

Litter Board meets new mascot



A new mascot known informally as 'Trashy' meets members of the Sumter Litter Advisory Board at its last meeting.

The Sumter Litter Advisory Board heard updates from the City, County and state during its August 21, 2023, meeting.

City of Sumter Litter Officer Glenn Button reported on two recent cleanups: one in June had 42 people among seven groups, he said, who picked up 2,075 pounds of trash.

And an Aug. 19 cleanup involved 16 groups for a total of 264 people who picked up 270 bags of trash, one TV, five tires and all told, it was over 6,039 pounds of trash, he said.

Work is underway in organizing the next cleanup and another tire buy back day at the Sumter County Civic

Center is also in the works. He's also working on a litter prevention presentation and an upcoming poster contest.

Sumter County Public Works Director Karen Hyatt introduced the newest Litter Control Officer, Nick Murray, who joins LCO Mike McCoy and also brings ample law enforcement experience to the job.

Murray said he saw the opportunity to join in the fight against litter and is eager to make a difference. The job has been eye-opening, he said, in terms of the volume of litter they're seeing.

"But we do seem to be making a dent," he said.

TRASHY, from Page 1

Hyatt said he and McCoy are “very passionate about their jobs,” and have been busy writing tickets for litter transgressions.

McCoy said he wants to make Sumter “the most litter free county in South Carolina – we want to set an example.” For context, his PowerPoint presentation con-



City of Sumter Litter Officer Glenn Button gave a report to the LAB.

tained a newspaper clipping from the Jan. 5, 1977, Sumter Daily Item about litter.

He also noted how litter efforts really got attention in the late 1990s when then-USC Coach Lou Holtz complained publicly about how trashy our state was. As a result, several programs were launched to stem the tide of litter.

Fast forward to the present and McCoy and Murray are out talking to businesses, industry, churches and civic groups to get them involved in the “Stash the Trash” campaign.

“Our goal is to root out litter,” McCoy said.

Hyatt and Assistant Public Works Director Johnnie McLeod introduced a new mascot, tentatively known as “Trashy,” as a marketing and public works campaign are in the works.

Hyatt explained how a contest will be held to name the new mascot, and the winner will be announced at the next Stash the Trash event on Oct. 14, 2023. She

and her team are working to get all the Quadrant 3 schools involved: Lakewood High School, Croswell and Lemira elementary schools, Sumter Christian and Berea Junior Academy.

McCoy noted there were 14 littering cases in June and July, with a total of \$5,522 in fines. He’s also working on producing some pamphlets and handouts, he said.

LAB member Sandra Riley of the S.C. Department of Transportation noted a contractor picked up 16.2 tons of trash over 346.62 centerline miles of roadway. A second contractor picked up 36.6 tons of trash along 392 centerline miles of roadway, she said.

“They have been doing an outstanding job,” she said.

Erika Williams gave a report about marketing and education and raised the possibility of wrapping trash cans at the eSTEAM Festival with something related to the new mascot or some sort of anti-littering message.

Board Chairman the Rev. Ernest Frierson raised the idea of having City and County Council together for photos to be used in advertising to show the unity of local government in the fight against litter.



Sandra Riley of the S.C. DOT reports to the LAB on Aug. 21, 2023.

He asked the Marketing Committee to look for opportunities “where we can all be unified” to present a fantastic marketing platform.

Sumter County Council's August 8 and 22 meetings

Sumter County Council dealt with land use matters and more during its Aug. 8, 2023, regular meeting.

Sumter City-County Planning Director Helen Roodman spoke first about a request to rezone 15.59 acres at 315 East Red Bay Road from General Residential (GR) to Light Industrial-Warehouse (LI-W).

She said the applicant is Duke Energy Progress, which wants to replace a communications tower.

First reading was approved.

Roodman then spoke next about a request to rezone 3.62 acres at 1600 South Pike East from Light Industrial-Warehouse (LI-W) to Neighborhood Commercial (NC).

She said Terry Dinkins represents the owner and the goal is to build a parsonage on the property.

First reading was approved.

Roodman then spoke about a request to rezone two parcels at 419 and 429 South Guignard Drive from General Residential (GR) to General Commercial (GC). The applicant, Mary Robinson Grayson, wishes to rezone the property for speculative marketing purposes.

First reading was approved; Councilman Carlton Washington voted in opposition.

Roodman then spoke about a request to convert Industry Reference Codes from Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) to North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

There were no changes since second reading, she said, and third reading was approved.

Council Chairman James T. McCain Jr. reported on an earlier Fiscal, Tax and Property Committee meeting during which an executive session was held for purposes of discussing a contractual matter involving a



Sumter Veteran Lamont Oneal led the Pledge of Allegiance before the Aug. 8, 2023, meeting of Sumter County Council. He served our Nation from May 1969 to October 1990 in the U.S. Air Force and served in the Vietnam War and Operation Desert Storm. Oneal served as past commander of the American Legion Post 202. He lives in District 3, which is represented by Vice Chairman Jimmy Byrd.

property owned by the county. No action was taken, he said.

Councilman Washington advocated for R. E. Davis College Preparatory Academy; Councilman Eugene Baten did as well.

Councilwoman Vivian Fleming McGhaney advocated for education and the school.

Sumter County Administrator Gary Mixon reported Tuesday evening during County Council's regular meeting that Clerk to Council Mary Blanding has reached the level of Master Clerk and was recognized at the recent South Carolina Association of Counties conference.

"It's a distinguished honor," he told members of Council and the public.

Mrs. Blanding has been Clerk to Council since the Spring of 1990.

During the Public Comments, a resident advocated for increasing the presence of law enforcement around Hospital Circle.

A resident advocated for improving the roads in Ellerbe Estates. A resident advocated for charity and helping low-income communities. A resident advocated for a possible land swap to help R.E. Davis.

The meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

AUGUST 22, 2023 meeting

Sumter County Council Tuesday evening dealt with land use matters and more during its regular meeting.

Sumter City-County Planning Director Helen Roodman spoke first about a request to rezone 15.59 acres at 315 East Red Bay Road from General Residential (GR) to Light Industrial-Warehouse (LI-W).

She said the applicant, Duke Energy Progress, wishes to replace a communications tower. During a Public Hearing, a resident asked a question about the tower's height and Council Chairman James T. McCain Jr. said he'd find out and speak with her after the meeting.

Second reading was approved.

Roodman then spoke about a request to rezone a 3.62-acre parcel at 1600 South Pike East from Light Industrial-Warehouse (LI-W) to Neighborhood Commercial (NC).

She said the applicant, Terry Dinkins, wishes to build a parsonage. No one spoke during the Public Hearing.

Second reading was approved.

Roodman then spoke about a request to rezone two



Sumter Veteran Harry Bausman led the Pledge of Allegiance before the Aug. 23, 2023, County Council meeting. Bausman served our Nation in the U.S. Air Force from January 1954 to February 1974. He is a Vietnam War Veteran and the current Commander of VFW Post 3034. He lives in District 4, which is represented by Councilman Charles Edens.

parcels of land at 419 and 429 South Guignard Drive from General Residential (GR) to General Commercial (GC).

She said the applicant, Alfonso Grayson, wishes to rezone the land to increase its marketability.

Second reading was approved.

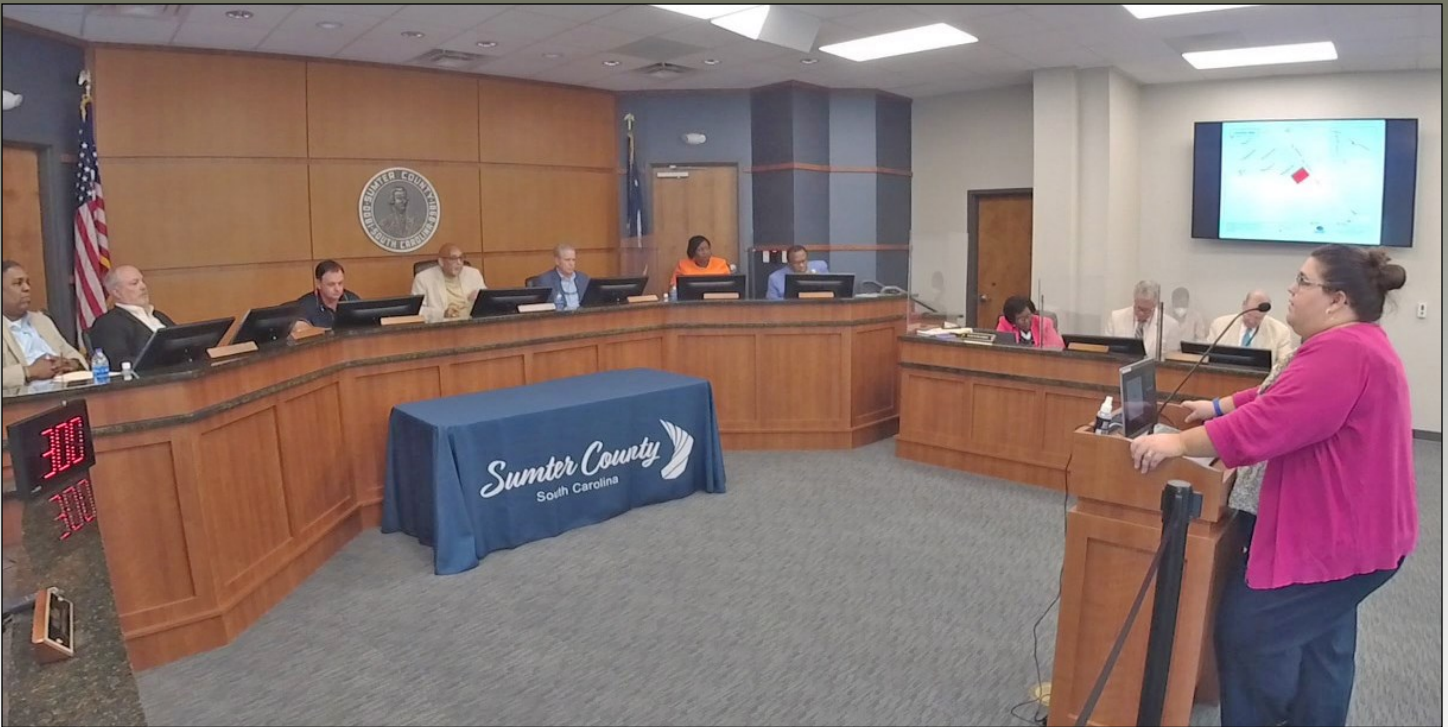
Chairman McCain reported on an earlier Special Meeting, noting all members were present for an update on American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding and how it's being spent.

Council approved the paving of Cannery Road, Keystone Road, and Josh Wells Road.

Councilman Eugene Baten noted the Sumter NAACP will hold a panel discussion with himself, Councilman Carlton Washington and Councilwoman Vivian Fleming-McGhaney.

Councilman Washington recognized several constituents and advocated for public education.

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COUNCIL, from Page 4

Councilwoman Fleming-McGhaney also recognized constituents. She also thanked County Administration and Stormwater Management Director Alfred Conyers for their work.

Councilman Baten advocated for economic development and workforce development.

County Administrator Gary Mixon thanked Councilwoman Fleming-McGhaney for her kind words and he

thanked Council for its support.

During the Public Comments, a resident advocated for public education for a monument for the former Community Hospital.

Another resident asked about the cost-of-living adjustment and another resident advocated for clearing ditches in the city. Another resident advocated for affordable housing and spoke against gentrification.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.



County partners with COG to offer rental assistance



Santee-Lynches Tenant Based Rental Assistance Program

Accepting Applications Starting
August 15th 2023

The Sumter County HOME Consortium offers relief for rent payments for households experiencing a financial crisis impacting their housing. Financial assistance is available to help with rent to provide stability and prevent homelessness during a financial crisis.

To **APPLY** and find more information:
www.santeelynchescog.org/TBRA

18 years/older

Married

At least 1 dependent

1 year rental lease

Military Veteran

Eligibility

The Consortium's goal is to assist those who are low-to-moderate income and reside in the four county regions: Clarendon, Kershaw, Lee or Sumter.

Must meet one of the following criteria:

- 18 years/older or,
- Married or,
- Military Veteran or,
- At least 1 dependent

* Must meet household income requirements by HUD.

* W9s are required from Landlord.

* Tenants must reside in the 4 counties: Clarendon, Lee, Kershaw or Sumter

* Unit inspections are required.

* 1 year lease required. Month to month not accepted.

* Up to \$500 assistance for 12 months.



Sumter County Regional Home Consortium
2525 Corporate Way, Sumter, SC 29154



call us

Shekia Harvin
803-774-1311

or



email

sharvin@slcog.org



Online applications only.

To apply, visit this website:

<https://www.santeelynchescog.org/tbra>

Patriot Hall presents...

2023

Youth Talent SHOWCASE

Model!

**GENERAL
ADMISSION
\$10**

Poetry!

Play an Instrument!

Dance!
Drama!

Comedy!

Rap!

**October 28th
SATURDAY 3PM**

INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP PERFORMANCES ACCEPTED!!

AUDITIONS will be held on Fri., 9/15/23 from 5-7PM.

Please bring lyrics, soundtracks and name of Instrument

REGISTRATION/FEE (\$10) is required to participate!

Registration deadline is September 1, 2023.

Age limit: 17 and under

RED CARPET AFFAIR FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS!

**Patriot Hall
135 Haynsworth St.
Sumter, SC 29150**

FOR MORE INFO & TO REGISTER:

Call Patriot Hall at (803)436-2260 or come by from 8:30-5:00pm (Mon-Friday)



VENDOR CALL

FOR *Christmas* AT PATRIOT HALL


Are you ready to showcase your incredible products this festive season? We're decking the halls of Patriot Hall, and we want YOU to be a part of this years' holiday cheer!

WE'RE SEEKING VENDORS WITH...

Antiques | Clothing |
Handmade Items Pottery
Jewelry | Baked Goods
...and much more!

GET NOTICED!

Our event is the perfect platform to showcase your product for all those Christmas shoppers looking for unique and heartfelt gift ideas.



WHERE?

Patriot Hall, 135
Haynsworth Street,
Sumter SC 29153

WHEN?

Saturday,
December 16,
2023
10:00am-4:00pm

WHAT?

Shopping and
live entertainment.
Plus grab a cookie and
a picture with Santa!



Applications accepted from 8/21/23 until 10/30/23.
Questions? Contact Patriot Hall at 803-436-2260