

State of South Carolina)
County of Anderson)

CORRECTED

ANDERSON COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 2, 2019

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

ALSO PRESENT:
RUSTY BURNS
LEON HARMON
LACEY CROEGAERT

1 TOMMY DUNN: At this time I'd like to call
2 the April 2nd regular Anderson County Council meeting
3 to order. Want to welcome everyone here. Thank y'all
4 for coming. At this time I'd like to ask that we all
5 rise while Ms. Floyd gives the invocation and Pledge of
6 Allegiance, please.

7 (INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE BY GRACIE FLOYD)

8 TOMMY DUNN: Before we sit down if you
9 would let's have a moment of silence, please, for
10 prayer for Ms. Rita Davis. Her mother is ill and going
11 through some times. And Mr. Bob McCormick from Honea
12 Path passed away. Involved with Meals on Wheels and a
13 lot of things down in Honea Path. If you would let's
14 give those folks a minute of silent prayer and our
15 thoughts and prayers for them and their families.

16 (MOMENT OF SILENCE)

17 TOMMY DUNN: Thank y'all very much.
18 At this time are there any corrections to be made
19 to the minutes of March 19, 2019 -- not received. I'm
20 sorry about that. I didn't catch that.

21 Moving on to Item number 4, citizens comments. As
22 Mr. Harmon calls your name, please address the chair,
23 state your name and district for the record. You have
24 three minutes. The first go-around is on agenda items
25 only, please. Mr. Harmon.

26 LEON HARMON: Mr. Chairman, the first
27 speaker is Tonya Winbush.

28 TONYA WINBUSH: Thank you so much. Thank
29 you, Council. I was looking at the agenda for today,
30 and one thing that struck me and just kind of ignited
31 some emotions in me was the -- when you all go to your
32 executive session, you know, we don't know what's going
33 on because you leave and you talk about things that we
34 don't have privy to. But it says legal advice
35 regarding sewer matters and appeals for Planning
36 Commission decision, and it talks about acquiring the
37 property for the county, condemning the property for
38 right-of-way for sewer lines and the appeals needed for
39 the Planning Commission decision. This is very
40 personal to me because I don't know any -- I don't know
41 if you all know, and if you don't I will remind you,
42 but I am Tonya Winbush whose property was condemned and
43 eminent domain was used to take our property for sewer
44 lines for the city of Anderson. And it was done in
45 such a very callous, cold and menacing way, that we
46 came home one day and our property was cleared out and
47 we were supposedly in negotiations with the attorneys
48 who sent us a letter and told us, well, don't get
49 attorneys involved because they will cost too much
50 money and you don't want to do that, and we'll

1 negotiate. And it was very, very hard to know that our
2 family property that we've had in our family since
3 1912, which I think everyone understands how hard it is
4 for a black family, African-American family to acquire
5 that type of property in 1912, so it was very value.
6 It was at a time when my father was dying from cancer
7 and we are still in litigation to this day.

8 And what I want to say is, when you are getting
9 your legal advice, if you care about your constituents,
10 if you care about the people whose land that you are
11 about to acquire, if you would please talk to them and
12 be honest. Don't just try to acquire the land and do
13 not try to give them their just due. The law says that
14 we have a right for just compensation. And just
15 compensation should be negotiated to a point to where
16 the family is left better off than what you are going
17 to them with. And if you have a heart, if you have
18 compassion, if you have humanity, land ownership is
19 very important to most citizens that I know. And it's
20 hard to acquire. It's blood, sweat and tears is the
21 way we acquired it. And it felt like rape and robbery
22 the way it was taken from us. And I just want you all
23 to keep that in mind. I don't have any more comments,
24 but I just want to say that that land is attached to
25 people who has family ---

26 LEON HARMON: Time, Mr. Chairman.

27 TONYA WINBUSH: Thank you very much.

28 TOMMY DUNN: Next, Mr. Harmon?

29 LEON HARMON: Next speaker is Elizabeth
30 Fant.

31 ELIZABETH FANT: Elizabeth Fant, District 3.
32 I'm speaking mostly on number 11, the Duke Power grant
33 in Belton for the kayak location. I think that's
34 wonderful that they're doing that. Just as two
35 sidelights to that, last time we met you realize that
36 the county gave Belton the property right out beside
37 the library now going to be used for the Farmer's
38 Market and also police station, which is great. And
39 the other thing that's really great going on in Belton
40 is the museum had an opening yesterday, A Little Bit of
41 Country. And a lot of you who are interested in old
42 artifacts, you need to go.

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

45 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Harmon.

46 Moving on to Item number 5, South Carolina
47 Association of Counties State Award Presentation, Mr.
48 Robert Benfield. Mr. Burns, will you get him and make
49 sure he gets took care of.

50 ROBERT BENFIELD: Mr. Chairman, County

1 Council, it's a privilege to be with you all here
2 tonight. Thank you for allowing me to come before you.

3 My name is Robert Benfield. I'm the Director of
4 Risk Management Services for the Association of
5 Counties. The Association of Counties operates two
6 insurance trusts, one is liability and one is workers'
7 comp. Anderson County has been a member of our
8 workers' comp trust for many years and you have one of
9 the best risk management programs in South Carolina.
10 And I want to commend you guys for your efforts and
11 your support in those areas.

12 The reason I'm with you all tonight is every year
13 we evaluate our members' work, we look at their
14 achievements and accomplishments, and then if they met
15 certain criteria, they're given a certain award. This
16 year, of our hundred plus members in our workers' comp
17 trust, Anderson County had the third fastest reporting
18 time for getting claims to us when one of your
19 employees gets hurt. Risk Management in general is
20 what we do to keep bad stuff from happening. And to be
21 successful takes a team effort. You have an incredible
22 Risk Management team in Anderson County. You have
23 Charles Pinson, you have Denise Holly, with support
24 from Mr. Burns and county council, and every one of
25 your department heads is critical to what you guys do
26 every day.

27 The award you guys are going to receive tonight
28 means that on average when one of your employees was
29 injured, it was turned in to us in less than half a
30 day. The quicker we get the notification of it, the
31 quicker we can take care of your people and get them
32 back to work. Over the last year, you have seen a
33 massive reduction in the number of workers' comp claims
34 your county has had. It has saved your employees,
35 which is the best asset you've got from injury, it's
36 also saved your taxpayers a lot of money.

37 So I want to commend you guys for your hard work,
38 your efforts and all the support it takes to make a
39 risk management program successful. Tonight I am here
40 to present Denise and County Council for having the
41 third fastest reporting record in South Carolina for
42 our workers' compensation trust.

43 TOMMY DUNN: If we could step down and
44 everybody step with, and Mr. Burns, can you step up
45 also?

46 (PRESENTATION OF AWARD)

47 TOMMY DUNN: Just want to say I appreciate
48 the county employees, appreciate that award and for him
49 making his way up here and presenting that to us.
50 Appreciate all the people that makes this possible.

1 Mr. Pinson and staff in there do an outstanding job.
2 And like I said, they take care of our most valuable
3 asset, our employees. Thank you very much on that.

4 Moving on now to Item number 6, ordinances third
5 reading. There are none.

6 Moving to number 7, Ordinance 2019- ---

7 BRETT SANDERS: Excuse me, Mr. Chair.

8 TOMMY DUNN: I'm sorry?

9 BRETT SANDERS: May I recuse myself from this
10 one?

11 TOMMY DUNN: Yeah.

12 Moving on to Item number 7(a), 2019-012, ordinance
13 second reading. Ordinance authorizing the execution
14 and delivery of a fee in lieu of tax agreement by and
15 between Anderson County, South Carolina and a company
16 or companies known to the county at this time as
17 Project 20180801 with respect to certain economic
18 development property in the county whereby such
19 property will be subject to certain payments in lieu of
20 taxes, including the provision of certain special
21 source credits. Do we have a motion to put this on the
22 floor?

23 CINDY WILSON: So moved.

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

26 RAY GRAHAM: Second.

27 TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Graham.

28 Discussion. Mr. Nelson, do you have anything?

29 BURRISS NELSON: Mr. Chairman, thank you.
30 This is an excellent project opportunity with excellent
31 pay, twelve jobs that they're guaranteeing, eighteen
32 that they will likely create, average salaries in the
33 sixty to eighty thousand. Some of those will actually
34 be a hundred thousand a year. Great opportunity for
35 Anderson County.

36 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Anyone else? All
37 in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed like
38 sign. Show the motion carries. Let the record show
39 that Mr. Sanders did recuse himself. He's back in the
40 room.

41 Moving on to Item number 8(a), ordinance first
42 reading, 2019-013, an ordinance authorizing the
43 execution and delivery of a fee in lieu of tax
44 agreement by and between Anderson County, South
45 Carolina and a company or companies know to the county
46 at this time as Project A-z-u-1 with respect to certain
47 economic development property in the county, whereby
48 such property will be subject to certain payments in
49 lieu of taxes, including the provision of certain
50 special source revenue credits. Do we have a motion to

1 get this on the floor? Motion Ms. Wilson. Do we have
2 a second?

3 JIMMY DAVIS: Second.

4 TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Davis. Mr.
5 Nelson.

6 BURRISS NELSON: Mr. Chairman, if you would
7 allow me to approach to give this to council.

8 TOMMY DUNN: Yeah.

9 BURRISS NELSON: Mr. Chairman, members of
10 council, this project is another solar array project
11 for the county. The property where it's going is about
12 a forty acre tract of land. Last year they paid sixty-
13 one dollars and nine cents in property tax. With the
14 solar array in place and paying taxes, it will generate
15 -- the solar array alone will generate ten thousand
16 eight hundred dollars and the property itself will
17 start to generate six thousand seven hundred dollars,
18 for a total of seventeen thousand dollars a year in
19 increased tax income just on the solar array. No
20 impact to the community. There's no pollution from
21 this. No cars, no traffic. It is simply a good
22 opportunity and a project for a non-polluting
23 manufacturing and it doesn't create jobs. Right now
24 we've got a full house of employees and lots of jobs
25 still open. So good opportunity for Anderson County,
26 as well. And this comes as a recommendation to council
27 from our Advisory Board and from our staff.

28 TOMMY DUNN: Anyone else have any
29 questions or comments?

30 GRACIE FLOYD: Yes.

31 TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Floyd.

32 GRACIE FLOYD: Would you please explain to
33 folks here, do you pronounce the name by spelling it A-
34 z-u-l?

35 BURRISS NELSON: Azul, it's a Spanish word.

36 GRACIE FLOYD: It's Azul?

37 BURRISS NELSON: Right.

38 GRACIE FLOYD: Would you explain to our
39 folks here what is Azul and how come it was so cheap at
40 sixty-one dollars and nine cents and now we could be
41 getting ten thousand dollars, because they don't know
42 any of this.

43 BURRISS NELSON: The investment from the solar
44 array will generate -- it's somewhere in the
45 neighborhood of thirty million dollars in total capital
46 investment and the solar array will generate property
47 tax each year by the design of the fee in lieu
48 agreement that we have, it'll generate ten thousand
49 eight hundred dollars each year. And then because it
50 becomes manufacturing, it's no longer an agricultural

1 assessment, no longer valued in the same fashion, it
2 will be addressed tax-wise as a manufacturing location
3 with a ten and a half percent assessment ratio which
4 makes changes -- just the land along from the sixty-one
5 dollars to six thousand seven hundred dollars. So that
6 would be a total of seventeen thousand five hundred
7 dollars each year that will be paid for the next twenty
8 years and likely for the next thirty. But twenty years
9 alone is three hundred and fifty thousand dollars in
10 property tax as compared to, if it were left and no
11 longer in use, just like it is today, at sixty one
12 dollars over the twenty year period it would generate
13 one thousand two hundred and twenty-one dollars. It is
14 a good opportunity. It's non-polluting, no impact to
15 the schools, no impact to sewer. It just sits there
16 and soaks up sunshine.

17 BRET SANDERS: Mr. Nelson?

18 BURRISS NELSON: Yes, sir.

19 BRET SANDERS: This says Council District 6.

20 This is actually 4; correct?

21 BURRISS NELSON: Yes, sir, that's correct.

22 BRET SANDERS: That's fine. I was just ---

23 BURRISS NELSON: Yeah, that's right.

24 BRET SANDERS: Thank you.

25 GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Nelson.

26 BURRISS NELSON: Yes, ma'am.

27 GRACIE FLOYD: We also have another one
28 similar to this over in District 2; am I right?

29 BURRISS NELSON: That's correct. And that one
30 is actually a bigger total investment. It will be
31 coming to council floor soon.

32 GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. Thank you.

33 BURRISS NELSON: Yes, ma'am.

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

37 BURRISS NELSON: Thank you.

38 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Nelson.

39 Moving on to Item number 8(b), 2019-014, an
40 ordinance to amend Chapter 70, Article 5 of the
41 Anderson County Code of Ordinances, so as to clarify
42 storage of commercial equipment in residential zones.
43 Do we have a motion to put this on the floor?

44 CINDY WILSON: So moved.

45 TOMMY DUNN: Motion Ms. Wilson. Do I have
46 a second?

47 BRET SANDERS: Second.

48 TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Sanders. Dr.

49 Parkey, would you like to ---

50 JEFF PARKEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1 This ordinance was prepared at the direction of the PPW
2 Committee to require storage buildings in residential
3 zones to be located in rear yards if they are going to
4 remain on the property for more than a hundred and
5 eighty days. And you have ordinance language to that
6 effect in front of you there. Thank you.
7 TOMMY DUNN: That's what's in red is
8 what's been added to the language?
9 JEFF PARKEY: Yes, sir.
10 CINDY WILSON: Mr. Chairman?
11 TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Wilson.
12 CINDY WILSON: I just see one typo on this
13 Exhibit A. The third sentence down, shouldn't for be
14 from?
15 TOMMY DUNN: Could you look at that, Mr.
16 Harmon?
17 LEON HARMON: I'm sorry. You said third
18 line down?
19 CINDY WILSON: Third line down.
20 RAY GRAHAM: You're talking about where it
21 says for ---
22 CINDY WILSON: It says -- the previous line
23 ends with which shall be completely removed for the
24 site.
25 LEON HARMON: From. From the site.
26 CINDY WILSON: From the site?
27 LEON HARMON: Yes, ma'am.
28 CINDY WILSON: Okay. May I make a motion
29 that we just correct that typo? Or can that be done
30 without going through a motion?
31 TOMMY DUNN: Why don't we do it next
32 reading? That way we can have it typed up and we can
33 adopt it that way. Won't that be clean, Mr. Harmon?
34 LEON HARMON: It can be done that way; yes,
35 Mr. Chairman. We'll have to do second and third
36 reading on this.
37 TOMMY DUNN: Yep. Anymore discussion?
38 All in favor of the motion show of hands. Opposed like
39 sign. Show the motion carries.
40 Moving on to Item number (c), 8(c), 2019-015, an
41 ordinance to amend Chapter 70, Article 6 of the
42 Anderson County Code of Ordinances so as to clarify
43 storage of commercial equipment in residential zones.
44 Dr. Parkey. I mean, do we have a motion to put this on
45 the floor?
46 CINDY WILSON: So moved.
47 TOMMY DUNN: Motion Ms. Wilson. Do we
48 have a second?
49 BRETT SANDERS: Second.
50 TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Sanders. Now,

1 discussion. Dr. Parkey.

2 JEFF PARKEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
3 Again, this ordinance was also prepared at the
4 direction of the PPW Committee to prohibit commercial
5 equipment and materials from being stored in public
6 view in residential zones. You have language to that
7 effect in this ordinance in front of you.

8 TOMMY DUNN: Okay. Anyone have any
9 discussion?

10 CINDY WILSON: Just very quickly. There are
11 a few refining measures that we may have ready for
12 everyone's consideration at second reading.

13 TOMMY DUNN: Dr. Parkey, can you clarify,
14 is this just in subdivisions or is this like out in --
15 say out on Smith Road that's not a subdivision and
16 they've got five acres of land?

17 JEFF PARKEY: In residentially zoned areas,
18 yes, sir.

19 TOMMY DUNN: Got to be zoned?

20 JEFF PARKEY: That's right. That's right.

21 CINDY WILSON: With the exception of RA.

22 JEFF PARKEY: That's right.

23 TOMMY DUNN: And this is I think to be
24 studied. There will be some more discussion, I think,
25 that's going to be coming up on this to make sure we --
26 I want to make sure we don't tie somebody's hands or
27 hurt somebody or some another. We've got two more
28 readings on this to get some input -- go out and get
29 some input from our citizens. Anybody got anything
30 else?

31 RAY GRAHAM: I do.

32 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Graham.

33 RAY GRAHAM: I guess my question on this
34 is some of these property owners that basically has
35 been doing this for years, I mean, how are we going to
36 address that? Even in a residential zoned areas, I'm
37 sure we've got situations that literally has been
38 storing -- I mean whether it's a trackhoe or lawn
39 equipment, whatever, in place for years at their
40 residence. And I mean basically we're fixing to put
41 some rules in place that's not going to allow that.

42 JEFF PARKEY: The language that's here is
43 requiring that they be fenced or enclosed on the
44 property. So outside of ---

45 RAY GRAHAM: When you say enclosed, you're
46 talking about a building structure; correct?

47 JEFF PARKEY: Either that or a fencing;
48 yes, sir.

49 RAY GRAHAM: Again, I'm just wanting to
50 make sure the citizens is taken care of. When you say

1 fencing are we talking about just a chainlink fence or
2 are we talking about privacy fence where it cannot be
3 seen from the road?

4 JEFF PARKEY: Yeah, I think the stockade
5 style privacy fence is the typical kind of fencing that
6 would be utilized in this kind of an application.
7 That's right.

8 RAY GRAHAM: Okay. Thank you.

9 TOMMY DUNN: I just want to say, I've got
10 -- we've got to vote on this one more time, and I've
11 got some reservations, too, because, you know, a lot of
12 this ought to be took care of on a civil matter as far
13 as you buy a piece of property, it ought to be on your
14 deed. If you buy a piece of property that don't say
15 that, the county is asking you to do something that
16 should be on a civil thing. You're walking on a
17 slippery slope here in my opinion. But like I said,
18 I'm ready to move forward until I do some more research
19 and talk to some people. Anyone else have anything?

20 CINDY WILSON: May I? There were two
21 examples that came before our committee. One was, I
22 believe, in Mr. Sanders' District and it had the
23 containers and a lot of equipment in the yard in a
24 subdivision that had covenants and restrictions, but it
25 was also zoned.

26 And then one in my district, which is really a
27 strange situation. About an acre lot that was sold a
28 couple or three years ago and the neighbors are all
29 complaining that it has mounds of mulch and big logs
30 and firewood stacked up and the ground all torn up.
31 They have large equipment there every day and mostly
32 every night. And it's gone from being a nice little
33 residence to a place of business. And it's in a zoned
34 area.

35 TOMMY DUNN: Well, I can understand ---

36 CINDY WILSON: They should have known when
37 they bought it, it was zoned.

38 TOMMY DUNN: If it's zoned, looks like to
39 me there's some tools to take care of it. My thing is,
40 like I said, we're going to look at this, but to fix --
41 I don't want to say a small problem, but for lack of
42 term, I'm going to say a smaller problem, we create a
43 bigger mess. Like in Mr. Sanders' area, if that's in a
44 -- got a subdivision that's got regulations and
45 restrictions on it, there's the neighbors' tool right
46 there. They've got tools to take care of it.

47 CINDY WILSON: They're old.

48 TOMMY DUNN: Well, that's the thing, you
49 know, about people dragging the county in sometimes on
50 neighborhood fights. Everybody's got a right to keep

1 their -- most of the time their covenants up and
2 everything and ought to know this. But like I said,
3 I'm willing to look at this tonight, but I've
4 definitely got some concerns before we move on to
5 second and third reading before I vote for it.

6 Mr. Wooten.

7 CRAIG WOOTEN: Yeah, I guess my thoughts
8 are the egregious examples are easy where there's
9 something very strong going on. I guess my fear is the
10 same as yours, that we will write the ordinance to go
11 after the egregious examples and then we'll
12 unintentionally capture the folks who have routinely
13 used it in a side way. So maybe between first and
14 second we can get more comfortable with how to
15 differentiate between those two.

16 TOMMY DUNN: I agree. Mr. Graham.

17 RAY GRAHAM: I guess kind of the same
18 thing on that. You know, I understand -- I guess in my
19 mind if the ordinances -- the covenants that's in
20 place, to me that should be able to take care of its
21 own situation. If the subdivision failed to renew that
22 covenant, I think it's ten years after ---

23 TOMMY DUNN: Every one of them's
24 different.

25 RAY GRAHAM: --- whatever on different
26 ones. But you know, a lot of times that creates an
27 issue and then they come back on the county wanting to
28 know why can we not enforce this? Well, it wasn't
29 renewed and it kind of tied our hands on that. I know
30 we dealt with an instance last year, I'm thinking
31 Chairman Dunn's area. But you know, I guess I'm the
32 same way. I'm willing to send it on through tonight,
33 but I'll be honest with you, unless there some more
34 clarification, I think we're going to open up a
35 hornet's nest here. I know in some of the subdivisions
36 in my district where there's private business owners
37 that stores -- whether it's a septic tank clean-out
38 truck or whether it's lawn care equipment. I mean it's
39 very neatly managed as far as their yards and stuff.
40 But I mean I think we're going to tie our hands where
41 it's going to have to be enforced on them, as well, so
42 we'll see.

43 CINDY WILSON: I think what -- where the
44 confusion is, zoning in Anderson County is relatively
45 young. So if that's been the case in your district
46 where these properties have been like that since prior
47 to zoning, I think we call that being grandfathered.
48 But when you have new transactions where new people
49 come in or later on people bring in all of this
50 equipment or material and leave it on their yard in a

1 very unsightly and in some cases unsafe manner, that's
2 what we're looking to try to remedy here. Not what's
3 been there for years. And it certainly won't apply to
4 agricultural zoned areas.

5 TOMMY DUNN: And I appreciate it and I
6 understand the intent. But a lot of times intent --
7 we've got good intentions but we get in trouble with it
8 trying to enforce something.

9 RAY GRAHAM: Mr. Chairman, one more thing?

10 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Graham.

11 RAY GRAHAM: Back to what Mr. Parkey
12 stated, to my understanding I mean they would be
13 required to go and put up a fence, even the current
14 ones. If that is something that's going to be
15 grandfathered, then we definitely need to document
16 that. Right now, the way I'm understanding this, I
17 mean I'll support it tonight to move it through, but I
18 do not foresee supporting moving this through on the
19 third reading because I think we've definitely got some
20 questions.

21 TOMMY DUNN: Got some work to do, I think.
22 Anybody else?

23 BRETT SANDERS: I was under the impression
24 during our meeting it was more of someone operating a
25 business from the neighborhood; not just storing it. I
26 think the people in my district, they renovate and
27 develop properties and they have this property here and
28 they're using their house and that container for
29 business purposes, not for residential storage. And I
30 think that's where I'm getting a little confused. And
31 I understand everyone else's concern. And I'm
32 concerned, as well. But I thought during the Public
33 and Planning Works meeting it was more geared toward
34 someone operating a business from a residential house
35 or neighborhood.

36 TOMMY DUNN: Well, and I understand even
37 -- like I say I think it just needs to -- we need to be
38 certain before we put a stamp on this what we're doing.
39 Because one thing in business, there's a lot of people
40 that cuts grass for a living that ain't got offices and
41 stuff.

42 JIMMY DAVIS: Mr. Chairman?

43 TOMMY DUNN: Yes, sir, Mr. Davis.

44 JIMMY DAVIS: I think what we looked at was
45 kind of a three-fold thing. And Mr. Sanders is correct
46 there was a neighborhood type of setting, there was an
47 individual that renovates houses and has rental
48 furniture and fixtures that they use to fix these
49 houses up. They use the house itself to operate their
50 business. The garage was used for storage and there

1 was an Ocean container out in the yard, maybe more than
2 one; I can't remember, that was used for storage, as
3 well. And it became an eyesore in this quiet
4 community.

5 Also, there was a situation down in Ms. Wilson's
6 district where there was an individual operating a free
7 service stump grinding business in his own environment,
8 in his own neighborhood and he had stump grinders and
9 big trucks and logs and stumps and everything piled up
10 in the yard. And so we had a couple of different way
11 of looking at that.

12 And while I agree that, you know, one of our most
13 important jobs is to protect the value of the property
14 owners, but we also have to protect the rights of the
15 citizens. So I agree with you, Mr. Chairman, that we
16 probably need to study it a little bit more. But I
17 want to make it very clear why we approached it this
18 way, was in zoned areas there was some concern about
19 what was going on. And if I'm not mistaken, and Ms.
20 Wilson, you may correct me, but there was also some
21 talk about a used car lot in people's front yards, as
22 well.

23 CINDY WILSON: That was taken up, but state
24 law, as Dr. Parkey and Ms. Hunter pointed out to us, no
25 individual homeowner can sell more than five vehicles
26 per year. And some of the complaints that we were
27 hearing, there were like more than five vehicles parked
28 in somebody's yard in a neighborhood that's zoned where
29 they were basically doing a less formal version of a
30 used car lot. And it was not very pleasant for the
31 neighbors to have all that traffic.

32 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Anyone else? Dr.
33 Parkey, one last thing on my end, I've just got to get
34 my mind wrapped around this and I'm sure we'll have
35 more questions. But if there's a tree service,
36 whatever kind of business, in a zoned area, and it's
37 zoned RA or zoned this or that, as long as it ain't
38 zoned commercial or nothing, shouldn't we have enough
39 tools already in place to take care of that?

40 JEFF PARKEY: I think the question that's
41 being addressed with this is business or commercial
42 materials or equipment coming from an offsite location
43 and being stored at a person's residence in a
44 residential zone is -- my understanding is what's
45 trying to be dealt with.

46 TOMMY DUNN: What I'm thinking, though, if
47 that's the case that would be operating a business in a
48 zoned area.

49 JEFF PARKEY: I would probably leave that
50 to Ms. Hunter to make that determination as Zoning

1 Administrator, but I don't know whether it could be
2 argued that way. I think, as Mr. Davis pointed out and
3 Ms. Wilson pointed out in committee, we were trying to
4 deal with an issue of people bringing their business
5 equipment and materials home with them, basically.

6 TOMMY DUNN: Okay. Thank you. All in
7 favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed.
8 Abstentions. How do you vote, Ms. Floyd?

9 GRACIE FLOYD: I'm going to have to abstain
10 because I don't know the whole picture of this thing.
11 I think that y'all might have to go back and discuss
12 this one more because none of that's in here.

13 TOMMY DUNN: Show the motion carries with
14 Mr. Davis, Mr. Sanders, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Wooten and Ms.
15 Wilson in favor. Mr. Graham opposes. Ms. Floyd
16 abstains.

17 Thank you, Dr. Parkey. Appreciate it.

18 Moving on to Item number 9. I make a motion we go
19 into executive session to receive legal advice
20 regarding the sewer matters and appeals of Planning
21 Commission decisions.

22 CINDY WILSON: So moved.

23 TOMMY DUNN: Second Ms. Wilson. All in
24 favor of the motion show of hands. Opposed like sign.
25 Show the motion carries. If we could step in the back,
26 back here.

27 (EXECUTIVE SESSION)

28 CINDY WILSON: Mr. Chairman, may I make the
29 motion that we come out of executive session, having
30 received legal advice regarding sewer matters and
31 appeals from Planning Commission decisions, with no
32 action taken.

33 TOMMY DUNN: Have a motion Ms. Wilson.
34 Have a second?

35 BRETT SANDERS: Second.

36 TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Sanders. All in
37 favor of the motion show of hands. Opposed like sign.
38 Motion carries.

39 Moving on ---

40 RAY GRAHAM: Mr. Chairman.

41 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Graham.

42 RAY GRAHAM: I'd like to bring this forth
43 in a motion. I move that County Council authorize
44 development of legal documents to acquire an easement
45 for Welpine Sewer Project. I bring this forth in a
46 motion.

47 TOMMY DUNN: Have a motion Mr. Graham.
48 Have a second.

49 BRETT SANDERS: Second.

50 TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Sanders. Any

1 discussion?
2 CINDY WILSON: May I?
3 TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Wilson.
4 CINDY WILSON: I will vote for developing
5 the document and giving it to the landowner, but I have
6 a very hard time voting for an eminent domain
7 proceeding that's actually going through the Court.
8 But to get the parties to the table, I will vote for
9 that. Thank you.
10 TOMMY DUNN: Anyone else? All in favor of
11 the motion show of hands. Opposed like sign. Show the
12 motion carriers unanimously. Thank you, Mr. Graham.
13 Moving on to Item number 10, road acceptance into
14 the county inventory. Anybody got a problem taking all
15 of these at one time?
16 GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Chairman?
17 TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma'am.
18 GRACIE FLOYD: I don't have a problem, but
19 -- in fact it would be good if we did take it all at
20 one time. But the question has not been asked the last
21 time we did this, are these roads all in compliance
22 with the county, with the county coming into the ---
23 TOMMY DUNN: We're getting there.
24 RUSTY BURNS: Mr. Hopkins?
25 TOMMY DUNN: Before we -- can we have a
26 motion on the floor to accept this ---
27 CINDY WILSON: So moved.
28 TOMMY DUNN: Motion Ms. Wilson. Have a
29 second?
30 BRETT SANDERS: Second.
31 TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Sanders. Mr.
32 Hopkins, does all these meet Anderson County standards?
33 HOLT HOPKINS: Yes, sir. They have all been
34 inspected multiple times as they were being built and
35 they meet the standards.
36 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Any more
37 discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands.
38 Show the motion carries.
39 Moving on to Item number 11, approval of Duke
40 Energy Foundation grant for the Belton Landing. Mr.
41 Burns.
42 RUSTY BURNS: Mr. Chairman, we've received
43 a one hundred thousand dollar grant from Duke Energy to
44 build a handicapped kayak access on the Saluda River.
45 We have done this in concert with the town of Belton.
46 They are our full partner in this. It will be another
47 step in opening up the Saluda Blue Trail and request
48 permission from Council to accept this grant and move
49 forward.
50 TOMMY DUNN: Do I have a motion to put it

1 on the floor?

2 CINDY WILSON: So moved.

3 RAY GRAHAM: Second.

4 TOMMY DUNN: Motion Ms. Wilson; second Mr.

5 Graham. Discussion?

6 CINDY WILSON: May I very quickly?

7 TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Wilson.

8 CINDY WILSON: This is such an exciting
9 development starting from the Dolly Cooper Park down to
10 Piedmont, down to the Timmerman Ramp, down to Lee Steam
11 Plant where Duke employees actually made portage and a
12 launch area there, and taking it further down the
13 Saluda River to Belton. And eventually other areas
14 will pick up, hopefully, and carry it all the way
15 through. It's so exciting.

16 I haven't had a chance to go down the river in a
17 kayak but one time, and I would just highly recommend
18 people get out and do that. It is so beautiful. It's
19 like living in the Last of the Mohicans time where you
20 see nothing but wild river most of the way. And it's a
21 gentle river. It's not, you know, there are not major
22 shoals where you have to be a very experienced kayaker
23 to negotiate them. And it's what we call a Blue Trail.
24 It's open to the public. And having the handicapped
25 launch where people who have issues where they can't go
26 the normal way, they can get out and enjoy it, too.
27 It's really a rare, wonderful opportunity, and we
28 greatly appreciate Duke Energy. Thank you.

29 RAY GRAHAM: Mr. Chairman?

30 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Graham.

31 RAY GRAHAM: While this is in Ms. Wilson's
32 district, I have spoken a great deal with the city of
33 Belton and definitely thank Duke Energy and the city of
34 Belton for their partnerships in making this project
35 come to fruition. It definitely will continue growing
36 the Blue Trail. And I know a lot of the citizens in
37 the area has complicated on the opportunities that they
38 foresee it bringing. So definitely appreciate
39 Council's support on this.

40 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Graham. All
41 in favor of the motion show of hands. Opposed like
42 sign. Show the motion carries.

43 Moving on to requests by council members. And just
44 a reminder, I think we had one on our desks tonight as
45 we got here. Mr. Davis, do you have any? This is
46 requests by council members?

47 JIMMY DAVIS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I
48 have two and I'll make them in the form of one motion.
49 From the District 6 rec fund, I would like to allocate
50 one hundred dollars to the South Carolina Physically

1 Handicapped Society, and two thousand dollars to the
2 Foothills Community Foundation for the benefit of Go
3 Play Outside Disc Golf.
4 TOMMY DUNN: Have a motion by Mr. Davis.
5 Have a second?
6 BRETT SANDERS: Second.
7 TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Sanders. Do we
8 have any discussion? All in favor of the motion show
9 of hands. Anything else, Mr. Davis?
10 JIMMY DAVIS: No, sir.
11 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Sanders.
12 BRETT SANDERS: Yes, sir. I've got three I'd
13 like to put in the form of one motion. I would like to
14 take five hundred from my rec account fund for the
15 Junior League of Anderson County. I'd also like to do
16 three hundred to Proverbs Mentoring Organization. And
17 I'd like to also do one hundred for the South Carolina
18 Physically Handicapped Society.
19 TOMMY DUNN: Have a motion by Mr. Sanders.
20 Have a second?
21 CINDY WILSON: Second.
22 TOMMY DUNN: Second Ms. Wilson. Any
23 discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands.
24 BRETT SANDERS: Thank you.
25 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Ms. Floyd.
26 GRACIE FLOYD: I don't know. Mr. Sanders,
27 how many of your children are in that Proverbs
28 Mentoring?
29 BRETT SANDERS: I have zero children, but
30 there are taking, on the form I read, they take
31 children to visit different colleges in ---
32 GRACIE FLOYD: I know what they do.
33 BRETT SANDERS: There's four from my
34 district.
35 GRACIE FLOYD: From your district?
36 BRETT SANDERS: Yes, ma'am.
37 GRACIE FLOYD: That's what I meant. You've
38 got four from your district?
39 BRETT SANDERS: Yes, ma'am.
40 GRACIE FLOYD: And you're giving them three
41 hundred dollars; right? Okay. Yes. I have -- in my
42 district I have two kids, and I would like to give an
43 allocation of two hundred dollars to the Proverbs
44 Mentoring Organization. And that's in the form of a
45 motion. Last year I think I did the whole thousand
46 dollars.
47 TOMMY DUNN: Have a motion by Ms. Floyd.
48 Have a second? Second Ms. Wilson. Any discussion?
49 All in favor of the motion show of hands. Show the
50 motion carries.

1 Mr. Graham.

2 RAY GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd
3 like to give a thousand dollars to the Sheriff's
4 Department. This is actually -- the officer that we
5 tragically lost in the boating fatality, his wife is
6 doing a fund raiser basically to raise some money for
7 basically a wireless lanyard. Basically it's like a
8 smart watch for the operators to actually have on their
9 person while operating a boat. And also there's actual
10 onboard piece of the operation that works, as well, in
11 the event someone falls into the water it basically
12 will stop the motor and basically cut the water craft
13 off. His wife is in the process of trying to raise
14 some money on this on a Go Fund Me. In speaking with
15 Captain Brown today, it looks like with this thousand
16 dollars, we should be able to equip our vessels with
17 Anderson County with these operations. And I guess the
18 way I just kind of justify -- to my fellow council
19 members, the way I'm justifying this as far as coming
20 direct from rec funds, coming from the Sheriff's
21 Department, being part of the dive team, being part of
22 the water team, basically in the summer months that
23 team literally is responsible for ensuring all the
24 recreational activities on the water in Anderson County
25 is people operating boats safely, people doing what
26 they need to do, responding to emergencies in the event
27 of something taking place. So that's how I'm kind of
28 linking this to recreational because basically in a
29 roundabout way, it's providing the Sheriff's Department
30 an opportunity to operate and maintain a safe
31 environment for all of our citizens out on the
32 waterway. And it also is protecting our officers while
33 they're on patrol. So I bring this in the form of a
34 motion, a thousand dollars to be transferred to the
35 Sheriff's Department for this specific funding.

36 TOMMY DUNN: Have a motion by Mr. Graham.
37 Second Ms. Wilson. Any discussion? All in favor of
38 the motion show of hands. It carries. Mr. Wooten.

39 CRAIG WOOTEN: Yes. For Proverbs -- I'd
40 like to make a motion that for Proverbs Mentoring
41 Organization, Don Peppers and Kenneth Cunningham are
42 two individuals I've known for a long time and feel
43 like they do really quality work in this regard. And
44 if possible, Ms. Croegaert, backstop me if I'm over-
45 committing. I think I have enough money in the
46 account, but I will try my best to do a thousand
47 dollars. And if it hits zero, then I'll try to make it
48 up to them next year.

49 TOMMY DUNN: He's writing back checks.
50 Pick him up.

1 CRAIG WOOTEN: That's it. I put that in
2 the form of a motion.

3 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Wooten has a motion. Mr.
4 Sanders seconds it. Any further discussion? All in
5 favor of the motion show of hands. Show the motion
6 carries unanimously.

7 Show Ms. Floyd has left the building.
8 Ms. Wilson.

9 TOMMY DUNN: Out of District 5's special
10 appropriations account, I'd like to appropriate three
11 hundred dollars to the South Carolina Physically
12 Handicapped Society of Anderson. Put that in the form
13 of a motion.

14 CINDY WILSON: Second.

15 TOMMY DUNN: Second Ms. Wilson. Any
16 further discussion? All in favor of the motion show of
17 hands. Opposed like sign. Show the motion carries.
18 Moving on now, Administrator's report.

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

21 TOMMY DUNN: Moving on citizens comments.
22 When Mr. Harmon calls your name you have three minutes.
23 Please address the chair. State your name and your
24 district for the record. Go ahead, Mr. Harmon.

25 LEON HARMON: Mr. Chairman, the first
26 speaker signed up is Tonya Winbush.

27 TONYA WINBUSH: I want to comment on what I
28 talked about last county council about being more
29 transparent and I had gave kudos and thanked Ms. Floyd
30 for being so adamant about slowing things down and
31 explaining everything. And I do get the email from Ms.
32 Lacey that kind of shows everything that y'all see. It
33 gives more detail, and I'm able to read and follow
34 along. And I guess my comment is, I don't understand
35 why we can't have that on the website, the Anderson
36 County website. I don't understand why, also, I looked
37 at YouTube and there's something where my council, Mr.
38 Wooten, he did like a, like a observation or -- to talk
39 about what happened at the County Council. It was on
40 like the Anderson Observer. And I don't understand why
41 like the whole meeting that you all are -- like we've
42 having here, why the whole meeting can't be videotaped
43 and put on I guess the Anderson Observer so that
44 everyone can see, you know, what's going on because
45 maybe someone can't be here or I think it would be good
46 because the people, your constituents, would love to
47 see you, you know, do what you do. I mean, I would.
48 So I guess my comment is if we can get more
49 information, the county council meetings the address
50 where it's going to be, the times is not on the

1 website. I think there was a pdf form that kind of
2 just had dates and maybe times, but there wasn't an
3 address. And it's just a lot of vague information.
4 And I don't know who's responsible for information or
5 social media or internet or website, but if we would be
6 able to put those things out there, I think it would be
7 better for everyone in the county, the people who put
8 you in office, to see what's going on so that we can
9 understand and have more transparency of more meetings,
10 more policies, more what's being voted on. It would
11 just be more informative. And in the age and the day
12 of information, you know, I want more and I think there
13 needs to be more. Thank you.

14 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Harmon.

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

17 ELIZABETH FANT: Okay. Starting now.
18 Elizabeth Fant, District 3. You know, Anderson County
19 is right on the verge of emerging as the county. You
20 know, we have -- our risk management people got honors
21 here recently. I went to First Monday yesterday. We
22 have top-of-line elections. Katie Smith is actually on
23 the Board in Columbia. Our airport is just singing
24 along. Roads and Bridges got an award. We have low
25 unemployment. The Sheriff is reporting crime down. We
26 have a high save rate at PAWS, Pets Are Worth Saving.
27 We obviously have a lot of hard work by all of the
28 council people on their committees. And as tonight,
29 you all got an award on Risk Management.

30 But I had the same thing that I wanted to say. We
31 need better information on our county website and
32 advertising. Basically nobody in the county knows
33 about the TV station, how to access it. So the money
34 you're spending on that is just going out the window.
35 County Council dates, I mentioned to Lacey that it
36 would be great if she could do a little Facebook blurb
37 of the time we're going to have a County Council
38 meeting. You could do that as well on the committee
39 meetings. And that gets wide exposure. Whereas a lot
40 of people don't do that now, but they do the Facebook.
41 It's very easy to do. Got it myself. Do each one
42 between three and four minutes.

43 And also the Elite Bass Masters is coming up. I've
44 seen one blurb on it. But it needs to be also on the
45 Facebook account. As I mentioned to Rusty last time,
46 the courthouse across there is getting a roof. I want
47 him to say to employees that they cannot park in that
48 back parking lot; that they must park in the parking
49 garage unless they are a judge that has to be accessed
50 in and out and unless the sheriff's patrol is bringing

1 a prisoner in. The parking lot spaces need to be
2 diagonal instead of straight. They need to be larger,
3 wider. You need to take some of them out. And you
4 need more opportunities for handicapped.

5 When and whatever happens behind here where the
6 Bailes building is, we're going to really have a
7 parking problem. Tonight I had a parking problem just
8 getting here and I was already early. When that
9 becomes something that takes away the parking places
10 that the sewer people here are using during the
11 daytime. You've got a new deli over there, Groucho's
12 Deli, we're going to be in a parking pickle.

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

15 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Harmon. No.
16 You've got to sign up. I'm sorry. Oh, you was? Go
17 ahead. Go ahead. Give you three minutes. Go ahead.

18 WILLIAM MEREDITH: Yes, sir. Appreciate the
19 opportunity.

20 TOMMY DUNN: Look forward to hearing from
21 you.

22 WILLIAM MEREDITH: I don't know if you
23 remember me. I spoke last meeting.

24 TOMMY DUNN: Vaguely.

25 WILLIAM MEREDITH: And I introduced myself.
26 I'm William Meredith. I'm in Ms. Floyd's district. I
27 am very concerned about a lot of things; one of which
28 is our local environment and the money we are -- I'm
29 afraid we might be spending more than we need to as far
30 as some of our litter disposal. I think we've got room
31 for improvement in some recycling, and that is an issue
32 I'd like to speak to.

33 First, to reiterate, I spoke last week at the last
34 meeting. I have a Facebook -- she's speaking Facebook
35 -- community that I've started, a page called Waste
36 Nothing, which is a Ben Franklin quote, and I'd love to
37 have you all join in because it's about simply that
38 idea. Everything that we keep out of that landfill is
39 something that we can not have to pay for, as I
40 understand it. So it makes economic sense, I believe,
41 for us to be as smart as we can with our stuff, and I
42 want to just encourage that, and continue, as I did
43 last week, to challenge every one of us to think of
44 ways to improve what we're doing. I understand we're
45 doing some good work and I'm thankful for it. And I
46 think there's room for improvement still.

47 To that end, I spoke with Ms. Fant and she agrees,
48 so I feel good about it, in just a week or so, let's
49 see, Saturday, April 13th, we're doing the Great
50 Anderson County Cleanup. I've done it the last couple

1 of years, and I know probably some of y'all -- or all
2 of y'all probably have participated, too, and I thank
3 y'all. I think that's great. I think we need more of
4 it. I'd like to see us do it not just once a year but
5 maybe once every season. I mean I don't see any reason
6 why 4th of July, you know, we have independence from
7 litter or something. Maybe in the fall we do
8 something. Every time a gully washer comes down and it
9 washes out into our rivers and then down to the oceans
10 and then out there and it strangles whales and we see
11 this terrible stuff, we can contribute to that waste
12 even from up here. So we need to be aware of that and
13 try to encourage more cleanup. I think by doing that,
14 say, four times a year we would put that in people's
15 minds more of the importance of the environment in
16 addition to removing the waste from the side of our
17 roads and from our environment. I wanted to throw that
18 out there just the kind of thinking outside the box I
19 want to encourage.

20 I also mentioned last week I'd love to see the
21 county reach out and try to do some partnership work
22 with Clemson University or with the Anderson County,
23 with AU, with the hospital, with any number of
24 institutions, with our schools. Let's see what we can
25 do to just create a community that's as clean as we can
26 make it possible. So I'm challenging all of us to do
27 that. And I'd like to thank you again for the
28 opportunity to speak. And good luck to all of you.

29 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Is that it?

30 LEON HARMON: That's all, Mr. Chairman.

31 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Davis.

32 JIMMY DAVIS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
33 just want to say a word of appreciation to all of our
34 county staff for the wonderful jobs that I have
35 witnessed them doing since taking office here in 2019.
36 It's just been an eye-opening experience and I am so
37 appreciative of Mr. Burns on down and all the support
38 and all the great people that we as a county have. And
39 I want to go on record of showing my appreciation for
40 the county staff.

41 Also, June 1st will be here soon, and the Saluda
42 River Rally will be coming around. This is a wonderful
43 event. Starts at Dolly Cooper Park. Matt Schell and
44 his department are working very hard to make this the
45 greatest one ever. I'm thinking we're going to have a
46 couple hundred boats floating down the Saluda River.
47 Anderson County is leading the way in the Saluda River
48 development and recreation. This is going to be a
49 jewel for our country. It's going to be great for
50 economic impact. And I'm just so excited for all we're

1 doing with it to have the Blue Trail. One day this
2 thing is going to go all the way to the ocean. It's
3 exciting to be on the front end of that. And that's
4 all I have.

5 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Davis. Mr.
6 Sanders.

7 BRETT SANDERS: Yes, sir. I'm, like Mr.
8 Davis, that Blue Trail, I'm thankful for Duke Energy's
9 contribution. That'll give us a jump on -- that is the
10 dividing line between Anderson and Greenville County.
11 So maybe we can get a jump there.

12 Also, we've got a lot of good events coming up.
13 The clean-up. We just participated in one in
14 Pendleton. The town-wide cleanup. I'd like to thank
15 -- Mr. Craig Wooten came out and helped. Again, it's
16 not about just our individual districts. We all need
17 to work together and I think we do a good job of
18 working together for the county as a whole. And I
19 appreciate the opportunity to serve. Thank you.

20 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Sanders. Mr.
21 Graham.

22 RAY GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
23 I've got one thing I want to mention to fellow council
24 members to just kind of put in your mind. And I'd
25 truly appreciate it if you'd kind of go online and kind
26 of do some research because I hope this is something
27 that we're going to pursue with Anderson County, as
28 well. Abbeville County and also Greenwood
29 County has basically started a -- and this has been
30 over the past several years -- has started a Promise
31 Campaign that they're basically operated with -- is it
32 Piedmont Technical College? I think that's the one
33 down there. And basically in a sense a young person
34 that's graduating high school that is wanting to attend
35 a technical school, the money that the lottery does not
36 pay and some of the other opportunities that they have
37 as far as scholarships that doesn't pay, it ends up
38 being, I'm going to say eight hundred dollars a
39 semester, is kind of a rough estimate. And basically
40 what this Promise Campaign does is it picks up that tab
41 to keep those individuals from having to pay a tuition.

42 You know, a lot of times it's where the families
43 are not able to send their kids to college or whatever
44 the case might be. But if you truly look at the
45 economic development in Anderson County and where we're
46 standing and moving forward with, we are in so much of
47 a great need with our unemployment rate as far as
48 getting these kids graduated from high school, getting
49 some type of trade skill from a technical college to
50 give them an opportunity to go to some of these

1 industries and literally change their lifestyle.

2 And Abbeville has been able to do it. Greenwood
3 has been able to do it. I had Mike Thomas with -- he's
4 actually a board member for West Carolina which is down
5 in Starr-Iva, Abbeville area. And also -- he's also a
6 member of Starr-Iva Water Board. He has approached me
7 about this. We're already kind of making some
8 contacts. Rusty, what's the name of that group again,
9 with the county? We're actually hoping to set up a
10 meeting with the Development Corporation because it's a
11 501(3)(c) program and see if it's something we can get
12 off the ground. And ideally would be basically your
13 local industries helping support this. And basically
14 these kids will be able to go to technical college at
15 no cost to them or their families. It's nothing but a
16 win-win situation. I mean it's a great opportunity.
17 It's a win for the industry. It's a win for us as a
18 county. It's a win for these families that's able to
19 -- for these kids to go to college.

20 Eight hundred dollars might not be a lot to some
21 people, but people that don't have much it's a
22 tremendous amount. We're pursuing this. Definitely
23 will be bringing more information back to council.
24 Again I encourage each and every one of you -- I'm
25 going to try to get Lacey to see if she can pull up
26 some articles, I've kind of printed some off -- to put
27 in your boxes on what Abbeville and Greenwood has done.
28 Please look at this and see if it's something you feel
29 like we can support as a county and hopefully get the
30 industries involved, as well.

31 Again, I do appreciate everybody tonight.
32 Definitely want to thank Duke Energy again for the
33 contribution on the Blue Trail. I think it's going to
34 be a tremendous opportunity for Ms. Wilson and my
35 district, as well, as far as bringing some more
36 opportunities for the citizens down there. Thank you
37 so much.

38 TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Wooten?

39 CRAIG WOOTEN: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Sanders,
40 for having me out at Pendleton last week. I had a
41 great time. I was disturbed about how much trash I
42 picked up in a half a mile section. But I joked with
43 somebody that with four kids at home, a quiet Saturday
44 morning walking beside the road was actually pretty
45 nice.

46 But in saying that I did want to bring up one thing
47 and I know some of my predecessors on the Finance
48 Committee sort of talked a lot about the budget and
49 then brought it on to council. With us being three
50 months out, I mean if it's okay with council, I'd like

1 for the budget just to come straight to council in the
2 parts that it's available from the staff and that
3 allows everybody to see it and really be able to dig
4 into it and have as much time as possible.

5 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Wooten. Ms.
6 Wilson.

7 CINDY WILSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
8 This county is so blessed with outdoor opportunities
9 and sports that are available. The Blue Trail is an
10 incredible development and we have many trails like at
11 the Clemson Experimental Forest just up the road where
12 people can go hiking on seven to eight thousand acres.
13 A group that I'm a part of that this county helped
14 initiate has volunteers that went out and mapped the
15 trails in conjunction with Clemson University. You can
16 go to the trail head, it's the Fants Grove Trail Head
17 and get a little map and follow if you want to go for
18 an hour hike or a longer ride on your horse or your
19 bike, it's available. Those are free opportunities
20 that are already paid for through other means and
21 they're available. Not to mention all the other
22 sports. The South Carolina Upstate Equine Council has
23 their fundraiser show this weekend and it helps to fund
24 the trails and the vet tech programs at Tri-County Tech
25 and a lot of youth groups.

26 In reference to our transparency, we have the
27 Channel 23. I can't afford to pay the cable to get
28 Channel 23, but that's available. On the free side,
29 WAIM Radio has filmed every meeting and you can access
30 their website. I'm not sure what it is, but you can
31 actually see each council meeting and they have
32 archives.

33 On FOIAs, the state law changed and a quick
34 rundown, you have to respond -- if a governmental body
35 gets a FOIA request, you have to respond within ten
36 days giving an estimate of the records available for
37 that request and time span and the cost. This county
38 does not charge for FOIA. Many of you don't know what
39 I went through trying to get access to public records
40 and many citizens, you were not allowed to get public
41 records before 2009. Believe me, I went to the State
42 Supreme Court even trying to get access. So if anybody
43 wants anything all they have to do is call one of us or
44 call the County Administrator's office. We really
45 invite public input. We really want our citizens
46 involved. A lot of committees that we've had fielded
47 here, people show up and they have brilliant ideas that
48 we didn't know about. So please take advantage of
49 that. And thank you to our county staff for all the
50 wonderful things that were announced today, including

1 the Greenpond development, the Blue Trail development
2 and all of these other wonderful companies that are
3 coming here that are giving good jobs to help our
4 citizens. So thank you, y'all.

5 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Ms. Wilson.

6 I'll try to be brief. I also want to thank the
7 Blue Trail, Duke Energy and all the folks working on
8 that. I think that's going to be a big success. I
9 want to thank the county staff and all involved about
10 Greenpond. Had the ribbon cutting today for the
11 bathroom; going to be in time for the fishing
12 tournament this weekend. These things are not in my
13 district; they're Anderson County's. Past council,
14 council now and council in the future is going to make
15 this successful and that's what's so great about it.
16 We look at what's best for Anderson County. I really
17 do appreciate it.

18 I also want to thank the High School Fisherman
19 Association. They spent last weekend or last Saturday
20 out at the Greenpond Landing and went all the way up 24
21 picking up trash. They're doers. They don't just talk
22 about it. We've got seventy-five groups that adopts
23 roads in Anderson County. We need a hundred and fifty.
24 I want to say something. Trash is bad in Anderson
25 County, but it's bad all over the state. I remember
26 when I was little, we've come a long ways, you ride
27 down the road and there was washing machines and
28 frigidaires on the side of the road. You don't see
29 that no more. Now it's trash. We've got educational
30 programs. That's what's going to stop this, is
31 educational programs. We're talking about doing this
32 and doing that. One of our biggest things -- and
33 Anderson County is very fortunate, the people we've
34 got, our staff, Greg Smith and his teams, about our
35 recycling. If you look close to Charleston the trouble
36 they're having with recycling. You can't give it away.
37 So where does it end up at? It ends up in a landfill.
38 And the sorting, what happens to so much waste.
39 There's a lot of things coming down the pike we've got
40 to look at about stuff, but want to keep everybody
41 involved and get it.

42 And I also want to thank all council for all the
43 work they do and the people here tonight. And about
44 the parking issue, I think it'll get better. But you
45 know, I remember at one time you could park anywhere
46 you want to. So I think it's a good problem to have.
47 We've got things going on downtown. It's good for the
48 city. And hopefully it'll keep things getting on.
49 Y'all have a good night.

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(MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:09 P.M.)