



MINUTES
Sumter County Council
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, March 27, 2018 -- Held at 6:00 p.m.
County Administration Building -- County Council Chambers
13 E. Canal Street, Sumter, SC

.....

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: James T. McCain, Jr., Chairman; James R. Byrd, Vice Chairman; Artie Baker, Eugene R. Baten, Charles T. Edens, and Chris Sumpter.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Vivian Fleming McGhaney

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Gary Mixon, the Honorable Anthony Dennis, Lorraine Dennis, Johnathan Bryan, Keysa Rogers, Mary W. Blanding, and Sheriff's Staff: Lumpkins, Kelly, Gardner, Colclough, Dailey, McGhaney, Hayes, Dew, Mixon, Dennis, Bryan, and Lee.

MEDIA PRESENT: The Item Newspaper - Adrienne Sarvis

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE: Approximately 15

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman James T. McCain, Jr. called the meeting to order for Sumter County Council's meeting of March 27, 2018.

INVOCATION: The Clerk to Sumter County Council, Mary W. Blanding, gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: All in attendance repeated the Pledge Of Allegiance to the American Flag.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Chairman McCain asked the Clerk to Council if there were any changes for the agenda; she stated that there were no changes. Therefore, Chairman McCain stated that he would entertain a motion concerning the approval of the agenda for Tuesday, March 27, 2018.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Sumpter, seconded by Councilman Baten, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the agenda as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Chairman McCain asked Council members if there were any changes to the minutes as presented. No changes were offered to the Chairman; therefore, he asked for a motion to approve the minutes for Council's regular meeting on March 13, 2018.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Sumpter, seconded by Councilman Baker, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the minutes of March 13, 2018, as presented by the Clerk.

LAND USE MATTERS AND REZONING REQUESTS: None
Planned Development/Rezoning Requests

OTHER PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- (1) Recognition Of Malachi Coffey By The Honorable Anthony Dennis, Sheriff Of Sumter County And By Members Of Sumter County Council.

Sheriff Anthony Dennis, presented a plaque to Malachi Coffey for saving the life of one of his neighbors. See information below which was presented by Sheriff Dennis. The Honorable Sheriff Dennis also allowed for Mr. Coffey to be pinned as a honorary Deputy and Department Manager for the day.

On behalf of myself and the Sumter County Sheriff's Office, we would like to take this opportunity to recognize Malachi Coffey for his heroic actions on Saturday, March 10, 2018.

Saturday started out as a normal day as it probably would for any of us. But it did not take long before it turned into a day that changed two lives forever. Allan Clemmons was working in his yard on his Mustang convertible that day and, as he attempted to remove the transmission, the car fell on him, trapping him underneath.



For the next hour and a half, Clemmons called out for help. "I asked God to help me, to give me one more holler and send an angel by my way," Clemmons said.



Meanwhile, in a nearby yard, 9-year-old Malachi Coffey was playing when he thought he heard someone crying out for help. You see, God heard Clemmons cry and sent him an Angel; a Little Angel with a Big Heart, Malachi Coffey!

As soon as Malachi witnessed what had happened he did not hesitate. He quickly grabbed a jack he saw lying nearby and pumped the handle desperately, while no doubt, saving the life of 65-year-old Allan Clemmons, who was severely injured. Once the jack had lifted the car off of Mr. Clemmons,

Malachi ran back to his aunt's house to get Clemmons some assistance.

Malachi, because of your split-second decision, you saved a life. I commend you for your quick thinking skills in an attempt to save someone else's life and this is why it is important that I take this moment to say thank you.

You see, it's this kind of quick thinking and heroic action that sets an example for all of us to follow. Please know that it is really commendable to the Sumter County Sheriff's Office and the Sumter Community for being so heroic.



After the Sheriff's presentation, the Chairman of Sumter County Council, presented Little Mr. Coffey with a proclamation and a trophy for being a great hero. See proclamation below.

Whereas, It is known that a name can carry significant meanings as parents carefully and selectively name a child, such as the name of Malachi which means messenger or angel; and



Whereas, Little would the parents of Malachi Coffey know that the naming of their precious baby boy gave him a seal of great responsibility and attainability for someone his age; and

Whereas, Council is honored to recognize the “angel and messenger” known to us a Malachi Coffey for his heroic and selfless action to aid Mr. Allan Clemmons on March 10, 2018, during a time of dire need.

Whereas, Just at the right time, Malachi heard the call for help, responded to the call, and allowed his hands to be changed from that of a boy to the hands of a rescuer by using a jack to lift the fallen car from the chest of Mr. Clemmons.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the members of Sumter County Council do hereby applaud Malachi Coffey for allowing himself to hear when it was time to hear, to move when it was time to move, and to run for help when it was time to run.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we the members of Sumter County Council desire to place on record a testament of our appreciation for Malachi Coffey for his act of bravery by declaring that **Wednesday, March 28, 2018**, shall be known henceforth as *Malachi Coffey Day*, in Sumter County, South Carolina. Sumter is a better place to live, learn, work, play, and worship because of the spirit of this Messenger from our Divine Creator.”

ACTION: Received as information.

(2) Recognition Of Sumter County Emergency Management Department.



Mr. Erik Hayes, Sumter County Emergency Management Director, introduced this matter before Sumter County Council. Mr. Hayes stated that this presentation is more about Risk Management and the reporting of those incidents by members of Sumter County Risk Management staff. Mr. Hayes introduced Mr. John Henderson who is the Director of Risk Management for the South Carolina Association of Counties Insurance Trust Department. Mr. Henderson stated that he is in attendance at this meeting of Council to present again a

plaque to the staff of Sumter County for winning an award during the Annual Conference of the S. C. Association of Counties Worker Compensation Insurance Trust and S. C. Property and Liability Trust Membership meeting held on January 5, 2018. This award was presented for the prompt reporting of property and liability claims. The County is the best in SCAC's entire program; this is the number one award; in other words, the Best of the Best. Mr. Henderson stated that Donna Dew reports these claims and Eric is the Risk Manager. Why is important; because as quickly as property reporting is completed, the quicker the settlement of a claim can occur. Settling the claim is very important and helps rates from going up quickly. Chairman McCain, Erik Hayes, and Donna Dew attended this conference on behalf of the Sumter County.

Council members thanked Eric Hayes and Donna Dew for their work and shining a light on the good work that is being done by the employees of this County.

ACTION: Received as information.

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

No executive session was held.

OLD BUSINESS: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- (1) Fiscal, Tax, and Property Committee Meeting To Be Held On Tuesday, March 27, 2018, At 5:30 p.m. In County Council Conference Room.

Chairman McCain, the Chairman of the Fiscal, Tax, and Property Committee, reported that he and Councilman Edens were present at the meeting. However, Councilman McGhaney was absent due to illness. The Committee received an update concerning the Elliott Davis Company which will review the County's Tax Structure. The Finance Department, Treasurer's Department, Auditor's Department, and Assessor's Department are all involved in the review process. This report was for information only; no action was taken.

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

Councilman Baten stated that he is following the Local Government Fund (LGF) information that is being provided by the South Carolina Association of Counties (SCAC) in its Friday Report. It was noted in the Friday Report that the S. C. House indicated that *"Not one crumb of additional Local Government Fund will be provided" this year to the counties. The S. C. House angrily rejected any view point opposing the House Ways and Means Report* as it relates to the LGF. It was also noted that the House of Representatives have suggested that *"the LGF will be funded at the same level as last year (2017-2018)."*

Councilman Baten also stated that on March 23, 2018, the budget went to the Senate. SCAC reported that it is now time to contact the Senators to ask for an increase in the appropriations for the Local Government Fund. Senator McElveen and Senator Johnson, Sumter County's two Senators, have

always supported the LGF. Therefore, it must be noted that out of the full Sumter County Delegation, only one member does not support SCAC's request for full funding of the LGF.

Councilman Baten also met with Mr. Glen Peagler, the Director of the Sumter County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission. Mr. Peagler informed Mr. Baten that Sumter County as a whole, lost over \$200,000 in grant funds which would have helped with Opioid drug problems. This happened because the statistics shows that Sumter County does not have a serious Opioid drug problem. The \$200,000 that the County lost was because of not reporting the actual number of deaths that Sumter County has resulting from overdose of Opioids and Heroin drug related deaths.

MONTHLY REPORTS

- 1) Mayor's Prayer Breakfast
- 2) Festival On The Avenue
- 3) Annual Chamber Gala
- 4) Building Report
- 5) Planning Commission Minutes and Agenda
- 6) Combat Veterans Black Tie Gala

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Mixon, the County's Administrator, gave an overview of the Budget Calendar for this budgetary process.

- February 14, 2018 deliver budget information at Countywide Department meeting.
- February 14, 2018 to March 9, 2018 Departments enter budget requests into the Superior Naviline budget -- module (formerly known as "HTE", or "Sungard Naviline").
- March 12, 2018 to March 30, 2018 Departmental budget meetings with County Administrator as needed.
- Discuss departmental budgets.
- Month of April 2018 Council workshops, as needed, to discuss budget requests.
- May 8, 2018 -- **1st reading** of FY 2019 Budget ordinance.
- May 22, 2018 -- **2nd reading** and **public hearing** of FY 2019 Budget ordinance.
- May 29, 2018 -- *Time-TBA -- Sumter School District Budget Presentation FY 2019 - Fire Department Training Center, Green Swamp Road.*
- June 12, 2018 -- **3rd reading** of FY 2019 Budget ordinance.
- Specific dates and times for departmental meetings and Council workshops will be announced at a later date.

Mr. Mixon is working with the treasurer, auditor, and assessor, concerning revenue expectations; he will provide these figures to Council members which will be included in the budget deliberations. Also, Mr. Mixon stated that there will be several budget workshops between the different readings and others as needed. The budget workshop dates will be determined by Council's availability.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman McCain asked if anyone from the public would like 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 6:35 p.m. after a motion by Vice Chairman Byrd, seconded by Councilman Baker, 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: April 24, 2018

Council did not meet on April 10, 2018

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: March 26, 2018
- 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: March 23, 2018

Respectfully submitted,
Mary W. Blanding
Clerk to County Council

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.