

Aiken City Council MinutesMay 10, 2004WORK SESSION

Present: Mayor Cavanaugh, Councilmembers Clyburn, Cunning, Price, Sprawls and Vaughters.

Absent: Councilman Smith.

Others Present: Roger LeDuc, Bill Huggins, Gary Smith, Larry Morris, Glenn Parker, Sara Ridout, Richard Pearce, Susan French, Philip Lord of the Aiken Standard, Josh Gelinas of the Augusta Chronicle and about 9 citizens.

Mayor Cavanaugh called the meeting to order at 6:29 P.M. He stated Council had one item that they would like to discuss in the work session.

SAVANNAH RIVER SITEHistoric Preservation

Mr. LeDuc stated that Walt Joseph and Todd Crawford were present to speak about the legacy and preservation efforts taking place at Savannah River Site. They are asking for a resolution of support for the project to be sent to the Department of Energy.

Over the last couple of years the Federal Government has passed legislation concerning the National Historic Preservation Act and approved an executive order concerning Preserve America. These two pieces of legislation apply to SRS and the preservation of a unique environment that has existed at this location since the early 1950's. Individuals within DOE and SRS are currently taking steps to preserve several documents, models and other artifacts that can best tell the story of SRS within its overall cold war context. The state and other individuals feel there is great potential concerning the eventual interpretation of the story of SRS through the preservation of several original features and associated artifacts from the site. A local group headed up by Walt Joseph and Todd Crawford would like to make a presentation to City Council and present a resolution to show Council's support for the development of a possible historic museum and visitors center concerning SRS and its rich history. They are both making the rounds talking with all the cities, counties and town government organizations about the potential future of a SRS Interpretation Center.

Todd Crawford and Walt Joseph, representing Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness (CNTA), presented to Council the steps necessary to preserve documents, models and other artifacts that can best tell the story of SRS within its overall Cold War context. They stated the State of South Carolina and many other individuals throughout our community feel there is a great potential concerning the eventual interpretation of the story of SRS through its unique features and artifacts. They asked for Council's support for the project.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONSAppointmentsBishop, JerryBuilding Code of Appeals

Mr. LeDuc pointed out that Councilman Smith was absent but he had asked that Council be informed that he wanted to reappoint Jerry Bishop to the Building Code of Appeals Committee and that the appointment be placed on the next agenda.

Councilwoman Vaughters stated that Neel Shah said he was never notified of meetings of the Accommodations Tax Commission. She requested that the matter be looked into to make sure Mr. Shah is notified of meetings. Glenn Parker stated he would check on the matter.