ANDERSON COUNTY COUNCIL

ANDERSON COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

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

ALSO PRESENT:
RUSTY BURNS
LEON HARMON
LACEY CROEGAERT
TOMMY DUNN: (Inaudible) At this time I’d ask
Ms. Floyd to do the invocation and pledge of allegiance. If
we’d all rise, please. Ms. Floyd.

GRACIE FLOYD: Go to your higher power as I go to
mine and let’s ask for His goodness together.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE BY GRACIE FLOYD

TOMMY DUNN: At this time are there any changes
or corrections to the September 3rd minutes?

CINDY WILSON: Just one that I found, Mr. Chairman.

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Wilson.

CINDY WILSON: Starting on page 6, it’s just an
incorrect spelling of the name of one of our citizens. It
should be G-e-r-r-i-s-h instead of ‘g-a’. And wherever her
name comes up, I would just make a motion to amend that.

TOMMY DUNN: Any further corrections to be made?
Hearing none, Ms. Wilson, you want to put that in the form of
a motion?

CINDY WILSON: So moved.

TOMMY DUNN: Do we have a second? Second by Mr.
Sanders. All in favor of the motion show of hands. Opposed
like sign. Show the motion carries.

At this time as Mr. Harmon calls your name for citizens
comments, you have three minutes. It should be on matters
that’s on the agenda. Please address the chair. State your
name and district for the record as you approach or before you
talk.

LEON HARMON: Mr. Chairman, first speaker is Danny
Brown.

DANNY BROWN: How y’all doing today? I’m Danny
Brown from the (mic went out).

LEON HARMON: Next speaker is Rich Bennett.

RICH BENNETT: Rich Bennett, 307 Compass Point.

I’m talking about the rezoning of the 9.7 acres, 2019-032.
I’ll give y’all an update. Since we talked last, we have met
with the neighborhood again, out there at the neighborhood.
We had quite a few people show up. Kind of adjusted a few
things on it. I think everybody is in agreement for moving
forward.

Before the next reading, the next time I ask to have it
read, I’m going to have their deed restricted. I’ll go over
the points of that. That it be would be county or the
neighborhood that’s in force. Right now we agreed -- we
originally talked about a three hundred foot buffer in the
back. We moved it to six hundred feet and thirty foot buffer
off the road, or six hundred feet and twenty foot the next
distance, limit to one curb cut. I went from three hundred to
six hundred, but they’re inside the six hundred feet there’s
going to be nothing built. They allowed me to (mic cutting
out) storm water or retention pond so they could be in that
six hundred foot buffer, but no structures other than storm
water. So they got a little more (mic cutting out) then do a thirty foot buffer. People won’t see it anyway. So it worked out good. And that gives me kind of a rougher piece of property and place to put the retention pond in the back and put it all the way around and it gives the front more useable property. I think basically we’ve all agreed on that. And then when we go through a second reading, we’re going to draft a deed restriction and have a survey done showing exactly the points and make sure they’re happy to review it. And then if we’re both happy we’ll come to ask for the third reading.

That’s where we are right now. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Mr. Harmon.

LEON HARMON: Mr. Chairman, next speaker is Mike Manley.

MIKE MANLEY: I’m Mike Manley. I live at 1158 Cartee Road and I concur with what Richard just said as far as the plans that we’re looking at at this point. The one major concern, if we can work these other issues out that we continue to have, and I’ve talked to Mr. Sanders about this, is the enforcement of these restrictions. We do not have a neighborhood association or anything, so we would really have to get some kind of indication from the county zoning that they would be willing to do that. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you.

LEON HARMON: Next speaker is Mitch Mack.

MITCH MACK: Mitch Mack, 1203 Cartee Road. Good evening, council members and audience. I just want to say that I’m in concurrence with what we’ve agreed to so far with Mr. Bennett and the neighborhood residents. We had a pretty productive meeting a couple of weeks ago. And I think the main concern going forward is just the future of a long term enforcement of trying to leave that buffer there for us. I think we’ve come to the best agreement we all can, the best for both parties. I just want to say thank you for your time and consideration.

TOMMY DUNN: Next, Mr. Harmon.

LEON HARMON: Next speaker is Elizabeth Fant.

ELIZABETH FANT: Elizabeth Fant, District 3. I’m speaking on several things. One is the ordinance that these other people just commented on. I’m glad to see that the parties involved have worked something out. But I was really floored a couple of meetings ago when they had the first reading and they were told that it could be tabled for however long and not even come up until September or January, and then bam, the next meeting there it was again. And these people hadn’t had time to go talk to Mr. Bennett to work things out. And that was just really a slam in the face. And I don’t like to see it when council does stuff like that.

I want to speak on administrator’s report, sheriff’s report. If you haven’t been keeping up with what’s going on
in the news, on Facebook, WYFF, Anderson Independent, what's left of it, and so forth, our sheriff’s department is really whooping it up big. They are cleaning the streets. Cleaning the streets, gathering in the meth, the heroin and whatever and the money and the guns. And our solicitor's office is right behind them. We have, in my lifetime, the best sheriff that we've ever had, the most law abiding, the most Christian, and the hardest working. Thanks.

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

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Harmon.

Moving on to item number 7(a). I believe Mr. Sanders is going to recuse himself. Could you state the reason, Mr. Sanders, for the record.

BRETT SANDERS: Yes, sir. I would like to recuse

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TOMMY DUNN: I'm sorry. I missed one. I'm sorry.

BRETT SANDERS: Go right ahead, sir.

TOMMY DUNN: I was just quizzing y'all and Mr. Burns and y'all just let me go on by. All y'all failed tonight.

We're going to item number 5, discussion of the methadone clinics in Anderson County, Mr. Brown. Mr. Brown, I apologize.

DANNY BROWN: How you doing?

TOMMY DUNN: I'm fine. How about y'all?

DANNY BROWN: I'm here to speak on the methadone clinics. A lot of people in Anderson County is not aware that it's even here. Right To Life Foundation was raised up out of the struggles that I went through in my personal life. And during them personal struggles, I was about run out of town for a situation that drugs was involved. Well, the methadone clinic is selling drugs in Anderson County. Like she said, the sheriff is doing a tremendous -- he's doing tremendous work cleaning the streets, but we've got a legal situation. People, men and women, in the Anderson County jail, South Carolina prison system, are doing eighty-five percent of their bids, most of them, about ninety percent of them, for the same thing this place is doing up here legally.

I go every day when I leave Gold's Gym, after I work out, I go to the methadone clinic. And it's no different than a drug house. Excuse me. No different than a drug house. You watch people come in and out. And what it does, it takes a toll on a community as a whole because they go to local stores and they steal, some of them do, because they don't have jobs and they have to pay for their methadone once a week. Okay. A five dollar item could be a fifty dollar item in a store. Take it to a drug dealer or somebody that boosts, a five
1 dollar item is something bigger than your hand. It could be a
2 hundred dollar bottle of lotion. A three dollar bottle is
3 under your hand. That could be a thirty or forty dollar
4 bottle of lotion, shampoo or anything. Okay. This goes right
5 into play with the methadone clinic. I know people that steal
6 every week or pay for the methadone clinic because they don’t
7 have no choice because they can’t keep a job because they’re
8 so high on methadone.
9 I did twenty-five years in prison. And the prison system
10 in South Carolina, we do not have a methadone clinic. We do
11 not have a suboxone clinic. You come in, they don’t have a
12 methadone clinic at the county jail. You come in, you go
13 through withdrawal for four or five days, they watch you and
14 then you’re off of it. It’s over with.
15 I talked to Ms. Dobbins at the clinic, the director of the
16 methadone clinic. We had a forty-five minute discussion.
17 I’ve had people that’s maintained on methadone for fifteen or
18 twenty years with no problem. But they’ve been getting high
19 for fifteen, twenty years. They don’t need it for fifteen,
20 twenty years. And on top of that Medicaid pays for it. So
21 the taxpayers pays for it, for them to go up there and get
22 high every day.
23 I’ve had friends that wrecked their cars, totaled their
24 cars, just on methadone. And if you’re a good methadone
25 person, I mean you go up there and you get high, whatever, but
26 if you do it regular for a long period of time, they send you
27 home with the bottle once a week. You get a whole bottle of
28 methadone, a whole week’s supply, at one time. Well, that
29 whole week’s supply, they don’t maintain all week. Ninety
30 percent of the people that get the whole bottle either sell it
31 to somebody else, they drink it right then, they get high and
32 then they go kill somebody, run off the road in a car or kill
33 their self. It could be you going home, your family going
34 home, each and every night, thinking everything’s all right
35 and here comes somebody on methadone, mixed with Xanax,
36 drinking liquor and all at one they nod out. It’s over with.
37 So you’re dead, your family member is dead, they’re dead,
38 everybody is in distress.
39 And you have family members of people on methadone -- this
40 one particular lady I know, they worry every night for her
41 safety, not knowing if she’s going to make it home or not
42 because she’s done wrecked four times in the past six months,
43 on methadone.
44 So it’s a very serious issue in Anderson County. I’m
45 doing my best. I’ve contacted the representatives of Anderson
46 County at the state house. They’re trying to get it heard on
47 the floor at the state house. The President has been real
48 hard on opioid drug epidemic and you can’t hardly get pain
49 pills on the street. You can’t hardly get heroin no more.
50 Like the lady said, the sheriff has done cleaned it up and the
bills passed down from Washington has done about eliminating pain killers in Anderson County and throughout the nation. So the only thing left is methadone.

So why not Anderson County be the first one to get on this thing and just get it heard across the nation and make folks aware of it and let it be gone. As long as people know it’s up there, they’re going to keep trying to get the money to get it. It’s going to keep hurting the economy in Anderson County. And if you get kicked off in Greenville or Columbia or Greenwood, you’ve got to come to the next one. So you’ve got people coming from out of town coming to this methadone clinic because they’ve been kicked out of other methadone clinics. And a lot of them are homeless and you see them on the streets. So the homeless from them places come to this place. They go to get methadone. They get theirs, they either go sell it or they do it. That’s what they do. They boost and steal all day long to pay for this.

And I thank you for your time. That’s all I’ve got to say. Appreciate it.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Yes, sir.

Moving on I’ve just got a little bit of housekeeping for information. Tonight we’re going to honor a veteran, Thomas (mic cutting out). We couldn’t get this on the agenda in time, but they’re going to honor him tonight and give him a resolution and thing from us and we’ll vote on it if that’s all right with everybody?

CINDY WILSON: Do we make a motion to amend the agenda?

TOMMY DUNN: Our agenda speaks (mic cutting out) but that’s the reason I was telling you for information. Moving on to item number 7(a), 2019-032, ordinance to amend the zoning map to rezone plus or minus 9.75 acres from R-20 single family residential to C-2, highway commercial, at Cartee Road and I-85, District 4. Mr. Sanders, if ---

BRETT SANDERS: Yes, sir, I’d like to recuse myself.

Jeff Parkey: Nothing else to add, Mr. Chair.

Just glad to hear that the neighborhood and Mr. Bennett have come together.

TOMMY DUNN: Does anybody have anything else?

CINDY WILSON: Do we -- I’m sorry.

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Floyd and then we’ll go to Ms. Wilson.
GRACIE FLOYD: (Not speaking into mic) Are we ready
to move on with this? Have the people from that community
told us yet that they’re ready to move on?
JEFF PARKEY: My understanding is we are ready to
have a second reading.
GRACIE FLOYD: No. I’m through because I thought
that they were -- on the document that they wanted to go
through. So they’re through with the document and everything;
right? They’re not through? Okay. They’re not through with
the document yet, so tonight we’re just going to go ahead with
a second reading on it?
TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma’am.
JEFF PARKEY: That’s my understanding, yes, ma’am.
GRACIE FLOYD: Even though they’re not through?
JEFF PARKEY: My understanding from what was just
mentioned is that the deed restriction has not yet been
finalized, but negotiations are underway.
GRACIE FLOYD: Thank you.
TOMMY DUNN: Let’s stop right here because I made
an error. We need to have a motion to pull this off the
table.
CINDY WILSON: May I make the motion that we take
this item off the table?
RAY GRAHAM: Second.
TOMMY DUNN: Motion Ms. Wilson; second Mr.
Graham. Do we have a -- all in favor of the motion show of
hands. Opposed? You opposed to taking it off? Mr. Davis is
in favor of taking it off, Mr. Graham, Mr. Wooten, Ms. Wilson,
Mr. Dunn. Show Mr. Sanders is a thing and Ms. Floyd is
opposed.
Now we’ll go back. Do we have a motion again -- who made
that motion to take it off the table?
CINDY WILSON: May I ---
TOMMY DUNN: Not take -- motion to put it on the
floor?
CINDY WILSON: May I make the motion that we now
put this item on the floor.
TOMMY DUNN: Second reading.
CINDY WILSON: Second reading.
TOMMY DUNN: Do we have a second?
RAY GRAHAM: Second.
TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Graham.
CINDY WILSON: May I?
CINDY WILSON: I just wanted to make sure I’m with
the understanding that everybody is moving forward and that
there will be a conclusion to this by the third reading?
TOMMY DUNN: Yeah, let me just keep this -- if I
can clarify this, Ms. Wilson, I talked -- let me get this
squared away. Ms. Wilson, that’s right. I ain’t going to say
everybody because you know how things is. But the majority of
the people, and you heard several of them here tonight, here
from this thing, has agreed to take it off the table and move
forward. At third reading they want some assurance on the
deed restrictions and that’s (mic cutting out).

CINDY WILSON: Okay. So if we vote for this on
second reading tonight, we would have a third reading with
everyone in agreement. And if they’re not in agreement then
we would certainly take that into consideration.

TOMMY DUNN: They’re working on some (mic cutting
out) documents from attorneys to tie it to the deed where it
will have some teeth. Mr. Harmon is also going to look at it
to make sure ---

CINDY WILSON: So it may not be in two weeks. It
may be ---

TOMMY DUNN: That’s right.

CINDY WILSON: Okay. Good. Because I see some
heads nodding yes and some nodding no.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you.

CINDY WILSON: All right. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Just for the record, we stated first
reading and I think I made it plain last meeting night, once
somebody introduces something we can table it, but it’s got to
come forth to table it. You can’t just take it off the agenda
when (mic cutting out) asks for it to be put on. And that’s
what happened last meeting night. What I asked for the very
first time is the citizens (mic cutting out) and work
something another out. I think that’s what it’s all about. I
think it’s good and hope you continue to work forward on it.
Nobody is trying to hoodwink nobody.

All in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed.
Or abstains. Motion for second reading to move this forward.
Show in favor Mr. Davis, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Graham, Mr. Wooten, Ms.
Wilson favor. Ms. Floyd abstains. And Mr. Sanders has
recused himself. Mr. Davis, will you get him back.

I want to thank Dr. Parkey, staff and the people that
lives out there for working hard and hope y’all can follow
this through. Appreciate y’all very much.

Moving on to item number 7(b), second reading, 2019-042,
an ordinance to amend the agreement for the development of a
joint county industrial and business park, 2010 park, of
Anderson and Greenville counties so as to enlarge the park to
include certain property of Project Alloy. Do we have a
motion to move this forward?

CINDY WILSON: So moved.

RAY GRAHAM: Second.

TOMMY DUNN: Motion Ms. Wilson; second Mr.
Graham. Now discussion. Mr. Burriss, you got anything?

BURRISS NELSON: No, sir, other than this is our
standard procedure with Greenville County projects. And it’s
a reciprocal agreement that we share with them and they share with us.

TOMMY DUNN:  Ms. Floyd.

GRACIE FLOYD:  Mr. Burriss, could you please refresh our memories. And for those who did not come or didn’t come the last meeting, explain what this Project Alloy is.

BURRISS NELSON:  It’s a project in Greenville County. It’s still unannounced and still confidential. I should be able to have the name to be able to reveal it by our third reading. But they’re taking that project to the multi-county park agreement that allows them to be able to offer state incentives to the company from the South Carolina Department of Commerce and the Coordinating Council for Economic Development. But you have to have a partner county and Anderson is a partner county with Greenville. And they do the same for us. Greenville County sends its thanks for assisting with this project and looks forward to assisting us with our next project.

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

Moving on now to item number 7(c), 2019-044, ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a Fee in Lieu of Tax and Incentive Agreement by and between Anderson County, South Carolina and a company identified for the time being as Project Augustus, with respect to certain Economic Development property to be located at one or more locations in the County, whereby such property will be subject to certain payments in Lieu of Taxes. Do I have a motion to move this forward?

JIMMY DAVIS:  So moved.

CINDY WILSON:  So moved.

TOMMY DUNN:  Motion Mr. Davis; second Ms. Wilson. Discussion. Mr. Nelson, do you have anything?

BURRISS NELSON:  Just that this project, we presented it last time as an opportunity for Anderson County to use other people’s money to get economic development, spec buildings built, and their plan is to build an approximately two hundred thousand square foot building and we’re offering some incentives to take care of their infrastructure development.

TOMMY DUNN:  Anyone have anything?

JIMMY DAVIS:  Mr. Chair.

TOMMY DUNN:  Mr. Davis.

JIMMY DAVIS:  I want to emphasize that we’ve done this before recently and this is -- anyone that’s wondering what we’re going through here, this is a very, very good deal for Anderson County (mic cutting out). These are very, very good partnerships for the county to bring good commercial and industrial activity.
TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Davis. Anyone else? All in favor of the motion show of hands. Opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously.

Moving on now to 7(d), 2019-045, An ordinance to approve a Ground Lease by and between Anderson County, South Carolina and Tri-County Technical College for a site at the Anderson Regional Airport for Heavy Equipment Operator Training and for a site at the TTI Pearman Dairy Road Facility for a Lineman Training School. As we all know, we have a grading equipment thing that’s been going on at the airport now for a number of years. This is (mic cutting out) and it’s something new for the things. Do we have a motion to put this on the floor?

RAY GRAHAM: So moved.

TOMMY DUNN: Motion Mr. Graham; second Ms. Wilson. Now any discussion?

GRACIE FLOYD: Yes.

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Floyd.

GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. Mr. Burriss. Where did he go?

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Burriss, Ms. Floyd’s got a question.

GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Burriss, please tell me, the last time we had the first reading, okay, but everybody knows now that Tri-County Tech wants a place at the TII (inaudible). BURRISS NELSON: Tri-County Tech, I have not (mic cutting out).

GRACIE FLOYD: Or whomever, yeah. Thank you. We have -- Tri-County Tech wants to go to the airport and then they want to go to the new place?

RUSTY BURNS: Yes, ma’am.

GRACIE FLOYD: And I came up with a name for that place now, but I forgot what it was. But anyway, they want to go there. Are they paying us anything for all of this?

RUSTY BURNS: They have used excess land at the airport for over ten years for construction training. All this is doing is renewing the lease that has expired.

GRACIE FLOYD: Go back now. They have used what now for ---

RUSTY BURNS: They have used this property at the airport for the last ten years.

GRACIE FLOYD: What have they been doing out there for the last ---

RUSTY BURNS: They have been doing construction training on heavy equipment.

GRACIE FLOYD: At the airport?

RUSTY BURNS: Yes, ma’am.

GRACIE FLOYD: Now, I know that one time that they were talking about coming out there, but I didn’t know they were already out there. They were talking about bringing Caterpillar out there one time.
RUSTY BURNS: Primarily what they have out there is backhoes and things like that. Not the real big heavy ---
GRACIE FLOYD: Are they paying us for that?
RUSTY BURNS: Tri-County Tech does not pay that, but they train our workers.
GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. All right. And the one over at ITT that they want to get into that one.
RUSTY BURNS: The one at TTI basically consists of four poles in the ground on the edge of that property to allow people to receive lineman training. And then they will have the use of a classroom that they will use during these lineman training classes.
GRACIE FLOYD: Are they paying Anderson County ---
RUSTY BURNS: They’ll be paying, yes, ma’am, their fair share of utilities and etcetera. Yes, ma’am.
GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. All right. Well, I think this is good for Tri-County Tech. But you have to remember something, that we pay, too. We pay them our fair share of these things that they want to do. And plus the student pays, as well. Okay. Don’t forget we’re looking for money to do our roads.
RUSTY BURNS: Yes, ma’am.
GRACIE FLOYD: And we need to start tightening up who’s doing what for what. All right. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chair.
TOMMY DUNN: Anyone else?
CINDY WILSON: May I?
TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Wilson.
CINDY WILSON: In reference to the airport part of the lease, I guess it was six or seven years ago Tri-County came and asked us to give them the land. And that’s when we realized that the previous council had purchased that property through the bond issue; remember? So we couldn’t just give it. We were still paying debt service on it. So the nice thing about Tri-County Tech being out there is they’re moving dirt around and hopefully making it more useful for another use once their need is over. And I’m personally fine with the lease. I’ve read through it. It -- term ends with a specific time frame. We’re covered with liability. It’s a very fair, reasonable lease agreement. Thank you.
TOMMY DUNN: Anyone else? All in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed. Abstain?
GRACIE FLOYD: I’m going to abstain for this one.
TOMMY DUNN: Show the motion carries with Mr. Davis, Mr. Sanders, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Graham, Mr. Wooten and Ms. Wilson in favor. Ms. Floyd abstains.
Moving on to item number 7(e), 2019-046, an ordinance to approve an amendment to the Fee in Lieu of Tax Agreement and Infrastructure Finance Agreement between Anderson County, South Carolina and Ortec, Inc. so as to add the town of
Pendleton as a party to the agreements. (Mic cutting out) we need to put their name on this piece of paper. Do we have a motion to move this forward?

JIMMY DAVIS: So moved.
TOMMY DUNN: Motion Mr. Davis; second Ms. Wilson.
Mr. Nelson, do you have anything you want to add?
BURRISS NELSON: Yes, sir. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Ortec has, in two different projects over the last three years, actually through expansions have invested approximately forty million dollars or will invest forty million dollars at that facility. Part of this development and redevelopment of the old Westinghouse building is that Ortec needs additional sewer infrastructure and capacity. And to get that they were required to annex into the town of Pendleton.

In doing so, they also had to work out some agreements about additional water capacity needs that they had. And we partnered with the town of Pendleton in helping secure and recruit all that infrastructure for Ortec and work with them (change of audio) as they are creating a hundred and five jobs with an average salary of twenty-one dollars and forty-five cents an hour with an annual payroll of four and a half million dollars.

Of course, it’s a six percent negotiated fee agreement and a multi-county industrial park infrastructure credit agreement that allows them to have incentives up to fifty percent in the first five years; forty percent in years six through ten; and thirty percent in years eleven through fifteen. This gives the company an opportunity to grow. There is a projected property tax income of approximately six million dollars over twenty years. And I think I’ve had a fee run on second page that shows you taxes each year for the next twenty years and what that looks like.

But this comes as a recommendation from staff to council for a project that’s creating some awfully good jobs for Anderson County.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Nelson.
BURRISS NELSON: Yes, sir, thank you.
TOMMY DUNN: Anyone have anything else? All in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously.

Moving on to item number 8(a), ordinance first reading, be 2019-014, an ordinance to amend Chapter 70, Article 6 of the Anderson County Code of Ordinances, so as to clarify storage of Commercial Equipment in residential zoned areas. Do we have a motion to move this on the floor?

CINDY WILSON: So moved.
TOMMY DUNN: Motion Ms. Wilson. Do we have a second? Second Mr. Sanders. Open the floor for discussion.
I’ll just start off saying, this is the ordinance we’ve talked
about numerous times. Mr. Harmon has worked on this and I’ll
let him explain this; and Ms. Hunter, Dr. Parkey. This is, my
understanding from Ms. Hunter, we had some -- this only
affects zoned areas. We had complaints about some of these
things violating this. Go to Court, but no teeth in it to do
nothing about it. Throw it out, needing something. This is
the reason we got to where we did to rewrite this to give them
some teeth when they go to Court to have something to enforce
with. Mr. Harmon, do you want to dress that up a little bit?

LEON HARMON: Yes, Mr. Chairman, and members of
council. The actual ordinance, the portion that will be added
to our code, is attached as Exhibit A to this ordinance. This
resulted from some work out of the Public Works Committee.
We’ve been working on this for some time. It is, as Mr.
Chairman mentioned, an effort to give the enforcement folks a
better opportunity to enforce when we find situations where
equipment and that type thing, the equipment that’s mentioned
in the ordinance, is being stored in residentially zoned
areas; not RA and RA2 districts.

TOMMY DUNN: Anyone have any questions? This is
only first reading.

CINDY WILSON: Just a quick refresher reminder.
We’ve had a lot of citizens coming to us very distraught that
they bought into a residential zoned area and a logging
operation popped up on a lot next to them or a car repair
business that is certainly not a part of residential zoning
classification. And it results in the loss of quiet enjoyment
for their properties and sometimes devalues their property.
So it’s, you know, these type operations can go into properly
zoned areas or go into unzoned areas. And that’s the whole
point. It’s the residential zoned areas. It has nothing to
do with the agricultural use of property or bigger sites.
Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: I also want to point, Mr. Harmon has
got some language in there -- I don’t know if y’all have seen
this -- that’s about if you’ve got multiple acres, say
something has got twenty areas, they’ll be looked after where
they won’t be (mic cutting out) on larger parcel pieces of
property.

LEON HARMON: Yes, there is language in the
ordinance, Mr. Chairman, for that. If you have a large tract
that’s zoned, say R20, and nothing is visible from a property
line, then this ordinance would not enforce against a business
utilizing that property for storage of its equipment.

GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Chair.
TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Floyd.
GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Harmon, I understood everything
until it got all confusing just now. At the end of your
statement a few minutes ago, you said it had -- this was zoned
property in RA or R something else you said.
LEON HARMON: No, RA and RA2 is specifically exempted from this ---

GRACIE FLOYD: Well, see, what is RA and what is RA2?

LEON HARMON: RA and RA2 are residential agricultural zoning districts.

GRACIE FLOYD: So this would apply to all zoned areas?

LEON HARMON: Residential zoned areas, yes, ma’am.

GRACIE FLOYD: But if you’re not zoning in your residential area, then it does not apply to you?

LEON HARMON: That’s correct. It only applies in zoned areas of the county.

GRACIE FLOYD: But we don’t have that many zoned areas; do we?

LEON HARMON: Well, I don’t have a count of how many ---

TOMMY DUNN: That’s a whole lot more that’s not zoned than is zoned.

GRACIE FLOYD: Yes. So this won’t make much of a dent to anybody. If somebody is having this situation problem, whatever it is, if they’re having this problem well this ordinance would not help them at all if they’re not zoned.

LEON HARMON: You are absolutely correct. It would not.

GRACIE FLOYD: All right. Thank you.

LEON HARMON: Yes, ma’am.

TOMMY DUNN: Anyone else? All in favor of the motion show of hands. Opposed like sign. Show the motion carries, Mr. Davis, Mr. Sanders, Ms. Floyd, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Graham, Ms. Wilson in favor. Mr. Wooten opposes.

Moving on now to item 8(b), 2019-040, an ordinance (1) authorizing pursuant to Title 4 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as amended, including Sections 4-1-70, 4-1-175 and 4-29-68 thereof, and Article VIII, Section 13 of the South Carolina Constitution the execution and delivery of an Infrastructure Credit Agreement, by and between Anderson County, South Carolina, and a Company known to the County as Project Swan, to provide for certain Special Source Revenue or Infrastructure Credits; (2) authorizing the receipt and administration of a State Grant for the benefit of the project; and (3) other related matters, Project Swan. Do we have a motion to move this forward on second -- first reading, I’m sorry.

JIMMY DAVIS: So moved.

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

Now discussion. Mr. Nelson.

BURRISS NELSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Project Swan is a plastic injection molding company actually, in part,
moving from another county in the state of South Carolina but will be creating new and additional jobs in Anderson County. It’s a 4.1 million dollar capital investment. This plastic injection molding company provides parts to white goods operations in the area and they will have a total of a hundred jobs, creating in Anderson County a hundred jobs, with an average page of sixteen dollars and twenty-three cents an hour, for an average annual payroll of 3.2 million dollars. They have a -- we’ve offered to them an infrastructure credit agreement that mimics the six percent fee, as well as an additional eighteen percent discount for the first five years and an additional eight percent discount for the second five years; years six through ten. Property tax at this location last year paid nineteen thousand five hundred ninety-six dollars. In the first year of operation the project will pay forty-one thousand seven hundred and twelve dollars. Community impact for this project, first year is 1.6 million and after twenty years almost thirty-six million.

There is I think a fee illustration on the second page of your copy that shows how the property tax looks and what the total run is, but gives you some idea that it’ll generate about a million dollars over the twenty years. This is located close to the town of Williamston and Belton, and as you know, we just received news that Sapa Hydro Aluminum will be closing its doors and laying off a hundred and seventy-three people. So this is not the perfect fix, but it’s certainly more than a band-aid to help supply job opportunities for people in that community. This comes to council as a recommendation from staff and the Economic Development Advisory Board. Thank you, sir.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Anyone have anything? All in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously. Thank you, Mr. Nelson.

BURRISS NELSON: Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Moving on to item number (c), 8(c), will be 2019-041, an ordinance to amend an agreement for the development of a Joint County Industrial and Business Park (2010 Park) of Anderson and Greenville Counties so as to enlarge the Park. Be the same thing we done a while ago, but this is on our project to get in that park. Do we have a motion to move this forward?

CINDY WILSON: So moved.

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

Moving on to item number 8(d), 2019-048, an ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a Fee-in-Lieu of Ad Valorem Taxes and Incentive Agreements by and between Anderson
County, South Carolina and Project Santa's Hat to provide for payment of a Fee-in-Lieu of Taxes; authorizing the inclusion of a project site in a Multi-County Business Park; authorizing certain Special Source Revenue Credits. (Project Santa's Hat). Do we have a motion to move this forward?

CINDY WILSON: So moved.

TOMMY DUNN: Motion Ms. Wilson. Do we have a second? Second Mr. Davis. Now discussion. Mr. Nelson.

BURRISS NELSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is another solar project. This is our third, I believe, solar project in Anderson County. This is a small location just north of the town of Honea Path. Solar projects don’t create jobs, but it’ll take two farm properties that last year the total of the two properties generated a hundred and four dollars. And when the solar array is up and operational, it’ll generate eight thousand dollars a year. It’ll bring in, over twenty years, a total of a hundred and sixty thousand dollars. And of course, there’s no environmental impacts that we know of. This doesn’t create any jobs, so it additional does not create any undue burden on the community or on the school system. And this comes to council as a recommendation from staff and the Economic Development Advisory Board.

TOMMY DUNN: Anybody have any discussion, questions?

GRACIE FLOYD: I have a question.

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Floyd.

GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. Mr. Burriss, also it does not have any of those things you said, but we don’t have to do another fee in lieu of; do we?

BURRISS NELSON: Well, this is a fee in lieu agreement for this to be able to operate in this fashion.

GRACIE FLOYD: No, we talked today about it, but I didn’t ask that question. But this is another fee in lieu of?

BURRISS NELSON: Yes, ma’am, it is.

GRACIE FLOYD: Dog. Okay.

TOMMY DUNN: Anyone else? Mr. Wooten.

CRAIG WOOTEN: Yeah, I was just curious. When a project like this happens and I guess a farm is take out of sort of the farm inventory of the community, I mean for them to come back and make it a farm at a later date would just be -- I mean, that’s a possibility; isn’t it?

BURRISS NELSON: Certainly. For the most part in almost every case the property owners have been older. They’re my age, pardon the expression, but they’re looking to preserve the land for their children and grandchildren and not have to worry about the undue burden for themselves on their limited retirement income to pay taxes and keep the property up and the things that take place. So this not only helps them keep the property up and keep it free of grass and trees and things that you might not want, but it also preserves the
land for their children at a future date. Most of these agreements run about twenty years. And I think in almost every care these have been elderly people who were looking to preserve their farmland for their children at some point in the future.

CRAIG WOOTEN: Okay. Thank you.
GRACIE FLOYD: Another question.
TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Floyd.
GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Burriss.
BURRISS NELSON: Yes, ma’am.
GRACIE FLOYD: Why is it a fee in lieu of?
BURRISS NELSON: Well, it becomes manufacturing because it’s generating power just like Duke Energy does. So it’s -- by the South Carolina Department of Commerce, it is considered a manufacturing operation because it’s manufacturing electricity. It forces it to become a ten and a half percent manufacturing assessment ratio and puts it in the manufacturing class. So to be able to get a reasonable property tax on that particular property and make that cost analysis work for the sale of power and the investment in all that equipment, fee in lieu is the pathway to make it work.
GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. All right. That sounds good for the owner, sounds good for the owner’s grandchildren, it sounds really good. But it doesn’t do much for the taxpayers. What do we get out of it?
BURRISS NELSON: Well, it turned a farm property from paying a hundred dollars a year in to one paying eight thousand dollars a year.
GRACIE FLOYD: Through fee in lieu of whether ---
BURRISS NELSON: Through fee in lieu; that’s right.
GRACIE FLOYD: The eight thousand dollars, is this where the school gets seventy percent of it and the county gets a little bit, if any, and the fire department gets millage out of that, too, is that ---
BURRISS NELSON: Yes, ma’am. That’s correct.
GRACIE FLOYD: If I ask you out of the eight thousand dollars what do I get as a taxpayer with the fee in lieu of? What do we all get out of it?
TOMMY DUNN: You get roughly thirty percent of eight thousand dollars.
GRACIE FLOYD: Wait a minute. I don’t know what thirty percent is. I’m not that math minded.
BURRISS NELSON: Nor am I.
GRACIE FLOYD: What?
CRAIG WOOTEN: Twenty-four hundred.
GRACIE FLOYD: Two thousand four hundred dollars.
How much are we giving up for fee in lieu of?
BURRISS NELSON: I’d have to go back and calculate it based on the total investment and the ten and a half percent assessment ratio. I don’t know that right offhand.
GRACIE FLOYD: Do y’all know that we need money for roads? No wonder we don’t have any money for roads. We don’t have any money in our budgets to put in roads and stuff. We’ve giving it all away. I can’t do anything with two thousand dollars. I need a roof -- gutters and that’s going to cost me seven thousand dollars. Do you think it’s going to cost that much? But the man told me seven thousand dollars and here these people are getting -- huh? Mr. Dunn won’t do it. But here’s somebody with a farm and he’s going to get lieu in fee of tax; in other words he won’t pay taxes, but he’ll just get a fee that he has to pay. And out of that fee all those taxes that he could have paid, I would only get two thousand. I need a driveway. I just don’t see it, y’all. But yet we’re going to put twenty-five dollars on everybody for a road fee when we’re giving money -- we’re giving money to the Tri-County Tech. We’re losing money. We’re losing money. Now, I’m not the smartest light bulb on the tree, but I can shine just as brightly and I am an accounting major and I know there’s something wrong with this. Mr. Dunn, does anybody understand? It’s like a voice crying out in the wilderness.

TOMMY DUNN: I understand where you’re coming from, but I don’t think you’re seeing the big picture.
GRACIE FLOYD: No, I don’t see a big picture.
TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma’am.
GRACIE FLOYD: I’m seventy-four. My big picture is getting mighty slim on the other end.
TOMMY DUNN: It’s paying a hundred dollars in taxes right now. That’s what they’re paying. Hundred bucks. We’re going to get twenty-four hundred bucks. And no matter what that -- whatever we’re getting out of that hundred and something dollars, we’re still only getting thirty percent of it. That thirty percent is thirty percent of whatever. Mr. Sanders.

BRETT SANDERS: Mr. Nelson?
BURRISS NELSON: Yes, sir.
BRETT SANDERS: Based on this fee in lieu, we’re still getting, what, six percent?
BURRISS NELSON: Yes, sir.
BRETT SANDERS: So basically what we’re doing is taking the hundred dollar an acre, roughly, ag piece of property ---
CINDY WILSON: No, that’s total.
BRETT SANDERS: Yeah, hundred dollars total, we’re getting thirty bucks of that. Actually going to six percent, which would be the same thing that someone would pay on a second home, office building, anything like that. So basically the problem arises with them classifying a solar farm as manufacturing power. If it was any other building, office complex, it would still be the six percent that we’re
actually getting now; correct?

BURRISS NELSON: That’s correct.

GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. -- what’s your last name? Mr.
Brett Sanders, you’re a likeable man. You’re a smart man.
Really, you are. And I enjoy sitting next to you. But when
you talk to me, don’t talk to me in percentages. Talk to me
in money. Show me the money. That’s what I want to see. I
don’t know what thirty percent is. I know what two thousand
four hundred dollars is, and that’s nothing. Mr. Chairman, I
thank you so much for allowing me to explode.

TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma’am. Go ahead.

GRACIE FLOYD: I’m so tired of this fee in lieu of.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Sanders.

BURRISS NELSON: Mr. Chairman, and Mr. Sanders, if
you’ll allow me. This particular property is a half a mile
off of Highway 20 in a very sparsely populated area. The
change for it to be redeveloped for commercial is absolutely
-- well, it’s slim and none.

BRETT SANDERS: How long has it been in agriculture;
do you know?

CINDY WILSON: Since the beginning of time.

BURRISS NELSON: Yeah. It’s been farmland for
hundreds of years, I would guess. It’s very rural. It’s just
north of the town of Honea Path. And that landscape hasn’t
changed much in the last thirty years according to the tax
map.

BRETT SANDERS: Basically what this will allow us to
do from just looking at it without using percentages is to use
that land or utilize that land as a developed piece of
property that normally wouldn’t be developed and the county is
still getting the six percent that we would get if someone
went in there and built a warehouse?

BURRISS NELSON: That’s correct.

GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Chair.

CINDY WILSON: Mr. Chairman.

TOMMY DUNN: We need to have a motion to add
about five more minutes. We’re going to run out of town. Do
we have a motion to add five minutes?

JIMMY DAVIS: I make a motion to add five minutes
to discussion.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Davis make motion to add five
more minutes. Do we have a second?

CINDY WILSON: Second.

JIMMY DAVIS: Mr. Chair.

TOMMY DUNN: Second Ms. Wilson. All in favor of the motion show of hands. Opposed like sign. We’ve got five more minutes. Mr. Davis.

JIMMY DAVIS: I think to clarify here is if this farmer sold it to me. Say I came along and I say that’s a beautiful piece of property and I want to move there and build my house it’s going to go from agriculture -- well, it’ll stay agriculture and I would still pay that hundred dollars a year, which the county would get thirty dollars. And as long as I live there the county is going to get thirty dollars per year. So what we’re doing is, we’re giving basically a four percent break from ten to six percent for this group -- four and a half, okay. So now the county is going to get twenty-four hundred dollars a year instead of thirty dollars a year on a piece of property that would normally never get anything but the thirty dollars a year to the county.

BURRISS NELSON: That’s correct.

GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Chair.

CINDY WILSON: May I, Mr. Chairman?

TOMMY DUNN: We’ll get Ms. Floyd and then you, Ms. Wilson.

GRACIE FLOYD: But still, look at it this way. We need roads. We need roads. We have fee in lieu of -- and statuses that’ll go for thirty, forty and sometimes fifty years. Okay. Will your child get that -- would your child be able to realize the money that comes in? You already said that this person here wants to have this land so he can pass it down to his children and they can pass it down. I would like to have stuff to pass down to my kids, too. But I can’t get a fee in lieu. Why can’t this person do this himself? I mean this is not an industry that’s going to hire people for jobs and stuff. Why couldn’t this person do this himself? If he wants to have a wind farm out there, go ahead and put one in. Why must my tax dollars help him do this? Why? Don’t tell me about we’re going to get twenty percent. Tell me the millions or tell me the hundred thousands. Okay. Tell me that we’re going to get enough, four million, with all of these fee in lieu to put down good roads, to build jail houses that we don’t have, to provide other facilities here in Anderson that we don’t have without raising the tax. That little woman who lives down there who’s on a fixed income, she’s going to have to pay twenty-five dollars for her car so this man can have him a wind farm out there. It doesn’t make any sense to me.

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Wilson.

CINDY WILSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One way to look at this is once the property is in production there will
be relatively little traffic, probably less than if it’s a hay field. Secondly, if Mr. Davis bought that farm and built his home, he would want to survey out an appropriate amount of property for his home because you would change the use of that property from agriculture to residential. So you would carve that out and you would pay the residential taxes on that property and then the rest you would keep in agricultural assessment. So other than, you know, the home being there, it still would be paying less. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Graham.

RAY GRAHAM: Mr. Chairman. Mr. Burriss, what investment does Anderson County have in this? I mean are we going to put a road in through there? Are we going to put sewer in through there?

BURRISS NELSON: No, sir.

RAY GRAHAM: So we’re not investing no money other than the time that we just wasted the last fifteen, twenty minutes discussing this?

GRACIE FLOYD: I don’t think it was ---

RAY GRAHAM: This is my floor right now.

GRACIE FLOYD: I still don’t think it’s ---

RAY GRAHAM: Basically right now we get thirty dollars a year on taxes. With an investment that someone else is giving the county, we’re going to start getting twenty-four hundred dollars a year. Am I correct on that?

BURRISS NELSON: Yes, sir.

RAY GRAHAM: Plus the money -- that don’t count the money that goes to the fire service in Anderson County; that don’t count the money that goes to the school system in Anderson County. That’s just the money that goes into the budget for Anderson County.

BURRISS NELSON: That’s correct.

RAY GRAHAM: So really it’s over eight thousand dollars a year that it’s going to generate for this investment for Anderson County other than the times that you guys have put into it and that we have put into it tonight, we’re not putting no investment in this property?

BURRISS NELSON: That’s correct.

RAY GRAHAM: It’s out in the middle of nowhere.

It is my district, I believe. Am I right?

BURRISS NELSON: Yes, sir.

RAY GRAHAM: I support it, and I appreciate your work.

BURRISS NELSON: Thank you, sir.

RAY GRAHAM: Thank you, sir.

TOMMY DUNN: Have we beat this to death?

GRACIE FLOYD: It was a good discussion.

TOMMY DUNN: It was. And I’d just like to add my two cents worth.

GRACIE FLOYD: It’s good debate.
TOMMY DUNN: To me it’s what my daddy used to say, this here is better to get a little bit of something or a whole lot of nothing. So we’re going to get a little bit of something. All in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed? Show the motion carries with Mr. Davis, Mr. Sanders, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Graham, Mr. Wooten and Ms. Wilson in favor. Ms. Floyd opposes.

Moving on to the next item, be on (e); right? Item 2019-049, an ordinance authorizing the termination of a Lease Agreement between Anderson County, South Carolina and Project Lilac; the conveyance of certain property from Anderson County, South Carolina to Project Lilac or its designee; the execution and delivery of an Infrastructure Credit Agreement, by and between Anderson County, South Carolina and Project Lilac or its designee, to provide for Special Revenue Credits. Do we have a motion to put this on the floor?

CINDY WILSON: So moved.
RAY GRAHAM: Second.
TOMMY DUNN: Motion Ms. Wilson; second Mr. Graham.

BURRISS NELSON: Mr. Chairman, members of council, Project Lilac is one of our existing companies, a fairly large company ---

TOMMY DUNN: See, Mr. Burns, somebody does care about you. Go ahead.

GRACIE FLOYD: Which one is this?

TOMMY DUNN: This is (e).

BURRISS NELSON: 8(e). This is first reading of an ordinance. One of our large companies with a substantial number of employees, about -- over four hundred employees is looking to streamline their business model and Lilac is currently a capital investment somewhere sixty million dollars and they are up-to-date in their 1999 and 2004 fee agreements. The company has requested to unwind their fee agreements and to opt for a multi-county industrial park infrastructure credit agreement. The project description is that the county -- the company is in the process of streamlining their business model. In their business transactions the company has to -- is seeking to no longer be hampered by having to explain, because they’re in an old lease style fee agreement, to be hampered by the need of explaining away the county’s ownership when it’s a legal fiction. We really don’t own them. And so the other thing is it removes our name out of the chain of title. There’s only one other major company in the county that is still on the old lease agreement and they’re working to change theirs, as well. But this is in preparation for hopefully an opportunity for this company to be able to expand and carry on business -- additional business activities. There’s no promise of that at this time. They’re just trying to get rid of that fee designation in the old
lease agreement.

This comes to council -- and right now their payroll is about fourteen million dollars a year. They have well over four hundred employees with an average pay of about fourteen dollars an hour. But this comes to council for council’s consideration and comes with a recommendation from staff, as well as from the Economic Development Advisory Board.

TOMMY DUNN: Do we have any comments, questions? All in favor of the motion show of hands. Opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously.

Moving on to item number 9(a), R2019-038, a resolution expressing intent to cease county maintenance on and to authorize county consent to judicial abandonment and closure of Beehive Boulevard, designated as Anderson County Road C-1-0372. I believe this is Mr. Davis’s district. Do we have a motion?

JIMMY DAVIS: I make a motion we put this on the floor for discussion.

TOMMY DUNN: Motion Mr. Davis; second Ms. Wilson. Now discussion. Mr. Davis.

JIMMY DAVIS: Yes, sir. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr. Hopkins, it seems that everybody -- I guess everybody is in agreement that this is the best way to go forward with this property?

HOLT HOPKINS: It is. It got developed recently and the fellow found a new buyer that didn’t need the road.

JIMMY DAVIS: This is Mr. Cooper’s property?

HOLT HOPKINS: No, sir. Beeson (phonics).

JIMMY DAVIS: Beeson; okay. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Anyone else? All in favor of the motion show of hands. Opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously. Thank you, Mr. Hopkins.

Moving on to item number 9(b), R2019-040, a resolution committing to negotiate a Fee-in-Lieu of Ad Valorem Taxes Agreement between Anderson County and Project Santa's Hat; identifying the Project; and other matters related thereto. It’s the one we just talked about. Do we have a motion to put this on the floor? Motion Mr. Sanders; second Ms. Wilson.

Now discussion?

GRACIE FLOYD: Yes.

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Floyd.

GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Burriss, I don’t understand this. Two minutes ago we were talking about Santa’s Hat and we were talking about the fee in lieu of. Now, is this the one here that gives us the right to do -- to vote on the fee?

BURRISS NELSON: Well, the resolution -- I may not actually be qualified to answer that question; Mr. Harmon may be. But this is really an outline of the contract agreement between the company and us. Is that close enough, Mr. Harmon?
LEON HARMON: Yes. This is typically referred to as an inducement resolution and it goes along hand-in-hand with the ordinance that the council previously considered.

GRACIE FLOYD: Makes no sense to me. All right. I don’t want to take it out -- I don’t want to take it on.

TOMMY DUNN: Any more discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed.

GRACIE FLOYD: I’m going to abstain.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Davis, Mr. Sanders, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Graham, Mr. Wooten, Ms. Wilson in favor. Ms. Floyd abstains.

BURRISS NELSON: Thank you so much for your support, members of council.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you and your staff.

Moving on to item number 10(a), bid number 19-049 Toxaway Mill debris pile remediation. Mr. Carroll.

ROBERT CARROLL: Yes, Mr. Chairman. We took bids for the Toxaway Mill debris pile remediation removal, bid number 19-049. There were two bids. Staff recommends award to Belk Company, three hundred eighty thousand seven hundred dollars.

GRACIE FLOYD: They have done work for --

TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma’am.

GRACIE FLOYD: May I?

TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma’am.

GRACIE FLOYD: They have done work for us before; have they not?

ROBERT CARROLL: Yes, ma’am.

GRACIE FLOYD: What have they done? Do you remember? Can you think off the top of your head?

ROBERT CARROLL: They’ve done several projects. They’re working at Whitefield Convenience Center right now.

GRACIE FLOYD: The White what?

ROBERT CARROLL: Whitefield Convenience Center out near the Jockey Lot. They’re doing work at Green Pond. Doing work at -- they’re doing several projects.

GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. Is this ---

ROBERT CARROLL: Here in Anderson.

GRACIE FLOYD: Is this amount that they have given us in the neighborhood of what they usually give us?

ROBERT CARROLL: Well, I would say yeah. But as you can see, the only other bid we received was more than double ---

GRACIE FLOYD: Yes, I see that.

ROBERT CARROLL: --- that.

GRACIE FLOYD: But, you know, we’ve been talking about lately that the lowest one doesn’t always mean it’s the best one. So that’s what I’m trying to determine here. They have worked with us before.

ROBERT CARROLL: Yes, ma’am.
GRACIE FLOYD: And this price they have given us now is usually in the same neighborhood of what we get from them in the past?

ROBERT CARROLL: I think we’re getting a fair price; yes, ma’am.

GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. Good. Good. But that’s a really high price; seven ninety-nine. Thank you.

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

Moving on to item number 11, Implementation of Title VI requirements related to county boards and commissions. Mr. Burns or Mr. Harmon, do you want to explain this (mic cutting out).

RUSTY BURNS: Mr. Chairman, during a review by SCDOT on the composition of our boards and commissions, they noticed that we probably needed to increase the representation for minorities, and we have outlined a plan which should be before you on how to address this. And we would request that council pass a resolution authorizing us to proceed along these lines.

TOMMY DUNN: Do we have a motion to move this forward? Motion Ms. Wilson. Have a second? Second Mr. Davis. Discussion?

GRACIE FLOYD: Yes.

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Floyd.

GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Chairman, I looked at this, and I think that method four is the better method for us rather than relying heavily on the Clerk to Council. I think that on method four they are talking about soliciting applications, doing their group instructions from the general public through different meetings, community events. The responsible parties would be the division heads rather than putting it all on just the Clerk of County (verbatim). Because, you know, like we -- you don’t know the people that well to recommend for us. You don’t know the minority people. Usually if there is a minority on any of our boards and commissions, it’s because I put them there. But I would like for us to be open about this. The chairmens, the department heads and the public rather than just the Clerk of Council.

TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma’am. Mr. Burns, will y’all just report back and let us know.

RUSTY BURNS: Yes, sir. But if we could have a resolution, we’d appreciate it.

TOMMY DUNN: Yeah. Anybody got anything?

CINDY WILSON: I just wanted to point out, I have a lot of minorities and I love them. They wonderful on our county boards. Thank you.

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

We’re going to move on to item number 12. Do we have a motion to go into executive session on contract matters ——

CINDY WILSON: So moved.

TOMMY DUNN: --- and legal matters concerning the right-of-way acquisition of the Welpine Project, contract matters related to the office in Watson Village Shopping Center for the sheriff, legal matters concerning Iva sewer, contractual matters related to former TTI properties, contract matters related to medical services for the detention center. Not necessarily in those orders. Ms. Wilson makes a motion to go into executive session. Do we have a second? Second Mr. Graham. All in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

CINDY WILSON: ... that we come out of executive session, having received information regarding legal matters concerning the right-of-way acquisition for Welpine project, contractual matters related to office in Watson Village Shopping Center for sheriff, legal matter concerning Iva sewer service, contractual matters related to former TTI properties, contractual matter related to medical services for the detention center. Discussion and no action taken.

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Wilson makes a motion to come out of executive session. 

BRETT SANDERS: Second.

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

Do we have a motion concerning contractual matters related to medical services for the detention center?

RAY GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I’d like to bring this forth in the form of a motion. This is to approve a contract with Medico Corporation for medical services for the detention center as discussed in executive session. I bring forth this 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 like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously.

Item number (d) is for information to let us know that property has closed on the Pickens site.

Moving on to item number (c), legal matters concerning the Iva sewer. Do we have a motion concerning that?

BRETT SANDERS: Yes, sir, Mr. Chairman. I’d like to put in the form of a motion to authorize the county administrator and the county attorney to proceed with filing an action against the town of Iva to recover its sewer service (mic cutting out).

TOMMY DUNN: Motion Mr. Sanders. Do I have a
second?

CINDY WILSON: Second.

TOMMY DUNN: Second Ms. Wilson. Any discussion?

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

Item (d) contractual matters related to the former TTI property was for information. You know we sold that.

Now do we have a motion concerning the contractual matters related to the office at Watson Village Shopping Center for the sheriff’s office?

GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Chair, I would like to make a motion that we approve that lease agreement with the Watson Village Anderson LLC for the location for the sheriff’s office -- substation sheriff’s office within Watson Village Shopping Center as discussed in executive session.

TOMMY DUNN: Have a motion Ms. Floyd; have a second Mr. Sanders. Any discussion? All in favor of Ms. Floyd’s motion show of hands. All opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously.

Now moving on to item number 12(a), legal matters concerning the right-of-way acquisition at Welpine Project.

RAY GRAHAM: Mr. Chairman?

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Graham.

RAY GRAHAM: I bring this in the form of a motion. This is to authorize the county administrator and county attorney to proceed with filing condemnation documents with the Circuit Court for acquisition of sewer line right-of-way for the Welpine Sewer Project. I bring this in the form of a motion.

TOMMY DUNN: Motion Mr. Graham. Do we have a second?

JIMMY DAVIS: Second.

TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Davis. Now discussion. All in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed like sign. Show the motion carries with Mr. Davis, Mr. Sanders, Ms. Floyd, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Graham, Mr. Wooten in favor. Ms. Wilson opposes.

Moving on to item 13, appointments. Did I overlook anything? Does anybody have any appointments? Hearing and seeing none.

Requests by council members. Mr. Davis, do you have any?

JIMMY DAVIS: Yes, Mr. Chair. Thank you very much. I would like, out of District 6's special projects fund, I would like to appropriate five hundred dollars to the Anderson County Genealogical Association. I make that in the form of a motion.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Davis makes a motion; second Ms. Wilson. Any further discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously. Do you have anything else, Mr. Davis?
JIMMY DAVIS: No, sir.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Sanders.

BRETT SANDERS: Yes, sir. I’d also like to put in the form of a motion to give the amount of three hundred to Anderson Chapter South Carolina Genealogical Society. And I’d also like to pair it up and do three hundred, as well, to the Belton Center of the Arts.

TOMMY DUNN: Have a motion Mr. Sanders. Have a second?

CINDY WILSON: Second.

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

GRACIE FLOYD: No, I don’t have anything tonight.

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

RAY GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I bring this in the form of a motion. I’d like to do both of them at the same time.

TOMMY DUNN: Yes, sir.

RAY GRAHAM: I’m requesting to allocate money from my recreation fund for Starr Athletic Association in the sum of five thousand dollars, for Belton Center of the Arts in the sum of five hundred dollars. I bring this in the form of a motion.

TOMMY DUNN: Have a motion Mr. Graham. Do we have a second?

CINDY WILSON: Second.

TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Davis. Any discussion? All in favor of Mr. Graham’s motion show of hands. All opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously. Moving on, Mr. Wooten.

CRAIG WOOTEN: Yes. I’d like to put in the form of a motion, two hundred fifty dollars for the Anderson Chapter of the South Carolina Genealogical Society.

CINDY WILSON: Second.

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

CRAIG WOOTEN: No, sir.

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Wilson?

CINDY WILSON: Yes, sir, thank you. From District 7’s recreation account, I would like to appropriate five hundred dollars for the Anderson Chapter South Carolina Genealogical Society and twenty-five hundred dollars for the town of West Pelzer for their recreational program.

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

From District 5’s special account, I’d like to appropriate eight hundred dollars to the Genealogical Society in Anderson; put that in the form of a motion.

CINDY WILSON: Second.

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

Moving on, if we have no one else, administrator’s report.

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

TOMMY DUNN: Now, as Mr. Harmon calls your name, please state your name and district and address the chair.

You’ve got three minutes. Mr. Harmon.

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

ELIZABETH FANT: Elizabeth Fant, District 3. I know you can’t answer this question back, but number 10, the Toxaway Mill debris, I wish somebody would explain what happens when a mill demolishes and leaves all the junk behind. Are the owners responsible for that when we do clean-up? Are they responsible for that or do they relinquish the property to us, or how that works.

I’m glad to see just about everybody giving some money to the Genealogical Association in Anderson. It’s a real historical group of people. Lots of people are interested in their family history now; whereas for years they probably weren’t. But the library that they have on Federal Street, which is part of the Fine Arts Center, one corner of that, is just unbelievable the amount of history that is collected there. They have their meetings usually the first Monday of the month. Sometimes that changes. And you can join or you can just come to a meeting and listen to the speakers. We’ve had some real good speakers and tours in the last year. So I’m glad that you all donated to that cause.

Last night Ms. Floyd had her road fee meeting. I think I’ve only missed one of those meetings. And I tell you, it was the best one that I had been to. Ms. Floyd, I applaud you for actually wanting to listen to the constituents. Ms. Rita Davis did her little PowerPoint presentation and she added a couple of things this time. And Ms. Floyd truly asked for questions and comments from the floor, and I think she got more honest answers than most any of the other arrangements that I’ve been to.

Now I’m going to run out of time. I was kind of for the road fee thing until last night. And I’ve about changed my mind. I think that you as council need to find money that’s already in the general fund and you, as council members, need to get on the bandwagon and get the legislative delegation to give us back the money that they basically have stolen from Anderson County. And I don’t believe it’s time to go asking
senior citizens, even though I’m one and I would be exempt under your new arrangement, it’s just not the right time. Duke Power has made tremendous increases. Food prices have increased. Our seniors can’t afford to pay for the medicine, many of them, that are required to keep them in decent living conditions. And I think the roads need a lot of work.

LEON HARMON: Time, Mr. Chairman.
TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Harmon. Anyone else?
LEON HARMON: No one else is signed up.
TOMMY DUNN: Thank you.

Moving on to council comments. Mr. Davis.

JIMMY DAVIS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I just want to say I look forward to tomorrow and meeting our fellow upstate councilmen and councilwomen. And I just want to give a big shout-out to all the wonderful work that our sheriff’s department has done in the little place called Piedmont, because they are really busting some heads down there. We’ve seen a lot of good things going on. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Mr. Sanders?

BRETT SANDERS: I want everyone to remember Ms. Croegaert. I think her grandmother passed away. Her aunt. And she showed up tonight and worked hard. And want to thank her and acknowledge her.

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

GRACIE FLOYD: Yes. I think we are in a time that some of us don’t even know that we’re there. There are a lot of things going on now. There’s not a threat of war, but there’s a threat of a concern overseas. And we have our own with prices going up quickly, fast. I was told if you’re going to shop for Christmas, you’d better go ahead and get started before the prices go way up. Food prices are going up, too. My colleagues, I honestly believe that we have money, but I believe we are giving away too much of the money that we have.

Just like one of the council members came up with the idea about the aprons, how much money we were spending on the aprons and we stopped doing that. I think you ought to listen to someone else other than just one council members. I bet you if each one of us sat down together, we could come up with a way to save. Tri-County Tech cannot be given land down there at the airport. It looks nice. But when you have to put in a vote to raise people’s thing so they can -- we can pave the roads, there’s something wrong. You have schools that’s taking all of the fee in lieu of taxes. Every dime of it. Well, seventy percent of it; I’ll be correct. They’re taking seventy percent of it. Okay. Nobody says they’ve got to have the whole thing. We can split it, especially at this time when they have money. They’ve got that one percent tax. They’ve build schools galore. Some big ole two and three story schools have three hundred people in them; three hundred
kids. Okay. We have -- we’re giving away too much. It’s time for us
to say, okay everybody, we helped you when you need it, now
you have to help us, and we need it. All right. We can then
raise our taxes, road fees, up to ten dollars a car; ten
dollars a car, along with the money that we save. But if
we’re going to run out here and we’re going to -- let’s just
let everybody pay twenty-five -- I wonder where that idea came
from? Who started that? I came to county council one day and
somebody was talking about raising car taxes. Whose idea that
that? Who’s going to own up to it? Nobody? Okay. I didn’t
do it. I didn’t do it. I don’t think it’s a good idea. I
don’t think it’s a good idea.

It’s been a long meeting tonight. I have been anxious
tonight because I know in my heart what we’re about to do is
wrong. It’s wrong. Now, I know we have a sense of going
along to get along on council. I’ll never do that. I will
always go on what’s best for the whole of the taxpayer. I’m
through, Mr. Councilman, I know you ...

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Graham.

RAY GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just
want to -- I know the town of Belton community got some bad
news last week as far as with Sapa, old Wells Aluminum,
closing, losing quite a bit of employees down in that area.
And I’ve been a part of that community for years. I grewed up
down there and a lot of the employees are kind of going
through some hard times right now trying to determine what’s
going to take place. I think some of their days, around early
November, early December, is when it looks like it’s going to
actually take place. But definitely want to commend Rusty and
Burriss Nelson, the Economic Development Group, for jumping in
and trying to help get some of these employees placed. I know
it’s still early in the game, but I’ve had a lot of people,
I’ve kind of let them know that was going on and they’re
definitely appreciative of it.

You know, until you’re up against a situation where you
don’t have means to support your family, some of these guys,
and it’s guys I went to school with and have known all my
life, has literally worked there since we got out of school
and all of a sudden they’re looking at being out of a job for
the first time in their adult lives. We don’t see a whole lot
of that this day and time. Our county has been so fortunate.
But still, it’s definitely some trying times for them guys.
Definitely going to continue keeping them all in our prayers.
And again, I can’t thank economic development and our staff
enough for the hands that they’re reaching out and hopefully
be able to benefit some of these individuals. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Mr. Wooten.

CRAIG WOOTEN: Yes. Two quick things. I was happy
to help the Genealogical Society. I think they do some
wonderful work down there. I try to be an amateur genealogist and actually found out the first Wooten in my family came to Anderson in 1840 from Spartanburg. It got too rough up there so we had to come this way. But that’s really cool what they do down there.

The other thing I wanted to mention just really briefly. I went to Into These Woods, the play that the city held Sunday night, and it was a wonderful production. I think what was really nice about it, it was a beautiful night out. It was free. People just came out and sat together. There seemed to be a few hundred people there. And what struck me as just heartwarming was it was just people from the community. People wanted to come out and sit together and watch something together in an age of the front porch going away and in an age of so much division, I thought it was a very positive thing that our city did and the community and it worked out well.

That’s it.


CINDY WILSON: Thank you. It’s hard to believe that genealogy is a great tourism draw for our county. Two years ago T. Boone Pickens came from Texas to Clemson and this area to check his ancestors out. The Pickens family is an old family here. And he passed away last week. That was really sad.

The Hydro situation, an employee called earlier last week and Burriss and Terry and Rusty got right on it. The good news, in spite of that bad news, they believe that those employees will each get better jobs paying more money. So that’s really very heartening. And isn’t it great to be part of a county that works so hard to help its citizens out and keep our citizens informed. Thank y’all.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. I’d like to thank my fellow council members for the hard work they’re doing, and especially on the town hall meetings they’re having and community meetings. I think there’s been roughly around fourteen. I think there’s four or five more scheduled, and be some more. I don’t think nobody that I’ve talked to mind is made up. But it’s a fact-finding thing and getting out.

One think county council has to do is go out and get things done and solve problems. We can’t pass the buck. It stops here. And I’ve said at every one of the meetings, and I’ve made all the meetings, and I intend to make the rest of them. But we’ve got to do something for our roads. And this is a thing that’s been talked about since the beginning of June, I think, we said we would talk about this and have these things up. And that’s where we’re at and listening to people. I’ve been to all of them. We’ve had some very good meetings, some not so good as far as turnout, but some decent. Had a lot of ideas and talked to people and got the information out and hope to have a lot more information for people coming out.
But one thing I do want to say, you know, we’ve got a good delegation. They’ve worked with us over the years and things. But at the same time, it’s very easy for people to pass the buck; do this, do that. The delegation is elected officials. They’ve not going to -- they listen to the citizens out there before they’re going to listen to us. Believe you me, I don’t know how many resolutions we’ve sent to Columbia, how many private conversations I’ve had with delegation members. Even tried to get one or two cents of the gas tax to stay at home, but it’s not. They listen to the people out there. I hope all of you will be able to make the Tri-County meeting tomorrow in Pickens and Oconee County and Anderson County at Bleckley. Look forward to getting that input. We’ve had two meetings so far. I think we’ve been to Oconee and been to Greenville. Or Pickens. Sorry, been to Pickens and Oconee. Pickens and Greenville and had some good meetings.

I appreciate everybody’s hard work and look forward to continue working.

(MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:45 P.M.)