

ANDERSON COUNTY COUNCIL
ANDERSON, SOUTH CAROLINA
Regular Meeting – November 1, 2005- 6:00 p.m.
Linda N. Eddleman, Clerk to Council

MINUTES

All area newspapers, radio stations and television stations were informed of this meeting in compliance with the guidelines set forth in the *Freedom of Information Act*.

PRESENT

Chairperson Gracie S. Floyd, Presiding
Vice Chairman Larry E. Greer - District #3
G. Fred Tolly – District #1
Bill McAbee – District #4
Michael Thompson – District #5
William C. Dees – District #6
Cindy Wilson – District #7
Joey Preston – Administrator
Tom Martin – County Attorney
Linda N. Eddleman - Clerk to Council
Tammie Shealy – Deputy Clerk to Council

(During times of discussion and presentations the minutes are condensed and paraphrased.)

The official meeting of the Anderson County Council convened in the Council Chambers of the Historic Courthouse on Tuesday, November 1, 2005 at 6:00 p.m.

Chairperson Gracie S. Floyd called the meeting to order and then called on Mr. Bill Dees to give the invocation. Mr. Dees stated that he had already offered a prayer to the God that he worships in the privacy of his office. He then led the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Mr. Bill McAbee moved to approve the minutes from the October 18, 2005 meeting as mailed and Mr. Bill Dees seconded. Ms. Cindy Wilson said that on pages 3 and 4 – she requested that the questions she asked be included verbatim and included in the minutes since the paraphrasing was not clear. Mr. Greer said that he was hesitant to vote on additions to the minutes until he's had an opportunity to see and review them. He would like to have the changes before him and approve the minutes with amendments or table the minutes until the amended changes are made and offered for approval at the next meeting. Ms. Wilson moved to table the minutes until the next meeting to allow all Council members time to see the recommended changes. Mr. Tolly seconded and vote was unanimous.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: Agenda Matters - Mr. John Snavelly apologized for not being in attendance at the last Council meeting. He said he had to leave quickly to go out of town. He said that he was representing Hill and Dale Subdivision regarding the recommended zoning change of two parcels off Liberty Highway. He thanked all Council members who voted against the change and he thanked Chairperson Floyd for the additional opportunity to be heard. He said at the end of the meeting he intends to present objections, which he considers constitute errors in the County's zoning process and the County procedures. He requested that they become part of the record.

Chairperson Floyd said that on the agenda was a Presentation by the Upstate Alliance (item #11) and they have requested that the item be moved up. Mr. Dees moved to move the item up as requested and Mr. Thompson seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Chairperson Floyd said that Mr. Preston informed her that another issue should have been placed at the top of the agenda but was not. She requested that Resolution R2005-045 (item #8A) be also moved up after the Presentation by Upstate Alliance. Chairperson Floyd moved to move the item up and Mr. Tolly seconded. Vote was unanimous.

PRESENTATION: Mr. Hal Johnson, President of the Upstate South Carolina Alliance shared with Anderson County Council how the Upstate Alliance has been working for Anderson County and the other nine upstate counties. He thanked Mr. John Lummus for all his help with their organization to help form it what it is today. He also thanked Mr. John Miller for his participation and dedication as an executive board member. He said their vision was to position and market the Upstate South Carolina Region to successfully compete for business investment globally. He also said that their mission was to market the Upstate SC Region to attract business investment, support economic development efforts of the Alliance Investor, and build cohesive relationships among the Region's private and public sectors. Their Focus is to generate leads and prospects. He gave a brief overview of their budget. He explained their marketing and public relations. A copy of his power point presentation is on file in the Clerk to Council's office. Council received the presentation as information.

Chairperson Floyd presented Resolution #R2005-045 – a resolution authorizing the execution and delivery of an Inducement Agreement by and between Anderson County, South Carolina, and S & T Enterprises of Anderson, Inc., A South Carolina S-Corporation, and its majority-owned and controlled limited liability Company, Destination Hospitality LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company, whereby, under certain conditions, Anderson County will enter into a joint County Industrial and Business Park Agreement and offer certain infrastructure credits or Special Source Revenue Bonds for a new commercial development project in the County; and other matters related thereto. Mr. Bill McAbee said that on advice of his personal attorney and an opinion from the S.C. Attorney General's office he feels he must recuse himself at this time. Mr. McAbee left the room. Chairperson Floyd said that she received a revised copy at her station when she arrived. She asked Mr. Martin what the changes were. He said that on Page 3 – Paragraph 2.2, Line 2 - did read: (Line 2 - ...million dollars (\$2,000,000.00) in real property costs, ...Infrastructure. Changed to read: ...million dollars (\$2,000,000.00) in improvement to real property, ... Infrastructure. Second change: 8th line of paragraph – he added: "after payment of the partner county fee for the Park (in sum, the "net Park Payments") and the third change was a grammatical change – three lines below "Net Park Payments" – added "of construction", last change: added "Net Park Payments". Mr. Tolly moved to approve the revised version of Resolution R2005-045. Mr. Dees seconded. Ms. Wilson said that it was a great concern to her that the fee in lieu of taxes, which might be more palatable if it were simply the convention center part of the property, extends to adjacent properties, owned by the company. She said district 4 just passed a bond agreement for new school construction and it would appear that this would be a negative for their repayment of that and it also appears that this is in direct competition with the County's Civic center. She said to give a developer 1/3 of his taxes back to reimburse him for building his road – if you do it for one developer then the County should do it for all – it seems grossly unfair, she said. Mr. Greer asked if it was an SSRC? Mr. John Lummus said it was a Special Source Revenue credit. He asked if the credit applied to the investment in the conference center or to the investment in the conference center and hotel collectively. Mr. Lummus said that it would be for the entire 16 million dollar project. The convention center is \$5 million. In paragraph F – says that the company will invest or cause to be invested an expected, but not required, \$5.0 million in the conference center Infrastructure for the project – and it says that they will invest at least \$2.0 million. Mr. Lummus said that the costs will be well in excess of \$5 million for the project and they are anticipating close to \$6.5 million for the convention portion and this would just the entire cost of the project up to 17.5 million dollars. Mr. Greer asked was he to understand that if this is improved the company would be required to invest at least 2 million dollars in the convention center in addition to the hotel. Mr. Lummus said that was his understanding and Mr. Martin said that he was correct. Mr. Thompson asked how many jobs would be created from the convention center. Mr. Lummus said that the actual center will be in access of 25 jobs – most will be full time jobs. Mr. Thompson asked that Mr. Charles Wyatt come forward. Mr. Wyatt said that banquets and conventions were part of their business but they were a multi-use facility – 38,000-39,000 square foot facility. He said that when they turn down business they do not want them to leave Anderson County. He said the convention center and the sports complex would compliment themselves. Mr. Lummus said that it was his understanding that if this is not approved it could severely impact if not shutdown, the project because this is a key part of their financing packet. Ms. Wilson said that the County did own a great deal of land adjoining the Civic Center, which would have served this purpose really well. She asked what happened to it and how much land was involved and what was the price and so forth. Vote was four in favor (Dees, Tolly, Floyd, Thompson), two opposed (Greer, Wilson), and one recusal (McAbee). Motion carried. See Mr. McAbee's recusal form attached as "Exhibit A".

Chairperson Floyd presented third and final reading of Ordinance #2005-029 – an ordinance amending Ordinance #99-004, the Anderson County Zoning Ordinance, as adopted July 20, 1999, by amending the Anderson County Official Zoning Map to rezone from C-3 (Highway Commercial) to R-M (Multi-Family Residential) two parcels of land comprising approximately +/- 4 acres of property in the Edgewood B Precinct off of Liberty Highway. The properties are identified by TMS #121-01-01-021 and 121-01-01-024. Mr. Tolly moved

to approve Ordinance #2005-029 on third and final reading and Mr. Greer seconded. Mr. Michael Thompson said that his whole concern through the readings was that every citizen has a right to be heard and through the two readings he has not been satisfied that the objective has been made. That is the reason that he voted in opposition on the two previous readings. He said that he did research on S.C. State Law section 6-29-70 it reads "Before enacting or amending any zoning regulations or maps the governing authority (which is in this case the County Council) or the Planning Commission shall hold a public hearing on it which must be advertised..." He said that when County Council had its second public hearing and those notices was sent out via certified mail the County Council met its obligations to the citizens for their right to be heard before their government. He said he was now satisfied that everyone has had an opportunity to be heard. Vote was six in favor and one abstention (Wilson). Motion carried.

Chairperson Floyd read third and final reading of Ordinance #2005-036 – an ordinance amending, in limited particulars only, the Master Road list of all County Roads located in and maintained by the County of Anderson, South Carolina, created by Ordinance 2001-007; and other matters related thereto. A public hearing was held; no comments were received. Mr. Dees moved to approve on third reading and Ms. Wilson seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Council recessed at 7:00 p.m. Chairperson Floyd called the meeting back to order at 7:05 p.m.

Chairperson Floyd read second reading of Ordinance #2005-035 – an ordinance imposing a prohibition on certain vehicular traffic on Linda Drive and McCullough Street, designated as Anderson County Roads C-09-0179 and C-09-0180, respectively; and other matters related thereto. A public hearing was held and no comments were received. Mr. Thompson moved to approve and Ms. Wilson seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Chairperson Floyd read second reading of #2005-037 – an ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of an infrastructure finance agreement by and between Anderson County, South Carolina and Plastic Omnium Auto Exteriors, LLC, with respect to certain industrial property in the County, whereby such industry will receive certain infrastructure related to such property; and other matters related thereto. A public hearing was held; no comments were received. Mr. Dees moved to approve and Mr. McAbee seconded. Vote was unanimous.

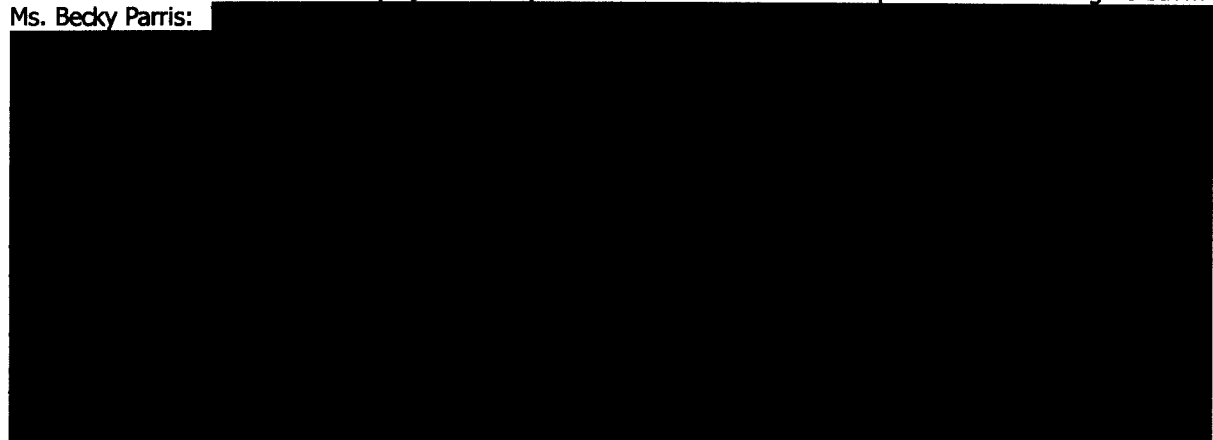
Chairperson Floyd presented second reading of Ordinance #2005-038 – an ordinance authorizing pursuant to Chapter 44 of Title 12, South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, as amended, the execution and delivery of a fee agreement between Anderson County, South Carolina and Medline Industries, Inc.; the application of an infrastructure credit to fee-in-lieu of tax payments; and matters relating thereto. A public hearing was held; no comments were received. Ms. Wilson moved to approve on second reading and Mr. Thompson seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Chairperson Floyd presented first reading of Ordinance #2005-033 – a rezoning request by C. T. Shaw to rezone 1.3 acres at the southern corner of Sam McGee Road and Highway 81 from R-20 (Residential) to C-1N (Neighborhood Commercial). A public hearing was held; no comments were received. Ms. Wilson moved to approve first reading and Mr. Greer seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Chairperson Floyd presented first reading of Ordinance #2005-034 – a rezoning request by Neal McGrath to rezone 0.5 acres on Evergreen Road near Highway 81 from R-20 (Residential) to C-2 (Commercial). A public hearing was held; no comments were received. Ms. Wilson moved to approve on first reading and Mr. McAbee seconded. Ms. Wilson said that on this request and the prior request – they are both tracts that are very much more sensibly zoned. Vote was unanimous.

Chairperson Floyd presented first reading of Ordinance #2005-039 – a rezoning request by Tony Cirelli agent for Mr. Richard Pickney to rezone from an R-20 (Single-Family Residential) to a PD (Planned Unit Development) for development of a subdivision, which will include 88 single-family patio homes and 80 town homes to be located on Edgebrook Drive (34 acres). The property is located in District #1. A public hearing was held and the following citizens spoke: Mr. Tony Cirelli of 148 Harper Road in Pendleton said he was the agent for Mr. Pickney who is purchasing the proposed 34 acres from Mr. Richard Smith. He said they are proposing to do a planned unit development on the property. Plan unit developments give a developer the opportunity to have a little flexibility in their development and how they propose it. He said they are proposing 88 patio homes and 80 town homes. He said in an effort to work with the community they have agreed, in an effort to try to bring down the density, they have agreed to eliminate 20% of the town homes (16 units less). He showed

pictures of the patio homes currently being built and a rendering of the town homes. He said that he would like to work with the County and the S.C. DOT with placing a right turn lane off Edgebrook onto Concord. He will also work to get a light at that location sometime in the near future. Ms. Elizabeth M. Peace of 2410 Hwy. 81 North spoke in favor of the development. Mr. Ray Richards of 8 Oakridge Court, which is across the street from the Smith property said he was not opposed to the development however over the course of time the traffic had increased significantly on Concord Road and Edgebrook Road with the coming of the connector he fears that Edgebrook Road would become a frontage road for the connector. He asked Council to consider making Edgebrook Road a dead-end. Ms. Shelby Clark Bentley of 214 McPhrail Farm Circle asked to go on record as being in favor of the planned patio homes and the town homes. Ms. Mary Jo Whitfield of 108 Edgebrook Drive said that she was opposed to the patio and town homes. She talked about a note that she got in her mailbox saying that if the residents didn't want patio homes and town homes then they would put doublewides on the property. She said she felt the development would put at least an additional 350 cars in the area. She said she was also concerned about what the development and the connector would do to the area. Ms. Jean Norris of 115 Lyndhurst Drive said that she was in favor of the proposed development. Mr. Bernard Bright of 217 Paulan Road said he was in favor of the project development. A member of Council requested the following verbatim. Ms. Becky Parris:

 Mr. Becky Parris of 221 Lancaster Drive said she was there representing the Pennell Family who reside at 1509 Concord Road and they were against the development. Mr. Richard Smith of 305 Edgebrook Drive said that his parents had the road cut there and that is why Edgebrook Drive is in existence now. He said he had resided there for 50-51 years and his grandparents for about 150 years. He said he would like to see a nice development in the area. He asked Council to give his request the consideration it deserves. No further comments; the public hearing was declared closed. Mr. McAbee moved to approve and Mr. Dees seconded. Mr. Thompson asked Mr. Ricketson if a mobile home park could be placed in an R-20 area. He said no that a park could not go into a R-20 area but a mobile home subdivision could be placed there. Mr. McAbee asked Mr. Ricketson what the basis of the staff's favorable recommendation was. He said that the comprehensive plan calls for low-density residential which is defined in the comprehensive plan as anything with 7 units or less to the acre. This development is only 5 units per acre. Ms. Wilson said that she listened very carefully and it boils down to two issues - the safe egress and ingress of the potential dwellers of the property onto 81 and onto Concord Road and the density issue. She said she would abstain tonight because she would like to have the issues of safety and the issues of density resolved. Mr. Thompson said that one of his concerns was one of the new roads that the developer plans to deed over to the County - he said that the County currently has more roads now than the County can handle so he asked Mr. Cirelli if he (owner/developer) would consider keeping these roads private. He said that they are willing to gate the property and keep the roads private. Mr. McAbee asked what the definition of a patio home and a town home was. He said the town homes are four in a group and as they are built they will have a common wall between them. He said patio homes are single story with smaller lots and provide an area in front or back with a small patio. Mr. Larry Greer said that as he listened when Mr. Thompson questioned Mr. Cirelli concerning the possibility of making the roads within the development private roads. He said that was one of his concerns since he had been on Council where the County's had developments that have implemented private roads and didn't provide some means of maintaining those private roads and eventually these folks come to the County wanting some relief when their roads fall apart. Mr. Greer asked if in the event, the developers move into the direction of putting private roads within the development would the agreement for the purchase of the homes within the development also include a disclosure statement to the effect that they are responsible for the maintenance of those roads and would it provide a means of raising those funds necessary to repair those roads in the future? Mr. Cirelli said there would be a disclosure statement and the development would be a gated community. They

will also provide a Homeowners Association who would handle the everyday maintenance and the continual maintenance of roads whenever they need upgrading. Mr. Cirelli said that the developer was willing to cut back 20% on the number of town homes, which is 16 units. Vote was five in favor (Dees, Greer, Floyd, McAbee, Thompson) , one opposed (Tolly), and one abstention (Wilson). Motion carried.

Chairperson Floyd read Resolution #R2005-044 – a resolution suspending Sunday work prohibitions during the upcoming holiday season; and other matters related thereto. Mr. McAbee moved to approve and Mr. Dees seconded. Vote was five in favor (Tolly, Floyd, Dees, Thompson, McAbee) and two opposed (Wilson, Greer). Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS: No appointments were made.

ACCEPTANCE OF DEER RUN – PHASE II, AND CRESTLAND (ROCKCREST) INTO THE COUNTY ROAD MAINTENANCE SYSTEM: Ms. Wilson moved to approve the roads into the County Road system and Mr. McAbee seconded. Mr. Tolly asked about any possible water or drainage problems. Mr. Holt Hopkins said none he was aware of. Vote was unanimous.

PRESENTATION: Ms. M. Cindy Wilson

Ms. Wilson: Thank you Madam Chair. Due to a business commitment earlier this week there was insufficient time to properly prepare for the presentation however since much of the concern that we have consistently heard and the part of the adjacent owners in most of our rezoning requests dealing with safe ingress and egress with citizens and vehicles I would therefore request that we as a council engage our South Carolina Department of Transportation and our Anderson County Department of Transportation, and the Planning Development to look at possible remedies to the many over burdened road situations that we have with additional developments. Is it possible for the county to require our developers to install to specifications accel, decel, and turn lanes that would mitigate and cause to be more safe for people coming and going onto the roads from these developments. In fact this is a requirement – every state that I've heard of, in fact when I worked in Georgia you just automatically factored in the additional engineering and cost to build accel decel lanes when you had a more dense development or commercial development coming on to certain of the roads. It is now time we do this. And there are two reasons. One is the safety and the life of our citizen's factor. The other is the fact that our County taxpayers are already overburdened and we are not anywhere near keeping up with the demands of our road infrastructure. If we require our developers who would factor it in as a cost of doing business to provide this possibility then we would find ourselves with less road work to do when we have to upgrade our roads to accommodate the traffic and I'm just going to respectfully request that we as a Council look at this at the very nearest time that we can get all of the departments together or maybe even do a workshop having our developers to come sit down with us to look at it. Thank you.

Chairperson: Okay. Do you want us to act on that? Are you putting that in the form of a motion?

Ms. Wilson: Well, I would like to do that. If we could consider as a Council requesting our Administrator to direct the appropriate county departments to work with us in the education form of this-stage of this along with our South Carolina Department of Transportation.

Chairperson: Okay. I have an active motion on the floor. Do I hear a second?

Mr. Tolly: Second.

Chairperson: Questions.

Mr. Thompson: Madam Chair.

Chairperson: Chair recognizes Mr. Thompson.

Mr. Thompson: I just wanted to reiterate Ms. Wilson's point. This past week I have been very educated in our road situation. I went and spoke with Mr. Hopkins concerning right-of-ways and things of that sort and got educated on a whole new field of our predicament regarding our roads. It cost the County approximately \$5,000 for every mile that we take in and then when you do a 20 year plan we are looking at \$100,000 that we need in our budget at the time we take that road into existence and developers may say property taxes. Well consider the cost of asphalt, gasoline, workers compensation, wage increases and all the other costs of doing business – property taxes is nowhere close in keeping up with our needs. We should be on a 20-year cycle. We are actually on a 60-year cycle, which means my road will never get paved in my lifetime. I agree with Ms. Wilson this is indeed a real problem but and I think in fact I spoke with Mr. Preston prior to the meeting tonight of creating some type of task force to address this problem. Thank you Madam Chair.

Chairperson: A couple years ago, I too took a look at what Ms. Wilson is suggesting. Ms. Wilson it's tied up in a nice little nasty word and the word is called "Impact Fees". I was doing my research at that time and I was told that it would never fly in Anderson County. There is a lot of research and a lot of papers that I've gone through and at that time I just looked at it and it was too much for little ole me to handle. But I do believe

that the time has come in Anderson County where we need to start taking a look at what's happening not only (unclear) our roads by the developers coming in with new houses and new neighborhoods but on our schools, our fire department on our libraries and everything else. So I agree with you and I do think that it's time now that we start looking at this thing at least start doing a study. I'm not saying that we're going to run out and scream that we're going to do something about it but all I'm saying is let's study, let's study the situation.

Chairperson: Mr. Dees you have..

Mr. Dees: I certainly appreciate what Ms. Wilson said and what she is trying to do but my question is and I guess to Mr. Hopkins and Mr. Martin is what authority does the county have to address the State DOT? And make them if that's the issue..to do anything.

Mr. Martin: Mr. Dees of course, I think your question is rhetorical, because you realize that County Council can't direct. The South Carolina Department of Transportation is an agency of state government and it maintains the State highway system. (Mr. Martin explained the state highway system.) You have no authority to direct them or to command them but only the authority to request.

Vote was unanimous.

REQUESTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Mr. Tolly - none

Ms. Floyd moved to appropriate \$1,200 to the Main Street Downtown Project and the funds to come from District #2 Recreation Account. Mr. McAbee seconded and vote was unanimous.

Mr. Greer moved to appropriate \$1,500 to the Belton Middle School to assist them with their walking track. The funds to come from District 3 Recreation account. Mr. McAbee seconded and vote was unanimous.

Mr. Greer moved to appropriate \$500 from the District 3 Recreation Account to the Belton/Honea Path High School for the Athletic Booster Club. Mr. McAbee seconded and vote was unanimous.

Mr. McAbee – none

Mr. Thompson – none

Mr. Dees – none

Ms. Wilson – none

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

a. Letters of Appreciation:

1. For: Mr. Joey Preston and Road Maintenance Staff From: Keith Perkins, Hartwell Lake Properties
2. For: Mr. Joey Preston From: Ms. Julia A. Romo
3. For: Joe Moss's Road Maintenance Crew-Ken Stone, Steve Miller, Larry Erskine, Michael Poole, Norman McGill, John McGaha, and Duane Hamm and Aaron Smarts' Road Maintenance Crew – Phil Brown, Calvin Scott, Frank Chester, Broadus White and Tony Bell From: Mr. Roger Fields
4. For: Aaron Smart's Road Maintenance Crew – Joey Worley, Phil Brown, and Frank Chester From: Ms. Laura Penland
5. For: Jerry Stamps' Road Maintenance Crew – Jr. Greenway, Tim Edwards, Scott Crawford, and James Smith and Jerry Cash's Road Maintenance Crew – Mike Gregory, Matt Wages, Barry Smith, Ray Johnson, Jeremy Zelenko, Jim Neal, and Robert Mattison From: Tim Agnew
6. For: Mr. Bob Daly From: Fay D. Brown, Executive Director – Foothills Alliance
7. For: Mr. Charles Wyatt and Staff From: Mr. Shane Duffey
8. For: Staff at the Anderson Regional Airport From: Mr. Robert D. Banks of Forge Consulting LLC

b. Certificates of Training: Ms. Deborah Woodley – Certified County Risk Manager

c. Meetings/Minutes: Anderson Regional Airport – September 19, 2005 meeting

d. Detention Center Inmate Statistics

e. Bridge Replacement on Secondary Road S-4-316 (County Glen Road) over Hurricane Creek

f. Magazine Article – *American Public Works Association* - Mr. Holt Hopkins

g. News Articles – Special Olympics South Carolina Fall Games in Anderson County

h. Letter from Lindsey O. Graham, United States Senator regarding Federal Aviation Safety Security Act

i. Construction of new Convenience Center off U.S. 29

j. Departmental Transfers

k. County Plans Convenience Center

l. County announces location for the new Powdersville Library

Mr. Preston reminded everyone of the Veterans' Day Celebrate at the Veterans' Monument on November 12 at 11 a.m.

Mr. Thompson called everyone's attention to Item 14(a) which states appreciation for service provided their company by the staff at the Anderson County Airport. He added his own praise for the good job being done at the Airport. He also called attention to Agenda Item #14(d) Inmate Population, which shows on page 4 that the County has 101 municipal inmates in the County's facility. He suggested that the Council adopt a resolution requiring that the County be paid to house these municipal inmates.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: Other Matters – Mr. John Snavely said that there were areas where the zoning process may be in error and might be subject to future legal review. He said he was not suggesting that anyone from his neighborhood was going to sue the County of Anderson. He merely wanted to raise these as objections on the record. He said he believed that the County Solicitor should look at these areas and see if they can be tightened up. Also he thinks that County Council, Mr. Ricketson, and Mr. Preston should look at them. He said that the applicant did not attend the hearing before the Planning Commission. They had many questions that the Planning staff could not answer.

Chairperson Floyd moved to cancel the second meeting in December (December 20th meeting). Mr. McAbee and Mr. Greer seconded. Vote was unanimous.

REMARKS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

Ms. Wilson – none

Mr. Dees – none

Mr. Thompson – none

Mr. McAbee said that he appreciated the professionalism displayed by Council as they went through the public hearing on the rezoning request.

Mr. Tolly said that he attended the Anderson Fair with his grandchildren. He said that the fair was well done, clean, and neat and is an economic value to Anderson.

Mr. Greer said that there had been a lot of discussion concerning prayer at County/City Council meetings, prayer in schools, and who you should and should not pray to. Mr. Brown in one of his comments one night said that Jesus never prayed in public. He respectfully disagreed with Mr. Brown and quoted Luke 23:24. It reads: Then said Jesus, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do." And Luke 23:46 And when Jesus cried with a loud voice he said, "Father into thy hands I commend my Spirit." So Jesus did pray in public. He said that as far as what's done at the Anderson County Council meetings; he has been torn between an oath he took and his own personal beliefs. The Circuit Court has ruled that it is unconstitutional to offer a prayer in Jesus' name in public. So he searched for a way to fulfill his constitutional obligations without denying his faith. He said that in the Book of Daniel in the Old Testament of the Bible – Daniel was also ordered not to pray to his God but he went into his room and prayed in private. So the way he has solved it and evidently the way Mr. Dees has also is to pray in the privacy of his office. He said he would uphold his constitutional obligations for the oath of office that he took but he will continue to pray in Jesus' name. It won't be before Council but in the privacy of his office.

Chairperson Floyd said that she would not be able to attend the Veterans' Celebration because of a prior commitment. She thanked Council for their cooperation.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda N. Eddleman
Clerk to County Council

Attachment: Exhibit A – Mr. McAbee's Recusal Form