



MINUTES

Sumter County Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday, April 12, 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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Council Members, Staff, And The Public Will Be Asked To Wear A Facemask At The Meeting. 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/UCAHjqzPaonQ9LFS2kO37tA>

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Gary Mixon, Mary W. Blanding, Lorraine Dennis, Johnathan Bryan, Joe Perry, Helen Roodman, Valerie Brunson, Lt. Greg Hawkins, and two Sheriff's Deputies.

MEDIA PRESENT: Shelbie Goulding, the Item Newspaper

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE:

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Or Vice Chairman Of Sumter County Council
Chairman of Sumter County Council, the Honorable James T. McCain, Jr. called the April 12, 2022, meeting to order.

INVOCATION: Council Member, Staff Member, Or Local Citizen
Councilman Vivian Fleming McGhaney gave the invocation for this meeting.

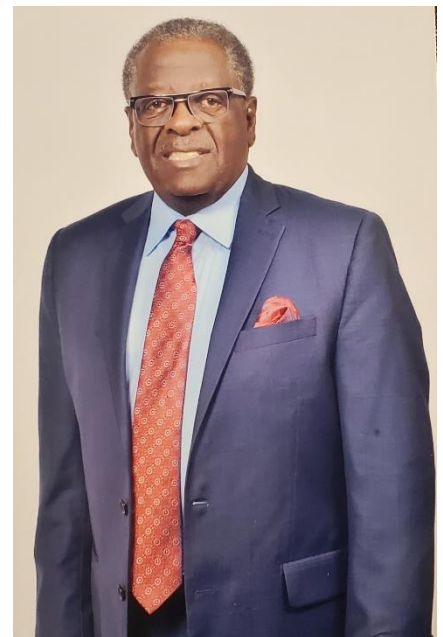
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led By Veteran William "B" Jefferson, Council District #2 Reverend William "BJ" Jefferson is originally from Ft. Pierce, Florida. He is married to Patricia G. Jefferson. Together they have one daughter, Pamela Wright, one granddaughter Shamara, and three great grandchildren, Brandon, Malaya, and William of Orlando, Florida.

Reverend Jefferson is a Vietnam Veteran earning a Purple Heart after being injured by shrapnel from a metal mortar.

Reverend William Jefferson graduated from Florida A&M with a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice. Reverend Jefferson did further studies at Morris College School of Religion.

Reverend Jefferson is currently the proud Pastor of Stephen Missionary Baptist Church located at 1917 Boykin Road Rembert, SC.

Reverend William Jefferson is a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated and believes strongly in its cardinal principles: Manhood,



Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift. He is a firm believer that an investment in the youth's future is of the greatest importance. Reverend Jefferson believes that we should not only invest money, but we should invest our time in the youth as well.

Reverend William Jefferson is a Life Member of the NAACP. His passion in life is coaching and teaching our young children.

Reverend William Jefferson's favorite Scripture is Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ which strengthen me." His motto is, "If it Ain't Genuine, It Ain't Love." He currently lives in County Council District 2. Thank you for your Service.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Regular Meeting Tuesday, April 12, 2022

Chairman McCain asked the Clerk if there were any changes to the agenda. Mrs. Blanding asked Council to consider changing the agenda as follows:

1. Add "Introduction of Emergent Leaders" immediately after Approval of the Minutes.
2. Move Presentation by Danielle Lindley, immediately after Introduction of Emergent Leaders.

After Mrs. Blanding's comments, the Chairman asked for a motion concerning the approval of the agenda for April 12, 2022, as amended by the Clerk To Council.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Vice Chairman Byrd, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the agenda with the suggested changes as presented by the Clerk to Council.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting Tuesday, March 22, 2022

Chairman McCain called for a motion concerning action on the Minutes of Sumter County Council's meeting held on March 22, 2022.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baten, seconded by Councilman McGhaney, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the minutes of Sumter County Council for March 22, 2022, as presented by the Clerk to Council.

NEW BUSINESS:

- (1) Presentation By Danielle Lindley, Community Relations, South Carolina Human Affairs Commission.

Ms. Danielle Lindley, Community Relations Consultant for the South Carolina Human Affairs Commission, spoke to Council concerning the role of the Human Affairs Commission. She stated that the mission of the S. C. Human Affairs Commission is to eliminate and prevent unlawful discrimination in employment on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, or disability, housing on the basis of race, color national origin, religion, sex, familial statue or disability, and public accommodations on the basis of race, color, national origin, or religion. The Commission also seeks to promote harmony, understanding, and mutual respect among all the residents of South Carolina.

She stated the Commission works with local city and counties to develop Community Relations Local Councils.

(2) Emergent Leaders

Erica Williams stated that there are 26 members of the Emergent Leaders 2022 Class. The program is for high school juniors to emerge the students into interfolds of leadership. The students are involved in sessions such as non-profit development, finance, and government, etc. There are seventeen students from Sumter County and nine from Lee County. Ms. Williams introduced the members of Emergent Leaders that were present at this meeting: Shaquel Williams, Lakewood High School; Victoria Jordan Crestwood High School; Jaynya Morton, Crestwood High School; Carentan Pinkney, Sumter High School; and Chanell West, Lakewood High School. The students and Erica took pictures with County Council members after the meeting.

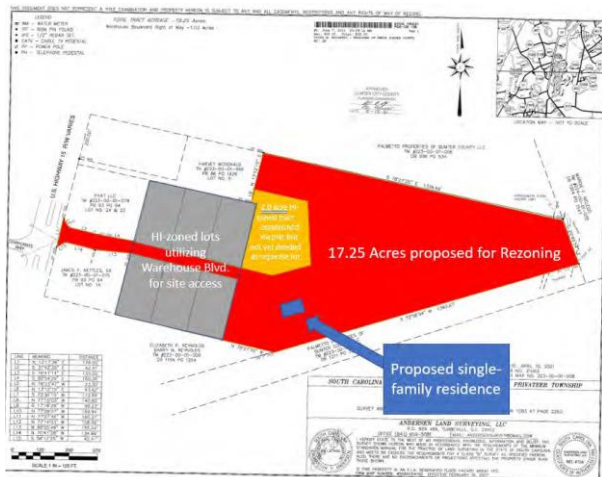
LAND USE MATTERS AND REZONING REQUESTS:

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-22-02-- 2675 Warehouse Blvd. - First Reading -- (County) -- A request to rezone a +/- 17.25 acre from Heavy Industrial (HI) to Limited Commercial (LC). The property is located at 2675 Warehouse Rd. and is represented by Tax Map # 223-00-01-008 (part).**

Mrs. Helen Roodman, the Planning Director, presented this proposed rezoning to Council for first reading consideration. Mrs. Roodman stated that Mr. Drake Brunson, the property owner hopes to have this property rezoned from Heavy Industrial to Limited Commercial. The property is located at 2675 Warehouse Road and Highway 15 South. The property is shown on the location map to the right. The



applicant has indicated their intent to construct a single-family residence on the subject property, however; the current industrial zoning designation does not permit residential uses. The applicant had a subdivision plat prepared and recorded in 2021 to divide the original parcel TMS# 223-00-01-008 totaling 19.25 acres into two separate lots, one 2.0-acre parcel adjacent to existing parcels fronting onto Warehouse Blvd. and a 17.25-acre tract which represents the balance of the property, including a 50 ft. wide right-of-way for Warehouse Blvd., which remains part of the parent tract. Mrs. Roodman also stated that the graphic shows the proposed lot for rezoning in red. The 2.0 acre parcel that was subdivided in 2021, but has not yet been transferred

via deed, is highlighted in orange. The existing HI-zoned industrial and commercial lots, which rely on Warehouse Blvd. for access, are highlighted in grey, and the proposed single family residence location is highlighted in blue. The intent of the AC zoning district is to accommodate commercial development along major streets, while promoting land use compatibility by limiting the type and conditions of development. *Permitted and Conditional Uses*: Single-Family residential uses are a conditional use in the LC zoning district, per the *Sumter County Zoning & Development Standards Ordinance* (the *Ordinance*). However, if the request is approved, the applicant would be permitted to develop all uses indicated for the LC zoning district as shown on the use table found at *Article 3, Exhibit 3-5* of the Ordinance in accordance with the indicated process. This use table is attached to this report as Exhibit 1. Uses with a “P” are allowed by-right, uses with a “C” require conditional use approval, uses with an “S” require special exception approval by the Sumter City-County Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA), and uses with no letter are not permitted. One factor to consider on this rezoning is that a portion of the property also contains the right-of-way for a private commercial/industrial access road (Warehouse Blvd.). Warehouse Blvd. provides site access for seven (7) separate Heavy Industrial zoned lots ranging from 1.0 to 2.0 acres – these properties are used for various purposes consistent with the industrial zoning classification. Under the current *Ordinance (Article 8.e.13.)*, these lots, as well as the 17.25-acre tract under consideration for rezoning are in conformity, as they are covered by an exception for multi-space or building commercial sites that make the driveway a common, jointly maintained area with individual property access to that common driveway. Shared private access drives are permitted in both the HI and LC zoning districts.

The Planning Commission recommended approval of the request. After all comments, the Chairman called for a motion on first reading.

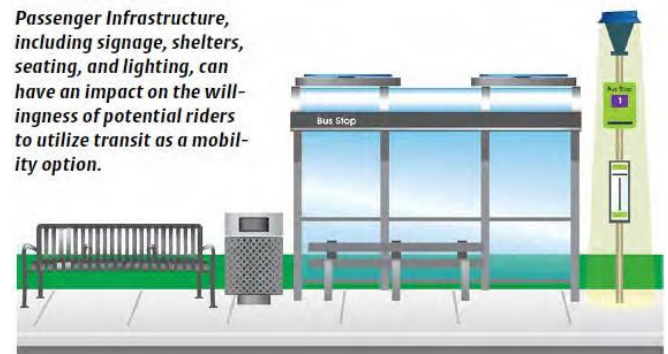
ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Vice Chairman Byrd, and unanimously carried by Council to grant first reading approval of this proposed rezoning request.

2. **OA-22-07 -- Updates To Article 8 (Sign Ordinance Standards) To Allow Transit-Related Signage - First Reading -- (County) -- Amend Article 8, Section I To Allow Transit-Related Signage And Marketing Panels On Private Property And Public Property Or Within Public Right-Of-Way.**

Mrs. Roodman also presented this Ordinance Amendment to County Council for first reading consideration. She stated that Sumter City-County Planning Department Request: Amend Article 8, Section I to allow transit-related signage and marketing panels on private property and on public property or within public right-of-way. The Sumter City-County Planning Department has initiated an amendment to the Sumter County Zoning & Development Standards Ordinance to permit signage related to public transit as well as marketing panels associated with bus stops.

The Planning Director stated that the purpose of this amendment is to expressly permit private sector marketing panels associated with public transit stop signage and to clarify that public transit way-finding signage is permitted. Transit Services Background: In 1973, the South Carolina General Assembly established Regional Transportation Authorities (RTA) statewide as an avenue to improve public transit. In 1976, the Santee-Wateree Regional Transportation Authority (SWRTA) was created to serve Clarendon, Kershaw, Lee and Sumter Counties with operations officially beginning in July 1978 under a pilot project designed to have the RTA perform as the sole transportation provider for all human service transportation services. SWRTA provides fixed route, demand response, and paratransit service, which operate in various parts of both the urbanized and rural areas of the region in the urban and rural areas of the counties.

It was also noted by Mrs. Roodman that SWRTA operates seven (7) fixed bus routes throughout the region with buses running in 1 to 4-hour increments, depending on the route, and operating hours from 5:30am to 7:00pm. Need for Transit Signage: Signage system design and branding are the first elements of a transit system that users come in contact with. The signage design, information provided, branding, interactions with transit staff, and quality of service all make up a complete experience for the transit user. The impressions one has with any of these touchpoints can inspire one to continue using transit or prevent one from using it again. In a survey of the general public conducted as part of the Santee-Lynches Region Transit Needs Assessment + Framework completed in 2019, 82.6% of survey respondents indicated that safe, visible bus stops and shelters were “important” or “very important”, and 87.9% of current riders surveyed indicated the same desire. Many individual comments pointed to the need for better and more visible signs denoting the locations of transit stops. As an implementation step toward achieving the recommendations outlined in the Santee-Lynches Region Transit Needs Assessment + Framework, SWRTA has a plan to install up to 178 pole-mounted bus stop location signs in the Sumter metro area starting in 2022.



The Planning Commission recommended approval of this request. After all comments, the Chairman asked for a motion on first reading.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman Edens, and unanimously by Council to grant first reading to this proposed ordinance amendment as presented.

3. **RZ-22-01, 2175 N. Main Street – (County) - Third Reading-- A Request To Rezone A Parcel Totaling +/- 1.77-Acre Tract From Neighborhood Commercial (NC) To Agricultural Conservation (AC). The Property Is Located At 2175 N. Main St. And Is Represented By Tax Map # 246-02-02-001.**

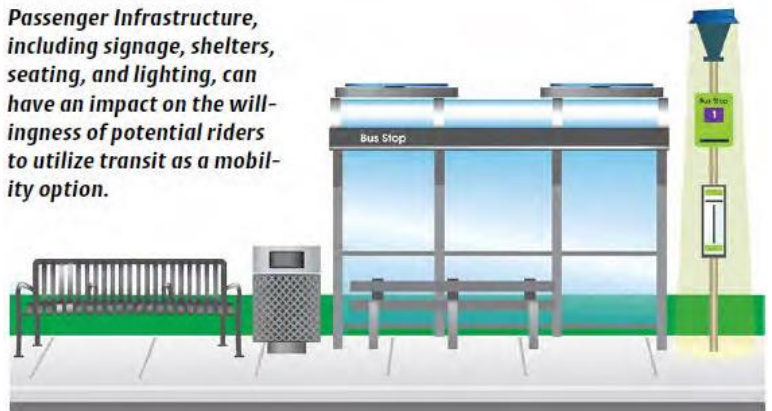
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paratransit service, which operate in various parts of both the urbanized and rural areas of the region in the urban and rural areas of the counties.

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Passenger Infrastructure, including signage, shelters, seating, and lighting, can have an impact on the willingness of potential riders to utilize transit as a mobility option.



Mrs. Roodman stated that the staff of the Planning Commission and the Commission Members recommended approval of this request. After all comments, the Chairman asked for a motion on first reading.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman Edens, and unanimously by Council to grant first reading to this proposed ordinance amendment as presented.

OTHER PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

NEW BUSINESS CONTINUE:

Mrs. Roodman stated that there have been no changes to this ordinance since second reading consideration and approval. After all comments, the Chairman called for a motion on third reading for this rezoning request.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Edens, and unanimously by Council to grant third reading approval of this rezoning request as presented at third reading.

(2) Request To Offer Two Motions Concerning The Capital Project Sales Tax From Councilman Carlton B. Washington.

- (1) A Request For County Council To Send A Letter To The 2022 Capital Projects Sales Tax Commission Asking Them To Dedicate At Least \$26,000,000 For Rural Roads Resurfacing And Paving.

Councilman Washington stated that roads have been his number one issue since he began running for office as a member of Sumter County Council. Since then, he has been aggressive with his pursuit to ensure that the Citizens of Districts 1, 5, and 7 can have better roads in their districts because this is a basic service. He further stated that he recommended at Council's meeting on March 22, 2022, to ask that this matter be placed on Council's agenda to appropriate \$26,000,000 for rural roads resurfacing and paving through the Penny for progress. Since that time, he has had several conversations with Chairman McCain who has been diligent in creating some sort of agreement. Additionally, Councilman Washington stated that he has chatted with several other Council Members, and Council is in the process of working out something that will be agreeable to folks in the rural areas as well as the other participants in the Penny for Progress. Councilman Washington then stated that at this time, he will remove this request (amendment) and continue to have dialogue in hopes to reach a closer number (funding) for the roads on both parts (Chairman and others).

- (2) A Request For The 2022 Capital Projects Sales Tax Commission To Hear From The Public Concerning Proposed Projects

Councilman Washington also asked the Chairman to allow him to speak on this issue prior to action on the first item. Chairman McCain granted Councilman Washington's request. Then Councilman Washington stated that since deliberations are going on concerning the Penny for Progress, he asked that this request and the request for the \$26,000,000 be removed from the agenda. However, if there is a need to bring the items up again, he will place the items on the agenda.

ACTION: No action taken.

- (3) 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: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- (1) Budget Workshop and Special Meeting Of Sumter County Council To Be Held On Tuesday, April 12, 2022, At 5:00 p.m. In The County Administration Conference Room, 13 E. Canal Street, Sumter, SC.

See Minutes from this meeting. Mr. Mixon did announce that expected revenues and expenditures for the upcoming budget process.

- Revenue -- \$54,672,936
- Expenditures -- \$56,151,038

Chairman McCain also stated that during the Special Meeting, Council discussed the Decorum of County Council and sticking to the agenda as provided.

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

No report was given.

MONTHLY REPORTS

- 1) Shrimp Feast - Sumter County Museum
- 2) Sumter Community Concert Band
- 3) Board of Zoning Appeals
- 4) Portrait Unveiling - Dr. Knox Martin

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

County Employees Litter Pick-Up -- Mr. Mixon stated that on April 8, 2022, the County Employees had their first litter pick up on Pinewood Road. There were approximately 51 employees and the Litter Picker. The group picked up litter for approximately 2.5 miles and had 144 bags of trash, and 3.69 tons of litter picked up by the litter picker. The next pick-up will be on April 29, 2022, location is to be determined.

Litter Advisory Board Litter Pic-up – Mr. Mixon stated that the Litter Advisory Board and Central Carolina Community Foundation have partnered together for the “On The Table Conversation” for the Community which will occur on Saturday, April 30, 2022. The County has been divided into four quadrants with Highway 378 being the East-West and Highway 15 is the North-South. The purpose of dividing the county into four quadrants is so each area can work to make sure that its area is managing the litter issues and to have functions to address litter in that area. Mr. Mixon gave details as to how the quadrants will operate. The Chairman of County Council, the Mayor of the City of Sumter, and the Chairman of the Litter Advisory Board will be the speakers. There will be four meeting places one for each quadrant, four different quadrants (churches, schools, businesses and industries, and neighborhood associations.) There will be 80 people in each quadrant. Questions will be presented to the group of each quadrant. The last question for the groups will be for them to identify projects that they would like to see happen in their respective quadrant. Once all the information is gathered there is a grant that can be applied for through Tech’s Foundation with a match from the County to be used by the quadrants to accomplish their goals that were previously cited. Erica Williams is spearheading this project.

Sumter County EMS Ambulances – Mr. Mixon reported that as of April 1, 2022, the two ambulances that the County has contracted with through “Guardian” have been delivered to Sumter County. Since the day they have been delivered, there has only been one day that the County has been down to six ambulances in operation. The other days the county has had eight or nine ambulances in operation. The service has been great, and the moral of the employees has been up. This project is working for the citizens and the staff. It was also noted that when there are eight or nine ambulances in operation on one given day, some of those ambulances are stationed at rural locations so that they can have better response to calls.

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.

The Chairman asked if anyone wished to speak during public comment. The following persons spoke.

- Dr. Brenda Williams spoke to Council about the ARPA Funds. She thanked the County for the funds that the Family Unit, Inc. received from the ARPA Funds. She also asked for Council to remember to consider allowing more funds to the Family Unit, Inc. to continue helping those who live in mobile homes that need repairs. She also congratulated the students for their work. Dr. Williams also spoke to Council about the need to repair the Manning Avenue Bridge. She asked Council members to please speak to SCDOT about the urgent need to repair this bridge which is over 85 years old.

- Ms. Elizabeth Kilgore, representing the Sumter Branch of the NAACP, spoke to Council about the process in which the members are selected for the Capital Projects Sales Tax Commission. She asked that the information be given to her in writing.

ADJOURNMENT: After all business matters, and comments, the Chairman called for a motion to adjourn the meeting of Sumter County Council. Motion was made by Vice Chairman Byrd, seconded by Councilman Baker, and unanimously carried by Council to adjourn the meetings at 7:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Mary W. Blanding
 Clerk to County Council
 Sumter County Council

Approved: April 26, 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: April 8, 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: April 8, 2022

Respectfully submitted,
Mary W. Blanding
 Clerk to County Council