

Aiken City Council Minutes

April 8, 1996

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

Others Present: Steve Thompson, Gary Smith, Roger LeDuc, Ed Evans, Bob Harte, Anita Lilly, Stanley Quarles, Terry Rhinehart, Andy Anderson, Sara Ridout, Chasiti Kirkland of the Aiken Standard, Chandra McLean of the Augusta Chronicle and 30 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 meeting of March 25, 1996, were considered for approval. Councilwoman Papouchado moved that the minutes be approved as written. The motion was seconded by Councilman Radford and unanimously approved.

AIKEN HISTORIC REGISTER - ORDINANCE 040896LandmarkLegare-Morgan House241 Laurens Street SWNo. 10 Downing StreetWaugh, Richard and JanHuckabee, Virginia P.Historic SiteTax Map Parcel No. 30-028-06-002

Mayor Cavanaugh stated this was the time advertised for the second reading and public hearing of an ordinance to designate the Legare-Morgan House at 241 Laurens Street SW as a Landmark.

Mr. Thompson read the title of the ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING THE LEGARE-MORGAN HOUSE LOCATED AT 241 LAURENS STREET SW AS A LANDMARK UNDER THE CITY OF AIKEN HISTORIC PRESERVATION ORDINANCE.

Mr. Thompson stated the owners of the home at 241 Laurens Street SW, the Legare-Morgan House, have requested designation of the home to the Aiken Historic Register as a Landmark. The request has been reviewed by the Historic Preservation Commission and the Planning Commission and is recommended to Council for approval.

Mr. Robert Newburn, Chairman of the Historic Preservation Commission, outlined the significance of the Legare-Morgan house. The Historic Preservation Commission members felt that the house is significant as a landmark, based on the age and quality of the home, its association with persons significant in history, and its distinctive architectural features. All of the structures on the property are included in the designation request.

The public hearing was held and no one spoke.

Councilwoman Price moved, seconded by Councilwoman Papouchado and unanimously approved, that the ordinance designating the Legare-Morgan house at 241 Laurens Street SW to the Aiken Historic Register as a Landmark be passed on second and final reading to become effective immediately.

BUSINESS LICENSE ORDINANCE - ORDINANCE 040896AIncentivesCorporate HeadquartersManufacturing

Mayor Cavanaugh stated this was the time advertised for the second reading and public hearing on an ordinance to adopt changes to the Business License Ordinance.

Mr. Thompson read the title of the ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE READOPTING AND AMENDING THE CITY OF AIKEN LICENSE ORDINANCE WITH RESPECT TO SETTING AND REGULATING LICENSE FEES TO BE PAID BY ANY PERSON, FIRM OR CORPORATION ENGAGED OR INTENDING TO ENGAGE IN ANY BUSINESS, TRADE, CALLING, SERVICE, ACTIVITY, OR PROFESSION OR MAINTAIN AN OFFICE OR OFFICES OR ACTING AS AGENT OF ANOTHER, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF THE CITY OF AIKEN, SOUTH CAROLINA, AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE COLLECTION THEREOF.

Mr. Thompson stated that for the past few years Council has discussed the need to update the business license ordinance of the city to incorporate changes that have been adopted over the years amending the ordinance. He stated the former City Attorney, Jim Holly, and the Finance Department had been working to incorporate all the changes into a single ordinance. He said most of the changes are minor in nature. There are no rate increases included in the ordinance. Instead Council has asked that several incentives be included in the ordinance and the proposed ordinance does include the incentives.

Mr. Thompson stated the staff had surveyed other jurisdictions in reviewing the ordinance to be sure the City of Aiken's rates are comparable and competitive. Council had also suggested the inclusion of several incentives in the license ordinance. The license ordinance is based on declining rates. A declining rate gives preferential treatment and encouragement for high income businesses. The more revenue a business generates, the lower the business license fee as a percentage of gross. Under state law the license fee is collected on the gross income that the business reports to the State of South Carolina which allows the city to enforce the ordinance in a very fair and reasonable manner. Businesses in Aiken are classified under eight classifications, based on the national Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes. This system recognizes that some businesses are more profitable than others and the license fee is intended to assist those types of industries that have high overhead as opposed to high profit.

Mr. Thompson stated the proposed ordinance does not increase any business license fees for the city. The primary changes in the ordinance include the different incentives that Council discussed which include:

1. New businesses will pay on the base fee for the classification of that business and will pay a graduated rate for a total period of three years before the full business license fee is due. Under this incentive, the company will pay the base rate only for the first year, and will pay 40% of the applicable fee on the first renewal. In the third year of operation, the business will only pay 60% of the applicable fee, and the full fee will be due after the third year.

2. The ordinance caps the business license fee for any business in the manufacturing classification at a total annual fee of \$1,500. The ordinance also caps the license fee for corporate headquarters at \$1,500, and defines corporate headquarters to include a regional or national headquarters with at least five other business locations in this state or other areas. Each individual location of a business located within the city would continue to pay a standard business license on any locations in the city that are not manufacturing, but the location of the corporate headquarters within the city will not generate more than \$1,500 additional fees.

Mr. Thompson stated after extensively surveying other cities and counties in South Carolina and Georgia, it was found that the City of Aiken's fees are low. Most of the businesses in Aiken pay very low fees. In the breakdown provided by the Finance Department, 66% of the businesses paid less than \$200 per year for the business license. The business license fee system, excluding franchise fees, will generate about \$2.2 million, or the equivalent of 34 mills of taxes. The City of Aiken licenses approximately 1,800 businesses, and of this total about 10%, or 174, of these businesses pay a license fee greater than \$1,500 per year. The larger businesses generate a total of approximately \$1.5 million, or the equivalent of 23 mills of taxes. The larger businesses generate 67% of the total license fees for the city.

Mr. Thompson stated the proposed Business License Ordinance had been circulated throughout the community. The comments received focused primarily on the need for the incentives to encourage and support new businesses and an incentive to encourage location of corporate facilities within the city limits. The proposed ordinance includes those incentives.

Mr. Thompson stated during the second draft circulation of the proposed ordinance a comment was received from the Aiken Business Alliance asking that

all business license fees be capped at \$1,500. Mr. Thompson stated 10% of the businesses generate more than \$1,500 which includes the insurance companies and the telephone company. Placing a cap of \$1,500 on business license fees would reduce the revenue under that system by approximately \$1.2 million, or the equivalent of 19 mills of property taxes.

Mr. Thompson stated the proposed ordinance incorporates the changes adopted over the years, does not increase rates for any business, and includes incentives for new businesses, or manufacturing operations and for facilities that qualify as corporate headquarters. The ordinance places a cap of \$1,500 per year on manufacturing facilities and on corporate headquarters. The definition used in the ordinance for corporate headquarters, as amended by Council at the last meeting, requires 5 or more locations, unless the headquarters is a manufacturing facility.

Mr. Thompson stated Mr. Holly was present if Council had any questions regarding the ordinance.

The public hearing was held and no one spoke.

Councilman Anaclerio moved, seconded by Councilwoman Clyburn and unanimously approved, that the Business License Ordinance as amended be passed on second and final reading to become effective July 1, 1996.

Councilwoman Papouchado pointed out she felt the License Ordinance made it clear to the community that the city is pro business and Council has taken every creative step to support business and encourage new businesses to locate within the city limits.

#### ANNEXATION - ORDINANCE

Town Creek Road

Silver Bluff Road

LCW Development Corp.

Tax Parcel No. 00-134.0-01-007

Mayor Cavanaugh stated this was the time advertised for the second reading and public hearing on an ordinance for annexation of 1.15 acres at the intersection of Town Creek and Silver Bluff Roads.

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 1.15 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, OWNED BY LCW DEVELOPMENT CORP. LOCATED AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE INTERSECTION OF TOWN CREEK ROAD (S.C. SECONDARY HIGHWAY 968) AND SILVER BLUFF ROAD (S.C. HIGHWAY NUMBER 302), TAX MAP PARCEL NUMBER 00-134.0-01-007, AND TO ZONE THE SAME NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS (NB).

Mr. Thompson stated a petition had been received from LCW Development Corporation requesting annexation of a lot containing 1.15 acres located at the intersection of Town Creek Road and Silver Bluff Road. The request is to zone the property Neighborhood Business. The Planning Commission reviewed the request and recommended it to Council for approval.

Mr. Thompson stated the Commission's discussions primarily centered on the use of this property for commercial development. The closest retail commercial use is at Centre South Shopping Center. Although the nearby Wyatt Executive Office Park is Neighborhood Business the use is more of a professional nature than commercial.

The public hearing was held. Mayor Cavanaugh asked if Mr. Bob Moody, the person who submitted the annexation request and zoning, was present to speak in favor of the annexation. Mr. Moody was not present and no one spoke in favor of the annexation request.

Mr. Steve Griffin, of 647 Whippoorwill Court, Gem Lakes, spoke in opposition to the annexation and zoning request. He stated he represented a group of residents of Gem Lakes, Woodside, Indian Creek, Melrose and Hidden Haven Subdivisions. He said the group was opposed to any type of ordinance that would establish a convenience store or service station on the property at Town Creek and Silver Bluff. He stated the reasons for opposing the proposed use of the property. He stated the site is only about 800 yards from another convenience store location at the intersection of Silver Bluff and Pine Log.

He said a convenience store would change the general tone and attractiveness of the residential neighborhood. The proposed business would have a lot of lights, and noise as well as some possible security problems. The residents felt traffic would be a problem. The proposed site is at the intersection of two two-lane roads where several residential neighborhoods empty onto Silver Bluff. It was felt that a convenience store would increase the traffic volume at this intersection. Another area of concern is drainage problems which development of the area would cause with the trees being cleared and the area being asphalted. Mr. Griffin stated the residents had four areas of concern which they felt would cause a problem if the area is zoned Neighborhood Business. He said the residents feel a convenience store is not needed, the proposed development would change the general tone of the neighborhood, the traffic congestion would be greater, and it was felt there would be a drainage problem. Mr. Griffin stated he did not feel that the proposed use of the property is in the best interest of the residents of the area nor the city's best interest. Mr. Griffin stated the residents of the area ask that Council deny the request to establish zoning that allows the proposed type of commercial construction. He stated a petition had been circulated and signatures of 522 individuals had been obtained in opposition to the proposed zoning.

Council discussed the annexation and zoning request. Councilmember Papouchado asked if the residents realize that if Council denies the annexation request that there is a possibility that the convenience store will be built any way. Mr. Griffin stated they are aware of this possibility and if plans proceed then the group would take the matter up with the County. Mr. Griffin pointed out when City Council annexes property they also zone an area. He stated the group does not care if the property is annexed to the city, but is concerned about the proposed zoning of Neighborhood Business and the proposed use of the property. It was pointed out that Council can only accept the zoning requested by the petitioner or the petitioner can withdraw the annexation request. Councilman Perry asked if the proposed zoning might be spot zoning, but City Attorney Smith stated he felt the zoning probably would not be spot zoning.

Councilman Anaclerio asked if the residents of Gem Lakes might see the need for annexation of Gem Lakes for zoning protection. Mr. Griffin stated he could not speak for the group as far as annexation. He stated there are some very positive points to being a part of the city. He said as an individual he would be receptive to talking to the city about the possibility of annexation of Gem Lakes.

Mayor Cavanaugh pointed out this is a very tough decision for Council because it is a no win situation. He pointed out if Council denies annexation and the area is developed outside the city there will be no city controls as far as drainage, landscaping, building codes, etc. If the area is annexed and developed, the city would have some control over the development but the residents would be upset with the city. Mayor Cavanaugh stated he was concerned about safety. He felt there would be a greater traffic problem with the proposed development.

Councilman Anaclerio pointed out another concern with the proposed development is gas tanks in the ground in the area with the city's water supply only about 200 feet away.

Mr. Griffin stated residents of Gem Lakes were concerned about tanks in the ground, etc. and had questioned Mr. Bob Moody, the proposed developer of the property, about this matter. Mr. Moody had stated two oil companies had looked at the property, and they felt there was enough room on the property to place the tanks and drain field for septic tanks, etc.

Councilwoman Papouchado pointed out there are other properties in the area which are equally at risk for development as this property at the corner of Town Creek and Silver Bluff. She pointed out if this development succeeds the others will follow unless the areas are protected.

Council stated they would like to get a group together to talk about future annexation of Gem Lakes.

Mr. Owen Sheetz, 133 Charles Towne Place in Woodside, stated Mr. Griffin had covered the points of opposition to the request, but he would like to emphasize again the safety problem and traffic in the area. He stated he felt Council needed to find a way to control a situation like this which creates

something that the citizens who already live in the area do not want. Mr. Sheetz asked what the Comprehensive Plan shows for this area. Mr. Evans stated the current Comprehensive Plan calls for low density residential and the proposed Plan calls for Professional.

Mr. Richard Brelsford, 137 Charles Towne Place of Woodside, stated he would like to endorse the comments of Mr. Griffin and the four points of concern.

Ms. Rachel d'Entremont, representative of the Planning Commission, pointed out the recommendation of the Planning Commission to Council for approval of the annexation request was not unanimous but was approved by a vote of 4 to 3. She pointed out the Strategic Plan calls for clustering and this was outside of the cluster. She said she agreed with the comments of Mr. Griffin.

Councilwoman Papouchado stated the matter embodied a lot of issues that have been before Council, one being the issue of home rule. She pointed out that of the Legislative Delegation only Representative Clyburn supports home rule. She stated the issue has come up with the Senator saying that the city has no regard for people who live outside the city near the city. She pointed out the amount of time and agonizing Council has put on this particular issue indicates that Council does have concerns about neighbors who are county residents. Councilwoman Papouchado suggested that the residents talk to Mr. Moody who has presented the proposed development to see if something could be worked out for the neighborhood. She pointed out there are other parcels which could follow if this lot is developed commercially. She said the matter is a community issue more than it is a government issue.

Mayor Cavanaugh pointed out if the County had stricter zoning regulations it would help in situations like this particular one.

Councilman Anaclerio pointed out the city's Comprehensive Plan talks about clustering and this goes against clustering. He pointed out strip shopping could easily develop along Silver Bluff Road. He felt the city needed to start working on clustering of business and residential.

Councilman Anaclerio moved, seconded by Councilwoman Price and unanimously approved, that the request for annexation and zoning at the intersection of Silver Bluff Road and Town Creek Road be denied and the ordinance not passed on second reading.

Councilwoman Papouchado pointed out by denying the annexation it may be worse as there would be no city controls on the development, no landscape standards and other city controls.

KMC SOUTHEAST CORPORATION - ORDINANCE

Franchise

Fiber Optic

Telecommunications Services

Mayor Cavanaugh stated this was the time advertised for second reading and public hearing on an ordinance to extend a franchise to KMC Southeast Corporation.

Mr. Thompson read the title of the ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING KMC SOUTHEAST CORP. THE CONSENT OF COUNCIL AND A NONEXCLUSIVE REVOCABLE FRANCHISE FOR IT TO PROVIDE A FIBER OPTIC NETWORK TO CITY OF AIKEN CONSUMERS AND TO PROVIDE FOR CONDITIONS GOVERNING THE CONSTRUCTION, EXPANSION, USE, EXCAVATION, MAINTENANCE, REPAIR, AND OPERATION OF A FIBER OPTIC NETWORK BELOW AND, WHERE NECESSARY, UPON CERTAIN PUBLIC STREETS, ALLEYS, WAYS, AND OTHER PUBLIC PLACES TO PROVIDE SUCH NETWORK AND ESTABLISHING THE OBLIGATIONS OF KMC SOUTHEAST CORP. WITH REGARD THERETO.

Mr. Thompson stated that last October Council approved a permit for operations for the firm of KMC Southeast. The company provides fiber optic and telecommunications services to business customers around the country and is interested in serving businesses in the Aiken area.

Under the permit ordinance Council agreed to move forward with a franchise ordinance for the company. This ordinance provides a nonexclusive franchise for KMC Southeast Corporation.

Mr. Thompson stated a concern had been that installation of fiber in the parkways and city streets could be disruptive of the structures and plantings in these areas. A provision has been included to allow the City Engineer to stop all construction if he is dissatisfied with the progress and quality of the work of the KMC contractors and subcontractors. The city will reserve the right to approve the final selection of a contractor for this work and will require drawings of all construction planned for the project.

Mr. Thompson stated these franchises are becoming a commodity on the utility market, and included in the franchise is a requirement that KMC must start construction within one year of the adoption of the ordinance. This is a relatively new field and the city is concerned about the position that failure of this company would place with business companies in Aiken. However, it is felt that other private utility companies would purchase the service for these companies but it is felt that the city should be in a position of helping that transfer to take place.

Mr. Thompson stated the franchise waives the performance bond on this project up to the first \$1 million investment. After extensive discussions with KMC, the staff agrees that the contractor must obtain a performance bond and that if the value of construction exceeds \$1 million that the city have the ability to require satisfactory bonding.

The public hearing was held and no one spoke.

Councilman Anaclerio asked if the city would realize any benefits from extension of the fiber optics outside the city. He pointed out it seemed that if activity is generated from the city to outside the city that the city should be able to realize some revenue from the activity. He stated he also liked having the fee based upon gross revenues rather than specifying exactly what revenues so that later if there are other revenues these would be included in the gross revenues.

Mr. Anderson stated an addition could be made to the ordinance for the city to be compensated for any interconnection that may occur at a later date. In other words, should KMC extend its network outside the city limits, the city could ask for a proportionate share of compensation based upon the percentage of the network outside the city compared with the percentage of the network within the city.

Councilman Anaclerio moved that the ordinance granting a franchise to KMC for a fiber optic network and telecommunications services be amended, adding a section that the city receive a proportionate share of compensation for the network outside the city compared with the percentage of network inside the city and that the amended ordinance be advertised for third reading at the next regular meeting of Council. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Price and unanimously approved.

#### SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

##### Landscaping

##### Agreement

##### I-20

##### U.S. 1 North

Mayor Cavanaugh stated Council needed to consider acceptance of an agreement with the S.C. Department of Transportation for landscaping at the intersection of U.S. 1 and I-20.

Mr. Thompson stated the S.C. Subcommittee for the Augusta Regional Transportation System (ARTS) has discussed the need for landscaping at the intersection of Highway 1 with Interstate 20. The SCDOT has funds available for intersection landscaping, and with the ARTS Subcommittee discussions the City of Aiken and the City of North Augusta both emphasized the need for landscaping improvements with some costs to be borne locally.

Mr. Thompson stated Council reviewed this agreement in November, 1995, and suggested that Aiken County assist with the cost of landscaping in the amount of \$5,000. Aiken County has responded that they will not be able to assist with the project, and the project is back to Council for further consideration.

The Department of Transportation is estimating that landscaping at this intersection will cost about \$50,000. The State will provide \$40,000 of this cost, leaving a local match of \$10,000. This could help make Highway 1 very

attractive as an entranceway into Aiken and with the new widening will improve the northern section of Aiken. The staff is recommending that Council adopt the agreement and approve the expense.

The agreement requires the city to design and install landscaping at the intersection, and the city would accept a large portion of the maintenance responsibilities beyond the normal maintenance that SCDOT would accept. The Department of Transportation would provide 80% of the funding, or a maximum of \$40,000 for the project.

North Augusta has accepted the same responsibility for one of the intersections on I-20.

Mayor Cavanaugh stated Council had asked Aiken County to participate with the City on this project by providing \$5,000. Aiken County's response was that they could not participate. Mayor Cavanaugh stated he had asked that the matter be delayed at the last Council meeting until he talked with the Aiken County Council Chairman, Ronnie Young. He said the Chairman could not make a decision for the County Council, but the matter could be discussed during the joint meeting with the Aiken County Council.

Council discussed the city's request to Aiken County for assistance with the local match of \$5,000. Mr. Thompson stated Mr. William Shepherd had responded that his feeling was that Aiken County would not participate in this cost.

Councilman Anaclerio moved, seconded by Councilwoman Clyburn, that Council approve an expenditure of \$10,000 for landscaping at U.S. 1 and I-20 because he felt it would be beneficial to the City of Aiken and Aiken County. He stated he hoped Aiken County Council would participate with the city at a later date and reimburse the city for a portion of this project. The motion was approved by a vote of 6 in favor with Councilman Radford opposing the motion.

Councilwoman Price pointed out City Council had approved an expenditure of \$2,000 to Aiken County at the last meeting, and she was disappointed that the County would not participate in this project and that the City and the County could not build a partnership on projects that would benefit both parties.

#### ENTITLEMENT FUNDS

##### 1996 & 1997 Activities Community Development Block Grant Changes

Mayor Cavanaugh stated Council needed to consider some changes in the use of Community Development Block Grant Entitlement Funds for Fiscal years 96 and 97.

Mr. Thompson stated each year Council approves the projects to be funded with Community Development Entitlement funds. In March, 1996, Council adopted a listing of projects for funding under the FY97 CDBG Entitlement program. These activities reflect Council's goals for the program. After review of the projects slated for the current fiscal year (FY96) and those planned for FY97, the staff is recommending that Council consider changing the schedule for these projects to be funded. The staff is requesting that projects such as the streetscape improvements, which are moving along at a very good pace, be given the funds to be completed during this fiscal year rather than stop and start back during FY 97.

The staff is recommending the following changes to the funding schedule:

1. shifting most of the funds previously earmarked for Economic Development activities during FY96 to the Streetscape program;
2. shifting the funding of the Nurture Home rehabilitation project to FY96 instead of waiting to FY97; and
3. shifting most of the funds previously earmarked for Streetscape during FY97 to Economic Development.

The changes would not affect the total amount of money spent on the various categories over the two-year period, but would only affect the schedule for spending the funds.

The recommended funding schedule is as follows:

<u>Fy 96 Grant</u>		<u>FY 97 Grant</u>	
Streetscape	\$162,000	Economic Development	\$155,000
Eustis Park II	40,000	Housing Rehabilitation	40,000
Economic Development	25,000	Eustis Park III	40,000
Housing Rehabilitation	20,000	Streetscape	22,000
Nurture Home Rehab	10,000	Contingency	5,000
Contingency	5,000	Administration	<u>25,000</u>
Administration	<u>25,000</u>		
	\$287,000		\$287,000

Councilman Anaclerio moved, seconded by Councilwoman Clyburn and unanimously approved, that the changes suggested by the staff to the funding schedule for Entitlement projects for FY96 and 97 and the addition of Public Facilities to the project categories for FY 96 Entitlement activities be approved with the understanding that the schedule could be changed in the future if funding is needed earlier than anticipated at this time.

#### BIDS

Public Works Center  
Garage  
Addition  
Stewart Builders

Mayor Cavanaugh stated Council needed to consider the bids for repairs and an addition to the Public Works Garage.

Mr. Thompson stated that for several years the staff has discussed upgrading the city garage and expanding the enclosed area. Repairs have been made to the existing facility over the last couple of years, and \$75,000 was included in this year's budget to make more repairs and expand the enclosed space. The improvements include replacing siding, adding a tool area, putting a roof over the welding shop, and providing storage space for large equipment that needs to be kept out of the cold weather.

Three bids were received for the project, and the staff is recommending that the bid be awarded to the low bidder, Stewart Builders, at a price not to exceed \$75,000. Stewart Builders' total bid was \$75,692, and the staff will work with Mr. Stewart to keep the total cost within the budget.

The bids received were as follows:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Price</u>
H. G. Reynolds	\$115,500
Quattlebaum Construction	80,000
J. E. Stewart Builders	75,692

Councilwoman Clyburn moved, seconded by Councilwoman Price and unanimously approved, that the bid for repairs and an addition to the Public Works Garage area be awarded to the low bidder, Stewart Builders, at a price not to exceed \$75,000.

#### BIDS

Sanitary Sewer  
Forest Drive  
Kalmia Hill  
Fulmer, Gene Ray Construction Co.

Mayor Cavanaugh stated Council needed to consider bids for installation of sanitary sewer in the Forest Drive area.

Mr. Thompson stated the city annexed the Forest Drive area a few years ago and agreed to extend sewer service to the area within approximately five years. This year's budget includes this project to fulfill the city's commitment to this area.

The sewer line will extend from Valley Road to Forest Drive and run the entire length of Forest Drive. A small section of line will be installed along

Shadow Drive to serve one house facing Shadow Drive as well as allow for future extension of the sewer system. Four bids were received as follows:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Bid Price</u>
Gene Ray Fulmer Construction Co.	\$ 90,990.00
R. O. Collins Co.	123,399.32
C. R. Jackson Co.	146,944.90
APAC Southern Roadbuilders	159,870.00

The staff is recommending acceptance of the low bid of \$90,990 from Gene Ray Fulmer Construction Co. Funding is available for this project and the city plans to repave Forest Drive after the sewer line has been installed.

Councilman Radford moved, seconded by Councilwoman Papouchado and unanimously approved, that the low bid of Gene Ray Fulmer Construction in the amount of \$90,990 for sewer extension along Forest Drive be accepted.

#### BIDS

##### Paving

##### Streets

##### Resurfacing

##### Southern Roadbuilders-APAC

Mayor Cavanaugh stated Council needed to consider the bids for street paving.

Mr. Thompson stated each year the city budgets approximately \$100,000 for street paving and slurry sealing. The staff maintains a priority list of city streets to be paved. This year Roger LeDuc, Public Works Director, has recommended that all available funds be used for street repaving.

The streets to be resurfaced include the following: Robinwood, Trailwood, Oriole, Wren Place, 250 feet of Fabian Road, Nancy Lane, 250 feet of Fore Street and Redd Street. This totals approximately 28,000 square yards of paving. In addition, we have included paving the alley between Park Avenue and The Alley behind Palmetto Package Shop. The owner of Palmetto Package Shop has agreed to pay a prorata share for this paving, based on the area used for employee parking.

The bids received were as follows:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Bid Price</u>
Southern Roadbuilders-APAC	\$101,966.20
Knox-Rivers	104,653.80
Satterfield Construction	113,146.21
Beam's Pavement Maintenance	113,440.10

The staff is recommending acceptance of the low bidder, Southern Roadbuilders-APAC, for this work, and the overall contract price will be held to under \$100,000.

Councilman Anaclerio moved, seconded by Councilwoman Papouchado and unanimously approved, that the bid for street paving work be awarded to the low bidder, Southern Roadbuilders-APAC.

#### BIDS

##### Sewer Jet Cleaning Unit

##### Jet Cleaner

##### Water Pro

Mayor Cavanaugh stated Council needed to consider bids for a high pressure jet cleaning unit.

Mr. Thompson stated the budget includes funds for the scheduled replacement of a sewer jet cleaning machine. This equipment is used often to clean out and remove obstructions and roots from sanitary and storm sewers. The bids received were as follows:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Bid Price</u>
Water Pro	\$30,699
Pipeline Supply	37,355

Mr. Thompson stated invitations to bid were mailed to five suppliers and two responses were received. He stated the staff is recommending acceptance of the low bid submitted by Water Pro and the inclusion of \$1,860 in optional equipment for a total bid price of \$32,589. Funds are available for this purchase.

Councilwoman Price moved, seconded by Councilman Anaclerio and unanimously approved, that the low bid of Water Pro in the amount of \$32,589 including optional equipment be accepted for the purchase of a high pressure jet cleaning unit.

GEM LAKES

Councilwoman Papouchado stated the residents of Gem Lakes had asked if Council would be willing to help the residents mediate a meeting with Mr. Bob Moody regarding the use of the lot at the corner of Town Creek and Silver Bluff Road.

Council discussed the request. It was pointed out Council is certainly willing to help people, but it was felt the matter was between the county, Gem Lakes and Mr. Moody and the City should not be involved as the middle person.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Council adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

  
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Sara B. Ridout  
City Clerk