ANDERSON COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 2, 2018

IN ATTENDANCE:
TOMMY DUNN, CHAIRMAN
GRACIE FLOYD
RAY GRAHAM
CRAIG WOOTEN
KEN WATERS
TOM ALLEN
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 October 2nd to order. I’d like to welcome each and every one of you here tonight. Sorry for any inconvenience of having the meeting over here. We’ve got some issues with the elevator over there, so we moved it over here. I want to appreciate and thank the Clerk of Court, Mr. Shirley, and his staff for allowing us to have it over here, and feeding us a little bit before the meeting. So thank them very much for their hospitality.

So at this time we’ll move on to Item number 2 on the agenda, our invocation and pledge of allegiance by Councilman Wooten. If we’ll all rise, please.

(INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE BY CRAIG WOOTEN)

TOMMY DUNN: At this time, moving on to Item number 3, approval of the minutes of the September 18, 2018 meeting. Are there any corrections or changes that needs to be made?

CINDY WILSON: May I, Mr. Chairman?

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Wilson.

CINDY WILSON: Thank you. On page 51, line 48, instead of follow, the word should be following. And on page 37, line 2, Welpine is spelled W-E-L-P-I-N-E. And then on page 61, the names of Patricia Seawright, that’s spelled together. And instead of Clary, that’s Clardy, on lines 20 and 21.

TOMMY DUNN: Anything else?

GRACIE FLOYD: Yes.

TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma’am, Ms. Floyd?

GRACIE FLOYD: Page 25, line 15, it says Maggie. It says the place was called Maggie’s. But the word is Mattie’s, M-A-T-T-I-E-S. Maggie’s is listed two or three times, but the company or the place’s name is Mattie’s.

TOMMY DUNN: Any other corrections? Do we have a motion to accept the minutes with those corrections?

CINDY WILSON: I make a motion that we accept the minutes as amended.

TOMMY DUNN: Have a motion Ms. Wilson.

Have a second?

TOM ALLEN: Second.

TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Allen. All in favor of the motion, show of hands. Opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously.

Now we’re going to be moving on to Item number 4, Citizens Comments. At this time the attorney, Mr. Harmon, will call your name. These are for comments that’s on the agenda items only for the first go-
around. At the end of the meeting will be comments
for any other discussion that’s not other -- on the
agenda. You have three minutes. Please address the
chair. Please state your name and district for the
record. Mr. Harmon?

Leon Harmon: Mr. Chair, the first
speaker is Michael Acquilano.

Michael Acquilano: Hello. Thank you for
having us here this evening. I am here representing
the Catholic Diocese of Charleston, the project Saint
Clare’s home, which we have discussed, I believe it
was early August and now we’re at the first week of
October. And we appreciate you giving us this time to
chat with residents and discuss this further because I
think it was very fruitful. I think we came down to
what their real concerns were. We spent time
responding to them and getting down to the real issue,
which for them is the rezoning piece. And that is why
you’ll notice in the folder that I provided to you
with the red, blue, green and yellow tabs, we provided
them in the red section -- if you go to the first tab
-- a proposal. Because they’re most concerned about
rezoning. And being around town today, I can
understand why, because there’s traffic. And we are
proposing to restrict the use of the property so that
even though the rezoning, which was requested by
planning staff has to occur for us to operate, we’re
willing to permanently restrict the property through a
restricted covenant forever that would pass with the
deed. So this is something that we would give to them
on the whole hundred and five acres; not just the four
percent or the 3.8 acres we’re talked about. And
we’re hoping that that resolves their concerns. It is
a rezoning and we understand that that’s a concern.
But they defer to you in our most recent communication
which is in the blue tab. You’ll see that they
defered to council rather than providing a yes, no,
maybe so. They’re deferring to you on this. And we
believe what their concerns are, are rezoning, and
that growth and impact on the community. And we
believe our proposal restricting it completely
forever, in perpetuity is great for them, as it is for
us, because it provides that buffer we all want.

In addition we also are providing in the
restricted easements their votes. If we ever were to
change it or if we ever sold or changed hands, fifty-
one percent of them, the residents of Massey Estates,
would have to authorize that. We’re not looking to
bring in anything that they don’t want. They’ve even
admitted that it was not the women, it wasn’t the
mission. They even said that that night. It wasn’t about that. It’s about the rezoning and the potential growth that could occur on a hundred and five acres, which is a lot. It could turn into something they don’t want.

So we are pretty confident that we’ve offered the best alternative for you all to review. And after speaking to many of you over the last several days, I think that many of us agree that it is a good decision for the protection of that area. I live in a rural community myself south of Charleston, which it sounds crazy that there’s rural country there, but there is. And I can appreciate their desire to preserve the quiet countryside. And that’s why we selected the property.

So you can see that the red is the proposal we offered them at the end of August; blue is all of our correspondence; green is a letter from a sheriff that lives next to a home just like this in Alabama and she provides that there’s no crime there whatsoever and the community has actually been blessed by it; and the last one is actually a letter from Palmetto Family Council. They just gave this to me today. It’s not necessarily the best report, but it’s an endorsement.

Thank you.

LEON HARMON: Mr. Chairman, the next speaker is Seth Thompson.

SETH THOMPSON: How you doing? I’m Seth Thompson. I live at 1460 Massey Road. I’m against the rezoning for this. We spoke last time. I had the same thoughts then that I do now. I just don’t think it’s the right place. Even that proposal sounds nice, I just don’t agree with it. I don’t understand why they can’t find a different place to go to. We have -- it’s just a small town community. We want to keep it that way. The people who are in favor for it, most of them don’t live here; not in Anderson County. If they do live in Anderson County, they don’t live next to it. And that’s -- you know, they don’t have to deal with the things that could arise from this being here. And I know they said they’re going to try to deal with all the traffic and rezoning and all that. I’m not a lawyer. I don’t have a law degree like that fellow there, but I don’t speak as well as he does, but you know, I understand what’s going on. And so do my neighbors. And we just don’t appreciate it. We don’t want it. I think what they’re doing is great, but I think there’s just another place for it. And on Massey Road is not it.

We have kids that live in the neighborhood. We
have people that live behind where this house is going
to go that are up to no good. I had a tree stand
stolen out of the woods last week, last Wednesday
night. Went to my tree stand, stand was not there,
camera is not there. I don’t know who took it. I’ve
got a pretty good idea where they came from and it’s
right over there across behind the woods where that
house is going. And I know the last time you said
you’re going to have security. But I don’t think
you’re going to have enough security if something goes
wrong. That’s just what I’m saying. That’s how I
believe; that’s what I think. I think they can find a
different area for this to go. Thank you for your
time.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Harmon?

LEON HARMON: Mr. Chairman, next speaker
is Kim Bryant.

KIM BRYANT: Hey. I’m Kim Bryant. I
just have a lot of reservation for what they’re trying
to do. I know he said that they did try to contact
us. They did email us. But they never tried to come
and have a meeting. We went to all of the people that
live on Massey Road and put flyers in their mailboxes
and talked to them, and you know, told them, I think
pretty diplomatically, what could happen; what’s the
good and the bad. And everybody just had more cons
than they did pros on it. I think it’s a good thing.
I just don’t think they need to be in our
neighborhood. It is a business. You know, I don’t
want to get into a contest about what the Catholic
Church is doing right now. I think there’s a lot of
things that they need to do besides this. You know, I
don’t know if anybody knows if this piece of property
has been sold to them. Anybody know? Is it already
sold to them or not?

TOMMY DUNN: We don’t know.

KIM BRYANT: Okay. No? Okay. So with
that being said, he told us that night that it was
going to be bought regardless, in two days, after the
first meeting we had when we talked with him. Because
we really wanted to know what was going on, you know.
We didn’t have any information. We really wanted to
know what they were planning to do. So we stayed with
them for a long time. And I spoke to several people
after that; several Council members after that. He
said that it would be bought within two days no matter
what and they would put nuns in there if they didn’t
put the whole pregnancy deal. So that’s a lie. So
that tells me that I really can’t believe what he
says.
Number two, I’ve talked with several of the Council members and they say that all this stuff that he’s trying to say that he wants to do, it’s never been done. It doesn’t hold. So that being said, you know, if they restrict it and do all this stuff, that doesn’t really mean anything. Once it’s rezoned, it’s rezoned; if I understand correctly. There is no, we’ll restrict it and we’ll send it back to you and we’ll give it back to you. It’s done; it’s done. So I think that’s a good idea that he would like to restrict it, but there’s no -- it’s never been done so I don’t understand how he thinks it could be done.

And as far as the road itself, I’m probably one of the first people that lived on that road and there was nothing there. My father-in-law was a developer and I was like, I’m scared to be here. I came out of a neighborhood and my husband loves land. He’d love to own tons of land. He’s love to own Anderson County. But he just ---

LEON HARMON: Time, Mr. Chairman.

TOMMY DUNN: I’m sorry. That’s time.

LEON HARMON: Mr. Chairman, next speaker is Amber McGraw.

AMBER MCGRAW: My name is Amber McGraw and I reside at 103 Saluda Way, which is the first house on the left as you come into Massey Estates. I grew up in this area and lived in the Wren School District for about twenty years. Coming back from college, I knew I wanted to live back in this area, especially after living four years in Spartanburg. I bought my home a year out of college and I reside in the first house on the left as you come into Massey Estates. This community and neighborhood, on Sundays feels like a time capsule. Neighbors actually talk to each other. Kids ride their bikes and people watch out for one another and their homes. It’s quiet and peaceful and we aren’t dealing with bright lights and heavy traffic from people running errands. I am by no means saying that Saint Clare’s new mission will take that away. But rezoning this piece of property will, in fact, start that process. Saint Clare is a very positive mission. However, it’s asking our community to approve something that we view as negative.

In the first meeting when I spoke I mentioned how Powdersville has grown, and I believe this example should be considered. It has developed and grown at a rate I’m sure nobody excepted or probably didn’t want. People who live in Massey Estates and the surrounding community clearly do not care about driving twenty to thirty minutes to a large town or that the community
is kind of considered under-developed. We chose to
live out this far. We chose to live in this area the
way it is. And we have a choice to say we do not want
it to change.

A few weeks ago, Saint Clare graciously offered a
proposal where various restrictions could be set on
the property, not including the rezoning. However,
after speaking with the neighborhood and taking a
vote, we have chosen to let you, the City Council,
vote on this matter. Although we are very
appreciative of the gesture by Saint Clare’s, it is
imperative to point out this issue is between Massey
Estates and the rezoning; not us versus Saint Clare’s;
not us versus the Catholic Church; not us versus their
mission. This is an us versus the rezoning of the
three acres. We understand who Saint Clare’s home is,
what mixed residential rezoning includes and have
considered the information that we have provided. I
speak on behalf of Massey Estates when I say we ask
that you deny this request to rezone 1226 Massey
Estates to make it multi residential. Thank you.

LEON HARMON: Mr. Chairman, next speaker
is Elizabeth Fant.

ELIZABETH FANT: Good evening. I’m speaking
on number 19. Not 19; excuse me. It’s 16, sheriff’s
report; and also on 5 and 6, hospitality tax and
alcohol sales.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Burns.

RUSTY BURNS: Yes, sir.

TOMMY DUNN: Hold on just a minute,
Ms. Fant. Could you get the mic closer to her or turn
it up. Ms. Floyd can’t hear her real good.

GRACIE FLOYD: I can hear very well. I
just couldn’t hear her.

TOMMY DUNN: I said you can’t hear her
real good. That’s what I was saying.

RUSTY BURNS: Try that.

ELIZABETH FANT: That better?

GRACIE FLOYD: That’s better. Thank
you.

TOMMY DUNN: Start over.

ELIZABETH FANT: All right. My name is
Elizabeth Fant, District 3. I’m speaking on number
16, the sheriff’s report, and number 5 and 6, hospital
and alcohol sales. I’ll start with the sheriff’s
report first. You’re getting a lot of bang for the
buck with your sheriff. If any of you don’t see this
report that he puts out once a month, this is a total
compilation of all the calls, the warrants, the
fingerprints, meals served, how many bags of litter
are picked up. Our sheriff is doing a wonderful job in Anderson County, he and his staff.

On numbers 5 and 6, the hospitality tax and the alcohol tax, everybody has their opinion one or the other, I guess, on which way it should go, but the outlaying areas of the county, yes, we could be making money through the tax, through people who come through, especially up at the Clemson exit. But as in a lot of things that are happening in the county with fee-in-lieu of and all the business stuff that’s happening, they’re mostly happening and helping big business. We don’t talk about the small mom and pop businesses. If you go to a restaurant and you buy a lunch, it’s going to cost you ten bucks probably, and then all the taxes and fees is probably going to be another dollars. And then generally three dollars maybe for the tip. That simple lunch has already cost almost fifteen, and that’s without alcohol or any of the perks, that’s just a plain old lunch. Your mom and pop businesses are the ones that are going to suffer with this.

Hospitality tax, yes, it generates money for recreation. But we’ve already had a report in the last council meeting that we’re not being able to keep up with the projects that we’ve got going, so we’re probably making too many recreation projects and not doing a very good job of keeping up what we’ve got.

Anderson is a wonderful town to live, to play, to work. But we’re fast becoming and jamming too much into Anderson County, including the hotel that’s coming downtown. We’re fast taking away the ambience, the parking places, the le ze faire atmosphere, the family atmosphere. We’re not Greenville, and I don’t ever want to be. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Harmon.

LEON HARMON: Next speaker is Karen Fox.

KAREN FOX: Hi. I’m Karen Fox. I live at 133 McAlister Drive, Pendleton, 29670. I am in support of Saint Clare’s Home. I recently spoke with someone who ran a similar home as Saint Clare’s. And because I heard the concerns. And I, like the folks on Massey Road, live in that area. I’m about six miles away, but I live in a rural area. So I understood the concerns and my heart went out to them about their concerns. I wanted to do some more research. So I spoke with someone, like I said, who ran a similar home, and asked, did you have security issues? No. Do you put measures in place, which they’ve already indicated that they will do that?
It’s going be twenty-four monitored and secured. And they want to keep it quiet. It’s imperative that they keep it quiet and they protect these very vulnerable, precious woman and the precious cargo that they’re carrying.

So for that reason, and some of the other research that I, you know, did in addition to that indicated exactly that, that the concerns that were stated are valid. However when a place like this is run correctly, those concerns can really be allayed. So it may be a benefit, you know, as far as security goes that they have twenty-four hour security. And I’m sure, as this previous person spoke, our sheriff is doing a lot in Anderson County, and I’m in full support of him and really thankful for him for what he’s doing to make our county safe again. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Harmon?
LEON HARMON: Mr. Chairman, no one else is signed up.

TOMMY DUNN: I want to make sure there wasn’t no mistake or confusion about the sign-up sheet, signing up on the right side or the left side of the issue. Is anybody signed up that signed that sign-up sheet that wants to speak on this issue. Did you sign up?

UNKNOWN: I didn’t sign up.

TOMMY DUNN: No, ma’am, you had to sign up. Did anybody at all that signed up that didn’t get to talk before council on a — that’s signed up but he didn’t call your name out, that thought they was signing up to talk at first on agenda matters? Anybody?

Okay. Moving on. Be moving on now to Item number 5, and 5 and 6 sort of goes together. The Chamber of Commerce going to do a presentation on hospitality tax. And after that there will be — I don’t know how they want to do it, but might intertwine; they’re going to do a presentation of the local alcohol sales tax. Local alcohol sales; I’m sorry, on Sunday. Ms. Christopher?

PAMELA CHRISTOPHER: Yes, thank you. I’ve got to come up here to run the presentation. I just want to let you know that’s what I’m doing. And we wanted to come and bring this before you.

TOMMY DUNN: Give us just a second and let us get situated. Ms. Floyd, do you need to move somewhere where you can see?

GRACIE FLOYD: Yeah, because I sure can’t twist like that.

PAMELA CHRISTOPHER: And I did make copies
for all of you also, for you to have all along but to
also have later to look at.

We wanted to be very respectful. We brought the
hospitality tax and alcohol sales before you at your
meeting, I believe it was in August. And since then
we have come forward with a marketing proposal of what
we want to do. And we wanted to bring that before
you, be very respectful and do that, and let you know
what we wanted to propose forward and how we would be
moving forward on the initiative.

So this is the beginning of a power point
presentation. We have a speaker’s bureau that will be
going out and speaking on behalf of the hospitality
tax and the alcohol sales. So I wanted to kind of go
through that with you. This is the power point. I
won’t go through everything because I know it’s pretty
lengthy. But you’re going to see we go through
everything when we’re talking to someone about what is
a local hospitality tax. Just so y’all know, it’s a
two percent fee. A lot of people are saying it’s
going to be four percent if we do this two percent,
like the city already has one. It doesn’t double it.
If the city has a two percent, it’s still a two
percent for them, but it’s not going to make it an
additional two. So that’s a misnomer. I will say
that. And then just so you know, it’s two cents on
every dollar. So for ten dollars, that would just be
twenty cents on a bill. So a fifty dollar dinner --
we put that up there as an example -- a fifty dollar
restaurant bill would only be fifty-one dollars with
tax. So it’ll only a dollar for the tax for fifty
dollars on food. So I wanted to go through that and
let you know that. Then we also put why vote yes, how
it would benefit the county. Obviously improving
recreation, tourism and other sports for our county;
updating and adding new public facilities in all
communities; increase the number and variety of
entertainment options for all ages. The bottom line
is it would bring a great deal to our future and to
our kids. This with our chamber board and Imagine
Anderson is really about the future. We’re doing this
because we feel like this is our opportunity to leave
a legacy. Because it’ll offer so much for them.

Talking about a significant portion of the
proceeds generated by this tax will be paid by the
people outside of Anderson County. But a hundred
percent of the funds raised would stay within Anderson
County. There have been reports that have been done
anything as low as sixty-five percent will be paid
when they did two different studies. Sixty-five
percent of it is paid by tourists to our area and they
were all out-of-state tags; not even out-of-county,
but out-of-state tax. So basically that would be like
-- if it’s the seventy percent, that would be like me
laying a hundred dollar bill down on the table and
saying, I tell you what, if you’ll give me thirty
dollars, I’ll let you take that hundred. So, you
know, it’s a deal for us. If we don’t do this, we’re
passing up money that’s sitting on the table for us
because tourists would be paying a great deal of it
when they come through our area.

Went through the Anderson County today. This just
kind of goes through the population because a lot of
people are saying there’s a great deal of age over
sixty-five. It’s actually 17.8 percent. So out of
our Anderson County age distribution and, again,
talking about our future and our legacy, sixty percent
of our population is age eighteen to sixty-four.

Then kind of going through the Anderson County
tomorrow, what it could do for us, more funding for
hospitality tax frees up more of the general funding
for the community, so it would be able to be utilized
in other areas when you have things for your general
budget that are needs. Anderson County population is
expected to grow to two hundred and ninety thousand by
2026. So as that grows you’ll continue to see -- and
also tourists coming to our area, you’ll continue to
see more money generated from that hospitality tax.

We did ask, and I know that was proposed at the
last meeting, that the projects will be decided on in
an independent feasibility study because I know at
some of the meetings prior it’s been a concern over
which project or what would be funded. And so we felt
like if we had an independent feasibility study, which
is what they did in Spartanburg, by a third party,
they could come in and tell us the highest and best
use. Because we’re not about trying to lobby for one
project over another. We want the betterment for
Anderson County as a whole. So whatever comes down to
the highest and best use is what we’re for. We’re all
willing to stand behind that. Because when one of us
wins, we all win in Anderson County.

And to kind of give you a synopsis, the latest
Anderson City hospitality tax generated approximately
three million. So that’s how they did the Wren Park
and all of the changes that have been done in downtown
Anderson.

Then we just kind of go through the hospitality
tax revenue. It shows you for food and beverage
service sales, what’s being generated from the
unincorporated areas, what it will do for the
unincorporated areas, and what’s happening currently
with the towns and municipalities. So they’re getting
over one hundred and eighty million. And then from
the approximate hospitality tax, it’s over 3.6 million
that’s coming into the areas of the towns that do have
it. Because they do have some towns that have it in
Anderson County. But there’s many areas that don’t in
unincorporated like Exhibit 19B, Exhibit 40. So
there’s a lot that do not have that area. And let me
very clear on where we are on that. We want to make
sure that we are supporting all of Anderson County and
having opportunities for all with this tax to support
tourism.

Went through where are the current hospitality
taxes and you’ll see the light blue area, the
unincorporated areas are the ones with no; in other
words, our county does not have a hospitality tax.
The little stars do show the cities within the
different counties that have it, but you can see to
this right of this, all of those counties to the right
shaded green have the hospitality tax. So if you have
ever gone to the other counties and you said, why
can’t we have this? Well, that’s why we can’t because
they’re using the hospitality tax to pay for the
things that they’re seeing improving their community.

Hospitality tax usage, it talks about the examples
that we could use it for, all the tourism related,
cultural, recreation, historic, so it goes on and on
what we can utilize it for, as long as it’s related to
tourism. So if you have water and sewer that needed
to be running for tourism, or promotions for tourism;
all those things can take place. If highways, roads,
streets or bridges were needed to be provided to
access those tourism destinations, it can be utilized
for that.

We just want to show you some potential areas of
interest for hospitality tax funds. Now you can see
there are arts and historic preservation, equestrian,
senior recreation, Lake Hartwell, Broadway Lake, parks
and infrastructure. They gave you several
opportunities to look at what it could do. Then we
went through what items would be taxed, because not
all food is taxed. And then what items are exempt.
And then we did a case study in Greenville to let you
see that that’s how they established their hospitality
tax, was a way to pay for the hundred thousand in
projects needed for recreation. And it was initially
voted down in 2001 and then approved in 2006. And
going through showing it provides funding for both new
capital projects and operating and maintaining
eexisting facilities and estimated to produce for them
7.5 million annually.

We went through and had testimonials and all the
mayors are in support of this. So if you didn’t know,
we’ve got a letter of support that did come to all of
the council, that the Anderson County Municipal
Association is in support. That’s every mayor, that’s
every council person in all the towns. So they’re all
going to give testimonials. But for right now I have
one from Mack Durham and I’m going to go through it to
kind of -- you know, give a synopsis of it. There’s
another thing I want to show you, so I won’t read the
whole thing. I have one from Rex Maynard out of
Belton. We have one from Mayor Roberts with the City
of Anderson. And at the end, there’s kind of a tag
line when we had at the beginning, vote yes, hospitality tax, a vote for Anderson County’s
Tomorrow, November 6, 2018. And on the back there we
have opportunity awaits. Andersonhospitalitytax.com
is a website that we have for this marketing. And so
you can go there. We don’t have it filtered in yet,
but as soon as you guys have it tonight then we will.

We wanted to be respectful and bring it to you first.
And I wanted to show you a couple of other things.
I went ahead and brought this targeted digital
strategy for you. I’ll go through it pretty quickly.
Basically you’re going to see everything from
billboard advertising that we’re going to be doing,
you’re going to obviously see that we’re going to be
doing a power point and marketing out to the
community. We have several community leaders that are
behind the initiative. We will have information for
you on our Facebook site and also on our website so we
can send people to it when they have questions. But I
wanted to kind of tell you a little thing that we’re
going to do too, which is a little different. How
many of you get those circulars in the mail, vote for
me, vote for this, vote for that; right? How many get
those? Let’s just see. Where does it usually wind
up? In your circle file; right? In your trash can.
But because that happens, we don’t want to waste
funds. A new way of doing that is by going to this
geofencing and doing things through social media.
There is now a way that they can go through geofencing
and hit your phones. Everybody I’m seeing has one
sitting here at your areas. So the thing is you might
throw a piece of paper away, but you’re going to have
that with you at all times; right? So it’s going to
ping information to you and you’ll get it on your
phones. It’s going to talk to you about hospitality
tax. We’re also going to do the same thing with the
alcohol sales. So it’s going to send information to
you. When you read it, you’re on the page long
enough, and you get educated on what’s going on, they
will know that and then they will move on from that
person. If they don’t have enough read -- it’s been
proven that if you read it long enough, they know
you’re educated on it and you’re usually going to vote
for it. If you aren’t then what they’ll do is
continue to ping that person and give them more
information on it so we can hopefully get them to a
yes vote.

It’s very intelligent that it knows all that data.
They actually can go down to know who the person is.
They won’t share that with us though from Martin
Holland, and we wouldn’t ask them to do that because
they can’t. But it’s addressable geofencing that
they’ll have that and have all the information. Also
go to Instagram. We’ll have an Instagram exchange and
Facebook because Facebook is typically my age and
older. And Instagram is for the younger group. So
we’re trying to make sure we hit all groups. So this
is a little bit about the geofencing and I gave that
to you guys so you can look at it a little bit more.
It talks to you about that.

Now, the outdoor strategy on the billboards, we’re
going to have the Pendleton Digital billboard at
Clemson Boulevard and Mechanics Street and that’s the
one when you’re going to the games for Clemson
University. And then we will have four digital
billboards in Anderson. There will be two on Clemson
Boulevard and there will be two off of like 81. So
just listed those there for you guys so you can kind
of see where they are. They did it by the one at Reed
and the one at Whitehall is a good one because it’s
long; you’re sitting there long so you’ve got a long
time to look at it as they rotate through. I wanted
to let you see the story board with what you’re going
to see with some of the advertisement that will go on
the billboards. Those will be going up two weeks out
from the November 6th vote because that is the
strategy that is suggested of what we need to do and
then advertising says that’s the best. So this is one
of them that they’ll see. These are two other
examples that they’ll see. And I love it that, you
know, Major Roberts, in this economy we’re able to
lead from a position of opportunity. Vote yes
hospitality tax. And then Rex Maynard, opportunity
benefits in our future, vote yes hospitality tax.
So I wanted to you those as some examples. And I wanted to kind of bring up a couple of things. The hospitality handout, you’ll see this. You have it a little bit bigger in your area, but it first says, and that’s what we just showed on the front of it, vote yes hospitality tax, the date. Vote for Anderson County’s tomorrow and the backside says Opportunity Awaits at andersonhospitalitytax.com. Those will be leave-behinds at restaurants. And we’ll have them at bars. So they will be able to have those so that they’re seeing that and there’s advertisement on one side and the other. So hopefully it’ll help us get that word out. And the restaurants have agreed to put them out. That’s awesome. So I wanted to let you guys see that.

And then the other thing I wanted you to see is the web page. On the web landing page, again, Martin Holland Advertising, we want to thank them for what they’ve done on this. I’m wondering of there’s a way I can push it over. And I want to get it to the whole page so they can see. It’s made it large for whatever reason. I’m trying to look for a scroll. Maybe that’ll scroll it. Okay. At least you can kind of see what it is. So vote yes hospitality, a vote for Anderson County. It’s taking it really big and I don’t know why it’s doing that. Let me see if I can go back out and back in if it’ll ... For some reason it’s made it really big. But anyway -- now it’s back to regular size. Okay. So you see where it goes through what it is, the two percent fee, and we gave an example. They can go in when they see this opportunity awaits, there will be an area for them to register to vote. They can click here and register to vote if they haven’t registered already. And an area where it can give them where to vote. Then we go through why vote yes and then go through the benefits. Anderson County today, showing the population. Anderson County tomorrow. And again, I think these pictures are real important. This is about our future and that’s what we wanted to convey. And again hitting on the hospitality tax revenue, showing food and beverage for the towns and for the county, the unincorporated. And then here’s where our current hospitality taxes in the upstate, we went through the different areas and showed where they are in different cities within Greenville, York County, Spartanburg. And of course, you don’t see Anderson on there because we don’t have it yet. Note, I say yet.

Hospitality tax uses examples and we have the Garden House. We went there. They’re all in support
of that, too. And we’re going to the Senior Center. They’re in support of it, as well. And we’re going to be able to talk to them about it. And the potential areas of interest for the hospitality tax funds, what items will be taxed and what items are exempt. And then going through the case study and then doing the testimonies. I wanted you to see that and kind of have that little bit of a handout. I want to see if I -- I think this one might go into the media. No. Billboard marketing display. Here it is. So this kind of lets you see some of the billboards. And there’s so much more that I can show you with the billboards. And there’s also some bites, some sound bites we have and some clips that’ll be like little movie clips. But I know you don’t have a lot of time to go through that.

So let me kind of move into the Sunday sales referendum. On the alcohol sales, we went through, you’ll see it saying vote yes for Sunday sales. The tag line is more choices, more freedom, more jobs. It goes through and talks about why it’s a brighter future for Anderson County. The bottom line is the Chamber believes that we need to put everybody on a level playing field. You know, we have some of the restaurants that have it. Like downtown they have in onsite premises. Like you can go to Sullivan’s or some of the restaurants downtown and you’re able to buy on Sunday. But let me give you an example. When you go to Carolina Bauernhaus House, you can -- they only have it onsite. So you can buy a drink there but if you went in and you wanted to buy some brews or you wanted to take some home or some of your friends or families wanted to take some, they can’t because they don’t have offsite. So if this passes, it’ll cover the whole thing for all of the county. But also on 19B and 40, we’re not allowing them to be able to have alcohol sales. But they can in the city of Anderson. And you can have offsite and onsite in Pendleton, but the rest of the county doesn’t. So we’re not putting our businesses on a level playing field and we think there should be opportunity for all businesses. And as the largest business organization in Anderson County, we feel like it’s time for us to step up and stand behind our businesses. It’s just the right thing to do.

So basically we’re saying we firmly believe that our local business centers throughout the county should have an opportunity to compete on a level playing field. And also with the neighboring counties. Guess what, if they can’t come here and
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1 buy, they’re going to go to our neighboring counties
2 and that money goes there. We’re trying to keep it
3 local.
4
5 And it talks about keeping it local. The
6 restaurants, our convenience stores, our entertainment
7 venues and the community impact is greater than the
8 value of the products.
9
10 It talks about new business how that many
11 entrepreneurial ventures are based off of Sunday sales
12 and it gives you a list of them there. Then dining
13 and entertainment. Many national chains -- I don’t
14 know if y’all realize this -- will not consider a
15 location in a county that limits their Sunday sales.
16 And all of the restaurants at 19B are saying, yes,
17 please get this passed. Because alcohol sales bring
18 more into them than food does. So again, we’re not
19 letting them have their full potential.
20
21 It will spur growth and development and we give
22 you the reasons why. And then at the end just
23 bringing more opportunities to our community and your
24 neighbors with a yes vote. Vote yes for Sunday sales
25 and it gives you the web address there. Like the
26 other, we have a web address, and we’re going through
27 the same geofencing with all the information that we
28 told you about with the phones, with Facebook, with
29 Instagram, with the websites and the whole thing is
30 going to happen there, too.
31
32 And then I wanted to show you the digital
33 marketing and display that we have for -- this is
34 going to be printed like we just told you before,
35 like the leave behind napkin, there will be one for
36 the vote yes for Sunday sales, too. This will be what
37 it looks like. Just saying keep Anderson tax dollars
38 in Anderson County. If voters approve the change it
39 will make Anderson County beer and wine sales uniform
40 with surrounding counties and cities.
41
42 And then on the creative strategy, that is the
43 logo in red, white and blue, more choices, more
44 freedom, more jobs. Vote yes for Sunday sales. And
45 then you’re going to see this targeted digital on the
46 billboards. So I wanted to let you see some of the
47 examples we have. And this one, as well. So more
48 digital board -- billboard creative that we’ll have
49 going forward.
50
51 So in a synopsis, that’s both of the strategies
52 that we wanted to come before you and let you know
53 what we’re going to be pushing out. And we’re excited
54 about this. And we’ve got lots of people backing the
55 program. I want to definitely thank on the
56 hospitality tax, the Anderson Municipal Association is
behind us, Imagine Anderson, obviously the Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce, and Western Upstate Association of Realtors. I was looking for Peggy. She might have left. But they’re definitely behind that, as well, with us.

On the alcohol sales, the Chamber and the South Carolina Retail Association is moving that forward. So we have outlaid a great deal of money. I won’t tell you -- I won’t go into the total figures, but the Chamber is willing to do that because we believe we need to take a stand. This is our community. We need to have a better quality of life and things to attract for our citizens and our tourists coming into the area. We need to do that for our futures. That’s on the hospitality tax. And we need to have a level playing field for Sunday alcohol sales for all of our businesses. Thank you.

If anybody has any questions I’ll be happy to address those.

TOMMY DUNN: Appreciate that.
GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Chair?
TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma’am.
GRACIE FLOYD: Are we going to be allowed to make comments?
TOMMY DUNN: You can.
GRACIE FLOYD: Thank you. I’m going to try to be as brief as I possibly can on this situation. How did it get started? It started with me. I don’t know how many years now. Was it a year ago or two years ago when I first started with this council. There were no takers whatsoever. People did not understand what we don’t have in Anderson County. We don’t have a recreational program for our seniors, our children; nobody. We did not look at the fact that we could use funds from this thing to provide our children with some of what the city has. We have nothing. Each person up here is given thirty thousand dollars, or thirty-five dollars a year. And with that we are supposed to provide recreational opportunities for the people in our district. Each one of us have close to twenty-two thousand people in each district that we serve. And that thirty thousand dollars is supposed to help us provide recreation. Some of it goes toward recreation. Some of it is paid to fire stations. The health organization -- I can’t think of one right now off the top of my head -- but you know, like home for pregnancy mothers and da-da-da-da. All of it doesn’t go to all recreation. This thing would have helped us immensely.

But I knew a way to get this done that wouldn’t
have cost us one penny, one penny. And that was to
get council members on board to help them see what
this money could have done. In every other entity
that I am aware of it was voted on by the County
Council people and it was over; it was over. But of
course, being Anderson County, we had to go through
some sham and jumps, I want it, I don’t want it, they
don’t want me to have it, my people won’t support it,
da-da-da. So now we’ve got a big thing going. We’ve
got a referendum that everybody is going to have to
support.

But I just read this for the first time. And I
saw something in here a few minutes ago that I want to
know -- I don’t have to stand, but I need someone -- I
need someone; it’s about the referendum. It was
printed on this. Okay. Did you see the
representative in this, Mr. Allen, the representative
for the ordinance in here.

FEMALE: I think it’s in the red
one.

GRACIE FLOYD: It’s where? In the red
one? No, no. I am fully -- I fully support that
recreational hospitality tax. I fully support it. I
support it for the children of Anderson County. I
support it for the seniors of Anderson County. I
support it for the people who want the soccer thing
for the children in Anderson County. I support it for
the men who like to play baseball in Anderson County.
I fully support it.

When we got to the liquor thing, it says here, the
whereas, the Anderson County Council has been informed
and believes that Sunday sales of alcohol beverages
for on-premises and off-premises consumption may allow
restaurants and businesses to remain competitive with.
Folks, I am an Anderson Council member; nineteen
years. I have never fully supported this, nor have I
ever said I fully supported this, nor have I ever
voted on anything saying that I supported this. Some
people like beer, like beer, like beer. That’s up to
you. Okay? But I am not going to tell you -- or I’m
not going to support something that I can’t believe
in, that I don’t believe in it. If you support it,
then vote for it by all means. If you don’t support
it, then don’t support it. But please don’t say
about me, being one of the seven up here, that as a
Anderson County Council member, I have been informed
and believe that the sale of -- I don’t know if it’s
going to be good for business or not on Sunday. I
don’t know that. And I just resent having that being
said without my being asked about it, without my
voting on it, and without my reading this ordinance
for the first time today. And I thank you. My voice
is a little shaky because my blood sugar is going up.

TOMMY DUNN: Any other council members
have any comments?

CRAIG WOOTEN: Yes, Mr. Chairman?

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Wooten.

CRAIG WOOTEN: I just wanted to take the
time to thank the Chamber of Commerce and Ms.
Christopher for coming forward. Whether you agree
with the initiative or not, we have so few in the
county who set a vision, actually take action to do
something and go out and inform people. We have so
many instances where in hindsight everything is
critiqued and very few people say, well, where do we
want to go and what do we want to be? So for me I
really appreciate that. I thank you and your staff.
I thank the groups that you’re working for, because at
the end of the day, what it’ll allow is for a vote to
happen. But it’ll allow for an informed vote. And so
many times things are complicated and people don’t
have all the facts when they’re making the decision
because people are busy. And so I appreciate that
effort.

As to whether or not it’s a conservative position
or not, support a referendum on the subject matter,
I’d like to point out that by anybody’s measuring
stick South Carolina is one of the most conservative
states in the country. I think both sides would agree
on that. And out of the forty-two counties, Anderson,
Oconee, Pickens, Spartanburg, Greenville, York,
Greenwood, Laurens, are probably in the top eight
conservative counties in the state.

So when I look at this hospitality tax in the
upstate and I see Spartanburg County, Greenville
County, York County, Laurens County, it leads me to
believe that our conservative counterparts have seen
value in this. And that is not a conservative versus
liberal position, but it’s actually just a fiscal
policy position where we decide what we want to do or
we don’t want to do. And none of those rationales say
you have to vote for it or not vote for it. But to
take the political items out of it -- and so many
times, and in the year and a half I’ve been on this
council, I’ve probably heard the term 2008 a hundred
times because of what happened in 2008. Well, it’s
time we started talking about 2028 and 2038 and where
do we want to go and what do we want to do. And if
you don’t support it, that’s fine. But recognize that
we have some projects that we want to do, come with
other solutions, come with other ideas. Let’s have
discourse. Let’s have the debate about it and
we can decide whether or not we move forward.

Under the Sunday alcohol sales, I’ve been clear,
it won’t change my behavior on Sunday. But I do think
it is an item of equity and fairness. If you know,
one person’s restaurant is dead empty on Sunday and
another person’s restaurant is hopping, and they can
see each other, that seems a little bit unfair to the
business owner. I know I spoke with the Outback
proprietor and I believe he said out of seven states
in the southeast, over a hundred Outbacks, he’s the
only Outback in the southeast who can’t sell alcohol
on Sunday. That hits his bottom line. And so we
could make it very fair and say no alcohol for anybody
on Sunday. Or we can make it very fair and say, look,
everybody can be on the same playing field. I think
that’s the most plausible and reasonable thing to do.
It has nothing to do with your personal taste or
distaste for alcohol.

So once again, I thank Ms. Christopher for her
efforts. She has shown true leadership in Anderson
and I appreciate the time she’s given to this.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Wooten.

Any other council members?

RAY GRAHAM: Mr. Chairman?

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Graham.

RAY GRAHAM: I’d also like to take

this time to thank the Chamber and also Martin Holland
for the hard work and commitment that they have put
into this effort. Not only for the information that
you’re willing to share, but the true impact on
educating the community on the pros of this -- both of
these opportunities, actually. So I definitely want
to thank all of you guys for all the hard work that
you’ve given.

And as far as Sunday alcohol sales, I did bring
that up to be put on as a referendum. You know, as I
made it clear before at one of the other meetings, I
don’t serve alcohol in my restaurant currently and I
don’t perceive doing it when we start doing Sunday
alcohol sales, if we do. However, at the end of the
day, as a business owner, I think it’s very important
for us to offer for all businesses a fair opportunity
across the county. And right now we do not do that.
We literally have people coming into the city right
beside another restaurant that can serve alcohol. And
they’ll come into the city and participate and
patronize them on Sunday when the restaurant right
beside it outside the city cannot serve it. So it’s
truly about fairness in my mind.

And you know, when I got on council, the purpose
of getting on council was to represent all of Anderson
County, you know, not just my district. And so that’s
the very reason that I have brought that up. And I do
look forward to see what people’s choice is because I
think it’s a very important choice. And I think
that’s the fair way to do it. But again, thank you,
Chairman, for all y’all have done with this in
educating the community. And looking forward to how
these outcomes are.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Graham.
Any other council members? I appreciate y’all taking
y’all’s time out and educating the county to have an
informed decision to make. Appreciate it.

Again, we’ll be moving on to Item number 7, third
reading, Ordinance 2018-036, Ordinance authorizing the
execution and delivery of a fee in lieu of tax and
special source revenue credit agreement by and between
Anderson, South Carolina and Element Materials
Technology, a company, with respect to certain
economic development property in the County, whereby
such property will be subject to certain payments in
lieu of certain special source credits. Before we go
into the public hearing, I’d like to ask Mr. Nelson if
he would just say a few words so people will sort of
know. Appreciate that.

BURRISS NELSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
Project -- we have called it 20180430, but the company
is Element Materials Technology. This company does
the testing of a number of materials for aerospace
company; people like Lockheed, Boeing, GE, those kinds
of companies. They’re going to create thirty-one new
jobs with an average hourly wage rate of twenty-three
dollars and eighty-one cents an hour. Basically this
thirty-one employees will be scientists in this
facility and they will be testing this material for
all of these companies. Annual payroll will be one
point four million dollars with only thirty-one
employees. In the ordinance and I’m sure some of you
noticed, it lists a total capital investment of three
point four two five million dollars. That does not
include the building, which is a two point eight. It
was not included in the fee agreement. So the total
capital investment is six point two two five million
dollars. Taxes that were paid last year of 2015 on
this property were three thousand four hundred and
ninety dollars. The projected taxes for 2020, the
first year, sixty-nine thousand five hundred and eighty-one dollars, and that does include the incentive. And over a total of a twenty-year period, it will generate a projected amount of one point two seven eight million dollars. First year community impact, fifteen million. Twenty years, the total, over a twenty year period, community impact, two hundred sixty-one million. Great project. Great opportunity. Fabulous company. It’s worldwide.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, members of council. Appreciate the opportunity. Oh, and Mr. Chairman, there are copies of the press release that came out from the governor’s office on the gate right there. Thank you, sir.

GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Chairman?

TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma’am.

GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Burriss, would you please come back? Okay. Mr. Burriss, we were talking about two at the same time; right, 040 and 036? Or just 040?

BURRISS NELSON: Let me see; I’m sorry. 40 will be the multi-county park agreement that goes with 036. But we haven’t gotten to that part yet.

GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. All right. Mr. Burriss, you know me. You know how I like it. Could you just put it in layman’s terms? What are we talking about? Just layman’s terms so anybody -- a six year old child will know exactly what you’re talking about.

BURRISS NELSON: Well, these jobs are being created by this company.

GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. What’s the name of the company?

BURRISS NELSON: It’s Element Materials Technology.

GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. And what type company is it?

BURRISS NELSON: It’s an American company based in Hartford, Connecticut. The company tests materials. For example, the pins in GE turbines, they flex those. They exert stress on those items to see if they will crack, add heat, cold ---

GRACIE FLOYD: They’re coming down here to us now; right?

BURRISS NELSON: Oh, yes, ma’am.

GRACIE FLOYD: They’re building ---

BURRISS NELSON: At exit 35.

GRACIE FLOYD: And how many jobs are they going to bring us?

BURRISS NELSON: Thirty-one.
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1 GRACIE FLOYD: And it’s a fee in lieu of? In other words they don’t pay any taxes?
2 BURRISS NELSON: No. They’ll pay taxes. They’ll be paying sixty-nine thousand dollars a year.
3 At your desk there’s -- the announcement is right there. There’s an explanation on the third page.
4 GRACIE FLOYD: Did it come today?
5 BURRISS NELSON: I just got it to you.
6 GRACIE FLOYD: I don’t have time to read it.
7 BURRISS NELSON: Sure. On the third page ---
8 GRACIE FLOYD: So it’s not a fee in lieu of?
9 BURRISS NELSON: Yes, ma’am. It is a fee in lieu.
10 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. Just wanted folks to hear that.
11 BURRISS NELSON: The fee in lieu simply gives a discounted property tax.
12 GRACIE FLOYD: Good. Just wanted folks to hear that.
13 BURRISS NELSON: Sure.
14 GRACIE FLOYD: Now, did I ask you this one already? How many jobs?
15 BURRISS NELSON: Thirty-one.
16 GRACIE FLOYD: Thirty-one jobs. Okay.
17 Mr. Burriss, I thank you so much.
18 BURRISS NELSON: Yes, ma’am. You’re welcome.
19 TOMMY DUNN: At this time we’ll go into a public hearing on this. Anyone wishing to speak to this matter, please step forward, state your name and district and address the chair, please.
20 Public hearing. Anyone at all? Anyone? Public hearing will be closed. We have a motion to put this on the floor?
21 CINDY WILSON: So moved.
22 RAY GRAHAM: Second.
23 TOMMY DUNN: Motion Ms. Wilson, second Mr. Graham. Now are there any discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands? Opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously.
24 Moving on to Item number 7(b), 2018-039, and this is third reading, an ordinance to amend the zoning map to rezone plus or minus 72.28 acres from PD (Planned Development) to IZOD (Innovative Zoning District) at Crestview Road, Harriet Circle and Midway Road. Do we have a motion to move this forward?
25 CRAIG WOOTEN: So moved.
26 TOMMY DUNN: Motion Mr. Wooten, second
by Mr. Allen. Any discussion?

CRAIG WOOTEN: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Wooten?

CRAIG WOOTEN: Yes. This is an on an acreage in District 1. It’s third reading. We’ve passed it on first and second reading. Just to give a recap of where it came from was, this originally was for rezoning as a PD, planned development, I think going back to 2008, 2009. It’s at a busy intersection where Harriet Circle, Midway Road and Crestview come together. There was considerable concern about the development creating more congestion and traffic and what was going there.

What I’d like to point out is this PD that was approved ten years before some of us were on Council was a commercial, a multi-family and a higher density residential. So just by nature that was going to create a lot of traffic problems. Well, because of the layout of that, they were not able to do exactly that because of permits and requirements, even though we had rezoned it that way. So they had come back and said, look, we want to scrap the commercial. We want to leave the multi-family out. We want to actually take the density of the houses from over two hundred down to one seventy. These are all positive things for acreage that was going to be developed. It’s in a hot area of Anderson. And so from that standpoint, I felt like the developers were coming full force in everything that they could do to help the community. They gave right-of-way to the county. They offered even more right-of-way to help build an intersection and widen the roads. Council members have gone together to try to look for funding and to prioritize funding so that this intersection can become more amenable to the local traffic. So I believe these are all good things considering where it came from. And I believe the developer and owners of this property have made extraordinary efforts in something that could have had a commercial or multi-family component to it, and I believe this is going to be a quality development for District 1.

So thank you, Mr. Chairman.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Wooten.

At this time we’ll go into public hearing on this. Anyone wishing to speak to -- I’m sorry. This is not a public hearing. I lost my place. I’m sorry. Anymore discussion on zoning? Hearing none, all in favor of the motion show of hands. Opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously.

I jumped ahead of myself. The next one is a
public hearing, 2018-040, an ordinance to amend an  
agreement for the development of a joint county  
industrial and business park (2010 park) of Anderson  
and Greenville Counties as to enlarge the park,  
Project 20180430. This will be a public hearing.  
Anyone wishing to speak to this please step forward,  
state your name and district and address the chair.  
Anyone at all? Anybody? Hearing and seeing none,  
public hearing will be closed.  
This will be the third reading. Pertains to item  
number 7(a). This is putting it, in theory only,  
putting it in a joint park with Greenville. It’s not  
Anything you want to add on that, Mr. Nelson?  
BURRISS NELSON: Thank you, sir. It  
merely allows the company, if they can qualify for any  
additional state incentives, it allows them to qualify  
for those. There’s a jobs creation tax credit that  
they may or may not be able to qualify for. Thank  
you, sir.  
TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Anybody want  
to move this forward?  
TOM ALLEN: So moved.  
CINDY WILSON: Second.  
TOMMY DUNN: Motion Mr. Allen, second  
Ms. Wilson. Any discussion?  
CINDY WILSON: May I quickly?  
TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Wilson?  
CINDY WILSON: The driving force behind  
having to do fee in lieu of taxes and multi-county  
parks and special source revenue credits and that sort  
of thing, our state has the highest industrial tax  
assessment ratio in the nation at ten and a half  
percent. And that was put in place in 1895 with our  
reconstruction constitution. And this body with maybe  
a few other different council members made at least  
two efforts over the years to respectfully request our  
general assembly to change that. Even our adjoining  
state of Georgia is four percent and they can actually  
decree if it’s a neighboring county to South Carolina  
zero taxes. So we’re at a serious disadvantage in  
South Carolina. So just wanted to point that out.  
That’s why we go through all these convoluted  
agreements. And I have to say that one of the top  
attorneys for this took me to task. He would rather  
keep fee in lieu taxes and all of that in place. It  
does cut down on legal fees should we go the other  
way. Thank you.  
TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Ms. Wilson.  
Anyone else? Anymore discussion? Hearing none, all
in favor show of hands. Opposed like sign. Motion carries.

Moving on to item number 8(a). Mr. Waters, you going to recuse yourself from this?

KEN WATERS: Yeah. I forgot where we were.

TOMMY DUNN: This will be item number 8(a), ordinance second reading, ordinance number 2018-035, an ordinance authorizing the lease of a portion of the Anderson Sports and Entertainment Center consisting of approximately .75 acre of Tax Parcel No. 122-00-01-001 to Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC for relocation of an energy storage system.

Mr. Burns, do you want to just speak to this for a second?

RUSTY BURNS: Yes. As we discussed last time, this will be an emergency power source for the civic center which is a regionally designated emergency shelter operation. It will also come in handy for our day to day operations in case of power outage.

TOMMY DUNN: Let the record show that Mr. Waters has recused himself and stepped out of the room. Anybody want to make a motion to move this forward?

TOM ALLEN: So moved.

TOMMY DUNN: Motion Mr. Allen, second Mr. Graham. Now any discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands. Opposed like sign. Let the show the motion carries unanimously.

Will you ask Mr. Waters to step back inside.

Moving on to 2018-041, an ordinance approving the sale of approximately 4.04 acres of property owned by Anderson County, South Carolina and located near the southwest corner of Orange Way and Martin Road to One World Technologies, Inc. This is a piece of property that we bought to put the road in, help put the road at TTI. It’s been accomplished. They’ve offered to buy this property. Mr. Burns, you want to talk on this for a second?

RUSTY BURNS: We will sell the property for a hundred and fifty-five thousand dollars.

TTI/Ryobi intends to put a major operation on that piece of property that will be of benefit to the citizens of Anderson County and create more jobs.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Burns, that property was -- the county had it appraised?

RUSTY BURNS: Yes, sir, and we’re selling it for the appraised price; yes, sir.

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

CINDY WILSON: So moved.

TOMMY DUNN: Motion Mr. Graham, second

Ms. Wilson. Any discussion?

GRACIE FLOYD: Yes.

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Floyd?

GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Burns?

RUSTY BURNS: Yes, ma’am.

GRACIE FLOYD: We owned it, we sold it.

they bought it?

RUSTY BURNS: Yes, ma’am.

GRACIE FLOYD: What they going to put there?

RUSTY BURNS: They’re going to put a commercial enterprise that they would like to reveal at a later time that will be of great benefit to Anderson County and will attract people from all over to Anderson County.

GRACIE FLOYD: A chicken farm would be a great thing for Anderson County.

RUSTY BURNS: I have some of those, Ms. Floyd. This is not it.

GRACIE FLOYD: This is going to be another chicken farm?

RUSTY BURNS: No, ma’am. Nor a turkey farm or a beef cattle farm. It will be a commercial enterprise.

GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. And we’re supposed to vote for something we don’t know what it’s going to be about; right?

RUSTY BURNS: I think that we have a good idea that it will be a continuation of the development of the TTI site at 81 and 85.

GRACIE FLOYD: Does our chairman know what it’s going to be?

RUSTY BURNS: I think -- we think it will be a store.

GRACIE FLOYD: One of those little cutie stores, I think?

RUSTY BURNS: No. I was going to put that up there but they wouldn’t let me do that.

GRACIE FLOYD: All right. So we don’t know what kind of store it’s going to be?

RUSTY BURNS: They’re going to sell materials that are produced by TTI.

GRACIE FLOYD: I can hold you to that.

Good. Thank you.

RUSTY BURNS: Okay.

TOMMY DUNN: Anyone else? All in favor of the motion show of hands. Opposed like sign.
Show the motion carries.

Moving on to Item 8(c), 2018-044, an ordinance to amend an agreement for the development of a joint county industrial and business park (2010) of Anderson and Greenville Counties so to enlarge the park. Mr. Nelson, you want to speak to that for a second?

BURRISS NELSON: Yes, sir, Mr. Chairman, members of council. If you’ll remember back two months ago we had a solar project called Southern Current. And they put -- or have worked on putting solar panel farms on six different properties in Anderson County. And this is the continuation of putting those properties -- we finished the ordinance for that creation of those projects. And this will continue -- be the continuation of putting it in the multi-county industrial park to allow them to garner any state incentives that might be available to them.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Do we have a motion to move this forward?

CINDY WILSON: So moved.

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

Moving on to item number 9, ordinance first reading. This will be 9(a), 2018-026, an ordinance amending the zoning map to rezone plus or minus 3.86 acres from R-A (residential-agricultural) to R-M1 (mixed residential district) at 1226 Massey Road. Before I entertain is there any motions.

KEN WATERS: Mr. Chairman, I’d like to make a motion that we deny the rezoning of this due to the residents in that area just doesn’t want it to be zoned.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Waters, for the record, this is in your area, your district?

KEN WATERS: It is.

TOMMY DUNN: Motion made by Mr. Waters, it’s in his district, that we deny the application. Do we have a second?

CINDY WILSON: I’ll second that.

TOMMY DUNN: Second Ms. Wilson. Now, discussion?

CINDY WILSON: May I quickly ask ---

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Wilson?

CINDY WILSON: I have many conflicting thoughts about this, but we have always respected the people who live in the area, at least since 2009. Did the Diocese give this package to the property owners over there of what you were willing to do?
TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma’am. I believe so.

MICHAEL ACQUILANO: Yes, ma’am. (Inaudible)

CINDY WILSON: Property owners over there need to be admonished that if we don’t go with restrictions and covenants on the property and they work out with the church the ground rules, the restrictive covenants and restrictions trump zoning. So you would -- that would put you into a position of controlling far better what goes on to that property than without. And I do fear that with it being residential agriculture property, all over the county we’re being hit with these slab homes. You could have a hundred slab homes over there and they would meet all the criteria. And I would like for folks to know that before we make a final vote here tonight. It does -- I can tell you from my perspective from real estate and farming and so forth, in reviewing what we’ve been provided this go-round, I would far rather have the church clustered onto 3.86 acres with the rest of the property, all of it, entailed with covenants and restrictions than take my chances on a hundred slab houses. If you want to take a look, go drive through our district and see what that brings. And it would be able to go into RA, residential ag, and that would be a great concern, I would think. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Ms. Wilson.

Ms. Floyd?

GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. I know we have a lot of people here tonight interested in this particular piece on the agenda. I want you to know that I don’t do things haphazard. You know that if you know me. I have spent some time today going over this entire thing. Had a wonderful talk with the person from Charleston, South Carolina who is working with this. Found out that I like him very, very much. He’s a good man. He’s a family man. He believes in this project, and that’s good. I am a community, family person. I believe in the, I believe in the -- in communities. I believe in neighborhood. I had promised myself when I took this position September the 14th, 1999 that I would never vote for anything that I couldn’t live with myself. I would not put anything in your neighborhood that I would not put in mine or anybody else’s neighborhood that I would not put in mine.

This is a worthwhile entity. We need places like this. Years and years ago when I worked for an organization that dealt with things like this; drugs,
alcohol abuse, mentally ill, the pregnancy thing. When we were looking for places to help the mothers, very, very young mothers, we had to go all the way to Charlotte to find a place because we couldn’t any anywhere else. And I went to Charlotte to do it.

Now, the question is, what about now? I don’t think we have a place like this already here. And folks, as much as we need this place, as much as this thing that’s looking us in the face, we need it, and it’s a viable, good Christian thing to do, I cannot vote for it. Why? I don’t want it in my neighborhood either. I live in a close knit community. We have children there. We have -- in my community there is seventy percent widows there, and I’m one of them. I don’t want the traffic in and out of my neighborhood. I don’t want that in my neighborhood. I don’t want the police coming in my neighborhood in the middle of the night. I don’t want ambulances or EMS they’re called now, and I don’t want doctors. I just want to sleep peacefully at night. I cannot put that in whatever your neighborhood if I won’t put it in mine.

But just because we don’t feel that that is the place for it, what we need to do is help find a place that would be conducive for this type thing. We need it. We need it. I don’t like the idea of little children growing up around that. The world is bad enough for them now. I don’t want that thing there to look -- be sitting for them all the time and they know what it is. There’s one other thing. There’s 103 acres, 103 acres. Years from now when I’m in my glory, and I will be in my glory. For all the ?? I do go through for this county, I know I’m going to heaven; okay? But the thing is this, you do it now for a hundred and three acres. You can’t tell me that in a couple of years from now it won’t be something else. I look at a situation right here in Anderson County; it started out as a home for battered women in a neighborhood. Nice neighborhood. Now, there’s one across the street from it now. There are houses now that are vacant and they’re gone and the houses are dilapidated. I don’t want that for your community. I don’t want it for mine.

So I’ll -- our ordinance says we can why we are not going to vote for a particular thing. And I’m not going to vote for it, even though the man who called me, I wish I could just move him up to Anderson. Wish you could get to know him. He is a nice, a nice person. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma’am.

TOM ALLEN: Mr. Chair?
TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Allen?

TOM ALLEN: Oh, okay. Thank you.

Yeah, this has been a very difficult situation and I think both Ms. Wilson and Ms. Floyd made very good points. I think the Diocese has really bent over backwards to make all kinds of concessions to do this. Because as Ms. Wilson said, something could move in there that you really don’t want in there. So it does become a difficult situation. I can sympathize with the Diocese. I understand what they’re trying to do. I would like also, if this doesn’t pass, see the county try to help out somehow, if you’ll still like to try to find a location in this county. But the thing is, we are representatives, as I’ve said so many times, of the people. And that’s what we do. It’s not my opinion. I think it’s a great service. But I can’t just say the heck with the citizens out there, I think it should go there; I’m voting for it even if they don’t want it. And I don’t think you would want to be in a location where you might have a lot of hostile neighbors right around, either. So it’s a difficult one. Again, I really sympathize with you. And if I can help, or any of us up here can help in any way to find a location suitable, be glad to work with you on that. But in my opinion, I’m going to have to go with the citizens who we represent in that area. That’s all I had.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Allen.

Go ahead, Mr. Wooten.

CRAIG WOOTEN: With all due respect to my fellow council members, I can’t wholeheartedly disagree more. And I say this not because I’m discounting the feelings of the residents, but at the end of the day we have to look at individual property rights. And we are so ready in this county to jump and tell everybody what they can do with their own property. And at the end of the day the person who pays for the property is the name who’s on the deed. And they should have the right to do with that property what they see fit as long as it is reasonable for the community and is not bringing any undue harm.

So in my opinion, I believe four pregnant women could probably live in this house and not even apply for rezoning. So the fact that we’re adding five or six or seven, you’re basically saying three pregnant women are going to cause the police to come, they’re going to cause the ambulances to come, they’re going to cause so much traffic that we can’t have like quality of life. And then the comments that I’ve been so disappointed in is, it’s irrelevant if it’s the
Catholic Church, the Baptist Church or the Church of God. But whether Charles Stanley came down here or Franklin Graham, we need to look at it as, is it an okay use for the owner of that property? I feel like with a hundred and five acre buffer, that is not going to bring any undue harm on the residents around it. I believe that the church has gone to great lengths that they did not have to. There’s even a question here if they had to come get rezoning in the first place. They’ve been forthright. They’ve answered everybody’s questions. And you may dislike it. But at the end of the day they’ll be the ones writing the check for the property and they’ll be the ones owing the property.

And so I respect my council members on this. I have a conviction for this cause. I’ve always had a conviction for this cause. I’ve asked as many people as I could separate from me that had different backgrounds, I lay out the scenario and say tell me what you think. And I felt like the general consensus was they did not see how it would negatively or adversely affect the people around it. So I can’t guarantee the future for everybody in this community. I can’t guarantee the future for my own community in Anderson. But what is at hand I do not think is an egregious act by anybody. I think it’s something that would generally be okay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you.

RAY GRAHAM: Mr. Chairman?

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Graham?

RAY GRAHAM: This has been a very hot topic item among council members, throughout the community. And while I sit here tonight, I would love to support my fellow council member, Mr. Waters, we well on this, and we’ve kind of went back and forth over the weekend, kind of going back and forth trying to figure out what’s the best direction. And you know, at the end of the day I definitely respect the property owners and also Mr. Waters and the opinions that’s been given. In talking with different members of the community that has contacted me, just like the deer stand earlier; I assure you, sir, that deer stand had nothing to do with these individuals here. And I know, at the end of the day I definitely respect the property owners and also Mr. Waters and the opinions that’s been given. In talking with different members of the community that has contacted me, just like the deer stand earlier; I assure you, sir, that deer stand had nothing to do with these individuals here. And I know that was not your intent in making that statement. But the point being, while we have a sheriff here in Anderson County, and I come from the sheriff’s department and I speak that straight from the heart, our guys is out on the road on a daily basis trying to make our community safer. But we have knuckleheads throughout our community and they’re going to
steal your camera. And this issue here truly has
nothing to do with that. By all means I appreciate
everyone that’s taken the time to call me, to email
me. There was several members of the community even
made statements about they wanted their property
reazoned on different issues as far as development or
what not. And you know, I come back to the same
realization. I’ve told this numerous times to my
fellow council members. And that is that I feel as a
property owner, without any type of restrictions in a
subdivision that’s already in place, if you live in a
rural community you should have somewhat of an ability
to do what you want with your property. And I offered
that same opportunity to the neighbors that’s in that
community.

I don’t know if this will pass tonight, but one
thing I would like to see if it does pass, I would
love to see you guys come together with some true pros
and cons. So far on the ones that you have given me,
personally, and the phone calls -- and again I
appreciate those -- there are truly not no issues on
whether or not that facility should be allowed to be
there. I agree with Councilman Wooten as far as who’s
putting it there, whether it’s a private organization,
whether it’s the Salvation Army, whether it’s a
church, none of that even matters. At the end of the
day, they’re trying to make the community better.
Because realistically speaking, some of the people
that will be there will be from your neighborhood or
be from your community. And also will be from mine.

Again, I respect Ms. Floyd’s wishes that she
wouldn’t want it in her backyard. I can honestly say,
I live down in Starr, and I would not have a problem
with that being in my yard. I don’t foresee it
creating a lot of traffic, a lot of crime rate, you
know, drug activity. You know, I don’t foresee that.
What I do foresee is if we don’t do this, someone
coming in and developing that hundred acres, and you
truly have a traffic problem and you truly have a
crime rate, because with a hundred houses, you’re
going to have a crime rate spike. And there’s
statistics that back that up. That’s not just a
statement. There’s statistics that shows that. And
sometime I can’t help but think, you’re almost cutting
your nose off to spite your face on this. And I mean
that respectfully. And if it does pass, I truly hope
y’all -- because if it does there will be two other
readings and there will be plenty of opportunity to
change the council members’ minds supporting it	onight. But I would truly like it to be a truly con
your side that you see that it’s a disadvantage to
your community.

Again, I appreciate everyone that’s taken the time
to contact me personally on this. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Graham.

I’d just like to say a few words. I’ve always,
since I’ve been on council, taken very seriously the
people whose district it’s in. I want the same
respect when it comes to a thing in my district.
Also, of all the things in Anderson County, this had
to be picked out having to be the only precinct, I
think, in District 6 that’s zoned. And I have to
respect the people that voted for zoning that want
zoning. I mean, I don’t necessarily agree all the
time with zoning, but it’s the law we live by.
People’s got a right to that and they’ve got a right
to the expectations of what zoning brings to them.
But I also want to say I wholeheartedly agree with Ms.
Wilson. I hope y’all don’t come back here if this
thing comes, because you’ve got a lot more
restrictions and covenants on this piece of property
that the church is looking at than what you’re going
to have in the future.

Saying that, if nothing else, we’re going to call
for a vote. All in favor of Mr. Waters’ motion to
deny, show of hands. All opposed. Show the motion
carries with Mr. Waters, Mr. Allen, Ms. Floyd, Mr.
Dunn, Mr. Graham in favor. Ms. Wilson, did you vote
to deny? Vote to not deny Mr. Graham and Mr. Wooten.

We’re going to take about a five minute recess.

GRACIE FLOYD: Tell me ---

TOM ALLEN: Mr. Chairman?

TOMMY DUNN: It was denied.

TOM ALLEN: I’d just like to say that

was a very difficult vote. And my offer is still out
there if we can help you in any way, shape or form to
try to do something. Thank you.

GRACIE FLOYD: May I say something?

TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma’am.

GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. I want to tell you

that it was denied. Let me tell you something I
didn’t tell you now. I don’t want it in my backyard,
but you know what I’ve got instead, I got Fafard, the
company that makes the fertilizer. All right. And
what do we hear first thing in the morning, we hear
trains loading up the fertilizer. What do we smell
late at night, what do we smell? The fertilizer.
They have since moved it a little bit away from us
now. But I have been where you’re going. I know how
it is. And I wish you all the best. I wish you all
the best. You’re building up a good, strong neighborhood in your area. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Moving on to Item number 11, road acceptance into the county inventory, Wild Hickory Circle. Do we have a motion to accept this into the county with meeting all county criteria.

RAY GRAHAM: Motion.

TOMMY DUNN: Motion Mr. Graham. Have a second?

CINDY WILSON: So moved.

TOMMY DUNN: Do we have a second?

KEN WATERS: Second.

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

GRACIE FLOYD: On the road?

TOMMY DUNN: The road, yes, ma’am.

Show the motion carries unanimously.

Moving on to Item number 12, district paving funds. Mr. Burns.

RUSTY BURNS: Mr. Chairman, this is a request I believe that we have talked with every member of council today. We are going to be taking some existing funds and putting them with the 1.5 million dollars that council approved. Take that up to around a hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars. We will take a portion of that money, sixty thousand dollars, and pave the parking lot at the Mental Health Department. If we put that money together with the money we’re getting from C-funds, it’s going to be around five million dollars.

TOMMY DUNN: Do we have a motion to move this forward?

CINDY WILSON: So moved.


GRACIE FLOYD: Yes.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Floyd.

GRACIE FLOYD: Whatever happened this morning was terrible. I got your message. It was explained to me. But evidently I didn’t understand the explanation. Because when I called to get some more, I said what I thought I was told. In fact, I said what I was sure I was told. But I wasn’t told everything.

RUSTY BURNS: Yes, ma’am.

GRACIE FLOYD: And I don’t understand it. I don’t understand why -- I think this is called for a vote tonight; am I correct?

RUSTY BURNS: Yes.

GRACIE FLOYD: I don’t understand why we
are having to vote on this tonight when we just
realized how much the C-fund was going to give us
after waiting for years -- for a lot of months to get
that. And all of a sudden we know. Two weeks ago we
knew what the C-fund was going to give us. C-fund;
right?

RUSTY BURNS: Yes, ma’am.
GRACIE FLOYD: But this morning, this
morning I get a phone call to explain something that I
think that we’re going to vote on tonight about it;
right?

RUSTY BURNS: Yes, ma’am.
GRACIE FLOYD: I don’t understand that,
Mr. ...

FEMALE: Burns.
GRACIE FLOYD: Burns. Thank you. I
don’t understand that, Mr. Burns. I don’t understand
why we always have to rush, rush, rush to get things
through.

RUSTY BURNS: We basically knew the
amount of money we were going to get from C-funds. It
was the amount we requested some time ago. At the
meeting that we attended we were assured at the next
meeting that they would vote to approve those funds.
So we knew well before two weeks ago that we were
going to get those monies.

GRACIE FLOYD: We didn’t. Well, excuse
me, I didn’t.

RUSTY BURNS: Well, okay. So what we’re
trying to do is increase the amount of money that we
have to go with our paving list. We put money aside
to match the C-fund money. So in essence we’re going
to be getting around five million dollars for paving
in Anderson County, which is only what we’re going to
be responsible for; not what the state is also going
to be paving, and what the state is going to be paving
in another situation with different money. And the
reason that we contacted all members of council today
while this was in the agenda packet mailed out Friday,
is we wanted to give every council member a chance to
ask questions so we could be perfectly clear and
everyone would have an idea of what we wanted to do.
The paving list that we will be going by is the same
paving list that council has been presented before.

GRACIE FLOYD: That was -- we were
presented that in 19 -- I think it was in June of 19
-- I’m sorry, 2017; that’s how long ago. Yeah, 2017.
And then somehow this showed up. This is the
requested paving list and estimated cost for Anderson
County. Okay. At the time we got this, nobody knew
what it was. And still if I showed this to you right
now, you wouldn’t know what I was talking about. But
on this it talks about what each of us are going to
get and for what roads. I think these are for the C-
fund roads. All right. This was never explained,
just as the rest of our information. It just showed
up in the folder. Okay. But I think whatever is
planned, I am respectfully, if I know how, asking that
we table this until the next week or the next time we
meet after we have understood it more. I want to know
what I’m getting for District 2. All right. I know
that things don’t work out fairly for us, and I said
before God and man, things in District 2 don’t always
work our fairly for us. And I cannot take a chance of
leaving this to the powers that be, that we’re going
to get our fair share of that money. I respectfully
ask. Do you want to see this, Mr. Allen?
TOM ALLEN: That’s okay.
GRACIE FLOYD: Have you seen it?
TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma’am.
GRACIE FLOYD: You’ve seen it. Have you
seen it?
TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma’am.
GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. When I get to be
chair maybe I’ll understand it, too. But right now I
don’t. And I thank you.
TOMMY DUNN: Do we have a motion ---
KEN WATERS: Mr. Chairman, may I? Over
here. Would you explain that one more time, how much
money we will be given?
RUSTY BURNS: If you took the sources
that I just mentioned, we will have a little over five
million dollars to pave in Anderson County, which
doesn’t include money that ANATS will provide in the
ANATS district or money that will come from the GPATS.
It also doesn’t include the portion of the C-fund
money that will go on state roads. Nor does it
include the remainder of the money that was passed by
the general assembly last year. They’re finishing up
that portion now. Does that make sense?
KEN WATERS: Could I say this is the
most money we’ve had to pave in ten years?
RUSTY BURNS: It’s a lot of money, and I
can’t recall that off the top of my head, Mr. Waters.
But if it’s not, it’s awfully close.
KEN WATERS: So we’ve finally got some
money to pave with; is that correct?
RUSTY BURNS: Yes, sir.
KEN WATERS: Well, how about that?
Thank you, sir.
GRACIE FLOYD: But ---
RAY GRAHAM: Mr. Chairman?
TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Graham?
RAY GRAHAM: This might be -- what is the percentage that we’re putting in our -- between our paving accounts?
RITA DAVIS: It’s very minuscule, sir.
RAY GRAHAM: Right.
RITA DAVIS: It’s only -- there will be an additional two hundred and forty-three thousand over the 1.5 that’s ?? incorporated.
RAY GRAHAM: Right.
RITA DAVIS: So it will make it seven forty-three.
RAY GRAHAM: In essence this is what we done last year to get the biggest bang for the buck with our paving funds?
RITA DAVIS: That’s correct, sir.
RAY GRAHAM: This is being fiscally responsible as council members to basically take the paving money and basically multiply it with this money to get the biggest paving jobs throughout Anderson County; not a certain district?
RITA DAVIS: That’s right.
RAY GRAHAM: Thank you.
GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Chair? Okay. Mr. Burns?
RUSTY BURNS: Yes, ma’am.
GRACIE FLOYD: This money is supposed to be after we have spent whatever? This money is supposed to be collected and put all together. And from that money that’s put all together out of each of our paving accounts we can -- we’re going to use it as a -- somebody’s favorite word -- a slush fund?
RUSTY BURNS: No, ma’am.
GRACIE FLOYD: We’re going to put -- wait a minute. We’ve going to put it in a -- wait a minute. This is what I have been told. Now listen to me. We’re supposed to take all the money that’s left over from the paving account and we’re supposed to put it all together. And from that money we’re going to pave whatever? Now, we didn’t do this last year. We were supposed to have done it. But we didn’t get the money to do it last year.
RUSTY BURNS: This list comes from the road maintenance department and it is based on their best estimation of what we need to pave, being done scientifically. It is not this, that or the other. This is their recommendation, which council asked us
to follow, and that’s what we’re trying to do.

GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. Who is their recommendation?

RUSTY BURNS: Road maintenance department. Roads and bridges; yes, ma’am.

GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. The road maintenance department gave each of us last year a sheet with our things on it. All right. We haven’t seen that sheet since last year; I think it was June the 17th, because there was no money. We didn’t get the money that we thought we was going to get from the C-fund so we didn’t do it. So that’s how I know that it couldn’t have been done last year.

RUSTY BURNS: Yes, ma’am.

GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. There was a time when District 3 used to get a lot of money. I think the thing was fifty percent roads and fifty percent something else. Okay? They got most of the money. All right. And a lot of money. But that was changed four ---

RUSTY BURNS: It certainly was.

GRACIE FLOYD: --- four years ago that was changed?

RUSTY BURNS: Yes, ma’am.

GRACIE FLOYD: And since then we have not had a situation with road money that was continuous. It’s the same thing every year like it used to be. Okay. So now every year we have to go through something to see what it’s going to be. Okay. And I don’t understand this time.

RUSTY BURNS: Yes, ma’am.

GRACIE FLOYD: All I know that a lot has been done to District 2, but not enough has been for it. I’ve been there nineteen years and I’ll say it until the day I die, I’ve been here for nineteen years and I don’t trust the system.

Now, until we can get this money worked out -- everybody else may know and everybody’s probably got their minds are made up, because that’s how things are done. All right. But until we can all get the same report of who’s going to get what and who is going to put in the pile and who’s going to get the money from the pile can be worked out, I would like to postpone the vote until we can get that done. Thank you.

KEN WATERS: Mr. Chair, can I ask one more question? You did say this did not include the GPATS and the ANATS?

RUSTY BURNS: No, sir, it does not.

KEN WATERS: So that’s even more ---

RUSTY BURNS: Yes, sir.
KEN WATERS: --- projects that’ll be done. So you’re looking at over five million; is that correct?

RUSTY BURNS: Yes, sir.

KEN WATERS: Okay. Thank you, sir.

TOMMY DUNN: All in favor of the recommendation from the staff, show of hands. All opposed. Show the motion carries with Mr. Waters, Mr. Allen, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Graham, Mr. Wooten, Ms. Wilson in favor. Ms. Floyd opposes.

Moving on to Item 13, executive session. We need to go into executive session for legal advice regarding Iva sewer contractual matters. We have a motion?

RAY GRAHAM: So moved.

TOMMY DUNN: Motion Mr. Graham, second Mr. Allen. All in favor of the motion, show of hands. All opposed? Show the motion carries. We’ll go right back here behind us. Is that right, Mr. Burns?

(EXECUTIVE SESSION)

TOMMY DUNN: We’re back in session. Do we have a motion to come out of executive session?

CINDY WILSON: May I make a motion that we come out of executive session, having received legal advice regarding the sewer matter.

TOMMY DUNN: Taking no votes?

CINDY WILSON: No action taken.

RAY GRAHAM: Second.

TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Graham. All in favor of the motion show of hands. Shows the motion carries.

Moving on to Item Number 14, Appointments.

District 7, Ms. Wilson.

CINDY WILSON: Yes. May I please nominate Mr. Marion Middleton, Jr. for District 7's position on the Museum Board.

TOMMY DUNN: Got a motion by Ms. Wilson for Museum Advisory Board appointment. We have a second?

KEN WATERS: Second.

TOMMY DUNN: Second by Mr. Waters. Any discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands. Like sign. Show the motion carries.

Do we have any more appointments?

Moving on to requests from council members. Mr. Waters, do you have any?

KEN WATERS: I have none at this time.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Allen?

TOM ALLEN: Yes, Mr. Chair. I have two that I’d like to make. The first one is for the
Crescent Elite Shooters. They’re a skeet trap shooting club and I’d like to take five hundred dollars out of my recreation account for them. And I also have another one for the Townville Recreation Department for four thousand dollars. And I put that in the form of a motion.

KEN WATERS: Second.

TOMMY DUNN: Motion by Mr. Allen, second by Mr. Waters. Any discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands. Show the motion carries.

Anything else, Mr. Allen?

TOM ALLEN: That’s all.

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Floyd, do you have any?

GRACIE FLOYD: No, I don’t have any at this time.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Graham?

RAY GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I’d like to take five hundred dollars out of my rec account for the Crescent Elite Shooters. I bring this forth in the form of a motion.

TOM ALLEN: Second.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Graham makes a motion to take District 3's rec account five hundred dollars. Mr. Allen seconds it. Any discussion? All in favor of the motion? Motion carries. Anything else, Mr. Graham?

RAY GRAHAM: No, Mr. Chairman.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Wooten?

CRAIG WOOTEN: I have none at this time, sir.

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Wilson has none.

District 5 has none.

Moving on to Item 16, Administrator’s Report.

RUSTY BURNS: Nothing at this time, Mr. Chairman.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you.

Moving on now to Citizens Comments. When Mr. Harmon calls your name, please state your name and district for the record. You have three minutes. Address the Chair.

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

ELIZABETH FANT: Boy, I mean to tell you, this is right. I don’t know how we do it, but we seem to have telepathy or something about some of the things that we think are important on the agenda, Ms. Floyd and I. I was looking through the paving account and somebody can explain it to me later, the districts and so forth. You come to District 3, Mr. Graham,
city of Belton, zero for paving. You come to District 2, city of Anderson, zero for paving. You come to ---

TOMMY DUNN: Wait a minute. Stop the time a minute. Hold on a second.

GRACIE FLOYD: What are you talking about?

ELIZABETH FANT: Paving account.

GRACIE FLOYD: In your what?

ELIZABETH FANT: Paving account, in your folder. I think there was one other one. And District 1 gets a hundred and nineteen thousand dollars for the Civic Center. I don’t know. Something is just not equitable about that. I remember in District 3, not too long ago, I believe a hundred thousand dollars of paving went to not roads. It went to paving alright, and if you remember where it went to, you can talk to me about it later. Paving is supposed to be road; period.

I talked to Mr. Burns after the last meeting. I was kind of agitated, and he knew I was kind of agitated. And I came up with this thing. And I told him, I said, you know, a lot of the things that happen in County Council could be exasperated -- no, that’s not the word I want -- eliminated if County Council would only explain them better to the citizens. And I mentioned to him that I thought he ought to have different departments come up and explain their department and what they were doing with enterprise funds and sewer funds and how that worked out. Ms. Wilson has several different times tried to explain what fee-in-lieu of is. But you need to educate us. We are trying the best of our ability to understand what it is y’all are doing. And if you would just be teachers first. A good teacher does that. A good teacher doesn’t come to the students and say, here’s the material, learn it, you’re going to have a test on it. A good teacher makes the ground so everybody understands. If they don’t understand they keep bringing illustrations. They explain it so that the public knows. You would get a lot more support and a lot more participation if people felt like you explained what it was and that you just didn’t ram through one ordinance after another ordinance.

This week particularly I’ve seen communication be again important. I’m always teaching that with my volunteers.

LEON HARMON: Time, Mr. Chairman.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Harmon.

Next?

LEON HARMON: No one else is signed up.
TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Harmon.
Have comments from council members. Mr. Waters?
KEN WATERS: I want to apologize for
not wearing a suit and tie tonight. It’s been a busy
day and I didn’t have time to go by and change
clothes. We’ve had tornadoes in the last week and
everything else. So I want to apologize for that.
The next time I’ll definitely be in a suit and tie.

It’s been an interesting night tonight. Made some
difficult decisions. One of the things we talked
about in zoning. Sometimes you may win the battle, you
know, but you don’t win the war. It’s like a two-
headed snake. Sometimes or another one end is going to
get you. We were correct in doing what the citizens
wanted to do. That’s pretty tough. You’ve got a good
program. I think somewhere else it’ll do better.
Where, I don’t know. And just wanted you to know that
was a tough decision for all of us. And it could have
been better; could have been worse. Who knows? You
know, you just don’t know. So that was a very
difficult decision. I like what you’re doing. You
could have done it beside my house, but I don’t have
one. Anyway, I don’t know if that helps you out any
or not, but you know, I felt like I needed to say
that.

A lot of good things going on. I really like the
money for paving. I almost feel like it’s Christmas
because for so many years we’ve wanted this. For so
many years people’s complained about it. For so many
years when they complained about it, we couldn’t do
nothing about it. And so there’s a sigh of relief
here, you know, having something to do. And I
appreciate the hard work that Mr. Burns did on that.
I know there’s a lot of adding -- he can add and
subtract pretty good every once in a while. But I
appreciate all the hard work.

The jobs, the thirty-one news jobs; six and a half
million in capital projects; that’s going to give
somebody a job. Any time somebody can get a job and
provide for themselves -- the economy is going great
right now. I was talking with a builder yesterday and
he told me that he was -- to either start planning
something you had to plan six months out, and that
don’t guarantee you’re going to get anything because
there’s so many options out there right now.

And then talked with another gentleman today on a
commercial project. Same thing, people are -- you
know, they have so many choices now till they can
choose what they want to do. And I haven’t seen it
like this in a long time. I noticed some of the stock
markets that have been doing bad are starting to improve. And you know, it’s just we’ve got so many good things going on right now till, you know, we’re very blessed in what we’re doing. Looking at some of the problems that we’ve had for over eight years and we stand a good chance of correcting some of those. And so, you know, I just feel good about the things that’s going on. I like them.

And I took a day off yesterday and went to the lake. That was the first time all summer I had time to do that. And done some relaxing and done a lot of thinking about some things. Looking forward to spending more time at the lake. Something I’ve always wanted to do and it looks like I’m going to get to do that.

Ms. Fant, you got something you’d like to say? You spent about ten minutes of my time tonight, so I thought we’d give you another couple of minutes if you want to, to waste some more time. All right. Well, I appreciate that. And you know, it’s just -- just to count all the good things that are going on, I mean, just every which way you point there’s something good going on. And I just appreciate the comradery that we’ve had here. We can respectfully disagree with each other. We’ve worked out a lot of problems that way. It’s been a -- it’s just been a pleasure, you know, working with my cohorts here. And I still say we’ve got probably one of the best councils in South Carolina, and very proud to say that.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

TOMMY DUNN: You sure you’re through?

Mr. Allen?

TOM ALLEN: Yes, sir, Mr. Chair.

KEN WATERS: I don’t get a good microphone like this, so I’m kind of enjoying this.

TOMMY DUNN: And there’s a reason for that. Mr. Allen?

TOM ALLEN: Yeah. I wanted to echo what Ken had to say about the zoning situation tonight. That was a very difficult decision. Hard to swallow. But nonetheless, I’ll just say that.

The other thing I wanted to do is make note of a letter that was sent to the County Council here and thanking Anderson County for the work that they did on the Corporal Freddie Stowers monument up in Sandy Springs. Corporate Stowers was a World War I recipient of the Metal of Honor. He was the first black soldier to receive the Metal of Honor. And although he was killed on September 27th of 1918, the paperwork for his metal was lost in this huge
bureaucracy, like if you saw the Indiana Jones movie, the big warehouse where things get lost. Apparently his paperwork is in there. And it wasn’t until George W. Bush, it was brought up to his attention that his paperwork was there and should have been honored, so at that time, clear into the 1990s, the award at that time was actually awarded to him. The monument was refurbished, rededicated up there, and we were lucky enough to have a Commanding General at Fort Jackson there to say a few words. And I can tell you, when you can get a Commanding General of an Installation to come to your town sometime, that’s quite a chore to get that done. So we are very proud of that. And I, too, want to thank the County. I know Rusty and the crew did a tremendous job up there to get that all put together. The family, the family members, have all signed a letter and they were very appreciative of what occurred that day. So thanks to the County and County Council.

That’s all I have, Mr. Chair.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Allen. Ms. Floyd?

GRACIE FLOYD: Yes. I would like to know, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Burns, and whoever, who wrote that ordinance, that resolution to be placed on the ballot about the alcohol sales? Who wrote that?

TOMMY DUNN: I think Mr. Harmon did.

GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Harmon, did you write that?

LEON HARMON: My recollection is that I did.

GRACIE FLOYD: You wrote the whereas’ too?

LEON HARMON: Okay. Mr. Harmon, did we vote on that for the Council?

LEON HARMON: Yes, ma’am.

GRACIE FLOYD: I don’t remember ---

LEON HARMON: You voted three times on it because ---

GRACIE FLOYD: I don’t remember voting that says that we promoted the alcohol thing. I probably voted on the referendum thing. But I never voted that the County Council was promoting something like that. Mr. Harmon, I wouldn’t do that. And I think that when it was done like that you put me in a bad situation. I would not vote to have alcohol sales on Sunday. I am a Council person, but I don’t remember we voted on that specific language. We
1 didn’t. No, I don’t think so. But you put me in a
2 bad situation. I would not vote for that. I don’t
3 believe in that. Okay. You did a good job in getting
4 it done. But since there was no vote on putting the
5 Council’s name in there saying that, I would like for
6 it to be rewritten, please. And if you want to put
7 down the Council people’s name who did it, who agreed
8 with it, then that’s fine. But I don’t want my name
9 as a Council person’s name to be put down. It was a
10 generic, fine, but that’s specific. I like my beer.
11 LEON HARMON: I understand what you’re
12 saying. But it’s already gone to the voter
13 registration and elections to be put on the ballot.
14 I’ll be glad to look back at the minutes and show you
15 where it was voted on three times.
16 GRACIE FLOYD: I’m sure it was. But the
17 language to include the County Council as a proponent
18 of that was not on that. The language to include the
19 County Council as someone who was promoting was not on
20 that. What was on there was the fact that somebody --
21 I think it was Mr. Wooten ... In fact, Mr. Wooten,
22 didn’t you help write that? Wasn’t you supposed to be
23 the one who wrote that?
24 CRAIG WOOTEN: No, ma’am. At no point
25 have I written a legal document.
26 GRACIE FLOYD: Excuse me. I thought you
27 had wrote it. But anyway, at no point did it say
28 anything like that.
29 And Mr. Harmon, I’m saying it as politely and
30 respectfully as I know how, I wouldn’t do that;
31 promote the alcohol on Sunday.
32 LEON HARMON: I understand.
33 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Graham?
34 GRACIE FLOYD: I guess what I could do --
35 excuse me. I guess what I could do is to write it
36 out. But if I did that, if I would make a statement
37 saying I did not do that, I did not do that ... What
38 am I going to do?
39 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Graham?
40 RAY GRAHAM: I don’t have nothing at
41 this time, Mr. Chair.
42 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Mr. Wooten?
43 CRAIG WOOTEN: Yes. Just briefly, you
44 know, to Michael and the Diocese of Charleston, I
45 guess I’m apologetic in nature for the time that you
46 put in and the correspondence you did. Thank you for
47 the way you handled yourself. And for me it was an
48 easy decision. And I respectfully disagree with my
49 fellow council members.
50 You know, there seems to be a reoccurring thing
where we’re sort of told, you can’t have any more
money to do anything because the things you’ve got
right now are not being taken care of. Well, that’s
really telling the poor guy who never had any money,
we can’t give you any money because you never did
anything with it. We don’t ever have any extra money.
So unless you let us take on certain projects, we’re
never going to be able to tackle them. And then we’ll
just be turned around and accused of not having vision
and doing things. So I’m all for efficiency. If
anybody can show the County where we can be more
efficient, I’m game for it. Could we find a hundred
thousand, five hundred thousand? Maybe. I guarantee
you we can’t find ten million. I guarantee you we
can’t find twenty million. And those are the price
tags of the projects that people are talking about.
So at the same time that we talk about hospitality or
investment in the County, I’ll talk efficiency. We’ll
get down to the root level where it can be more
efficient. But it’s a myth if we think that we can be
more efficient and fund capital projects. That’s like
saying, you know, cut the Secretary of Defense’s
curtains in his office in DC and we’re going to
balance the budget. If you don’t tackle medicaid,
medicare and deficit spending, it won’t happen. It’s
just talk. And we go by year after year after year
and we don’t accomplish the big things that we could
accomplish. So, I don’t know. Little frustrated
tonight, but I mean we have so many positive things
going on in this county, this is, in my opinion, the
best county council in the fact that we do have
dissent, but we do communicate and I do appreciate
everybody’s input. Thank you, sir.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Wooten.

Ms. Wilson?

CINDY WILSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I’m very sorry that the Massey Estates neighbors did
not more carefully review what was being offered by
the Diocese. I really believe that that would have
provided them concrete assurances from here on out.
And I fear for what can take place over there.

I do want to thank our Clerk of Court for the
hospitality here tonight. And I also wanted to remind
everybody who didn’t notice it, the State Ethics
Commission is going to do training for us over at the
COG office Monday if anyone is wanting to go. I’m
going to try to take the Monday morning for the
meeting.

The Kinder Morgan meeting that we had with South
Carolina DHEC hopefully will provide greater cleanup
efforts on the part of Kinder Morgan. We’re very
grateful for the Southern Environmental Law Center’s
efforts for the citizens of our county. And that will
be -- we will be having a town hall meeting over in
the Cheddar area pretty soon to deal with that and
also with the referendum questions. And I’ll be
scheduling some town halls to go over the referendum
questions.

Anyway, thank y’all. It’s always interesting.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Ms. Wilson.

Mr. Harmon, if you would it’s going to take me just a
little bit. Would you let me know when my five
minutes ... I’m going to have to have some energy to
get through this.

LEON HARMON: I’ll be sure to get it

before I leave here.

TOMMY DUNN: Lord knows he don’t need

it.

I want to thank my fellow council members. It’s a
pleasure working with most of you. Sometimes you’ve
got some tough decisions, but that’s what you get put
on here for, to do the best you can and respect one
another’s opinions and votes. And I appreciate that.

I want to thank Mr. Burns and his staff for last
week at the airport dedication. I thought it was a
great turnout, a great job. And I think, as folks
will say, that’s our gateway into Anderson County, and
I think that’s going to be a great thing for Anderson
to keep on thriving, to keep growing, and to keep
prosperity going. If you’re sitting still, we’re
going to get overtaken. You can’t sit on your
laurels. This county has been sitting still and
hasn’t done nothing. The decade before this council
come on, the last ten years, we’re progressing and
getting good paying jobs for the citizens of Anderson
County. It’s going to make a better life for
themselves and their kids. And that’s what we want.
I hope this council continues doing it and future
councils keep doing it and doing it in the best
interest of the citizens of Anderson County. And I
hope the citizens of Anderson County will be well
educated because they’ve got two very big votes coming
up on referendum on hospitality tax and alcohol sales
on Sunday. And we did vote on that three times. And
I think if you look at the votes you might be
surprised who voted for what.

KEN WATERS: Mr. Chairman, have we
worked enough overtime to turn it in on our time
sheets?
1. (MEETING ADJOURNED AT APPROXIMATELY 8:55 P.M.)