



Minutes
Sumter County Council
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, January 22, 2019 -- Held at 6:00 p.m.
County Administration Building -- County Council Chambers
13 E. Canal Street, Sumter, SC

.....

COUNCIL 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.

ALL COUNCILMEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Gary Mixon, Mary W. Blanding, Johnathan Bryan, Lorraine Dennis, George McGregor, Robert Baker, Joe Perry, Allen Dailey; and two Sheriff Deputies.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE: Approximately 25 members of the public were in attendance.

MEDIA: The Item Newspaper, Adrienne Sarvis

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman McCain called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION: Council Member Vivian Fleming McGhaney gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Everyone present stood and repeated the Pledge Of Allegiance to the American Flag.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Chairman McCain stated that he would entertain a motion concerning the regular Meeting Tuesday, January 22, 2019.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Chairman McCain called for a motion concerning action on the January 8, 2018, minutes of Council's meeting.

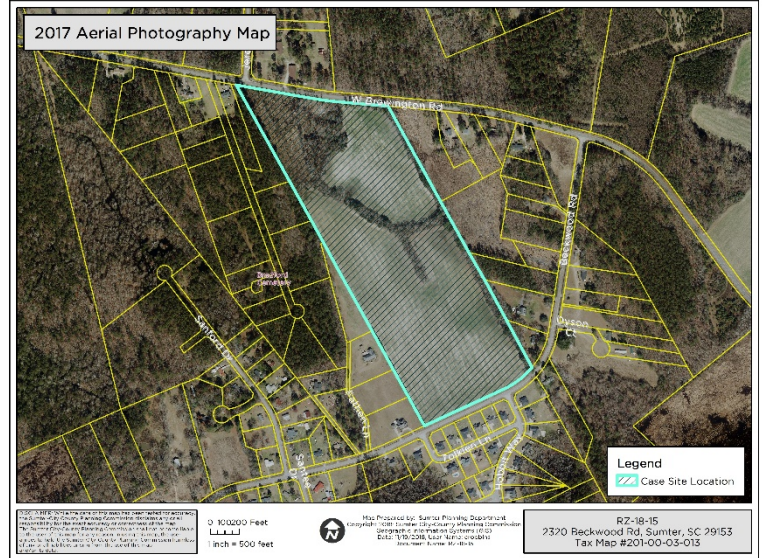
ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baten, seconded by Councilman Sumpter, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the agenda as presented.

LAND USE MATTERS AND REZONING REQUESTS:
Planned Development/Rezoning Requests

- (1) **RZ-18-15 -- 2320 Beckwood Road -- (County) - Second Reading/Public Hearing -- Request To Rezone A +/-46.99 Acre Parcel Located At 2320 Beckwood Road From Agricultural Conservation (AC) To Residential-15 (R-15). The Property Is Represented By Tax Map # 201-00-03-013. (Prior To Action On Second Reading, Council Will Hold A Public Hearing On This Rezoning Request.)**

Mr. George McGregor, the Planning Director, presented this proposed rezoning request on behalf of Mr. Jason Ross and Tunnel Vision Holdings LLC. Mr. Ross hopes to have rezone approximately 47 acres of land located at 2320 Beckwood Road from Agricultural Conservation to Residential-15. The applicant is requesting the rezoning in order to pursue development of a single-family residential

subdivision. The subject property has frontage on both Beckwood Road and W. Brewington Road, with approximately 1,060 feet of road frontage on W. Brewington Road and approximately 860 feet of road frontage on Beckwood Road. Mr. Ross would like to develop a Major Subdivision; the lot sizes would be at a minimum of 15,000 square feet. Mr. McGregor also stated that the Planning Commission Members recommended approval of this request as presented to Council.



After comments from Mr. McGregor, the Chairman of Council convened a public hearing on this proposed rezoning request.

He asked if anyone would like to speak in support of or in opposition to this rezoning request. The following persons spoke during public hear on this matter.

Mr. Tyler Dunlap spoke in support of the request. He stated that he developed Beckwood Shires Subdivision and will be eagerly working on this upcoming Subdivision. Mr. Dunlap also said that the lots for this new subdivision will cost at a range of \$30,000 to the mid-\$40,000 with very nice homes located on the property.

Afterward Mr. Dunlap's comments, the following person spoke in opposition.

Former Chairman of Sumter County Council, Frank E. Williams, Jr., stated that he has concerns about the impending subdivision. Mr. Williams stated that he moved to Beckwood 20 years ago. It was in the suburbs. He stated that at the time he started living there was not much traffic nor homes, etc. Mr. Williams also stated that he would like to know how the subdivision will affect his property value. Mr. Williams also talked about the traffic congestion that is in the area; the noise level, safety issues, school traffic, the street condition, and other safety issues.

The Chairman permitted Mr. Dunlap to comment on the concerns that Mr. Williams has about the impending subdivision. Mr. Dunlap stated that the homes will be stick-built, will be on 1/3 acre of land, and will not decrease the value of Mr. Williams' property. The homes will be comparable to Beckwood Shire homes are better. Additionally, the subdivision will have signage and lights throughout the neighborhood. Mr. Dunlap stated that they are working with SCDOT concerning the street and the traffic study that will be completed will give SCDOT information on what needs to be done at Highway 521 and Beckwood.

Jason Dubose stated that he lives in Beckwood Shires and the traffic is of concern for him even before this new subdivision is built. The street is being used as a thoroughfare which adds more traffic to a road that is not built with sidewalks or constructed in a way for large flow of traffic. The road needs to be widen, and a traffic light is desperately needed at Highway 521 and Beckwood.

Councilman Charles Edens stated that there definitely needs to be a traffic light at the noted intersection as well as ingress and egress. He also advocated that the Planning Staff as well as the Developer to make sure that they are communicating with SCDOT about this development.

Betty Miller stated that she is representing Edith Sinkler, who is a property owner in this area. Ms. Miller said that her concerns are with traffic issues and the current condition of the road.

James Davis spoke about his concerns with the traffic in the area. He asked Council when was the last time they talked with SCDOT about the traffic in this area. Chairman McCain stated that Council has not communicated with SCDOT about this road. Councilman McGhaney stated that since this is her Council District area, she will communicate with SCDOT about this matter.

Louis Watkins stated that there is still a problem with how information is presented to the public and that not enough information is given out. He also said the community should have prior notice as to when a development is going to take place in a community prior to the development coming before Council.

Councilman Baten stated that the quality of life should be considered in this Development and how it will impact the citizens positively or negatively.

After all comments, the Chairman called for a motion on this rezoning request.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman McGhaney, and unanimously carried by Council to grant second reading. (Note: Council asked that the Planning Director request a stoplight at the location of the new subdivision.)

- (2) **RZ-18-16 -- 160 Jefferson Road -- (County) -- Second Reading/Public Hearing -- Request To Rezone A +/-15.00 Acre Parcel And A 1.39 Acre Parcel Located At 160 Jefferson Road From General Residential (GR) To Heavy Industrial (HI). The Property Is Represented By Tax Map #S 231-00-04-006 And 231-00-04-007. (Prior To Action On Second Reading, Council Will Hold A Public Hearing On This Rezoning Request.)**

Mr. McGregor also presented this proposed rezoning request to Council for second reading consideration. He stated that this request is from Sumter County Council requesting that the property be rezoned from General Residential to Heavy Industrial.

After comments from Mr. McGregor, the Chairman convened a public hearing on this matter. No one spoke during public comment; therefore, the Chairman called for a motion on this rezoning request.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman Sumpter, and unanimously carried by Council to grant second reading approval to this rezoning request.

OTHER PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- (1) **Presentation By Webster Rogers Accounting Firm Concerning Sumter County's External Audit.**

Mr. Chuck Tolbert with Webster Rogers stated that he is the External Auditor for the County he is present tonight to give the findings for the budget which ended June 30, 2018. Mr. Tolbert stated that Sumter County's audit process was completed December 2018.

Mr. Tolbert further stated that Sumter County has received from this firm a letter of opinion with regard to the financial statements. The letter indicates that Sumter County's received a clean unmodified opinion. The company has tested the presentation of documents according to professional auditors and the County is in good standings. He further stated that Management responded to the accounting company in an efficient manner.

It was noted by Councilman Edens that Council members received a 30 minute presentation prior to this meeting during a special meeting of Sumter County Council on today. Mr. Mixon thanked Mr. Tolbert and all departments for working together to complete this approximately three month process.

ACTION: Received as information.

- (2) Mr. Robert Baker presented the Sumter County Coroner's Office yearly report. Mr. Baker stated that this is his second year giving this report and he plans to give Council a report each year that he is in office. See information below.

Autopsy	Yes		Total
	94	651	745
Cause of Death			
NATURAL	661		
MVA -2017	1		
HOMICIDE - GSW	8		
MVA	16		
ACCIDENTAL FALL	7		
DRUG OVERDOSE	31		
UNDETERMINED	3		
SUICIDE - HANGING	3		
SUICIDE GSW	7		
FIRE	2		
DROWNING	1		
SUICIDE - DRUG OVERDOSE	1		
DROWNING - 2017	1		
PENDING	3		

Mr. Baker informed Council members that the drug overdose deaths are up this year and will continue to rise due to the use of methamphetamines as well as mixing heroin and other methamphetamines together.

Councilman Baten stated that he attended the recent Drug and Alcohol State Conference. He stated that when budget time comes, the County needs to review the cost of purchasing the Norcaine that can be administered to persons that have overdosed on methamphetamines and other drugs and the fact that EMS has to purchase the medicine. Mr. Baker stated that the cost for working an overdose drug case has caused additional expenses in his office too. He stated that the need for autopsies have gone up and the cost for the autopsies has increased from \$1,000 per autopsy to \$1,100. Of course the transportation of the number of bodies to and from the autopsy has increase based on the increase of overdoses.

ACTION: This report was received as information.

(3) Discussion And Possible Ratification Of Appointments To Council’s Standing Committees – Appointment Term 2019-2020).

Chairman McCain presented the proposed list of appointments to Council’s Standing Committees for 2019-2020 term. After review, Chairman McCain asked for a motion on this the ratification of the appointments.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Vice Chairman Byrd, and unanimously carried by Council to adopt the Standing Committee Appointments as presented.

COMMITTEE NAME	CHAIRMAN	MEMBERS
City/County Liaison	James T. McCain, Jr.	Charles T. Edens Vivian Fleming McGhaney
Fiscal, Tax, and Property	James T. McCain, Jr.	Charles T. Edens Vivian Fleming McGhaney
Internal Affairs	Jimmy Byrd	Artie Baker C. F. “Chris” Sumpter II
Land Use Committee	Charles T. Edens	Eugene R. Baten Artie Baker
Military Affairs S. C. Military Base Task Force Committee	Eugene R. Baten	James T. McCain, Jr. C. F. “Chris” Sumpter II
Public Safety	C. F. “Chris” Sumpter II	Eugene R. Baten Jimmy Byrd
Public Works and Solid Waste	Artie Baker	Eugene R. Baten C. F. “Chris” Sumpter II
Technology/Personnel	Vivian Fleming McGhaney	Jimmy Byrd C. F. “Chris” Sumpter II
Public Utilities	Charles T. Edens	James T. McCain, Jr. Eugene R. Baten
COUNCIL’S LIAISONS		
Cultural/Fine Arts Liaison (2)		James T. McCain, Jr. Charles T. Edens
Economic Development Liaison (2) - (LINK) (Ex officio members Chairman or Designee and Administrator or Designee)		James T. McCain, Jr. Gary Mixon
Greater Sumter Chamber of Commerce (2) (Ex officio members Chairman or Designee and Administrator or Designee)		James T. McCain, Jr. Gary Mixon

Education Liaison(2)	James R. Byrd C. F. "Chris" Sumpter
OTHER COMMITTEES, COUNCILS, AND BOARDS	
SUATS Committee (Chairman and one other member)	Jimmy Byrd James T. McCain, Jr.
Workforce Investment Board (WIB) Chairman or Designee	James T. McCain, Jr.
Lynches River Advisory Council	Charles T. Edens
Santee Lynches Council On Governments (appointed by Chairman)	James T. McCain, Jr., Eugene R. Baten, Vivian Fleming McGhaney Chuck Wilson, (resigned -- James A. Campbell, Earl Wilson, Jay Schwedler
Career Center	Eugene R. Baten
Wateree Community Actions (Appointed by Chairman)	TBA
Santee Wateree RTA	Larry Blanding
S. C. Military Base Taskforce Committee	Eugene R. Baten - James T. McCain, Jr.

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

No executive committee was held.

OLD BUSINESS: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- (1) Special Meeting of Sumter County Council To Be Held At 5:30 p.m. On Tuesday, January 22, 2019, In County Council's Chambers Or Conference Room.

No additional report was given since this meeting was held to receive the County's 2017-2018 budget and was also reported out under New Business listed above.

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

No report was given.

MONTHLY REPORTS

1. South Carolina Association Of Counties Mid-Year Conference
2. Rural Summit 2019
3. Sheriff's Department Monthly Report
4. Sheriff's Department Annual Report
5. Planning Commission Monthly Report
6. Building Department Monthly Report
7. Patriot Hall Upcoming Event

- 8. Chili Cook-Off 2019
- 9. Farm-To-Table 2019
- 10. Food Truck 2019
- 11. Bragg Stream Institute

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

No report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

- Marilyn Hammett stated that she is with the Bragg Stream Institute which is a Charter School. The Charter School is not in competition with the public or independent schools. However, the Bragg Stream Institute is to provide an educational opportunity for children that do not learn in the traditional manner. Ms. Hammett asked Council members to join her and others for the announcement about the Bragg Stream Institute on Thursday, January 24, 2019c, at 12:00 p.m. at USC.

No one else 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 6:37 p.m. after a motion by Councilman Sumpter, 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: February 12, 2019

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: January 21, 2019

Media Notified: Yes

Regular Meeting - Sumter County Council

Tuesday, January 22, 2019

Page 8

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: January 18, 2019

Respectfully submitted,
Mary W. Blanding

Clerk to County Council

RNMENT - Baker/Sumter - 7:18.