

Aiken City Council MinutesREGULAR MEETINGDecember 8, 2008

Present: Mayor Cavanaugh, Councilmembers Clyburn, Dewar, Price, Smith, Vaughters, and Wells.

Others Present: Roger LeDuc, Gary Smith, Richard Pearce, Pete Frommer, Ed Evans, Larry Morris, Glenn Parker, Anita Lilly, Sara Ridout, April Bailey of the Aiken Standard, and about 15 citizens.

Mayor Cavanaugh called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M. Mayor Cavanaugh led in prayer, which was followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Cavanaugh stated Council needed to approve the agenda. Councilman Dewar moved, seconded by Councilwoman Price and unanimously approved, that the agenda be approved as submitted.

MINUTES

The minutes of the regular meeting of November 24, 2008, were considered for approval. Councilman Dewar asked that comments he made regarding signs for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Highway and also questions he asked regarding the audit be included in the minutes. Councilman Dewar moved, seconded by Councilwoman Price and unanimously approved, that the minutes of the November 24, 2008, meeting be approved with the addition of Councilman Dewar's comments as requested.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONSAppointmentsDukes, NancyBoard of Zoning AppealsMcKie, EugeneCommunity Development CommitteeHudgins, MarkEnvironmental CommitteeLaw, McDonaldBroderick, DonDesign Review BoardGiobbe, EdPlanning CommissionBurckhalter, JohnPark Commission

Mayor Cavanaugh stated Council needed to make appointments to the various boards and commissions.

Mr. LeDuc stated we have 12 pending appointments to boards and committees of the city, and 7 appointments are presented for Council's consideration.

Mayor Cavanaugh has recommended reappointment of Nancy Dukes to the Board of Zoning Appeals for a three year term to expire December 1, 2011. He has also recommended the reappointment of the following: Eugene McKie to the Community Development Committee, with the term to expire September 2, 2010; Mark Hudgins to the Environmental Committee, with the term to expire December 31, 2010; and McDonald Law to the Design Review Board, with the term to expire December 31, 2010.

Councilman Smith has recommended reappointment of Ed Giobbe to the Planning Commission, with the term to expire December 1, 2010 and reappointment of Don Broderick to the Design Review Board, with the term to expire December 31, 2010.

Councilman Wells has recommended reappointment of John Burckhalter to the Park Commission, with the term to expire December 1, 2010.

For City Council consideration, this is approval of 7 appointments to the various boards and commissions of the city.

Councilman Dewar moved, seconded by Councilman Smith and unanimously approved, that Council reappoint Nancy Dukes to the Board of Zoning Appeals, with the term to expire December 1, 2011, Eugene McKie to the Community Development Committee, with the term to expire September 2, 2010, Mark Hudgins to the Environmental Committee, with the term to expire December 31, 2010, McDonald Law to the Design Review Board, with the term to expire December 31, 2010, Ed Giobbe to the Planning Commission, with the term to expire December 1, 2010, Don Broderick to the Design Review Board, with the term to expire December 31, 2010, and John Burckhalter to the Park Commission, with the term to expire December 1, 2010.

AUDIT REPORT 2007-08 – ORDINANCE 12082008

Fiscal Year 2007-2008

Financial Statements

Mayor Cavanaugh stated this was the time advertised for second reading and public hearing on an ordinance to accept the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Audited Financial Statements.

Mr. LeDuc read the title of the ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE FISCAL YEAR 2007-2008 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND AUTHORIZING THE VARIANCES TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2007-2008 BUDGET ORDINANCE.

Mr. LeDuc stated that at the last meeting representatives of Elliott Davis, LLC presented the audit results for fiscal year 2007-2008 to Council. Within the audit, the 2007-2008 line items show the changes with respect to the proposed actual revenues and expenditures. In essence, the audit is a reconciliation of what was approved by City Council in June, 2007, and what was actually spent during the past fiscal year. The audit report showed that there were no deficiencies found in our financial records.

The public hearing was held and no one spoke.

Councilman Dewar stated he found the audit report interesting and he was very impressed with the efficiency of the way the city finances are managed. There was about \$24 million in revenue, and the way Mr. LeDuc budgeted there was about a difference of \$115,000 which is near perfection. He concluded that the city finances are well run. He said the audit was a very impressive document and the only document Council gets that lets Council evaluate the effectiveness of the budget against what was budgeted and what was received and spent. He said he would also like to receive an audit for the Aiken Corporation and the Aiken Housing Authority.

Mayor Cavanaugh thanked Councilman Dewar for his comments, and stated other Councilmembers also felt the city finances are well managed. He thanked Ms. Lilly and her staff for their work in managing the finances.

Councilman Dewar moved, seconded by Mayor Cavanaugh and unanimously approved, that Council approve on second and final reading an ordinance to approve the city's fiscal year 2007-08 audited financial statements.

ANNEXATION – ORDINANCE 12082008A

Douglas Drive 505
ERC, Inc.
TPN 122-06-09-003

Mayor Cavanaugh stated this was the time advertised for second reading and public hearing on an ordinance to annex property at 505 Douglas Drive.

Mr. LeDuc read the title of the ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE TO ANNEX TO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF AIKEN CERTAIN PROPERTY CONSISTING OF .42 ACRES OF LAND, OWNED BY ERC, INC. AND LOCATED AT 505 DOUGLAS DRIVE AND TO ZONE THE SAME RESIDENTIAL SINGLE-FAMILY (RS-10).

Mr. LeDuc stated the owner of a 0.42 acre lot at 505 Douglas Drive would like to annex into the city under the RS-10 zone. There is a single family dwelling unit under construction on this site. The property is contiguous to the city by means of the homes on the opposite side of Douglas Drive. The applicant is interested in receiving city sewer service.

The Planning Commission discussed this at their November 11, 2008, meeting and unanimously recommended this annexation.

For City Council consideration, this is second reading and public hearing of an ordinance to annex property at 505 Douglas Drive under the RS-10 zone.

The public hearing was held and no one spoke.

Councilman Wells moved, seconded by Councilwoman Clyburn and unanimously approved, that Council pass on second and final reading an ordinance to annex property at 505 Douglas Drive under the RS-10 zone.

COKER SPRINGS ROAD – ORDINANCE

Newberry Street
Laurens Street
Hitchcock Woods Foundation
Close Street

Mayor Cavanaugh stated an ordinance had been prepared for Council's consideration to close the unopened portion of Coker Springs between Newberry Street and Laurens Street.

Mr. LeDuc read the title of the ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF AIKEN TO CONTINUE WITH CLOSURE OF AN UNOPENED PORTION OF THE RIGHT OF WAY OF COKER SPRINGS AVENUE BETWEEN NEWBERRY STREET AND LAURENS STREET, AT THE SAME TIME RETAINING ITS PUBLIC UTILITY, PUBLIC SAFETY, AND RELATED MUNICIPAL MAINTENANCE AUTHORITIES CONTINUED UTILITZATION OF IT FOR CITY NEEDS.

Mr. LeDuc stated earlier this year, we received a lawsuit filed by Hitchcock Woods Foundation to keep the portion of Coker Springs from Newberry Street to the extension of Laurens Street closed to public motor vehicle traffic. We have researched this paper street and have not found it to be opened in the past as a public roadway. In order to close this section, we have written letters to all of the adjoining property owners letting them know that this will be before City Council to abandon and close this right-of-way to any public traffic in the future. The city would maintain its rights to use the right of way for public utility maintenance and public safety access in the future. Signage was placed at this location to let the public know of this closure prior to it coming before City Council on first reading.

For City Council consideration, this is first reading of an ordinance to close the unopened portion of Coker Springs between Newberry Street and Laurens Street to any public motor vehicle traffic. Upon City Council consideration, a second reading and public hearing will be held.

Councilwoman Clyburn moved, seconded by Councilman Smith and unanimously approved, that Council pass on first reading an ordinance to close the unopened portion of Coker Springs between Newberry Street and Laurens Street to any public motor vehicle traffic, and that second reading and public hearing be set for the next regular meeting of Council.

RESOLUTION 12082008B

Dupont Landing
Aiken High School
Second Baptist Church Community Development Corp.
Second Baptist Church
Teague Street
Dupont Drive
Senior Housing Development
Community Revitalization Development Plan

Mayor Cavanaugh stated a resolution had been prepared for Council's consideration to approve the Dupont Landing Community Revitalization Development Plan.

Mr. LeDuc read the title of the resolution.

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING COMMUNITY RENEWAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (CRDP) FOR PROPERTY OWNED BY SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH.

Mr. LeDuc stated a couple of years ago, City Council approved a Community Revitalization Development Plan for Dupont Landing behind Aiken High School. This property is owned by Second Baptist Church and Second Baptist Community Development Corporation (CDC). They sought funding from the State and others to help with the development. They intend to create a single family development and senior housing and supportive services for this property. Council had previously approved the plan for the single family development, and they are now asking for approval of a revised plan, which will include a senior housing development consisting of 48 one-bedroom units in a single two-story building and an adjoining adult daycare facility for approximately 40 adults who need daily assistance. We visited Greer to see what they had done for their senior complex, and they had included an adult day care facility in their development.

The city originally tried to develop the property at Hampton and McCormick as senior housing. However, the property was not large enough to support the number of units necessary to give the proper in-service to the seniors. At that location, a maximum of 28 units could have been built in the multi family zone. The proposal for property on Dupont Drive allows the city and Second Baptist to join together to provide affordable housing to seniors and to provide the necessary support services that go along with this two-story 48 unit structure. One of the conditions in the resolution will require the property to be rezoned to accommodate the elderly housing and adult daycare facility.

They will soon submit this drawing for a planned residential rezoning. However, they needed approval of this resolution at this time so that they can continue with their state application process for this development.

For City Council consideration, this is approval of a resolution concerning revision of the Dupont Landing Community Revitalization Development Plan.

Mr. LeDuc pointed out Second Baptist will have to come back for rezoning at a later date. The area is not zoned for multi-family development. The request at this time is for approval of the overall plan. They have had some preliminary discussions with the

Planning Department, and they will be bringing final plans to the Planning Department soon. He stated the rezoning will probably be in the form of a Planned Residential concept, which will allow a multi-family facility for residents.

Councilwoman Vaughters asked how Council could approve the plans without approving the zoning at the same time.

Mr. LeDuc pointed out that for a Planned Residential zoning Council has asked for renderings and drawings to depict how the development will look. Second Baptist does not have these drawings at this time. He stated they have a deadline to have the resolution approved, so they can seek funding for the project. He stated it will take several months to go through the process of rezoning, since they have to submit a lot of drawings for the project. They realize they have to come back for the rezoning. He said at that time, if Council does not like the project they could turn down the rezoning. Approving the resolution would be saying the concept looks good, and we want more details in the future. The resolution approval would give the okay to go to the next level.

Councilman Dewar asked about the commitment for \$150,000 to the detention pond.

Mr. LeDuc stated Council had committed to that some time ago. He said the city needs a regional detention pond in the area of Aiken High School. The surrounding streets in the area used to flood. There is a temporary stormwater pond on their property at this time. About two to four years ago City Council committed to funding to enlarge the detention pond.

Mr. Harvey Ramseur, 7 Whitmarsh, pointed out the pictures included with the agenda show the facility at Greer and the proposed facility in Aiken would be very similar. The Nehemiah Company that developed the Greer project would develop the project in Aiken. Also, the same architect as the project in Greer would be used for Aiken.

Council briefly discussed the facility and layout of the buildings.

Mr. LeDuc pointed out Greer is very happy with their units, which have been in existence for several years. The units are assisted rental units for seniors 55 and up.

Councilwoman Price moved, seconded by Councilwoman Clyburn and unanimously approved, that Council pass the resolution establishing a Community Renewal Development Plan for property owned by Second Baptist Church near Aiken High School off Dupont Drive and Teague Streets.

RESOLUTION 12082008C

Workers' Compensation Deductible

Mayor Cavanaugh stated a resolution had been prepared for Council's consideration concerning raising the deductible for Workers' Compensation.

Mr. LeDuc read the title of the resolution.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING WORKERS' COMPENSATION COVERAGE FOR THE CITY OF AIKEN, SOUTH CAROLINA TO BE MAINTAINED AT A DEDUCTIBLE OF \$200,000 PER CLAIM.

Mr. LeDuc stated several years ago the City of Aiken started a Safety Committee to develop and oversee safety policies and to review on the job worker injuries. Over the past six years, we have seen a dramatic reduction in the amount that we pay for our Workers' Compensation insurance. This is due to the excellent job by this committee. If we were under our experience rating in 2004 we would be paying \$600,000 a year for Workers' Compensation insurance now. Presently we are paying about \$300,000 a year.

A few years ago City Council raised the Workers' Compensation deductible from \$1,000 to \$50,000. Since then we have been keeping a very accurate account of our injuries and

the amount of money that we are paying per year. Under the Workers' Compensation Deductible Analysis we have highlighted the last four years when we raised the deductible from \$1,000 to \$50,000. In 2004 we did not have any claims above \$35,000. In 2005 we had one claim above \$50,000 at \$72,464. In 2006 we did not have any claims over \$25,000. This past year we have had a couple of claims above \$50,000. However, most of this is reserved to pay for any possible future costs concerning these injuries. The highest expense involves a back injury from an employee who is currently working for the City of Aiken in the Public Safety Department. We would expect both of these claims to go down significantly over the next several years as the State settles with the employees. The State has informed us that this is renewal time for Workers' Compensation, and we have the opportunity to go to a higher deductible.

Based on our loss history, we feel that we can enjoy a significant savings by electing to go to a higher deductible of either \$100,000 or \$200,000. As with all insurance, there are risks should we elect to go to this higher deductible. Should Council agree with our recommendation, we suggest that we set aside money at the end of the fiscal year equal to any savings that we have enjoyed to build a reserve to pay for any possible future claims. We would anticipate a savings per year of approximately \$25,000 by raising the deductible to \$100,000 and an additional \$25,000 if we raised the deductible to \$200,000. In the future if the city wants to go back to a lower deductible that would be possible at the open season.

It is our recommendation to raise the deductible to \$200,000 and to set aside any savings in a reserve account.

For City Council consideration, this is approval of a resolution authorizing Workers' Compensation coverage for the City of Aiken to be maintained at a deductible of \$200,000 per claim.

Councilwoman Clyburn moved, seconded by Councilman Wells and unanimously approved, that Council approve the resolution authorizing Workers' Compensation coverage deductible to be increased to \$200,000 per claim.

RESOLUTION 12082008D

Purchase Property
Sumter Street 312 NE
TPN 121-06-04-002
Johnson, Gwendolyn D.
Carrington, Warren M.

Mayor Cavanaugh stated a resolution had been prepared for the purchase of property at 312 Sumter Street NE.

Mr. LeDuc read the title of the resolution

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE CITY OF AIKEN.

Mr. Leduc stated for the last several months the City has been negotiating with the property owners at 312 Sumter Street NE to purchase an abandoned and boarded up house. We have finally reached an agreement of \$12,000 for the home and the lot, which is approximately 125 feet along Sumter Street by 149 feet deep. The City owns the property to the north, and to the back of the property is Perry Park owned by the School District.

Our intention would be to tear down the house and to combine this land with the land that we currently have as part of the Perry Park Complex. The abandoned house has been an eyesore for this neighborhood, and its removal would greatly enhance this area.

For City Council consideration, this is approval of a resolution to purchase the property at 312 Sumter Street NE for \$12,000. Upon purchase the city would tear down the house and leave the area as open space.

Councilwoman Clyburn asked if the use of calla lilies could be used in the area to help with the standing water.

Mr. LeDuc responded that the lilies typically require a lot of sun light. In this area there are a lot of trees that grow well in a wet area, and there is not much sunlight. That type plant would not do well in this area, but maybe calla lilies could be used elsewhere in the area.

Councilwoman Clyburn moved, seconded by Councilwoman Price and unanimously approved, that Council approve the resolution authorizing the purchase of property at 312 Sumter Street NE for \$12,000 to be used as open space.

RESOLUTION 12082008E

Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Highway

Sign

S.C. 19

Mayor Cavanaugh stated a resolution had been prepared for Council's consideration for the placement of signs commemorating S.C. Highway 19 as the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Highway.

Mr. LeDuc read the title of the resolution.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PLACEMENT OF SIGNS
COMMEMORATING SC HIGHWAY 19 THROUGH THE AIKEN CITY LIMITS AS
THE MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., MEMORIAL HIGHWAY.

Mr. LeDuc stated that at the City Council meeting on March 28, 1994, Council voted to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., by designating South Carolina Highway 19 through the City of Aiken as the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Highway as an overlay designation. The approval stated there would be no renaming of the streets or additional signs erected for the designation nor any monuments or markers to recognize this designation.

After discussion at the last Council meeting, Council asked that signage be reconsidered, and a resolution authorizing the placement of signs commemorating South Carolina Highway 19 through the Aiken city limits as the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Highway has been prepared for Council's consideration. This signage would not change the current street name, addresses, or E911 designation, but would simply memorialize this section of South Carolina Highway 19 as a commemorative highway. The location and placement of these signs will be determined as we work with the South Carolina Department of Transportation. The signage will be fabricated and installed as per South Carolina Department of Transportation commemorative sign regulations. He pointed out most people have probably seen the signs used by the SC Department of Transportation designating memorial highways. One is near the Aiken Mall designating the area as the Brinkley Memorial Highway. This is the typical signed used by the State. He said the city could ask if there could be a more attractive sign. Typically the signs are 2 feet by 7 feet, green with white lettering. He said the size may vary some since the proposed wording is long.

For City Council consideration, this is approval of a resolution authorizing the placement of signs commemorating South Carolina Highway 19 through the Aiken city limits as the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Highway.

Mr. LeDuc stated it would help staff to know where Council may want to place the signs as the city will have to apply for permits to install the signs.

Ms. Brendolyn Jenkins, 804 Dillon Avenue, stated that at the last Council meeting there was discussion about signage for SC 19 which is designated as an overlay as the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Highway. She said County Councilman Willar Hightower and Councilman Scott Singer have stated they will work with the County to

take care of their portion of the road by asking the State to approve the signage for the portion of SC 19 in the County. Representative Bill Clyburn has agreed to take the lead at the state level in moving through the authorization process.

Ms. Jenkins then reviewed for Council the handout which she presented showing the proposed Martin Luther King Memorial Parkway route. She said the proposed designation would begin at the Aiken-Edgefield county line. It was proposed that Aiken County place a sign at the county line, at Exit 18 off I-20, and near the sign which says 8 miles to Aiken. The City portion for signage would begin around the intersection of SC 118 Bypass. It was also suggested a sign be placed in the parkway median at Laurens and Park and also some signage on Whiskey Road (SC 19) south, possibly near the Weeks Center, at Pine Log Road, and near the Mall. She said she had spoken with Mayor Dunbar of New Ellenton, and he had indicated that he did not see a problem with the duplication of signage through New Ellenton to 278. She asked that signs be placed going south and then going north indicating the designation of King Memorial Highway.

Ms. Jenkins then reviewed the various markers in the city. She said many of the Faith Community had expressed interest in placing a marker at Hampton and Laurens in memory of Dr. King. Funds would be raised through efforts of faith, social and civic and private community partners. They were asking the city's permission to place a marker at Hampton and Laurens in the median. She said the marker could be made in about four weeks. She stated they would like to place the marker at Laurens and Hampton on Saturday, January 17, 2009.

Mayor Cavanaugh asked if the State has to approve the location for signs and a marker.

Mr. LeDuc stated the city would have to get permission from the State to place the signs and the marker. The city would have to obtain permits to erect the signs as well as the marker. The signs would be the standard signs used by the Highway Department for highway signs. The signs are typically 2 feet by 7 feet. The city would make the signs, which would be green with white lettering. These are their standard informational signs. He said if Council wished the city could always ask for a different sign, but normally the signs are the standard highway signs.

Councilwoman Vaughters stated she was in favor of having something unique and better looking than the standard highway signs. She felt the standard highway signs are awful looking. She said she was expecting something better looking to be erected. She pointed out the signs would be a commemoration, not a directional sign. She said she wanted something better than the standard sign.

Representative Bill Clyburn stated he would address Councilwoman Vaughters' question. If we want something that looks better, it would be appropriate to ask, although there are standards for State signs. The request for a different type sign would have to be made to the State and would have to receive their approval. He said the important point is not to get hung up on the sign design, but to get the Highway Department approval and work together to see if a different sign can be erected.

Ms. Jenkins stated they did not want to get involved in the design details. They would be happy to get the designation, signs erected and approval for the monument.

Mayor Cavanaugh asked Ms. Jenkins if they were requesting signs at the locations shown on the handout.

Ms. Jenkins responded the handout shows possible locations for signs. She said the spacing for the signs would have to be worked out by the city. She pointed out the locations in the handout already have poles, and it was suggested that possibly signs could go in those locations on the current poles.

Councilwoman Price stated they did not want to proliferate the area with signs, but were asking Council to use their discretion for the placement of the signs. They were asking for what was appropriate and felt we could look at other communities to see what they have done.

There was much discussion then on how many signs would be appropriate. Ms. Jenkins suggested the signage should begin at the SC 118 Bypass with signs through town, possibly at Laurens and Park and then on the southside somewhere on Whiskey Road. After much discussion the general consensus was there should be six signs, with three signs showing going south and three signs going north. The location of the signs would be left to the city to determine the best location so they would not be in a cluttered area.

Councilman Dewar stated the State has processed permits for signs in cities and communities around the state, and they will be able to tell us what they will approve and how many.

Councilwoman Vaughters stated she was very uncomfortable approving five or six signs 2 feet by 7 feet. She felt there should be a commemoration for Dr. King, but she never envisioned the big green and white signs. She felt there should be more attractive signs than the standard signs erected. She asked if the request for the monument would go to the Park Commission since it would be in a median. She also asked if the Brinkley Highway and the area for Dr. Martin Luther King were the same road.

Mr. LeDuc stated typically such a request does go the Park Commission, but there is nothing in the ordinance which says the request has to go to the Park Commission. We would have to get a permit and permission from the Highway Department to erect the signs and for the placement of the monument and will need to get Highway Department approval for the location of the proposed signs. He said the Highway Department may say the monument can only be a certain size, back from the curbing so far for safety purposes, etc. Placing the monument in the median at the southern end of Hampton and Laurens is a good location. Also the Highway Department would have to approve the location of the signs. He said appropriate areas for the signs would have to be determined. A nice open area would be a good location as people could see the sign.

Councilman Wells pointed out SC 19 south would be an overlay, and it would have two names. It would be both Brinkley Memorial Highway and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Highway.

Mr. Ed Evans, Planning Director, pointed out that the Zoning Ordinance states that historic, commemorative and other monuments and memorials in the street right of way are supposed to be reviewed by the Design Review Board, with a recommendation to City Council for final approval.

Mr. LeDuc stated the DRB meets early in January, so it would be possible for approval by City Council to be before January 19, 2009. The erection timing would depend on permit approvals by the Highway Department.

Mr. LeDuc asked Council for general guidance on the location of signs, so staff would have some idea of what locations to apply for permits from the Highway Department.

Councilwoman Clyburn stated she understood from Ms. Jenkins that they were requesting signs going south in the general area of SC 19 at the Bypass, Laurens and Park, and somewhere on Whiskey Road and coming back north close to the same areas.

Ms. Jenkins stated Aiken County would ask for permission for signs outside the city on Whiskey Road south.

In discussion of the action taken by City Council in 1994, it was pointed out that Council named SC 19 through the city as Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Highway as an overlay designation with no renaming of the street or signs to be erected for the designation or any monuments or markers at that time.

Councilwoman Vaughters stated she felt highway signs should be on highways and she had a problem with that type sign in the middle of town. She felt the signs were appropriate at the city limits both ways.

Mayor Cavanaugh moved, seconded by Councilwoman Clyburn, that City Council approve the erection of six signs (three in each direction) designating SC 19 through the city limits as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Highway, with the location of the signs to be determined by the Highway Department working with staff and Representative Clyburn for nice looking signs in the city.

Councilman Dewar stated he supported placing the signs, but he felt six signs is more than asked for. He said the community had asked for three signs.

It was pointed out that there would be three locations and six signs with three signs for each direction. Councilwoman Price stated she supported the proposed motion.

Mayor Cavanaugh called for a vote on the motion to approve the signs. The motion was approved by a vote of 6 in favor and 1 opposed. Councilwoman Vaughters opposed the motion.

RECOGNITION

Mayor Cavanaugh recognized Sharon Rogers, the Executive Director of United Way. He pointed out she had done a fabulous job with a new staff in meeting the United Way goal.

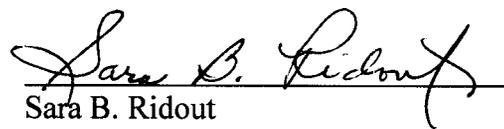
AWARDS LUNCHEON

Mayor Cavanaugh stated since the Golden Harvest and ACTS is having a hard time keeping a supply of canned goods, he is suggesting that employees, staff and Council members bring cans of food to the Employee Awards Luncheon on Friday, December 12, 2008.

Representative Bill Clyburn pointed out this is the season to talk about this problem, and he felt it was important to emphasize the needs in the community. He pointed out that the food banks have not been getting what they normally get through the State because of cutbacks, and there are more people requesting assistance because of the economic times.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:13 P.M.


Sara B. Ridout
City Clerk