



Minutes
Sumter County Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday, September 27, 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. 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

COUNTY STAFF PRESENT: Gary Mixon, Mary Blanding, Johnathan Bryan, Helen Roodman, Jeff Dewort, Greg Hawkins, Joe Perry, and two Sheriff Deputies.

MEDIA PRESENT: The Item Newspaper, Shelbie Goulding.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT: Approximately 13 members of the public were present.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Or Vice Chairman Of Sumter County Council
Due to the length of the Public Safety Committee Meeting, the Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:19 p.m.

INVOCATION: Council Member Vivian Fleming McGhaney gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led By Veteran Leroy Dinkins, Council District 7. US Army Veteran Leroy Dinkins served our Country from Feb. 1969 to Jan. 1969. He is a Vietnam War Veteran. He currently lives in County Council district 7. Thank you for your service.



APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Regular Meeting Tuesday, September 27, 2022.

Chairman McCain asked the Clerk to Council if there were any changes to the agenda. Mrs. Blanding stated that there were no changes to the agenda. Then Chairman McCain asked for a motion on approval of the agenda as presented.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting Tuesday, September 13, 2022.
The Chairman asked for a motion on action of the minutes of September 13, 2022.

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

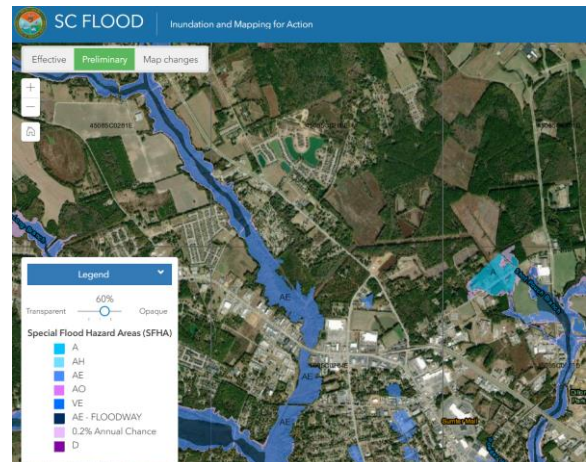
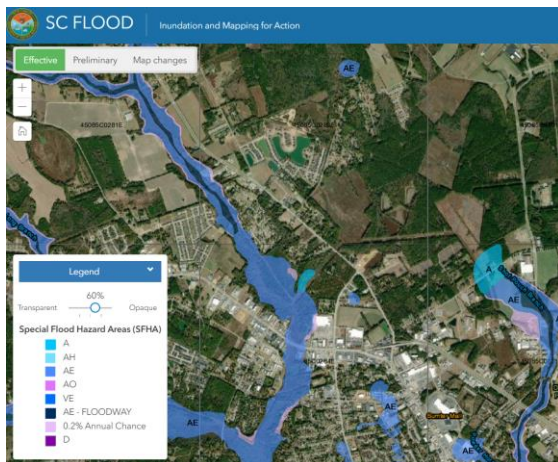
LAND USE MATTERS AND REZONING REQUESTS:

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.

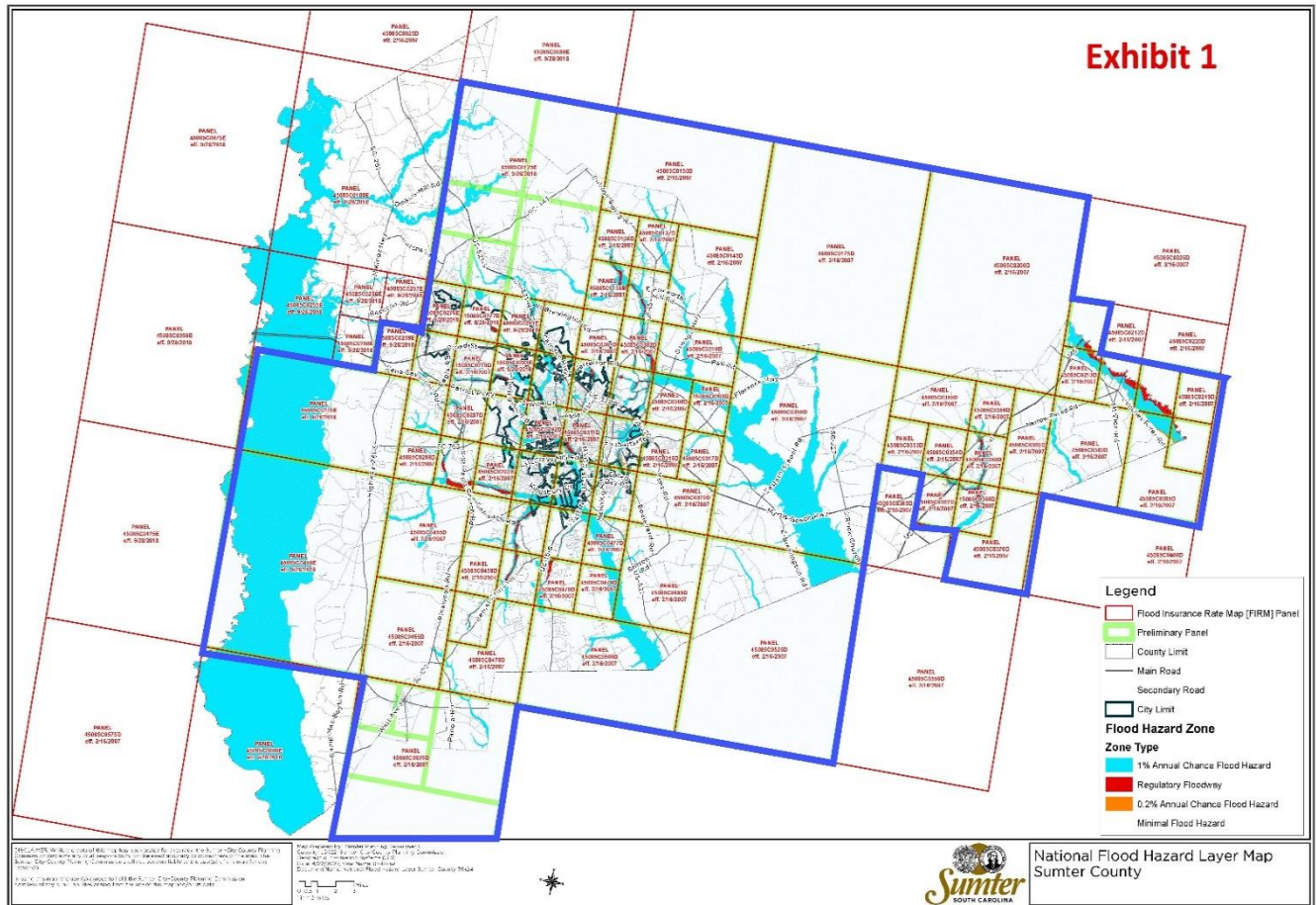
- (1) **OA-22-09 -- County Flood Damage Prevention (County) – Second Reading/Public Hearing -- Amend Relevant Portions Of The Sumter County Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance To Adopt The Black River Watershed Maps And Flood Insurance Study (FIS) Revisions That Become Effective October 27, 2022; And, To Update The Ordinance To Make Corrections And Clarifications Required For Compliance With The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) And Community Rating System (CRS) Program. (Council Will Hold A Public Hearing Prior To Taking Action On Second Reading For This Ordinance Amendment.)**

Mr. Jeff Dewort, the Zoning Administrator, presented this proposed ordinance to Council for second reading and public hearing. He stated that if the County wants to continue with the National Flood Insurance Program and Community Rating System Program, Sumter County Council must take approve amendments to the Sumter County Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance prior to October 27, 2022. Council is required by FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Authority) to ensure that any changes be adopted for the Black River Watershed Maps and Flood Insurance Study (FIS) Revisions. Mr. Dewort also mentioned that the Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance requires amendment due to the release of new FEMA flood maps for the Black River Watershed. He also noted that Council and the public can look visit SC Flood Impact website to view changes on the area – scfloodimpact.com/index. (See maps below.)



The proposed revisions have been reviewed by the SCDNR Flood Mitigation Office State Coordinator for compliance with FEMA and NFIP requirements. The County must adopt the new flood maps via Ordinance no later than **October 27, 2022**, in order to remain an eligible participant in the NFIP.

Mr. Dewort also provided a National Flood Hazard Layer Map of Sumter County. (See Below.)



After comments from Mr. Dewort, the Chairman convened a public hearing on this proposed rezoning request. He asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of or opposition to this proposed ordinance. No one spoke during public hearing; therefore, the Chairman closed the public hearing and Council acted on second reading as listed below.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Vice Chairman Byrd, and unanimously carried by Council to grant second reading approval of this ordinance as presented.

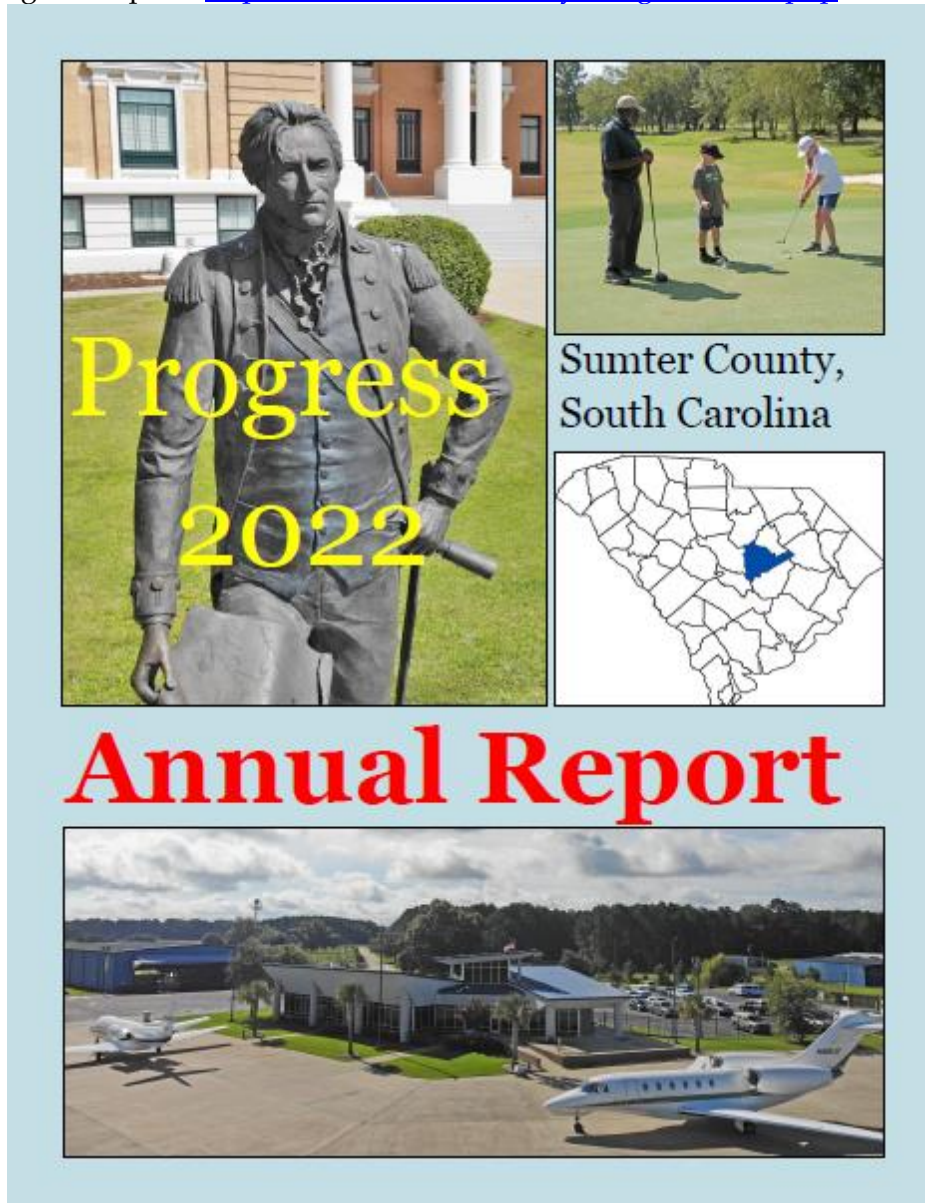
OTHER PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- (1) None

NEW BUSINESS:

- (1) Sumter County Progress Report. (Joe Perry, Communications Director.)

Sumter County's Communications Director presented to Council the County's Progress Report. He stated that a large part of the information is about a year review of the happenings around the County. Economic Development, Recreation, Workforce, and many other matters are listed within the report. After showing Council several pages in the report, he gave Council and the public the website where to review the Progress Report. <https://www.sumtercountysc.org/newslst.php>



- (2) 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.

OLD BUSINESS:

(1) None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- (1) **Fiscal, Tax, and Property Committee Meeting To Be Held On Tuesday, September 27, 2022, at 4:45 p.m. In The County Administration Conference Room, 13 E. Canal Street, Sumter, SC. (McCain, Edens, and McGhaney)**

The Chairman of the Fiscal, Tax, and Property Committee Meeting, Chairman McCain, gave the following recommendations from the Committee for action by County Council.

Sumter Easy Homes LLC

ACTION: MOTION and second were received from the Fiscal, Tax, and Property Committee members to direct the County Administrator to send a letter to Sumter Easy Home LLC to request the financial records of the Company so that the County can review their records and decide whether the company is due any rebates. Council voted unanimously to approve the recommendation of the Committee.

Infrastructure Fund

ACTION: MOTION and second were received from the Fiscal, Tax, and Property Committee members to allow for *Thompson Holdings* to borrow \$1,300,000 (a loan) from the County's *Infrastructure Fund* to assist with the financing of a new Sumter County Speculative Building. Council voted unanimously to approve the recommendation of the Committee.

- (2) **Technology/Personnel Committee Meeting To Be Held On Tuesday, September 27, 2022, at 5:15 p.m. In The County Administration Conference Room, 13 E. Canal Street, Sumter, SC. (McGhaney, Byrd, and Washington) (The Technology/Personnel Committee Meeting Will Begin Immediately After The Fiscal, Tax, And Property Committee Meeting Concludes.)**

The Technology/Personnel Committee Chairman, Councilman Vivian Fleming McGhaney, gave the following recommendation from the Committee meeting, and Council acted on the recommendation as listed below.

Employment Hiring

ACTION: MOTION and second were received from the Technology/Personnel Committee to appoint Mrs. Rhonda Cater as the new **Registrar** for the Office of Register Of Deeds for Sumter County. The motion from the committee was unanimously carried by County Council.

- (3) **Public Safety Committee Meeting To Be Held On Tuesday, September 27, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. In The County Administration Conference Room, 13 E. Canal Street, Sumter, SC. (Washington, Baten, and Byrd) (The Public Safety Committee Meeting Will Begin Immediately After The Technology/Personnel Committee Meeting Concludes.)**

The Public Safety Committee Chairman, Councilman Washington, gave the following report on the Committee meeting. No action was taken; however, there is follow-up on one of the agenda items as listed below.

Small Signs In Right-Of-Ways

Committee Chairman Washington stated that Ms. Yvonne China and her daughter met with the Committee to share their concerns about small signs being in the right-of-way in their area. It was noted that small signs can be removed out of the right-of-way without the permission of the person who placed the sign in the location. However, it was noted that if citizens feel uneasy to remove the sign, they can call the Sheriff's Office.

Detention Center:

The Director of the Detention Center, Ms. Patricia Ray, gave the Committee a thorough report on the positive things that are being done at the Detention Center. She mentioned that Morris College is working with the Detention Center to allow for detainees to enroll in certain classes during the fall semester. The classes are online freshman classes. Also, some detainees are working on their GED. Director Ray also informed the Committee that the Detention Center is understaffed by approximately 80 employees. Committee Chairman Washington, along with the Sheriff, and other appropriate staff will meet with the Administrator to further discuss this matter to come to a resolution as to combat this problem.

Executive Session Matter:

The Sheriff provided a briefing to Council about some incidences that have occurred in the County and continuing to be investigated. Committee Chairman Washington also stated that the Sheriff will continue to keep Council abreast of matters such as was discussed in executive session.

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

MONTHLY REPORTS

- 1) Shaw Sumter Community Council Fall Gathering
- 2) Annual Firefighter Banquet
- 3) SCDOT Bridge Replacement -- US 76 US 378
- 4) Public Works August Monthly Report
- 5) Sumter County Sheriff's Office - August Monthly Report
- 6) Mary McLeod Bethune Golf Tournament
- 7) 2022 County Council Coalition Fall Meeting, and Institute of Government for County Officials

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- **Infrastructure Penny for Progress Report** by the County Administrator. There are nine areas in this section of the Penny for Progress. The Projects included are as follows: Paving of dirt roads, graveling of dirt roads, industrial sites development, airport development box-hangar, intersection improvements, safety concerns for 76/378; parking garage, road paving in Pinewood, walking paths, activity paths, and sidewalks.

- Stash The Trash - November 5, 2022 - 11:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m.
Meeting at Sumter County Civic Center. Stash The Trash will start with Quadrant One which is the Rembert Area. The next area will be area Quadrant Two, then Quadrant Three, and then with Quadrant Four.

After Mr. Mixon's presentation, Councilman Washington thanked the County Administrator for his work on the Litter Pick-Up Campaign - Stash the Trash.

Then Councilman Washington informed Council about the different meetings he has been and will be attending to get the word out about the Penny For Progress Referendum. He also said that he attended a gathering of approximately 60 senior citizens today at the Catchall-Shaw Community Center. He was able to handout some of the Penny For Progress brochures to those present at the community meeting. Councilman Washington further informed Council that citizens in the rural community are eager to find out about the different projects on the upcoming ballot for the Penny For Progress and suggested that other Council Members attend some of the community to meetings to help the citizens with understanding the ballot questions.



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.

Chairman McCain asked if anyone wished to speak during public comment. No one spoke during public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for Sumter County Council, and no additional comments from the public, the meeting was adjourned at 6:48 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: October 11, 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 Television on first floor of the Administration Building.

Date Posted: September 23, 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 Spectrum Cable.

Date Notified: September 23, 2022

Respectfully submitted,
Mary W. Blanding

ADA Information: In compliance with ADA/Section 504, Sumter County Is Prepared To Make Accommodations For Individuals Needing Assistance To Participate In Our Programs, Services, Or Activities.

Press: Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting, date, time, place of meeting and agenda was posted on the bulletin board at the County Administrative Offices, 13 East Canal Street, Sumter, SC, and the Sumter County website -- [www.sumtercountysc.org] under Our Council *Agendas/Minutes*. In addition, the agenda was electronically sent to newspapers, radio stations, television stations, and concerned citizens.