State of South Carolina  
County of Anderson  

ANDERSON COUNTY COUNCIL  
COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING  
JANUARY 7, 2020  

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

ALSO PRESENT:  
RUSTY BURNS  
LEON HARMON  
LACEY CROEGAERT
THE COURT: At this time I’d like to call the regular January 7 regular council meeting to order; first meeting of this year. At this time if we would all rise for the invocation and pledge of allegiance. Mr. Wooten, understandably, is not going to be here tonight. Mr. Davis is going to do it. Before we do that, I’d like to ask that we have a moment of silence honoring the memory of Mr. Wooten’s father.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE BY JIMMY DAVIS

CINDY WILSON: Mr. Chairman?
TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma’am.
CINDY WILSON: I see that the next item is the election of the chairman on our agenda. And I would like to make the motion to recommend you for another term as our chairman if you’re so willing.
TOMMY DUNN: I appreciate it.
BRETT SANDERS: Second.
TOMMY DUNN: Have a second by Mr. Sanders.

Ms. Floyd.
GRACIE FLOYD: I would like to not do that. I would like to be able to vote for or against the chairperson, please, rather than just do it by whatever you call that.
TOMMY DUNN: Oh, we’re going to vote.
GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. Good. Thank you.
TOMMY DUNN: Any more nominations? Hearing none, all in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed. Show the motion carries with Mr. Davis, Mr. Sanders, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Graham and Ms. Wilson in favor and Ms. Floyd opposes.
Let the record show also before we go any further that Mr. Wooten is absent tonight, understandably so.
Now, next, moving on to vice chairman.
RAY GRAHAM: Mr. Chairman.
TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Graham.
RAY GRAHAM: Mr. Chairman, I’d like to nominate Brett Sanders for vice chairman for the coming year for Anderson County Council.
CINDY WILSON: Second.
TOMMY DUNN: Have a motion by Mr. Graham; second by Ms. Wilson. Any other nominations? All in favor of the motion show of hands. Opposed.
GRACIE FLOYD: No.
TOMMY DUNN: Show the motion carries -- go ahead.
BRETT SANDERS: Oh, I’m sorry, I didn’t vote.
TOMMY DUNN: So you want to abstain?
BRETT SANDERS: Yeah.
TOMMY DUNN: You can. Show the motion carries with Mr. Davis, Ms. Floyd, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Graham, Ms. Wilson in favor. No opposition to Mr. Sanders.
BRETT SANDERS: Appreciate it.

TOMMY DUNN: Moving on now to approval of the minutes of December 17, 2019 meeting. Are there any corrections that need to be made.
CINDY WILSON: I saw none. May I make the motion that we approve the minutes for the December 17th meeting.
RAY GRAHAM: Second.
TOMMY DUNN: Have a motion by Ms. Wilson; second Mr. Graham. All in favor of the motion show of hands. Opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously.

Now we’ll move on to citizens comments on agenda matters only. When Mr. Harmon calls your name, you have three minutes and please address the chair, please.
LEON HARMON: Mr. Chairman, no one is signed up to speak at this time.
TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Harmon.

Moving on to item number 7(a), third reading, 2019-060, an ordinance to rezone +/- 1.10 acres along Evergreen Road from R-20, single family residential, to C-1 commercial district, TMS number 145-00-04-006. Be  
in District 4.
BRETT SANDERS: Second.
TOMMY DUNN: Do we have a motion to move this forward?
CINDY WILSON: So moved.
BRETT SANDERS: Second.
TOMMY DUNN: Motion Ms. Wilson; second by Mr. Sanders. Now any discussion? Seeing and hearing none, all in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously.

Now we’ll be moving on to first -- or second readings. No resolutions. Does anyone have any appointments?

Now approval of the 2020 Council Meeting Schedule. Does anybody have a problem with anything? Look forward to the year, and if something does come up, you know, we can change it at that time. We always have to tweak something during the year or something another. But anybody got anything? Do I have a motion to move it forward?
CINDY WILSON: So moved.
JIMMY DAVIS: Second.
TOMMY DUNN: Motion Ms. Wilson; second Mr. Davis. Any discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands. Opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously.

We’ll be moving on now to requests by council members. Mr. Davis, do you have any?

JIMMY DAVIS: Yes, sir, Mr. Chair.

Thank you so much. I have two tonight. If it’s okay I am going to keep them separate. The first one is from the District 6 special projects rec fund, I would like to appropriate five thousand dollars to the Powdersville League of Athletic Youth. I make that in the form of a motion.

TOMMY DUNN: Have a motion by Mr. Davis. Need a second.

CINDY WILSON: Second.

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

Mr. Davis.

JIMMY DAVIS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

My second one will be five thousand dollars -- we will appropriate, I guess, Mr. Burns, correct me if I’m wrong, for a PARD grant for Hurricane Springs Park. And we’re appropriating this to Anderson County. That’s a total of five thousand dollars. And I make that in the form of a motion.

TOMMY DUNN: Have a motion. Have a second?

CINDY WILSON: Second.

BRETT SANDERS: Second.

TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Sanders. Any discussion?

GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Davis, that five thousand dollars is coming from the legislative, from (inaudible).

JIMMY DAVIS: No, ma’am. It’s coming (inaudible).

GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. What’s PRT?

TOMMY DUNN: PARD grant.

JIMMY DAVIS: We’re getting a PARD grant. I’m giving the county matching funds to be able to get (inaudible).

GRACIE FLOYD: Okay. But that’s from your rec account; right?

JIMMY DAVIS: The five thousand dollars is.
GRACIE FLOYD: It’s from your rec account? So -- whatever. Go ahead. Thank you.

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

Mr. Sanders, do you have any?

Ms. Floyd, do you have any?

GRACIE FLOYD: No, uh-uh (negative).

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Graham?

RAY GRAHAM: Nothing.

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Wilson?

CINDY WILSON: None.

TOMMY DUNN: Moving on now to item number 14, administrator’s report.

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

TOMMY DUNN: Now moving on to item number 15, citizens comments. When Mr. Harmon calls your name, you have three minutes. Please address the chair. State your name and district for the record.

Mr. Harmon.

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

ELIZABETH FANT: Happy New Year to everybody. Elizabeth Fant, District 3. I’ve been very heartened by the last couple of months of what I’ve seen in Anderson County. We had a lot of people participate in the Veterans Parade. We had a lot of people in the Christmas Parade. Many of them in both ones were legislators. At the Dolly Cooper Veterans Park, not Powdersville but the Veterans Park, we had Wreaths Across America and we had over six hundred people there that laid two thousand six hundred wreaths.

Then Mr. Radio died; our beloved Mr. Radio. And half -- over half of the Civic Center was full for his service. I want to mention one more minute on that event. As a special needs teacher you come across many students, many of which are exceptional in intellect, exceptional in athletic ability, and exceptional in other ways.

And just like every one of us, we have our high spots and we have our low spots. God made us all that way. And Radio had the gift of love. Nobody could not love Radio.

But what I want to mention particularly is Coach Jones. Coach Jones really is the one that is responsible for putting Radio under his wing and instead of Radio being a shunt-off or somebody who wasn’t included, he put him under his wing and he
became one of the best supporters of Hanna High School. I also have seen that Tom Allen is out helping Meals on Wheels. Several others of you up there I know have donated to the community. Mr. Graham won’t say anything about it, but I will. He had Thanksgiving dinner for anybody who needed it in his community, free. Several of you I know participate lots in your church. Just want to remind everybody, it’s a brand new year but it’s not all about business. It’s about how we treat our fellow man. And in doing so that just makes our community that much better.

One other quick aside is, this is going to be a very challenging year monetarily. The jail is almost at two hundred percent. We know our roads need work on them. And we’ve got the green challenge that’s hoovering over our head. Plus primary elections and elections that are going to take up a lot more money because we have to have the staff to accommodate all that. So we need to cut wherever we can on unnecessary spending so we have the spending on what I consider necessary.

LEON HARMON: Time, Mr. Chairman.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Harmon.

Remarks from council members. Mr. Davis.

JIMMY DAVIS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I just want to say a word of condolence to the Wooten family and it was good to be with that family today. I appreciate Mr. Wooten and his service and my thoughts and prayers are with him.

I look forward to working with all of you. I’ve appreciated the last year of learning my way around and I’ll try to learn more. And I just look forward to working with all of you. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Mr. Sanders.

BRETT SANDERS: Yeah, I would just like to reiterate that we keep Craig Wooten and his family in mind, in our thoughts and prayers.

And as Councilman Davis said, I look forward to working with every one of you guys.

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Floyd.

GRACIE FLOYD: Thank you. We have lost a very, very important member of our community with the death of Mr. Wooten. We have lost somebody that has always, in my life, has been here. I came to Anderson in 1968 and he was there. I cannot remember for the life of me how I met this man. I’ve worked with him somewhere in my life and I know him very, very well. I was surprised to find out one day that Craig Wooten -- it was Craig’s daddy. I didn’t know that. I knew the
man. But please know that he was a very important man. He was a very giving and accepting man. And we’re going to miss him. We’ve going to miss him. That’s number one.

Number two, thank you, Ms. Fant, for bringing up about the fact that there are people who work in our community and there are people who we just love in our community. But then there are people in the community that never gets any kind of thank you or congratulations. They’re just completely overlooked; completely overlooked. But they do so much.

You mentioned the parade, the Veterans Parade. Do you know how that started? Let me tell you. I was going to Columbia one day and I was going on November the 11th. And as I got in Columbia I saw all these people gathered and I saw all the military uniforms. I forgot what I was doing there. But then I found out it was a Veterans Day Parade.

I went back -- came back to Anderson and I told Mr. Preston that we needed a Veterans Parade here in Anderson so we could honor our people. I’m sorry about that, but this is the truth. We needed a Veterans Day Parade in Anderson. If you remember Peace -- what’s her name? Lib Peace. We called her Lib. Lib Peace was the person that I selected to do the parade. She went over and got the band from Westside High School and Joey Preston did the rest of it. There are people that don’t get credit. And when you talk about what you have done, you have people that go ahhh (phonics). There’s an old thing I learned, if you don’t toot your own horn, nobody toots it for you unless they’re your buddy.

Next thing about Radio. Do you know how Radio got started? It was -- oh gosh, I wish I could remember the man’s name. It was a football coach that used to practice down here at the old McCants. He was the B team coach. He picked up radio from the beginning. Radio was passed along to the coaches staff because he was so crazy about the football thing. Then he was picked up by Jim Frazier who was a football coach.

He used to attend class every day in William Floyd’s math class. He was a good math student. Then he was picked up by the Jones boys, you know him, and then there was the other Jones. It was the entire football staff. Everybody watched out for Radio. Everybody took Radio home. Everybody gave Radio money. Everybody watched over him.

When we do give credit, we can’t give it to just some people because it takes an entire community, an entire village, to do what needs to be done. When you
only give it to one person, you’re not being fair. That movie that came out hurts me to the core every
time I hear about it, see about it, because it wasn’t
only the Jones that -- what’s that guy’s name? Harold.
It wasn’t only Harold that did that. And a lot of the
thing was just wrong. It was just wrong. William
Floyd did just as much -- in fact a little more than
the others.
So with the -- I don’t ask for, I don’t ask for
whatever it is you get when you do something. I do my
job. I do my work. I come up against people who would
shut me up if they could every day. But they aren’t
good enough to do it. The work I’ve done here, it will
not be thanked or somebody says anything about it. It
won’t be.
For the first time in twenty years I had a council
person to call me to tell me something. And I think
that he was genuinely disappointed when he heard of
what I’ve done. I think that he was genuinely -- felt
that it wasn’t right and it wasn’t fair. I don’t want
your -- I don’t want or need your accolades. I get it
from my constituents. There’s nobody else sitting up
here that has been here twenty years and still going.
If you don’t like this, you’ll get over it. Thank you.
TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Graham.
RAY GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
I’d just like to congratulate Chairman Dunn and Vice
Chairman Brett Sanders on their election into the
chairman and vice chairman for the year. Look forward
to working with each and every one of you. Look
forward to working with the rest of the council.
You know, I’m not going to spend time tooting
horns, as some people calls it. I’m thankful we live
in a great county with a lot of wonderful people that
continues to work on a daily basis to move our county
forward. And definitely find it a privilege and an
honor to be able to serve each and every one of the
citizens in Anderson County; not just the ones in my
district.
It is -- you know, we do move Anderson County
forward every day in our decisions that we make. A lot
of times they’re tough decisions; there are decisions
that are not necessarily popular. But we do have to
make important decisions to move the county forward.
And I definitely find it a privilege to be able to do
that.
And again, it’s definitely an honor to serve
Anderson County with so many citizens that does work
and give so freely of their time and their efforts to
make our county better on a daily basis.
I also would like to send my condolences to Craig Wooten and his family in the passing of Dr. Wooten. I know this is definitely a tough time for him and his family and our prayers are definitely with him.

That’s all I have, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Graham.

Ms. Wilson.

CINDY WILSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Heaven’s gain was our county’s loss in Dr. Wooten’s passing. I knew him as my favorite Sunday School teacher. He was an amazing gentleman. And Ms. Margaret is an incredibly accomplished lady, too. We’ve been very blessed by them.

Anderson County is incredibly blessed. I personally am very grateful to be able to serve such an incredible group of citizens and people in our county and work with such a great group of county employees and county council and state and local and other federal people.

So I wish everyone a Happy, Healthy New Year and continued good course of teamwork. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. I’d like to take this opportunity to also hope we keep Mr. Wooten’s family and friends in our thoughts and prayers. In the coming days they’re going to need them. At the funeral today you could tell Mr. Wooten was very loved by many, many people and highly respected and thought of. I know he had a good legacy he left here and a good Christian man. Ms. Wilson put it very eloquently, our loss is heaven’s gain. So hope to take care of the family.

Also hope we’ll keep Matt Schell in our thoughts and prayers. He had to have some surgery a few days ago. He’s already back at work. Seems to be doing good, but we want to keep that -- and appreciate the job that Matt does and his dedication to Anderson County.

I want to congratulate Mr. Sanders and look forward to working with you as vice chairman. I also want to thank Mr. Graham very much for the years of dedication he’s done as vice chairman and look forward to working with him in the future, as I do all council members.

I just want to say in closing that I appreciate the support of the chairman job. I don’t take it lightly. Appreciate the fellow council members and look forward to working with council this year. We’ve got -- as council members have discussed, we’ve got a lot going on coming up this new year. I look for big things out at the Civic Center. I look for things at the airport. We’ve got the jail; arms wrapped around to do something
another. And I was talking with Ms. Davis the other
day; got a pretty good financial report. Anybody, I’m
putting it clear and frank, that thinks you can cut
enough money in the budget to build a jail, that ain’t
going to happen. Try to do with the taxpayers’ money,
the sheriff and his people have been working and going
around and looking at some other jails to bring before
us. But that is something that’ll have to come forward
in the near future or we’ll (mic cutting out) last
report we got.

Trying to get out of here before 7:30, so I want to
appreciate everybody. Thank everybody for coming
tonight and look forward to the new year.

(MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:55 P.M.)