



Agenda
Sumter County Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday, February 8, 2022 -- Held at 6:00 p.m.
Sumter County Administration Building
Third Floor, County Council Chambers
13 E. Canal Street, Sumter, SC

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Social Distancing Is Required At All of County Council's Meetings And Seating Is On A First Come First Serve Basis.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAHjiqzPaonQ9LFS2kO37tA>

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: James T. McCain, Jr., Chairman; Vice Chairman James R. Byrd, Jr., Artie Baker, Eugene Baten; Charles T. Edens; Vivian Fleming McGhaney, and Carlton B. Washington.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Gary Mixon, Mary Blanding, Joe Perry, Johnathan Bryan, Helen Roodman, Major Randy Stewart, Lt. Hawkins, Valerie Brunson, and approximately two other members of the Sheriff's Staff.

MEDIA PRESENT: The Item Newspaper; Shelby Goulding.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Approximately 18 members of the public were present.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman James T. McCain, Jr., called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION: Councilman Vivian Fleming McGhaney gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led By Veteran William "Bill" Lyons, Council District #5. Mr. William Lyons served our country in the US Coast Guard from 1964 to 1968. He served in Vietnam from 1965 to 1966 for a total of 13 months of war service. After his Honorable discharge from service, he worked at Santee Print Works for 38 years and retired in 2006. He is currently a member and past commander of the American Legion Post 15. He also is the athletic officer of the P-15 baseball team. He is married to Brenda Lyons and they have 2 sons, Billy and Jason, and 2 grandsons, Bryce and Hayden. He lives in County Council District #5. Thank you for your service. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Councilwoman McGhaney presented Mr. Lyons with a certificate for his participation in Council's meeting.



APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Regular Meeting Tuesday, February 8, 2022

Chairman McCain stated that he would entertain a motion to approve the agenda as presented if there were no changes. The Clerk to Council, Mary W. Blanding, stated that there were no changes to the agenda.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Vice Chairman Byrd, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the agenda of February 8, 2022, as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting Tuesday, January 25, 2022, and Special Meeting for County Council On January 25, 2022.

Chairman McCain asked for a motion on each of the minutes for January 25, 2022. The following motions were presented action taken.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baten, seconded by Councilman Baker, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Sumter County Council held on January 25, 2022.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Vice Chairman Byrd, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the Minutes of County Council's Regular of Sumter County Council held on January 25, 2022.

LAND USE MATTERS AND REZONING REQUESTS:

Planned Development/Rezoning Requests:

NOTE RZ = Rezoning Of Property As Applicable In Sumter County Zoning and Development Standards.

AC = Agricultural Conservation As Applicable In Sumter County Zoning and Development Standards.

NC = Neighborhood Commercial As Applicable In Sumter County Zoning and Development Standards.

LI-W = Light Industrial-Warehouse As Applicable in Sumter County Zoning and Development Standards.

1. **RZ-21-26 - 4065 Country Lane -- (County) - First Reading** -- A request to rezone a +/- 5.81-acre tract from General Residential (GR) to Agricultural Conservation (AC). The property is located at 4065 Country Lane and is represented by Tax Map # 159-00-02-007.

Helen Roodman stated that the property owner, Mr. James Aaron Dyson, is requesting that this property at 4065 Country Lane be rezoned from General Residential to Agricultural Conservation. This request is to rezone +/- 5.81 acres of land (herein referred to as the property). The property is located on St. Paul's Church Road in between Barfield Road and Muddy Water Lane. The property is currently vacant, and the applicant has expressed interest in developing a portion of the property for a mini-warehouse development. This request is being brought forward by the applicant, in part, due to the applicant's feedback from SCDHEC on the viability of private septic for residential development on the property. Per staff's understanding, the property would not support multiple septic tanks needed to subdivide and develop the property for residential purposes. The applicant is a residential home builder in the Sumter community. Therefor Mr. Dyson has decided to request this rezoning for the purpose of building a mini warehouse building. It was also noted that the transportation impacts of any future development on the property will be reviewed at time of site plan submission.

Ms. Roodman also stated that the AC zoning district is generally supported by applicable Sumter 2040 Comprehensive Plan policies, particularly due to the property's location directly adjacent to the Military Protection Planning Area and its location within the Poinsett ECR overlay. The Planning staff and the Planning Commission recommended approval of the rezoning request as presented.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Vice Chairman Byrd, seconded by Councilman Baker, and unanimously carried by Council to grant first reading to this proposed rezoning request.

2. **RZ-21-24 - 601 Pitts Road -- (County) - Third Reading** -- A Request To Rezone +/- 5.8-Acre Tract From Residential-15 (R-15) To Agricultural Conservation (AC). The Property Is Located At 601 Pitts Rd. And Is Represented By Tax Map # 206-00-04-002.

Planning Director, Helen Roodman, stated that there have been no changes to this proposed rezoning request since first reading. Then the Chairman of County Council called for a motion of third reading of this ordinance.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baten, seconded by Vice Chairman Byrd, and unanimously carried by Council to grant third reading to this proposed rezoning request.

OTHER PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- (1) None

NEW BUSINESS:

- (1) It May Be Necessary To Hold An Executive Session To Discuss An Employment Matter, An Economic Development Matter, A Legal Briefing, Or Other Matters Pertaining To An Executive Session, And Take Appropriate Actions Thereafter If Required.

No executive session was held at this meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

- (1) Ordinance 22-971 – Second Reading -- An Ordinance Establishing New Electoral Districts For The Election Of Members Of Sumter County Council Pursuant To The United States Census Of 2020 And In Compliance With Section 4-9-90, South Carolina Code Of Laws (2021, As Amended). (Public Hearing Will Be Held At Third Reading, February 22, 2022.)

County Attorney, Johnathan Bryan, stated that County Council granted first reading approval of this ordinance by Title Only at its meeting on January 25, 2022. See attached ordinance listed below. Attorney Bryan also informed Council that the map that is associated with the ordinance at this meeting is Map 2-07-22.

After all comments, a motion was made on second reading of this ordinance.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Vice Chairman Byrd, seconded by Councilman Baker, and unanimously carried by Council to grant second reading to this proposed ordinance as presented at second reading with the Redistricting Map 2-07-22.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- (1) Special Meeting Of Sumter County Council Scheduled For Tuesday, February 8, 2022, at 4:30 p.m. In County Administration Conference Room, 13 E. Canal Street, Sumter, SC. (All Council Members)

Chairman McCain stated that two items were discussed in the Special Meeting. One item was an executive session pertaining to matters relating to property matters for proposed project for the Capital Project Sales Tax 2023. The second executive session matter had no action taken. However, the Redistricting Matter would allow for those Council members that needed to meet to further discuss the proposed redistricting lines would meet the week of February 14, 2022. The Clerk was asked to set up the meetings for Council members as needed.

ACTION: No action taken.

(2) Report From Council Members On Other Meetings, Trainings, And/Or Conferences.

Councilman Washington stated that the Litter issues have been on the forefront for him since he has been on Council. Council has a “Litter Committee” (Litter Advisory Board) and there is a representative from Council that serves on that Committee and Councilman Washington said that he is becoming a little frustrated. His frustration is how quickly the Litter Committee is addressing litter issues. It was also noted by Councilman Washington that he has stated in prior Council meetings that he has not seen a report from the Litter Committee with a Plan to address the litter problem to County Council. Councilman Washington said that at this point what he would like to see happen is a representative from the Litter Advisory Board or any other representative from County Council might want to brief Council on the progress of the Litter Advisory Board up to this time and to have a question-and-answer period. Councilman Washington said that this is a request that he is making.

Councilman Byrd stated that he noticed that the two litter officers were hired for the County and one of the Officers had information on Facebook. Vice Chairman Byrd said that his question is if one of his constituents come to him with a concern about litter, how would the Councilman handle the question from a constituent. (*The Administrator stated that Council members should contact Public Works and they will follow-up on the matter.*)

Councilman Washington asked if whether the Litter Committee has control of the County or City’s Litter Trucks? He further asked if there is an area that needs immediate attention how does a Council member get the matter resolved. Is it through the Litter Advisory Board, or is it through the Public Works Department? Councilman Washington said that he has several concerns in District #1 with litter and other rural areas. It was also stated that when people take their trash to the recycling centers, and it is not covered, it causes trash to fly off the vehicle causing much trash in his area. He further stated that Council has been talking about the Litter Advisory Board for quite some time; however, there has been no action. Councilman Washington said he needs to see some actions. He ended his statements by saying he would like to see the Litter Advisory Board before this body because he does have questions.

The County Administrator, Gary Mixon, asked to be heard by Council and stated that he would like to set up a meeting with Councilman Washington to go over the functions of the Litter Advisory Board as well as the functionality of the Litter Officers in the Public Works Department. He further stated that he would be glad to address Councilman Washington’s concerns at a time appropriate for the Council member.

Councilman Washington spoke to Council about the Homeless Issue for those living behind Walmart. The Homeless have been asked to move from this area. There was a statement in the paper that stated, “buy the homeless a ticket.” Councilman Washington said that it would be good to purchase a ticket for those that want to leave Sumter. However, Sumter as a whole needs to work with the people that are homeless including churches, organizations, and the municipalities. Especially those agencies that Sumter County Fund that can assist these individuals.

MONTHLY REPORTS

- 1) Board Of Zoning Meeting
- 2) COVID-19 Administrator's Report

- 3) Sheriff's Office January Monthly Report
- 4) South Carolina Association of Counties Mid-year Conference and Institute Of Government Classes.
- 5) Tour of Charles R. Drew Wellness Center, Columbia
- 6) Meeting With Sumter School District Superintendent Search Committee
- 7) COVID Report was not given due to not receiving information from the Coroner's Office at the time of this meeting.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

County Administrator, Gary Mixon, informed Council that the Department Heads along with the financial staff have begun the 2022-2023 Budget Preparation Process from now to March. The following budget cycle is as follows:

- April – Budget Workshops
- First Meeting In May – First Reading of Budget
- Second Meeting In May – Second Reading and Public Hearing on the Budget
- First Meeting In June --- Third Reading of Budget

PUBLIC COMMENT -- Citizens Desiring To Speak Are Limited To No More Than Three (3) Minutes; Comments Are To Be Made Through The Chairman Of Sumter County Council.

- **Samuel Myers** a member of the Sumter Community. He stated that in a few day's Sumter School District along with the family will be funeralizing one of its students who was killed trying to cross Highway 378. He stated that he grew up in the Walnut Hill District. Also, he stated that he has talked with Councilman McGhaney, and she too is very concerned about this issue and has been trying to work with the community and others about this problem. SCDOT's Office statistics show that in 2016 there were 5 deaths, in 2020 there were three deaths, in 2021 there was one death, and as of 2022, there has been one death. Mr. Myers said that he has asked SCDOT to let him know whether or not these were vehicle on vehicle or vehicle and person. Once the data is received, Mr. Myers said he would share it with Council.

The only thing that has happened to try to improve this area is a sign that says do not cross over. However, Mr. Myers hope that a cross over or a bridge that will take persons over from point A to point B. He also asked Council to consider changing the speed zone, work with SWRTA to develop a route for the people in Walnut Hill and construct the bridge. He said when he lived in the community, he too crossed the road. This matter needed to be address where everyone can benefit from changes to this area.

- **Lewis Watkins** stated that he lives in Sumter County out on Broad Street. He stated that he has been talking to Council about implementing a Complain Number – Complain System. He said that since he has been coming to Council no one has made a Service Delivery Report to Council. Mr. Watkins said that he believes this should be done because it can be used as a budgeting mechanism.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for Sumter County Council, and no additional comments from the public, the meeting was adjourned at 6:42 p.m. after a motion by Councilman Baker, seconded by Vice Chairman Byrd, and unanimously carried by Council.

Respectfully submitted,

James T. McCain, Jr.
Chairman or Vice Chairman
Sumter County Council

Mary W. Blanding
Clerk to County Council
Sumter County Council

Approved: February 22, 2022

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

Public Notified: Yes

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

Date Posted: February 7, 2022

Media Notified: Yes

Manner Notified: Agenda Information is listed on Sumter County's Home Page, and E-mailed to The Item, The Chamber, WIS-TV, WBTW, and Time Warner Cable.

Date Notified: February 7, 2022

Respectfully submitted,
Mary W. Blanding
Clerk to County Council