

ANDERSON COUNTY COUNCIL
ANDERSON, SOUTH CAROLINA

Regular Meeting - September 20, 1988 - 7:00 p.m.
Linda N. Gilstrap, Clerk

M I N U T E S

A regular meeting of the Anderson County Council was held on September 20, 1988 at 7:00 p.m. in the Anderson County Council Chambers - Room 109. Chairman James M. "Jimmy" Cox, Jr. presided.

PRESENT

Chairman James M. Cox, Jr. - District #1
David L. Hooper - District #2
Robert L. Wiles - District #3
Ernie Garrison - District #4
Mike Holden - District #5
David Watson - County Administrator
Mike Mullinax - County Attorney
Jack Crowe - Purchasing Manager
Linda N. Gilstrap - Clerk

Mr. Cox called the meeting to order and Councilman David L. Hooper gave the invocation. Everyone stood and pledged allegiance to the flag.

On the motion of Mr. Wiles, seconded by Mr. Garrison, Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the September 6, 1988 meeting with one minor change.

Mr. Jim Hinson, representing the City of Anderson, presented a plaque to Council for winning the race between County and City officials held before the Midnight Flight race. Council thanked Mr. Hinson.

Mr. Cox recognized Ms. Dianne Lee, Director of the Arts Council. She explained that Mr. Crowe and Mr. Burns approached her concerning a new County seal. She introduced Mr. Chris Varner, a graduate of McDuffie High School, who was the winner of the contest; "Designing Students '88". The seal was not available to view, but will be at a later meeting. Mr. Varner was told that he would receive \$100 for his design.

Mr. Wiles presented a request from the Recreation Commission for the lease of 13 acres of land in the Starr area from the Starr Area Youth Athletic Association for development of a park. The lease is fee simple, five years with option to renew. This will enable the Recreation Commission to use State and Local funds to develop. Mr.

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Wiles moved to approve the lease and Mr. Cox seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Harry Soroczak and approximately 25 other citizens from Heather Heights appeared before Council requesting the roads in the subdivision be paved. They explained that the seller told them that the County would pave the roads. Mr. Cox said that there was nothing in the Ordinance that Council could do. Mr. Cox advised the citizens to consult an attorney for possible legal action against the seller to get the roads paved. If for some reasons that fails, he asked the citizens to come back to Council. Mr. Cox asked Tony Cirelli to meet with the people and explain the order of action to take. The roads are approximately 3/4 of a mile and are in District #2. Council received as information.

Larry & Vince, Crash Dummies, visited the meeting to let everyone know that this week is EMS Awareness Week.

Mr. Cox recognized Mr. Jim Ford, Assistant Scout Master, and Boy Scout Troop #205. All the boy scouts were presented County Pins.

Mr. Cox recognized Ms. Barbara Newbaum. She said that Council had a contract pending for two options: the purchase of an 18 acre tract of land with four acres being donated for a total price to the County of \$99,000, or a cash transaction of \$100,000 for 25 acres. The land is located across the street from Wren High School and the middle school. A tentative closing date of October 31 is in the contract. Avenues are being pursued for the \$100,000 cash transaction to obtain the 25 acres. Members of the Wren Youth Association said that the Association had \$10,000 (\$5,000 from the Recreation Commission and \$5,000 from District #1 - Jimmy Cox's Special Projects-1987-1988 budget), Mr. Cox will again give \$5,000 from District #1 Special Projects and \$5,000 more from the Recreation Commission for a total of \$20,000. Mr. Cox explained that the benefit from the case purchase would be to obtain the additional acres which would reduce the cost per acre below the appraised value. That section of the County has been without recreational facilities since existence. He said the County would purchase the land with a Tax Anticipation Note and spread the payments out over the next four years. The first payment (\$20,000) would come from funds already on hand. The second payment (\$25,000) would come from a Land Resource Commission Grant and the third and fourth would come from Rural Improvement Funds and Special Projects Funds. Ms. Newbaum said that the sellers are donating some of the acreage which will assist in securing the funds to develop the property. Mr. Cox moved to authorize the purchase of the 25 acres of said tract of land in accordance with the provisions of Section 4-9-30 of the S.C. Code of Laws and other statutory provisions that may apply. The land to be financed through a Tax Anticipation Note or such other means of funding as is feasible and direct the County Attorney to proceed with the necessary legal work to secure the purchase of the land. Mr. Cox also said that Stephen Crawford has assured him that the grant is obtainable and the County has an

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excellent chance of receiving it. Mr. Hooper seconded. Mr. Garrison explained that he had received a good deal of mail concerning this. He said it was a matter of priorities with him. The County budget was increased by 18% and that is enough to tax the people for one time so he is not in favor of spending money outside of the budget in large amounts and this is a large amount. Second, the precedent that is being set buying \$100,000 worth of land in one area when we have other areas that's growing too and it's not that he doesn't care, he does care and he sees the need, he cares about the children in the County and he wants them to have everything the County can afford to give them, but he wants to be fair throughout the County. He said that he wanted a plan where all taxpayers that fund these things, get their share of the county taxes. He said these large items should be addressed at budget time and he is not for the County buying on installment plan. Buying the land is only the first expense, he said and for those reasons he would oppose. Mr. Cox said the purchase will not effect taxation this year or the next four years. This is already approved and budgeted. The allocation of it is at the discretion of Council. Mr. Hooper said that for 12 years the people of Powersville have addressed Council and the need for recreational facilities in that area. Mr. Holden said that it appeared to him that the County could work with some of the schools and other organizations in the area and probably get the project done for a good bit less. He said he would like to have more information and facts from Stephen Crawford and Rusty Burns about the grants before voting. Mr. Cox explained that it was a Special Project's expenditure more than anything else. Mr. Wiles said that he would hate to say no to this kind of project, but he didn't see how County Council could go into all areas of the County and borrow \$100,000. He said he had areas in his district that have been neglected over the years on all kinds of things, not just recreation. Council recessed for ten minutes before the vote. Mr. Cox called the meeting back to order after the recess. Council continued to discuss the issue. Mr. Garrison called for the question. Vote was three in favor (Cox, Hooper, Holden) and two opposed (Garrison, Wiles). Motion carried.

Mr. Cox said that the Sheriff's department requested that Council transfer \$2,800 from their over time account to salary account to allow for two raises within the department to be allocated at the Sheriff's discretion. Mr. Hooper seconded. Mr. Wiles asked for clarification of the 5% increase in each budget. Mr. Watson said that in some budgets the 5% was included and could have been given to someone else. Mr. Wiles said he thought Council put enough into the salary account for increases and therefore would oppose. Mr. Garrison said that he understood that Council approved a 5% merit increase. Later he found that each department got 5% and one person could get all of it or divide it out and have an individual getting 20% increase in salary if the department head so chose. Mr. Wiles said who didn't know he got what and the County could have ridiculous increases and not even know it. Mr. Hunter said that did not occur. Mr. Garrison asked Mr. Hunter for a list of all employees receiving 10% or more in the County. Mr.

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Cox said he may have misstated the request. He said that it was already in the salary account and wanted to shift two employees that got overlooked in the budget process. Mr. Garrison moved to table and Mr. Wiles seconded. Vote was 5-0. Someone from the Sheriff's office will be at the next meeting to explain the request.

Mr. Cox asked the majority who voted for the purchase of land for the Wren Youth Association if anyone objected to the record reflecting that if this should require three readings that the vote tonight will be taken as first reading. Everyone agreed.

Mr. Garrison presented second reading of Ordinance #263 to discontinue the fees by the Building and Codes Department for roofing and siding. Mr. Garrison moved that the ordinance be approved as presented on second reading and Mr. Hooper seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Garrison presented Resolution #474 establishment of a Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC). No funding would be required at this time. Mr. Garrison moved to approve and Mr. Hooper seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Garrison stated that people in his district were very concerned about ordinances and resolutions passed by Council. Sometimes they miss the paper and they are not familiar with what is going on and what the laws are. He said that the possibility of a newsletter to the households of the County from the County Administrator or County Council, once a quarter, would solve the problem. This would keep everyone updated. The County needs some type communication with it's citizens. He said it may cost \$10,000-\$11,000 to get out to the citizens and would offer this as information and make the suggestion to look into it and come up with some facts on it. Mr. Hooper said that some years back, Council approved sending a newsletter out. He asked the Clerk to research the minutes.

Mr. Garrison asked that the agenda be amended to hear from Mr. Jim Smith, a member of the Airport Commission. There were no objections. Mr. Jim Smith, owner of Tag & Label, asked Council for the approval to build a hangar at the Anderson County Airport to store the company aircraft. He said they do business at the Airport with Anderson Aviation and they had received permission from a previous Airport Commission to build the hangar. The hangar will be structural sound and is similar to one already built at the Airport. Mr. Cox asked Mr. Carl Gross what the problem was. He said that the hangar was approved by the previous Commission, but the question was raised as to how one operator was told to build a metal building and another operator can build a wooden building. At that point, the Commission decided to hold up on it until standards could be set; however before that meeting financial commitment had been made. Mr. Cox said the Airport Commission needed to resolve this before Council acts. Mr. Hooper moved to make the County Attorney available to the Airport Commission to help resolve the problem and to come back at the next meeting with a

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report. Mr. Holden amended the motion that the Airport Commission come back at the next meeting with a recommendation. Mr. Garrison seconded. Vote was unanimous on the amendment and vote was unanimous on the original motion as amended.

Mr. Tony Cirelli asked for Council's approval for the following subdivisions to be accepted into the County system: District # 5 - Lakeside Acres - Phase I, Windy Point, Clipper Court, & Schooner Court. They all meet County specifications. District #4 - Shoals (located near Portman Shoals). Mr. Holden moved to accept the roads as presented into the County system. Mr. Garrison seconded and vote was unanimous.

Mr. Hooper moved to appropriate \$200 from District #2 - Special Projects to the Recreation Commission for the purchase of a lawn mower for the Farmers Market. Mr. Holden seconded and vote was unanimous.

Mr. Cox moved to appropriate \$5,000 from District #1 - Special Projects to the County Attorney's Trust Account for the purchase of the land for the Wren Youth Association. Mr. Hooper seconded the motion and vote was unanimous.

Mr. Mullinax requested an executive session for the purpose of discussion a matter involving Solid Waste and industrial development. Mr. Wiles moved to go into executive session for the reasons stated and Mr. Holden seconded. Vote was unanimous. (time: 9:05 p.m.)

Mr. Holden moved to come out of executive session and back into regular session at 9:35 p.m. Mr. Hooper seconded and vote was unanimous.

Mr. Mullinax asked for a motion to approve the County Attorney to continue negotiations with DHEC (Department of Health & Environmental Control) and upon conclusion of those negotiations to authorize the Anderson County Solid Waste Authority to execute a consent order. Mr. Cox moved to allow that action and Mr. Wiles seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Mullinax presented second reading of Ordinance #262 dealing with a supplemental budget appropriation in the amount of \$276,000 as requested by the Anderson County Airport Commission. A refund of 50% coming from the State after construction. No motion was made, therefore the ordinance was tabled for later.

Mr. Mullinax presented Resolution #475 supporting the effort of C & S Industries to maintain operations in Anderson County and efforts to obtain \$350,000 in loan funds from the S.C. Jobs Economic Development Authority. Mr. Cox moved to approve and Mr. Garrison seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Watson informed Council that the Road Maintenance reports were at each Councilman's station.

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Mr. Jack Crowe presented a purchase request for 400 gals. of anti-freeze for Road Maintenance from Stockman Oil at \$6.50 per gal. Mr. Wiles moved to approve the purchase and Mr. Garrison seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Crowe asked for the approval to purchase (1) 1984 Chevrolet Cavalier and (1) 1985 Chevrolet Cavalier for \$1,950.00 each from the S.C. Division of General Services. The used cars are for Building and Codes. Mr. Garrison moved to approve and Mr. Wiles seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Crowe asked for the approval to purchase a portable repeater for the Sheriff's Department for \$3,795.00. Mr. Hooper moved to approve and Mr. Cox seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Crowe recommended that a contract be awarded to Sloan Construction for all 5 Council districts for paving. He said if Sloan received all five districts the County would receive a 30¢ per ton discount or a savings of \$16,230.00. The paving cost this year, averages \$2.09 per ton less than last year. Mr. Garrison moved to approve the recommendation for Sloan Construction to do the paving and Mr. Hooper seconded. Deadlines in the contract will be specified for Districts 3 & 4 by November 30 and selected roads in the other districts. The other three districts will be paved in the Spring. Sloan has indicated that they can complete all 5 districts by November 30, the County cannot have the roads prepared for Sloan to pave. Council discussed the deadline and the districts to receive paving. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Crowe explained that he didn't have a final cost for the furnishings and carpet for the Airport terminal. The results of searches over the last few days indicate that the cost will be approximately \$4,500.00 to furnish as originally requested. Mr. Gross had indicated that he can transfer \$1,500 within the Airport's budget and asked that Council provide \$3,000. Mr. Crowe asked for permission to poll Council for approval on the project when the final figures are obtained. He then will ask Council at the next meeting to ratify action. Council received as information.

Mr. Watson presented a request from Piedmont Sewer & Light requesting \$10,000 for a sewer line and \$15,000 for lighted ball park. This was included in the 1988-89 County budget. He recommended that the Council go ahead and appropriate the \$10,000 now for the sewer line and give them the \$15,000 around the first of the year. He said the request for \$15,000 for the Belton Stand Pipe was in. Mr. Cox moved to approve the recommendations of the Administrator for the \$10,000 on the sewer line and \$15,000 on the Belton Standpipe. Mr. Wiles seconded the motion and vote was unanimous.

Mr. Watson said that a section of road adjacent to Mount Bethel Baptist Church needed to be paved. They are in the process of paving their

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parking lot. Mr. Watson recommended that the Purchasing Manager be authorized to pave the 18 foot section while the contractor is there. Mr. Wiles moved to ask the same contractor to pave that section of road to be consistent with the other paving and have the Road Maintenance inspectors check it out for County specifications. Mr. Cox seconded and vote was unanimous.

Mr. Watson asked for Council's consideration for work at Gant Elementary School (School District #2-Honea Path). They need a couple outlets on County roads, and crush run gravel at approximately \$800 to help change traffic flow and improve the safety of the school. Mr. Wiles moved to approve \$800 from Special Projects - District #3 to pay for the materials. If it goes over \$800, the money to come from Road Maintenance. Mr. Cox seconded and vote was 5-0.

Mr. Marvin Mattison distributed information from a study to help improve service at the Animal Shelter. Council received as information.

Mr. Rusty Burns presented Resolution #476 naming roads for the implementation of E911. Mr. Wiles asked that a letter explaining the process used to name the roads be sent to residents on Loftis Road. Mr. Wiles asked were C-15-276-B - Angie Drive was located. Mr. Burns explained that he could not say. Also, Mr. Wiles asked if True Temper Road was by petition and if Ostrich Lane was one-half of the circle. If it is there is no problem. Mr. Wiles moved to approve the roads as presented contingent on the questions being answered. Mr. Cox seconded and vote was unanimous.

Council heard from concerned citizens at this time.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda N. Gilstrap
Linda N. Gilstrap, Clerk
ANDERSON COUNTY COUNCIL