens.

Mayor Pro Tem Clyburn called the meeting to order at 6:45 P.M. She stated Council had one item that they would like to discuss in the work session.

BERKLEY STREETBuildingKramer, MichaelPlantation NurseriesDemolition

Mr. LeDuc stated the City had received a letter from Michael Kramer, owner of Plantation Nurseries, requesting the city's assistance in the removal of a structure off of Berkley Street. They recently acquired the property at 1205 Park Avenue and have cleared much of the overgrown lot to accommodate their business. There is a partial building that is located off of Berkley Street which they would like to have the city's assistance to remove. We estimate that approximately two dump truck loads of material would be involved in this removal and should take the city only a few hours. Currently the owner is unsure whether he will need to further expand his business on this property, or if in the next few years the property could be used for more residential housing.

Mr. Kramer is present to answer any questions. Mr. LeDuc stated Mr. Kramer is looking for Council's approval to have the City remove the material once the structure is demolished. Should Council agree to this request, we would haul the debris to the landfill after any asbestos material has been removed.

Mr. Kramer stated someone had looked at the building and there is no asbestos in the building. He pointed out the building is a safety hazard, as the building is about to fall in.

Council briefly discuss the condition of the building and felt that it needed to be removed for safety reasons and to help improve the area.

Since Council had no objections, Mr. LeDuc stated the city would remove the debris from the structure on Berkley Street.

AIKEN COUNTY COUNCILAiken City Council

Mr. LeDuc stated he would like to get a picture of the Aiken County Council and the Aiken City Council to show the participation and partnership between the two on different projects. The Aiken County Council meets on Tuesday, November 18, 2003, at the County Council building. They would like to take the picture prior to their meeting at 5:30 P.M. He asked that, if possible, Councilmembers be present for the picture with Aiken County Council.

### EMPLOYEE LUNCHEON

Mr. LeDuc also reminded Council of the annual City employee luncheon on December 12, 2003, at 12:30 P.M. at the Weeks Center to honor City employees.

### HORIZONS

Mr. LeDuc also stated he would like to set Council's Horizons for January 30 – 31, 2004, starting at noon on Friday and ending about noon on Saturday.

### Aiken City Council Minutes

### REGULAR MEETING

November 10, 2003

Present: Mayor Pro Tem Clyburn, Councilmembers Cuning, Smith, Sprawls, Price and Vaughters.

Absent: Mayor Cavanaugh

Others Present: Roger LeDuc, Gary Smith, Bill Huggins, Richard Pearce, Anita Lilly, Ed Evans, Pete Frommer, Sara Ridout, Philip Lord of the Aiken Standard, Josh Gelinas of the Augusta Chronicle and about 40 citizens.

Mayor Pro Tem Clyburn called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Mr. LeDuc led in prayer, which was followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Clyburn stated Council needed to approve the agenda. Councilman Sprawls moved, seconded by Councilwoman Price and unanimously approved, that the agenda be approved as presented.

### MINUTES

The minutes of the work session of October 21 and work session and regular meeting of October 27, 2003 were considered for approval. Councilman Cuning moved that the minutes be approved as written. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Price and unanimously approved.

### RECOGNITION

#### Public Safety Department

#### Award

#### Richard S. Campbell Award

#### SC Fire Chief Association

Mayor Pro Tem Clyburn stated Council would like to recognize the Public Safety Department.

Mr. LeDuc stated Council would like to recognize the Public Safety Department and especially those that serve in the Fire Division. He said that at the recent South Carolina Fire Chief's Association Conference we received the Richard S. Campbell Award. This is the highest honor bestowed upon a fire department for its work in fire prevention and education. We were recognized for many of our programs including: 1) installing over 5,000 smoke detectors in homes of local residents who otherwise would have no means to get a detector installed; 2) being the first in the state to start a Junior Cadet Fire Camp, which is still active and viable during the summer; 3) introducing Freddie Fireless Feline for our educational programs which are taught in the local elementary schools; 4) establishing the fire house for birthday parties which are held on the weekend; 5) developing fire safety videos for our City Channel; 6) holding child safety seat