



**Minutes**  
**Sumter County Council**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Tuesday, October 23, 2018 -- Held at 6:00 p.m.**  
**County Administration Building -- County Council Chambers**  
**13 E. Canal Street, Sumter, SC**

.....

**COUNCILMAN MEMBERS PRESENT:** James T. McCain, Chairman; James R. Byrd, Vice Chairman; Artie Baker, Eugene R. Baten, Charles T. Edens, Vivian Fleming McGhaney, and Chris Sumpter.

**COUNCILMAN MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**MEMBERS OF THE STAFF PRESENT:** Gary Mixon, Mary W. Blanding, Joe Perry, Johnathan Bryan, Lorraine Dennis, Keysa Rogers, Allen Dailey, George McGregor, and Two Deputy Sheriff Members.

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT:** Approximately 12 members of the public were present.

**MEDIA PRESENT:** The Item Newspaper; Adrienne Sarvis

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman James T. McCain called the meeting to order for October 23, 2018.

**INVOCATION:** Councilwoman Vivian Fleming McGhaney gave the invocation.

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Regular Meeting Tuesday, October 23, 2018.

Chairman McCain asked if there were any changes or deletions to the agenda. The Clerk to Council stated that there is one change to the agenda: Add R-18-05 to the agenda under New Business as the second item under New Business.

**ACTION: MOTION** was made by Councilman Byrd, seconded by Councilman Baker, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the agenda as amended by adding R-18-05 - a Resolution relating to the Shannon Town Community CDBG Grant Funding.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Regular Meeting Tuesday, October 9, 2018

Chairman McCain stated that he would entertain a motion to approve the Tuesday, October 9, 2018, minutes.

**ACTION: MOTION** was made by Councilman Baten, seconded by Councilman Sumpter, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the minutes of October 9, 2018, as presented.

**LAND USE MATTERS AND REZONING REQUESTS:**

**Planned Development/Rezoning Requests**

- (1) **RZ-18-10 - 4690 Thomas Sumter Hwy. (County) - Second Reading/Public Hearing -- Request To Rezone +/- 3.91 Acres From General Commercial (GC) And Agricultural Conservation (AC) To Light Industrial-Warehouse (LI-W). The Property Is Located At 4690 Thomas Sumter Highway And Is Represented By Tax Map #151-00-01-014. (Prior To Action On Second Reading, Council Will Hold A Public Hearing On This Rezoning Request.)**

Mr. McGregor presented this proposed ordinance to Council for second reading consideration. He stated that Caroline Gross is the representative for the property owners who request to rezone a +/- 3.91 acre parcel from General Commercial (GC) and Agricultural Conservation (AC) to Light Industrial-Warehousing (LI-W).

The subject property fronts on the west side of Thomas Sumter Highway, New Beginnings Outreach Ministry Church is to the south with undeveloped land in all other directions of the property. The Planning Commission recommends approval of this request. After Mr. McGregor's presentation, the Chairman convened a public hearing. He asked if anyone wished to speak to this issue. The following persons spoke during public hearing.

1. Mr. Willie Roberson stated that he owns property right across the street from this property. He is opposed to this request based on noise, traffic, safety, pollutants.
2. Mrs. Willa Templeton stated that she lives in the general area of this proposed rezoning request. She stated that her community is concerned about a lack of notification of these rezoning requests. She also stated that the signs are so small that she looks on the ground to make sure she is not missing a Planning sign.
3. Mr. Louise Watkins stated that he does not live in the area but lives near the area. Mr. Watkins said that the public is not receiving enough information about the rezoning requests.
4. Mrs. Willa Templeton – spoke again stating that her greatest concern is notification of the public about what is going on with the property that will be rezoned and how it will affect the community. She also asked how the community is being notified.

NOTE: Mr. McGregor stated that the Planning Commission follows all the required laws for notification to the public about rezoning requests. Currently the requirement is 500 feet from the proposed rezoning property; and posting a sign that is 2 x 2 in size. Councilwoman McGhaney asked Mr. McGregor to look into make the signs bigger, even if they are placed on a higher pole to allow the public to see the sign better. Mr. McGregor stated that he would take this request to the Planning Commission.

Mr. Louise Watkins also spoke again and stated that many notifications are not received by those who have property near the proposed rezoning; Mrs. Templeton also voiced this same concern.

After all comments, the Chairman closed the public hearing. Councilman Edens stated that he has concerns at this point based on this one parcel being rezoned Light Industrial which would look like spot zoning to him. Councilwoman Vivian Fleming McGhaney also stated that it appears to be spot zoning.

Chairman McCain called for a motion on this proposed rezoning request.

**ACTION:** MOTION was made by Councilman Baten, seconded by Councilman Byrd, and carried by Council to approve the rezoning request as presented. Council members Baker, Edens, and McGhaney voted in opposition. Council Members Baten, McCain, Byrd, and Sumpter voted in the affirmative. The motion carried.

**OTHER PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- (1) **R-18-04 -- A Resolution To Appoint And Commission Code Enforcement Officers For The Proper Security, General Welfare, And Convenience Of Sumter County.**

The County Attorney, Mr. Johnathan Bryan, presented this proposed resolution to Council. He explained this proposed resolution to Council for adoption. Prior to action on the resolution, the Attorney read a portion of Section 4-9-145, this law details the guidelines in allowing a County to Commission Code Enforcement Officers. Also, Mr. McGregor stated that his job and his appointees are responsible for the implementation of the Zoning laws. He asked Council to support the resolution as presented.

After comments from Mr. Bryan and Mr. McGregor, Council changed the number of appointees from eight to seven. By agreeing to appoint the following persons:

<i>Brent C. Bullard</i>	<i>Sumter City-County Building Department</i>
<i>Leonard W. Avins</i>	<i>Sumter City-County Building Department</i>
<i>Charles W. "Steve" Campbell, Jr.</i>	<i>Sumter City-County Building Department</i>
<del><i>Danielle M. Malachi</i></del>	<del><i>Sumter City-County Planning Department</i></del>
<i>John F. Macloskie</i>	<i>Sumter City-County Planning Department</i>
<i>Preston McClun</i>	<i>Sumter City-County Planning Department</i>
<i>Helen M. Roodman</i>	<i>Sumter City-County Planning Department</i>
<i>George K. McGregor</i>	<i>Sumter City-County Planning Department</i>

*WHEREAS, the Sumter County Council, in the exercise of its general police power, is empowered to protect the health and safety of the residents of Sumter County; and*

*WHEREAS, the Sumter County Council is further authorized by Section 4-9-145 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, (1976, as amended) to appoint and commission as many code enforcement officers as may be necessary for the proper security, general welfare, and convenience of the County;*

*WHEREAS, Sumter County Ordinance 18-900 sets forth the procedure for appointing Code Enforcement Officers,*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following named individuals are hereby appointed and commissioned as Code Enforcement Officers of Sumter County for the purpose of providing for the proper security, general welfare, and convenience of the County, replete with all the powers and duties conferred by law upon constables in addition to such duties as may be imposed upon them by the governing body of this County, including the enforcement of the applicable building codes and the Sumter County Zoning and Development Standards Ordinance and the use of an ordinance summons, and with all the powers and duties conferred pursuant to the provisions of Section 4-9-145 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, (1976, as amended) and Sumter County Ordinance 18-900. Provided, however, these named individuals shall not perform any custodial arrests in the exercise of their duties as code enforcement officers and their authority to issue an ordinance summon will be in the unincorporated areas of Sumter County. This*

*appointment shall remain in effect only until such time as these named individuals are no longer employed by Sumter County as a code enforcement officer.*

*Brent C. Bullard Sumter City-County Building Department  
Leonard W. Avins Sumter City-County Building Department  
Charles W. "Steve" Campbell, Jr. Sumter City-County Building Department*

~~*Danielle M. Malachi Sumter City-County Planning Department*~~  
*John F. Macloskie Sumter City-County Planning Department  
Preston McClun Sumter City-County Planning Department  
Helen M. Roodman Sumter City-County Planning Department  
George K. McGregor Sumter City-County Planning Department*

**ACTION:** MOTION was made by Councilman Edens, seconded by Councilman Baten, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the resolution with seven persons appointed by Code Enforcement Officers for the unincorporated area of Sumter County and directed the Chairman and the Clerk to execute and deliver this resolution on behalf of the County. (Three for the Building Department, four for the Planning Department.)

(2) R-18-05 – Shannon Town Community Block Grant Funding For The Shannontown Neighborhood of Sumter, County.

Mr. Gary Mixon, the County Administrator, stated that a former resolution was passed by Council concerning the Shannon Town Neighborhood CDBG Grant Funding. The project span has been revised with less houses participating in the project; therefore, less funding is necessary. With that in mind, the County Administrator asked Council to consider approving the resolution as presented at this meeting. Council then took action on the adoption of the resolution.

**ACTION:** MOTION was made by Councilman Byrd, seconded by Councilman Sumpter, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the resolution as presented and directed the Chairman and the Clerk to execute and deliver the resolution on behalf of Council.

*WHEREAS, Sumter County has determined that abandoned and dilapidated houses in the Shannontown Neighborhood (target area bounded by Red Bay Rd, Manning Avenue, Belmont Rd, and Weatherly Rd) present a hazard to the public; and,*

*WHEREAS, Sumter County has determined that these problems directly impact the County's ability to provide for the people of this neighborhood a safe environment in which to live, work, play and grow; and,*

*WHEREAS, Sumter County applied for funding from the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) in the South Carolina Department of Commerce, to alleviate obstacles to the people of this community to have a safe environment in which to live, work, play and grow; through the CDBG program for removal of vacant, dilapidated structures in the Shannontown Neighborhood of the County; and,*

**WHEREAS, the completion of the project would directly benefit residents within Sumter County, which qualifies as Slum Blight Spot; and,**

**WHEREAS, the CDBG Grant award requires a commitment by the County of \$31,872 in cash or in-kind services.**

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the County Council of Sumter County, South Carolina, that:**

1. County Council hereby endorses the Shannontown Neighborhood Community Enrichment Project because it will greatly benefit the quality of life and safety of residents; and,
2. The County Administrator shall be and is authorized to commit funds in the amount of \$31,872 to meet the matching commitment required by the CDBG program. Cost savings should be prorated among the funding sources unless otherwise approved.

- (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) Internal Affairs Committee Meeting Held On Tuesday, October 23, 2018, at 5:00 p.m. In County Council's Conference Room. (The Fiscal, Tax, And Property Committee Meeting Will Begin Immediately After The Internal Affairs Committee Meeting, Or By 5:30 p.m.)

The Chairman of the Committee, Vice Chairman Byrd, gave the following report and recommendations from the Committee meeting.

**Cultural Commission:**

Reappoint: Sylvester Hickman, Patty Wilson, Herbert Johnson, Katherine Polluta, Richard Jones, Dr. Todd Warwick, and Goliath Brown.

**ACTION:** MOTION and second were received from the Committee, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the recommendations as presented.

Appoint: Elayne Brunson to the Cultural Commission.

**ACTION:** MOTION and second were received from the Committee, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the recommendations as presented.

**Historical Commission:**

Reappoint: Debra Picou, John Gurcheff, Jordan White, Hugh McLaurin, Debra Reynolds, Pat Dubose, William Sanders.

**ACTION:** MOTION and second were received from the Committee, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the recommendations as presented concerning the Historical Commission.

Appoint: Joseph Stutz, Jr. and Barbara Pitts to the Historical Commission.

**ACTION:** MOTION and second were received from the Committee, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the recommendations as presented.

**Sumter Iris Festival Commission**

Reappoint: Holly Chase and Cale Yates.

**ACTION:** MOTION and second were received from the Committee, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the recommendations as presented.

Appoint: Karen Gaines and Peggy Blanding.

**ACTION:** MOTION and second were received from the Committee, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the recommendations as presented.

**Library Board**

Reappoint: Chuck Fienning

**ACTION:** MOTION and second were received from the Committee, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the recommendations as presented.

Appoint: Dr. Carol Alan.

**ACTION:** MOTION and second were received from the Committee, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the recommendations as presented.

**Planning Commission** - No Action Taken

**Santee Lynches Regional Council On Government**

Appoint: Mr. Roland Robinson.

**ACTION:** MOTION and second were received from the Committee, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the recommendations as presented.

**Stormwater and Sediment Control Boards** - No action taken

(2) **Fiscal, Tax, and Property Committee Meeting Held On Tuesday, October 23, 2018, at 5:30 p.m. In County Council's Conference Room.**

The Chairman stated that the Committee met and discussed one executive session item and one open session item. The executive session item concluded that Council needed to allow staff to continue negotiations of an existing contract.

**Rail Road Ties** – The Committee discussed the use of \$2,500 for repair of rail road ties in the South Industrial Park and the funds would be secured from the County's Infrastructure Account.

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

- **Councilman Edens** asked the Clerk to set-up a Land Use Committee meeting for November 13, 2018, to discuss the Political Sign Ordinance.
- **Vice Chairman Byrd** asked the Clerk to set-up a meeting to discuss Tethering of Animals. This matter would fall under the Public Safety Committee and Councilman Sumpter is in support of this meeting.
- **Councilwoman McGhaney** reported that she was a guest speaker at Shaw AFB for the Shaw AFB's group called Ladies in Leadership.

**MONTHLY REPORTS**

- 1) Planning Commission Information
- 2) Building Department Report
- 3) Sheriff's Department Monthly Report
- 4) South Carolina Association Of Counties County Coalition Info
- 5) 2018 Oyster Roast
- 6) Army Centennial Celebration

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

The Administrator announced that in preparation of renovations to the Administration Building, the Treasurer's Office and the Auditor's Office will be moved to the old Item Building, currently being called the Magnolia Place. These two offices will be closed on October 24, 25, 26, 2018, and open for business on October 29, 2018.

The work that has been done for the Auditor and Treasurer's offices to move into the Magnolia Place, is work that needed to be done to the building and once these two offices move back to the Administration Building the Magnolia Place will receive other tenants at that time.

Due to the continued construction at the Courthouse, there will be no Christmas Tree Lighting Program this year (2018).

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

The Chairman asked if anyone wished to speak to Council during Public Comment. The following persons spoke to Council during public comments:

- **Lewis Watkins** - Stated that he has been coming to Council meetings for quite some time and he has suggested that Council members implement a system for a central complaint number to allow the citizens to call one number to get an answer for their questions. Mr. Watson also stated that when the Item Newspaper wrote an article on the Code Enforcement Ordinance, he was made aware of the details about what was happening with ordinance. However, tonight, there is nothing for the public to review to know what is going on with this resolution. Mr. Watson said that the public should have more documents to be informed about matters going on within the County.

- **Sylvia Christian James** - Mrs. James stated that she is the Chairman of the Santee Wateree Mental Health Board (SWMHB). This Board covers the areas of Sumter, Lee, Clarendon, and Kershaw Counties. She thanked Council members for the support financially, presence at different functions, and the clients that are being served. Ms. James stated that there are 1,700 adults and 800 children being served through Santee Wateree Mental Health Agency. There are school base services; several grants that have been funded to help the clients; peer support services, several transitional housing grant programs for youth and adults, and several other grants. Also, there will be some public service awareness announcements that will be publicize in the next few days. Lastly, there are two vacant seats on the SWBHB if anyone is interested in serving on the Board. She asked Council and the public to contact SWMHB on this matter.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business for Sumter County Council, and no additional comments from the public, the meeting was adjourned at 7:01 p.m. after a motion by Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman Sumpter, 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: November 13, 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: October 22, 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: October 19, 2018

Respectfully submitted,  
*Mary W. Blanding*  
 Clerk to County Council



