

Aiken City Council Minutes

July 13, 1992

Present: Mayor Cavanaugh, Councilmembers Anaclerio, Papouchado, Perry, Price and Radford.

Absent: Councilmember Clyburn

Others Present: Steve Thompson, Jim Holly, Frances Thomas, Terry Rhinehart, Roger LeDuc, Anita Lilly, Carrol Busbee, Ed Evans, Stanley Quarles, Sara Ridout, 40 citizens and 3 news media.

Mayor Cavanaugh called the meeting to order at 7:40 P.M. Steve Thompson, City Manager, led in prayer which was followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

The minutes of the regular meeting of June 22, 1992, were considered for approval. Councilman Radford moved that the minutes be approved as written. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Papouchado and unanimously approved.

PRESENTATION

Award
Aiken High School
Academic Team
Texaco Star National Academic Championship

Mr. Thompson stated that the Aiken High School Academic Team had placed seventh nationally in the Texaco Star National Academic Championship. He said City Council wanted to recognize members of the Academic Team. He pointed out Mr. Gassman, Principal of Aiken High, Dr. Joseph Brooks, Superintendent of Education, Mac Hanna, Coach for the Team, members of the Academic Team, and parents were present. He pointed out competition for this championship is very tough, and the Aiken High School team competed in Houston against 82 other championship teams each of which has competed successfully against at least 16 other teams in state and regional tournaments. Overall more than 2500 teams competed for the championship. It is believed that this is the first time that an Aiken team has competed in the quarter finals.

Mr. Gassman, Dr. Brooks, Mac Hanna, and members of the Academic Team were introduced to Council.

Mayor Cavanaugh stated it was so wonderful to see young people using their talents to the highest degree. He presented a plaque recognizing the team.

ANNEXATION - ORDINANCE 071392

Woodside Development Company
Chukker Creek Road
School Site
Woodside Plantation

Mayor Cavanaugh stated this was the time advertised for the second reading and public hearing of an ordinance to annex 5.29 acres on Chukker Creek Road owned by Woodside Development Company.

Mr. Thompson read the title of the ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE TO ANNEX TO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF AIKEN CERTAIN PROPERTY CONSISTING OF 5.29 ACRES OWNED BY WOODSIDE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY OF AIKEN, INC. LOCATED NORTHWEST OF CHUKKER CREEK ROAD (S-2-1572) AND TO ZONE THE SAME PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (PUD).

Mr. Thompson stated the city had received a request from Woodside Development Company of Aiken, requesting annexation of a 5.29 acre site adjacent to the proposed Chukker Creek school. The Planning Commission has reviewed the request and recommends annexation with several conditions.

Mr. Thompson pointed out the School District had received a donation of 10 acres of land from Woodside Development Company and had purchased 10 acres from Woodside. Of the 20 acre site, only about 16 acres were within the city limits. As part of the city's approval for use of the property as a school site the city required that the tract fronting on Chukker Creek Road immediately west of the area for the school be annexed to the city. In response to that request, the

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developers have submitted the 5.29 acre site for annexation. Of this site, approximately 4 acres will remain part of the school site and the remaining acre would serve as a gate into Woodside Plantation.

The Planning Commission recommended annexation with the following conditions:

1. that a corporate resolution from Woodside Development Company of Aiken, Inc. authorizing the petition for annexation be provided to the Planning Department;
2. that the city, through the Planning Department, approve all access to and circulation within the proposed school site;
3. that use of any access road between Chukker Creek Road and Woodside Plantation be limited to school traffic, Public Safety and other City service vehicles;
4. that the development of the school within the property is subject to all City zoning, development, landscaping, utility, and building code regulations and ordinances; and
5. that a revised Conceptual Master Plan for Woodside Plantation Section II, including the annexed property, be submitted to the Planning Department.

The Planning Commission received comments from area residents and extensively reviewed the request. The main concern of the residents was that the access road not serve as a back gate for Woodside Plantation. The Planning Commission agreed with the concern and recommended that the gate serve only for school traffic and emergency or service access by the city.

At the first reading of the ordinance, Council approved the annexation but removed condition number 3, listed as Section 5 (b) in the proposed ordinance. Deletion of this section removed the restriction limiting traffic entering and leaving the school site and Woodside Plantation to school traffic, public safety and other city service vehicles. The ordinance has been advertised for second reading and public hearing.

The public hearing was held. Mayor Cavanaugh asked that those opposed to the annexation speak first.

Mr. Steve Ristow, 2944 Oak Brook Drive, spoke in opposition to use of the 1.19 acre for use by Woodside Plantation as access to Chukker Creek Road. He felt access by residents from Woodside Plantation to Chukker Creek Road would increase the traffic on this road and would affect the quality of life of the residents of Chukker Creek. He pointed out Woodside Plantation had changed the entire focus of the area along Chukker Creek from the original master plan and to provide a gate to Woodside would be providing another private entrance to Woodside Plantation.

Ms. Virginia Dunkelbarger, 2930 Oak Brook Drive, asked that the city be a good neighborhood and to consider the impact of the action of not limiting the access from Woodside to Chukker Creek. She pointed out Chukker Creek is only about 24 feet wide and access from Woodside will add considerable traffic to Chukker Creek Road. She pointed out Woodside Plantation already has an access at Stratford Hall to Whiskey Road. She read a letter from Aiken County Councilmember James L. Bland, District 2, expressing concern about additional traffic which may occur on Chukker Creek Road.

Ms. Susan Sander, Woods Edge Farm, 1480 Chukker Creek Road, Ms. Gail Wilkinson, 1935 Sunshine Circle, and Susan Ecklund, 1910 Sunshine Circle, all spoke in opposition to a gate and access from Woodside Plantation to Chukker Creek Road and the increased traffic which would be added to Chukker Creek Road from school traffic and from Woodside Plantation residents. They were concerned about the development and traffic changing the life style of the residents of Chukker Creek Road.

Mr. Pat Cuning, of Woodside Development Co., spoke in favor of the annexation and access from Woodside to Chukker Creek Road. He stated Woodside was asked to annex the property and to pave the road to provide access to the school from Woodside. He pointed out Woodside residents will use the access road when lots in the area are developed. He stated the only reason Woodside is asking to connect the road is because of the school annexation. He pointed out after the road is built the Woodside homeowners would own the road, and it would be unfair for them not to be able to use the road as access to Chukker Creek Road, a state maintained road. He felt it would be setting a bad precedent to limit use of the access from Woodside to school buses and public service vehicles only. He did state that in three to

four years when the area in Woodside is developed there will be more traffic from Woodside. Mr. Cuning pointed out that in the original plan one of the accesses shown was to Chukker Creek Road. Mr. Cuning stated he agreed that Chukker Creek Road does need improvement. He said he felt the good neighbor policy in working together is the right thing to do, and he would like to see all working together to get Chukker Creek Road improved and a traffic signal at Chukker Creek and Whiskey Road when warranted. He said he understood the concern of the residents of Chukker Creek and their not wanting their life style changed. He said, however, he did feel that Woodside needed another access to the development and that if it was not opened at this time Woodside Development would be asking that the road be opened in the future.

Mr. George Clare, 102 Hemlock Drive, Woodside Plantation, spoke in favor of the annexation and opening the road from Woodside to Chukker Creek Road. He said his main purpose in speaking was to get the school built. He said schools are important to the education of the future leaders and another school is needed to take care of the students.

A lengthy discussion followed with residents of Chukker Creek asking several questions of Mr. Cuning regarding the proposed road from Woodside. Mr. Cuning stated the road was being proposed to be opened at this time because of the school, but eventually it would need to be opened for residents of Woodside to have another access. It was suggested that the road only be opened for school traffic and public service vehicles at this time, and that the issue of opening the road for public access from Woodside be addressed at a later time.

Mr. Holly pointed out that on the subdivision approvals of Phase II of Woodside there is a condition that Woodside Plantation Drive eventually be finished to Chukker Creek Road for public safety access.

Councilman Radford stated considering the area of Woodside he felt that another exit was needed from Woodside, especially for emergency use. He said he felt a school in the area would be getting back to neighborhood schools and this would help as far as traffic. He pointed out presently several of the schools are on major thoroughfares which involve a lot of traffic.

Councilwoman Price expressed concern about a possible change in the quality of life for the people in Chukker Creek with development of the school and other developments in the area.

Councilwoman Papouchado moved that the proposed ordinance be amended to include the condition "that use of any access road between Chukker Creek Road and Woodside Plantation be limited to school traffic, Public Safety and other City service vehicles." The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Price.

Mayor Cavanaugh pointed out that issues such as this are difficult decisions because everyone cannot be pleased. He pointed out traffic had increased in many areas of the city, but the streets are public roads and the public has a right to use the streets. He pointed out with growth comes increased traffic. However, no growth would not be good for the area either.

Councilman Anaclerio stated he felt people in other areas of the city would like for the city to limit traffic on their street also. However, with growth comes traffic. He said he did not feel the city could deny Woodside or any other area access to a state road.

Mayor Cavanaugh called for a vote on the motion to add to the ordinance the restriction which was deleted at the last meeting. The amendment proposed would limit access between Chukker Creek Road and Woodside Plantation to school traffic, public safety and other city service vehicles. Those in favor were: Councilmembers Papouchado and Price. Opposed were: Mayor Cavanaugh, Councilmembers Anaclerio, Perry and Radford. The vote was 2 in favor and 4 opposed. The motion failed for lack of a majority vote.

Councilman Anaclerio moved, seconded by Councilman Radford, that the ordinance to annex the 5.29 acres owned by Woodside Development Co. with the conditions as listed in the ordinance as amended at the last meeting of Council be passed on second and final reading. At the last meeting the condition to restrict traffic from Woodside to Chukker Creek Road to school buses and public service vehicles was deleted from the ordinance. In favor of the motion was Mayor Cavanaugh, Councilmembers Anaclerio, Perry and Radford. Opposed were Councilmembers Papouchado and Price. The motion passed by a majority vote of 4 in favor and 2 opposed.

ANNEXATION - ORDINANCE 071392A

Woodward Property
Banks Mill Road
East Pine Log Road
Recreation Area

Mayor Cavanaugh stated this was the time advertised for the second reading and public hearing of an ordinance to annex the Woodward property on Banks Mill Road.

Mr. Thompson read the title of the ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE TO ANNEX TO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF AIKEN CERTAIN PROPERTY, TOGETHER WITH THE ABUTTING PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY NOT PREVIOUSLY ANNEXED, CONSISTING OF 75.23 ACRES OWNED BY THE CITY OF AIKEN LOCATED AT THE NORTHWESTERN CORNER OF THE INTERSECTION OF EAST PINE LOG ROAD (S.C. 302) AND BANKS MILL ROAD (S-2-79) AND TO ZONE THE SAME R-1 SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL.

Mr. Thompson stated the city purchased the Woodward property located at the intersection of Banks Mill Road and Pine Log Road in 1989 for development of a recreational complex. The property is located outside the city, and the city would like to annex the property which includes 75.23 acres plus abutting rights-of-way.

The Planning Commission reviewed the annexation request and recommended annexation of the property and all abutting rights-of-way with R-1 Single Family Residential zoning. Annexation will allow the city to enforce police powers within the property and also make Citizens Field complex contiguous to the city. He said the city had considered use of the Open Space Zone, however presently that zone does not allow structures in the zone so the city would not be able to construct a building such as a fire station or a building for recreational use on the property.

Mr. Holly pointed out he had revised the ordinance to more fully explain which rights-of-way are being annexed and the acreage. He pointed out the right-of-way being annexed is Banks Mill Road as the right-of-way of East Pine Log Road is already in the city.

Councilwoman Price stated she felt it might be better to zone the property Open Space Zone rather than R-1 Residential zoning. She asked the City Attorney to comment on this.

Mr. Holly stated Councilwoman Price had talked to him about the possibility of using the Open Space Zone for the recreation area. The suggestion was made that the Open Space Zone could be amended to include things like parks, green spaces and related buildings. An additional zoning category such as an Environmentally Protected Area could be added for Hitchcock Woods.

Council discussed zoning the Woodward property as Open Space Zone rather than R-1 Single Family Residential, but the majority of Council felt that the Open Space Zone should be amended first to allow buildings before zoning the area Open Space to protect the city as the city does anticipate constructing recreational buildings on the property in developing the recreation complex and possibly constructing a fire station on a portion of the property in the future.

Councilman Anaclerio moved, seconded by Mayor Cavanaugh and unanimously approved, that the changes in the ordinance for annexation of the Woodward property regarding annexation of the abutting rights-of-way be approved.

The public hearing was held and no one spoke.

Councilman Anaclerio moved, seconded by Mayor Cavanaugh, that the ordinance for annexation of the Woodward property as amended be passed on second and final reading to become effective immediately with R-1 Single Family Zoning. He further moved that the staff proceed with development of amending the Open Space Zone to fit recreational areas with related structures and deleting the appeals process which was developed to cover the Hitchcock Woods area and that a new zone be developed to cover Hitchcock Woods. In favor of the motion were: Mayor Cavanaugh, Councilmen Anaclerio, Perry and Radford. Opposed were Councilmembers Papouchado and Price. The motion passed by a majority vote of 4 to 2.

ANNEXATION - ORDINANCE 071392B

Citizens Field
East Pine Log Road
City of Aiken
Airport Road
Jehossee Drive
Recreation Area

Mayor Cavanaugh stated this was the time advertised for the second reading and public hearing of an ordinance to annex the Citizens Field Complex.

Mr. Thompson read the title of the ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE TO ANNEX TO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF AIKEN CERTAIN PROPERTY, TOGETHER WITH THE ABUTTING PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY NOT PREVIOUSLY ANNEXED, KNOWN AS CITIZENS FIELD COMPLEX CONSISTING OF 50.49 ACRES OWNED BY THE CITY OF AIKEN LOCATED BETWEEN EAST PINE LOG ROAD (S.C. 302), AIRPORT ROAD (S-2-356), AND JEHOSSIE DRIVE (S-2-1681) AND TO ZONE THE SAME R-1, SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL.

Mr. Thompson stated the City would like to annex the Citizens Field Complex which is used for recreational purposes. The Planning Commission reviewed the annexation request and recommended approval of the annexation of Citizens Field with R-1 Single Family Residential Zoning.

Mr. Holly pointed out the property to be annexed includes 49.92 acres at Citizens Field and the .57 acre tract purchased from the Woodmen of the World, for a total acreage of 50.49 acres plus the rights-of-way of Airport Road and Jehossee Drive consisting of 3.22 acres. He said he had made some changes in the ordinance to clarify which rights-of-way are being annexed. He said Council would need to approve the amendments to the ordinance before adopting the ordinance.

Councilwoman Price moved, seconded by Councilwoman Papouchado and unanimously approved, that the amendments to the ordinance regarding the rights-of-way being annexed be adopted.

The public hearing was held and no one spoke.

Councilwoman Papouchado moved, seconded by Councilman Anaclerio and unanimously approved, that the ordinance for annexation of Citizens Field and the abutting rights-of-way as amended be passed on second and final reading to become effective immediately.

ZONING ORDINANCE

Amendment
Public Notices
Variances
Rezoning

Mayor Cavanaugh stated this was the time advertised for the second reading and public hearing of an ordinance requiring mailing of notices to adjacent property owners for Zoning Board of Adjustment and Planning Commission hearings.

Mr. Thompson stated that the Zoning Board of Adjustment had asked that the ordinance requiring mailing of notices to adjacent property owners for Zoning Board of Adjustment and Planning Commission hearings be postponed until the Zoning Board of Adjustment could discuss the matter.

Councilman Anaclerio moved, seconded by Councilwoman Papouchado and unanimously approved, that the ordinance requiring mailing of notices to adjacent property owners for Zoning Board of Adjustment and Planning Commission hearings be postponed until the next regular meeting of Council to allow time for the Zoning Board of Adjustments to discuss the matter.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Steering Committee
Appointment

Mayor Cavanaugh stated Council needed to consider appointment of the Strategic Plan Steering Committee.

Mr. Thompson stated Council had spent a great deal of time guiding development of the Strategic Plan for the Aiken community, and Council had hosted and participated in the organizing retreat in Rock Hill. The retreat resulted in a

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tentative planning process to help develop community-wide goals over the next two years. The organizing committee recommended that City Council form a steering committee to work with Council and to develop theme areas for consideration as the city goes through the different task forces and public hearings. The Steering Committee will assist Council in reviewing the work program and research that is developed through the strategic planning process. This will also include identifying major theme areas for consideration by City Council. The theme areas and research serve as the basis for the goal setting process. The Steering Committee will require time from the individuals appointed, meeting at least monthly. He pointed out City Council would not necessarily attend each meeting but would be involved in all major aspects of the Strategic Plan. He stated the organizing committee had recommended representatives from various organizations in the city to form the Steering Committee. He said Council needs to consider appointment of members to the Steering Committee for the Strategic Plan.

Councilman Anaclerio moved, seconded by Councilwoman Price and unanimously approved, that the following members be appointed to the Steering Committee for the Strategic Plan for the City of Aiken: City of Aiken - Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem and City Manager; Aiken County - Council Chairman or County Administrator; Downtown Development Corporation - Chairman or Executive Director; Economic Development Partnership - Chairman or Executive Director; HCA Regional Medical Center - Administrator; USC-Aiken - Chancellor; Aiken Technical College - President; Savannah River Site - President; School District - Board Chairman or District Superintendent; Chamber of Commerce - Board Chairman or President, plus three members at large to be named at the next meeting of Council.

VALE WATER SYSTEM - ORDINANCE

Water
Well
Southeast Aiken
Annexation Agreements

Mayor Cavanaugh stated an ordinance had been prepared for first reading outlining annexation agreements for Vale Water System customers.

Mr. Thompson read the title of the ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 062292B AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF THE VALE WATER SYSTEM SO AS TO AMEND SECTION 2 (c) THEREOF DEALING WITH ANNEXATION AGREEMENTS.

Mr. Thompson stated the ordinance authorizing the purchase of the Vale Water System included a section that required all new property owners to annex into the city, but in discussions Council had expressed a policy of requiring all customers of new systems purchased by the city to execute annexation agreements. This requirement would include annexation agreements for all present water system customers for the Vale. To meet this policy, the ordinance authorizing the purchase of the Vale System needs to be amended. The proposed ordinance would amend the ordinance for the purchase of the Vale to include the requirement of annexation agreements for all customers on the Vale Water System.

Councilman Radford moved, seconded by Councilwoman Price and unanimously approved, that the ordinance requiring all owners of lots and properties of the Vale Water System to execute an annexation agreement for receiving water service from the City of Aiken be passed on first reading and the second reading and public hearing be set for the next regular meeting of Council.

PAVING

North Aiken Elementary School
Driveway
School
Rocking Program
Resurfacing

Mayor Cavanaugh stated Council needed to consider submittal of the driveway at North Aiken Elementary School into the State Rocking Program.

Mr. Thompson stated that for several years the Legislative Delegation has been working with the State Highway Department to have a new driveway constructed at North Aiken Elementary School on S.C. 118. The Delegation had expected to pay for this out of the "C" Fund, but the Highway Department has notified the Delegation that the driveway would not qualify for the State Highway system because it does

not carry public traffic. The Delegation is asking if the city would consider sponsoring this driveway under the State's "rocking" program.

The "rocking" program is the method that the State Highway Department uses for projects that are not within the State Highway system. Since the school is within the city limits of Aiken, the Delegation is asking if the city would accept the responsibility of placing this under the "rocking" program. The City would perform the work, or contract for the work, and the cost would be paid out of the "C" fund allocated to Aiken County. The city's obligation is to accept responsibility for maintenance of the driveway after this is completed. The City of Aiken has not gotten into this kind of arrangement in the past, however, North Augusta has assisted the schools in their area in this way. This may be the only way to obtain State funding for the project unless and until the School District is able to construct and maintain the schools' driveways and parking lots. The School District's engineers have asked whether the city's landscape and other ordinances would apply to this project, and the staff response has been that all applicable city ordinances must be met. If Council wishes to accept this project, Council may wish to do so with the condition that the Delegation reimburse the city for all costs associated with the project including landscaping and engineering assistance.

Mr. Thompson stated Senator Tommy Moore of the Legislative Delegation is asking the city to sponsor inclusion of the driveway at North Aiken Elementary School under the "rocking" program through the State Highway Department. The total cost of the project is estimated at about \$80,000 and funds are to be taken from the allocation to Aiken County from the State Highway Department "C" funds.

Council discussed the matter and the fact that in the future the city would be responsible for maintenance of the street if it is paved under the "rocking" program. Council also pointed out one of the goals of Council is to upgrade the educational system and this would be a joint effort between the city and county. Councilmembers felt that all city ordinances should be followed such as the Landscape and Tree Ordinance. Council also felt that if Council asks for the driveway to be paved under the "rocking" program that the funds should not be taken from the city's "C" funds.

Councilman Anaclerio moved, seconded by Councilwoman Price and unanimously approved, that Council ask that the driveway of North Aiken Elementary School be paved under the State's "rocking" program with the condition that funds for the paving not come from the city's "C" fund allocation.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS - ORDINANCE

Attendance Amendment Policy

Mayor Cavanaugh stated an ordinance had been prepared for Council's consideration to amend the attendance policy for members of boards and commissions.

Mr. Thompson read the title of the ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-9 OF THE AIKEN CITY CODE ENTITLED "ATTENDANCE OF MEMBERS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS" SO AS TO MAKE THE ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE ONLY TO REGULAR MEETINGS OF SUCH BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.

Mr. Thompson stated that at the April 13 meeting Council reviewed the attendance policy for appointed members of city boards and commissions. At that time Council asked that the attendance policy be changed to consider attendance at regular meetings only when computing attendance records. The City Attorney has prepared an ordinance amending the City Code to reflect this policy.

Under the present ordinance any committee member who is absent from 40% or more of regular and special meetings, or who misses three or more successive meetings, is automatically removed from the board unless reinstated by City Council. The proposed ordinance would change the policy to consider absences from regular meetings only of the board or commission.

Councilwoman Price moved, seconded by Councilwoman Papouchado and unanimously approved, that the ordinance amending the attendance policy of members of boards and commissions to consider regular meetings only in computing attendance records be passed on first reading and the second reading and public hearing be set for the next regular meeting of Council.

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BIDSUniforms
Public Works
Recreation

Mayor Cavanaugh stated Council needed to consider acceptance of bids for purchase of uniforms for employees in the Public Works and Recreation Departments.

Mr. Thompson stated the city buys uniforms for employees in the Public Works and Recreation Departments and had advertised for bids for the next two years. The staff is recommending acceptance of the low bid submitted by Aratex at a total cost of \$13,456. The city purchases the uniforms, and the employee is responsible for having the uniforms cleaned. The bids received are as follows:

<u>Uniform</u>	<u>Aratex</u>	<u>Initial USA</u>	<u>Cintas</u>	<u>Textilease</u>
Coveralls	\$ 16.75	\$ 23.00	\$ 24.00	\$ 26.00
White Shirt Set	19.73	25.50	24.00	25.00
Blue Shirt Set	19.73	25.75	24.00	25.00
Orange Shirt Set	19.95	25.75	24.00	26.00
Jacket	10.75	27.00	24.00	27.00
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Anticipated Costs Over 2 Year Period	\$ 13,456	\$ 18,082	\$ 16,920	\$ 18,000

Mayor Cavanaugh moved, seconded by Councilman Anaclerio, that the low bid of Aratex for a total cost of \$13,456 be accepted for providing uniforms for Public Works and Recreation Department employees for a two year period. The motion was approved by a majority vote with Councilman Radford abstaining since some uniform bidders were customers of Graniteville Company, his employer.

BIDSPaving
Slurry Seal

Mayor Cavanaugh stated Council needed to consider accepting the bids for the slurry seal project.

Mr. Thompson stated that each year the city asks for bids for the slurry paving program to slurry pave city-maintained streets and state streets. He said the city had asked for bids and received two responses as follows:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Bid Price</u>
Slurry Pavers, Inc.	\$ 98,949.21
Beams Pavement Maintenance Co.	111,872.53

Mr. Thompson stated the staff is recommending acceptance of the low bid of Slurry Pavers with a bid price of \$98,949.21.

Included in the project are some of the private streets in Kalmia Landing. The streets within Kalmia Landing would be funded through the homeowners' association of Kalmia Landing, with a total expense of \$12,152.36. Also, included in the bid is slurry paving of several state streets. The Highway Department has been willing to work with the city to help fund a portion of slurry seal for state-maintained streets. The State has agreed to provide 50% of the funding for state streets, and the State share of this bid would be \$15,886.22. The City would fund the entire cost of the city-maintained streets. Combining both the City's portion of State streets and the city-maintained streets, the City's obligation for this project is \$70,910.64. Funds are available through the current budget.

Councilwoman Price stated that Kershaw Street between Richland and Edgefield needed to be resurfaced and asked if this could be considered in future paving programs.

Councilwoman Price moved, seconded by Councilman Anaclerio and unanimously approved, that the city accept the low bid of Slurry Pavers at a cost of \$98,949.21 to slurry pave streets in Aiken as listed by the staff.

BIDS

Rescue/Service Truck
Public Safety Department
Fire Equipment

Mayor Cavanaugh stated Council needed to consider acceptance of bids for a Rescue/Service Truck.

Mr. Thompson stated that in fiscal year 1991-92 Council approved the refurbishing of a fire engine in the Public Safety Department. The city staff was able to complete most of these repairs and avoid this expense. The staff is recommending that the city use the funds allocated for the refurbishing of the fire engine to purchase a service truck for the Department of Public Safety.

The city has taken bids for the purchase of a truck body and are recommending acceptance of the low bid submitted by Emergency Vehicles, Inc. at a total price of \$65,500. The bids received are as follows:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Bid Price</u>
Emergency Vehicles, Inc.	\$ 65,500
Spartan Fire & Emergency Apparatus	82,794
Carolina Fire Masters	87,694

Mr. Thompson stated that under the Insurance Service Organization (ISO) requirements, the city must respond to all structural fires with two pumpers and a ladder truck or a service truck. The ladder trucks are a high liability piece of equipment, and unless the city is working with a multi-story structure the preference is to keep this equipment off the streets. A service truck carries all of the fire gear and serves as a rescue vehicle, but allows the city to work with a much more versatile piece of equipment.

The chassis for the truck would be purchased through State contract and the successful vendor for the body will be responsible for mounting the body on the chassis.

The staff is recommending acceptance of the low bid of Emergency Vehicles for \$65,500. Emergency Vehicles has prepared similar equipment for North Augusta's Public Safety Department, and the city has checked other references as well.

Councilman Anaclerio moved, seconded by Councilman Radford and unanimously approved, that Council accept the bid for purchase of a service truck body from Emergency Vehicles, Inc. at a cost of \$65,500, conditioned upon the City Attorney's review and approval of the necessary contract documents with the supplier.

GARBAGE - ORDINANCE

Commercial Garbage
Rate Increase

Mayor Cavanaugh stated an ordinance had been prepared for first reading to increase the rate for commercial garbage collection.

Mr. Thompson read the title of the ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 052791 OF THE CITY OF AIKEN SO AS TO INCREASE THE USER RATE FOR REGULAR COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL CONTAINER REFUSE AND GARBAGE COLLECTION FROM \$1.22 TO \$1.54 PER CUBIC YARD DUE TO INCREASES IN LANDFILL CHARGES ADOPTED BY AIKEN COUNTY.

Mr. Thompson stated the City had been notified by Aiken County that the landfill rates will increase for commercial garbage collection taken to the county landfills for disposal. In the past the city has tried to keep the garbage collection self-supporting by charging user fees and any increase in cost has been passed on to the customers. He pointed out the city had been trying to emphasize to the businesses and industries ways to reduce the volume of garbage going to the landfill. He pointed out recycling was an example of cutting down on the volume going to the landfill. Mr. Thompson stated the increase by Aiken County will

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require the city to increase the present rate for commercial garbage collection from \$1.22 per cubic yard to \$1.54 per cubic yard. The proposed ordinance would amend the garbage fee ordinance to adopt the new rates required to pay for the increased cost at the County landfill.

Councilman Radford moved, seconded by Councilwoman Papouchado and unanimously approved, that the ordinance to increase the commercial garbage rates be passed on first reading and the second reading and public hearing be set for the next regular meeting of Council.

BUSINESS LICENSE - ORDINANCE

Utilities
Telephone Companies
Electric Companies
Gas Companies
Cablevision Companies

Mayor Cavanaugh stated an ordinance had been prepared for first reading to increase the business license fees for utility companies.

Mr. Thompson read the title of the ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 19 OF THE CITY OF AIKEN BUSINESS LICENSE ORDINANCE SO AS TO INCREASE THE BUSINESS LICENSE RATE FOR TELEPHONE COMPANIES, ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANIES AND CABLEVISION COMPANIES FROM 3% TO 5% OF GROSS INCOME AND TO EXPRESSLY ADD LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE COMPANIES THERETO.

Mr. Thompson pointed out that recently Council adopted a franchise fee schedule of 5% of gross revenues for utility companies. Some of the utility companies come under the Business License fees rather than a franchise fee depending on how they were originally approved and the type of utility. He pointed out the proposed change would place all utilities on the same fee schedule whether under a franchise fee or the Business License fee. He pointed out Aiken Electric Cooperative pays fees under the Business License Ordinance while South Carolina Electric & Gas comes under a franchise fee.

Councilman Anaclerio moved, seconded by Mayor Cavanaugh and unanimously approved, that the ordinance to increase the Business License fee for utility companies from 3% to 5% of gross revenues be passed on first reading and the second reading and public hearing be set for the next regular meeting of Council.

DRAINAGE - GRANT

Stormwater
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Barnwell Avenue

Mayor Cavanaugh stated Council needed to accept a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency for stormwater drainage.

Mr. Thompson stated that for the past two years the city has been working with the Governor's Office and the Federal Emergency Management Agency for assistance from the heavy rainfall of October 12, 1990. He said FEMA and the Governor's Office have helped the city with repairs from the flood over the past two years. He said the city had been trying to obtain funding for additional improvements to the stormwater system in the area of Helping Hands on Barnwell Avenue. He said he had met with representatives of the Governor's Office today and had been informed that the city had received a FEMA grant totaling \$16,285. The city will have to match this amount, making a total project cost of \$32,570. Mr. Thompson stated the area around Helping Hands is constantly flooded by all rains and this grant will help the city to correct some long standing problems. He said if Council wishes they should accept the grant and authorize the City Manager to serve as the applicant's agent for the grant.

Councilman Radford moved, seconded by Councilwoman Papouchado and unanimously approved, that the city accept the grant of \$16,285 from FEMA and authorize the City Manager to serve as the city's agent for the grant.

PERMITTED USE

Rural Development Administration Building
Farmers Home Administration
Governmental Use
280 Beaufort Street N.E.
Brodie, Allen

Mayor Cavanaugh stated the city had received a request for a governmental building to be located in a Suburban Industrial Zone.

Mr. Thompson stated the city had received a request from Allen Brodie asking the city to approve location of a governmental building in the Suburban Industrial Zone (SI) located at 280 Beaufort Street N.E. Governmental buildings may be located in any zone on recommendation of the Planning Commission and approval by City Council. The proposed building is expected to house the Rural Development Administration of the Farmers Home Administration. The Planning Commission has reviewed the request and recommended approval to Council.

The Planning Commission discussed limiting curb cuts to one curb cut per lot on each street. The lot faces on two streets, Gaston Road and Beaufort Street. It was pointed out that Mr. Brodie received approval for a minor subdivision creating two lots located on Beaufort Street, and one lot containing 1.12 acres is proposed to be used for the location of an office building for the Rural Development Administration. The developer will also be required to comply with the city's Landscape and Tree Ordinance.

Councilman Anaclerio moved, seconded by Councilman Radford and unanimously approved, that the request for location of a governmental office building in a Suburban Industrial zone at 280 Beaufort Street N.E. be approved with the condition that curb cuts be limited to one curb cut per lot on each street.

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATIONMembership Fee

Mayor Cavanaugh stated a request had been received for funding a Downtown Development Corporation membership fee.

Mr. Thompson stated that City Council had always supported strong downtown development and helped to form the present Downtown Development Corporation. The Corporation has received funding in the past from the city through the Accommodations Tax revenues but these funds are heavily competitive. He said the Downtown Development Corporation is asking if the city would consider a \$20,000 membership fee to serve as the basis for future improvements in the downtown. This would not fully fund the Development Corporation and would leave the Corporation with substantial fund raising to involve downtown property owners and managers. He pointed out the Development Corporation has been struggling with funding.

Councilman Radford stated there have been many improvements in the downtown area since 1989. He said he thought it was important for the city to continue to support the downtown as it is the life blood of the city.

Councilman Radford moved, seconded by Councilwoman Price and unanimously approved, that Council accept the suggestion of the City Manager and that \$20,000 be funded annually as a membership fee for the Downtown Development Corporation from Professional Services in the City Council budget which has formerly been used for Christmas decorations.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Discovery Celebration
Columbus Celebration
Ad Segment

Mr. Thompson stated a request had been received from the Chamber of Commerce for funding for the Discovery Celebration ad segment. He said the Chamber had been contacted and asked to participate in a national Discovery Campaign including a series of 26 televised segments on cities and towns in the United States. He said this is an opportunity for the city to be involved in the national campaign and to be highlighted in a 5 to 7 minute segment on national TV. The Chamber is asking if the city would consider committing funding for the cost of the segment. The Chamber is asking Council to consider committing funding from the Accommodations Tax revenues to pay for this.

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Mr. Thompson stated because of the time frame the request had not gone to the Accommodations Tax Committee at this time. He stated June Murff and Terry Rhinehart had discussed the funding with Sam Erb, Vice Chairman of the Accommodations Tax Committee. If Council approves the request, the matter would still go to the Accommodations Tax Committee and through the regular route. He pointed out if the city is to participate in the Discovery Celebration contracts must be signed immediately.

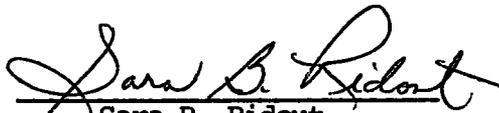
Mrs. Murff was present and explained the program to Council and stated that she felt it would be good national publicity for the City of Aiken. She pointed out the city would have direction on the script and would have the opportunity to approve the script and what would be filmed. She stated the city's segment could be geared towards tourism.

Council discussed the matter and the publicity the city would receive from being aired on national TV. Council asked if the matter had been discussed with the Accommodations Tax Committee as they did not like to supersede the Accommodations Tax Committee. It was pointed out that the matter would still go to the Accommodations Tax Committee even if Council approved the request.

Mayor Cavanaugh moved, seconded by Councilman Anaclerio and approved by a majority vote, that Council approve funding for the Discovery Celebration ad segment contingent on the Accommodations Tax Committee approving the request. After the Accommodations Tax Committee acts on the request, then Council will take action to ratify the decision made. The motion was approved by a majority vote with Councilman Perry abstaining from voting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Councilman Anaclerio moved, seconded by Councilwoman Price, that the meeting adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9:55 P.M.


Sara B. Ridout
City Clerk