ANDERSON COUNTY COUNCIL
SPECIAL PRESENTATION MEETING
JUNE 19, 2018

IN ATTENDANCE:
TOMMY DUNN, CHAIRMAN
RAY GRAHAM
KEN WATERS
TOM ALLEN
CRAIG WOOTEN
M. CINDY WILSON

ALSO PRESENT:
RUSTY BURNS
LACEY CROEGAERT
TOMMY DUNN: ... the Special Presentations part of the June 19th County Council meeting to order. Like to welcome each and every one here. Thank y'all for coming. At this time I’d like to -- we’ll do resolutions and proclamations 2(a) 2018-028. Vice Chairman Graham. Chairman Graham.

RAY GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is in reference to Resolution 2018-028. This is a Resolution to Recognize and Honor Ms. Hattie Green for many years of Dedication and Service to the Communities of Anderson County; and Other Matters Related Thereto.

Whereas, Mrs. Hattie Green was born on September 10, 1928. Hattie moved to Belton, South Carolina at the age of nine and has remained a resident for 80 years. She attended Rosenwald School and was a graduate of Geer High School after the eleventh grade; and,

Whereas, Hattie was married to the late Gilbert Green, having 6 children, 30 grandchildren, 35 great grandchildren, 12 great great grandchildren, as well as numerous “adopted children” claiming her as their role model of guidance and support; and

Whereas, Hattie has been a member of the Mt. Zion Baptist Church for over 50 years. She has served many roles within the church such as a Sunday School teacher, a secretary of Sunday School, the Outreach Festival Committee Chair, a senior choir member, Deaconess, a missionary member and Flower Committee member; and

Whereas, Hattie is a longtime member of the Ladies Auxiliary to Foreign Wars, Thomasena Order of Eastern Stars and the Belton Lions Club. Hattie served as a Girls Scout Leader and volunteered at the Zion Street Community Center and Senior Solutions. In 1996 Hattie was named Anderson County NAACP Woman of the Year; and

Whereas, in 2002 Hattie was the first African American elected to the Belton City Council representing Ward 2. She still continues to serve on the Council today, missing only one regular scheduled council meeting in 16 years; and

Whereas, Hattie has worked diligently to make many improvements in Belton such as improving sidewalks, water, the remodeling of the Belton Armory for a community center, renovations at the Leda Poore Park, and refurbishing the Standpipe Landmark of Belton. Hattie continues her efforts for more improvements to take place in the downtown area of Belton; and,

Whereas, in 2006 Hattie was honored as a lifetime member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and in 2010 she
received the Boy Scout Appreciation Award; and

Whereas, although she is semi-retired she can be
found working with her children to prepare meals for
numerous organizations, senior citizen groups,
elderly, sick and those in need; and

Whereas, on May 10, 2018 in Belton, South Carolina
a ceremony was held for the Dedication and Ribbon
Cutting for the extension of the Belton Rail Trail
featuring the special recognition of Mrs. Hattie
Green. During the event Hattie was recognized with a
bronze plaque and bench that will be placed in her
honor near the library. Following the ceremony a
reception was held with a special presentation where
Hattie was presented with the state’s highest civilian
honor The Order of the Silver Crescent; and

Now Therefore, be it resolved, the Anderson County
Council commends and honors Mrs. Hattie Green who
passionately serves our community, county and state
with unyielding dedication and passion. Her efforts
of harmony and unity bring a positive impact to all
the residents of Anderson County.

RESOLVED in meeting duly assembled this 19th day
of June, 2018.

Mr. Chairman, I’d like to bring that forth in the
form of a motion.

TOMMY DUNN: Have a motion. Have a
second?

CINDY WILSON: May I say something?

TOMMY DUNN: Second by Mr. Allen. Ms.
Wilson.

CINDY WILSON: When we were writing and
proofing this resolution, we all agreed this surely
must be five different people and not one dear lady.
So it’s just incredible what Ms. Hattie’s accomplished
in her life. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Anyone else?

I’d just like to echo Ms. Wilson’s sentiments. You
have definitely led a full life in Anderson County and
the community of Belton I know is better off for your
service. We really do appreciate it. Mr. Graham.

RAY GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Ms. Hattie, I definitely want to commend you for all
the work that you have done in Belton over the years.
Growing up in Belton, actually a member of the city of
Belton fire department for many years, I definitely
seen first hand the hard work that you’ve committed to
through your church and through the community. And
Belton is definitely a better place on your behalf for
all the hard work you’ve done.

Mr. Chairman, after we vote, if it would be
possible maybe ask Ms. Green and also her co-workers and family to step down front.

TOMMY DUNN: Yes, sir. All in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously. If you would, y’all just come on down.

(PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTION)

RAY GRAHAM: Ms. Hattie, on behalf of Anderson County Council, I’d definitely like to present this resolution. And again, we definitely appreciate all the hard work you have done for the city of Belton and also for Anderson County. At this time I’m going to turn the mike over to you and let you talk and tell us about whatever you want to talk about tonight.

HATTIE GREEN: Well, I’d just like to thank everyone for presenting me this honor. And it’s an honor and a pleasure because I love people. That’s one reason I got on the Council to keep myself busy. And I really love cooking. So a lot of times I don’t get to cook like I want to. There’s nothing no better than getting in the kitchen and relaxing yourself. Because I made some cream cheese crunch today. But I really do appreciate this. And I’m so happy that y’all and everybody’s doing this while I’m living. Because you know, if I’m dead I don’t know anything about it. My mother always said give me my flowers while I yet live. That’s one thing she always taught me to treat people like you want to be treated and nobody wants to be treated bad. And I’ve got to teach that to my children and I always teach people to let them know that I love them. Because I love people and I love to talk, but I guess I’m going to stop now. Thank you.

RAY GRAHAM: Thank you so much.

APPLAUSE

TOMMY DUNN: Moving on, we’re moving on now to Item 2(b) 2018-032 A Resolution. Ms. Wilson.

CINDY WILSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will read this into our record and get a vote of approval and it will be presented Sunday at a special celebration over in Williamston. This is a Resolution to Honor and Recognize Caroline Community Center for Their Dedication and Service to Anderson County Citizens for 32 years; and other matters related thereto.

Whereas, the Williamston Action Community Club is held at Caroline Community Center in Williamston, South Carolina. It was established in 1985 and has been a strong, diverse, supportive center for the
1 community for 32 years; and
2
3 Whereas, the mission of this organization is to
4 improve the quality of life by providing safe,
5 accessible services, programs and facilities; and
6
7 Whereas, the Williamston Action community Club is
8 a meeting place for individuals to experience art,
9 recreation and community building activities; and
10
11 Whereas, the community club features senior
12 programs offering Bible studies, nutrition and
13 exercise programs, Bingo and line dancing; and
14
15 Whereas, the community club provides youth
16 programs geared for student success and achievement.
17 Children can participate in sports, art and crafts,
18 attend summer camps and field trips; and
19
20 Whereas, Anderson County Council and the residents
21 of Anderson County are pleased to recognize and
22 celebrate the Caroline Community Center and
23 Williamston Action Community Club for thirty-two years
24 of dedicated service to the community. We are
25 appreciative of your compassion, support and
26 willingness to improve the quality of lives in our
27 community.
28
29 RESOLVED in meeting duly assembled this 19th day
30 of June, 2018.
31
32 And may I put that in the form of a motion?
33
34 TOMMY DUNN: Have a motion Ms. Wilson.
35
36 We have a second?
37
38 RAY GRAHAM: Second.
39
40 TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Graham. Any
41 discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands.
42 All opposed like sign. Show the motion carries
43 unanimously.
44
45 Meeting will be adjourned. We’ll reconvene here
46 for regular start of Council meeting at 6:30.
47
48 (SPECIAL PRESENTATION MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:13 P.M.)
ANDERSON COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 19, 2018

IN ATTENDANCE:
TOMMY DUNN, CHAIRMAN
RAY GRAHAM
GRACIE FLOYD
TOM ALLEN
CRAIG WOOTEN
KEN WATERS
M. CINDY WILSON

ALSO PRESENT:
RUSTY BURNS
LEON HARMON
LACEY CROEGAERT
TOMMY DUNN: At this time I’d like to call the Regular Anderson County Council meeting of June 19th to order. At this time I’d like to ask the Honorable Councilman Craig Wooten if he’d lead us in the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance. If we’d all rise, please.

(INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE BY CRAIG WOOTEN)

Are there any changes or corrections to be made to the minutes of the regular Council meeting of June the 5th? Not received. I’m sorry. We’ll take care of that next time.

At this time, before we go on to Item number 4, I’d just like to recognize, I believe Ms. -- our librarian, Ms. Faith Line is here. I want to Kudos to her. I think she just received an award from the Chamber of Commerce last week. Our library just got some awards here back a couple of months ago. So we appreciate the fine work and what all you’re doing and we’re very lucky to have you, Ms. Line. Thank you very much. Let’s all give her a big hand. Thank you for being here.

Moving on now, we’re going to Citizens Comments. As Mr. Harmon, our attorney, calls your name, you have three minutes on agenda matters at this time. Please state your name and district for the record and address the Chair.

LEON HARMON: Mr. Chairman, we have one citizen signed up. Elizabeth Fant.

ELIZABETH FANT: Elizabeth Fant, District 3.

I’m referring to number 6 and number 8; both on budget. I wasn’t able to come to the budget workshop that you had. Glad to see you finally had one. That is one thing that does concern me about the budget process this year. I’ve heard somebody say, well, you can come to any of the meetings you want to. And any of us can. But I get those announcements from Ms. Lacey. I get those announcements from Ms. Lacey about different committee meetings and in no way have any of those meetings up until this one said anything about budget.

Now, you may be discussing items that have to do with capital projects or other issues that affect the budget, but you’re not telling the people that those are budget meetings. And this is the first year that we’ve done the budget this way. I know it saved you all a lot of time and I know Mr. Dunn will say, oh, you can call anybody you want to and ask any questions you want to. But the whole thing about government process is supposed to be that we do it out in the
open and we do it when the constituents can hear what is going on and not that it’s already decided in a committee and then brought forth. And as Mr. Dunn will say, if it came from the Finance Committee or if it came from the so and so committee, it needs no second. We’re the second. We’re the ones that need to approve it. I’m going to be watching tonight to see what’s in the budget.

LEON HARMON: No one else is signed up.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Harmon.

Moving on to Item number 5, Then and Now. Ms. Floyd.

GRACIE FLOYD: Thank you. I’m going to speak on the last Council meeting. We don’t have our minutes. I tried to get the secretary to find it but she was unable to do so. But it was a comment that was made at the last Council meeting about the previous Council had almost left Anderson County in bankrupt or the previous county left Anderson County in bankruptcy or something that the previous county (verbatim) did to get Anderson County close to bankruptcy.

At the last Council meeting, Ms. Wilson made a statement that I objected to. That statement was that the previous Council had left or whatever I just said the county bankrupt. I disagreed with her assessment at that meeting. I told her so. And tonight I want to elaborate a little more on that topic. I will demonstrate that Anderson County was not near bankruptcy during that period of time. And I can not just sit there as I was on Council at that time and not say anything. That’s a total untruth. I can’t do that to the people of Anderson County. I can’t do it to my constituency. And I can’t do it to myself. I will demonstrate with facts, not just opinions, that Anderson County was not near bankruptcy at that period of time.

In fact, Anderson County was not near bankruptcy then, not now and likely will not be in the future. Anderson County has had a very stable and secure financial past and is likely to continue to have firm financial footing.

To make my point I did some long, hard researching. I researched some old financial information. I researched with people. I researched with -- my research also include people who are in the county at this particular time. This information is available to anyone on the county’s website and comes from the published audited financial statements.

Again, these are published facts. Not conjectures,
not my opinion, but facts.
First, when you use the word bankrupt, that means
you are unable to pay your bills. It means that your
liabilities exceed your assets. It means in simple
terms that you are broke. Anderson County was not
broke then, nor is it broke now.
The first fact I want to talk about is the
county’s fund balance. Fund balance means the
difference between your assets and your liabilities.
It could be construed to mean the net worth of the
county. At June the 30th, 2008, the county had a fund
balance of forty million three hundred forty-seven
thousand eight hundred and seventy-five dollars. I’m
going to repeat that. June 30th, 2008, the county had
a fund balance of forty million three hundred forty-
seven thousand eight hundred and seventy-five dollars.
In case you want to see this for yourself, you can go
to the June 30th, 2017 website and this information
can be found on page 31. On page 31 -- that’s 131.
on page 131, you will find a table that lists the
county’s fund balance for the past ten fiscal year.
My point is that you, the county, cannot be
bankrupt or near bankrupt with forty million dollars
of fund balance, can they?
The second fact that I want you to know about what
is -- about something called net position. Net
position is the calculation that is used to show
changes in the county’s financial position. It is a
useful indicator of governmental’s financial
condition. Going back to the same day, June 30th,
2008, the county’s net position was increased by five
million seven hundred and nine nine hundred and
seventy-eight dollars. This is all calculated by
taking all the revenues of the government and
subtracting all the expenses. Again, you cannot be
bankrupt when your revenues exceed your expenses by
over five point seven million dollars. You can find
this information on 128 to 130 in the audited
financial statement.
The last fact I wish to discuss is this. This
county has been issued a clean or modified audit
opinion for every year that I have been on Council.
That’s nineteen years, folks. That’s nineteen years I
have been on Council that this Council has received a
clean audit. I believe that if Anderson County was
bankrupt, going bankrupt, or had been close to
bankruptcy, then the county would not have earned
these clean audit opinions all these years. If there
was evidence of bankruptcy the auditors would have
expressed that in the audit report.
To close, I again say and support it with facts, that Anderson County was not broke, and was not bankrupt while the previous Council was seated. What I presented tonight is based on fact and not off the cuff remarks and rambling. Look for yourself. Go to these financial website that I had to go through. Go through your trash cans if you have trash related to Anderson County and is audited as I have. I have -- and I think you will come to the undeniable conclusion that Anderson County was in excellent financial health then and health now.

There is no conflict, folks, between the old and the new. The conflict is between liars. People who use the means as a platform to say things that they know aren’t true, but they say them anyway to convince you that they know what they’re talking about. The conflict is between the false and the true.

And I thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Moving to Item number 6, Report from the Administration Policy/Rules Committee, which is the Personnel Committee held June 12, 2018.

TOM ALLEN: All right. Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chair. As most of you know, we’ve had a survey done here over the past several months in the county by an outside personnel firm to look at where we stand as far as our personnel policies, pay scales, vacation time, etcetera. And there are about six major points that came up in this survey and these are things that we, on the Personnel Committee, are going to be looking at and working on to see how we can rectify some of the problems in order to bring us into balance with other surrounding counties of our same size and population, as well as with the private industry.

So one of the first things we looked at, of course, was the salary market adjustments. In other words, what they did was they went out here and looked at the counties around us. They also looked at private industries. They weighted this sixty percent of their evaluation was based on the counties pay, in other words counties around us, and forty percent of the weight was based on what private industry is paying. So in other words, if the county has a truck driver and a private industry has a truck driver doing exactly the same thing, what does the pay scale look like? So, we’re looking at that now to see what kind of adjustments we may need to make on that.

And in most cases of all of the various fields of labor, if you will, that were looked at, the county
tended to be somewhat below what the civilian -- I’ll call it civilian side of the house is paying. Old military coming out in me; can’t help it. The next thing we looked at was employee evaluations. There are supposed to be annual evaluations done on all employees. And I think in some cases that’s kind of slipped over the years. I admit I don’t like doing evaluations on people. It’s a headache and it’s sometimes not a fun thing to do. But we have to have those done if we’re going to make this process work so that we know how to promote people and whether somebody deserves a raise or not. So we’ve got to have those evaluations done. And we’re looking at having those done by the end of July, to have everybody up to date on their evaluations.

Also, we’re looking at, I was going to say, I forgot to mention one other thing on the salary adjustments. We hope to have those -- well, we will have those in place 1 July. If the budget passes tonight, we’ll have those in place 1 July.

Job descriptions need to be updated. In order to do these annual evaluations you’ve got to have a decent job description. And we found out we had a lot of job descriptions in this county that were duplicates in a way. You know, you’d have a -- I’ll use the truck driver again. In one department it was called a truck driving engineer and in another department that same truck driver was just called a truck driving laborer or something. It was the same thing. So we’ve reduced the number of job descriptions in the county and those need to be made uniform and brought up to date. So that’s another thing that we’re working on.

The question came up about retirees retaining years of service. And this is another thing that we’re in discussion on. But let’s say you retire from Anderson County and you’re off the payroll for 30 days, I think it is, and then you can come back to work. Where do you start? If you come back into the same job, for instance, should you start at the same salary with all the vacation build-up? We’re looking at this and saying, no. If you’re going to retire and come back, you’re going to start off at ground zero and work your way up. That’s one of the -- again, one of the things we’re discussing.

The Personnel Policy Handbook. The one I have is dated 1998 and I think there were maybe some adjustments made in early 2000's. But with all these things that we’re doing here, we need to update the Personnel Policy handbook so that people coming on
board to work for the county will know exactly what they’re getting into.

And a final thing we’re looking at is the possible modification to vacation, sick and compensatory time going into the future. Right now we allow people something like four hundred and sixty hours of vacation build-up time towards retirement that you can get paid out for. Greenville County allows two hundred and forty hours. I think ours was four eighty, maybe, and theirs is two forty. And we’re looking at reducing our down to three sixty. Because what we’re running into is people are not taking their vacation in many cases, which they should. You need that break time, you need to recharge the batteries. But also, all of a sudden, we get hit with big bill because somebody is retiring and they’ve got four hundred and some hours of vacation time and we’ve got to then turn around and find twenty, thirty, forty thousand dollars to pay them out for vacation. So our vacation policy here in the county is extremely lenient. Most organizations around, you get your vacation, if you don’t use it the year that you’re eligible to use it, it’s gone. And you start over again.

So somewhere back in the past, this decision was made. And maybe at that time it was a good thing to do. I don’t know what the economic situation was in Anderson County when this was done. I’m not saying anybody was terrible or did a really nasty thing. It’s just that it may have been the thing to do at that time. But now, we can’t afford it.

So those are some of the things that we’re looking at. We’re going to have more Personnel Committee meetings. And over the next couple of months we hope to have this settled. And we want to hear -- I’m Chairman of the Personnel Committee. I want to hear from employees, too. I want to know what your opinion is.

So with that, Mr. Chair.

TOMMY DUNN: Chairman, I believe ---

TOM ALLEN: Did I miss something?

What, your pay raise?

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Chairman, I believe the Personnel Committee made a recommendation to full Council to implement the pay adjustments effective July 1st and do it half this year and half next year. So we need to make that recommendation.

TOM ALLEN: Oh, yeah.

TOMMY DUNN: So that’s coming from the Personnel Committee doesn’t need a second. Now, open
the floor for discussion.

GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Chair.

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Floyd.

GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. I was there when that -- I was at the meeting when that suggestion was made. It was made quickly. It wasn’t discussed. And then it was voted on by the committee to bring it to the Council. I have a different opinion on that. Our folks have been down so long, without an adequate raise, and this year we’re going to do it. But to give them half of it this year and half of it next year, would be a situation that’s not good.

Next year, you don’t know what’s going to go up higher. This year they could use that money to get ahead a little bit. Pay off some bills a little bit and have a substantial income. Half this year won’t do it. That’s just like giving them what they already -- what you’ve already given them in the past. Wait until next year would call maybe for another impact on that same income. Maybe the insurance will go up again next year. Or maybe gas will go up again next year. And you are depleting the impact of that insurance. I am recommending that we give the employees the pay raise that we said that they deserve all at one time. With a total of seventeen -- with a total of the growth that we expect for this year, I think that is going to be in the millions of dollars that we expect to bring in this year. I think that we could well afford it. Why would we want to give them half of it now and half of it next year when it won’t make the same impact. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: You put that in the form of a motion by amendment, Ms. Floyd?

GRACIE FLOYD: Well, I can. I’ll put that in the form of a motion that we give the employees the full raise this year.

TOMMY DUNN: We have a second?

CRAIG WOOTEN: I second that.

TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Wooten. Now any discussion?

TOM ALLEN: Mr. Chair.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Allen.

TOM ALLEN: I was going to -- Mr. Harmon, is this -- or Rita -- are we as far as the monetary aspect of this goes, are we good with half this year and half next year? Because I know there was a question about trying to find the money to do it all at once.

RITA DAVIS: It would take about approximately two more mil increase to implement all
them at once. ??

TOM ALLEN: Okay. So it would take
another two mil increase if we were to try and do it
all at once. Okay. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Wooten, did you have --
or Ms. Wilson, I’m sorry. Ms. Wilson.

CINDY WILSON: Just a quick point that I
need a little clarification on. We also had some
employees that had been paid for a number years far
higher than ---

TOMMY DUNN: That’s not in this.

CINDY WILSON: That’s not in this. Okay.

Thank you.

GRACIE FLOYD: I have a question.

TOMMY DUNN: Wait a minute, Ms. Floyd.

Anybody else got anything this go around here? Mr.

Wooten.

CRAIG WOOTEN: I guess my question is, and
this is where I do agree with Ms. Floyd. You know, we
did a market study to say, you know, what in the
market is the value of these people’s jobs. And I see
where it would be frustrating to say, you know, your
market value is this, and we’re going to pay it for
you twenty-four months from now, or twelve months from
now. If that’s what they’re worth and that’s the job
they’re doing, you know, if we do need to spread it
over two years, I think, you know, it would behoove us
to look at, you know, will we go back and pay them for
what they’re worth? I understand the budget
constraints on it, but I also understand, you know,
there’s a real life aspect to somebody who’s working
and if they felt like they haven’t been paid market
pay or had cost of living adjustments in ten years,
that can be awfully frustrating.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Wooten. We
have had some adjustments over the last few years. In
fact, last year. But when we started down this road
with this process and hired this company, we said that
even the company come in, we couldn’t afford all this
in one year. We just simply can’t. Doing the best we
can trying to get caught up. And we said do it in a
two year -- looking at all, with the study group and
Ms. Davis and her staff, two years would get us not
behind no more than we be able to do it in two years.

Ms. Floyd, you got a question?

GRACIE FLOYD: Yes, I do. Thank you.

Ms. Davis, would you please come back to the
microphone? I have a question, please. Okay. Ms.

Davis, we talked a lot today and one of the things I
asked you, well, what was the general fund balance for
last year. You told me it was sixty-six million
dollars. My question -- second question was, well,
what do you project the general fund to be this year?
You told me seventy-one million dollars. I asked you
where does the money go, the seventy-one million?
Would you please tell them what you told me where the
money goes?
RITA DAVIS: I think you’re talking
about the total general fund budget?
GRACIE FLOYD: Yeah, the seventy-one
million dollars that you projected that we --
projected that we could end up with.
RITA DAVIS: Yes, ma’am. I think we’re
talking about the general fund. If the changes are
implemented, we’d have a seventy-nine point three
million dollar general fund and we talked about using
over eight million dollars of the fund balance.
However we said that we would have about two point
seven months of general fund balance left at six ???
nineteen if we used every bit of that fund balance,
which we never have historically. We budget it, but
due to constraint and revenue coming in better than
anticipated. So I think that’s what we talked about.
GRACIE FLOYD: You told me that the money
goes to different -- you told me it goes to salaries,
you told me that it goes to insurance, and you told me
-- I wish I had written all that down. But I remember
salaries and insurance.
RITA DAVIS: This is insurance and
retirement ??.
GRACIE FLOYD: Retirement, that’s what you
told me it goes to. But with all of that, seventy-
nine -- I said seventy-one -- but seventy-nine million
dollars, that’s still would not give us enough to
provide the employees, you know, on what they need.
You know, every time somebody comes up and they give
us a scratch of paper, we say, oh, you did a good job;
I pat you on the back and we’re so appreciative of all
the hard work that you do.
TOMMY DUNN: We got time? Over time?
GRACIE FLOYD: I’ll ask for another five
minutes, please.
TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Floyd makes a motion to
extent the time for five more minutes. Have a second?
KEN WATERS: Second.
TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Waters. All in
favor show of hands. All opposed. Show the motion
carries Mr. Waters, Mr. Allen, Ms. Floyd, Mr. Graham
and Mr. Wooten and Ms. Wilson in favor. Mr. Dunn
opposes. Go ahead, Ms. Floyd.
GRACIE FLOYD: Thank you. But when the time comes to show them the money, we can’t do that. I just don’t understand that. And the only thing I’m saying is that let’s not do this to them. Let’s give them what we -- what they need in order for some of them to get off of the poverty role, or the poverty list and let’s give those who deserve a good raise a good raise. Let’s not play this game with our people that work so hard and that we appreciate so much.

Thank you.

RAY GRAHAM: Mr. Chairman.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Graham.

RAY GRAHAM: Ms. Rita, I apologize. Correct me if I’m wrong. In the event we do the full salary adjustment this year, the only way we can do that is by millage increase, regardless of the money that Ms. Floyd is stating that we have.

RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir.

RAY GRAHAM: I mean, that money is spent.

RITA DAVIS: That is what I would recommend to Council.

RAY GRAHAM: With the understanding that if we go into more, we’re going to basically be dipping into the reserve.

RITA DAVIS: Correct.

RAY GRAHAM: And just like at home, you’re basically dipping into what you’ve got sitting there just in case of emergency.

RITA DAVIS: Savings account. That’s correct.

RAY GRAHAM: Exactly. So, in your recommendation, as finance manager, your recommendation would be for us not to do that unless we’re willing to do a millage increase, am I correct?

RITA DAVIS: That’s correct, sir.

RAY GRAHAM: Thank you for your expert opinion on that.

GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Chairman.

TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma’am.

GRACIE FLOYD: You know, folks, we could have had a budge workshop as I requested. This could have been discussed and worked out in a budget workshop. That’s why you have these things. There are -- if the county needed a big old backhoe, they would get together, come up with the money to buy it. I’ve seen it done. But now, all of a sudden, this is going to run us into another -- of course it is, because look at everything else you’ve got in the agenda -- I mean in the budget. And some things I
just found out about yesterday. My fault? Everybody
else’s fault.
But the thing is this, there is a way this could
have been worked out if we had done what some like to
call our due diligence and had the workshop, talked
about the budget, get people in on the budget, talk to
these department heads about the budget. I’ll bet you
money, they would have been willing to cut back
something for us to get the money to pay these people.

CINDY WILSON: May I?
TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma’am.
CINDY WILSON: It needs to be recognized
that with our standing committees that were never
appointed prior to 2009, and the ad hoc committees
cover a world of subject matter. Our county budget is
comprised of so many different components, everything
from personnel to enterprise funds, infrastructure.
It runs the gamut.

We had a budget workshop after we had a chance for
each committee to do their homework. And there was a
lot of study that went on. So I will not complain
about this other than there’s some things I might not
vote for here. But there’s been a lot of homework.
And especially Mr. Allen and Mr. Graham should be
commended for their hard work on the policy and salary
work and the public safety. There’s been so much
that’s been going on. There’s been a lot of study on
the capital projects that need to be done in the
county. We’re very blessed to be able to put up a new
terminal and our -- widen our runway. A lot of folks
don’t realize our airport, for example, is one of the
busiest upstate airports. And we’ve had the benefit
of about six and a half, almost seven million in
grants and we took out about three million in fund
balance to make those accomplishments.
So it’s not like you can go in and sit down for
two or three hours and hammer all of this out at one
time. I do appreciate taking it section by section so
we can fully develop an understanding and get a lot of
questions answered. Thank you.

RAY GRAHAM: Mr. Chairman, if I may.
TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Graham.
RAY GRAHAM: I know we need to move on.
Back to a couple of the comments. We have had
multiple committee meetings that is made public. It
is, I mean, naturally when you’re discussing capital
improvements for the incoming year, actually that’s
considered budget items.

As far as the personnel goes, number one, I am in
a hundred percent support of our personnel in Anderson
County. That is what makes the clock tick. That’s what makes Anderson County what it is. It’s basically the staff that we have working diligently on a daily basis. However, numerous times, and Ms. Rita, she was involved in the personnel meeting, along with some of the other Council members, numerous times we advised department heads, look at your budget, come back with some suggestion on what you can do. I am not a Roads and Bridges expert. I did not state that when I was running for Council. I’m not a finance expert. I’m literally here to hold these people accountable and ensure that we get the biggest bang for the buck. We literally have to take the information that is shared with us. We advise the department heads, cut your positions, cut what your wants are and let’s go with what our needs are. I know I’ve worked first hand with Sheriff McBride. Him and Mark have done numerous cuts to get that in line where we can basically afford to move on with this budget without impacting these same people that works for Anderson County that we’re trying to give a raise for that we’re going to impact them with a tax increase if we’re not careful.

In a nutshell, we have come down to the wire on this. We have met numerous meetings time in and time out and we’re basically where we are today. I would love to say let’s give every one of our employees the raise at once. We cannot afford to do that unless we’re going to do a mill increase. So the question is, do we want to do a millage increase or do we want to do it half this year and half next year.

Yesterday, budget workshop that we were not going to have, but yet we had a budget workshop yesterday. I apologize. When I got home I scratched my head and wondered if we got anything accomplished because I don’t think we did. However, we did do a budget workshop yesterday. Last night I’m sure -- I know several other Council members were up till 12:30, 1 o’clock looking at budgets, trying to take some last minute cuts. Yesterday we was at two mils. I think that we’re less than that today, due to some cuts that’s going to be proposed here shortly. We’ve done the best we can do.

But the question on the personnel is do we want to do a millage increase to pass that salary adjustment all in one year. It’s not whether or not our employees is worth it. It’s whether or not the county can afford it.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Harmon, what’s the time?
LEON HARMON: You're over the five minutes.
TOMMY DUNN: Okay. We'll be voting on ---
GRACIE FLOYD: May I ask for another extension, please. Whether or not I get it. But may I ask for another extension because this is important.
TOMMY DUNN: You can. You can. Ask for it.
GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. I know what that means, but ---
TOMMY DUNN: Yep.
GRACIE FLOYD: --- anyway, I will ask for another extension so we can continue to discuss this ---
TOMMY DUNN: And put time on it.
GRACIE FLOYD: I would like to put ten minutes on it, please.
TOMMY DUNN: Got a motion from Ms. Floyd to extend this ten minutes. We have a second?
GRACIE FLOYD: That's what I thought.
TOMMY DUNN: Have a second? Die for lack of motion. Now we'll vote on Ms. Floyd's motion. All in favor of Ms. Floyd's motion, show of hands.
GRACIE FLOYD: I knew that, y'all.
TOMMY DUNN: All opposed. Show that Ms. Floyd's motion fails in favor Ms. Floyd. Opposed Mr. Waters, Mr. Allen, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Graham, Mr. Wooten and Ms. Wilson.
Now moving on back to the original motion. All in favor of the original motion from the Personnel Committee full Council show hands.
CRAIG WOOTEN: Do you need to repeat it?
TOMMY DUNN: Motion is to implement, as we talked about, staff's recommendation the salary market adjustment effective July 1st, half this year and some it will be a little bit more than half. But the whole big picture of things, half of it this year and half of it next year. All in favor of the motion show hands. All opposed. Show the motion carries with Mr. Waters, Mr. Allen, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Graham, Mr. Wooten, Ms. Wilson in favor and Ms. Floyd opposes.
Moving on now to Item number 7, Report from the Capital Projects Committee. Chairman Graham.
RAY GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
As far as on capital projects requests, basically what we came down to, as far as the committee's recommendation to full Council is -- as far as on the roofs, we're looking at doing the Clyde Stone building, the Meals on Wheels building, which is the
old McCants, that section of the roof over it.
There’s actually about thirty-five to forty thousand
dollars that’s going to be left after these two roofs
are completed and our hopes is to be able to utilize
that money toward the Economic Development Building
roof. That comes with a full recommendation from that
committee that we approve that.

As far as on the recommendations from -- Ms. Rita,
do you want to cover the rest of the capital projects
or do you want -- I know we made some changes today,
but I think all that is still ---

RITA DAVIS: What we talked about today
was -- we’re going to issue a five point three million
dollar lease. That, of course, will come back before
the Council for your approval. And then we are
wanting a one mil increase. And in order to get that
other mil that we’ll need to have a steady uniform
replacement plan for Joseph Stone, our fleet manager,
we have cut some items in the general fund that we
will share with the Council. And then we have about
eight hundred and fifteen thousand of what we call
capital cash, our other equipment. Included in that
are seven new vehicles for the Sheriff’s seven new
officers. We have one for Parks and Rec, we have one
for the new building and grounds. When I say
replacement plan for Mr. Stone, that’s truly
replacement, vehicles and equipment. That five point
three will last him over two years. And by the time
we get to our third year, the property tax revenue
will match that and so you’ll have two million two
hundred and fifty thousand for six years that he can
use for replacement only.

And let’s see, what else do we have in that? We
provided for the debt service. We have one point six
million for the financial management software in
there. Of course, carry over from ??? new courthouse
roof we have to do. We have our three point five
million for the terminal. Two hundred and fifty
thousand like you said for building and grounds roof
and that ????.

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Davis, in a nutshell,
this will be coming out of -- the recommendation
coming from the committee would be sliding two mil
wherever they come from over to Mr. Stone for him to
start a replacement fund.

RITA DAVIS: That’s right. One mil from
general fund, one mil from ---

TOMMY DUNN: That’s right. But it’s two
mils. That’ll be voted on later where it’s coming
from.
RITA DAVIS: That’s right. Any other questions?

RAY GRAHAM: Mr. Chairman, with that being said, as far as in the meeting, there’s been some changes, so with that recommendation, I think we’d need to do a motion and a second.

TOMMY DUNN: I think, if I’m not mistaken, our recommendation was -- that committee was the two mils slide over to --

RAY GRAHAM: To commit that.

TOMMY DUNN: --- and then we will, during the budget process, where that’s coming from. We’re just committing two mils for our capital projects. That was the recommendation. Not so much less item by item where that would be spent on. That would have to come back before full Council as it’s been done anyway.

CINDY WILSON: The capital project and the other things that have been discussed that was going to represent a two mil increase as of our budget meeting yesterday. And what you’ll propose during our budget discussion will reduce it by one mil?

TOMMY DUNN: I think the staff -- in talking to staff today, Ms. Wilson, that’s exactly right.

CINDY WILSON: Okay.

TOMMY DUNN: Regardless of whatever, this is the recommendation to get that capital projects thing going sliding two mils. He has no millage now, it’s to put two mils over there for him to get it.

CINDY WILSON: All right. So do we vote on the capital projects list now or do we wait until the budget process at third reading to reduce some of that.

TOMMY DUNN: Vote on it now. If you don’t like it when the budget, we won’t vote -- you know budget what you call it, make changes during the budget process.

CINDY WILSON: Okay.

GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Chair, have you put this on the floor for discussion, yet? I don’t think that you have put it ---

TOMMY DUNN: No, I haven’t.

GRACIE FLOYD: I didn’t think you had.

TOMMY DUNN: Trying to get some clarification here for them. They have a right -- that’s why I’m giving a little latitude to get some clarification. Mr. Graham still has the floor.

RAY GRAHAM: Mr. Chairman, with that
being said, the committee did recommend that we did
follow through with the capital and ensuring that
Stone and them would have the funding for the plan
that he had in place for the vehicles. And the
committee did vote on that for a hundred percent
support to bring forth or forward to full Council with
their recommendation.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Now discussion.
Ms. Floyd.

GRACIE FLOYD: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.
Chairman. Folks, I owe you an apology. I owe my
constituency an apology. Because I did not know about
this two mil increase until yesterday. You didn’t
know about it until today. So from my point of it, I
owe you an apology.

And let me tell you why. I have been so busy with
the budget trying to fight for information, I don’t
hear everything everybody else hears. I have been
busy with the budget trying to get some money in there
for the Y who will work with any and every child in
Anderson County. I have been so busy trying to get
some money in the rec fund -- in our rec account
because we don’t have enough money anymore to go
around. The population is now a hundred and ninety-
eight thousand people and you can double that with
children. We have more organizations now working with
children. We need a bigger recreation fund. I have
been so busy working trying to get the employees what
they needed. I had a meeting with Ms. -- I sat at a
meeting with our financial advisor, our financial
person. We went over this list. She said, oh, yeah,
these are all our capital projects here. Not one time
was it said we’re getting the increase -- we’re asking
for an increase in millage. It was never said.

I call our Administrator every chance I get and I
always say, is there anything I need to be aware of
that’s happening in the county? No, everything’s
quiet. Nothing has been said to me about a tax mil
increase. I asked our county person, our Council, to
please let’s have a budget workshop. And if we had a
budget workshop yesterday, then it was illegal because
once you vote not to do something, you can’t go back --
Chairman can’t go back and say, oh yeah, we’re going
to do it. So that was -- if that was a budget
workshop yesterday then it was an illegal meeting.

But never did anybody in this whole place, I’m
just as guilty, saw anything in there about the
millage being increased.

Now I would have tried to support that because I
know how important it is. I know what Stone has to do
as far as keeping us on the road, all the vehicles on
the road. I know that over six years this could be
something that could really have helped us. But darn
it, I would have liked to have had the opportunity to
discuss other ways this may or could have been done.
I would not -- I would have liked to not be shut out.
This man said all you have to do is come to the
meeting. Well, darn it, that means I will be going to
a meeting every day of my life, two and three
meetings. He only has to go -- well, he’s over every
thing. He would be there a lot, but not as many -- as
much as I would have had to be there to attend all the
meetings I need to go to. I asked for a budget
workshop. They wouldn’t even do that. What were they
hiding? The two point mil -- two mil increase? Did
you hear about it until today? No. You didn’t know
about it until Anderson Independent printed it this
morning. I knew yesterday. Is that why we couldn’t
have a budget workshop? Thank you.

RAY GRAHAM:       Mr. Chairman.
TOMMY DUNN:       Yes, sir.
RAY GRAHAM:       I want to clarify the
committee’s recommendation due to it being some
misunderstanding apparently. The two mils that we are
recommended is basically allotting Stone the
opportunity to do -- to basically follow through with
the plan, along with the other capital improvements
requests. We are not recommending that we increase
any millage from the committee.

TOMMY DUNN:       That’s right.
RAY GRAHAM:       So I just wanted to clarify
that.
TOMMY DUNN:       All in favor of the motion
from the committee show of hands. All opposed like
sign. Show the motion carries Mr. Waters, Mr. Allen,
Mr. Dunn, Mr. Graham, Mr. Wooten, Ms. Wilson in favor
and Ms. Floyd opposes.
Moving on to Item number 8, Budget Concerns. Ms.
Floyd.

GRACIE FLOYD:     Okay. Again, I asked for a
budget workshop. Not only for me, but for you, too.
There are some people out there that would have
appreciated knowing what’s going on with the Council,
what’s happening.
It was said something about the previous Council.
We had a budget workshop every year. Some of you may
have remembered going to the Museum because we had
them there. We had a budget workshop every year. And
every year, you knew what was going to be in your
budget, what you’re going to be paying taxes on before
it hits the newspaper. I’m not saying that was good, I’m not saying it was bad. I’m not talking about which one had it and which one didn’t. I’m talking about being fair. Being -- giving the taxpayers what they are supposed to get. They are supposed to know what is going on in the budget. It’s their money. They’re supposed to be at the table when we are discussing these things. They’re supposed to have time to go to a public hearing. You had a public hearing -- it was the craziest thing I ever heard. We had a public hearing here when nobody knew anything at all about the budget. We didn’t know anything about the budget. But we had a public hearing. What were you supposed to say? They didn’t give you the opportunity to say anything. Why? Why folks? Why aren’t you here at these meetings? Why don’t you ask your council people what’s going on? How come we don’t know anything? Anderson County, wake up. It’s not supposed to be like this. The two part -- that two mil tax increase, I don’t care what you try to shoot it up to be. I don’t care what you try to fix it up to be. You’re going to get a two mil tax increase to pay for what we need. Two mils.

Folks, you need to take your matters in your hands. These people aren’t -- they don’t lord over you. They’re supposed to do what you ask them to do. Are they doing that? Are you satisfied? Are you satisfied? I don’t see how you can be. I wouldn’t be. And not because I’m sitting up here. I wouldn’t be because I don’t have a voice. I represent twenty-two plus thousand people, but I don’t have a voice.

I went to the capital project meeting. The capital meeting. You should have been there. You should have been there. The question was asked, how do you think we ought to pay the salary? Half now, half later? All at once? You knew it was discussed because the hands flew up. I think that we ought to go ahead and pay it one year and then the next year. No discussion. No thinking went into it, just hands straight up. Loud and clear. Wasn’t any discussion. Is this what you go to the polls and vote for? Is this what you want your County Council who represent you to do? That’s not fair. Now you may have some issues with me. I’ve got some issues with me, too.

But the thing is, right is right. Wrong is wrong. We’ve got to get it together, folks, we’ve got to get it together.

I have something else I’m researching, but I won’t go into it at this time. But as far as the other day, I was talking about in this budget whatever it was, if
it was a meeting, then I’m going to file a complaint because Mr. Lawyer, it was an illegal meeting. We voted against it. And once you vote against something, you can’t just go ahead and say, we’re going to do it anyway.

But anyway, I mentioned that we needed to have five thousand more for our recreational account. Somebody set here and added it all up. That’ll be forty thousand dollars. Yeah, what’s forty thousand compared to everything else and those two tax mils I keep hearing about. But what happened was my fault. I saw it on there. But I didn’t question it. Next time I won’t be so -- what’s the word? I won’t be so trusting. I’ll question everything. Even the comma and period.

It was the finance department’s fault for not bringing that up. It was the Council’s fault. It was the Administration fault. Because when I asked him what’s happening in the county? Is there anything that I need to be aware of? And he tells me no. It was the Council’s fault. I asked for a workshop. No. And it’s your fault because you sit there meeting after meeting and you come and you don’t say nothing.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

TOMMY DUNN: Moving on now to Item number 9, Ordinance Third Reading, 2018-012 an ordinance to amend an agreement for the development of a Joint County Industrial and Business Park (2010 Park) of Anderson and Greenville Counties so as to enlarge the park.

Be a public hearing. Anyone wishing to speak to this matter, please step forward and state your name and district and address the Chair. Anyone at all? Seeing and hearing none, public hearing will be closed. We have a motion to move this forward on third reading?

CINDY WILSON: So moved.

KEN WATERS: So moved.

TOMMY DUNN: Motion Mr. Waters, second Ms. Wilson. Any discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously.

Moving on to Item number (b) 2018-016 an ordinance to adopt the operating and capital budgets of Anderson County for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2019. Before we go into public hearing I want to ask Ms. Davis if you would come, Ms. Davis, and bring up recommendations.

RITA DAVIS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

After much discussion and budgets workshops and input
from Council, we're pleased to present the budget for your consideration. The general fund, as we stated, will be about seventy-nine point three million. Total budget will be south of almost two hundred and ???. Of course, keep in mind that's a lot of grant money involved. Your sewer, solid waste, all funds, as has been pointed out. And we did have, you know, those changes that we need to advise Council before you vote.


RITA DAVIS: Yes.

TOMMY DUNN: We got them. Staff got --

I mean has Council got them?

RITA DAVIS: No, sir.

TOMMY DUNN: Give it to Council.

GRACIE FLOYD: Ms. Davis, does this also contain ???

RITA DAVIS: Yes, ma'am. It's on that one. That's why I'm handing this one out.

GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: As Council looks over this, we're going into a public hearing now for anyone wishing to speak on the budget. Please step forward and state your name and district and address the Chair. Anyone at all? Seeing and hearing none, public hearing will be closed. Do we have a motion to get this on the floor so we can discuss it?

KEN WATERS: So moved.

TOMMY DUNN: Motion Mr. Waters.

TOM ALLEN: Second.

TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Allen. Now, discussion.

Ms. Davis, will you go over first and foremost, led you to get this to the changes that you come up with today that Council is just now seeing on these cuts.

RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir. Be happy to.

That second sheet I handed out, it has the recommendation from yesterday's budget workshop to add five thousand to each district recreation account. There's a consensus that we want to call that special projects. That's on page 2 at the top. And that would be lines 32 to 41 and the next two items. So that would add five thousand dollars. Keep in mind you typically get thirty now and then so that will be thirty-five thousand annually for each Council member.

There also was talk about not decreasing the Y.

So on page 2 still, we have added on -- you'll see
line 47 out to the left, we’ve added five thousand back to the Y. However, we have taken it out of twenty-five hundred out of District 1’s rec and twenty-five hundred out of District 5 to basically offset that five thousand dollar additional.

CINDY WILSON: May I make a suggestion?
TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma’am.
CINDY WILSON: On the recreation account, it might work better if any District that has less than a thousand dollars in balance carry forward, they should get the five thousand dollars. And those that have a larger amount carry forward would not need it since they’ve not used that money.

TOMMY DUNN: Perfectly in your right to make a motion to do that, Ms. Wilson.
CINDY WILSON: I’ll make the motion.
TOMMY DUNN: Would you state it again, for the -- so everybody get it.
CINDY WILSON: Any district that has less than a thousand dollars carry forward unspent in this budget year, they would get the five thousand dollars. But anyone who had above a thousand dollars to carry forward, they would not need it because they have unspent funds.

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Wilson puts that in the form of a motion? We have a second? Have a second? Dies for lack of a second, Ms. Wilson.

Now, Ms. Davis, anything?
RITA DAVIS: Yes, sir. That second sheet I handed out, everything else is exactly as we discussed yesterday that Council has seen. The only thing I added the five thousand to the Y, five thousand to each district rec.

GRACIE FLOYD: I have a question, please.
TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Floyd.
GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. Ms. Davis.
RITA DAVIS: Yes, ma’am.
GRACIE FLOYD: The two thousand dollars -- the two -- how much came out of District 1's account, rec account?
RITA DAVIS: Twenty-five hundred.
GRACIE FLOYD: And the other twenty-five hundred came from where?
RITA DAVIS: District 5's recreation -- or special projects account.
GRACIE FLOYD: Okay, okay. I think, I think we need to take a look at that. Let me explain. The Y needs funds. Every year we give the Y money to help with the children. Okay. A Council member suggested that we don’t give the Y anything this year.
The Council member suggested he will out of his rec fund give the Y money. And what he was going to give, I was told, three thousand dollars. I asked that they put the Y back in the budget, the five thousand dollars. And I said, we can still give money out of our rec account to the Y which will increase the amount they get. I give the Y ten thousand dollars every year. Okay. But what they did was they took money out of District 1's rec and District 2's rec which may it five thousand dollars, which is the same thing.

TOMMY DUNN: No, ma’am. Correction.
Out of District 5.

RITA DAVIS: District 5; not 2.
GRACIE FLOYD: No, 2 wouldn’t do that.

But District 5. Which is the same thing. The money is still not coming out of the general fund. The Y could have had a total of ten thousand dollars if they would just leave it in the budget. When you take money out the district -- out of your rec account and give it to the Y, you should be doing that anyway because it is a recreational fund. (BREAK IN AUDIO). Take the Y completely out of the budget and you put the money in there for them, you’re cheating. You’re cheating the Y out of funds. And let me tell you something, okay, Every year I spend the rec money you give me for my district, I spend it wisely. I’m not broke by -- on the -- by December. I’m not broke. I use that money for children. For old people. For people who need recreational activities for better quality of life. That’s what I use that money. I don’t spend it on the fire department. I don’t spend it on other little nicety things around the county that has nothing to do with recreation. I don’t do that.

So, yes, this year, I transferred ten thousand dollars over, with everything else I did. And I did it because I’ve got a big thing coming up next year. If you had voted to give those who spend their money on everything else because they don’t have but a thousand and cut anybody else out, you see what you would have gotten. Was that fair? Thank you.

RAY GRAHAM: Mr. Chairman.
TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Graham, I just want to clear up one point real quick. The Y’s getting the same amount of money it always gets. It’s coming out of general fund. Me and Mr. Wooten just decided to reduce ours to fund that. That’s all out of that right there. But the Y’s getting their money.

RITA DAVIS: That’s correct.
TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma’am. Mr. Graham.
CINDY WILSON: Quick point.
TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Graham, he was next and then we’ll go to you, Ms. Wilson.
RAY GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
You know, number one, we’re sitting here trying to figure out how we’re going to pay for everything we’ve got associated with this budget and keep the millage as low as possible as far as what we’re going to have to go up on. Number one, the Y is a great program. However, Starr Iva both has rec departments. The city of Belton has a rec department. And that’s where my money from the rec account goes to the students -- the kids in that area. To the senior groups in that area. To the different activities.
Another thing, speaking of the fire department, the fire department in Homeland Park, which is in Ms. Floyd’s district, it’s in Mr. Dunn’s district, and also it’s in my district. They put on an event July the 4th -- it’s not for the firemen. It’s for the community. The rec account is set up to basically benefit the community.
Now whether or not it’s recreation by we bring in families out to celebrate the 4th, enjoy a good time, watch some fireworks, have balloon bounce activities for the kids in the community. Last time I checked, that’s still a rec program. Now whether or not a Council member decides to give that money toward that, that’s their prerogative. But I mean, in the same respect, the account goes back. And from day one since I got on Council, I’ve questioned why do we call it a rec account anyway? Because technically it’s a slush fund. It’s a fund -- I’ve got the floor -- technically it is a fund for the Council members to be able to share some money throughout their district. The key there, is that money is coming from the citizens in that district through a tax base. Okay. So we’re basically nothing more than having hands pass through. Some districts have more activities as far as rec programs. Just right off the top I give five thousand dollars to each one of my rec programs before I do anything. Again, that’s my choice on how I do that.
People criticizes every meeting seems like on how we spend this money. When in the same respect, road paving is not meant to give to the Free Clinic either. And there was money taken from a basketball court in Homeland Park and re-aligned and given to the Free Clinic. I love the Free Clinic. I think it’s a great program. It’s very easy for us to sit up here and
designate money to these volunteer organizations,
these non-profit organizations, when guess what. The
money is not ours. We’re doing tax paying dollars.
If your heart is so much into helping these
volunteer organizations, which it should be, then
share that money with your own checkbook, not with
someone else’s dollars. I question sometime whether
or not we should even have this rec account. We need
to have a rec program for Anderson County for these
kids to give them something to do in the summer time
when they get out of school when they get out -- the
smaller kids before they get into the programs at
these school districts, as far as the middle school,
the high school. We need to have rec programs for
them. It needs to be across the board for Anderson
County, not for certain areas. The Y is a great
program. The Free Clinic is a great program. Let
none of this conversation put down any of the programs
we support.
But at the end of the day we’re responsible for
what we’re doing with our tax dollars. We’re still
questioning on whether or not we’re going to go up a
millage or two millage or whatever. We just voted not
to do but half of the pay salary. And the reason why
is because we didn’t want to go up on millage. So I
scratch my head and say, well, should we go up on a
millage to cover some of this other stuff? When yet,
we’re setting here trying to determine whether or not
we’re going to go up five thousand dollars apiece for
the rec accounts that I disagree completely with.
Could we use it? Absolutely. I ran out of my money
this past year because I gave it back to my
communities. But giving us five thousand more dollars
when we’re putting it back on the taxpayers that we’re
literally talking about having to go up a millage on.
Is that being conservative? Is that being efficient
with our money? Absolutely not.
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Wilson.

CINDY WILSON: Very quickly. While the Y
and all these other programs are awesome and they do a
lot of good, it must be pointed out as commendable
that several districts are using their rec funds to
help the indigent children have an opportunity at the
Y. But a lot of people pay -- I know I had to pay for
my child ninety dollars a month. So it’s not free.
And I hope we’ll get back on course here now. I
don’t think it’s appropriate to have another five
thousand dollar in funds, though my district could
certainly use it. I think our primary mission --
isn’t it roads, infrastructure, public safety? I think we’re getting off course here. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: I make the motion that we adopt this sheet that Ms. Davis give us, including -- this is the one with all the changes we went over yesterday, excluding the five thousand dollars increase on the rec thing. That’ll be voted on separately.

RITA DAVIS: Okay.

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Wilson seconds. Any discussion on my amendment? All in favor of motion show hands. All opposed. Show the motion carries with Mr. Waters, Mr. Allen, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Graham --

RAY GRAHAM: No.


Now, make a motion to increase the recreation account or the special purpose district five thousand dollars. Put that in the form of a motion. I pulled that out so it’s on the table, so we need to vote on it and dispose of it. I make the motion one way or the other we need to get this settled. Add the five thousand dollars to the -- increasing the rec account. Put that in the form of a motion.

GRACIE FLOYD: May I ask a question?

TOMMY DUNN: Get a second first, then we’ll go to questions. Get a second? Second Mr. Allen. Now Ms. Floyd.

GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. Mr. Harmon, tell me about the rec fund account. What does our code of ordinances say about the rec account?

LEON HARMON: Well, our code says, it calls it a procedure for recreation fund appropriations. That’s in section 2-6.

GRACIE FLOYD: I don’t understand. I can’t hear you well, I really don’t -- I really can’t.

LEON HARMON: Our code section on recreation, on the recreation fund is code section 2-6. It’s entitled Procedure for Recreation Fund Appropriations. We do not have a definition in that section of what constitutes recreation. But we do have a procedure that’s set out in some detail about how the funds are allocated, that they go to a non-profit status entity that makes the request. Then we have a procedure whereby the Clerk to Council gets receipts for those funds to ensure that they are spent in the way that the Council appropriates the funds. That’s a brief outline of that section of the code.

GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. But does the code
say anything about -- I think that you mentioned this
one time. Does the code say anything about the
recreation fund should be spent on recreation
purposes?
LEON HARMON: No. It just talks about
any entity requesting an appropriation of recreation
funds from any County Council district shall make a
written application. That -- and then it goes on the
way I outlined.
GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. All right. But I
guess the code assumes that we should know what
recreation is. We know riding a horse is recreation
-- is recreation account. But buying a fire truck is
not a recreation account. We should know that some
other things I just don’t want to call any names right
now. But we should know that other things that we
give money to are not recreation account. It could
have been recreation at the beginning but when it
ended up it wasn’t recreation. We should know that.
I think that you said one time that you had a
problem with that and that you were going to find some
directions on the recreation account. Now you can
call it a slush fund, some of it is being used as a
slush fund, but District 2 doesn’t use it as a slush
fund. It’s money that I need for my kids in District
2. My kids, the green ones, the yellow ones, the
white ones, black ones and the blue ones. Money that
I need for my kids in my district to provide them
recreational opportunities that they would not
ordinarily get. You call yours a slush fund. I call
mine recreational fund. And I’m prepared to vote on
it.
TOMMY DUNN: Any more discussion?
Motion is vote on increasing recreation fund five
thousand dollars or not. All in favor of increasing
it five thousand dollars show hands.
GRACIE FLOYD: I’m not surprised.
TOMMY DUNN: All opposed. Show the
motion is defeated and Ms. Floyd was in favor.
Opposed is Mr. Waters, Mr. Allen, Mr. Dunn, Mr.
Graham, Mr. Wooten, and Ms. Wilson.
I make the motion to amend the budget with this
second sheet that Ms. Davis has passed out to us on
cuts. And in voting for this and voting for the
budget, what this is entails, only thing will be a one
mil tax increase. No ifs, ands or buts about it.
GRACIE FLOYD: What did you say about the
one mil tax increase? I’m sorry.
TOMMY DUNN: If you vote on the budget,
with these changes, it will be a one mil -- it will
equate to a one mil tax increase, Ms. Floyd.

GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. So that means taxes will go up.

TOMMY DUNN: That’s right, one mil. Understand?

GRACIE FLOYD: Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: You’re more than welcome.

Ms. Wilson. I thought you asked for the floor. I’m sorry.

CINDY WILSON: I just wanted to make a few comments.

TOMMY DUNN: Go ahead.

CINDY WILSON: This has been a tough budget because we’ve had the health insurance and the salary adjustments and all to make. And it’s very important, we’ve been able to take -- the federal grant at the airport was curtailed to a hundred feet wide so we had to dip into our fund balance to go a hundred and fifty feet wide to keep the airport going. And we were blessed with funding for a new airport terminal, so we did dip into fund balance to make those accomplishments.

This budget has the five hundred thousand plus financial accounting software that we’ve desperately needed for a number of years. The vehicle replacement program through a five point three million capital lease deal will be helpful. I choked when I read it, but I think it will finally make more uniform the annual replacement needs instead of having to cough up hundreds of thousands unexpectedly. We’ve been kind of kiting checks on that one. The pay raises for many underpaid employees will finally be accomplished. It’s staggered over two fiscal years, which if you think about it in calendar years, it’s less than that. There’s been increases in retirement costs. We’ve had an incredible increase in health insurance costs. Mr. Allen and others have been touring other counties trying to come up with ways to make our health insurance work better for our employees and hopefully not cost quite as much. We, in our county, actually give the best benefit package of anyone around. I think Arthrex, a private industry coming in, will be the only one that supersedes us in that department.

Our increase in debt service, the seventeen million dollar special source revenue bond goes to sewer upgrades, building out lines that need to be put into place very badly and replacing lines. We finally have some paving money. We had zero in our current budget year for paving. Zero. I don’t think you have to look very far to see streets and roads that
desperately need attention. Mr. Burns indicated to us that the transportation committee is going to add this year one point nine million towards road needs and we have a million and a half in our budget for roads. So that will give us three point four million for roads which we haven’t had in about I guess two or three years now. It’s a drop in the bucket. We still have a long ways to go.

We’re doing this mostly through a five million dollar roughly increase in the value of the mil in our county and using about eight point three million dollars of fund balance. I still think we could have squeezed some dimes and dollars a little bit tighter so that we wouldn’t have to do a one mil increase, but at least we’re down to something that’s workable. And yes, we have had to absorb a lot of needs that were not done for decades because of priorities not being what they are now. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Anyone else?

CRAIG WOOTEN: I guess from the standpoint of clarification. I initially said that I would take care of out of my rec account more for the YMCA in an effort to cut thirty-four hundred dollars out of the general fund. I regret that that caused so much consternation, because it was just an attempt to help because I’m a big fan of the Y. I wanted to do more. So however that shakes out is okay with me.

From my standpoint in looking at the budget, one of the things that concerns me, and I don’t want to oversimplify the budget because it’s a large one and there’s a lot going on with it. But you know, I was at QT on the way over here and there’s two officers in there and they were talking about the training that they were starting this summer for school safety. And for someone with young kids and this environment that we find ourselves in in the country, I don’t believe it’s the school district’s sole responsibility for school safety. I think it’s county, I think it’s city, I think it’s all hands on deck. We’ve got to do whatever we can to help with school safety. And that’s one thing I am encouraged that this budget includes. It’s going to be helping the Sheriff’s department who has come to us and said we’ve got to plan for this. And I want to make sure that’s in there. That’s very important to me.

I agreed with Ms. Floyd that if I was a worker, I wouldn’t want my pay raise over two years, I’d want it
now. But the reason I went and voted with the rest of
the Council is because our finance lady said we’d have
to do two more mils to increase it and I don’t think
that’s possible tonight. I don’t think we have the
votes to do that tonight. If they can find a way to
do it without the two mil increase, I’ll be number one
for it because I know money means something to people
and people work hard for it and they deserve to be
appropriately compensated. So if two years is the
best we can do, it’s the best we can do and I regret
that I can’t do it in one year.

But for me, tonight, if we’re making our best
effort to take care of our people, and I think we are,
I’ll be the first one to try to find another way to
take care of them faster. And this school safety
thing for me is got to be a priority in the forefront,
and if this millage increase helps the school safety,
then I think it’s something that’s the right thing to
do and that we’re obligated to do.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Wooten.
RAY GRAHAM: Mr. Chairman.
TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Graham.
RAY GRAHAM: I just wanted a couple of
comments as well towards the budget. First and
foremost, Ms. Rita and your staff, I greatly
appreciate all the hard work and the many, many
questions that you answered on my behalf and I’m sure
the other Council members are as well. We definitely
appreciate you guys putting this budget together,
bring it before us.

Just a couple of things on the budget. I am not
for a tax increase. That should be the last thing we
do and that’s part of the reason, I guess on the rec
account prime example, as Council members I think it’s
our duty not to increase something that we do have
control over when we’re fixing to have to go up on a
millage. So I mean, that’s the very reason I
supported not doing that. I think it’d be great to
have five thousand more dollars in my budget as far as
for my district for the rec account. It’s not
feasible this year. Especially when we’re turning
down an opportunity of giving our employees a full
salary adjustment that they so much deserve and we’re
only doing it half this year and half next year.

The other thing on that, something I want the
employees to realize, that adjustment has nothing to
do with the cost of living raise that you would
receive next year or nothing like that. That
adjustment is in place and it’s strictly based on the
study that was presented to us from the group that we
hired for that. So even though you’re going to get an increase this year and an increase next year, you know, next year, there might be a cost of living involved in it. That has no -- that’s two separate functions on that. So I want you to understand that. That’s something that’s already entitled to you. We just cannot afford to do it at one time. It’s just that simple. Without doing a millage increase. And while Anderson County is doing great right now with economic development, jobs, people’s getting on their feet that has good paying jobs that literally lifestyle, changing their families ability to provide for themselves. So I mean we’re having major impacts across Anderson County. We can’t slap a continued tax burden on them.

The other thing, it’s very important as far as the SROs for the school districts and for everyone to realize just like Councilman Wooten stated, the SROs is being paid for by the school district. However, we are still responsible for paying for their vehicles, paying for their equipment that they’re having to have. So that’s an added cost to the Sheriff’s department. Again, I’m going to toot Sheriff McBride and Mark’s horn again. I mean, you guys have done great by trying to curb y’all costs in and reel some of your expenses in. But as Council, we feel it is very important that we support this project. Can we afford to put the SRO in there at no cost to the school district? Absolutely not. But we can partner with the school districts, which is what the Sheriff’s department has done, to ensure our children are safe in Anderson County. Guys, we’ve done had the wake up call. It’s happened here in Anderson. We have no choice. And you look at the different factors that -- across the board with this budget, we have no option but to go up a mil to sustain this and continue moving Anderson County forward.

Mr. Chairman, thank you for your time.

GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Chairman.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Ms. Floyd.

GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. First of all, I think that we could have made other decisions. I think that when we refused to have a budget workshop that we hurt ourselves. When we refused to get together to work things out as a team, as a committee, everybody up here except me voted against a budget workshop. I want you to take the time to ask them why. What was the harm in having a budget workshop? I honestly believe that if we had gotten a chance to get together we could work out -- we could have worked
out a way where we could have gotten the salaries this year. I feel honest down to my soul, to my nineteen years experience, I feel that we wouldn’t have had to have this millage increase. We would have worked it out. I’ve seen it done, had it done, did it. So I know what I’m talking about. It didn’t have to be this way. With the help of our department heads, our Administrator and the other members with some sort of -- well, I won’t go there -- but I know we could have done it. I have that much faith in this system, rather than the first thing you do, you raise the taxes. You cut this out, you don’t do that. It could have worked. We have always been responsible for seeing that the law enforcement have what they need. There have not been a day on Council, a year on Council, that we didn’t see -- we didn’t give the law enforcement officers what they need. When they needed extra help, we gave them their own millage. When they needed more money, we gave them the extra money that they needed. There have never been a time. So it’s not like, oh, this is brand new, this is something that we’re just starting; didn’t know. We have always done that.

I feel that we’re not working together. In fact, I don’t think I have ever been a part of this Council since they came on in 2008 because they came on with a vengeance, especially against me because I was left over from the old school. But that was all right, too. I am here. I am here. I cannot be bullied, I cannot be turned around, and I won’t let you block me. You can tell me I’m wrong and I will listen to you. You can’t hurt me. I’m a child of God. He put me here.

I think that we’re putting a lot of excuses on now. We could have, we wish, we did -- no, no. The five thousand dollars for the recreation fund. We haven’t had an increase since 19 -- in the late 1980’s. We have not had an increase in the rec fund. But yet, the population goes up, the children come more, we bring in more people, we bring in more children. We don’t have a recreational program. I say, take all the money and let’s do a recreational program for Anderson County that’s going to benefit all children. That’s what I say. But they haven’t done it, they won’t do it.

I have one other thing that I want to say, but I need to ask a question first.

TOMMY DUNN: Go ahead.

GRACIE FLOYD: Are we going to go into Executive Session?
TOMMY DUNN: It’s on the agenda, right there, Ms. Floyd. Executive Session, Item number 13.

GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. In that Executive Session, are you going to talk about the pay raise?

TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma’am.

GRACIE FLOYD: Are we going to vote on the budget before we go into the Executive Session?

TOMMY DUNN: We’re fixing to vote on the budget, Ms. Floyd.

GRACIE FLOYD: I beg your pardon.

TOMMY DUNN: We’re fixing to vote on the budget. It’s on the floor right now. That’s what you’re supposed to be talking about.

GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. Then let me talk about this. They’re going to vote on tonight. There are twenty people in Anderson County that are making more money than they are supposed to make. They are above their pay grade. They are above their pay level, what they’re supposed to be making. They’re not at the bottom. Wherever they’re supposed to be, they are above that. Folks, tonight, they’re going to get -- they have voted already in committee to bring it to you that they’re going to raise those people a thousand dollars. Each one of those people that are making more money that’s above their pay raise, are going to get an increase of a thousand dollars. I have begged for an increase of money for those who are working but are still on the poverty level. They said no, they’re going to give them three thousand dollars but still they will still be on the poverty level. But those who are making more money than they’re supposed to make are going to get another thousand dollar raise. Oh yes. Yes.

I’m not a mean person. I just believe in justice -- liberty, justice and fairness for all. Thank you.

CINDY WILSON: Mr. Chairman, may I make a quick comment?

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Wilson.

CINDY WILSON: I’m one of the holdovers from 2008. Secondly, District 2 has almost ten thousand dollars to carry forward on recreation.

GRACIE FLOYD: Sure do.

CINDY WILSON: The other thing, just for clarification sake, the updated budget that we were provided yesterday indicated an increase of the two mils. So instead of eighty-three point seven mils, which is two mils above the eighty-one point seven, we’re now looking at eighty-two point seven. That’s correct, right?

TOMMY DUNN: Correct.
CINDY WILSON: The other item, how do we delineate out the one time payments to the employees who have been overpaid all these years? I just don’t think that I can support that.

TOMMY DUNN: You can ask to pull it out. Or make a motion to pull it out, Ms. Wilson, and vote on it separately. And I just want -- that’s your prerogative.

CINDY WILSON: Okay. May I make that motion at this point?

LEON HARMON: Mr. Chairman, you’ve got one amendment on the floor.

TOMMY DUNN: That’s right, we got one amendment -- this -- Well, she can add to this amendment because that’s where this money is in this amendment.

LEON HARMON: Yes.

TOMMY DUNN: So she can pull that out.

CINDY WILSON: Okay. I would like to make the motion that those employees that were determined to have been overpaid for many years, as it appears, and they’re certainly valuable people, but it doesn’t seem appropriate when they’ve been paid more all these years, it’s really not good for morale, from my perspective, and I’ve heard that from some other county employees, too. I think at this point that should be set aside. I don’t think we need to do that. So I would make the motion that those employees who’ve been overpaid that were delineated in the Segal Waters report continue on as they are but not get the extra payment.


CRAIG WOOTEN: What’s the rational for that from the Personnel Committee?

TOMMY DUNN: Well, I think and I’ll let them each one of them talk. I think the thing is because it’s a little bit overstatement. It ain’t employees being grossly overpaid years to come. One of them hasn’t been working with the county but a couple of years. He was hired -- took a deduction in salary to come to work for the county. Very valuable service of it and for the morale ought to get something. That was the -- everybody ought to get something. And there was several of them on that way. I guess this thing started out at 20; it’s down to 7. So it’s not 20, it’s 7.

CRAIG WOOTEN: So it’s 7. Okay.

TOMMY DUNN: But if it can be 7, you
know, 7. Right, Ms. Davis? Seven?
RITA DAVIS: That’s right.
TOMMY DUNN: And it’s a one time thing.
It’s not a pay raise, it’s a bonus. But it’s one
time. And that’s what it’s for.
RITA DAVIS: And excluding elected ---
TOMMY DUNN: Several employees, you
know, it’s just like the one position, I would argue
with that study all day long. If they don’t -- if
this person is value to the county and the training he
received, and has probably saved us millions of
dollars in the county and got us many dollars. That’s
where some of this is coming up. And that’s just one
of the seven.
CRAIG WOOTEN: Okay.
CINDY WILSON: Well, you know, that’s what
makes a study like this one difficult to decipher
because we have certain needs that certain employees
meet that are very valuable, more so perhaps than --
and it needs to be acknowledged that way. So that --
I’m trying to think how to describe it, but that makes
it very difficult for those of us on Council to pass
muster on that because it’s a blanket type exercise
and that’s not really right either. All right. So
we’ve gotten it down from 20 to 7?
TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma’am.
CINDY WILSON: Okay. I was not aware of
that.
GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Chair.
TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma’am.
GRACIE FLOYD: I think you need a little
more information. It was 20 at one time, but they
went over the list again and they found out that a lot
of people on that list were -- Ms. Davis, I’m going to
let you tell it, please.
TOMMY DUNN: I’m sorry, it’s six. Six.
GRACIE FLOYD: Well, Ms. Davis told me
that the list went down because they had some police
officers on there. They had some state people on
there who have to paid what the state say they had to
be paid. And they had -- but they whittled it down
from 20 people to 7 people.
TOMMY DUNN: Six.
RITA DAVIS: And we excluded elected and
appointed.
GRACIE FLOYD: Now how did it get from
seven to six?
RITA DAVIS: Maybe I counted
inappropriately, ma’am.
GRACIE FLOYD: But you showed me seven.
TOMMY DUNN: No, ma’am. I’ve got the list.

RITA DAVIS: I don’t have the list before me, ma’am. But it was six or seven.

GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. But the day you gave me the list there was seven people on that list, but I concede. I won’t argue the point until I have the list in front of me. But anyway, that’s how it got down from 20 to whatever.

TOMMY DUNN: Voting on Ms. ---

TOM ALLEN: Mr. Chair.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Allen?

TOM ALLEN: What’s going to happen -- what happens to the other 14 then that were taken off? Are they getting nothing or are they going to go back and get a pay raise?

TOMMY DUNN: I think six or seven of those are state -- they’re magistrate positions. So they’re mandated by the state, what that is. Mixed in the thing to start with.

TOM ALLEN: Okay. So we started with 20. Now there are 6 on the list. The other 14 are ---

RITA DAVIS: Employees of the magistrate and other elected officials.

TOM ALLEN: They’re going to have to be given a pay scale per what the state ---

RITA DAVIS: The magistrate is per state statue, correct.

TOM ALLEN: Okay. That’s what I wanted to know. All right.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. All in favor of Ms. Wilson’s motion to exclude the ones over for the thousand dollar one time bonus. All in favor of Ms. Wilson -- go ahead. Y’all got something to say?

RAY GRAHAM: I do. As far as on these six people, Ms. Wilson, I just want to clarify your motion. Your motion is not to do anything for the employees?

CINDY WILSON: Those who have been perceived to have been overpaid.

TOMMY DUNN: Those six. Ms. Wilson motion, Ms. Floyd second. Any more discussion? So we’re talking about six people not getting a one time bonus of a thousand dollars. All in favor of Ms. Wilson’s motion show of hands. All opposed. Show the motion is defeated, Mr. Allen, Ms. Floyd, Ms. Wilson in favor. Mr. Wooten, Mr. Graham, Mr. Dunn and Mr. Waters opposes.

Now back to the original amendment. All in favor
of it, show of hands?

GRACIE FLOYD: Of it? Would you please

restate the whole thing.

TOMMY DUNN: The second sheet, in favor

of the second sheet of the cuts, bring it down that

Ms. Floyd -- I mean Ms. Davis give us a while ago.

Nope, nope, that was the first sheet. That’s already

been voted on.

RITA DAVIS: That’s right.

CINDY WILSON: Which one is that? Is that

the ---

TOMMY DUNN: The one with the cuts on

it, Ms. Wilson.

CINDY WILSON: Pardon?

TOMMY DUNN: The one with the cuts on

it. The cuts. The deductions, the staff’s

recommendations.

CINDY WILSON: The pluses and minuses.

Okay. This is the minuses?


GRACIE FLOYD: Do you know what he’s

talking about?

TOMMY DUNN: Any more discussion? All

in favor of the amendment show of hands.

GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Chairman, could you

please hold up a minute so we can get this thing

together, find out where they are. We just got this

tonight.

TOMMY DUNN: All in favor of the motion

show of hands. All opposed. Abstentions. Show the

motion carries with Mr. Waters, Mr. Allen, Mr. Dunn,

Mr. Graham, Mr. Wooten, Ms. Wilson in favor and Ms.

Floyd abstains.

GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Chairman, I had to

abstain because I don’t understand this. I didn’t get

this until we got here. We’ve been talking. And I’ve

been ---

TOMMY DUNN: Yes, you have.

GRACIE FLOYD: But I don’t even understand

this so I refuse to vote on something I don’t

understand.

TOMMY DUNN: Now we go back to the

entire budget. All in favor everything together, show

of hands. All opposed. All abstentions. Show the

motion carries Mr. Waters, Mr. Allen, Mr. Dunn, Mr.

Graham, Mr. Wooten in favor, Ms. Floyd opposed, Ms.

Wilson abstains.

Moving on Item number (c) 2018-017 an ordinance

authorizing the execution and delivery of Fee in Lieu

of Tax Agreements by and between Anderson County,
South Carolina and a company or companies known to the County at this time as Project Avocado with respect to certain Economic Development property in the County, whereby such property will be subject to certain payments in Lieu of Taxes. This will be a public hearing. Anyone wishing to speak to this please state your name and district and address the Chair, please. Anyone at all? Seeing and hearing none, public hearing will be closed. Have a motion to move this forward?

CINDY WILSON: So moved.
TOMMY DUNN: Motion Ms. Wilson. We have a second by Mr. Graham. Any discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously.

GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Chair.
TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma’am.
GRACIE FLOYD: I ask for a recess, please.
TOMMY DUNN: Okay. Can we get through this next thing, Ms. Floyd, and then take it right quick. We’ll have one right after this.

We’re going on to Item number (d) 2018-022 an ordinance to amend Section 38-69 (Certificate of Compliance required; uses exempt from certificate requirements) of the Anderson County, South Carolina Code of Ordinances to provide for an exemption when an existing residential structure is replaced with a residential structure. This is being replaced. This one we talked about and we had two meetings on this. This come about when a constituent had a -- removed an older mobile home and couldn’t build a house back there. I put this -- this will be a public hearing. Anyone wishing to speak to this, please state your name and district and address the Chair. Hearing and seeing none, public hearing will be closed. Have a motion to move this forward?

CINDY WILSON: So moved.
KEN WATERS: So moved.
TOMMY DUNN: Motion Ms. Wilson. Second Mr. Waters. Any discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed. Abstentions. Show the motion carries.

Moving on to Item number -- oh, going to a recess, I’m sorry. Going to recess. Quick recess, be back in a minute.

(RECESS)

TOMMY DUNN: At this time I call the meeting back in order.

Be moving on to 10(a) Ordinance Second Reading 2018-021 an ordinance amending the Zoning Map to
rezone +/- 64.17 acres.

CINDY WILSON: May I make the motion that we pass this?

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Wilson makes the motion that we move this forward for third reading. Have a second?

RAY GRAHAM: Second.

TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Graham. Any discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands.

Moving on to Item number 11, there is no ordinances for first reading.

Moving on to 12(a) 2018-033 a resolution accepting certain road Right of Ways from SCDOT in connection with South Carolina Highway 252 (SC252) for the purpose of operating and maintaining a portion of relocated existing county roads as part of that project. Mr. Burns or Mr. Harmon want to touch this? Anything?

LEON HARMON: Mr. Chairman, this is an intersection where the DOT did some road work and they had to acquire some right of way from the county to do the work in that intersection and now this is DOT giving that right of way back to the county for the county portion of that road.

TOMMY DUNN: Okay. We have a motion to move this forward?

KEN WATERS: So moved.

TOMMY DUNN: Motion Mr. Waters and second Mr. Allen. Any discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed like sign.

Show the motion carries unanimously.

At this time do we have a motion to go into Executive Session for personnel matters?

CINDY WILSON: May I make the motion, Mr. Chairman, that we go into Executive Session for personnel matters, Clemson Research Park, contractual matters, County Square contractual matters and Pickens TTI property contractual matters.

TOMMY DUNN: Have a motion. Do I have a second?

RAY GRAHAM: Second.

TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Graham. All in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed. Abstentions. Show the motion carries. Step right back here.

(EXECUTIVE SESSION)

CINDY WILSON: ... session having received information regarding contractual matters with no votes taken. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Motion Ms. Wilson to come
out of Executive Session. We have a second?

KEN WATERS: Second.

TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Waters. All in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed like sign. Show the motion carries.

Now we moving on.

TOM ALLEN: I need to make some motions?

TOMMY DUNN: Yes, sir, Mr. Allen.

TOM ALLEN: You want me to go ahead?

TOMMY DUNN: Yes, sir.

TOM ALLEN: Okay. All right. Having come out of Executive Session and received personnel information, I’d like to make the motion that County Council approve the pay rate for the Clerk to Council as discussed in Executive Session. I put that in the form of a motion.

KEN WATERS: Second.

TOMMY DUNN: Have a motion, second Ms. Wilson. Want to make the thing -- she has just become our full time Council. She’s been a little over a year now and we done this, we said we’d reevaluate this. All in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed. Show the motion carries Mr. Waters, Mr. Allen, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Graham, Mr. Wooten, and Ms. Wilson in favor and Ms. Floyd opposes. Mr. Allen.

TOM ALLEN: All right. I have one more motion to make. And this is a motion that County Council approve the award of request for proposal for employee benefits, consultant and advisory services Palmetto Insurance and Southeast Insurance Group. Several groups were looked at by a county committee and this group came out number one on the list as being somebody that could guide us in determining a new health plan for the county employees.

TOMMY DUNN: We have a motion.

CINDY WILSON: Mr. Chairman.

TOMMY DUNN: I’m sorry. Ms. Wilson has

CINDY WILSON: I did business with the principal of that company last year and it seems appropriate for me to disclose and recuse.

TOMMY DUNN: And recuse. Thank you, Ms. Wilson. We have a motion.

TOM ALLEN: That was a motion.

TOMMY DUNN: Motion Mr. Allen. We have a second.

KEN WATERS: Second.

TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Waters. Any discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands.
All opposed like sign. Show the motion carries. Ask Ms. Wilson to step back in. Anything else, Mr. Allen?

TOM ALLEN: Nothing, Mr. Chair.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Graham.

RAY GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman, I’d like to bring forth in the form of a motion to authorize the county Administrator to enter into an agreement in principle with the city of Anderson regarding conveyance of the Clemson Advanced Material Center to Innovate Anderson, the city’s participation in the county CVB and the city’s participation in the County Square development as discussed in Executive Session.

TOMMY DUNN: Have a motion by Mr. Graham. Second Ms. Wilson. Any discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously. Mr. Graham.

RAY GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I’d also like to bring in form of a motion to authorize the County Administrator to enter into negotiations with Peach Properties regarding the County Square development as discussed in Executive Session.

CINDY WILSON: Second.

TOMMY DUNN: Motion Mr. Graham. Second Ms. Wilson. Any discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously. Mr. Graham, anything else?

RAY GRAHAM: No, sir.

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Wilson?

CINDY WILSON: Mr. Chairman, may I make the motion to authorize the County Administrator to enter into a contractual agreement with a broker to sell the Pickens TTI property owned by Anderson County as we discussed in Executive Session.

TOMMY DUNN: Have a motion by Ms. Wilson. Have a second? Second Mr. Waters. Any discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously. Anything else?

Anyone have any appointments?

We’ll move on to requests by Council members. Mr. Waters?

KEN WATERS: Yes, I’d like to appropriate two hundred and fifty dollars to the WLS Foundation. And I bring that in the form of a motion.

CINDY WILSON: Second.

TOMMY DUNN: Any discussion? Ms. Wilson
seconds. All in favor of the motion show of hands.
Carries. Mr. Waters, anything else?
KEN WATERS: That’s all.
TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Allen?
TOM ALLEN: Mr. Chair, I have two. I’d like to do them together here. I’d like to do two hundred and fifty dollars for the WLS Foundation. And also two hundred and fifty dollars for the Anderson Jets Track Club. And I put that in the form of a motion.
CINDY WILSON: Second.
TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Wilson seconds. Any discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands.
TOM ALLEN: That’s all.
TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Floyd?
GRACIE FLOYD: I don’t have any at this time.
TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Graham.
RAY GRAHAM: I don’t have any at this time, Mr. Chairman.
TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Wooten.
CRAIG WOOTEN: I put in the form of a motion two hundred and fifty for Anderson Jets Track Club. And also two hundred and fifty for the WLS Foundation.
CINDY WILSON: Second.
TOMMY DUNN: Any discussion? Ms. Wilson seconds. All in favor of the motion show of hands. Show the motion carries unanimously. Anything else, Mr. Wooten?
CRAIG WOOTEN: No, sir.
TOMMY DUNN: How about you, Ms. Wilson?
CINDY WILSON: ??
TOMMY DUNN: District 5 would like to request two hundred and fifty dollars for WLS Foundation and a thousand dollars for the Jets Club.
CINDY WILSON: Second.
TOMMY DUNN: Second Ms. Wilson. All in favor of the motion.
Moving on Administrator’s Report.
RUSTY BURNS: Nothing at this time, Mr. Chairman.
GRACIE FLOYD: Wait a minute. I have a question. It said that the ?? will have a ??? No, no, no. My mistake. Please take that off.
TOMMY DUNN: Citizens Comments. Please, when Mr. Harmon calls your name, state your name and district and address the Chair and you’ve got three minutes.
LEON HARMON: Mr. Chairman, we have one citizen signed up. Elizabeth Fant.

ELIZABETH FANT: Elizabeth Fant, District 3. I do want to say as I have said I think in the last meeting that the meetings that y’all do in committee meetings are a lot of work. It’s evident that you are accomplishing a lot. So when I say this business about the budget, I do not demean the work that you’re doing. I think it’s wonderful. However, the budget part needs to be plain and out front. To say to people that it is a budget -- that you’re working on the budget and as far as I can tell, looking at the agendas, doesn’t say anything about budget. It just talks about capital projects and this, that and the other.

Second of all, Ms. Floyd is right, it’s kind of hard to follow information. I got also ?? sheet tonight. Rita, if you’re still here or whoever does these sheets, it would be advantageous if at the top you would put the date, you would write on there what it is, like this is a sheet of cuts, and for blank budget year. When this goes in my pile of all the stuff that I keep later on I’ll say like well, what was that? So it’s just a matter of informing people, letting them know so that they can keep track.

There are some things on this cut sheet. Every year this happens. It’s like last year actual, current budget, six months, department requests and then at the end a savings. It makes it look like we’re saving a whole lot of money. But it’s not really savings, if you’re asking for more than you need. I’m a little bit concerned that there are so many places on here where meals and food are listed under different categories. I added them up quickly and it was about fifty-two thousand dollars, just on food or meals. Now, sometimes County Council has meals, like when they’re having a meeting at twelve o’clock and they have sandwiches. That’s okay. Seems reasonable. But gonna pick on the Sheriff’s department here. Sheriff’s department has down -- let’s see if I can find it -- meals, third reading, they’re recommending twenty-eight thousand dollars, Administrator recommended thirty thousand. The third reading they cut off two thousand. What does the Sheriff’s department need for thirty thousand meals? Don’t understand that.

But it’s not only the Sheriff’s department, it’s a lot of places in here. And it’s obvious that it’s nice to have some of these amenities at different places, but is that really core services?
I am going to agree with Ms. Floyd. The amount of people that we have in Anderson County now has increased and I think the slush fund or whatever you want to call it, the recreational fund, does need to be increased.

LEON HARMON: Time, Mr. Chairman.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Harmon.

Anyone else?

LEON HARMON: No one else is signed up.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you.

Now remarks from Council. Mr. Waters.

KEN WATERS: Yeah, could you check and see how much vacation I’ve got built up? I tell you, one good thing this is my last budget. Looking forward to that. So next year y’all will have to handle it without me.

Appreciate all the kind words everybody’s said to me. That’s all I got, Mr. Chairman.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Allen.

TOM ALLEN: Yeah, Mr. Chair. Just very quickly. I wanted to thank Ms. Davis and her finance staff. It’s amazing the amount of numbers they can generate within a few minutes. I don’t know how they do it. But keeping track of government accounting and finance is a whole different animal and I applaud them for what they do because I know we drive them crazy asking for numbers a lot of times. So I just want to say thank you for the work you’ve done, as well as all the Council members, too, in going over these things and Mr. Burns and Mr. Harmon. So thanks a lot for that. That’s all.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Allen.

Ms. Floyd.

GRACIE FLOYD: Happy Juneteenth Day.

Today is June the 19th. Today is National Juneteenth Day. Who knows what I’m talking about? There’s one person in here that knows. Okay. Juneteenth is the Independent Day in an American holiday that commemorates June the 19, 1865 of the announcement of the abolition of slavery in Texas and the emancipation of enslaved African American through the southern states. Happy Juneteenth Birthday -- I mean Happy Juneteenth Anniversary. We’ve come a long way, baby, but we have a hell of a long way to go.

I also want to tell you that you guys did something tonight that I just think that -- I think that we should have spent more time on that budget. Number one, you gave people who was making more money than they need to be a thousand dollars more. Number two, you didn’t do anything on the lower end. People
who are already working in poverty. Only thing you
did was gave them a little higher poverty. The
thousand dollars would have gone a long way to help
them, and help us say that we don’t have anybody in
this county working on the poverty level. The
recreational account, your children lost. Your
children lost. We haven’t had a raise in that fund
since the late eighties. Your children lost. You
don’t care, I know.

You have been led. You have been led. I’m
disappointed. But good times. You know what they
say, the sun shines on everybody’s -- on every dog one
day. New days are coming.

I want to explain something to you. Yes, I took
-- the city was given fifty thousand dollars by
District 2. It sat in the city’s coffers for three
years. They didn’t touch the money. So I asked for
it back because they couldn’t use it in three years,
then we could use it. It was my intention to use that
money to put it in the park over at Wellington, which
I thought was in my district, to build a basketball
court after the people asked me to put one there
because they remember having one when they were
growing up in Homeland Park. So that was what I was
going to do until I was told I had to do something
else before I put the basketball court there. So I
just took the money away and I gave it to the -- I
gave it to the -- when I get overrun this happens to
me. I gave it to the Free Clinic because they could
use it. That’s what I did, I gave it to the Free
Clinic. I did it proudly. Because they were cut
thirty thousand from the state this year. Thirty
thousand dollars they lost. What were they going to
do? So I just gladly, happily, eagerly gave it to the
Free Clinic.

We kept talking about the Y because the Y was what
we were talking about. We weren’t talking about any
other recreational facility but the Y. So that’s why
the Y kept coming up. I think that was a big mistake.
But I’m afraid that wasn’t a vote for the Y. That was
a vote against me. But anyway, I gave them the money.
I have money left in my recreation account because I
know how to manage and handle money. I won’t be broke
by December.

I have a big project coming up next year that I
needed to be prepared for. So what I did was I gave
what was needed, what was asked for in the rec account
that related to recreational activity, but I put aside
some money in preparation for next year. That’s
called budgeting. That’s called taking care of your
money. That’s called knowing how to handle money.
And I can’t be blamed because I know how to do that.
Okay? And that’s about it.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Graham.
GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Chairman, I’m going to
have to take my leave now. I’ve had enough.
TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, ma’am. Mr.

GRAHAM.

RAY GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
Just want to clarify something. That had -- the
comment I made had nothing to do with the Free Clinic.
What I get tired of week in and week out is fellow
Council members is criticized on the moves that they
make on what they feel is best for our district. I’m
sitting here right now looking at two Council members
that was recently elected and I appreciate you guys
coming tonight. I hate the meeting has been extended
so long. But that’s part of the budget season and
you’ll realize that. But I mean, at the end of the
day, each Council member has got to make the best
decision for what they feel is right for their
district.

Each meeting I come up here and, you know, we’ve
had several comments about not having enough meetings,
not having enough budget workshops or whatever. I’m
telling you right now, and I appreciate your comments
earlier, Ms. Fant, and I assure you committees that
we’re having meetings next year, I will assure you
that part of the Chairman of that committee it’s their
responsibility to ensure that agenda is placed. And I
assure you that you will be aware by the agenda, that
if a budget is being discussed, that’s what taking
place.

But what I would encourage each and every Council
member to do, instead of criticizing everybody else,
take care of your own district and take care of
Anderson County because at the end of the day, if
Anderson County does not move forward, your district
will fail. And we fight that battle every single day.
So instead of worrying about pointing fingers and
trying to bring everybody down and I this and I that,
let’s move Anderson County forward because at the end
of the day that’s what’s going to make all of us to be
able -- to give us the opportunity to live in a
successful county. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Mr. Wooten.
CRAIG WOOTEN: Yeah, I just want to thank
everybody. Appreciate everybody’s patience in the
budget season. From my standpoint, I really try to
enter meetings with the mentality of I neither go into
a meeting looking to increase, neither do I look to
going to a meeting to decrease, but just objectively
to look at what we’ve been tasked to provide and are
the services appropriate for the county and part of
the core mission of what we’ve been charged to do.
And as for the rec account, I have no problem
taking it up five thousand. I just had a problem
taking it up five thousand in light of delaying
payment to the employees next year. You know, and I
know forty thousand is a small amount compared to that
large amount, but just out of principle, it says
something to the employees, hey, we’re not going to
raise this if we’ve going to delay you. Had that been
changed, I might have voted differently.
In that regard, I’m very excited and I thank Ms.
Wilson for the paving. I mean, we all supported it,
but she was one that set that down early on and made
that a condition and I think the people of Anderson
County expected that this year and that was in the
budget. I think that no tax increase is ever gone
into lightly, but the items that we’re spending on are
appropriate items and I think the folks will see it
accordingly and we’ll do right by them. So I thank
everybody for that and appreciate it.
TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Wooten. Ms.
Wilson.
CINDY WILSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
wonder if perhaps we took up some type of zero based
budgeting effort where each department established
their mission and then we developed a budget to
accomplish that mission. It might save a little angst
at the last day on third reading.
I guess I’ve been called worse than a liar
tonight. But I do want to point out that it really
would be helpful for all of us to refer back to the
Daniel Report. And that’s where our county engaged an
auditor who came in and looked at specific areas where
we didn’t know what was going on in the budget. And
our county had come perilously close to bankruptcy.
The recession didn’t help. But there was not even a
debt service payment budgeted when our Council of ‘09
came in over half a million dollars. Now, that’s a
big problem. And there were many millions of dollars
discovered in consulting, lobbyists, legal type
contracts, real estate deals at the landfill and all
that mess. We’ve moved well beyond that, and I’m very
grateful for all the people in our county employ and
my fellow Council members in working hard, and
especially Mr. Burns, to pull us through some rough
times. And yeah, it’ll be -- it’s hard to overcome
many, many millions of dollars lost, but we are making progress.

And I thought it would be really neat to point out Mr. Simmons who’s always been so kind to come to our Council meetings and ask about Highway 29. We’re finally going to get a lot of attention on Highway 29. And it’s all the way into town, and all the way up toward the interstate. Secretary Christy Hall came and looked very carefully a couple or three months ago and there have been other pots of money that were engaged, too, so finally between getting the bridge raised and all of the work around Cherokee Road, that’s going to be accomplished. It’s going to get really cranked up in 2019. So between 2019 and 2024, Highway 29 will be virtually unrecognizable. And I hope we can keep it looking attractive out there because it’s going to really invite a lot of development that blighted neighborhoods and underprivileged neighborhoods have not enjoyed. So that is good news.

And thank you all, everybody, our new folks who’ve come to our meeting tonight, our solid true citizens who show up and everyone who works really hard. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Ms. Wilson.

I want to recognize and thank Mr. Davis and Mr. Sanders for being here tonight. I don’t want y’all to get all excited because we don’t have this much fun every Council meeting night, okay?

But I do want to say that -- I want to thank the Administrator and his staff for all the hard work they done on this budget. Ms. Davis, especially you and your staff with all the work and hard work y’all done and diligently worked up -- I know you worked up as late as this afternoon on this budget. Not a budget that everybody’s happy about, but I can assure you a few things. Public safety should be stronger and better in Anderson County because of this budget. We’re getting a plan for replacement stuff for capital stuff. I think setting it forth, we’re taking care of our employees the best we can. And I don’t want -- this is what really bothers me tonight. We’re sort of taking a thing of like dirtying up something or other that ought to be a good thing. This Council took initiative to do a study, have a professional company come in that does this to grade us to get us headed in the right direction. We done that. We said from the get-go we was going to do something. Wouldn’t be able to do it all. And that’s what we done. We’ve done half of it. And some of them’s going to get it all.
How it folds around and how it does and very appreciative of that. County employees, each and every one of you, we want you to know we think very much of you. Appreciate the job you do. Can’t say it enough. And unfortunately not going to get rich working in the government. But we’re going to try to do the best we can and take care of you if we can because we do -- very valuable part of the county. That’s what makes it -- our people, I’ve always said is what makes Anderson County great. And I don’t care how many more budget workshops we’d had, you got to do one of two things. Said tonight you got to raise revenue and you got to cut spending. We done a little bit of both tonight in this budget.

But anybody starting down there, working all the way up, down here, y’all two gentlemen sitting in the audience, y’all get up here -- it’s a free country, you make a motion, if it passes, it passes, it don’t. And I think most of these make a good motion can come up. But when you make a motion just to give somebody a pay, and you ain’t got a way to pay for it, always said you got to either pay for -- show how you’re going to pay for something. Show the details. That’s what the saying is, the devil’s in the details.

But I want to thank my fellow Council members for going through this process. Trying -- been criticized in the past even before I got to be Chairman, go for having too many, I think Ms. Wilson can say this and Mr. Allen, for having too many budget workshops meetings. So you know, we go from one extreme to another. But everybody’s got a right to come participate, listen, because I can assure you it wasn’t that way years ago. Ms. Wilson can testify to that.

And I want to thank the Council members for putting a few Council members, the majority that puts Anderson County forward, it’s not me, me, me, I, I, I. And sitting here we’re talking about a seventy-nine million dollar budget tonight, general fund budget, and we spent over ten minutes talking about five thousand dollars going to the YMCA and they was getting it, fully funded, but sit here and argue about where it’s coming from. I’ll close on how smart that is. Thank y’all very much.

(MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:05 P.M.)