

State of South Carolina)

County of Anderson)

ANDERSON COUNTY COUNCIL

OATH OF OFFICE CEREMONY

JANUARY 8, 2019

IN ATTENDANCE:
TOMMY DUNN, CHAIRMAN
CRAIG WOOTEN
GRACIE FLOYD
RAY GRAHAM
BRETT SANDERS
JIMMY DAVIS
CINDY WILSON

ALSO PRESENT:
RUSTY BURNS
LEON HARMON
LACEY CROEGAERT
TOM ALLEN

Anderson County Council - Oath of Office Ceremony - January 8, 2019

1 RICHARD SHIRLEY: On behalf of Anderson
2 County, I will call this meeting to order. And our
3 first order of business is an invocation. For those of
4 you who don't know me, I am Richard Shirley. I'm the
5 Clerk of Court for Anderson County. And it's my
6 pleasure to preside over this part of the meeting
7 tonight.

8 In giving the invocation, I would like to use one
9 of my prize possession. When I was Mayor of Anderson,
10 I was given this by a dear friend. There was a
11 chaplain of the United States Senate by the name of Dr.
12 Peter Marshall, who was the chaplain for two years. He
13 was the pastor of the New York Avenue Presbyterian
14 Church in Washington, D.C. and he was quite an
15 impressive pastor. He died suddenly of a heart attack
16 at the age of 49 after only serving two years as the
17 chaplain, and it was such a momentous occasion of his
18 passing that they printed a book of every prayer that
19 he gave during his two years as the chaplain. And his
20 wife later wrote a book named *His Name is Peter*. And
21 it became an Academy Award winning film and the book,
22 obviously, was a best seller. And there's some
23 speculation that had he lived he would have been just
24 as famous in America as Billy Graham ended up being.

25 But this book, member of council, has every prayer

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1 that Dr. Marshall offered at the United States Senate's
2 opening every day, and the first prayer that he issued
3 was exactly 72 years ago yesterday. And I think it's
4 very appropriate for this occasion, and I would like to
5 use it. I'm going to change a couple of words so that
6 it is apropos to tonight. But this was the prayer that
7 was used to open the 80th Congress in Washington, D.C.
8 72 years ago. Let us prayer.

9 Oh, Lord our God, if we ever needed thy wisdom and
10 thy guidance it is now, as the County Council begins a
11 new session standing upon the threshold of a new year
12 fraught with so many awesome opportunities. We pray
13 that you will bless these elected officials chosen by
14 the people of this county for thou knowest them, their
15 needs, their motives, their hopes and their fears.
16 Lord, put thine arm around them to give them strength
17 and speak to them to give them wisdom greater than
18 their own. May they hear thy voice and seek thy
19 guidance. May they remember that thou are concerned
20 about what is said and done here and may they have
21 clear conscious before thee that they need fear no man.
22 Bless each of us according to our deepest need and use
23 us for thy glory. We humbly ask this in Jesus name.
24 Amen.

25 It's now my pleasure to offer you the opportunity

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1 to repeat the oath of office. Some of you have done
2 this on a number of occasions. We've got Mr. Wooten
3 coming in. And we'll take this in small pieces so
4 everybody can say their oath. Everyone ready? I would
5 ask that you place your left hand on the Bible and
6 raise your right hand. Please repeat after me.

7 RICHARD SHIRLEY: I do solemnly swear or
8 affirm ...

9 COUNCIL MEMBERS: I do solemnly swear or
10 affirm ...

11 RICHARD SHIRLEY: ... that I am duly qualified
12 ...

13 COUNCIL MEMBERS: ... that I am duly qualified
14 ...

15 RICHARD SHIRLEY: ... according to the
16 constitution of this state ...

17 COUNCIL MEMBERS: ... according to the
18 constitution of this state ...

19 RICHARD SHIRLEY: ... to exercise the duties
20 ...

21 COUNCIL MEMBERS: ... to exercise the duties
22 ...

23 RICHARD SHIRLEY: ... of the office to which I
24 have been elected.

25 COUNCIL MEMBERS: ... of the office to which I

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1 have been elected.

2 RICHARD SHIRLEY: And that I will, to the best
3 of my ability, ...

4 COUNCIL MEMBERS: And that I will, to the best
5 of my ability, ...

6 RICHARD SHIRLEY: ... discharge the duties
7 thereof ...

8 COUNCIL MEMBERS: ... discharge the duties
9 thereof ...

10 RICHARD SHIRLEY: ... and preserve, protect
11 and defend ...

12 COUNCIL MEMBERS: ... and preserve, protect
13 and defend ...

14 RICHARD SHIRLEY: ... the constitution of this
15 state ...

16 COUNCIL MEMBERS: ... the constitution of this
17 state ...

18 RICHARD SHIRLEY: ... and of the United
19 States, ...

20 COUNCIL MEMBERS: ... and of the United
21 States, ...

22 RICHARD SHIRLEY: ... so help me God.

23 COUNCIL MEMBERS: ... so help me God.

24 RICHARD SHIRLEY: Congratulations to
25 everybody.

1 I'm now going to ask ---

2 **APPLAUSE**

3 RICHARD SHIRLEY: We're going to have a group
4 picture. Do I ask ---

5 RUSTY BURNS: Let's do this. Let's let the
6 Reverend Father give the benediction and then we will
7 have the new Council's picture taken.

8 REVEREND FATHER: Before I say the prayer, I'd
9 just like to say a word as a citizen of this County and
10 this State and this Country, thank you to each and
11 every one of you for serving. These are not easy days
12 in which to be an elected official. And the very fact
13 that you have put yourself up there for election and
14 willing to serve is something worthy of high regard and
15 respect. So thank you.

16 May we pray together?

17 Gracious God, we ask your blessing upon these
18 servant leaders who have offered themselves and
19 invested their gifts in the role of Anderson County
20 Council members. We thank you for the skills and
21 energies they bring to their duties and for their
22 willingness to set aside other obligations and
23 pleasures in order to serve. We thank you, too, for
24 their families and their colleagues and the staff of
25 the county who support them in their work. In this

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1 complicated and uneasy time of our history, we pray, oh
2 Lord, you would bless them with hope; hope to imagine a
3 bright and progressive future for our county, along
4 with blessing them with prudence in building and
5 financing that future, as well as bless them with
6 loyalty in representing their constituencies, along
7 with blessing them with courage to sometimes challenge
8 the views of those constituents. Holy One, as these
9 public servants set to their work, may the civic
10 virtues of fairness, honesty, cooperation and order be
11 joined by the spiritual values of humility, compassion,
12 reconciliation and joy. All these things we pray most
13 earnestly in your name. Amen.

14 RUSTY BURNS: If I could have the council
15 all gather for a group picture and the families come
16 out and then we'll have time for everybody to visit.
17 So council members. Mr. Allen, don't run off yet.
18 We've got to do something. You stand back over there.

19 **OFF RECORD FOR PHOTO**

20 **APPLAUSE**

21

22 **(SPECIAL PRESENTATION MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:11 P.M.)**

State of South Carolina)
County of Anderson)

ANDERSON COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 8, 2019

IN ATTENDANCE:
TOMMY DUNN, CHAIRMAN
RAY GRAHAM
BRETT SANDERS
CRAIG WOOTEN
CINDY WILSON
GRACIE FLOYD
JIMMY DAVIS

ALSO PRESENT:
RUSTY BURNS
LEON HARMON
LACEY CROEGAERT

1 TOMMY DUNN: At this time I'd like to
2 call the January 8th regular Anderson County Council
3 meeting to order. At this time let's all rise as Ms.
4 Floyd gives us the invocation and afterwards pledge of
5 allegiance.

6 **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE BY GRACIE FLOYD**

7 TOMMY DUNN: At this time Councilman
8 Graham has asked for the floor.

9 RAY GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
10 Members of Council, fellow citizens, I'd like to take
11 this time to recognize Chairman Dunn for his leadership
12 given this past year as Chairman to Anderson County
13 Council and would also like to take this time to
14 present him with just a token of our appreciation for
15 his hard work and continued support to Council.

16 TOMMY DUNN: I appreciate it. Thank you
17 very much.

18 RAY GRAHAM: Thank you.

19 TOMMY DUNN: Thank y'all. Appreciate
20 it.

21 **APPLAUSE**

22 TOMMY DUNN: I appreciate it. Thank you
23 very much. At this time we'll be electing our
24 officers. We'll start with the Chairman's job. Open
25 the floor up for nominations.

1 CINDY WILSON: Mr. Chairman, may I?

2 TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Wilson.

3 CINDY WILSON: May I have the honor of re-
4 electing you or nominating you for our Chairman.

5 TOMMY DUNN: Appreciate it. Do I have a
6 second?

7 BRETT SANDERS: Second.

8 TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Sanders,
9 nomination by Ms. Wilson. Anyone else? Any more
10 nominations? Hearing none, the nominations be closed.
11 All in favor of myself, Mr. Dunn, show of hands. All
12 opposed like sign. Show the motion was in favor Mr.
13 Davis, Mr. Sanders, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Graham, Mr. Wooten,
14 Ms. Wilson and Ms. Floyd opposes.

15 Now, at this time nominations for vice chair.

16 Mr. Wooten?

17 CRAIG WOOTEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

18 At this time I'd like to nominate Mr. Ray Graham as
19 Vice Chair. Having served with him the past two years
20 and coming on council together, I feel like he's
21 demonstrated a tremendous amount of leadership and we
22 serve together on the Public Safety Council where he
23 has given a lot of time, knowledge, and really made the
24 difference. And I would like to put him forth as Vice
25 Chairman for the next session of County Council.

1 TOMMY DUNN: Have a motion by Mr.

2 Wooten. Have a second?

3 CINDY WILSON: Second.

4 TOMMY DUNN: Second Ms. Wilson. Any
5 more nominations? Hearing none, all in favor of Mr.
6 Graham as Vice Chairman, show of hands. All opposed?
7 Show Mr. Graham carries the nomination with Mr. Davis,
8 Mr. Sanders, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Graham, Mr. Wooten, Ms.
9 Wilson and Ms. Floyd opposes.

10 Are there any corrections or changes to be made to
11 the December 18th, 2018 council meeting?

12 CINDY WILSON: May I, Mr. Chairman?

13 TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Wilson.

14 CINDY WILSON: On page 21, line 15, and it
15 refers to gentlemen at the far end and there was a
16 typo. And on the next line I misspoke. I meant
17 successors instead of the word predecessors. So if we
18 might make that correction I would appreciate it.

19 TOMMY DUNN: Any more? Ms. Wilson makes
20 a motion with those corrections. Do we have a second?

21 RAY GRAHAM: Second.

22 TOMMY DUNN: Second by Mr. Graham.
23 Anyone else? All in favor of Ms. Wilson's motion, show
24 of hands. Opposed like sign. Show the motion carries
25 unanimously.

1 At this time I'd like to take the opportunity to
2 hold my comments. I'll have some more later on at the
3 end of the meeting tonight, but I would like to welcome
4 two new councilmen, Mr. Sanders and Mr. Davis on
5 Council, and look forward to working with y'all this
6 new coming year. Appreciate your willingness to serve
7 and look forward to a good year.

8 At this time we'll have citizens comments. Speak
9 on matters first go-around on agenda matters only. You
10 have three minutes. Please address the Chair. When
11 Mr. Harmon calls your name, please state your name and
12 district for the record. Mr. Harmon.

13 LEON HARMON: Mr. Chairman, first speaker
14 is Frank Pressly.

15 FRANK PRESSLY: Frank Pressly, District 4.
16 I wanted to make mention of the fact that the order
17 that this was done in with the election being held
18 before input from citizens, this is a partnership; the
19 administration, the council and the people. The
20 administration set this up and the Council carried it
21 out, but it feels like the people were left out of this
22 decision. We should have been given the opportunity to
23 give input or discuss or mention what we feel about
24 this election. As I said, I just feel that we were
25 left out of this.

1 TOMMY DUNN: Next, Mr. Harmon.

2 LEON HARMON: Mr. Chairman, next speaker
3 is Bob Martin.

4 BOB MARTIN: Mr. Chairman, my name is
5 Bob Martin. I'm in District 1. I feel very much as
6 the previous speaker has said. I wish to have had some
7 input in this, also. Tommy, I really do appreciate
8 your service here, but that's not a life tenure up
9 there. I think that that Chairmanship should be
10 rotated. With seven people up there, I don't know why
11 it shouldn't be rotated every second or third year, at
12 a minimum. Thank you.

13 LEON HARMON: Mr. Chairman, no one else
14 is signed up.

15 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Harmon.

16 At this time, going on to Item number 7, Councilman
17 Wooten. Mr. Wooten.

18 CRAIG WOOTEN: Yes. I wanted to make a
19 motion to the Council. Last month, actually two
20 councils in a row, we received a presentation and a
21 request from a citizen who's in attendance tonight, Mr.
22 Andy Moore. He's been working extensively with Todd
23 McCormick at the Civic Center about placing a memorial
24 in honor of his son. And I would like to make a motion
25 that we allow staff to move forward in helping him

1 realize that request. Private money through donations
2 will be coming forward to make this happen. And
3 they've already outlined a reasonable plan that staff
4 feels would aesthetically be pleasing to the area and
5 offer a really nice memorial. And so I just wanted to
6 put that forth in a motion.

7 TOMMY DUNN: Have a motion Mr. Wooten.
8 Do we have a second?

9 JIMMY DAVIS: Second.

10 TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Davis. Now,
11 discussion. Any discussion?

12 GRACIE FLOYD: Yes.

13 TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Floyd.

14 GRACIE FLOYD: I met the Moore family and
15 my heart goes out to them. Having two sons of my own,
16 I know how it would feel to me if I lost one of them.
17 I think what he's wanting to do is honorable. I think
18 that it would be an everlasting memorial to his son and
19 to his family.

20 But I want us to be really, really careful when we
21 do this because once we do it for one, we're going to
22 have to open it up to anybody who wants to do it who
23 can get the money themselves and they want to do it.
24 This is public land. It is public land. But I don't,
25 I don't say no. I don't say no. I don't say yes. I

1 say let's think carefully about what we're doing and
2 let's be prepared if the need ever presents itself
3 again if somebody wants to do this, let's be prepared
4 regardless of their religion, regardless of their creed
5 -- I guess that's the same thing -- and regardless of
6 the color of their skin. Thank you.

7 TOMMY DUNN: Any more discussion?

8 BRETT SANDERS: Yes.

9 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Sanders.

10 BRETT SANDERS: Mr. Chairman, I know the
11 Moore family, as well. They're good people. I'm sorry
12 for your loss. But is there any way that maybe we
13 could do a term or a certain amount of time to where it
14 comes up and has to be renewed instead of just voting
15 against it or ---

16 TOMMY DUNN: My thing would be -- and
17 I'm asking Mr. Wooten, this is part of his motion that
18 the staff put this works and all but come back to us
19 for a final vote when we've got something to see
20 exactly what they've come up with.

21 CRAIG WOOTEN: Sure.

22 TOMMY DUNN: And to see. Make sure
23 everybody feels comfortable and at that time give a
24 time, because let's keep in mind, something like this
25 -- say we've got two new council members, give them a

1 chance to study it, look at it and think about it, too,
2 and whatnot. Is that agreeable with everybody?

3 JIMMY DAVIS: I'm in agreement. Like I
4 said, they're good people and I support what they want
5 to do, but ---

6 TOMMY DUNN: Does that suit you?

7 JIMMY DAVIS: --- address ---

8 TOMMY DUNN: Okay. Any more discussion?
9 All in favor of the motion show of hands. Opposed like
10 sign. Show the motion carries unanimously.

11 Moving on to Item number 8(a) ordinance third
12 reading, 2018-062, an ordinance to amend the zoning map
13 to rezone plus or minus 8.75 acres from C-1N, that's
14 neighborhood commercial district, to C2, highway
15 commercial, at 83 Princeton Highway, and that's in Ms.
16 Wilson's district. Do we have a motion?

17 CINDY WILSON: So moved.

18 TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Wilson makes a motion
19 to move forward. Do we have a second?

20 RAY GRAHAM: Second.

21 TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Graham. Any
22 further discussion? All in favor of the motion show of
23 hands. Like sign? Show the motion carries
24 unanimously.

25 There are no 9, 10 or 11's. Number 12, approval in

1 reduction of retainage from ten percent to five percent
2 of total contract price. Mr. Carroll, can you speak to
3 this?

4 ROBERT CARROLL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,
5 Council. Per ordinance we are required, if we want to
6 reduce the retainage from the normal ten percent to
7 five percent of a project once it's past fifty percent
8 completion to come to Council. And we have two
9 requests tonight. The first is for the runway rehab
10 project. And the only thing lacking at this time is
11 the final markings, which because of weather can't be
12 done till probably early spring. So they're requesting
13 retainage be reduced to five percent.

14 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Carroll, on that one is
15 the staff fully in agreement with that?

16 ROBERT CARROLL: Yes.

17 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Hopkins, everybody is
18 good with that, and you?

19 ROBERT CARROLL: Yes. And so it's
20 approximately a five and a half million dollar project.
21 We'll still retain approximately two hundred and ninety
22 thousand dollars after we reduce it to five percent.

23 TOMMY DUNN: Okay. Do we have a motion
24 to reduce the retainage on the runway project, paving
25 project?

1 CINDY WILSON: So moved.

2 TOMMY DUNN: Motion Ms. Wilson. Do we
3 have a second?

4 BRETT SANDERS: Second.

5 TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Sanders. Now
6 discussion. Ms. Wilson.

7 CINDY WILSON: Very quickly, we're assured
8 that the quality of the work completed so far is up to
9 par and we're protected in the latter stage of the job?

10 ROBERT CARROLL: Yes, ma'am.

11 CINDY WILSON: Okay. Thank you.

12 TOMMY DUNN: Anyone else? Mr. Graham.

13 RAY GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

14 We have not had no issues with them meeting any of
15 their deadlines as far as their obligations up to this
16 point?

17 ROBERT CARROLL: Not that I'm aware of.
18 Now, Mr. Hopkins may be able to speak to something
19 different that I'm not aware of.

20 TOMMY DUNN: He's shaking his head.
21 Everything ...

22 RAY GRAHAM: Good deal. Thank you.

23 TOMMY DUNN: Anybody else? All in favor
24 of the motion show of hands. Opposed like sign. Show
25 the motion carries unanimously.

1 Mr. Carroll.

2 ROBERT CARROLL: The second project is for
3 what's referred to as the Five Mile Sewer Phase II
4 Project. Strack, Incorporated is requesting this also.
5 They're probably eighty-five percent plus through the
6 project and they could have obviously done it before
7 now but they're requesting five percent. And this is
8 an approximately 1.7 million dollar project.

9 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Carroll. Do
10 we have a motion to put this on the floor?

11 CINDY WILSON: So moved.

12 TOMMY DUNN: Motion Ms. Wilson. Do we
13 have a second?

14 RAY GRAHAM: Second.

15 TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Graham. Now,
16 any discussion?

17 CINDY WILSON: Yes, sir. The same
18 question. Are we assured that the quality of the work
19 and everything is on track for completion? We've had
20 some inferior work in the past, so I question ...

21 ROBERT CARROLL: Yes, ma'am.

22 CINDY WILSON: Okay. Thank you. Not from
23 this company.

24 TOMMY DUNN: Anyone else?

25 RAY GRAHAM: Mr. Chairman?

1 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Graham.

2 RAY GRAHAM: Again, on this five
3 percent, is it enough to ensure that they're going to
4 complete their project? I know the weather has been
5 unbearable on construction this year, so I understand
6 there are some issues on that end, as well. But I just
7 want to make sure we as a county are protecting
8 ourselves. You representing the county, do y'all feel
9 comfortable with this?

10 ROBERT CARROLL: Yes.

11 RAY GRAHAM: Good enough. Thank you.

12 BRETT SANDERS: Mr. Chairman?

13 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Sanders.

14 BRETT SANDERS: How much do we still owe
15 them total? It's not on here.

16 ROBERT CARROLL: I'll try to do the math in
17 my head real quick. I think it's actually less than a
18 hundred and thirty thousand dollars right now. So
19 we're well below that fifty percent.

20 TOMMY DUNN: Any more questions,
21 comments, discussion? All in favor of the motion show
22 of hands. Opposed like sign. Show the motion carries
23 unanimously. Thank you, Mr. Carroll.

24 Moving on to Item number 13, appointments. We've
25 got none down here. Did any come up? Anybody got any?

1 Approval of the 2019 County Council Meeting
2 Schedule. Everybody had a chance to look over this and
3 see? Anybody got a problem with any of this before we
4 move this forward? Do I have a motion to move this
5 forward? And keep in mind we can always if something
6 comes up, you know, change something later on. This
7 will give something to go by about setting public
8 hearings and all up and everything.

9 CRAIG WOOTEN: Make a motion to move.

10 CINDY WILSON: Second.

11 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Wooten makes a motion
12 to move forward. Ms. Wilson seconds the motion. Do we
13 have any more discussion? All in favor of the motion
14 show of hands. Opposed like sign. Show the motion
15 carries unanimously.

16 Moving on to Item number 15, requests by Council
17 members. I'll start down here. Ms. Wilson, do you
18 have any? Mr. Wooten, do you have any?

19 CRAIG WOOTEN: Yes. From District 1 I'd
20 like to appropriate fifteen hundred dollars to the
21 Greater Anderson Music Arts Consortium, GAMAC as it's
22 called, has provided a high level of music and art
23 talent to the community for a number of years. I think
24 any vibrant community can embrace the quality of music
25 that they perform and the recreational entertainment

1 that it provides the citizens, both elderly and for
2 children. So I'd like to put that in the form of a
3 motion.

4 CINDY WILSON: Second.

5 TOMMY DUNN: Second Ms. Wilson.

6 Discussion? Just a quick question. Mr. Wooten, do you
7 know how much money they're asking for? It says all
8 Council districts, but how much they're asking for from
9 each ---

10 CRAIG WOOTEN: Two thousand.

11 TOMMY DUNN: Two thousand total is what
12 they're asking for? Okay. All in favor of Mr.
13 Wooten's motion show of hands. Show the motion carries
14 unanimously. Mr. Wooten, anything else?

15 CRAIG WOOTEN: No, sir.

16 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Graham?

17 RAY GRAHAM: Nothing at this time.

18 TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Floyd?

19 GRACIE FLOYD: Yes. I am one of the most
20 ardent supporters of GAMAC. I have attended their
21 performances and they are wonderful. I'm so proud to
22 have them in Anderson. But I need to make something
23 clear from the beginning of the year so we can go on
24 through. District 2's funds are entrusted in me. I
25 cannot find it in my heart to just get a phone call and

1 say we need some money. Okay. Bam, here it is. If
2 you have a request of funds, please call me. Let's
3 talk about it. Let's see if the funds you're
4 requesting is going to be enough. Let's see what
5 you're going to do with it. And then let me consider
6 it over. I get a lot of letters for money. And if I
7 just take up the telephone and do that to District 2's
8 funds, it's not my funds. It's money that belong to
9 the people, to my constituents of District 2. And I
10 don't do them justice when I just sit here and look at
11 a sheet of paper and give them money. So if ever you
12 want money from District 2, call me up. I'm available.
13 I answer that phone on the first ring. And I take all
14 calls. Someone who knows me very well is in this room
15 right now and you can ask her. She will tell you. But
16 at this time, I will make a contribution if and when I
17 can talk to the people of the GAMAC. And besides, I'm
18 worth a phone call. Thank you.

19 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Sanders, do you have
20 any?

21 BRETT SANDERS: None.

22 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Davis?

23 JIMMY DAVIS: None at this time.

24 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. And District 5
25 has none at this time.

1 Moving on to Item number 16, administrator's
2 report.

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

5 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you.

6 Now, moving on to Item number 17, citizens
7 comments. When Mr. Harmon calls your name, you have
8 three minutes. Address the chair and please state your
9 name and district for the record. Mr. Harmon.

10 LEON HARMON: Mr. Chairman, first speaker
11 is Elizabeth Fant.

12 ELIZABETH FANT: Good evening and Happy New
13 Year 2019. 2018 was a rough year in many respects. I
14 hope 2019 will be better. I see that number 14, I
15 believe, was skipped in the agenda. The meeting dates
16 are published in the agenda, but y'all didn't talk
17 about it, so I'm assuming that you ---

18 TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma'am, we did. We
19 voted on it.

20 ELIZABETH FANT: Well, I missed that one.
21 Didn't hear anything published about the dates.

22 One of the things I want to talk about is
23 recreation. There are a lot of things in Anderson
24 County -- number 1, Clemson right now. Big win. Our
25 people are proud of Clemson. We've got equestrians,

1 we've got fishermen, we've got hunters, FAA, a lot of
2 organizations that are using our land and our
3 resources. I hope that we're not going to get to a
4 point where we try to take guns away from hunters. I
5 know several people who their actual meat on the table
6 during the winter is deer meat. I'm excited about the
7 bass tournaments. It looks like we're going to have
8 more tournaments than we've ever had. However, I read
9 somewhere that they have lowered the trophy level for
10 the highest bass, because we're fishing Lake Hartwell
11 so much that we no longer have the big bass. So
12 Anderson County is blessed by its resources, but I
13 think we need to protect our resources and look after
14 them. And we've got plenty of recreation activities.
15 We do not need a hospitality tax. We do not need that.
16 We've got many people who are scraping by barely. We
17 do not need a hospitality tax.

18 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Harmon.

19 LEON HARMON: Next speaker is Frank
20 Pressly.

21 FRANK PRESSLY: Can't say that I'm
22 disappointed. I was hoping to get a fresh face on
23 things here starting out. But Mr. Chairman, I would
24 really like to encourage you moving forward to take
25 into account the citizens of this county a little more.

1 A lot of the ideas that have been put forward from this
2 microphone I don't think I've ever, in all these years
3 now, six years, seen anything followed through on. And
4 there are some good ideas out here, whether it's
5 working on pushing a new frontage road or doing a
6 plastic recycling plan, to the county prison farm.
7 There are a lot of good ideas that an ad hoc committee
8 could look into. And I ask that you not leave the
9 citizens of this county out of your leadership. Thank
10 you.

11 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Harmon.

12 LEON HARMON: Next speaker is Mary
13 Ashley.

14 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Burns, make sure she
15 gets to the mic all right and everything.

16 MARY ASHLEY: Mary Ashley, District 6. I
17 was here November the 20th in reference to neighbors
18 collecting cars and boats ---

19 TOMMY DUNN: Excuse me. Mr. Harmon, get
20 that mic where they can hear a little bit better and
21 start that time ... Might have to get a little closer
22 to it and speak into it or something.

23 MARY ASHLEY: Okay. I was here November
24 the 20th in reference to my neighbors collecting cars
25 and boats that are causing mosquitos and rats. His

1 days was up November the 29th. He has cleaned up a
2 little. But as you can see from the three photos I
3 have here that was taken after his ninety days of being
4 warned, it's still a mosquito and rat den.

5 My question to the Council is, if cars and boats
6 have been sitting for years under sheds with tarps and
7 junk piled on top of them and never moved, but they
8 have tags on them, this is causing a health hazard to
9 the neighbors for the West Nile virus and also the
10 rats, other diseases that could be carried. My
11 question is, is there anything that can be done, since
12 this is a health hazard? These pictures were taken
13 after the officers were out there and after he was
14 given ninety days. And as you can see, it is
15 horrendous, really.

16 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Burns, do you want to
17 get those pictures and pass to Council. Ma'am, this is
18 your time to speak. We can't answer and go back and
19 forth, but Mr. Davis might want to address something
20 with his comments at the end of the meeting. And I'll
21 be glad, any of us, I'm sure, to talk to you when the
22 meeting is over with.

23 MARY ASHLEY: Mr. Davis has been very
24 nice to talk to me about this situation. And he's been
25 sworn in, so I feel sure he will continue to help me

1 with it. But something has to be done because the
2 mosquitos were hibernating at this time. They will be
3 coming out when the temperature reaches seventy
4 degrees, and we had the West Nile virus within two
5 miles of my home. It's really a concern of mine, and
6 the rat infestation.

7 TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma'am. Thank you.

8 LEON HARMON: Mr. Chairman, no one else
9 is signed up.

10 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Harmon.

11 Now I'll ask for remarks from Council members. Ms.
12 Wilson.

13 CINDY WILSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
14 And thank you fellow members of Council and our
15 wonderful people that we serve. It's an honor and a
16 privilege to work with such an incredible group of
17 citizens and county staff and our County Council. We
18 have a lot of work ahead this year and I look forward
19 to working with each and every one of you to make this
20 county the best county in the country. Thank you.

21 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Ms. Wilson.

22 Mr. Wooten.

23 CRAIG WOOTEN: I share the same
24 sentiments. I'm looking forward to a new year. I want
25 to welcome the two new council members, Mr. Brett

1 Sanders, Mr. Jimmy Davis. Had a chance to get to know
2 you some over this past year and really enjoyed it.
3 Look forward to your vision and leadership and serving
4 with you guys. Just wish everybody a Happy New Year
5 and look forward to the work ahead.

6 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Graham, I'm sorry. I
7 thought you'd just go ahead. I wasn't thinking. Go
8 ahead. Yes, sir.

9 RAY GRAHAM: As well, I want to
10 definitely congratulate the two new council members
11 coming on board. Definitely looking forward to working
12 with each and every one of you. You know, looking back
13 last year, I think we were able to really move Anderson
14 County forward. And it was through the hard work of
15 our county employees, our citizens, you know, County
16 Council working together trying to move the county
17 forward. Just a great amount of growth coming into the
18 county, which provides great opportunities for our
19 citizens, which is why we do this. That's the number
20 one purpose of every bit of this.

21 But definitely looking forward to what the new year
22 brings. We've kind of been slowed down toward the end
23 of the year and got a little bit of much needed rest on
24 my end and definitely looking forward to hitting the
25 ground running and looking forward to working with you

1 guys, as well. Looking forward to the new year.

2 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Graham.

3 Ms. Floyd.

4 GRACIE FLOYD: Yes. Welcome, guys. To
5 know that you were going to be my seat mate, it made me
6 feel really good. Is Mr. Allen still here? He's gone
7 already. Well, I'm going to do it anyway. I want to
8 tell you about Mr. Allen; okay? He was my seat mate
9 for the entire time that he was here. I was crazy
10 about the man. Crazy about the man. He never voted
11 for me or with me. Never did. But I really liked him.
12 I'm going to miss him. He was the only one at times
13 when things got hard up here for me, he was the only
14 one who offered me a smile or who would even talk with
15 me. Okay? So, you know, I am hoping that I can have
16 the same rapport with my two new seat mates. Brett,
17 your mama said I could cold cock you any time I needed
18 to. So you get ready.

19 BRETT SANDERS: I'm used to it.

20 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. I'm really excited
21 about having new people.

22 The next thing, I want you to know something. You
23 always -- you are already aware that I did not vote for
24 the chairman. In the last four or five years I have
25 not voted for this chairman. Okay? I pay a high cost

1 for that. You need to know that. I pay a big cost for
2 that. You will not see my name listed on the
3 committees where I could really serve, where I have
4 experience, where I have been there, done that, had it
5 done or I did it. You won't see that. That's the
6 penalty I pay, that's the price I pay for not voting
7 the right way, I guess. But I will pay that penalty
8 because I believe in doing the right thing.

9 There's a song that I just love and the name of it
10 is, *I Won't Back Down*. It's -- the man sings I will
11 stand -- you can stand me to the gates of, you know
12 what, and I won't back down. I am approachable. You
13 can talk to me without yelling and screaming at me.
14 You can -- or I will help. I am a team player. They
15 don't like it when I say this, but did you realize I've
16 been on Council for twenty years? Did you realize that
17 my husband served eight years up here? So I was a
18 spouse. Uh-huh (affirmative). I know what the new
19 wives -- call me any time. I can tell you all about
20 it. Okay? I was a spouse for eight years and County
21 Council for twenty. That's twenty-eight years. All
22 right. The committees that I'm put on is the -- I
23 don't want to say trash. What do you call it? Litter.
24 I serve on the -- well, I served on the litter
25 committee before I got off of that. But I can operate

1 without, I can operate without being on a committee. I
2 can do that. But I want you to know, I want you to
3 know my dilemma. You need to know.

4 Martin Luther King said something I have on my
5 refrigerator. It's not the words of my enemies that
6 bothers me. It's the silence of my friends. Please,
7 new guys, I ask you as you go through this endeavor,
8 stand up for what you believe in, even if you've got to
9 stand alone.

10 I want you to -- I hope you had a Happy New Year.
11 I didn't. I was trying my best to sleep, for God knows
12 I needed the rest. But with all the firecrackers and
13 all of the Happy New Years, and I'm trying to put my
14 head under the pillows because I'm saying, Lord, not
15 another one. But it was okay.

16 Mr. Simmons, I know you're out there and this is a
17 public announcement because I need to see you
18 desperately before you leave today.

19 Everybody, here we go. Thank you.

20 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Sanders.

21 BRETT SANDERS: Yes, sir. I'd just like to
22 thank everyone for the warm welcome. I'm looking
23 forward to representing my constituents in District 4.
24 But I'm also looking forward to working with you guys
25 to help make your district better. Thank you, again.

1 Look forward to working with you.

2 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Sanders.

3 Mr. Davis.

4 JIMMY DAVIS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5 Just want to echo some of Mr. Sanders' sentiments. It
6 is a great honor and a privilege to be on this Council
7 with all of you. And I give Mr. Sanders full
8 permission to kick me if I become too preachie
9 sometimes up here.

10 I also want to thank Councilman Waters for the many
11 years of service that he provided for District 6. And
12 I have been fortunate enough to get to know Mr. Waters
13 and work alongside him during these last few months.
14 You know, you don't always know someone exactly the way
15 you think you do. But Mr. Waters is a fine gentleman.
16 He has served his nation, his state and his county for
17 many, many years. And most importantly, Mr. Waters is
18 a true man of God. And I really appreciate him and I
19 want to make sure that that's noted.

20 And just once again, thank you for all that you've
21 done for me so far leading up to this night. And I
22 look forward to working with each and every one of you.
23 Thank you.

24 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Davis.

25 I just want to say that it's very humbling for my

1 fellow council members to show the support and
2 confidence in electing me chairman again. And I just
3 want to say this. I don't campaign for the chairman's
4 job. I've had people come to me and ask me to take it
5 and then I think about it, pray about it with my family
6 to decide. But this is -- the Council has to work with
7 the chairman. They're the ones that makes the
8 decision. They're the ones that -- it's not mine to
9 take or to give. It's these fellow council members.
10 And it's very humbling to have been elected as many
11 times as I have. And I've said before, it's not a
12 popularity contest to be chairman. It's who they think
13 they can work with and get along with, and I do
14 appreciate it. And like I said, it's very humbling.

15 I also want to talk about the people. The people's
16 got all the say they want to, call their councilmen up
17 and talk about voting. Because some of you did.
18 There's a hit piece I haven't seen in quite sometime of
19 politics going around about me this past thing about it
20 and I'll share it sometime about how crooked I am,
21 mobbed up I am, the kickbacks I've gotten from one
22 person here in this audience tonight talking about
23 wanting to have citizens' input. He had his input.
24 Very much things calling. I was hoping to see these
25 kind of politics be gone from Anderson County and not

1 never verifying and just throwing stuff out there. I'm
2 not at liberty to talk about everything I know at this
3 time and all. He knows it's a daggum lie because it's
4 not true.

5 Enough of that, though. And as far as committees
6 go, I talked with other council members and asked who
7 can they work with and who they want to be chairman and
8 I will do that again this year. It's a team thing.
9 It's not betterment for I, me. It's what's best for
10 Anderson County, which I work for. I'm very much
11 looking forward to working with our two new council
12 members, as I am with the rest of the Council we've had
13 for years. Look very much forward to working with
14 them. We've got a lot coming up. A lot of work to be
15 done, and I'm very looking forward to getting started.
16 I know our two new council members have got some good
17 ideas. They've got some good experience, good
18 backgrounds, going to show some good things for
19 Anderson County that will be beneficial for it. I
20 really do appreciate it. Thank y'all. And look
21 forward to a great year.

22 Meeting adjourned.

23

24

(MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:07 P.M.)