

Aiken City Council Minutes

January 25, 1993

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

Others Present: Steve Thompson, Jim Holly, Frances Thomas, Roger LeDuc, Carrol Busbee, Anita Lilly, Terry Rhinehart, Stanley Quarles, Ed Evans, Sara Ridout, 55 citizens, Philip Lord of The Aiken Standard, and John Roberts of The Augusta Chronicle.

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

The minutes of the meeting of January 11, 1993, were considered for approval. Councilwoman Papouchado moved that the minutes be approved as written. The motion was seconded by Councilman Radford and unanimously approved.

PRESENTATIONSCertificate of AppreciationSears, Richard D.Planning CommissionJoseph, BonnieYouth Advisory CommissionHenderson, ClintonLanham, VanAnnexation Study CommitteeRyberg, GregAccommodations Tax Committee

Mayor Cavanaugh stated that Council would like to recognize the citizens who had resigned from various boards and committees of the city.

Councilman Perry moved, seconded by Councilman Anaclerio and unanimously approved, that the resignations of Richard D. Sears from the Planning Commission, Bonnie Joseph from the Youth Advisory Commission, Clinton Henderson and Van Lanham from the Annexation Study Committee and Greg Ryberg from the Accommodations Tax Committee be accepted with regret.

Mayor Cavanaugh presented Certificates of Appreciation to Richard D. Sears for service on the Planning Commission from October 31, 1988 to January 25, 1993; Bonnie Joseph, Youth Advisory Commission, for service from June 8, 1992 to January 25, 1993; Reverend Clinton Henderson, Annexation Study Committee for service from March 24, 1986 to January 25, 1993; Van Lanham, Annexation Study Committee, for service from March 10, 1986 to January 25, 1993; Greg Ryberg, Accommodations Tax Committee, for service from March 23, 1987 to January 18, 1993, and Walt Joseph, Historic Preservation Commission, for service from July 9, 1990 to December 31, 1992.

Mayor Cavanaugh and the Councilmembers expressed appreciation to the committee members for their time, dedication and service to the citizens of Aiken.

YOUTH ADVISORY COMMISSIONUpdate on Activities

Ms. Shana Ryberg, President of the Youth Advisory Commission, appeared before Council to give an update on the activities of the Youth Advisory Commission for the past year. She stated the Youth Commission had sponsored a Sports Day at the Weeks Center in October, 1992, hand decorated and distributed about 80 Christmas stockings to the children's ward at the hospital and The Children's Place, and had been a part of the Christmas at Hopelands event.

Ms. Lisa Hall, of the Recreation Department, pointed out to Council some of the future events the Youth Commission would be involved in such as Operation Paintbrush, special olympics, make your own video gym jam, Easter Bunny Boogie, and Beach Blast.

Mayor Cavanaugh recognized the members of the Youth Advisory Commission who were present.

VOLUNTEER AWARDS

Recreation Department  
Richardson, Margie  
Moses, Clinton  
Aiken Standard

Mr. Thompson stated the city is assisted by many volunteers in many different ways. He said that Terry Rhinehart, of the Recreation Department, would like to recognize the Volunteers of the Year for 1992.

Terry Rhinehart, Recreation Director, stated the Recreation Department really relies on volunteers. He said the department has about 800 volunteers during the year. He said he would like to recognize a business and two individuals who had been very supportive of the Recreation Department through their volunteer efforts during the year. He stated he would like to recognize the Aiken Standard as the Volunteer Business of the Year. He said the Aiken Standard and its employees had been very supportive of the Recreation Department over the years by providing volunteers to help in operating the events, had promoted events through feature articles, and had given financial support as well by donating over \$7,000 in ad space. Ms. Diane Bell, Classified and Promotion Manager of the Aiken Standard was present to receive the award.

Mr. Rhinehart stated he would also like to recognize two individuals for their volunteer work with the Recreation Department. He stated one individual was Margie Richardson. He said Mrs. Richardson had served as a member of the Pairs and Spares, the Weeks Center Senior Citizens group, volunteer in the Golden Hands Club, a story reader in the Storytime Program, a volunteer in the Halloween Hoopla, asked for donations for Christmas in Hopelands, etc. Mr. Rhinehart also recognized Clinton Moses who had been a volunteer for over 8 years assisting in planning programs and activities, had co-sponsored special events, been involved in the Father's Day Program, activities during Black History Month, the community gospel program, and the Gyles Park Festival.

Mayor Cavanaugh and Council thanked the individuals and the Aiken Standard for their volunteer efforts on behalf of the Recreation Department and the citizens of Aiken.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Appointments  
Annexation Study Committee  
English, Rosemary  
Nix, David  
Sheetz, Owen  
Thurlow, Bill  
Lanham, Mary Ellen  
Asbill, Cyril  
Hamilton, John

Mayor Cavanaugh stated that Council needed to consider appointments to the Annexation Study Committee.

Mr. Thompson stated that Rosemary English, David Nix, Owen Sheetz, and Bill Thurlow had missed several meetings of the Annexation Study Committee. Under the city's policy if a member misses three consecutive meetings or 40% of the meetings during the year they are automatically terminated from the committee unless reappointed by Council. He stated Ms. English, Mr. Nix, Mr. Sheetz, and Mr. Thurlow were interested in continuing to serve on the Annexation Study Committee.

Councilwoman Papouchado moved, seconded by Councilwoman Price and unanimously approved, that Rosemary English, David Nix, Owen Sheetz, and Bill Thurlow be reappointed to the Annexation Study Committee to complete their present terms.

Mr. Thompson stated that Reverend Clinton Henderson and Mr. Van Lanham had asked to be replaced on the Annexation Study Committee. He stated that Reverend Henderson's term would expire May 20, 1994, and Mr. Lanham's term would expire May 20, 1993.

Mayor Cavanaugh stated that Mr. Lanham had suggested that he be replaced by his wife Mary Ellen Lanham, and Reverend Henderson had suggested that he be replaced by Mr. Cyril Asbill. The Annexation Study Committee had also suggested the name of John Hamilton of the Washington Circle area as a possible member of the committee.

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Council discussed the three suggested names to fill the two vacancies. After discussion, Council decided to appoint all three persons suggested to the committee and increase the membership by one member.

Councilwoman Price moved, seconded by Councilman Perry and unanimously approved, that Mary Ellen Lanham be appointed to fill the unexpired term of Van Lanham which would expire May 20, 1993, that Cyril Asbill be appointed to fill the unexpired term of Clinton Henderson which would expire May 20, 1994, and that John Hamilton be appointed as a new member with his term to expire May 20, 1996.

- Planning Commission
- Youth Advisory Commission
- Holloway, Kim Anderson
- Aiken County Animal Control Advisory Board
- Tucker, Sandy

Mr. Thompson also stated that Council needed to appoint someone to replace Richard Sears on the Planning Commission and two advisors to the Youth Advisory Commission with the resignations of Bonnie Joseph and Tonya Moton. He stated also that the term of Sandy Tucker had expired on the Aiken County Animal Control Advisory Board on December 31, 1992.

Councilman Anaclerio moved, seconded by Councilwoman Papouchado and unanimously approved, that Sandy Tucker be reappointed to the Aiken County Animal Control Advisory Board.

Councilwoman Clyburn moved, seconded by Councilman Anaclerio and unanimously approved, that Kim Anderson Holloway be appointed to the Youth Advisory Commission as an adult sponsor to replace Bonnie Joseph.

Council delayed action on an additional appointment of an adult sponsor for the Youth Advisory Commission and appointment to the Planning Commission to replace Dick Sears to the next meeting of Council.

ANNEXATION - ORDINANCE

- Shopping Center
- Whiskey Road
- Fabian Drive
- Rogers, W.C. & Mary
- WalMart

Mayor Cavanaugh stated this was the time advertised for the second reading and public hearing of an ordinance to annex 25.07 acres located west of Whiskey Road. He pointed out second reading on the proposed ordinance had been delayed at the last meeting.

Mr. Thompson stated the city had again received a request from Gray Engineering, serving as the representatives for the developer of a retail store, asking that the second reading be delayed until February 8, 1992, as the group has been unable to obtain off-site storm drainage easements. It is hoped that this can be cleared by the February 8 meeting.

Councilman Perry moved, seconded by Councilman Radford and unanimously approved, that the annexation request for 25.07 acres located off of Whiskey Road near Fabian Drive be continued to the next meeting of Council.

ZONING ORDINANCE

- Amendment
- Video Poker Machines
- Coin-Operated Machines
- Gaming Machines

Mayor Cavanaugh stated an ordinance had been prepared for Council's consideration to amend the Zoning Ordinance regarding location of certain coin-operated machines.

Mr. Thompson read the title of the ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION VII.B. OF THE COMPREHENSIVE ZONING ORDINANCE TO ALLOW THE LOCATION OR OPERATION OF COIN-OPERATED, NONPAYOUT AMUSEMENT OR GAMING MACHINES OR DEVICES INVOLVING PAYMENTS OR REIMBURSEMENTS FOR FREE GAMES AS A PERMITTED USE ONLY IN NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS, PLANNED SHOPPING CENTER, LIGHT INDUSTRIAL, AND SUBURBAN INDUSTRIAL ZONING DISTRICTS AND AMENDING SECTION III OF THE COMPREHENSIVE ZONING ORDINANCE BY ADDING PROVISIONS MORE SPECIFICALLY REGULATING THE LOCATION OF SUCH USES AND THE CONTINUED OPERATION OF SUCH NON-CONFORMING USES.

Mr. Thompson stated that at the last meeting Council had delayed action on a proposed ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance regarding location of certain coin-operated machines. Council had asked that location of bingo operations be presented in a separate ordinance and also that video poker be allowed as a permitted use in certain zones with a distance requirement rather than as a conditional use.

Mr. Thompson stated the ordinance had been rewritten deleting language referring to bingo. The proposed ordinance also deletes the conditional use stipulation and instead requires that gaming establishments meet a distance requirement from churches, schools, and parks. He pointed out that the State regulates alcoholic beverage dispensers through a distance requirement of 300 feet from churches, schools, and parks and the city's adult entertainment statutes limit the locations to 1500 feet from churches, parks and schools.

Mr. Holly stated the proposed ordinance follows the adult entertainment ordinance as far as listing the types of other uses from which the machines may be located such as residential zoning districts, residential lots, churches or other types of religious facilities, public or private schools, playgrounds of any kind or recreational facilities of any kind. Also, a business with machines which involve payoffs must be located a similar distance from any other business with such machines. He said any non-conforming use in an unauthorized zone or in a location which is too close to another type use on which there is a distance requirement would have two years before they would have to cease operation. He pointed out the proposed ordinance is written so the distance from the establishment to a church, school, etc. would be measured from lot to lot. Under the ABC statute the distance is measured from the closest lot line of the playground, school, etc. to the nearest door or entrance of the establishment. Mr. Holly stated he would suggest that the distance requirement be less than 1500 feet.

Council then discussed a proposed distance requirement for the ordinance. Mayor Cavanaugh and Councilwoman Price stated they felt that 300 feet was not enough distance from schools, etc. Councilwoman Price stated she felt the distance requirement should include all four property lines of the property, not just the front lot line and she was thinking that 500 feet should be the distance requirement.

Mr. Holly pointed out the proposed ordinance would not regulate the number of video poker machines but would regulate the location.

Councilman Anaclerio moved that ordinance regulating the location of certain coin-operated gaming machines be passed on first reading with the distance requirement in the proposed ordinance from schools, churches, etc. be 300 feet from lot to lot and that the second reading and public hearing be set for the next regular meeting of Council.

Councilman Perry stated he would like for the ordinance to be amended to make the distance requirement 300 feet with the distance measurement to conform to the same rules and regulations of the ABC Commission.

Councilman Anaclerio stated he did not wish to accept the proposed amendment to his motion.

Councilman Radford seconded Councilman Anaclerio's motion of 300 feet distance and measured from lot to lot. The vote was as follows: in favor - Councilmembers Anaclerio and Radford. Opposed: Mayor Cavanaugh and Councilmembers Clyburn, Papouchado, Perry and Price. The vote was 2 in favor and 5 opposed. The motion failed.

Mayor Cavanaugh moved, seconded by Councilwoman Papouchado and unanimously approved, that the ordinance be passed on first reading to amend the Zoning Ordinance regarding the location of certain coin-operated machines and that the distance requirement from churches, schools, etc. be 500 feet measured from lot line to lot line.

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TREE PROTECTION AND LANDSCAPING ORDINANCE 012593

Amendment  
Landscaped Area  
Undeveloped Land

Mayor Cavanaugh stated this was the time advertised for the second reading and public hearing of an ordinance to amend the Tree Protection and Landscaping Ordinance to allow the use of contiguous undeveloped land to be used in meeting the landscaped area requirement for a project.

Mr. Thompson read the title of the ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 4.1 OF THE CITY OF AIKEN TREE PROTECTION AND LANDSCAPING ORDINANCE SO AS TO ALLOW CONTIGUOUS PROPERTY TO BE INCLUDED IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES IN MEETING THE MINIMUM LANDSCAPED AREA REQUIREMENT FOR A PROJECT.

Mr. Thompson stated a request had been received asking that the city allow the use of contiguous area under the landscape formula for approval of landscape plans. The Planning Commission reviewed the matter and recommended approval to Council.

Mr. Thompson stated the firm of Blanchard and Calhoun had offered to give the city the pond site on the former Woodward tract for use in the city's recreation program. The developers would like to use the pond site as part of the area in computing the landscape formula. After review the Planning Commission does agree that under certain conditions this could encourage developers to donate quality property to the city. The ordinance would require review by the Planning Commission and the property must be of a quality sufficient to comply with the intent of the ordinance. Also, the property could only be used once towards the landscaping formula, and could not be used twice for two separate projects. The property must also be contiguous to a site for which landscape approval is being sought.

The public hearing was held and no one spoke.

Councilman Perry moved, seconded by Councilman Radford and unanimously approved, that the ordinance amending the Tree Protection and Landscaping Ordinance so as to allow the use of contiguous undeveloped land to be used in the landscape formula in certain conditions be passed on second and final reading to become effective immediately.

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE - ORDINANCE 012593A

Americans With Disabilities Act  
ADA  
Handicapped Persons  
Disabilities

Mayor Cavanaugh stated this was the time advertised for the second reading and public hearing of an ordinance to establish a grievance procedure under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Mr. Thompson read the title of the ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 2.8 OF THE AIKEN CITY CODE SO AS TO MAKE THE GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE FOR COMPLAINTS ALLEGING HANDICAPPED DISCRIMINATION COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990.

Mr. Thompson stated the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 requires that the city establish a grievance procedure for complaints alleging handicapped discrimination. The procedure proposed includes a requirement that complaints be submitted within 30 calendar days of the alleged violation. Grievances are to be submitted through the Assistant City Manager, the city's Affirmative Action and Compliance Officer. If the complainant is not satisfied with the response he or she may choose to file a request for an informal hearing before City Council.

The public hearing was held and no one spoke.

Councilman Radford moved, seconded by Councilman Anaclerio and unanimously approved, that the ordinance establishing a grievance procedure for complaints alleging handicapped discrimination be passed on second and final reading to become effective immediately.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION ORDINANCEAmendment

Mayor Cavanaugh stated an ordinance had been prepared for Council's consideration to amend the Historic Preservation Ordinance.

Mr. Thompson read the title of the ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE READOPTING THE CITY OF AIKEN HISTORIC PRESERVATION ORDINANCE WITH COMPREHENSIVE AMENDMENTS, AMONG OTHER THINGS, DEALING WITH PROCEDURES, HISTORIC DESIGNATIONS, AND CERTIFICATES OF APPROVAL FOR WORK ON LANDMARKS AND IN HISTORIC DISTRICTS.

Mr. Thompson stated the intent of the proposed ordinance is to clarify the Historic Preservation Commission's responsibilities within historic districts, and to ensure adequate review and discussion on treatment of properties in the parkways, right-of-ways, and districts. Council has consistently supported a strong emphasis on preserving the best of Aiken's past. The Preservation Commission has also been very progressive, and helped to streamline the ordinance to simplify application procedures and review for the residents of the city. Under the proposed ordinance the Commission would retain approval authority over visible changes to all buildings, walls and fences within historic districts. The Commission may also individually designate certain sites and areas, including the clay streets of the city, certain curbs, and other historic features of the city. He pointed out the proposed ordinance would give the Commission authority over all properties within a district and require a Certificate of Appropriateness for alterations visible from the street with more authority over designated buildings than non-designated.

Councilman Anaclerio moved, seconded by Councilman Radford and unanimously approved, that the ordinance to amend the Historic Preservation Ordinance be passed on first reading and the second reading and public hearing be set for the next regular meeting of Council.

HISTORIC SITE

Unpaved Roads  
Historic Preservation Commission  
Landmark  
Historic Register

Mayor Cavanaugh stated a request had been received to designate the unpaved roads in Aiken to the Aiken Historic Register and an ordinance had been prepared for this designation.

Mr. Thompson read the title of the ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING AS LANDMARKS UNDER THE CITY OF AIKEN HISTORIC PRESERVATION ORDINANCE CERTAIN UNPAVED PORTIONS OF THE STREET RIGHTS-OF-WAY OF MEAD AVENUE, GRACE AVENUE, MAGNOLIA STREET, SUMTER STREET, MARION STREET, ORANGEBURG STREET, TWO NOTCH ROAD, KERSHAW STREET, FIRST AVENUE, COKER SPRINGS AVENUE, LAURENS STREET, WHITNEY DRIVE, AND RHODODENDRON PLACE.

Mr. Thompson stated the Historic Preservation Commission had received a petition to designate the unpaved roads in Historic Districts I and II to the Aiken Historic Register as landmarks. It was felt these unpaved roads are important for the equestrian traffic to Hitchcock Woods and to the horse training facilities. This has been reviewed by the Historic Preservation Commission and the Planning Commission and has been recommended to Council for approval. Mr. Thompson pointed out that under the proposed amendments to the Historic Preservation Commission the ordinance points out that any individually designated properties would fall under the review of the Preservation Commission.

Mr. Thompson stated the unpaved streets to be designated as landmarks include:

Mead Avenue between its intersection with Whiskey Road and Two Notch Road;

Grace Avenue between its intersections with Whiskey Road and Two Notch Road;

Grace Avenue between its intersections with Two Notch Road and Powderhouse Road;

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Magnolia Street between its intersections with Knox Avenue and Grace Avenue;

Sumter Street between its intersections with Mead Avenue and Grace Avenue;

Marion Street between its intersections with Mead Avenue and Grace Avenue;

Orangeburg Street - that portion located in the 400 block southeast that is unpaved;

Two Notch Road between the Aiken Training Track and Dogwood Stable area and approximately 400 feet south of Mead Avenue;

Kershaw Street between its intersections with Colleton Avenue and South Boundary Avenue;

First Avenue between its intersections with Newberry Street and Chesterfield Street;

Coker Springs Avenue from the end of the brick wall located on Rond Point to the southern terminus of Newberry Street;

Laurens Street from its southern terminus to New Lane;

Whitney Drive; and

Rhododendron Place.

Councilman Radford moved, seconded by Councilman Anaclerio and unanimously approved, that the ordinance be passed on first reading designating the unpaved roads in Historic Districts I and II to the Historic Register and that the second reading and public hearing be set for the next regular meeting of Council.

#### ELECTION DISTRICTS

##### Revised

Mayor Cavanaugh stated that the City Attorney would make a presentation on proposed election districts.

Mr. Thompson stated the city has been reviewing the 1990 Census figures since final release and has been working with the State Demographers Office to prepare election maps for City Council's consideration. He said Mr. Holly, City Attorney, would review options under consideration including new district lines for the 4-2-1 Plan, the 5-1-1 Plan, and the 6-1 Plan.

Mr. Holly displayed maps of proposed 4-2-1, 5-1-1, and 6-1 plans. He said as a result of the 1990 census and the growth in the City of Aiken it is necessary for the city to redistrict the four single member districts to comply with the one person one vote requirement of the United States Constitution as other local governments have to do after the census. He said this means the city must alter the district lines and take into account population changes so the population differences or deviations between the districts are within acceptable limits under federal case law. He said when lines are redrawn the city must comply with federal statutory provisions in dealing with changes. He said whatever plan is adopted may need to be submitted to the Justice Department for review under the Voting Rights Act. He said after reviewing the census figures and having discussions with the Justice Department, the staff asked the State Demographer to draw up various plans. He pointed out the proposed plans are a 4-2-1 taking into consideration population changes, a 5-1-1 plan, and two possible versions of a 6-1 plan. He said all the plans in his opinion would meet the necessary criteria to comply with the Voting Rights Act and are proper, valid and legal. He stated copies of the proposed plans could be reproduced for anyone who might be interested in getting a copy. He said the purpose of this presentation was to solicit comments from the public. He said once Council gives guidance on which particular plan they would like to adopt an ordinance would be prepared as well as a map for first reading of Council. Then the second reading and public hearing would be held. After adoption the plan would be sent to the Justice Department in Washington for review. He said action needed to be taken soon so the plan could be implemented for the 1993 fall election. He pointed out any of the proposed

plans keep the two minority voting districts above 60% in population and above 50% in voting age population.

Council discussed the population reported by the Census Bureau as being 19,835 and the adjusted figures of 20,500 and how these figures might affect the districts and adjustments in the district lines as well as annexations since 1990.

Mayor Cavanaugh asked if anyone in the audience would like to make any comments about the proposed plans.

Mr. Art Dexter, 3046 Old Powderhouse Road, stated he was attending the meeting for Mr. James Gallman of the NAACP. Mr. Dexter made a comment that he felt a 50% minority voting age population did not seem a safe minority precinct. He felt the percentage should be at least 60%. Mr. Dexter also pointed out that under the Voting Rights Act there is a specific requirement that annexations not be used to dilute minority voting strength. He stated that continued annexations would decrease the black voting strength.

Mr. Holly pointed out that under the 4-2-1 Plan the figures for minority voting age population of District 1 would be over 57% and District 2 would be over 55%. He said it had been his experience and that of consultants he had talked with that with regard to minority voting age population a percentage over 50% is usually acceptable and is legal.

Mayor Cavanaugh pointed out the city has an Annexation Study Committee and the committee has worked very hard. Several years ago they had meetings in every part of the city encouraging annexation. However, the meetings had very poor attendance. Mayor Cavanaugh pointed out that in many cases an area could annex and people in the area would save money. He pointed out the city is presently trying to get an area in the Washington Circle annexed.

Mayor Cavanaugh moved, seconded by Councilwoman Price and unanimously approved, that the presentation on proposed election districts be accepted as information and that an ordinance be prepared for first reading consideration at the next regular meeting of Council.

#### ANNEXATION - ORDINANCE

Woodside Plantation  
Silver Bluff Road

Mayor Cavanaugh stated an ordinance had been prepared for Council's consideration to annex 133.09 acres of Woodside Plantation, Phase II.

Mr. Thompson read the title of the ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE TO ANNEX TO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF AIKEN CERTAIN PROPERTY CONSISTING OF 133.09 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, OWNED BY WOODSIDE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY OF AIKEN, INC. AND TO ZONE THE SAME PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT.

Mr. Thompson stated a request had been received that 133.09 acres of Woodside Plantation be annexed and zoned Planned Unit Development. The property is contiguous to the city through the existing Phase I of Woodside. Mr. Thompson stated a map showing the proposed annexation had been given to Council for review. Mr. Thompson stated a primary concern regarding the property is access to the area. The only access to the area is from a future extension of Woodside Plantation Drive which would have to be extended about 3,000 feet. The plat submitted by the developers asked that the city limit line be drawn through the middle of Spalding Lake. However, the staff has recommended that the limit line be along one of the shore lines. The applicant has agreed to include all of Spalding Lake in the annexation request.

Mr. Thompson stated the Planning Commission had reviewed the annexation request and was concerned about access to the area. After review the Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval with the condition that the city limit line follow the eastern shoreline of Spalding Lake.

Councilman Anaclerio moved, seconded by Councilwoman Price and unanimously approved, that the ordinance to annex 133.09 acres of Woodside Plantation be passed on first reading and the second reading and public hearing be set for the next regular meeting of Council with the condition that the city limit line follow the eastern shoreline of Spalding Lake.

ANNEXATION - ORDINANCE

Silver Bluff Road  
Woodside Executive Park  
Hidden Haven  
Marion, Irene  
Greene, Sarah S.  
Melrose Subdivision

Mayor Cavanaugh stated an ordinance had been prepared for Council's consideration to annex 9.88 acres on Silver Bluff Road.

Mr. Thompson read the title of the ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE TO ANNEX TO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF AIKEN TWO ADJOINING TRACTS OF LAND CONSISTING OF 9.88 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, OWNED BY THE ESTATE OF IRENE MARION AND SARAH S. GREENE AND LOCATED SOUTHEAST OF SILVER BLUFF ROAD AND NORTH OF WOODSIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICE PARK AND TO ZONE THE SAME PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (PUD).

Mr. Thompson stated that Reverend Melvin Robinson had submitted an annexation request for 9.88 acres along Silver Bluff Road, north of the Woodside Executive Office Park. The site is between Hidden Haven and Silver Bluff Road. The proposed zoning is Planned Unit Development. The owners wish to build apartments similar to Sandstone Townhouses on the property.

The Planning Commission discussed the request at length and is concerned about the number of curb cuts along Silver Bluff Road near this property. The PUD zoning requires construction of a landscape buffer at least 25 feet wide along the northern boundary adjacent to the River Bluff and Indian Creek Subdivisions. Presently there is a 20 foot wide driveway along the buffer area. The Planning Commission feels that the owners need to either eliminate the driveway easement and install a 25 foot buffer or install the 25 foot landscaped buffer south of the easement.

The Planning Commission recommended approval of annexation on the condition that the city limit the number of curb cuts to the property to one located at least 100 feet away from Hidden Haven Drive, and that a plat be recorded eliminating the easement along the northern boundary or that the owners install the required 25 foot landscaped buffer south of the easement.

Councilwoman Papouchado stated she had some concerns about the annexation. She stated it was hard for her to separate the annexation from the proposed use of the property. She said she was concerned about the proposed density of the area.

Mr. Holly pointed out the proposed subdivision plans for the development had been submitted to the staff for review. He said there seem to be a number of issues raised by the subdivision that need to be worked out.

Council discussed possibly delaying action on the annexation request. Mr. Holly suggested that Council may wish to proceed with the annexation on first reading and delay action on the conceptual plan until second reading of the annexation ordinance. He stated there may be some problems with the subdivision and that annexation may have to be delayed. However, the subdivision needs to be reviewed first. Mr. Holly pointed out the proposed ordinance would approve annexation with the conditions recommended by the Planning Commission.

Councilman Anaclerio moved, seconded by Mayor Cavanaugh and unanimously approved, that the ordinance to annex 9.88 acres on Silver Bluff Road be passed on first reading and the second reading and public hearing be set for the next regular meeting of Council.

WOODSIDE SUBDIVISION

Conceptual Plan  
Master Plan  
Phase II

Mayor Cavanaugh stated Council needed to consider a revised conceptual master plan for Woodside Plantation.

Mr. Thompson stated a revised conceptual master plan for Woodside Plantation, Phase II, had been submitted for approval. The plan will add a second site of Phase II to the master plan. This second site is to be developed under the PUD concept with mixed single family and villa-style homes. The Planning Commission

voted unanimously to recommend approval of the revised conceptual master plan. Council reviewed the proposed master plan.

Councilwoman Papouchado moved, seconded by Councilwoman Clyburn and unanimously approved, that the revised conceptual master plan for Woodside Plantation Phase II be approved as recommended by the Planning Commission.

MELROSE PLACE SUBDIVISION

Conceptual Plan  
Master Plan  
Silver Bluff Road  
Woodside Executive Park  
Hidden Haven

Mayor Cavanaugh stated a conceptual master plan for Melrose Place had been presented for Council's approval.

Mr. Thompson stated the city had received a request for approval of the conceptual master plan for Melrose Place, a proposed 62 unit single family residential development. The property is located on 9.88 acres on Silver Bluff Road between Hidden Haven and Silver Bluff Road. The developers would like to construct a project similar to Sandstone Townhouses.

Mr. Holly suggested that Council continue consideration of the Melrose Place conceptual master plan until the same meeting as second reading of the ordinance for annexation of the property.

Councilman Anaclerio moved, seconded by Councilwoman Papouchado and unanimously approved, that consideration of the Melrose Place conceptual master plan be continued and that it be considered at the same meeting that second reading of the ordinance for annexation is held.

ZONING ORDINANCE

Funeral Home  
Mortuary  
Professional Zone

Mayor Cavanaugh stated an ordinance had been prepared for Council's consideration to amend the Zoning Ordinance to allow a funeral home or mortuary as a conditional use in the Professional Zone.

Mr. Thompson read the title of the ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION VI.F.2. OF THE COMPREHENSIVE ZONING ORDINANCE SO AS TO ALLOW FUNERAL HOMES AND MORTUARIES AS CONDITIONAL USES IN THE PROFESSIONAL ZONING DISTRICTS.

Mr. Thompson stated the city had received a request asking that the Zoning Ordinance be amended to allow a funeral home or mortuary as a permitted use in the Professional zoning district. The Planning Commission reviewed the request and recommends that funeral homes and mortuaries be allowed as a conditional use in the Professional zone.

Mr. Thompson pointed out generally the Professional zone is intended as a zone to include neighborhood businesses. The Zoning Ordinance does allow funeral parlors in the Central Business District, Neighborhood Business, and Light Industrial zones. The Planning Commission feels that a mortuary or a funeral home is reasonably compatible with the Professional zone, but does feel that this should be a conditional use, with individual approval of each site to be considered by the Planning Commission and City Council. Mr. Thompson stated that a letter had been received from Bill Tucker, attorney representing the petitioner, stating that the petitioners would prefer that a funeral home be added as a permitted use in the Professional Zone without the conditional use limitation.

Mr. Bill Tucker was present and stated on behalf of his client he was asking that the proposed ordinance allow funeral homes as a permitted use in the Professional Zone rather than as a conditional use. He stated he did not see a funeral home use in a Professional Zone being inconsistent with that use in a Neighborhood Business zone. He pointed out a funeral home is already allowed as a permitted use in the Neighborhood Business zone. He pointed out his client is considering several locations and at least three of them are in the Professional zone. He said if a funeral home is allowed as a conditional use, this will mean another application and more time before such application could be approved. He said he

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felt the sites under consideration in the Professional Zone would be very compatible with the neighborhoods and there would be no traffic or parking problems.

Councilman Anaclerio moved, seconded by Councilwoman Papouchado and unanimously approved, that the ordinance be passed on first reading to allow funeral homes and mortuaries in the Professional Zone deleting the conditional use requirement and allowing such uses as a permitted use and that the second reading and public hearing be set for the next regular meeting of Council.

LICENSE ORDINANCE

Outside City

Fees

Business License

Mayor Cavanaugh stated an ordinance had been prepared for Council's consideration to amend the Business License fees for businesses located outside the city limits doing business within the city.

Mr. Thompson read the title of the ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 4 OF THE CITY OF AIKEN BUSINESS LICENSE ORDINANCE SO AS TO ASSESS NON-RESIDENT BUSINESSES OPERATING WITHIN THE CITY OF AIKEN A LICENSE FEE RATE TWICE THAT ASSESSED BUSINESSES LOCATED IN THE CITY OF AIKEN.

Mr. Thompson stated that several members of Council had noted that some cities in South Carolina do charge a license fee for businesses located outside the city that conduct business within the city limits. Some of these cities charge double rates for these businesses located outside the city that do not maintain a taxable location within the city limits. Mr. Holly has researched this and feels that a double rate for business licenses for businesses doing business in the city but without an established place of business in the city is legal and reasonable.

Mr. Thompson stated the city already charges a double rate for contractors operating within the city limits. Other types of businesses, including copier salesmen and some service providers obtain a license but pay the same rate as in-city customers. Under the ordinance as drafted the city would require that any firm conducting business within the City of Aiken obtain a business license and those firms located outside the city would pay twice the rate that in-city businesses pay. The fee structure recognizes that businesses within the city limits pay taxes.

Council discussed the proposal at length. Questions were raised as to how much money this might cost a non-resident business and how much this might increase revenue for the City of Aiken. Councilman Perry pointed out in most cases if a business is not located within the city limits they would not be using city services such as police protection, fire protection, etc. so he did not feel they should have to pay double rates.

Councilwoman Papouchado stated she felt this would be one way to increase revenues for the city. She felt businesses outside the city should pay a little more for the privilege of doing business within the city.

Mayor Cavanaugh stated he felt this would be one way to raise revenue rather than raising property taxes. He stated he felt the points should be weighed and looked at as to whether there is an advantage to have a business outside the city limits but do business within the city without paying taxes. He pointed out other cities in South Carolina are presently charging double license rates for non-city businesses.

Councilman Perry stated he felt a double rate would be unfair to businesses. He stated a business could not open a branch business within the limits of every city.

Mr. Thompson pointed out in the past Council had talked about local preference for local vendors and the need to equalize. He pointed out towing operations within the city pay a license fee and are on the call list from Public Safety. Those businesses located outside the city are on the call list but they do not pay a license fee. He pointed out businesses within the city pay property taxes in addition to the business license. Those businesses outside the city would only be paying a license fee.

Some Council members stated they would like more information such as how many businesses would be affected and how much revenue the proposed ordinance would bring in before acting on the proposed ordinance.

Councilwoman Papouchado moved that the proposed ordinance to charge businesses outside the city double in-city license fees be passed on first reading with the second reading and public hearing set for the next regular meeting of Council. The motion did not receive a second.

Council continued to discuss the proposed ordinance. Council asked that the staff provide any additional information possible such as how much revenue the proposed ordinance might generate and how many businesses might be affected before taking action on the proposed ordinance.

Mayor Cavanaugh said a statement had been made that the city is always looking for ways to increase revenues but not ways to cut taxes or expenditures. He pointed out he felt Council does look for ways to cut taxes. He said cuts were not always a reduction in millage rates. He did point out that about two years ago the city did reduce the millage rate 8 mills beyond the amount required by state law because of the reassessment and did not raise taxes the next year. He pointed out the city had only had one property tax increase in nine years.

ACCOMMODATIONS TAX

- Recommendations
- Visitors Center
- Christmas Craft Show
- Aiken Community Playhouse
- Aiken Driving Club
- Aiken Steeplechase
- Sculpture Show

Mayor Cavanaugh stated Council had received a recommendation from the Accommodations Tax Committee on expenditure of Accommodation Tax funds.

Mr. Thompson stated the Accommodations Tax Committee had met on January 18, 1993, and had recommended the following projects be funded by Accommodations Tax funds.

<u>Project</u>	<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>Committee Recommendation</u>
City of Aiken - Visitors Center	\$25,000	\$25,000
City of Aiken - Christmas Craft Show	2,200	2,200
Aiken Community Playhouse - Printing	7,000	00
Aiken Driving Club - Driving Competition	2,400	2,400
Aiken Steeplechase - Fall & Spring Meets	10,000	10,000
Banksia - Indoor-Outdoor Sculpture Show	500	500

Mr. Thompson pointed out the \$25,000 request for a Visitors Center was for renovation of the Old Post Office on Laurens Street as part of the Strategic Plan.

The request for \$2,200 for the Christmas Craft Show is to support operational costs associated with advertising, postage, posters, and applications for the Christmas Craft Show sponsored by the City of Aiken Recreation Department.

The request from the Aiken Community Playhouse was for printing of their newsletter which is sent out 6 - 7 times a year as well as a brochure for the 1992-93 season. The Accommodations Tax Committee did not feel that the Aiken Community Playhouse generated that much tourism and that generally 98% of the attendees were local residents. Therefore, they did not recommend approval of this request.

The Aiken Driving Club's request was for assistance in promotion of a driving competition scheduled for April.

The Aiken Steeplechase Association requested \$10,000 for assistance in promotion of the spring Hunt Meet in March and the fall Hunt Meet in November.

Gretchen Lotrop requested \$500 to stage a top quality regional artist indoor-outdoor sculpture show on the grounds of the museum at Banksia. This exhibition would involve regional and national artists.

Mr. Thompson pointed out that the city receives funds from the Accommodations Tax funds generated by 2% taxes on hotels, motels, etc. which is to be used for

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projects that would encourage tourism, overnight stays and marketing of the city. He said Sam Erb, Chairman of the Accommodations Tax Committee, was present to answer any questions.

Council discussed at length the request for \$25,000 for renovation of the Old Post Office on Laurens Street. Councilwoman Price asked the amount of rent the city would be paying for the facility, how long the city would rent the facility, and if there were any plans to purchase the facility.

Mr. Thompson stated the \$25,000 request would be to help with some of the renovation of the building. Much of the work would be done by city forces. Mr. Thompson stated that for many years there had been talk that something needed to be done with the Old Post Office to preserve it. He stated renovation of the building and use of the building for a visitors center and showroom for the Strategic Plan maps, etc. would be an opportunity to make the Old Post Office useable. He stated the city had talked to the owners about a rental fee of \$1,000 per month. The owners have asked for \$3,000 per month. It is expected to rent the building for 12 to 15 months. He stated the city had looked at other sites in the downtown but the Old Post Office was the most attractive as far as trying to preserve the building and the downtown. Mr. Thompson pointed out there are a lot of problems in the building and \$25,000 will not make it completely useable. It will add heating and air conditioning for the top floor, take care of some of the asbestos, add a temporary surface on the floor and some paint and handicapped access. Mr. Thompson stated the Steering Committee had actually suggested use of the Old Post Office to help preserve the building. He said for the Strategic Plan a large open space is needed for 50 to 75 people to meet and for a lot of display area. It was felt that use of the Old Post Office would add some excitement for the downtown.

Mr. Sam Erb, Chairman of the Accommodations Tax Committee, stated he felt in the long run having such a facility in the downtown area in a unique building would be an asset to the downtown and would draw interest from visitors. He felt use of the building might work into something for the future.

Mayor Cavanaugh stated he felt the thought was that \$25,000 was for renovation of the building, and if a building was available that did not need renovation the \$25,000 would not be needed. He pointed out that Rock Hill had a display area which was centrally located. He pointed out that not only will the building house the displays and maps, but meetings for the Strategic Plan will be held in the building. Mayor Cavanaugh suggested that if Council did approve the request that it be contingent upon the Old Post Office rental not being any more than \$1,000 per month.

Councilman Anaclerio stated that because of the uniqueness of the building and the opportunity the city has to recognize a historic building and the need for a meeting place for the Strategic planning process he felt it would be reasonable to spend \$25,000 for the renovation of the Old Post Office as long as the monthly rental is limited to \$1,000 per month.

Councilman Anclerio moved, seconded by Councilwoman Price and unanimously approved, that the recommendations of the Accommodations Tax Committee for expenditure of Accommodations Tax funds be approved including \$25,000 for renovation of the Old Post Office with the monthly rental limited to \$1,000 per month.

#### BOND ISSUE ORDINANCE

##### 1993 Bonds

##### General Obligation Bonds

##### Recreation Facilities

##### Multi-Field Complex

##### Weeks Center Addition

Mayor Cavanaugh stated an ordinance had been prepared for Council's consideration authorizing the sale of 1993 General Obligation Bonds.

Mr. Thompson read the title of the ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF TWO MILLION TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$2,200,000) GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF 1993 OF THE CITY OF AIKEN, SOUTH CAROLINA, TO PRESCRIBE THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH THE PROCEEDS SHALL BE EXPENDED, TO PROVIDE FOR THE PAYMENT THEREOF, AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO.

Mr. Thompson stated that the city had been working for the past few years on developing the recreation complex on Banks Mill Road. Last fall City Council adopted a resolution authorizing the city to sell the bonds for construction of a new gym at the Weeks Center and a new multi-field complex on Banks Mill Road and to authorize the use of present expenses against the 1993 bond issue. In working with the bond counsel, it is now recommended that City Council authorize the issue of bonds.

The bond counsel has outlined the schedule for the bonds. This would be a \$2.2 million General Obligation Bond issue and would apply against the debt of the City of Aiken. The purpose of the bonds is the construction and maintenance of recreation facilities. Mr. Thompson stated the city has about \$900,000 in holding funds from the 1988 Bond Issue and other monies set aside that will be used towards the construction of the gym at the Weeks Center and the multi-field complex on Banks Mill Road. He said the city has a debt ceiling of about \$4.2 million. This bond issue would put the city at about a \$3.2 million total debt for the General Fund. He said interest rates are low and this is a good time to sell bonds. He said if the ordinance is approved bonds can be sold in April, 1993. Mr. Thompson stated the income of the city is presently sufficient to make the payments on the bonds.

Councilman Anaclerio moved, seconded by Councilman Perry, that Council approve the ordinance on first reading for the sale of a \$2.2 million General Obligation Bond for 1993 for construction and maintenance of recreation facilities, including construction of a gym at the Weeks Center and a multi-field complex at the Woodward tract and that the second reading and public hearing be set for the next regular meeting of Council. Those in favor of the motion were: Councilmembers Anaclerio, Papouchado, Perry and Radford. Opposed were: Mayor Cavanaugh and Councilmembers Clyburn and Price. The motion passed by a majority vote of 4 to 3.

#### AIKEN COUNTY LIBRARY

##### Library Funds Books

Mayor Cavanaugh stated a request had been received from the Aiken County Library for funds for the purchase of books.

Mr. Thompson stated that John McClanathan, Chairman of the Aiken County Library Board of Trustees, is asking the city to consider contributing funds for books for the library. He said the Library Board is asking Council to consider assisting the library with an annual funding allotment of \$20,000.

Mr. Mike Hosang, a member of the Aiken County Public Library Board of Trustees, stated he was present on behalf of John McClanathan. He said renovation of the Old Aiken Elementary School had given the library a beautiful, centrally located facility. He pointed out that automation equipment which is being installed will help the library to better serve the patrons. However, the book collection of the library has been neglected because of a lack of funds. He said the American Library Association recommends libraries have at least two books per citizen as a minimum. He said the Aiken library has approximately 45,000 volumes or about one-half the minimum suggested by ALA. He said county money for the seven county libraries is extremely limited. Mr. Hosang pointed out that other cities in South Carolina support their county library with funds from the city. He said the library in Aiken is patronized almost completely by city residents. He said a good library and good schools are prime assets in the attraction of new residents and new industries. The average cost of a book is about \$20. Mr. Hosang stated any amount would be appreciated, but the library was suggesting that money for 1,000 new books or \$20,000 be made available by the city for the library. Mr. Hosang presented a fact sheet to Council for their information showing the monies received from state funds and county funds for books for the Aiken Library. He pointed out the Aiken library received \$7,976 from the state for books and \$3,000 from Aiken County for books for a total of \$10,976 for books. He said of seven counties in South Carolina of comparable size, Aiken County's book appropriation was the lowest. Mr. Hosang stated he was asking Council to consider supporting the Aiken library.

Council discussed the request at length. Council pointed out that the city had contributed \$250,000 towards the renovation of the school building for the library a few years ago. Council asked if there had been any special projects or funds raisers to get citizens to buy books or to contribute books to the library.

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Ms. Sally Farris, librarian, stated the patrons of the library run about 3,000 per month and the circulation is about 18,000 books per month. She pointed out many people use the reference area and these books cannot be checked out. She stated the city had been good to the library and the previous contribution had been appreciated. She pointed out the cost of various reference materials used in the library. She stated the library had received donations from businesses and also from individuals for memorial books.

Mr. Hosang stated the Friends of the Library had been very active and had contributed significant funds. He said the Friends had approached different groups asking for funds. He said there is a strong community support, but it is a big task to stock a library and to keep the books current.

Council members felt that businesses and citizens would contribute to the library if a concerted effort is made to solicit funds for books. It was suggested that the library have a campaign for donations for birthday books for children and others, donations for special occasions and interests, and business participation. The feeling was also expressed that the County has some responsibility for support of the library.

Mr. Hosang pointed out that in the 1990 census figures the counties in South Carolina are ranked according to per capita for local support for their libraries. The median figure per capita in South Carolina is \$5.69 of local support. The average is \$10.08. Aiken has a per capita number of \$5.30. Mr. Hosang stated he hoped that Council would consider some type of contribution as the library does add a lot to the City of Aiken. He said he considered the facility more of a city facility than a county facility as the patrons of the library are the residents in and around the city.

Councilman Radford stated he understood Council's reservations about funding something that is a county function. He said, however, he considers the library as being a city library. He suggested that Council fund a \$20,000 donation for one time. He did not feel that such a donation should obligate Council to contribute to other organizations.

Councilwoman Price stated the library wanted to raise \$20,000. She felt everyone should be given the opportunity to share in the cost and that the City should contribute \$1,000 as a beginning and ask that others also contribute. She suggested that the library contact others for contributions to raise the \$20,000.

Councilwoman Price moved, seconded by Councilman Anaclerio, that the city contribute \$1,000 towards the \$20,000 requested by the library to come from Council's discretionary funds and ask that others be contracted to contribute to the fund.

Councilman Anaclerio stated he would also like to see the city make an annual contribution to the library and that this be considered in the upcoming budget. He pointed out the library is principally used by residents in and around Aiken.

Councilwoman Clyburn stated that perhaps the city residents should adopt the library so the library would have some type ownership. It was suggested the library could be a project for the Youth Commission.

Councilmembers expressed concern that others would be asking for contributions for other organizations.

Councilman Perry pointed out Council had contributed \$25,000 to the planetarium at USC-Aiken. He said he felt that the library is an industrial tool and is located in downtown Aiken.

Councilwoman Papouchado stated she had found in raising funds for libraries that people were more willing to contribute when making the donation for a specific purpose rather than towards a blanket amount.

Mr. Hosang stated he felt it was more important to establish an on-going long term relationship with the City of Aiken than it is for a one time contribution.

Mayor Cavanaugh called for a vote on the motion that the city contribute \$1,000 to the library towards the request for \$20,000 and ask that the library solicit funds from citizens and businesses in the area to raise funds for the library. The motion passed by a majority vote of 6 to 1, with Councilman Radford opposed.

Councilman Anaclerio moved, seconded by Councilman Perry and unanimously approved, that the library make a request to Council that the city consider making an annual contribution to the library in future budgets of the city.

A citizen present asked if the library could rent the vacant part of the building to raise some money for the library. It was pointed out that the vacant end of the building belonged to the school system and was not controlled by the library. It was also pointed out that the vacant end of the building had not been restored.

The citizen also pointed out that Council had turned Schofield School down when they asked for help with a drainage problem. Mayor Cavanaugh pointed out the city was looking at the drainage problem at Schofield and would correct any problem that was caused by drainage from city property. However, they did ask that the School Board look at the drainage problem as drainage on the school property is the responsibility of the School Board.

Mr. Thompson stated the city had met with Ms. Berry and some members of the school staff. He said some of the complaint was that water was coming off city streets and also that the street running through the property needed to be maintained. He said the city would be working to correct the problem of water coming from city streets. He said the city was working with the school to develop a wetlands area back of the school to control some of the water. He said the street through the property was the responsibility of the School Board as the street was owned by the School Board having been transferred to the School Board in 1973 in a swap of land.

#### SIGNS

##### Free Standing Signs Moratorium

Mr. Bob Davis, 1031 Clark Road, stated he had a business at 3526 Richland Avenue W. He said he was hearing rumors concerning a proposed change in the ordinance governing business signs. He asked if a change was proposed, when it would take effect and how it would affect signs for businesses. He said he had heard that the ordinance would change the ordinance to allow only very small signs for businesses. He said he was very concerned about the matter.

Mr. Thompson stated that for the past 18 months City Council has emphasized the need for low level ground level monument signs for new businesses. He said the Planning Commission had been reviewing the sign section of the Zoning Ordinance and has recommended that City Council change the sign policy and adopt a ground level monument type sign. The proposed ordinance would grandfather present signs for a period of five years. This proposal has been received as information by Council, and Council has asked that the Planning Commission hold more public hearings on the proposal to give more public input to the issue.

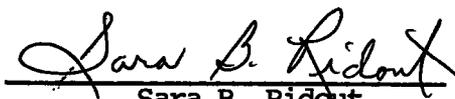
Mr. Gary Gibson stated he operated two businesses in the City of Aiken. He said he was also concerned about the proposal concerning the size of signs in Aiken. He pointed out he had applied to change the face on a sign as the business was changing hands but he has not been allowed to change the sign as there is a moratorium on signs. He pointed out he was proposing to change the 75 square foot sign to about a 55 square foot sign. He also stated he was concerned about the city trying to limit the businesses to such small signs as in the proposed ordinance.

Mayor Cavanaugh stated that over the past few years the city had been going to smaller low level ground monument signs and this was the direction that Council was wanting the city to go.

Mr. Holly was asked to work with Mr. Gibson on the problem of changing the present sign because of change of ownership. It was pointed out, however, that the sign may have to be changed in the future if the sign erected did not meet the new sign regulations.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Councilwoman Price moved, seconded by Councilman Anaclerio and unanimously approved, that the meeting adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 10:50 P.M.

  
Sara B. Ridout  
City Clerk

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