

ANDERSON COUNTY COUNCIL
ANDERSON, SOUTH CAROLINA

ORIGINAL

Regular Meeting - May 21, 1991 - 7:00 p.m.
Linda N. Gilstrap, Clerk

M I N U T E S

A regular meeting of the Anderson County Council was held on May 21, 1991 at 7:00 p.m. in the Anderson County Council Chambers. Chairman Mike Holden presided.

PRESENT

Bob Waldrep - District #1
David L. Hooper - District #2
Harvie E. Banister - District #3
Ed Allgood - District #4
Mike Holden - District #5
David Standeffer - County Attorney
Tom Martin - County Attorney (6-1-91)
David Watson - County Administrator
Linda N. Gilstrap - Clerk

Chairman Mike Holden called the meeting to order and Mr. David L. Hooper gave the invocation. Everyone stood and pledged allegiance to the flag.

Chairman Holden recognized Ms. Jean Hooper, a rising Senior at Clemson and David Hooper's daughter, who was observing the meeting as a school requirement.

Chairman Holden presented Resolution #591 stating that the South Carolina State Senate Judiciary Committee has recommended the partitioning of Anderson County among five Senate Districts, with just one resident Senator. The resolution expresses Council's opposition to the division of Anderson County in such a manner that dilutes the voice of the citizens of Anderson County within the South Carolina State Senate and divides Anderson County's State Senate representation among so many non-resident State Senators. The resolution recommends that the final South Carolina State Senate Districts be created in such a manner that will minimize the dilution of representation of Anderson County citizens, and that will enhance Anderson County's economic and social links with a neighboring county with which Anderson County will grow and prosper into the twenty-first century. Council heard from Mayor Marion Middleton and Mr. Grady Ballard who spoke in opposition to the lines. Mr. Holden moved to approve Resolution #591 as read and Mr. Allgood seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Robert Wiles, representing the Department of Social Services, talked about the County providing a new building for the department. He said that the 1938 Public Welfare Act states that county governments are responsible for providing suitable office space for County Department of Social Services. The County has provided the space for some 50 years; however, they have outgrown its present space needs and are requesting more suitable office space. Other reasons were given for a need for a new building. He asked that Council

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consider additional office space during the interim period and that Council designate a person to work with the Executive Director of D.S.S. toward providing adequate and suitable office. Mr. Holden moved to direct the County Administrator to work with the Executive Director to provide some type space and report back. Mr. Waldrep seconded and vote was four in favor and one abstention. Mr. Hooper abstained from voting on the issue because he is a D.S.S. employee.

Mr. Allgood expressed interest in the need to have meetings on the office space/buildings that the County needs.

Chief Mike Temple from the Sheriff's Department, explained that he needed Council's permission to replace two vacant positions in the department. He asked that they be exempt from the hiring freeze and be allowed to replace these employees. Mr. Allgood moved to allow the two positions to be filled and Mr. Holden seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Allgood said that he had a complaint about Spenser Street. After investigating the problem with employees of the Sheriff's office, he found that in the last two years, two people were killed in the location and 51 reports were made. Weekly drug arrests are made outside the door of the business establishment. Chief Temple tried to explain the problem and said that the County Attorney, Solicitor and Sheriff needed to get together to see who can file an injunction. Mr. Waldrep moved to direct the County Attorney to take the necessary steps to eliminate the problem. Mr. Holden seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Stephen Crawford asked for approval of the low bid (\$76,700) from McMillan & Carter, Inc. for Phase I construction of Hurricane Spring Park. Funds in the amount of \$60,000 from a Park & Recreation Development (PARC) grant have been awarded. Mr. Holden moved to grant the contract contingent upon review by the County Attorney and Mr. Waldrep seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Laniel Chapman and Mr. Bob Funk presented a video presentation on the condition of furniture in the old Courthouse. Mr. Chapman assured Council that all usable furniture would be moved to the new courthouse and some of the furniture would be refurbished. He said that the projected furniture costs would be \$660,000 and the available bond money of \$250,000 would be applied toward the cost. He asked Council for funding consideration of \$410,000 for the furniture. Mr. Funk explained the bid packages that were sent out on the furniture. Judge Dean Hall addressed Council regarding the furniture. He explained the users fee for mortgages and deeds recording would bring in between \$150,000 to \$175,00 per year additional revenues which has been placed into the General Fund. He said that money could be used to purchase the furniture. Also Family Court collects non-support payments which brings in an estimated \$200,000 additional revenues to the County which by law should go back into Family Court and not the General Fund. Council received as information.

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Mr. Joe Mariner and Mr. Larry McNair appeared before Council with an opportunity for the County to rent the old Kroger Building on River Street for County offices. They explained the building in detail and showed pictures. Council received as information.

Mayor Marion Middleton, representing the Anderson County Municipal Association, addressed Council asking that they consider and place on the November ballot the 1¢ Local Option Sales tax question. He said that the Association voted unanimously to ask Council to place the local option sales tax on the ballot. He explained that 63% would be used to roll back taxes the first year with the percentage increasing every year for five years. Chairman Holden asked the Administrator and County Attorney to get together and compile all information needed for Council before the deadline for the November ballot. Council received as information.

Mr. Rusty Burns asked that the County abandon a 230' of County road #C-9-333A. A company building a shopping center on 28 Bypass will re-align and improve the road to meet Anderson County Road standards. The section is approximately 9 feet wide and is narrow and in poor condition. Mr. Senn, the builder, has requested that the County assist with the gravel base of approximately 260' long and 6" deep. Mr. Holden moved to allow the abandonment and place the gravel on the road with the stipulation that if the property is not on the books within one year, the Company will pay the money back to the County. Mr. Banister seconded and vote was unanimous. The County Attorney was asked to prepare the legal agreement.

Mr. Rusty Burns presented an amendment to Ordinance #214 - Sediment and Erosion Control by first reading of Ordinance #332. The amendment deals with sediment control ponds. Mr. Burns asked that a two member committee be appointed to meet with J.R. McClure to discuss further with the Land Use Authority. Mr. Banister moved to approve on first reading and Mr. Holden seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Burns informed Council that Anderson County was awarded a grant in the amount of \$48,750 for the planning and design study for a new Detention Center. He asked that the County allow the County Administrator to execute all necessary papers to implement. Mr. Banister moved to approve and Mr. Allgood seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Burns also announced that the County had received a grant from the Governor's Office, in the amount of \$54,655 for narcotics prosecution for the Solicitor's Office. He asked Council to allow the Administrator to sign all necessary documents for the program to begin on June 1, 1991. Mr. Hooper moved to allow and Mr. Holden seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Burns explained the need for an executive session to discuss economic development.

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Mr. Ed Allgood talked about a central billing system for EMS from insurance money, Medicare and Medicaid. He also talked about reducing the amount of magistrates and ways to increase the services and save money. Mr. Holden appointed Mr. Jacky Hunter, Mr. Joe Newton, Mr. Rusty Burns and Mr. Ed Allgood to a committee to study the Magistrate system in Anderson. The County has 6 full time and 8 part time magistrates. With the County population there should not be more than 6 full time magistrates. The committee will get together and report back to Council with a recommendation.

Mr. Jack Crowe presented the following purchases for Council's consideration: (1) Computer Services - 130,000 each auto tax notices and 60,000 Family Court checks for a total of \$8,174.98. (2) Detention Center - Uniforms - total of \$2,785.23 from Fortner's Clothing. These are budgeted items and no additional funding will be required. Mr. Holden moved to approve and Mr. Allgood seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Jacky Hunter presented the following budget transfers for the Civic Center for Part time help. From account #441-110-001 (S.C. Retirement to #815-100-002 (Civic Center-Part time) -- \$19,206.73 and from account #815-100-001 (salaries) to #815-100-002 (part time) -- \$8,479.06. Mr. Holden moved to allow the transfers and Mr. Allgood seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. David Watson recommended the approval of the contract for collection of Department of Social Services fees through Family Court. The County Attorney has reviewed and are in order. Mr. Holden moved to approve and Mr. Banister seconded. Vote was four in favor, none opposed and one abstention. Mr. Hooper abstained because he is presently employed by the Department of Social Services.

Mr. Holden moved to approve the April 16 and May 7, 1991 minutes as mailed. Mr. Banister seconded and vote was unanimous.

Mr. Holden moved to go into executive session to discuss contractual and legal matters and to discuss economic development. Mr. Banister seconded. Vote was unanimous.(time: 9:05)

Mr. Holden moved to come out of executive session back into regular session at 10:25. Mr. Hooper seconded and vote was unanimous.

Mr. Standeffer explained that Council discussed economic development matters and no action was taken in executive session. Council considered certain personnel matters and legal matters effecting the County. Council accepted under advisement. Council discuss the potential settlement of a litigation matter which is presently with the County and asked for a motion to allow the attempt to settle the matter according to what was discussed in executive session. Mr. Waldrep moved to allow the settlement as agreed to in executive session and Mr. Holden seconded. Vote was unanimous.

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Mr. Standeffer asked for the continuation of a litigation matter as discussed in executive session. This would require additional litigation regarding this case. Mr. Holden moved to allow the continuation and Mr. Waldrep seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Standeffer said that Council discussed a lease proposal regarding certain property by Anderson County. Mr. Holden moved to direct the County Attorney to finalize the negotiations on the lease and to have the County Administrator execute the necessary documents. Mr. Banister seconded and vote was unanimous.

Mr. Standeffer conducted a public hearing on Mr. Hooper's Sewer Authority ordinance #329. There were no comments therefore the public hearing was declared closed. Mr. Holden moved to approve on second reading Ordinance #329 and Mr. Banister seconded. Council discussed. Mr. Waldrep offered an amendment that the employees of the Sewer Authority be directly responsible to the County Administrator. Mr. Allgood seconded the amendment. Council discussed. Vote on the amendment was two in favor (Waldrep, Allgood) and three opposed (Hooper, Holden, Banister). Motion failed. Mr. Waldrep offer amendment #2 that the Sewer Authority follow all requirements of the Freedom of Information Act. Mr. Allgood seconded the amendment. Vote on amendment #2 was two in favor (Waldrep, Allgood) and three opposed (Holden, Hooper, Banister). Amendment failed. Vote on the original motion to approve Ordinance #329 on second reading was three in favor (Holden, Hooper, Banister) and two opposed (Waldrep, Allgood).

Mr. Standeffer conducted a public hearing on Ordinance #327 - amendments to the Building and Codes ordinance. Several individuals spoke. Mr. Standeffer closed the public hearing. Mr. Standeffer explained the changes to the ordinance. Mr. Holden moved to approve Ordinance #327 on second reading and Mr. Banister seconded. Vote was unanimous. (Ordinance 326 Left out - Public Hearing, Second Reading)

Mr. Standeffer presented second reading of Ordinance #328 calling for the authorization and execution of industrial development revenue bonds for Belton Industries, Inc. Mr. Holden moved to approve on second reading and Mr. Banister seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Council heard from concerned citizens. Mr. A.B. Roberts spoke on the need for a parade ordinance, noise ordinance and others. He also discuss mosquito control in Anderson County.

There being no further business, Council adjourned at 11:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda N. Gilstrap
Linda N. Gilstrap, Clerk
ANDERSON COUNTY COUNCIL