ANDERSON COUNTY COUNCIL

SPECIAL PRESENTATION MEETING

MARCH 19, 2019

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

ALSO PRESENT:
RUSTY BURNS
LEON HARMON
LACEY CROEGAERT
TOMMY DUNN: At this time I’d like to call the presentations part of our regular Anderson County meeting of March 19th to order. I want to welcome each and every one of you here and thank y’all for coming.

Moving on to first order of business, Resolution 2(a), R2019-010, a resolution to recognize and honor Tactical Medical Solutions as EXIM’s Exporter of the year. I ask the Honorable Councilman Craig Wooten if he would present this.

CRAIG WOOTEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is a resolution to recognize and honor Tactical Medical Solutions as EXIM’s New Exporter of the Year, and other matters thereto.

WHEREAS, Tactical Medical Solutions was founded in 2003 by Ross Johnson, a special forces medic whose experiences in the military led to the improvement of existing life-saving medical equipment and the development of new products. The first product to be created was a soft tactical tourniquet. It is now one of only two tourniquets approved by the Department of Defense and is presently used by the American Red Cross as a product of choice; and

WHEREAS, Tactical Medical Solutions specializes in medical and triage supplies for first responders, military and law enforcement agencies. Currently over two thousand products are available to be sold locally and in seventy countries around the world, making Tactical Medical Solutions a global developer and manufacturer; and

WHEREAS, Tactical Medical Solutions is a supporter of the Stop-the-Bleed Initiative and National Campaign, bringing awareness and encouragement to bystanders and civilians to take action in emergency situations before medical professionals can arrive. Tactical Medical Solutions works diligently to support the campaign by ensuring the necessary gear is readily available for public access; and

WHEREAS, the EXIM’s annual conference was held on April 19th and 20th, 2018 at the Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C. During this event the Export/Import Bank of the United States named Tactical Medical Solutions, Inc. as the new exporter of the year.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that Anderson County Council commends and honors Tactical Medical Solutions for your contributions to our business community in Anderson County. We are appreciative of your dedication and your personal commitment to the citizens of Anderson County.

RESOLVED in meeting duly assembled this 19th day of March, 2019.
I put that in the form of a motion.

CINDY WILSON: Second.

TOMMY DUNN: Motion Mr. Wooten; second Ms. Wilson. Any discussion?

CINDY WILSON: May I?

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Wilson.

CINDY WILSON: I just think it’s a total delight to have Mr. Johnson and his wonderful family choose Anderson County for their home and for the development of an incredible business. He’s a very good representative of what we think of as the American Dream. He had a good idea and developed it and worked really hard. So we’re very proud of y’all.

TOMMY DUNN: Anyone else?

BRETT SANDERS: I’d like to thank Mr. Johnson for his service and for providing a valuable service saving lives. I’m honored to have them in my district. And just wanted to thank them once again.

TOMMY DUNN: I’d also like to thank -- say I had the opportunity to go out a few weeks ago and tour his facilities and meeting Ms. Johnson. It’s a first class operation. Anderson County is very fortunate to have that business here. I know they’re looking to expand. We look forward to that. Very fortunate to have him. He’s a quality individual and we thank him for his service to the country, for what he’s done for his business, and continue to save lives. We appreciate you very much.

All in favor of the motion show of hands. Opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously.

If you would, Mr. Johnson, you and your wife step up here.

TOMMY DUNN: At this time we’ll be moving on to 2(b), R2019-011, a resolution to recognize and honor Avery Reece as the 2018-2019 Class 4A State Wrestling Champion. Ms. Wilson. Ms. Wilson?

CINDY WILSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

WHEREAS, Avery Reece, a senior at Belton-Honea Path High School did compete in the state wrestling championships held at the Anderson Civic Center on Saturday, February 23, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Avery Reece competed in the 285 pound weight class, ending this wrestling season with a 28 to 1 record and 20 pins; and

WHEREAS, Avery Reece defeated his opponent Jake James from Hartsville, earning the distinction of 2018-2019 South Carolina State Wrestling Champion; and

WHEREAS, on Saturday, March 2nd, 2019, Avery Reece did compete at the 2019 North-South All Star Wrestling
Classic at Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. During the
competition Avery helped the 4A-3A North All Stars Team
win the 2019 Wrestling Classic; and
WHEREAS, Avery Reece is a dual sport athlete who
also plays football for the Belton-Honea Path High
School Bears as a tight end. Avery received offers
from Alabama State, Coastal Carolina, Clemson and
Georgia State to play as an offensive lineman. On
December 3, 2018, Avery made a commitment to attend
Georgia State University after graduation; and
NOW, THEREFORE, the Anderson County Council wishes
to commend our youth who demonstrate high qualities of
dedication, vision and personal commitment. We wish
you great success as you represent yourself, your
family and Anderson County in your future endeavors at
Georgia State University.
RESOLVED in meeting duly assembled this 19th day of
March, 2019.
And may I put that in the form of a motion.
TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma’am. Have a motion Ms.
Wilson. Do we have a second?
BRETT SANDERS: Second.
TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Sanders. Any
further discussion? Hearing none, all in favor of the
motion show of hands. Opposed like sign. The motion
carries unanimously. Ms. Wilson, you want to ask them
to step up.
(PRESENTATION)
TOMMY DUNN: This will conclude this part
of our meeting. Council will reconvene back here at
6:30.
(SPECIAL PRESENTATION MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:11 P.M.)
State of South Carolina   )
County of Anderson      )

ANDERSON COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 19, 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
TOMMY DUNN: At this time I’d like to call the Anderson County Council’s regular meeting of March 19th to order. Want to welcome each and every one of you here. Thank y’all for coming.

We’re going to move on now with invocation and pledge of allegiance. We’ll all rise. Councilman Jimmy Davis will give our invocation and pledge of allegiance.

(INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE BY JIMMY DAVIS)

TOMMY DUNN: Moving on to Item number 3, approval of minutes. Are there any corrections to be made to the March 5th regular council meeting minutes?

BRETT SANDERS: Mr. Chairman.

TOMMY DUNN: Yes, sir.

BRETT SANDERS: I noticed on page 25, line 3, they had the date as 1928 and it should read 1828.

TOMMY DUNN: Anything else?

BRETT SANDERS: That’s it, sir.

TOMMY DUNN: Anybody else have anything? Do you want to make the motion to accept the minutes with that correction, Mr. Sanders.

BRETT SANDERS: Yes, sir. I’m sorry.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Sanders makes a motion to accept the minutes with that correction. Do we have a second? Second Ms. Wilson. All in favor of the motion show of hands. Opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously.

Moving on to citizens comments. When Mr. Harmon calls your name, the first round is on agenda matters only. You have three minutes. Please state your name and your district for the record. And address the chair, please. Mr. Harmon.

LEON HARMON: Mr. Chairman, first speaker is Eddie Waits.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Burns, make sure to get that mic on.

EDDIE WAITS: Good evening. My name is Eddie Waits, councilman for the town of Pelzer. And I wanted to speak just for a minute about the proposal from the Anderson County Sheriff’s Department with the town of Pelzer with contracted law enforcement services. And I wanted somebody from the town to be here to let you know how important this is to us. We believe this is probably going to be one of the most important decisions that we make this year. And it’s certainly something that every one in the town will benefit from. And we encourage your support in the matter with passing this issue when it gets to you. And wanted to let you know that on behalf of the town and the citizens, this is something that we need and
we’re looking forward to it. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Mr. Harmon?
LEON HARMON: Mr. Chairman, next speaker is Elizabeth Fant.
ELIZABETH FANT: Elizabeth Fant, District 3.

It’s been a busy week. I’m speaking on number 10, number 11, number 14. The van accessible parking, I know what the problem is there. You’ve got people who are parking in the blue lines for a van accessible. It’s not just a slot. They have to have the blue line section on the side so they can get the wheelchair out. And I’ve seen people park in those places. The biggest thing that I wanted to hear from is number 11, the recycling/solid waste. I have a lot of ideas of things that we could do in the county. Yesterday I was on the way to Greenville and DOT had about fifteen different people out there. I don’t know whether they were inmates or who they were. But they had just a pile of orange bags that they had picked up. I talk to Greg Smith regularly and I’ve got him down on the other side of where I live. And today when I rode through, a large amount of that part had been picked up. We’ve just got to get everybody mindful of not pitching it out the window and not using the outdoors for their trash cans. We can do a lot better. I have a lot of ideas on that.

The building, number 14, 5(b), I’m glad to see that since the tenant that was using that small building has given it up that Belton, where I reside, has asked to use that building which they hope to move their Farmers Market up to the middle of town. Where it is now, nobody goes. They need a place where a policeman can park his car. And it’s a tiny little building. They can go in and use that to do their paperwork for law enforcement.

And number 6 under number 14, the CAFR. There are a lot of things in there about last year’s report that are good. But there are a lot of things in there, too, that I think we can tighten up on the way we’re spending money. Thanks.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Mr. Harmon.
LEON HARMON: Mr. Chairman, next speaker is William Meredith.
WILLIAM MEREDITH: Thank y’all, Council. Appreciate the opportunity to speak to you briefly here. I also signed up to speak later because there’s many things that I want to get into.

I want to piggyback on what Ms. Fant was talking about as far as recycling. I’m very much kind of an environmentalist. I think we all really should be. I
I don’t know if y’all are aware of it, but you go buy a bottle of water now, there’s microscopic bits of plastic in our bottled water. I’m not trying to run down our local water people either. I’m sure they’re doing the best they can. But everything we can keep out of watershed is that much better. And there’s just a lot of things we can do. I think we have -- if anything, we have just a lack of imagination in the way we’re dealing with some of this stuff. I’ve heard y’all talk about the landfill and the problems. Everything that we can keep out of that landfill, I think makes economic sense to do. There are programs where they’re turning plastics into road resurfacing materials. There are programs where now there’s new developments to turn plastic waste into ethanol. There’s a whole lot of stuff going on. We’ve got Clemson University right up the road that’s doing recycling. I’d love to see us maybe do some partnering with them. I’d love to see us take -- every school in this county could be a drop-off place for people to recycle. I would love to see our city, Anderson City, work with Anderson County because when somebody throws a piece of trash out in front of my yard and it washes down the hill, it’s in the city. So it’s not a boundary issue. If we could get beyond turf issues or whatever, I think we could all pull the same way and make some real headway.

But I’d like to challenge everybody on this council to let’s turn this place into a green town. We were the electric city at one point. We’re a very progressive town. I’d like to see us get back to being the kind of place that, you know, we could be proud to claim from an environmental standpoint.

So like I say, I’ve got a good many things that I’ve been thinking about. I’d like to incorporate AU, some of the other larger generators of waste. There’s a whole lot of things we can do, but I just wanted to throw it out there. I’ve created a Facebook page called waste nothing. That’s a Ben Franklin quote. He didn’t waste any verbs. It’s waste nothing. And I’d love to have you all join. I’m trying to get the community involved because that’s very important.

There’s an EPA website that discusses that. And that’s what I’m talking about, getting the community and the elected officials involved in these programs. I know there’s a lot of challenges. And I appreciate the job our administration is doing now. I understand we’re getting some recognition for the job we’re doing. I just think there’s always room for improvement. I’d like to see us do better. And thank you very much. I
hope we can do some (inaudible). Thank y’all.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Harmon?

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

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Harmon.

Moving on to Item number 5, Observations and Comments from District 2, Ms. Floyd. Mr. Floyd.

GRACIE FLOYD: We, in District 2, are beginning to come up with some ideas and some strides to assist with the trash that’s going to -- the trash pick-up that’s going to happen in April.

But we have some other issues in District 2 that we need help with, but it seems like when I make the call for help, the only thing I get is that we don’t have any money. Well, we do have money that we can do some things with. We’re going to work on the budget this year. And folks, you all need to be at the budget hearings, the budget meetings, to get your opinions in about what needs to be done. In District 2, we have burnt houses, they’re burnt down. People are living around there. Think about how you would feel if you were living next door to a burnt-up house and nobody was -- I mean there are a lot of people there and they just keep coming out there and just coming out there. They aren’t doing nothing but just sit around right next to it. You wouldn’t like that. But yet we allow people to live like that, people who have been coming and asking what to do.

Last year we only got fifty thousand dollars to tear down burnt houses. Now, you think about that. Fifty thousand dollars for seven districts to tear down burnt-up houses. We could -- we wouldn’t have to do that if we would follow our own laws. If your house is burnt down then it’s up to you, really, to clean it up. But you don’t do anything. You just sit there and sit there and it sits there and it sits there until we get enough people to complain about it. This year we need more money in that budget to tear down houses. One year we had a hundred and fifty thousand dollars and even that didn’t go all the way. But we need more money in that budget to tear down these burnt-up houses.

There’s water problems draining from one place to another on people’s property. And what I have heard is that the water problem came from when they were fixing something else, and they just fixed it and the water just started draining on other people’s property. We need something done about that.

Drugs. The sheriff’s department has been getting messages about drugs. And they say they don’t have
enough people to handle the drug problem. Now, that’s bad. That’s bad. I remember when there was a -- I have gone through a drug situation and I called the sheriff and they came out and they looked at it and they said, uh-huh, it’s a drug problem all right. We’ll see you later. Nothing was done. Absolutely nothing. And then there’s a neighborhood where people have loud music, loud music. It’s a neighborhood of seniors. They don’t need to hear that. And then when they call the police, the police told them that they just had to live with it. No, we don’t have to live with it. We have laws. We have regulations. We have ordinances. All these things should come together to solve some of these problems.

Now, I can only speak about District 2 because that’s all I know. I don’t know the other districts. I don’t know if anyone else have said nothing. But I’m talking about District 2. And we need help. We need the kind of real help to help us solve some of these things.

There is a person who calls me constantly, but I can’t go over there and clean it up. I can’t do it. If I could, I would. Then there’s the loud music. I could go over there, but it wouldn’t be pleasant. But what we’re going to need is all of us together. You need to come to the -- to that budget meeting. It’s your money. It’s your budget. And you’re letting somebody else do it for you and you don’t say anything about it until it becomes a problem. I’ll be there with you. I got your back. But I just want you to have mine, too. I thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Moving on to Item number 6, Ordinance’s third reading. There are none.

We’ll move on to-- Item number 7(a), ordinance’s second reading, 2019-008, ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of fee in lieu of tax agreements by and between Anderson County, South Carolina and a company or companies known to the County at this time as Project Tarpon. This is second reading. Do you have anything you want to add, Mr. Nelson?

BURRIS NELSON: No, sir, Mr. Chairman, other than this is another solar project, twelve million dollars in capital investment. Properties, the total of the three properties that they’re looking at right now are generating six hundred and sixty-eight dollars in property tax and the new property tax in a year will be twenty-nine thousand thirty-four dollars. And over thirty years, eight hundred seventy-one thousand dollars in property tax. So an opportunity for a better return on those properties. But thank
you, sir.

TOMMY DUNN: Do we have a motion to move this on the floor? Motion Ms. Wilson. Do we have a second?

JIMMY DAVIS: Second.

TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Davis. Any discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands. Opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously.

Moving on to Item number 7(b), 2019-009, an ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee in lieu of tax agreement by and between Anderson County, South Carolina and a company or companies known to the county at this time as Project 20190114 with respect to certain economic development property in the county. Again this is second reading. Do we have a motion to move this forward?

JIMMY DAVIS: So moved.

TOMMY DUNN: Motion Mr. Davis, second Ms. Wilson. Any discussion? Mr. Nelson, you have any comments or anything?

BURRIS NELSON: No, sir. Other than this is just a great opportunity for Anderson County where we won’t have to be spending money to develop our own industrial park or build spec buildings. This is a developer who will be doing that for, of course his own purposes, but we don’t have any buildings that are available, Class A industrial buildings. This is our opportunity to get that.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Nelson. All in favor of the motion show of hands. All in favor. So the motion carries.

Moving on to Item number 8, ordinance first reading, 2019-012, an ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee in lieu of tax agreement by and between Anderson County, South Carolina and a company or companies known to the county at this time as Project 20180801 with respect to certain economic development property in the county, whereby such property will be subject to certain payments in lieu of taxes, including the provision of certain special source credits.

BRETT SANDERS: Excuse me, Mr. Chairman. I would like to recuse myself. I know the company that’s doing this. I have some lease agreements with ---

TOMMY DUNN: Let the record show Mr. Sanders is recusing himself and stepping outside. Thank you, Mr. Sanders. We’ll holler. Do we have a motion to move this forward?

CINDY WILSON: So moved.
TOMMY DUNN: Motion Ms. Wilson. Have a second?

GRACIE FLOYD: Question.

TOMMY DUNN: We’ve got to get it on the floor, Ms. Floyd.

GRACIE FLOYD: Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: We’ve got to have a second.

RAY GRAHAM: Second.

TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Graham. Now, discussion. Mr. Nelson.

BURRIS NELSON: Mr. Chairman, I apologize for the indulgence, but our copier blew up. These are the documents I normally hand you for first reading especially. If I could call on Mr. Burns to help me get those to you. I apologize.

This is a project, the company is over fifty years old. It’s a high tech company that specializes in research and development of advance materials in aerospace, medical devices and construction materials. They’re promising -- they hope to create as many as eighteen jobs. However, they’re guaranteeing twelve jobs. Now, this was a competitive project with another state. And so we’ve worked very closely with these folks and we think we’ve won this project. We hope to have an announcement sometime in the next couple of months. But they’re going to create these jobs -- they have an average pay of thirty dollars an hour. So just with those twelve jobs, the annual income payroll will be seven hundred and twenty thousand dollars just out of those few jobs. And the SSRC that we’ve offered is a fifty percent SSRC. And the property tax will run -- on those properties last year they paid ninety-five -- they paid forty-eight thousand. And the total for the new year with the new project will be a total of ninety-five thousand in 2020. And over twenty years 1.392 million dollars. This comes to council as a recommendation from staff and from the Economic Development Advisor Board.

CINDY WILSON: Mr. Chairman?

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Floyd had it first.

Ms. Floyd.

GRACIE FLOYD: Would you please explain, please, in layman’s language what this is all about? I know we can’t know what they make or what they are going to do, you know, with this property at this time. But it wasn’t clear during the reading of it. So would you please explain to the people that are here who might be interested what this is all about?

BURRIS NELSON: Sure.

GRACIE FLOYD: I thank you.
BURRIS NELSON: This is a company that’s been in our county about twenty-five years, that’s been in business for over fifty. They are a research and development organization that has developed alliances with Clemson University and use their technology and intellectual properties and developed those into a number of things. Basically advanced materials of all kinds that can be used. Anything plastic, ceramics, specialized metals that can be used in aerospace, medical industry and construction, as well. And they’re -- they do mostly research and development. So these are really scientist job opportunities anywhere -- the average is thirty dollars an hour, but some of those will be much more than that. So it’s a good opportunity. And especially with the unemployment rate we have right now, it would be very difficult for us to find a lot of employees for anybody. So this is a good opportunity for the county to get high paying jobs and help us raise our average annual salary.

TOMMY DUNN: Anything else, Ms. Floyd?

CINDY WILSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Earlier this morning I called Mr. Burris Nelson asking some questions about the paperwork going with this inducement agreement and resolution. There was some confusing language. And he kindly had it clarified. And that’s before us that deals with the job creation. So I would recommend that we accept as an amendment to this inducement agreement the clarifying language. And he was kind enough to get it to us in time. We can go ahead and vote for it as it is, but maybe he’ll come back at the second reading to --

BURRIS NELSON: Mr. Chairman, too, if you -- I’m sorry, Ms. Wilson. This was our first attempt at trying to get a standardized fee agreement. And of course we partner a great deal with Greenville in a lot of our multi-county park agreements. And this is almost identical to the Greenville format they use for fee in lieu of taxes. Some of their wording is not exactly what we’ve always used. But talking about the projected or anticipated jobs and the guaranteed number. That language is a little skewed. And I agree with Ms. Wilson about that language. And the change you have before you is the red lined component and change that we had our attorney that was reviewing these documents prepare for us.

One of the things, though, that simplifies a lot of this is in the ordinance itself there’s a summary page and that’s in your -- not before you, but it’s in your packet of the fee in lieu of tax special source revenue
credit agreement for this project. On page 4 is the summary page that identifies exactly and clarifies that language without having the words there. It’s just the numbers. But I apologize for not addressing that in my presentation just now about the red letter information.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Harmon, would it be appropriate now to ask for an amendment to change this red line or wait and do it second reading?

LEON HARMON: We can do it now, Mr. Chairman. Or we could wait till second reading.

TOMMY DUNN: We can take care of it to night. Ms. Wilson made the motion to amend it. Do we have a second? Second Mr. Graham. Now, discussion to the amendment. All in favor of the amendment show of hands. Show the motion carries.

Now moving on back to the original motion. Do we have any questions or comments further on it? All in favor of the motion show of hands. Show the motion carries.

We’ll be moving on ---

BURREN NELSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate your support. And please forgive me for the confusion.

TOMMY DUNN: Moving on to number 9, resolutions, R2019-012, a resolution authorizing the execution and delivery of an inducement agreement by and between Anderson County, South Carolina and Project 20180801, whereby, under certain conditions. This is the same thing we just talked about. Do we have a motion to move this forward?

CINDY WILSON: So moved.

RAY GRAHAM: Second.

TOMMY DUNN: Motion Ms. Wilson, second Mr. Graham. Any discussion?

LEON HARMON: Mr. Chairman, if I may?

TOMMY DUNN: Yes.

LEON HARMON: There is those same language changes in this document, as well, so you may need to get an amendment and go ahead and approve that.

TOMMY DUNN: Do we have an amendment to get the numbers and the letters and the red liners in there would all be the same with an inducement to match the ordinance’s first reading. Do we have a motion for that?

CINDY WILSON: So moved.

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

RAY GRAHAM: Second.

TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Graham. Now discussion on the amendment. All in favor of the
motion show of hands. Show the motion carries.

   GRACIE FLOYD:  No, it didn’t.
   TOMMY DUNN:   Motion didn’t carry.
   GRACIE FLOYD:  No.
   TOMMY DUNN:   How come it didn’t?
   GRACIE FLOYD:  I didn’t vote.
   TOMMY DUNN:   But it carried. How do you vote, Ms. Floyd?
   GRACIE FLOYD:  I vote to abstain, because I don’t understand any of it.
   TOMMY DUNN:   Show the motion -- Ms. Floyd abstains, Mr. Davis is in favor, Mr. Dunn is in favor, Mr. Graham is in favor, Ms. Wilson is in favor, Mr. Sanders has recused himself.
   Now, going back to the original motion. Are there any discussion on that?
   GRACIE FLOYD:  Yes.
   TOMMY DUNN:   Go ahead, Ms. Floyd.
   GRACIE FLOYD:  I know that this resolution goes along with the resolution that -- on the first reading, 2019-012; okay? I know that. And the -- this -- where did he go? Did he leave?
   TOMMY DUNN:   Yes, ma’am. He was back there.
   GRACIE FLOYD:  I know that. And I know this thing about the red line thing that somebody caught. But there’s no understanding here. I don’t understand a bit of it. When we talked you didn’t mention anything about any red line things and what was different in this one. We talked about the whole thing but there was nothing mentioned. It may have been back in this book back here. But when we talked I thought that it was explained very well. And I was pleased. But I’m not pleased now because I don’t understand it. I’m sure there’s a lot of other folks up here don’t understand it either. But I’m just big enough and brave enough to say I don’t understand it. So whatever it is I will not be voting for it. And I thank you so much.

   We have some things to do this week anyway coming up and maybe while we’re riding out to the homes of the ladies there we can get it down. But I’ll vote on it the second reading if it’s clear. And I thank you.
   TOMMY DUNN:   All in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed? Abstentions? Show the motion carries with Mr. Davis in favor, Mr. Sanders recused himself, Mr. Dunn in favor, Mr. Graham in favor, Mr. Wooten in favor, Ms. Wilson in favor, Ms. Floyd abstains.
Moving on to Item 9(b), R2019-013, a resolution to approve the participation of Anderson County, South Carolina, in development of an Amicus Brief to the United States Supreme Court related to Kinder Morgan Energy Partners, L.P. v. Upstate Forever, Case No. 18-268. This is something we discussed I think in executive session on legal matters last meeting. Mr. Harmon, would you like to ---

LEON HARMON: Yes. I’ll be glad to address it, Mr. Chairman and members of council. As you mentioned this resolution does concern the Kinder Morgan Plantation Pipeline spill that occurred in the Belton area. As you probably recall, a citizen case was brought under the Clean Water Act by Upstate Forever and the Savannah River Keeper. The environmental groups were represented by Southern Environmental Law Center, primarily by Mr. Frank Holleman, who is with SELC. In the Federal District Court, the Court ruled that it did not have jurisdiction to consider the case because of a definition within the Clean Water Act. The Fourth Circuit overturned that case and vacated the District Court opinion. Kinder Morgan has now petitioned the Supreme Court for a writ of certiorari to consider the case before the Supreme Court. Now, the Supreme Court has held this case in abeyance because there is another case before the Court involving a case out of Hawaii that has the same type issues in it.

And Mr. Holleman has contacted us and asked us to consider participating in an Amicus Brief to be filed with the Supreme Court in the Hawaii case. That case will determine the outcome, in all likelihood, in the Kinder Morgan case. We will be working with the Environmental and Regulatory Law Clinic of the University of Virginia Law School. They would actually prepare the brief. (End of this audio file) submit to the Supreme Court. This would be done by them at no cost to the county. And so that’s what this resolution covers.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Harmon, for the record, I misspoke a while ago. This was not discussed in executive session. I was thinking about something else. This is about the spill. Do we have a motion to get this on the floor?

CINDY WILSON: So moved.

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

JIMMY DAVIS: Second.

TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Davis. Now discussion.
CINDY WILSON: May I?

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Wilson.

CINDY WILSON: This is a very, very important case for our county. And it basically involves the definition of waterway. Am I right, Mr. Harmon?

LEON HARMON: It involves -- the real issue in the case has to do with whether or not an action -- a citizen suit action can be brought under the Clean Water Act where the pollutants are migrating into a water course and not being dumped out of a pipe, if you will, into the water course. That’s the real issue in the case.

CINDY WILSON: Well, I think in that case it’s both. Just to give a recap, the Kinder Morgan Plantation Pipeline leaked somewhere between three hundred thousand and five hundred thousand gallons of petroleum product over a period of time. And the pollution, the product, is going directly into the waterway. It’s in surface water. If you go over there and look, it’s a creek. Beavers have dammed up in two places, so that’s probably a blessing in that it’s slowing down the migration downstream. But about seven, eight miles downstream is Broadway Lake. And beyond that, the Savannah River.

So the polluted water as it goes down the stream affects a lot of communities. And it’s very important that we make sure that we keep our position in Court on this matter because Kinder Morgan does not want to clean up the terrible mess they’ve made. They’ve made some clean-up measures, but they don’t want to clean up to the extent that should be appropriate.

My personal comment on that is it should be as clean as Mr. Kinder’s back yard. And Mr. Kinder is the gentleman who was very involved in Enron before it went down. A brilliant man. He’s made a lot of money; worked hard and made it. But I don’t think it’s really appropriate for a community like Belton to suffer the impact of this terrible leak without them making the appropriate effort to clean up. So getting this before the U.S. Supreme Court is important. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Ms. Wilson.

Anyone else?

GRACIE FLOYD: Yes.

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Floyd.

GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. At the time that this occurred, Broadway Lake and I contended that the water also affected the lake. But we were told it did not affect the lake, is what we were told. And but now
it seems as if they've changed their mind and it did
affected the lake. I just picked up on tonight. But
this Kinder Morgan thing is a bone of contention for
some of us; okay? But I need -- I would like for you
very much, Leon, to explain again to us about what is
preparing to happen now? What are they trying to do
now?

LEON HARMON: Ms. Floyd, what is
preparing to happen is the Kinder Morgan case is at the
Supreme Court. There’s a case from Hawaii with similar
issues to the Kinder Morgan case that is also at the
Supreme Court. I’m talking about the United States
Supreme Court now. The Court has accepted cert in the
Hawaii case and they’re holding in abeyance the Kinder
Morgan case until they hear the case in the -- hear the
Hawaii case and make a ruling. And that ruling will
likely impact the Kinder Morgan case, depending on how
the Supreme Court rules in that case.

And so where we are now is the county has been
asked to participate in the preparation of a brief to
the United States Supreme Court explaining our position
with regard to the issue that is before the Court.

GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. So if the county is
going to do that, will Broadway Lake be included in
that this time? In fact, we were not even invited to
the meeting. I think the newspaper said that if I
wanted to have a meeting, I could have my own meeting
when we were -- uh-huh (affirmative) -- when we were
all discussing the same thing. But will Broadway Lake
be in this particular court case as well? It was just
said that it went down to Broadway Lake.

LEON HARMON: Well, the issue is a little
broader than identifying a particular water body, if
you will. What happened with respect to -- and what I
think you are recalling is that some testing was done
and the tests did not reveal any petroleum constituents
in Broadway Lake, but did reveal constituents --
petroleum constituents in the creeks higher up in the
watershed that feed into Broadway Lake. It might very
well be that they simply had gotten diluted enough to
the point in Broadway Lake that the equipment being
used to perform the tests did not pick up an amount of
material and it was just listed as non-detect. That’s
what typically happens in the environmental area when
testing is performed. But it almost would have to
impact, to some extent, Broadway Lake because there are
constituents in the upper reaches of watersheds that
drain into Broadway Lake. But I want to reiterate that
testing did not show any constituents actually in
Broadway Lake when the tests were run.
GRACIE FLOYD: Well, okay, I guess you can understand I’m getting mixed messages here because it was just said that it went all the way down to Broadway Lake. So, but I guess you’ve got to consider the source. And I thank you so much for explaining that.

LEON HARMON: Yes, ma’am.

TOMMY DUNN: Anymore discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands. Show the motion carries.

Moving on to Item number 10, report from the Planning and Public Works Committee. Without objection, Ms. Wilson, you can do both of your reports now, get them out of the way.

CINDY WILSON: Thank you. Oh, okay. We met on March the 6th at 11:30 a.m. to cover agenda items as follows:

Number 3 on our agenda dealt with the review of zoning standards in relation to commercial uses and storage on residential properties. Members of county council on this committee have had a number of complaints regarding what seems to be a loophole in our existing ordinance where heavy equipment, piles of mulch and logs are kept in a zoned area adjoining a subdivision, creating a haven for vermin. The principal in the -- the principal in question advertises the address of the residence as his place of business and county personnel have visited this site many times in the past eighteen months. But the ugly mess continues. And that’s just one example of the issues.

The other concern was used car lots in subdivisions, creating safety and nuisance issues in residential zoned areas. South Carolina laws allow vehicle sales of up to five cars per year. Citizens and residents complain that some of these homes sites are being used for permanent used car displays and sales far beyond the homeowner occasionally disposing of one or two family vehicles.

County staff recommended some language changes to correct these problems which would be more fully studied at the next Planning and Public Works Committee meeting.

Number 4, our committee was presented the Leadership Anderson Tiny House Project update. Our own Seth Ridley and Mr. Trey Burns and the leadership class are raising funds for this project for which they hope will alleviate some of the homelessness in Anderson and begin a process of redeveloping and making useful a formerly beautiful mill community that had not had new homes built in approximately fifty years. Leadership
Anderson has purchased the lot, bought the architectural plans and engineering for an approximate seven hundred square foot home on E Street. The neighbors there have been very welcoming and excited for an improvement in their neighborhood. Tonight this group is seeking some funding from County Council discretionary funds. This is a worthy project that represents one approach among many that our committee is exploring to help alleviate local affordable housing concerns.

Number 5. We discussed the quorum issue afflicting our Citizens Zoning Advisory Groups. Each zoned precinct in our county should have at least one resident citizen appointed to this board. Each district has multiple members according to their number of zoned precincts. In a rezoning process or an exception to the zoning of an application, our Planning Department researches the impact and other issues of the project in the immediate neighborhood and makes their recommendation to the -- in the first step in the process. The Planning Department must advertise the time, date, place and purpose of each application involving newspaper ads and postcards sent to each landowner of record within two thousand feet. The Planning Department does not initiate the process until they have a confirmed quorum for the associated citizen zoning advisory group. This board is not a state mandated part of the process, but that provides a vital insight as to the neighbors’ desires as reflected by their comprehensive land use map and plan from which the zoning classifications were originally drawn. Our Planning Commission, which is the next step in the -- and is state mandated and has a regularly scheduled monthly meeting is the next step.

The problem that has come about in the last two years is that after elaborate arrangements and expenses are made, some of the committee members who committed to coming are not showing up, leading to canceled meetings. Surrounding landowners, applicants, county staff and others who came to participate are horribly inconvenienced by this situation. Our County Council has amended the ordinance to allow the application to proceed to the Planning Commission on schedule. But this dilemma was discussed and referred to our next Planning and Public Works meeting.

The sixth item, an abbreviated capital improvement project and capital maintenance project list for 2021-2024 was quickly looked at and request for further detail made. This is a state mandated part of our budget process.
Next we listened to a handicap parking issue which was mostly occurring in the city of Anderson and involved an elderly couple trying to park their van in the designated van handicap parking spot that are being taken by others. The county has no jurisdiction in this matter but suggestions were made to help alleviate the problem. And our Planning staff is trying to get in touch with the city to see what they can do to help the problem.

A motion to adjourn was made after we agreed to meet again on 15 March. So thank you to all who participated with us. Does anyone on our committee have anything they would like to add to our meeting?

Okay. The next Planning and Public Works Committee meeting was on the 15th of March and it convened at 9:30 a.m.

Number 3, our committee took up recommendations regarding amendments to the Zoning Standards Chapter 70 Article 6 in relation to commercial uses and storage on residential properties. Our committee voted to move this item to County Council for full council review and approval. The proposed amendment is in your packet marked Exhibit A, and it reads as follows: Exhibit A, 6.4, Commercial Equipment and Materials. In all our districts, with the exception of RA, which is residential agricultural, all commercial equipment and materials associated with an offsite business that are stored on a property must be kept enclosed or otherwise screened from public view. That is using a six foot high stockade fence. Such equipment and materials may include, but are not limited to, tractors, backhoes, front end loaders, skid steers, ditch witches, grinders, chippers, shredders, large commercial equipment or other machinery, logs, stumps, mulch or debris; paper, plastic and cardboard debris or containers; auto parts and tires; appliances and furniture; rock, gravel, railroad ties, building materials or other supplies or materials. And that is -- that was voted on unanimously by our group and we bring it before you tonight for your consideration.

TOMMY DUNN: Coming from the Planning and Public Works Committee doesn’t need a second. Are there any discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed. Show the motion carries.

Moving on, Ms. Wilson.

CINDY WILSON: I’m trying to find the next matter. Item 4 was the traffic study resolution, which is in your packet. This measure was unanimously voted to be moved to full council for approval last year and somehow was overlooked. Our committee revisited this
a serious matter and voted unanimously to recommend to
County Council approval of the following resolution
2019-14. Let me try to find it so I can read the most
important parts to y’all. And it’s in your packet.
TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma’am. It should be
Amendment changes. Be under report from Planning and
CINDY WILSON: It’s under number 4. Maybe
I can help. If you look at number 12 on our council
agenda tonight, it is number 4, the number 4 tab, under
12.
TOMMY DUNN: 4 under 12. Go ahead, Ms.
Wilson. Move on.
CINDY WILSON: This is Resolution number
2019-014. The first item under that heading, it says
the County Administrator is hereby directed through the
county procurement process to develop a list of not
fewer than two traffic engineering firms that have
engineers licensed by the state of South Carolina with
traffic impact study experience for the purpose of
performing traffic impact studies for projects which
section 38-118(f) of Anderson County Code requires.
The second item to consider in this resolution, the
County Administrator is further directed to develop a
procedure whereby any project within Anderson County
requiring a traffic impact study will be performed by
an engineering firm on the county’s approved list and
hired by the county to perform the traffic impact
study, including without limitation, the following:
(A) County staff shall determine the scope of
services required in the traffic impact study and
obtain a cost estimate for such services from an
approved engineering firm.
(B) The project applicant shall provide funds to
the county equal to the estimate, plus ten percent, for
the traffic impact study. Any funds not used by the
engineering firm for the traffic impact study shall be
returned to the applicant in a timely matter without
interest.
(C) The county may require additional fees for the
traffic impact study from the applicant if the scope of
the traffic study expands, the applicant substantially
amends the application, additional meetings with the
engineer are requested by the applicant, the engineer’s
presence is requested at meetings with the federal,
state or local agencies, boards or committees not
anticipated in the earlier scope of services.
That’s the most salient part of that particular
resolution. And we voted unanimously to recommend to
TOMMY DUNN: Coming from the Planning and Public Works Committee it doesn’t need a second. Any discussion?
JIMMY DAVIS: Mr. Chairman?
TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Davis.
JIMMY DAVIS: This is very, very (not speaking into mic).
TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Davis.
Anyone else?
GRACIE FLOYD: Yes.
TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Floyd.
GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Chairman, since we did not have this information in our booklets and this is the first time some of us have seen this, I ask that we please, let’s table this until we have had time to look at it, read it, and ask questions about it.
TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Floyd makes a motion to table it. It’s not a debatable thing. I think this is a very important issue. But Ms. Floyd makes a motion to table this. I don’t that we have time. But like I say it’s not debatable. Do we have a second? Second on Ms. Floyd’s motion.
CRAIG WOOTEN: I just ask for clarification, would it need to go through three readings?
TOMMY DUNN: Resolution is only good for a year. This has got to come back up to put it in the form of an ordinance.
CRAIG WOOTEN: Okay. So it’s now or we --
I second to table then.
TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Wooten seconds. All in favor of tabling this issue till next meeting show of hands. All opposed. Show the motion fails with Ms. Floyd and Mr. Wooten in favor. Mr. Davis, Mr. Sanders, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Graham and Ms. Wilson opposed. Going back to the original motion.
CINDY WILSON: Mr. Chairman, may I?
TOMMY DUNN: I’d just like to say point blank what this does, we’ve got in our ordinance to do traffic studies when it meets certain criteria. What this is changing is, instead of the developer or whoever picking the engineer or traffic company, the county picks it. We have a list. The developer pays for it. What we’ve had in the past, it seems like -- I’m not accusing nothing -- but some very questionable studies. I was at the last Planning Commission meeting and there was some things brought up there that didn’t seem right. But this -- I think this shores it up. This is much -- especially in Mr. Davis’ area, but
others too, developments we have going on, I think it’s time sensitive. This will come back up. This is only good for a year. Sometime in the next month or so, this will come back up for debate and it’ll be put in an ordinance, for three readings. The reason this was done as far as a resolution was to get it on the books and start getting some enforcement on it.

Anymore discussion?

CINDY WILSON: May I?

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Wilson.

CINDY WILSON: This has been bandied about and discussed and researched for well over a year. And I’m on record for railing for some measure to protect our county taxpayers. Everywhere else in the world, and I’ve made my living in real estate and done a little bit of development, and I’m here to tell you, anywhere else when you bring a project in, it’s usually not a matter of whether you have to have accel, decel and turn lanes, you’re going to put them in. And it’s considered the cost of doing business. How can it be fair to our traveling public and to our county taxpayers for a developer to come in, make their profit, skip out and we have bottlenecks of traffic and there’s no way we have the money to go back and retrofit that road or upfit that road to meet the new traffic loads. So I’m sorry I don’t know the measure got overlooked between our committee and coming back to y’all. And I take responsibility because obviously I thought it had passed and it didn’t. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Anyone else?

GRACIE FLOYD: Yes. Mr. Chair?

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Floyd.

GRACIE FLOYD: I think that what is before us could be a good idea, suggestion, proposal or just whatever, but the thing is that nobody knew about it. I wasn’t privy to the Planning Commission where you may have discussed it for years and years. This is the first time we have offered -- we have been offered anything to look at this most important situation. And not to give, and not to give all council a chance to understand what it is and why it is and just let a few people know what it is, I think is -- I don’t think it’s right. I really don’t think it’s right. If it’s that important then it should have been privy for all of us to have seen it. Some of them don’t even have this in their booklets, but yet we were asked to vote on it. It doesn’t seem right.

BRETT SANDERS: Mr. Chairman?

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Sanders.

BRETT SANDERS: Yes, sir. I along with
Mrs. Floyd did not have that in my packet, but I did attend the Planning Commission meeting and a lot was discussed. And I do support what is going on here. But I also understand her and Mr. Wooten’s concerns about not having the packet. But the reason I voted the way I voted was because I did attend the meeting. I did not have the packet in front of me, but I did take notes at the meeting. I think it’s a good thing for the county. It will help the taxpayers. And I just wanted to go on record as saying that.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you.
BRETT SANDERS: Thank you.
TOMMY DUNN: All in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed. Show the motion carries, Mr. Davis, Mr. Sanders, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Wooten, Mr. Graham, Ms. Wilson. Ms. Floyd opposes.


CINDY WILSON: The recommendations regarding the Zoning Advisory Group was tabled after consideration discussion. There will be further review and it will be brought back for -- to this committee in the future as it’s noted that the value of the zoning -- Citizens Advisory Zoning Group have added especially to those newly zoned area. It’s such a vital link that we’re going to try to talk about it a little bit more.

The next item, number 6, the overview of the CIP and CNP plan for fiscal years 2021 to 2024 was set aside for the next meeting for greater study with the respective department heads. We had six citizens and five who spoke, and they were mostly concerned about big containers containing rental unit furniture that were set at a residence between Concord and Brown Roads, along with trash and other unsightly issues affecting their neighborhood. And that goes right in tandem with the previous Chapter 70 Article 6 part that we just amended. They were -- most of their complaints will be addressed by Chapter 70, Article 6 amendment.

We really appreciate the citizen participation. And they’re a welcome part to our jobs. Their input was greatly good for the process, and we want to make sure our of our citizens know they’re welcome to come to their meetings. How else will we know about the impact and effects of measures that we’re studying. We voted to adjourn but will plan our next meeting soon.

Thank you to all that made this meeting possible. Does anyone have anything to add to what I just presented?

GRACIE FLOYD: Yes. Mr. Chairman.
TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma’am.
GRACIE FLOYD: Question for Ms. Wilson.
Will we be getting minutes from these meetings in the near -- very near future?

CINDY WILSON: This is the report. I don’t know that we need verbatim minutes.

GRACIE FLOYD: Yes. If you receive your Roberts Rules of Order booklet it’s stated in there that all meetings should have minutes.

CINDY WILSON: These are my minutes.

GRACIE FLOYD: But will we be getting those minutes?

TOMMY DUNN: The minutes will be -- I’ve asked the county attorney to look at this. This will be coming before full council. Because if it’s not in our ordinance book, full council will vote one way or the other how it goes in the very near future. And look forward to that debate.

GRACIE FLOYD: All right. Thank you, Mr. Chair, but I believe it is in our ordinance.

TOMMY DUNN: And that’s been asked of the county attorney. That way I ain’t taking no chances.

Moving on to Item number 11, report from Recycling and Solid Waste Committee held March 13th. Mr. Sanders.

BRETT SANDERS: Yes, sir, Mr. Chairman. As you said, we met March the 13th, 10:00 a.m., to discuss long term and short term plans to reduce or help curb our litter epidemic. We had a representative from Palmetto Pride, which is working on a statewide campaign. We also had Anderson County Solid Waste, Greg Smith, Sargent Hayes was there, as well. We talked with them about working on a plan in accordance with the state’s initiative. I know they have a lot of things coming on, billboards.

There was also a discussion, and we voted to -- or discussed letting the Solid Waste Department come up with a plan, a financial plan, to determine what we need to actually get onboard with the state’s program. I mean it would be a statewide initiative and then the county can piggyback off of that. Like I said, they have ad campaigns with billboards. There were some things in there that was addressed to the state of South Carolina. And I believe during our meeting we requested that we could use their campaigns with Anderson County on there. And it was said that they did not have a problem doing that. So we basically put everything back -- the Anderson County Solid Waste Department is going to have a plan and a list of financials to bring back before us to take before the Finance Committee.
I don’t know if the public is aware, but the state wasn’t able to do -- they usually help in the spring and the fall with litter pickup, but in the fall we missed out because of hurricanes and some of the employees were sent elsewhere in the state.

I would also like to thank our Administrator, Mr. Burns. I received an email with a letter which I posted on social media, as well. I think I also got a letter afterwards, Councilman or Council Lady Wilson asking our state senators and representatives for some help. I do know that Mr. Burns’ letter was responded to and the state actually sent people out on March the 14th, and I actually witnessed them myself out on 29 picking up trash and litter along the roadway. It was also stated that they’re planning on coming back in the fall and the spring, as well. If anyone else on our committee would like to add, please feel free to do so at this time. And again, thank you, Mr. Burns and Ms. Wilson, for your letters.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Chairman Sanders. Just for the record, two items on that, our TV station has started doing a little bit of advertising on that. I think that’s a great resource and everything. I think it can help get out the word. Also, get out the word about not only recycling but how you get the community on the Adopt A Road Highway Program. Also, Pickens County reached out this year wanting to do a thing -- I think it’s too late because we’ve already got our clean-up days set, but that might be something the committee looks at next year -- having it the same day as Pickens County and they’re looking at Greenville and Oconee, too, and that would maybe get more publicity out there if the counties are doing it all at the same time. Appreciate y’all’s work on this ongoing thing. Go ahead, Mr. Sanders.

BRETT SANDERS: On April the 13th is the county’s clean-up date. So I ask everyone to get their friends and family and businesses involved and hopefully we can make a difference one piece at a time.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Appreciate the work y’all are doing.

Moving on to Item number 13, report from the Sewer Ad Hoc Committee, Chairman Wooten. Chairman Wooten.

CRAIG WOOTEN: Thank you, Chairman Dunn. On March 15th we had a Sewer Ad Hoc Committee, and we continued some items from a previous committee. Staff came forward with a memorandum of understanding that would allow the county to transition operations of our sewer system in the northwestern part of the county over to REWA, which is a much later entity that spans
into Greenville County. We thought that it would be a potentially cost effective solution that would allow for expanded service in that county and at the same time would allow the county to be able to step back on some of the infrastructure costs that that would take. So with that, within your packets was the Memorandum of Understanding. This would be a precursor to the county going into formal negotiations on a contract. It outlines on the bullet points the items that are of most importance to make sure that we’re in general agreement going into the contract negotiations that both parties have favorable intent and see the benefit of it and will take the resources and time to pursue a contract. So this comes from the Sewer Ad Hoc Committee with unanimous recommendation. I move that in the form of a motion to the council.  

TOMMY DUNN: Coming from the committee, it doesn’t need a second. Are there any discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands. Show the motion carries.  

Moving on to Item number 4.  

CRAIG WOOTEN: The second item was an item of discussion in regards to summer adjustments. If you think about it in a way when your water comes in and your water goes out via sewer. Well, in the summer time people will use water to water their grass, they’ll fill up their pools, they’ll wash their cars, at a higher rate. If that individual doesn’t have two water taps, it’s hard to differentiate what water came out and then went back out as sewer. And so traditionally there’s been some summer adjustments within billing to accommodate that. But that doesn’t always line up with the way the water companies do their billing and there’s some irregularities there. So the county talked about a phase-in approach where we can start reconciling those systems so that people will get accurate billing on those summer water outputs. So from the committee’s standpoint, we wanted to make sure that in aggregate people were not getting hit with any kind of increase but that we were searching a way to make it be equitable and fair to those across the board and would be favorable to the county. We’re going to continue the discussion with staff moving forward in the budget process.  

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  

Anything else?  

CRAIG WOOTEN: No, sir.  

TOMMY DUNN: At this time we’ll be moving on to Item number 14, report from the Finance Committee held March 15, 2019. Chairman Wooten.
CRAIG WOOTEN: Thank you, Chairman Dunn.

With this committee we had a good many line items, but we started the committee meeting hearing from Coach Denny Floyd. He runs what they call a Cavaliers football team. Myself thought it was just a football team, but he went on to elaborate that they do many sports within the county. And they use the McCants field over here behind Mills on Wheels. And basically whether it’s for home school, private school, alternative school, kids, boys and girls who need a place after school to play sports, have a mentor, have a positive role model in their life. They’re doing a jam-up job with this. Coach Denny Floyd is very passionate about it. Don Peppers is a community leader from the Pendleton area who’s heavily involved. Michael Cousar (Phonics) is a coach on this team. So this is a quality program that allows for young folks to have a mentor and to have some productive outlets in the afternoons with their time.

We talked about trying to help them with using the Civic Center for some practices. And that was a positive way the county could support their mission. We also talked about being a liaison to the city with them because they were incurring some costs with the city for using the McCants field and we wanted to work with them to help them with those expenses. And then individual council members talked about being able to help them moving forward in the budget process for next year. With that we received it as discussion and information, and it was a very positive way to start the meeting.

But from there we went on to some items of a more technical nature. And the first one is Bid 19-030. The title of it is a little confusing. It says aircraft rescue and fighting vehicle. So at first glance you think that this might be like an Apache helicopter. But in reality what it is, is a fire truck for the airport. And with our expanded ... (end of audio)

CRAIG WOOTEN: ... doing out there. We’re seeing larger and larger planes come in on a more frequent basis. Heaven forbid if there were to be a fire out there, you know, with jet fuel. We want to make sure that we have the appropriate fire truck that can respond. And the fire truck that we have in Townville is (audio is going in and out) We wanted to make sure that the county had the appropriate vehicle. So there were two bidders. With it being a unique item you would expect only a couple of bidders. Not everybody makes things like this. But the bid that
procurement recommended was to a company called Oshkosh and it’s three hundred and twenty-two thousand one hundred and seven dollars. And that came as a unanimous recommendation from the committee. And I put that in the form of a motion.

TOMMY DUNN: Have a motion. Have a second? I’m sorry, don’t need a second. But discussion. I would just like to say -- correct me if I’m wrong, Mr. Burns or Chairman Wooten -- this is being funded by a grant. Is that not correct?

CINDY WILSON: Yes.

RUSTY BURNS: (Not speaking into mic)

federal government, five percent from the state. We’ll have approximately seventeen thousand dollars in the ---

TOMMY DUNN: Council voted I think this year to put this in play. It’ll be in the process here now. Any more discussion?

BRETT SANDERS: Yes, sir, Mr. Chairman.

TOMMY DUNN: Go ahead, Mr. Sanders.

BRETT SANDERS: Correct me if I’m wrong, but I think it’s required by the FAA; isn’t it? It’s a requirement from the FAA to have to respond within a certain time frame with a certain distance and what they have out there now does not meet those qualifications.

TOMMY DUNN: We’ve had trouble meeting them before and I want -- the trouble is we would have to have a fire truck that would be centralized that would have to come stand by there. They volunteered. It would be very difficult to come by there and stand. So to keep the airport open, we do need to do something.

BRETT SANDERS: Okay.

TOMMY DUNN: And I think it was our airport manager that went out and helped find it -- found this grant to help us fund this on that thing right there. Anything else? All in favor of the motion show of hands. Mr. Chairman, carry on.

CRAIG WOOTEN: The second item was bid 19-042 is the Historic McCants Gym re-roof. And this is a gym that I grew up having activities in. It’s a quality facility, but it’s an older facility and it needs to be taken care of. And for us we needed to seriously look at putting a roof on top of it because if it were to incur more damage then it could reach a point that we couldn’t insure it and we couldn’t bring it back up to speed. So the committee heard from staff on that and had discussion. And we unanimously recommended to go ahead and re-roof this gym at a cost
of two hundred fifty-one thousand seven hundred fifty dollars. There were seven bids, which was encouraging. I mean this was an item that a lot of people could do. And what was also encouraging, the lowest bidder was Turnkey Construction, which was a local roofing company, and we’ve really made an initiative of hoping to work local when it makes sense.

TOMMY DUNN: Coming from the committee, it doesn’t need a second. Any discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands. Opposed like sign. Show the motion carries. Mr. Chairman, moving on.

CRAIG WOOTEN: We had three capital items. One is the donation of a truck to the town of Honea Path. It was donated to a four thousand dollar Chevy truck that was an older truck that we were rotating out of our fleet. And they were in need of a vehicle to be donated for their animal control department and this seemed like just a win-win for everybody and the fact that we could work with them to get that. So we bring -- that was unanimously approved or recommended. And we bring forth that as a motion to allow Honea Path to have the Chevy truck.

TOMMY DUNN: Again, coming from the committee it doesn’t need a second. Any discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands. Opposed like sign. Show the motion carries. Moving on, Mr. Chairman.

CRAIG WOOTEN: The second item was a building in Belton. It was talked about earlier, that Belton could use this small building as a Farmer’s Market. It’s in the middle of town. They could allow police access there. It’s at 101 Breazeale Street. It was a building that the county owned and we leased for a nominal amount to a local entity. That lease came up and for us we had discussion about the benefit of it to Belton. Obviously, being in the county, we wanted to support them as much as we could. About a sixty thousand dollar market appraisal value. And we had a little bit of discussion, we want to make sure if we give somebody something like this that they use it for their benefit, they don’t turn around and sell it. We were assured by staff that we could have some precautions put in there to make sure that didn’t happen. So that comes as a unanimous recommendation from the Finance Committee.

TOMMY DUNN: Again, doesn’t need a second from the committee. Any discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands. Opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously. Moving on, Mr. Chairman.
CRAIG WOOTEN: The last capital item was the Mill Town Players sign. My children went to an event there two weeks or three weeks ago, I believe it was. They’re doing some very quality items up there that actually I feel is attracting folks from all over the county and even outside the county. But they had a sign that they put forth at a cost of about fifty-four hundred dollars and outlined what they were doing. It’s a good thing going on up there, and we made a motion to recommend that unanimously.

TOMMY DUNN: Coming from the Finance Committee, again, doesn’t need a second. Any discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands. Opposed like sign. Show the motion carries. Moving on, Mr. Chairman.

CRAIG WOOTEN: Last item, number 6, was a financial update that just led into a level of discussion. But, you know, from the comprehensive annual financial report from 2018 and schedule of expenditures. We looked at different line items that were performing well that were coming under budget. And just trying to get an understanding of where we’re going and where we’ve been. You know, in that same vein, we had discussion on how to improve operations and potentially how to incentivise staff or reward staff for operating under budget. And a lot of times spending throughout the year is not consistent. It can be up and down, depending on the timing of the year, ending of the year, beginning of the year, and we wanted to make sure that we put in procedures that allow staff to feel confident that they can provide the utmost service to county, but also that if they were to find ways to make improvements and to save money that they’re rewarded for that and recognized for that and that we didn’t have any negative incentives in place. So we had a robust discussion about that. Heard from staff. Heard from council members. And really had a lot of items that we’ll take forward to the next meeting and continue the conversation with.

With that, that concludes what we spoke about at the Finance Committee held on March 15th.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Moving on to Item number 15, report ---

GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Chair?

TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma’am.

GRACIE FLOYD: Thank you. Mr. Wooten, also in the Finance Committee meeting we had an issue there on 6(a). Will that one be carried over into the next council meeting as -- for discussion on that? Because
that’s important.

CRAIG WOOTEN: Yes, ma’am. That’s what I asked staff with all this that, you know, whenever we have discussion on this, I don’t want it to end at one meeting. I want it to continue and hopefully grow to some kind of resolution; either that we either act on it or decide to change it. But most definitely.

GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. But we’re not prepared to discuss it at this time?

CRAIG WOOTEN: No, ma’am. No, ma’am.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Moving on to item number 15, report from the Public Safety Committee held March 18, 2019. Chairman Graham.

RAY GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

This is in reference to a meeting held March 18th for Public Safety Committee. As one of the council members from Pelzer had discussed earlier, this is an intergovernmental agreement with the town of Pelzer, along with Anderson County Sheriff’s Department. It’s a fairly common practice throughout the state. Basically what it’s doing it allowing county deputies -- they’ve done some figuring and basically they’ve got it down to where the town of Pelzer is going to hire off-duty deputies which would patrol in the Pelzer Town limits, naturally in uniform in marked vehicles as a deputy stationed specifically for that area. And the town of Pelzer is actually going to cover the cost of that. This will be in addition to the actual region deputy that’s already assigned to that area, which is actually outside of Pelzer, as well. And in a sense, it’s an opportunity for them to get some extra coverage without having to front the money up front for a police department or starting something like that up. Basically kind of gives us an opportunity to kind of get ahead of the game and see what benefits it brings. A lot of times it can bring some tremendous benefits as far as economic development or curb some problems in some specific areas. Definitely commend them for taking a step toward doing this and commend the Sheriff and his staff for working this plan out. This was voted on at Public Safety and it’s brought before full council for your support, with one hundred percent support from the Public Safety Committee.

TOMMY DUNN: Coming from the committee, doesn’t need a second. Any discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed?

Abstentions? Show the motion carries unanimously. Ms. Floyd, you abstaining?

GRACIE FLOYD: I did.
TOMMY DUNN: Okay. Mr. Davis, Mr. Sanders, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Graham, Mr. Wooten, Ms. Wilson in favor and Ms. Floyd abstains.

Moving on, Mr. Chairman.

RAY GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

For council members that did support that, I do appreciate it. It does bring some benefit to our citizens in Anderson County.

Moving on to number 4, discussion concerning small unmanned aircraft safety and privacy issues. This is basically the kind of -- bring it down to layman’s terms, it’s concerning drones throughout the county. It’s beginning to be a pretty popular hobby that people has as far as with these drones. And there’s been some issues as far as on personal level as far as with citizens and also members of the community that’s had some issues where basically they feel like their privacy has been impeded on.

With that being said, this was brought forth to Public Safety from last council meeting that we look at this. Basically there was no action taken. No action recommended back to full council. We have got several questions concerning basically what’s the FAA’s responsibilities as far as enforcing what’s already in place. And you know, on the other hand, what can the county do? What can we put in place that’s not going to step on FAA’s policy already there. And you know, basically how can we make a situation better? I mean whether it’s through an ordinance or whether it’s through working with FAA or whoever. So we’ve got a lot of questions from the committee. Our attorney is going to be checking on some of those and trying to get us some answers back. Ms. Wilson, she has done a tremendous amount of research on this with FAA and is remaining in contact with them on a regular basis and bringing information back as far as what’s already in place.

The biggest thing that we -- and I say we. I think all the way across through government lines whether it’s local, state, federal, it’s always real easy to raise your hand to enforce or to put something in place. But we don’t put the meat and potatoes behind it to actually enforce it or, you know, give the true backing as far as what it would need to basically solve the issue. So in a sense I think that’s what the committee has recommended, that we kind of do our homework and determine what can we actually do as a county to make it better for our citizens. At this time there’s no recommendation on that. We will be carrying that on with some other meetings. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
Look forward to hearing that. Appreciate the
committee’s work.
Moving on to Item number 16, road acceptance into
county inventory. If there’s no objection we can take
all three of these at one time. I make the motion we
accept these in the county as inventory as long as they
meet all county standards and with staff’s
recommendation. Put that in the form of a motion.
CINDY WILSON: Second.
TOMMY DUNN: Second Ms. Wilson. Any
discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands.
All opposed? Abstentions? Ms. Davis, Mr. Sanders, Mr.
Dunn, Mr. Graham, Mr. Wooten, Ms. Wilson in favor and
Ms. Floyd abstains.
Moving on to appointments. Are there any
appointments tonight? I’m not aware of any.
Moving on to requests by council members. Mr.
Davis.
JIMMY DAVIS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
would like to allocate from my special projects fund
three hundred dollars to the Piedmont Public Service
Convention to be carried on to the Piedmont Crime Watch
Group. This is a group that’s very active in the
Piedmont area and is working hand-in-hand with the
Anderson County Sheriff’s Department, and they’re doing
a lot of great things. And this will help them with
their advertising and just reaching out to the
community to aid our sheriff’s department and help curb
crime in Piedmont. So I make that in the form of a
motion.
TOMMY DUNN: Have a motion Mr. Davis.
Have a second?
CINDY WILSON: Second.
TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Wilson. Any
discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands.
Opposed like sign. Motion passes unanimously.
Anything else, Mr. Davis?
JIMMY DAVIS: That’s all, sir.
TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Sanders?
BRETT SANDERS: Yes, sir. I’d like to put
in the form of a motion for the Riverside Middle and
Pendleton High School Archery Teams in District 4, the
sum of one thousand. And also, and I don’t know how to
do this the proper way. Maybe you can assist me. The
Anderson Class Tiny Home Foothills Community
Foundation, I would like to donate a thousand to them,
but I’m also in the process of working on getting the
concrete poured and the foundation done as a gift. So
I guess what I want to do is a thousand there and then
I’m working on getting the slab and some other things done for them.

TOMMY DUNN: Put that in the form of a motion?

BRETT SANDERS: Yes, sir.

CINDY WILSON: Second.

TOMMY DUNN: Second by Ms. Wilson. Any discussion?

CINDY WILSON: That’s awesome.

TOMMY DUNN: All in favor of the motion show of hands. Opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously. Anything else, Mr. Sanders?

BRETT SANDERS: No, sir, I’m fine. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Floyd?

GRACIE FLOYD: I have some plans, but I don’t have anything tonight.

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

RAY GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I’d like to -- if I could ---

TOMMY DUNN: Go ahead.

RAY GRAHAM: --- I’ve got several, do them all at one time if that’s fine with you.

TOMMY DUNN: Go ahead.

RAY GRAHAM: I’d like to do one thousand dollars to the Tiny Home fund. I’d like to do three hundred dollars to Westside Community Center, and I’d like to do two thousand dollars to Belton Alliance for the Chili Cookoff.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Graham puts that in the form of a motion. Do we have a second?

CINDY WILSON: Second.

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

RAY GRAHAM: That’s it, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Wooten?

CRAIG WOOTEN: Yes. I would like to help the Leadership Anderson Tiny Home Foundation, but I plan to do it in the next fiscal year, just for budgeting. I don’t know that I can be of much help with what I have, my balance. But for the Westside Community Center made a request to all council members, I’d make a motion to do two hundred and fifty dollars.

CINDY WILSON: Second.

TOMMY DUNN: Have a second Ms. Wilson. Anymore discussion -- I mean any discussion? All in
favor of the motion show of hands. Opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously. Anything else, Mr. Wooten?

CRAIG WOOTEN: No.

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Wilson?

CINDY WILSON: District 7 is broke.

TOMMY DUNN: Okay. Out of District 5's special source account, I’d like to appropriate fifteen hundred dollars to the Westside Community Center. I’d also like to appropriate fifteen hundred dollars to Tiny Homes. Put that in the form of a motion.

CINDY WILSON: Second.


Moving on to Item number 19, request for endorsements. Family Promise of Anderson County and United Housing Connections. I think we’ve done this in the past and I’ll let Mr. Burns explain it.

RUSTY BURNS: In the past these groups were to provide services for the homeless in Anderson County. There’s no monetary contribution requested of the county. They just request county council to endorse and allow us to send a letter on your behalf.

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

CINDY WILSON: Second.

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

Administrator’s report.

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

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you.

Moving on to Item number 21, Citizens Comments. When Mr. Harmon calls your name please step forward, state your name for the record and your district and address the chair. You’ve got three minutes.

LEON HARMON: Mr. Chairman, first citizen signed up is Tonya Winbush.

TONYA WINBUSH: Thank you so much. I am a part of, I think, District 2 or 1, Mr. Wooten. And again, my name is Tonya Winbush. I just really want to address Ms. Floyd, how she constantly asks questions and she clarifies everything. The only thing that we have is what you give us, which is this. And the people that come up to give a report or kind of give us background, we don’t have privy to any meeting minutes
that I think was appropriate to ask for the minutes because if you tell us what they said, you’re going to miss something. And that’s why the rules are there and that’s why we have policies. That’s why we try to follow what people have taught us to do with the rules that Ms. Floyd has suggested. I don’t think that that’s unreasonable to ask for minutes for every meeting. I work. I have children. And I can’t be at every planning meeting, every sewer ad hoc meeting, every meeting that they’re talking about here. And I would just want to really, really applaud Ms. Floyd for allowing us the opportunity to break everything down and to say this is what this means and this is why you are saying this and this is what you’re referring to because it makes it plain for me. And even the little bit that she does, which I really want even more explanation, I just want to applaud you. And I’m hoping that we can bring more suggestions to that. I would like to be able to get the video, as well. And I’ve been trying to find it and I can’t, so I will ask later on how to get that. But I think that that would make more citizens want to be a part of these meetings if they knew what was going on. It’s a lot of information that’s being put out. And if we had those minutes somewhere or if it was a part of the email or those packets, those long documents. For you not to have them available to us, it’s an insult to say maybe that I wouldn’t understand, but I would. And a lot of other citizens would, as well. And so I just appreciate you and I thank you and I hope that you do more of that. And I hope that this statement and this comment will have more of an impact and an influence and we will be getting more information in reference to what’s going on in the county council. Thank you.

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

ELIZABETH FANT: Elizabeth Fant, District 3. I want to talk about safety issues. You’ve talked about -- touched on a lot of them tonight. I happened to go on a street beside the Uptown Lounge heading towards Main Street. There’s a building, the Johnson Building that’s right there and there’s no curb or no sidewalk beside it. Getting a little (not speaking into mic) of road down. As I was coming down there were two individuals who had what looked like a forklift. The forklift kept raising up and raising up (not speaking into mic). There weren’t any cones out in the road. There weren’t any blocking to keep me from going down there, but I saw it going on and I
thought about these commercials where you see a piano
falling off a building on top of a car. And I said,
I’m not going there. Anyway, it finally got to the top
and there was an individual on top of the building that
was trying to grab a box. After they grabbed the box,
I came up to the two individuals and I was going to
(not speaking into mic) they could forward a message to
their boss and neither one of them spoke English. So I
realized probably they didn’t even realize the safety
issue there. I found that -- I find that
unconscionable that how that can happen in the city.
There must be safety regulations about blocking off
with cones and so forth. I don’t understand how stuff
like that happens.

The new courthouse is getting a roof. I had
mentioned to Mr. Burns I thought they needed it. I
could see tiles. They’ve had the parking lot blocked
off for a good long while in the back. I want to
suggest about that parking lot. Number one, there
shouldn’t be any individual that parks back there that
works in that courthouse with the exception perhaps of
the major judges to have a designated parking place.
Sheriff’s patrol, all the other employees, they need to
park in the parking garage. That parking lot needs to
be for the individuals who come for business. Not
people who are coming there daily to work. When they
rework the parking lot, they need to design it angle
lines, not square lines. You can hardly get in a
parking place there. And they’ve got so many jammed in
there that when you do try to park in there, if there’s
one empty, you’re at the risk of running into somebody
or whacking a door off. Mr. Burns, I’m putting that as
a hot and heavy recommendation.

We’ve got real problems with our roads. Over in
Belton we have two sinkholes. I’m not talking about a
pothole. I’m talking about where you look down into
it, it goes to black in there. We’ve had so much rain,
I don’t know what all is wrong with the roads there.
It just so happens that one is in a private parking lot
and the other one is ---

LEON HARMON: Time, Mr. Chairman.
TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Harmon.

Next?
LEON HARMON: Next speaker is William
Meredith.

WILLIAM MEREDITH: I want to reiterate what I
was talking about and try to expand just to a small
degree. But I’d like to thank y’all for what I heard
tonight. I’m heartened to hear the Amicus Brief thing
that we’re going to be standing up to these people that
are hopefully not going to be allowed to get away with polluting Broadway Lake. But yeah, again, we’ve got a little Facebook thing that I think somebody may have already signed up for, it’s called Waste Nothing. That’s what I want to do. But I’d like to see us commend the elected officials and as citizens, just try and do better. We’re wasting a lot of our resources by virtue of petty turf wars or bureaucratic whatever. I heard -- and I appreciate what you’re doing. I have worked for the Great American Clean-up or Anderson County Clean-up for several years now. I mean, it’s good. I’m glad we’re doing it. But we could do so much better. I don’t know why we’re just doing it twice a year? Why don’t we do it every season? Why don’t we do it four time a year?

Now, I said something about schools earlier. You know, every school could be a drop-off location for people to take their recycling. Cardboard is a profitable recyclable according to our recycling specialist. We’ve got Clemson University right up the road, the number one in college football, okay, rah-rah. We could be number one in environmentalism if we dedicated ourselves to doing that. It would be incredibly beneficial economically. People want to live in desirable locations. We have a beautiful, natural environment here, but we’re not taking care of it.

And so I’d like to challenge -- this is what I’m trying to get citizens involved through this Facebook thing and that’ll make it happen. But we’ve got to get cities and towns working together. Because if you’re a resident of the city, you’re still a resident of the county. You’re still paying county taxes and they’re still using the same landfill. So I understand it costs us money ultimately to -- everything that goes in that landfill cost a little bit of money. So anything we can keep out of it will save us that little bit of money. So it makes economic sense, it makes environmental sense. And we’ve got to educate or kids. Why don’t we have competitions between Hanna and Westside, who’s the best environmentalist? Like I said, we have a lack of imagination, is the way I look at it. We’ve got a lot of doing things the way we’ve always done them and I think we ought to look outside the box a little bit. So I’d like to challenge every one of you to do it. Thank you for the job you’re doing. I just hope we can all do a little better. Turn it up; okay? Thank you guys. Appreciate it.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Harmon?

LEON HARMON: No one else is signed up,
Mr. Chairman.

TOMMY DUNN: Comments from council members. Ms. Wilson?

CINDY WILSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Interestingly enough, our county finished number one in the state for recycling last year. So we’ve got a long ways to go, but it was a good start.

The other item is that our county council has in its Codes of Ordinances a prescription of how we run our meetings. And every January, after we nominate a new chairman, the next meeting he’s supposed to address the standing committees. Standing committees in our county are so vitally important. There were never any standing committees until 2009; not in the years I came on since ‘01. I could not get public information. I even went all the way to the State Supreme Court trying to get access to the financial ledgers for our county and to look at why we were spending one million plus or minus every year on legal expenses. Not case files, mind you, just legal expense invoices.

Most of us up here are supposed to be considered part-time employees. Right now we have all the standing committees appointed. We have a number of ad hoc committees appointed. It’s our way to look at the issues and get input from people and study it before it comes back in the form of a resolution or an ordinance. It’s not a perfect process. There’s a lot of discussion. Most all of us make reports back to the committee. The meetings are recorded. I’m sure you could get a copy of the recording and we’ll take up the potential of minutes for those meetings. But every report that’s made on the floor comes back in the next -- in the minutes of the regularly scheduled council.

So we may be adding more to the paper trail than what we want to deal with, but we are so grateful to have citizens who are interested, who want to come and learn with us and give us their input. That is a real treasure and of great value to the process of the county. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Wooten?

CRAIG WOOTEN: Yeah. I think from my standpoint, anything that we can do to make it more transparent and readily accessible, I mean, I’d be willing to entertain that and figure out a functional way to make it happen.

In regards to recycling, I’m one hundred percent with you. We’ve got to be innovative, but we’ve also got to be tactical on what could we do in the immediate future? But both of those things are positive things and look forward to speaking about it in the future.
TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Graham?
RAY GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Kind of the same thing on recycling. The sad thing about it, this is a true issue all the way across the nation. And I definitely thing we’ve got a major problem here in Anderson County and it’s going to take citizens like yourself to spearhead ideas as far as getting out there and leading clean-ups. I know I’ve got one in my district that does it on a regular basis. And that’s what it’s going to take to truly make a difference.

I think another very important thing is getting -- we have truly been blessed with economic development. If we could get some of the industries involved for them to challenge their employees to get out and maybe have a clean-up day, as well, and I mean things like that is what’s going to truly make an impact. One or two people, you know, I like what Mr. Sanders commented on on Facebook, you know, one piece at a time. And that’s true. That’s what it’s going to take. But I mean to truly see an impact we’re going to have to get some major players involved. And I think that’s going to take getting some of your volunteer fire departments, you know, boy scout groups, some of your industry leaders. You go piling all that together, it’s going to be a lot of trash at the time. That’s where you’re going to drive through and you’re going to see a major difference over night and I think that’s what it’s going to take.

Another thing I think, I harp on this every time, is education. I think we’ve truly got to change the mentality. Kids don’t -- need to realize throwing a piece of trash out the window isn’t the norm. They need to realize it’s wrong. And we’ve got to educate them to change that mentality.

Appreciate what everyone in Public Safety is doing. I know we’ve had a couple of meetings and I’ve spoken to different ones through EMS, fire service, law enforcement. The Sheriff is doing a great job. And we continue moving forward. Appreciate everything every one is doing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Ms. Floyd?
GRACIE FLOYD: Thank you. We did not always have committee meetings because we found out years ago that when you have the committee meetings some folks don’t get information. Just the people that was in the room at the time, they’re the ones that know everything and they are the ones who we don’t get information.

Let me explain -- let me give you an illustration.
Sometimes back there in 2003 or '4, a bus company came to us, Anderson County, and offered us six hundred thousand dollars to buy a bus so we could take our kids back and forth to Tri-County Tech and back. Six hundred thousand dollars. It was, it was mentioned to the -- I think it was the Financial Committee, like the papers say, the powerful Financial Committee. They turned it down. They turned it down. I didn’t know about it until I went to a meeting up in Pendleton and I met with the people who told me that they offered to give us a bus to help us transport our kids. Financial -- the powerful Financial Committee didn’t say nothing. Didn’t even bring it to the county -- the council for us to vote it up or vote it down. They just said no. We didn’t get it. Other things have happened that we don’t know about because we aren’t there. We decided years ago that it would be best for all things to come before the county -- the council and we would discuss it. And it’s proven to be better.

The last Financial Committee meeting I went to, it was a good meeting, very good meeting, but they were tired. Why were they tired? Because the same people on -- they had three meetings that morning, 9:00, 11:00 and 12:30. And we had people there who was on all three committees and they were tired. They were tired because there’s not enough people to go around to all these committees. It’s the same people over and over and over again. So that’s -- and we did better. We did better.

Okay. The minutes. We’re going to have to have minutes, folks. It says in everything -- any meeting you have ever been to in your whole life, you have gotten minutes. And you mean to tell me that the powerful Financial Committees doesn’t have to give me minutes? Or the Sewer Committee, I don’t have to sit -- they can come and read to me what they want me to know. Suppose we did you like that? Okay. The roads that we were given tonight to bring into the county has always been a very, very watched thing because we don’t want to take in roads that do not meet the standards of Anderson County. Do not. And I remember Fred, Fred Tolly, used to always ask everybody, does it meet the standards of Anderson County? But tonight we voted on one that we said if it meets the standards we’ll take it in. We didn’t vote to take it in because it meets the standards.

Also, the lack of information that I did not get because it was not put in the books, a lot of the -- three of us didn’t have it in our books. So I was denied the, I was denied the fact of -- I don’t know
what they’re talking about. It was mentioned that this is something that got by them last year, I think that’s what I heard, because I don’t understand a lot of what’s happening or what’s being said. I’m not deaf. But anyway, anyway, those are the things that I have to say. Sometime it makes me feel like I don’t know what I’m talking about. But you know, I beg to differ. I beg to differ. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Sanders?

BRET SANDERS: Yes, sir, Mr. Chairman.

I’d like to just quickly address Vice Chairman Graham talking about getting manufacturers involved. I know I’ve actually talked with Terry Gilstrap with the Manufacturing Alliance. She’s working on a plan for us. And also, I’m new to council. There’s a lot of things I don’t know. I like the idea of committees. I can go in there. I can ask questions. I’m talking with the people in charge, whether it be dealing with litter, I’m actually talking with the Solid Waste head guy. I can ask questions. I can put them on the spot. I can make a more informed decision. And then the packets that I’ve heard a lady request about is -- it’s a book. And I mean, I sit down and I take pride in what I’m doing up here for Anderson County and my district. I read every word, everything in there. If I have a question, I’ll go back to the source. I understand the litter problem. Printing all this stuff out for everyone in the county, I mean look at what we’re doing with litter there. I mean most people will thumb through it and never read beyond the first page or paragraph. But I would like to go on record and say that any committee that I’m on, I think you can reach out to our clerk of council, any committee I’m on, my personal cell phone number is on there. If someone is not able to attend the meeting, whether it be in my district or not in my district, please feel -- reach out to me. I will discuss anything, try to answer any questions. If I don’t know the answer, I will find an answer for you. And hopefully we can get it addressed to where people can be a little more informed. But until then, like I said, reach out to our clerk. Any questions, anything you have for me, I’ll be more than happy to discuss with anyone. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Sanders.

Mr. Davis?

JIMMY DAVIS: I have nothing, sir.

TOMMY DUNN: Appreciate it. Appreciate everybody coming to the meeting tonight. Meeting adjourned.
(MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:20 P.M.)