



Minutes
Sumter County Council
Regular Meeting
February 10, 2009 - Held at 6:00 p.m.
County Administration Building County Council Chambers
13 E. Canal Street, Sumter, SC

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COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

1. Chairman Vivian Fleming McGhaney, Council District #5
2. Vice Chairman Eugene Baten, Council District #7
3. Councilman Larry Blanding, Council District #6
4. Councilman Charles T. Edens, Council District #4
5. Councilman Naomi D. Sanders, Council District #1

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

Councilman Artie Baker and Councilman Jimmy Byrd (**Both Council members were absent due to illness.**)

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

William T. Noonan, County Administrator
Johnathan Bryan, County Attorney
Simon Major, Detention Center Director
Lorraine Dennis, Deputy Administrator/HR
Keysa Rogers, Budget Analyst
Robert Hingst, EMS Director

Mary W. Blanding, Clerk To County Council
Rose Ford, Recreation Director
Gary Mixon, Deputy Administrator
Pam Craven, Finance Director
George McGregor, Planning Director
James Pearson, EMT

MEDIA PRESENT:

The Item Newspaper

THE PUBLIC PRESENT:

Approximately four members of the public were in attendance.

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CALL TO ORDER: Chairwoman Vivian Fleming McGhaney called Sumter County Council's meeting of February 10, 2009, to order.

INVOCATION: Rev. Travis Holmes, a local pastor, gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: All in attendance repeated the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Chairwoman McGhaney stated that she would entertain a motion to approve the February 10, 2009, agenda with any additions, deletions, or as printed. The Clerk To Council asked Council members to consider adding to this agenda: *"A Proclamation Proclaiming Saturday, February 14, 2009, As AKA Day, In Sumter County South Carolina."*

ACTION: MOTION was made by Vice Chairman Baten, seconded by Councilwoman Sanders, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the February 10, 2009, agenda as recommended by the Clerk.

ACTION ON REGULAR AND SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 27, 2009: Chairwoman McGhaney stated that she would entertain a motion to approve the regular and special meeting minutes of County Council held on January 27, 2009.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Vice Chairman Baten, seconded by Councilman Edens, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the regular and special meeting minutes of January 27, 2009, as prepared by the Clerk.

**LAND USE MATTERS AND REZONING REQUESTS -
Planned Development/Rezoning Request -**

- (1) OA-08-07 - Third Reading - (08-677) (County) -- Consideration Of Comprehensive Amendments To Article 8, Section I Of The Sumter County Zoning And Development Standards Ordinance: Sign Regulations. Revisions Are To Clarify The Sign Regulations Through Simplification And Better Definition. The Revisions Will Replace The Current Section In Its Entirety (Except Billboard Regulations).

The Planning Director, Mr. George McGregor, stated that there have been no changes to the sign ordinance except for the language below concerning off premise signs.

- *Off-site signs. No sign identifying or advertising a business or use shall be permitted other than on the premises of such building or use except for non-residential uses in the AC Zoning District where they may be placed on private property not to exceed one (1) 32 square foot sign or two 16 square foot signs per business. A maximum of one off-premise sign per parcel is permitted in this case. Billboards are treated separately in Section 8.i.9.*

After all comments, Council took action on third reading.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Blanding, seconded by Councilwoman Sanders, and unanimously carried by Council to defer third reading until February 24, 2009.

Street Name Change - None

Grant Awards - None

OTHER PUBLIC HEARINGS -- None

NEW BUSINESS:

- (1) Recognition Of American Legion Law and Order Recipients.
- Police Officer of the Year - Sergeant Joseph Lane - Sheriff's Department
 - Firefighter of the Year - Captain Jonnie L. Rose - Fire Department
 - Emergency Medical Technical of the Year - James Pearson - EMS Department
 - Correctional Officer of the Year - Captain Theresa Ray-Lee - Detention Center
 - Bravery Award - Joseph H. Duggan - City Police Department

The Chairwoman recognized the EMS Officer of the Year, Mr. James Pearson, for his recognition from the American Legion Law and Order Awards. The other recipients were not available at the meeting; however, their certificates will be delivered to them.

ACTION: Received as information.

(2) Presentation By S. C. Vocational Rehabilitation Department (VRD).

Mr. Tom Stabler, Business Development Specialist For The South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department was present on behalf of this matter. He stated that his agency wanted to do this presentation before Council so that Council and the public will recognize that Vocational Rehabilitation provides services to the disabled. The Mission of VRD is to assist 14 percent of South Carolinians that are disabled to find and maintain employment. VRD provides the following services:

- Career Planning and Community Work Experiences
- Outsource
- Job Retention Services
- Counseling
- Work-keys
- Physical Assistance
- Transportation

After the presentation, the Chairwoman thanked Mr. Stabler for informing Council of the many opportunities that S. C. Vocational Rehabilitation can offer businesses and citizens. Chairwoman McGhaney also asked the Clerk to look into having a link from the S. C. Vocational Rehabilitation Department added to the County's website.

ACTION: Received as information.

(3) A Proclamation Proclaiming Saturday, February 14, 2009, As Eta Zeta Omega Chapter Of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated Day In Sumter County, SC.

The Clerk to Sumter County Council presented this proposed Proclamation and then Council took action on its adoption as listed below.

WHEREAS, Eta Zeta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated was chartered on February 14, 1959, in Sumter, South Carolina as the tri-county area which includes Sumter, Manning, and Kershaw Counties under the leadership of Ms. Georgia Scank, Regional Director, who conducted the ceremony along with members of the Gamma Nu Omega Chapter of Columbia, South Carolina and Eta Zeta Omega Chapter members Dorothy Bracey, Doris Bultman, Florence Chaney, Nancy Dupree, Carolyn Farmer, Marjorie Fleming, Theresa James, Bennie Jenkins, Theodis Palmer, Anna D. Reuben, Almenia Richardson, Mildred Wright, Ruby B. Scott, and Mildred T. Wright; and

WHEREAS, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated was founded in 1908 at Howard University and was the first national sorority founded for black women with its purpose being to serve the community and to promote friendship and sisterhood among its members and to champion its motto "*By Culture and By Merit*" and Eta Zeta Omega Chapter exemplifies this motto in all that it engages in throughout the community, state, and nation; and

WHEREAS, Eta Zeta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated remains focused on its mission to cultivate and encourage high scholastic and ethical standards; promote

unity and friendship among college women; alleviate problems concerning girls and women; and maintain a progressive interest in college life, political policy, social and economic conditions, and community service programs through a core of more than 200,000 women associated with 975 chapters through the United States, the Caribbean, Europe, and Africa; and

WHEREAS, This Sorority Chapter is honored to have six of its charter members, Almenia Richardson, Theodis Palmer-McMahon, Theresa James, Ruby Scott, and Marjorie Fleming still carrying the vision and they have enlightened other members to remain focused on the Sorority's purpose: to cultivate and encourage high scholastic and ethical standards; promote unity and friendship among college women; alleviate problems concerning girls and women; and maintain a progressive interest in college life, political policy, social and economic conditions.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED by members of Sumter County Council that:

**Saturday, February 14, 2009, Is Proclaimed As
Eta Zeta Omega Chapter And Nu Gamma Chapter
Of
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated Day**

in the *County of Sumter, State of South Carolina* and Sumter County Council members and I urge all citizens to applaud the members of this exceptional Sorority and its members for the work that they have done, are doing, and will continue to do in the future. Council further encourage men, women, boys, and girls of this county and surrounding counties to join hands with The Eta Zeta Omega Chapter and Nu Gamma Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated in ensuring that its mission and purpose is carried out in a manner of togetherness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council applaud this organization and congratulate each member on their 50th year of being servants of God and Humanity. May God continue to place his loving and powerful hands on all projects, programs, and ventures that are undertaken by this Sorority and all leaders that embark upon leading this organization to higher heights.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Blanding, seconded by Councilman Edens, and unanimously carried by Council to adopt the proclamation as presented and directed the Chairwoman and the Clerk to execute and deliver the proclamation on behalf of the County.

- (3) It May Be Necessary To Hold An Executive Session To Discuss A Personnel Matter, Receive A Legal Briefing, Or Discuss A Contractual Matter And Appropriate Actions May Be Required And Taken Thereafter.

No executive session was held.

OLD BUSINESS:

- (1) 08-675 - Third Reading -- An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 83-98 and Chapter 2, Article V, Code Of Ordinances, Sumter County, South Carolina - The Sumter County Procurement Code.

This matter was introduced by the Chairwoman and the following action was taken.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Blanding, seconded by Councilman Edens to defer third reading until next meeting of Sumter County Council.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- (1) Internal Affairs Committee Meeting Held On **Tuesday, February 3, 2009, At 12:30 P.M. In County Council's Conference Room At The County Administration Building (Byrd, Blanding, and Sanders.)**

Due to the absence of Councilman Byrd (because of illness), the Chairman of the Internal Affairs Committee, the Clerk to Sumter County Council gave the following report and recommendations.

- ✓ **Accommodations Tax Advisory Board -**
No Action Taken. City Clerk and County Clerk will seek persons to serve on this Board and take those names before the appropriate Councils. As a reminder, all appointments to this board are jointly appointed.

- ✓ **Tax Board Of Appeals -** Recommend to reappoint Bobby Sisson.

ACTION: MOTION and second received from the Committee to reappoint Mr. Bobby Sisson.

- ✓ **Mechanical Board of Appeals -** The Clerk is to contact Steve Campbell to obtain a letter concerning a recommendation about the continuance of this board.
- ✓ **Planning Commission - Joint Appointments -** The Committee members agreed with the City to reappoint Tammy Kelly and Ed Bynum.

ACTION: MOTION and second received from the Committee to reappoint Mrs. Tammy Kelly and Mr. Ed Bynum to the Planning Commission.

- ✓ **Workforce Investment Board -** Recommended to appoint David Merchant.

ACTION: MOTION and second received from the Committee to appoint Mr. David Merchant.

- ✓ **Historical Commission -** No action was taken at the meeting; but may be taken at the regular meeting of Sumter County Council.

- ✓ **Additional Appointments:** Sumter County Grievance Committee - Reappoint Mrs. Karen Hyatt for a One Year Term.

ACTION: MOTION and second received from the Committee to reappoint Mrs. Karen Hyatt for a one year term.

(2) **Fiscal, Tax, and Property Committee Meeting Held On Tuesday, February 10, 2009, At 4:30 P.M. In County Council's Conference Room At The County Administration Building (Vivian Fleming McGhaney, Charles T. Edens, and Larry Blanding.)**

Chairwoman Vivian Fleming McGhaney gave the following report and recommendation from the Fiscal, Tax, and Property Committee meeting. She stated that there were several executive session items; however, there is no action to be taken from those discussions.

➤ **Executive Session -If Necessary Council May Hold An Executive Session To Discuss Contractual, Economic Development, or Personnel Matters, or Receive A Legal Briefing And Take Actions As Appropriate.**

- A. A Contractual Matter Pertaining To Water - No Action Taken.
- B. A Contractual Matter Pertaining To Stormwater - No Action Taken.
- C. A Contractual Matter Pertaining To Recreation - No Action Taken.
- D. A Contractual Matter Pertaining To A Federal Grant - No Action Taken.
- E. Update On Two Property Matters - No Action Taken.

➤ **A Request From Santee Lynches Regional Council On Government.** The Committee discussed the need to re-establish Santee Lynches Regional Council On Governments' funds which were cut during the budget amendment process. These funds shall be secured from Council's Contingency Fund in the amount of \$5,200.

ACTION: MOTION and second were received from the Committee, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the recommendation as presented.

➤ **Update On Sumter County's Response To The Recent Audit Report By S. C. Department Of Corrections And Proposed Response To The Report.** No action taken; however, each Council member was given a copy of the report and were asked to review it and send any corrections, deletions, or changes to the Clerk to Council so that those changes can be incorporated into the County's response prior to it being sent to the S. C. Department of Corrections.

➤ **Update Discussion On Possible Revision In The County's Procurement Policy - - No Action Taken.**

- A. *Minority Vendors*
- B. *Out Of County Vendors and Local Subcontractors*
- C. *Local Vendors And Local Subcontractors Of Sumter County*

(3) **Report From Council Members On Other Meetings, Trainings, and/or Conferences.**

- Chairwoman McGhaney stated that she along with Councilman Larry Blanding and Councilman Charles T. Edens attended a meeting for the Regional Council On Governments and a report was given by a representative from Congressman Clyburn and Congressman Spratt's Offices concerning the Stimulus Package. Chairwoman McGhaney will provide copies of the report to all Council members.

MONTHLY REPORTS:

- Letter From Mayor Jereleen Hollimon-Miller
- Sumter County Area Water Systems
- Letter From Mr. Jim Darby
- Letter To Clarissa Adams, Assistant Comptroller General - Extension For Sumter County Government's Audit Submission
- Natural Resources Conservation Service - Emergency Watershed Protection Program Project.
- Sumter Little Theatre Minutes

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

- Budgetary Process: The Department Heads will be given their 2009-2010 worksheets by Friday, February 13, 2009, to begin the budgetary process. Council members will be given a schedule for budgetary matters that they can approve or revise as needed.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

The Chairwoman asked if anyone would like to speak to Council during public comments. No one spoke during public comment. Chairwoman McGhaney then introduced her son, Willie Bamberg, II and her daughter-in-law to Council members and the public. She further stated that they are visiting with her as he prepares to go to Iraq in a couple of weeks. He is a Staff Sergeant in the U. S. Marine Corps; his nickname is "Sparky" and he is a minister.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business and no additional comments from the public, the meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m. after a motion, a second, and unanimously carried by Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Vivian Fleming McGhaney

Chairman or Vice Chairman
Sumter County Council

Mary W. Blanding
Clerk to County Council
Sumter County Council

Approved: February 24, 2009

I certify that public and media notification of the above-mentioned meeting was given prior thereto as follows:

Public Notified: Yes

Manner Notified: Agendas posted on bulletin board on third floor of the Administration Building.

Date Posted: February 4, 2009

Media Notified: Yes

Manner Notified: Agendas were sent to most radio stations, television stations, and newspapers in the Sumter, Columbia, Manning, and Florence communities. Also, E-Mail notification was sent to Sumter County's Home Page, WIBZ, The Item, The Chamber, Time Warner Cable.

Date Notified: February 4, 2009

Respectfully submitted,


Mary W. Blanding