

ABBEVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 23, 2002
SPECIAL MEETING #1

PRESENT: Chairman Walker, V. C. Gunnells, Councilmen Brown, Forrester, Norris, Calhoun, Attorney Pruitt, Clerk to Council Chrisley

ABSENT: Councilman Thomas

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm with prayer given by Councilman Brown.

First item on the agenda was a Public Hearing on Raising Millage Rate Beyond CPI.

During the Public Hearing a number of people spoke out concerning the millage rate. Luther Bowman of Lowndesville said that it was not the right time for a tax increase due to the poor economic climate. Rock Reinhart of Lake Secession addressed Council in a question and answer approach. He asked about the planned expenditures concerning the Abbeville County Library to which Mr. Walker said it was a new entity that was born from the Abbeville Greenwood Regional Library system. He also told Mr. Reinhart that if Council did not pass the resolution to provide for tax millage for the upcoming year, it would have to borrow money to provide for the running of county operations. In addition, Sandra Fleming and Jim Irwin of Abbeville and Joann Seery of the Lake Secession area spoke out during the public hearing. Attorney Gene Pruitt reminded those present that the millage question involved not only the county but the school district as well. After some additional comments, Chairman Walker called the public hearing to a close.

Next item on the agenda was approval of a Resolution to establish the Millage Rate for FY02-03. V. C. Gunnells made a motion to approve the resolution that was seconded by Councilman Calhoun. Councilman Brown and Chairman Walker agreed with the motion. Councilmen Forrester and Norris opposed. Councilman Thomas was absent. Motion passed.

Councilman Brown made a motion to adjourn that was seconded by Councilman Calhoun and passed unanimously.