

Aiken City Council Minutes

May 8, 1995

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

Absent: Councilmember Price

Others Present: Steve Thompson, Frances Thomas, Jim Holly, and Sara Ridout.

Mayor Cavanaugh stated Council needed to meet in executive session for a legal briefing by the City Attorney. Councilwoman Papouchado moved, seconded by Councilwoman Clyburn that Council go into executive session for a legal briefing by the City Attorney. Council went into executive session at 7:25 P.M.

After discussion Councilman Anaclerio moved, seconded by Councilwoman Papouchado that Council end the executive session. Mayor Cavanaugh reported that Council had discussed legal matters. The executive session ended at 7:35 P.M.

REGULAR MEETING

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

Absent: Councilmember Price

Others Present: Steve Thompson, Frances Thomas, Jim Holly, Ed Evans, Andy Anderson, Roger LeDuc, Carrol Busbee, Terry Rhinehart, Stanley Quarles, Sara Ridout, Philip Lord of the Aiken Standard, and 6 citizens.

Mayor Cavanaugh called the meeting to order at 7:35 P.M. Mayor Cavanaugh led in prayer which was followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

The minutes of the April 24, 1995, meeting were considered for approval. Councilman Radford moved that the minutes be approved as written. The motion was seconded by Councilman Anaclerio and unanimously approved.

GRANITEVILLE COMPANY

150th Anniversary  
Presentation  
Kingsmore, Doug

Mayor Cavanaugh stated Council wished to recognize the Graniteville Company for its contributions to the Aiken community and congratulate the company on its 150th anniversary. Mayor Cavanaugh read a resolution which had been prepared recognizing Graniteville Company. Mr. Doug Kingsmore was present on behalf of the Graniteville Company and accepted the resolution. He thanked Council for the resolution on behalf of Graniteville Company.

Councilwoman Clyburn stated she worked at Leavell McCampbell High School for a number of years and she had a deep appreciation for what Graniteville Company does in the field of education for the area by providing scholarships for students. She commended Graniteville Company for all it has done for education.

Mayor Cavanaugh also thanked Mr. Kingsmore for the support that Graniteville Company gives to its employees to serve the public such as allowing Councilman Radford to serve as City Councilman and Chairman Ronnie Young to serve on the Aiken County Council.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Appointments

Aiken County Transit Commission

Annexation Study Committee

Epting, Jan

Mayor Cavanaugh stated Council needed to consider appointments to the Aiken County Transit Commission and the Annexation Study Committee.

Mr. Thompson stated the terms of three members of the Annexation Study Committee will expire on May 20, 1995. He said the Annexation Committee includes seven members serving three year terms. The Committee includes representatives from both inside and outside the city. The Committee assists with annexation efforts and advises City Council on policy issues concerning annexation. The Committee has been very active in the past year, and the members have put a great deal of time and commitment into these annexation efforts.

The terms of Mr. John Baldwin, Mr. Robert Haythorn, and Ms. Jan Epting expire on May 20. Ms. Epting is interested in reappointment, but Mr. Baldwin and Mr. Haythorn are not interested in reappointment.

Councilman Anaclerio moved, seconded by Mayor Cavanaugh and unanimously approved, that Jan Epting be reappointed to the Annexation Study Committee for a three year term to expire May 20, 1998, and that Council continue the two other appointments to the next regular meeting of Council.

Mr. Thompson stated the Aiken County Transit Commission advises County Council on the Best Friend Express and other public transit issues. Ms. Letha Jones, who represents the City of Aiken along with Ms. Essie Patterson and Mr. Steve Okawa, has resigned. Council needs to appoint a replacement for Ms. Jones. Transit Commission members serve four year terms. This term will expire June 30, 1999.

Council agreed to continue the appointment to the Aiken County Transit Commission to the next regular meeting of Council.

AIKEN HISTORIC REGISTER - ORDINANCE 050895

Landmark

303 Newberry Street NW

Cook, Kenneth

Hill, Charlie House

Historic Site

Tax Parcel No. 30-043-03-001

Mayor Cavanaugh stated this is the time advertised for the second reading and public hearing of an ordinance to designate property at 303 Newberry Street NW as a Historic Landmark.

Mr. Thompson read the title of the ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING THE HOUSE AND LOT KNOWN AS THE CHARLIE HILL HOUSE LOCATED AT 303 NEWBERRY STREET NW AS A LANDMARK UNDER THE CITY OF AIKEN HISTORIC PRESERVATION ORDINANCE.

Mr. Thompson stated the city had received a petition from Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth E. Cook requesting that their home at 303 Newberry Street NW be designated as a landmark on the Aiken Historic Register.

Mr. and Mrs. Cook have completed substantial renovations of the property at 303 Newberry Street NW and have asked to be considered under the city's incentive program for renovation of historic and low to moderate rental properties in the city. To qualify for the program the property has to be recognized as historic in nature by the Historic Preservation Commission and submitted to the Department of Archives and History as an historic property. Designation of 303 Newberry Street NW to the Aiken Historic Register as a landmark has been recommended by the Historic Preservation Commission and by the Planning Commission.

The public hearing was held and no one spoke.

Councilwoman Clyburn moved, seconded by Councilman Anaclerio and unanimously approved, that the ordinance designating 303 Newberry Street NW

as a landmark to the Aiken Historic Register be passed on second and final reading to become effective immediately.

ANNEXATION - ORDINANCE

1333 Two Notch Road  
Harris, Betty C.  
Dogwood Road

Mayor Cavanaugh stated this was the time advertised for the second reading and public hearing on an ordinance to annex 1333 Two Notch Road.

Mr. Thompson read the title of the ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE TO ANNEX TO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF AIKEN THE PROPERTY DESIGNATED AS 1333 TWO NOTCH ROAD AND THE ADJOINING LOT OWNED BY BETTY HARRIS TOGETHER WITH THE RIGHT-OF-WAY OF TWO NOTCH ROAD, (S-2-327) ABUTTING THE AFORESAID PROPERTIES AND TO ZONE THE SAME R-1, SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL.

Mr. Thompson stated the city had received a petition from Ms. Betty Harris asking that the parcel at the corner of Two Notch Road and Dogwood Road be annexed into the city. Ms. Harris is having a problem with the septic system and would like to connect to the city sewer system. The property is bounded on the northeast by residential property owned by Ms. Harris which is also outside the city. As a condition of annexation the Planning Commission recommended that the city annex both properties owned by Ms. Harris. This will help avoid the creation of an additional gap in the city boundary lines.

Mr. Thompson pointed out the city had not received a response from Ms. Betty Harris regarding the condition of annexation recommended by the Planning Commission that the two lots owned by Ms. Harris be annexed rather than just one lot. He pointed out the ordinance is written to annex both lots. He suggested that Council may wish to continue the hearing on the annexation ordinance to the next regular meeting of Council so the staff can get some response from Ms. Harris about annexation of both lots.

Councilman Anaclerio moved, seconded by Mayor Cavanaugh and unanimously approved, that the ordinance to annex two lots on Two Notch Road owned by Ms. Betty Harris be continued to the next regular meeting of Council.

SCHOFIELD SCHOOL TADPOLE PROJECT

Schofield School  
Sumter Street  
Wetlands Project  
Science Pavilion

Mayor Cavanaugh stated Council had added to the agenda for further discussion the request from Schofield Middle School for a contribution to the Schofield Tadpoles Project for a science pavilion.

Mr. Thompson stated the city had received a request from Ms. Debi Johnson and Ms. Rosie Berry of Schofield Middle School and the Schofield Tadpoles Organization, asking that the city assist with the cost of the outdoor science pavilion at Schofield Middle School in the wetlands area. Ms. Debi Johnson submitted the request to City Council, asking that the city provide \$700 to offset the cost of the project. The students raised money for the construction of a science pavilion and greenhouse at the Schofield Wetlands Project. Mr. Thompson stated the proposal is that the Tadpoles Project serve as a curriculum including a summer curriculum for programs sponsored by the Recreation Department. The funds would help offset the cost of the science pavilion and help with the cost of the curriculum.

Councilman Perry stated \$700 is not a lot of money, but pointed out Council had not given money to schools and other organizations, and he did not want to set a precedent.

Mayor Cavanaugh stated he felt this project is somewhat different. He pointed out the area was a drainage problem and the city, the school, Westinghouse, the State, and others had contributed to this project and made it a wetlands area and environmental project. He pointed out it had turned out to be a magnificent project. He stated in discussing the request with the school, Ms. Johnson and Ms. Berry had stated the School

System had contributed at least \$6,000 in services towards the project. He pointed out the science pavilion will be open to all the children in the county from all the schools and will be used by the Recreation Department for some city programs. He said he felt the project was very worthwhile. He said he was also concerned about setting precedents and others asking for similar contributions. He stated, however, he felt the particular project was different and had been a part of the city's project for drainage in the area and would now be a part of the Recreation Department's summer program.

Councilman Radford pointed out the Public Works Monthly Report indicates that \$15,351 has been spent on the Schofield Wetlands project.

Mr. LeDuc, Public Works Director, stated the city had had some cost involved in the wetlands project at Schofield. He stated the project was to help drainage in the area and flooding at the school and surrounding area. In correcting the problem, it helped Schofield School with the wetlands project.

Councilman Anaclerio stated he was certainly concerned about setting precedents. He pointed out the city had spent money to help correct drainage problems in the area and in so doing had helped create the wetlands project at Schofield. He said it was a way of taking an eyesore and drainage problem and turning it into something positive. He pointed out the students had had fundraising projects to raise money for the project. He felt Council should support the project as it would be used by the city in its summer educational program. He said Council would have to consider any requests in the future on the merits of each request.

Councilman Anaclerio moved that Council approve a contribution of \$700 to the Schofield Tadpoles Project to help with the science pavilion and greenhouse. Councilwoman Clyburn seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a vote of 5 in favor with Councilman Perry opposing the motion.

Councilman Radford stated he did not support the city charging fees for this proposed program for the children to be a revenue generating project. Councilwoman Papouchado pointed out the Recreation Department charges a minimum fee to support basic costs for summer camp. Council asked that the Recreation Department make a proposal of charges for the summer program for Council's information.

ADJOURNMENT

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

  
Sara B. Ridout  
City Clerk