ANDERSON COUNTY COUNCIL

SPECIAL PRESENTATION MEETING

FEBRUARY 18, 2020

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

ALSO PRESENT:
RUSTY BURNS
LACEY CROEGAERT
TOMMY DUNN: At this time I’d like to call the Anderson County meeting of February 18th for our special presentation meeting to order. I’d like to welcome each and every one of you here. Thank y’all for being here tonight. We’re going to start our first thing, be 2(a) resolution/proclamation; be R2020-005, Ms. Cindy Wilson. Ms. Wilson.

CINDY WILSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Ray Graham, District 3, and I are blessed to share School District 2, and so we’re honored to put forth this resolution.

**THIS IS A RESOLUTION TO HONOR AND RECOGNIZE THE BELTON-HONEA PATH VARSITY CHEERLEADERS AS THE 2019 SOUTH CAROLINA STATE 4A COMPETITIVE CHEER CHAMPIONS; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.**

Whereas, through hard work, dedication, teamwork, and precise attention to detail, under the leadership of Head Coach Stephanie Cooley Hughes and assistant coaches Missy Krieger and Bradley Black, the BHP Varsity Cheerleaders competed in an undefeated season for the first time in school history; and,

Whereas, on November 12, 2019 the BHP cheerleaders traveled to Brookland-Cayce High School to compete in the Upper State and Regional Cheer Championships. During the competition the team scored 320 points receiving the title of Region I and Upper State Championships and qualifying them for a chance to compete in the State Cheer Championships; and,

Whereas, on Saturday November 23, 2019, the BHP cheerleaders traveled to the Colonial Life Arena in Columbia, South Carolina to compete in the South Carolina State Cheer Championships. The team demonstrated detailed routines that displayed the team’s cohesiveness, thus outperforming their competition with a winning score of 326, earning the recognition as 2019 South Carolina State 4A Competitive Cheer Champions; and,

Whereas, the Anderson County Council wishes to commend the Belton-Honea Path Varsity Cheerleaders for being outstanding ambassadors, reflecting true pride to their community and setting an example for their peers to emulate. We are extremely proud of the team winning the 2019 4A South Carolina State Competitive Cheerleading Championship. We would like to wish each of you great success in all your future endeavors.

**RESOLVED in a meeting duly assembled this 18th day of February, 2020.**

And may I put that in the form of a motion?

TOMMY DUNN: We have a motion by Ms. Wilson. Have a second? Mr. Sanders. Further
discussion?
I know full council echoes what Ms. Wilson said.
Appreciate the job the young people do at their high
school. Anyone else have anything? Hearing none, all
in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed like
sign. Show the motion carries unanimously.
CINDY WILSON: And if I may have my
fellow council members down and all of the team and
their coaches.

APPLAUSE

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTION

FEMALE: We just thank you a lot
and thank you for honoring us on our great
accomplishment. Thank you for having us.

APPLAUSE

TOMMY DUNN: We’re going to be moving
on now to item 2(b), R2020-006, Councilman Davis.

JIMMY DAVIS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

THIS IS A RESOLUTION TO HONOR AND RECOGNIZE THE
POWERSVILLE PATRIOTS VOLLEYBALL TEAM AS THE 2019 3A
REGIONAL VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONS AND AS THE 2019 SOUTH
CAROLINA STATE 3A VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONS; AND OTHER
MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

Whereas, the Lady Patriots began practicing and
preparing for the 2019 Volleyball season in April. The
team finished the season with a 10-0 record in regional
play and an overall record of 20-1; and,
Whereas, on November 4, 2019, the Lady Patriots played
in the Class 3A Upper State Championships against the
Chapman Panthers at Powdersville High School. The
Patriots defeated the Panthers with a winning score of
3-1, earning the title of 2019 3A Regional Champions;
and,
Whereas, on Saturday, November 9, 2019, the Lady
Patriots traveled to River Bluff High School in
Columbia, South Carolina to compete in the 2019 SCHSL
Volleyball State Championships against the Gilbert
Indians. The Patriots defeated the Indians with a
winning score of 3-0 earning the title of 2019 South
Carolina 3A State Volleyball Champions; and,
Whereas, as a result of their exceptional performance
during the 2019 Volleyball season, Olivia Knutson,
Alexis Albright and Reagan Davis were selected as 2019
All-Region players; Alexis Albright and Savannah
Roberts were selected as 2019 All-State players; and
Alexis Albright was chosen as the 3A player of the
year; and,
Whereas, the Anderson County Council wishes to commend
the Powdersville Patriots Volleyball team for being
outstanding ambassadors, reflecting true pride to their
We are extremely proud of the team winning the 2019 South Carolina 3A State Volleyball Championship. We are proud of all of your achievements and wish you great success in all of your future endeavors.

RESOLVED in a meeting duly assembled this 18th day of February, 2020.

Mr. Chair, I make that in the form of a motion.

TOMMY DUNN: Have a motion by Councilman Davis. Have a second? Second by Ms. Wilson. Any discussion?

JIMMY DAVIS: Mr. Chair?

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Davis.

JIMMY DAVIS: I just want to say how proud we are of you as a county, especially in Council District 6. I remember when they build Powdersville High School. I’m a Wren graduate, but I’m so proud of you. I’m just thrilled to have you here tonight and we invite you back any time for an exciting night of county council. But we are so proud of you. I know School District 1 and those folks are proud of you, as well. We wish you all the best. And I pray God’s blessings upon all you in all that you do. And go win us another one. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Davis.

Anyone else?

I’d just like to echo Mr. Davis’s sentiments for the whole council. You make Anderson County proud. Appreciate great young people like you, Anderson will continue to thrive and we appreciate what all you do for your community.

If no more discussion, all in favor of the vote. Show the motion carries unanimously. Mr. Davis.

JIMMY DAVIS: Mr. Chair, I would have my fellow council folks come down and the Powdersville Patriots come forward.

APPLAUSE

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTION

JIMMY DAVIS: Coach, I’d like to present you with a copy of the Resolution I just read. We’re so proud of y’all. If you want to saw a few words.

COACH: Yes, I thank y’all for having us. Super excited. A lot of the girls actually got stuck in traffic on 85, so there’s not only five of them. There’s twelve of them. But thank you for having us. Like I said, it was a great season. We have great fans, great community support. If you want to come watch an awesome team play, you should come to Powdersville next year for a great game. So thank you.
APPLAUSE
TOMMY DUNN: We’ll be moving on now to item number 2(c), proclamation, proclaiming February 2020 as Black History Month from all council members. Councilman Wooten has been gracious enough to introduce this. Councilman Wooten.
CINDY WILSON: Thank you, sir. This is a proclamation designating February 2020 as Black History Month in Anderson County.
WHEREAS, Black History Month, observed in February of each year, honors, affirms, and emphasizes the significance of Black history and the many contributions of African Americans to American life, society, and culture, as we know it; and
WHEREAS, Black History Month provides an opportunity for all Americans to reflect on the rich history and achievements of people of African descent; and
WHEREAS, the Anderson County Human Relations Council, the local NAACP chapter, the local African-American Churches, and many individuals throughout Anderson County foster civic, economic, and educational programs that bear witness to the progress, beauty, and achievements of African Americans in Anderson County; and
WHEREAS, the Anderson County Council sets aside this special time to acknowledge African Americans in Anderson County past and present;
NOW, THEREFORE, the Anderson County Council does hereby proclaim the month of February 2020 as BLACK HISTORY MONTH in Anderson County, encouraging all residents to recognize the importance of black history throughout our county, participating in countywide activities that promote unity for the betterment of our communities, celebrating the diversity and character of our community, and highlighting the importance of sharing our culture and customs as the County observes and commemorates Black History Month.
PROCLAIMED this 18th day of February, 2020.
Mr. Chairman, I put that in the form of a motion.
TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Wooten.
Any more discussion? Second Ms. Wilson. Any more discussion? Hearing and seeing none, all in favor of the motion show of hands. Show the motion carries unanimously.
Thank y’all. This will conclude this part of our meeting. We’ll reconvene back here at 6:30 for the start of our regular council meeting.

(SPECIAL PRESENTATION MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:15 P.M.)
IN ATTENDANCE:
TOMMY DUNN, CHAIRMAN
RAY GRAHAM
BRETT SANDERS
CRAIG WOOTEN
CINDY WILSON
GRACIE FLOYD
JIMMY DAVIS

ALSO PRESENT:
RUSTY BURNS
LEON HARMON
LACEY CROEGAERT
TOMMY DUNN: At this time I’d like to call the regular Anderson County Council meeting of February 18th to order. I’d like to welcome each and every one of you here. Thank y’all for being here tonight. We’ll get started. At this time we want to recognize Chairman Graham. Mr. Graham.

RAY GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I just want to recognize the Mayor of Belton, Mayor Ownbey. Appreciate you being here tonight. One of the conflicts is a lot of times they meet the same time we do, so we don’t always get to share each other’s meetings. But definitely a pleasure having you here tonight. Let us know if there’s anything we can do for your guys in Belton.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Graham.

And welcome, Mayor. Yes, ma’am.

GRACIE FLOYD: The Mayor of Williamston, would you please stand up? Good.

TOMMY DUNN: Nice to have you here.

APPLAUSE

GRACIE FLOYD: Would you believe I intended to say, Council member. I know you don’t want to be the mayor, but anyway we’re just happy to have you here with us tonight. Please come back to visit us again. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Anyone else? Thank all of y’all for being here. Hope to see y’all again.

At this time I’d like us all to rise for invocation and pledge of allegiance; Councilman Sanders, please.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE BY BRETT SANDERS

TOMMY DUNN: At this time are there corrections or changes to be made to the January 21st minutes of 2020?

CINDY WILSON: May I, Mr. Chairman?

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Wilson.

CINDY WILSON: The only thing that I noted was wherever the name Derrick Singleton appears, it was not spelled correctly. This is a little different spelling.

TOMMY DUNN: The last name or both?

CINDY WILSON: Just the first name, Derrick.

TOMMY DUNN: Anyone else?

GRACIE FLOYD: Mr. Chairman.

TOMMY DUNN: Yes, ma’am.

GRACIE FLOYD: Still there are problems with something here. On page two of the minutes, Mr. Chairman, under Tommy Dunn, it says Mr. Burns, mic cutting out. And it says, us three being together, us
three being together, wouldn’t that -- and the mic cuts out again. This what she wrote. Okay. And on the same page, Ms. Wilson, she says usage of the capacity to exiting -- exiting capacity right now. That doesn’t make any sense. And she says that, as well, that doesn’t make any sense. And on page two again, she said something like -- she wrote, but she got me there verbatim. And I don’t understand that. I don’t understand what that means. Also, let me see what page we go to next. Is there any other page? Well, whatever -- well, it’s on page fifteen. It says you’ve got to talk in that mic. This is where we’re losing our minutes -- I mean our agenda is getting lost. Uh-uh, it says, you’ve got to talk in that mic. This is where we are loving our minutes. And also on line thirty-nine, that’s fine because I’m trying to understand something here and it means I have to look you. But it goes on, no, it don’t have to, but it should have been for information. I thought everybody got it in their box. But anyway. And it ends there. And those are the ones that I found. That was it. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Anything else? Do we have a motion to accept the minutes with the correction of Mr. Singleton’s name change? Ms. Wilson makes that motion. Do we have a second?

JIMMY DAVIS: Second.

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

Moving on to the February approval. Are there any corrections to be made to the February 4, 2020 meeting? Hearing none, do we have a motion to move forward?

CINDY WILSON: So moved.

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

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.

Moving on to item number 4, citizens comments. If you signed up, this is for comments on agenda items only. You have three minutes. If you would, please, state your name and district you live in and address the chair, please. When Mr. Harmon calls your name, please step forward. Mr. Harmon.

LEON HARMON: Mr. Chairman, first speaker is James Allen.

JAMES ALLEN: Yeah, my name is James Allen. It’s on that gun. I go to the same church.
I’m not going to mention the church because there’s been a bad approach on it already. But I go to church there; been going there since I was twenty years old. Never thought about carrying a gun in our church. In the last year it got real bad and then last month two killings right in front of our church. We do have people carrying concealed weapons in our church. Only the ones that can carry concealed weapons that went through the proper training. And recently two deaths, shootings, right in front of our church. Last week we had two bullets that come through our front door of our church. The church service wasn’t going on at the time; went straight through our front door of our church. Not counting the fellowship hall being shot, awnings been shot.

And we do this now to protect our children. I’m at the age now I’m ready to meet my Lord, but we’ve got children that’s not quite that ready. I wish everybody in the world would have that In God We Trust in our heart so we wouldn’t have to carry concealed weapons. But we don’t. We don’t.

So I’d like you to really consider this. It’s not something we want to do, but it’s something we have to do now. And I really wanted to bring this up that it’s just a danger alone in our church. We love everybody. We wish everybody loved us. That’s all I wanted to say.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, sir. Next, Mr. Harmon.

APPLAUSE

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

MIKE MANLEY: Good evening. My name is Mike Manley. I live at 1158 Cartee Road. I live in District 4, Mr. Sanders’ district. And here to speak tonight about a rezoning request that was made about six months ago now.

The neighbors and Richard Bennett, who I think is going to speak a little bit later, have been working very hard on trying to come to some kind of compromise as far as how we might approach this. And I think we’ve probably come up with a good plan as far as the approximately ten acres. We’re looking at having some restrictive covenants put on it. I think our major concern, or my major concern at this point in time, just remains how the county would react to enforcing that.

There is -- like I say the paperwork has been filled out as far as that. So I would be interested because I know Mr. Sanders has to recuse himself once
we start talking about the agenda items. So he’s not
able to ask that question. I would appreciate one of
the other council members, though, asking the county
whether or not they would take any role in enforcing
that restrictive covenant. Thank you very much.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Next, Mr. Harmon.

LEON HARMON: Next speaker is Rich Bennett.

RICHARD BENNETT: District 4, 307 Compass Point. I’ll speak, as well, on the Cartee Road. As Mr. Manley spoke, we have been working on it for quite a while. We’ve tried to come to a compromise. I think it’s been good for both sides. We signed the restrictive covenants. And I think it’s been a win/win. Hopefully (inaudible) as far as county enforcement, I don’t know the answer how it would move forward. (Inaudible) for everybody’s benefit. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Next, Mr. Harmon.

LEON HARMON: Next speaker is Michael Thompson.

MICHAEL THOMPSON: Mr. Chairman, council, my name is Michael Thompson. I live at 1166 Cartee Road. I’m here to speak about the rezoning on the property on Cartee Road as the two gentlemen have previously spoke about. The reason I’m speaking is because I was pretty adamant the first meeting or so about this rezoning, you know, opposition to it. But we have since had a couple of meetings with Mr. Bennett, with the people of our neighborhood and we have worked out a great plan, I think, that satisfies everyone involved.

Now, we have a small group here today. We’re representing fifty -- approximately fifty families that live off of Cartee Road. And as you know, that enters on and off of the exit from I-85, so it’s a pretty dangerous traffic situation. One of our concerns was the amount of traffic that might be generated by making this a commercial property. But what we’ve agreed to, and I think you all have a copy of a deed restriction Mr. Bennett’s lawyer put together, and a couple of us have been allowed to review that and actually make changes to it. And basically, not to spend a lot of time on it, but what’s been done was a deed restriction was put in place by Mr. Bennett that not only puts a barrier, a tree barrier if you will, a natural zone, thirty feet along the -- between this piece of property and the highway that we all travel on. And then that’s on the first 2.6 acres and then the rest of it on up to
1 the boundary line is going to have a twenty-foot wide
2 natural barrier. He has restricted this piece of
3 property to have only one highway -- one access onto
4 Cartee Road. And also the closest 2.63 acres to our
5 property is being restricted to a water retention pond
6 area. No other construction can be done on it.
7 So I just want to say on behalf of myself, we have
8 tried to get our neighbors together to deal with this,
9 and the meetings we had some people turn out. I
10 prepared a sign and put on that property right beside
11 the road so that everybody that’s affected that’s come
12 out for the last two days could see that sign and know
13 about this meeting. We don’t have an association, so
14 I’m not speaking for anyone other than myself. But I
15 would withdraw my concerns from you guys approving this
16 rezoning. I think Mr. Bennett has done everything that
17 we had hoped that he would without limiting his right
18 to rezone the property ---
19 LEON HARMON: Time, Mr. Chairman.
20 MICHAEL THOMPSON: --- for commercial
21 purposes. And I’m in favor of allowing that to
22 proceed.
23 TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, sir. Mr.
24 Harmon.
25 LEON HARMON: Mr. Chairman, next
26 speaker is Elizabeth Fant.
27 ELIZABETH FANT: ... full house here.
28 Just a matter of record, when the gavel was pushed
29 tonight, it was only 6:29, so I did not actually get my
30 signature on the sheet, but I am speaking at the
31 beginning and the end.
32 It’s kind of ambiguous when we have more than one
33 sets of minutes. When you say page so and so, Ms.
34 Floyd, or whoever, we don’t know which set of minutes
35 that you were talking about. There were two sets of
36 minutes and I had to scramble to find what you had
37 said. However, the microphone thing, we’ve really got
38 to nail that down. You guys and ladies need to speak
39 into the microphones. You need to pull it down in
40 front of you and speak into it and not turn to somebody
41 else to speak, because that’s when we lose you. And
42 Ms. Floyd, there are places in here where we can’t see
43 what you said because of that reason.
44 I want to talk about the sheriff’s report. The
45 sheriff has added a few categories on the report. And
46 I’m really liking what I have to see. At the bottom he
47 talks about extra patrols in the areas of Pickens Road
48 and Hamlin Road for Brett Sanders. I have noticed that
49 up there a marked amount of crime is being cut because
50 they’re stopping people to see if they’ve got stolen
goods on their trucks and whatever. It works.

Stopping people who look suspicious works.

We also have stopping the traffic on 86 in Piedmont
for Jimmy Davis. That’s also a hot spot. And for Ms.
Wilson also on Big Creek Road with litter. This is
excellent. The sheriff’s report gets better every
time.

Also, you’ve got a category about courthouse; how
many juveniles transported, how many bench warrants,
how many family court cases in a month. Six hundred
and seventy-four. What is going on with our families.

Anyway, for those of you that don’t get this, you
ought to really get a copy of it because it tells you a
real good snapshot about what’s going on in the county,
where the crime is. And the gentleman who already got
up to speak, it’s a question or something that you all
are going to have to take under consideration because
people need to be able to carry their weapons to
protect themselves. That’s the bottom line.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Harmon.
LEON HARMON: Mr. Chairman, no one else
signed up to speak.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Harmon.

Moving on now to item number 5, presentation from
South Carolina Youth Challenge Academy, Stephen
Johnson. Mr. Johnson.

STEPHEN JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman, chair
members, I appreciate you having me here. My name is
Mr. Johnson. I’m a recruiter with the South Carolina
Youth Challenge Academy. We’re located at the backside
of Fort Jackson in the Leesburg Road area. We are a
five and a half month residential program for at-risk
youth between the ages of sixteen and eighteen. It’s
for kids that have either dropped out of school or been
expelled or just having disciplinary problems or just
want a more regimented, structured, controlled
environment versus the normal school system.

So we’re not in competition with the school system.
We’re actually an alternative to the alternative
because we know every county has their alternative
school system. We give every kid maximum opportunity
to excel in the education system. However, there are
other issues or behavior problems or whatever going on
with that young person’s life, so we have this program
to offer them.

So it’s five and a half months residential. First
two weeks is very structured, very controlled, where
they learn the rules and regulations and what they have
to do while they’re there in the academy. And then the
remaining five months is where they’re pursuing their
GED, academic excellence through the GED, and also
learning critical life coping skills. And they also
receive additional job skills training. They receive
training on physical fitness, health and hygiene,
responsible citizenship.

There’s eight core components. I have a brochure
up here you can get before you learn today. And I’ve
given one to every council member, as well.

The thing that I wanted to emphasize to everyone is
just what y’all are saying. We had some of you up to
talk about guns, the need for guns. We had people get
up and talk about the crime rate in your county. The
young people that I’m talking about, we have at least
fourteen young people this year only, just this year,
and we’ve been doing this since the nineties, from
Anderson County. That’s not a bad thing. That’s a
good thing. Almost all of those young people that came
through our program were total successes and went back
to their counties and become more productive, positive
and family members, students and citizens within a
community.

So the point I’m getting at is these young people
are what we’re talking about. They are our future.
They are our replacements. We can all talk about
what’s not going right, but we’re not going to be in a
situation where we can control that forever. We have
to train our replacements. If you have kids that you
don’t know where they’re at right now, but you’re in
here asking about policies and procedures, rules and
regulations and what we should do -- I’m not trying to
lecture, I’m just saying -- you’re not always going to
be in control of that. So you need to be working on
your future. If you don’t know where your children are
at, it’s something to think about.

Okay. And then the crime rate, if you are a young
person with one of those people that was incarcerated
or carted away, we need to look at that. So all I’m
trying to get at is, there is light at the end of the
tunnel, but we all just have to take action. We’re
taking action on other issues; admirable. But you have
to take action on your future. The future is,
hopefully, these things won’t be as necessary because
we’ve taught responsible citizenship. We’ve led by
example. We’ve prepared our replacements to carry on
what we have worked so hard for.

Okay. Don’t get me preaching. But the program is
available. It’s five and a half months long. Now when
the kids graduate from us, and it’s males and females
between sixteen and eighteen -- we’ll take them when
they’re fifteen if they’re going to turn sixteen while they’re with us -- but when they graduate from us they usually go on to college or they go on to vocational technical schools or they go into the military. We have an average of about nine or ten kids per cycle. We do two classes a year. So each graduation is about a hundred kids. About nine or ten of those go in the military. And so the point is, they leave us hopefully to go on and do bigger and better things. And then they go back to their community. They go right back to where they came from. So if we didn’t do anything before they got there, we need to be prepared to receive them when they get back to help them continue their success.

I’d like to thank everybody for letting me have the few minutes that I had here. But I can’t emphasize enough -- a lot of people aren’t aware of the program until they absolutely, desperately need it. They need to be aware of it. We need mentors. We need volunteers where we take young people from all over the whole state. There’s forty-three of these across the whole United States in thirty-seven different states. Some states have two and three programs. So there is a necessity for it. There is a need for it. Colin Powell, back in May of ’81, warned everyone that we would have waves of gangs across the United States. When he the million man march, he said, we need mentors. We need leadership, guidance and direction. And now here we are. He’s not a fortune teller. He’s a person with leadership, guidance and direction and enough forethought to know that he needed to train his replacements because he was a general and thought like a general. But we don’t need to think like generals. We have to think like leaders.

So the program is available. If you have any questions I’ll be available back in the lobby when you get done. Thank you very much.

CINDY WILSON: May I? Mr. Chairman, I have a question. Mr. Johnson, two quick questions. Number one, how do young people get into your program? Do they have to be nominated or what have you? And who finances the program?

STEPHEN JOHNSON: Yes, ma’am. Thank you for those questions. The financing is done through the National Guard Bureau at the Washington, D.C. level. We receive seventy-five percent federal funding and twenty-five percent state and local funding. We also, naturally, would take donations. We have a foundation. We have a website, it’s www.scyouthchallenge.com. Or
you can just google Youth Challenge; it’ll come up. 
And then an application is actually online. You can apply online. 
Now, the people that get referred to us, they get referred to us by law enforcement, kids that are minor offenders that want to make a change in life. They can’t be felons. They have to be between sixteen and eighteen. We get referrals from schools; we get referrals from parents; we get self-referrals. So the kids that come to us are from all different walks-of-life with all different reasons for being there. But once they get there, they’re a candidate that wants to become a cadet, that wants to become a more positive family member, citizen. I hope I answered your questions.

TOMMY DUNN: I think you did. 
Appreciate it. Thank you a lot. 
STEPHEN JOHNSON: Thank you. 
TOMMY DUNN: Moving on to item number 6, be a presentation South Carolina Carry, Mr. Jones. 
Mr. Jones. 
RANDY JONES: Thank you for having me tonight. My name is Randy Jones. I’m the Anderson County leader for South Carolina Carry in Zone 3. I also reside in Ms. Wilson’s District 7. So I’m here to speak both for me personally, as well. 
First of all, South Carolina Carry is a non-profit 501(c)(4) corporation operating within South Carolina. Our mission is dedicated to promoting appreciation and respect for the basic liberties guaranteed by the Bill of Rights, and most importantly, the Second Amendment, which we believe protects all the other rights. The Second Amendment does not grant us rights, but protects our God-given rights from a tyrannical government. This is a critical truth about our Constitution that many just don’t understand. 
The Second Amendment is under attack. I wish I could sit down with each one of you on the council and share all I understand about where we are in the fight for the Second Amendment, but I don’t have four or five hours to do that. I am working hard, though, to make sure that those I come in contact with get to hear the other side, as this is rarely ever presented to the average person. We often hear that we need more gun debate. But the truth is, gun ban supporters don’t want that because the facts are not on their side. I want to be a source of information for you when you need to know more about the whole picture as it relates to gun issues. The issues are typically very hot issues; often very difficult to discuss in a manner
that actually explores the whole subject. But I welcome the opportunity to sit down with each one of you to answer any questions you may have or as a group to help in educating others on the facts relating to gun safety. I could also get other excellent resources from our group to come with me with deal with more specific concerns.

Most of us are bombarded with information about the dangers of guns; handgun owners almost every day from the mainstream news media. This is a result of a major misinformation campaign that I hope South Carolina Carry can help correct. The facts are guns save lives. This is supported by studies by the CDC. It’s also demonstrated by our law enforcement people every day they go to work. Their guns, along with the other tools that they carry with them, are the best defense tools in protecting their life as well as others against evil people.

There’s never been a time in our country when the support for the second amendment has become under attack as it is today. Michael Bloomberg is funding gun ban groups like Moms Demand Action, Every Town for Gun Safety with tens of millions of dollars each year. Their goal is to ban all guns from everyday citizens like you and me, but not from the really important people that surround them at all times. The elite people pushing this agenda feel they are just worth more to society than the rest of us; the rest of us average American people. That’s very sad but true.

The Supreme Court has ruled several times to protect the Second Amendment from being infringed upon by local and state governments. But many liberal courts have refused to uphold this ruling, which has fueled the rampant attack we’re seeing in many states today. It’s time for the Supreme Court to stop these lower courts from projecting their views and beliefs that allow these rights to be taken away.

People across the nation are now standing up and doing everything possible to raise awareness of this and to work with their local governing bodies and law enforcement to stop outsiders from coming in and trying to take away these basic rights.

Law abiding citizens in state like Illinois have been pushing for more and more gun control laws, but they have started taking steps to prevent these infringements from being forced on them in their local counties and municipalities. This movement has swept across Virginia after the Democratic party gained control of both houses and the governor’s office and
announced their intent on passing some of the most restrictive gun laws ever in that state. Many other states are also going through similar efforts and this has now ignited like a wildfire in South Carolina. If you look at this screen map, it’s a little bit outdated, but you can see that there’s a lot of states like Illinois, Virginia and especially states in the mid-west area that have all taken steps to become Second Amendment sanctuaries. In Virginia, if you look at this map, you’ll see that there’s just three red spots on this map where the sanctuary ordinances have been declined. But most of the state is all green and have done a lot to make sure that they’re going to protect their Second Amendment rights. In South Carolina we have three counties that have already passed Second Amendment resolutions. We’ve got several that are highlighted in orange here that are now taking steps to try to create that movement in those states -- in those counties, so we’re -- of course, Anderson County is one of the ones that we’re hopeful we’ll be able to move forward with that, as well.

South Carolina Carry would like to help in getting this passed in Anderson County. We have submitted a draft ordinance to the council to consider and pass for the citizens of Anderson County. Thousands of concerned citizens that you represent have already signed petitions in support of this proposed ordinance. These were obtained just in the past week to two weeks, so we’re confident we’ll have many more by the time that this proposed ordinance gets on the agenda for its first reading.

The Second Amendment is the cornerstone of the freedoms protected under the great Constitution of the United States. This is the very same Constitution that our military, law enforcement officers, and the people who work for our government to represent us, the people of this county, state and country, have sworn to uphold. We expect to have your support in moving forward with this ordinance for Anderson County and the support efforts should our state consider a statewide sanctuary status effort.

Please don’t let this be taken away from us, a well regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed. We have 2020 elections coming up and South Carolina Carry will be working diligently to educate the voters in South Carolina about those candidate positions, where they stand on the Second Amendment issues that we
value so dearly. Our group is growing rapidly and this
Second Amendment sanctuary movement has awakened a
large group of South Carolina voters. These voters are
standing up for their Second Amendment rights and we
fully expect to see sweeping changes as we work to put
the strongest 2A candidates into office this year.
I appreciate you listening to us tonight, and I
would just like -- I know there’s a lot of people here
that have come tonight to be in support of that. So if
you’re here to support the Second Amendment rights and
maybe you’re wearing an orange sticker, if you wouldn’t
mind standing up just so that people can see that.

APPLAUSE

RANDY JONES: Thank you very much.
TOMMY DUNN: We’ll be moving on now to
item number 7(a), ordinance third reading, first will
be 2019-032, an 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 in District 4. Mr. Sanders is
going to recuse himself. Thank you, Mr. Sanders.
BRETT SANDERS: Can I say something first?
TOMMY DUNN: Yes, sir.
BRETT SANDERS: I’d just like to say that
I’m excited to see developers and people in the
community work together. It shouldn’t always be a
council’s decision. And I just want to applaud you
guys on that, and I appreciate all your hard work.
Thank you.
TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Sanders.
Mr. Sanders. Get his, Jimmy, if you don’t mind. Would
you just state the reason why you’re recusing yourself.
BRETT SANDERS: Yeah, the reason why I’m
recusing is one of my accountants is, I think, part of
the investors in that development. He’s also a
contributor to my campaign. So I don’t feel it would
be in my best interest to vote either way.
TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Sanders.
BRETT SANDERS: Thank you.
TOMMY DUNN: Now at this time can we
have a motion on the floor?
JIMMY DAVIS: So moved.
TOMMY DUNN: Motion Mr. Davis to move
forward. Do we have a second?
RAY GRAHAM: Second.
TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Graham. Now
open the floor up for discussion.
CINDY WILSON: Mr. Chairman, may I?
TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Wilson.
CINDY WILSON: There was a reference to
covenants and restrictions, but we have none of that in our packet here. I’m not sure we would be a party to that. Perhaps Mr. Harmon could clarify that for us.

TOMMY DUNN: I wanted to ask that. I think ...

LEON HARMON: The county would not be a party to that document, Ms. Wilson.

CINDY WILSON: From my real estate background, covenants and restrictions are imposed by one party on another party, and if the party accepting the covenants and restrictions should violate that, it would be the position of the person or people imposing that to enforce. Would that be correct?

LEON HARMON: Yes, ma’am. That is correct. And I do have a copy of the document that has been put together and there is an entire section in the agreement entitled enforcement.

CINDY WILSON: Okay. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Mr. Harmon, that’s on -- I’m asking -- but if that’s on record, recorded, with a break, fallback, it would be a civil matter, but also wouldn’t the county say that this is not going to happen because this is in that restriction? A deed recorded like that?

LEON HARMON: Mr. Chairman, if someone wanted to do something in that restricted area, yes, I think the county probably would, at that point, not permit that. But as far as strict enforcement of the document itself, it’s a private enforcement matter.

TOMMY DUNN: But as far as permitting it, though, it’s on record that the county should permit that?

LEON HARMON: That’s correct.

TOMMY DUNN: That’s right. Thank you.

Any more discussion?

RAY GRAHAM: Mr. Chairman.

TOMMY DUNN: Yes, sir, Mr. Graham.

RAY GRAHAM: I just want to commend the community and also the developer. I mean, personally the way I look at it, when people own property, you pay taxes on the property, unless there’s already restrictions in place, I find it hard for the government to actually step in and try to regulate that. But still I understand we have guidelines. And I definitely commend both parties to coming together, working together and basically coming up with a solution that hopefully it’s going to be feasible for everyone. So definitely commend both parties for that and appreciate y’all’s work toward that, along with the
TOMMY DUNN: Anyone else before we vote?

CRAIG WOOTEN: Just to clarify, the gentleman’s question was about whether or not the county would enforce. It would be incumbent upon the private citizens to seek enforcement, but they could have reasonable assurances from the county that we would not permit something in violation of the covenants.

TOMMY DUNN: That’s right.

CRAIG WOOTEN: Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: I’d just like to also say this is what we were hoping to accomplish when this thing started six months ago. Appreciate the people that owns the property working. I know they spent a lot of time in it. The people in that community care about their community, working for this. We appreciate it. I think things like this is a win/win situation.

For the record show Mr. Sanders recused himself and he stated his reason. And also Ms. Floyd had a reason she had to leave. She’ll be back. Nothing to do with this right here. She had a thing.

All in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously with folks here. Thank y’all.

We’ll be moving on now to item number 8(a). Bring Mr. Sanders back in, if you would. We’ll be moving on now to item 8(a), this is second reading, 2020-001, an ordinance to amend the zoning map to rezone plus or minus 23.66 acres from R-20, single family residential to R-A, residential agricultural, at 150 Burns Bridge Road, again in District 4.

This is going to be a public hearing. Anyone wishing to speak to this matter, step forward and please state your name, district, address the chair on this matter. Public hearing. Anyone at all? Seeing and hearing none, the public hearing will be closed.

Do we have a motion to move this forward? Motion Mr. Sanders, second Ms. Wilson. Now any discussion? Hearing none, all in favor of the motion show of hands. Show the motion carries with the council members present. Show Ms. Floyd is still out of the room.

Moving on to item number 8(b), 2020-002, an ordinance authorizing the execution of a lease purchase agreement in an amount not exceeding $2,200,000 relating to the leasing and purchasing of software, the execution of necessary documents and closing papers.

Again, this second reading. This is the one we’ve had multiple meetings on and discussions. Helping us with
our overall computer program for the whole Anderson County. Do we have a motion to move this forward?

CINDY WILSON: So moved.

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

Moving on to item number 8(c), second reading, 2020-003, an ordinance to amend section 42-116 of the Anderson County, South Carolina Code of Ordinances so as to amend the definition of maltreatment as that term applies to any animal or pet. Comes from Chairman Graham. Mr. Graham.

RAY GRAHAM: This comes forth from the Public Safety Committee. This is ordinance 2020-003, an ordinance to amend section 42-116 of the Anderson County, South Carolina Code of ordinances so as to amend the definition of maltreatment as that term applies to any animal or pet.

Basically breaking this down, this is basically allowing the sheriff’s department some leeway on charging a county ordinance magistrate’s court fine versus charging some more serious crimes with it. In doing so, it -- basically if a citizen in Anderson County is mistreating animals or whatever and there’s some educational opportunity there, the sheriff’s department can do it at a lesser fine and educate the people as far as the dos and don’ts and it just gives them some leeway.

This was brought forth from Public Safety as a recommendation.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Chairman Graham. Coming from Public Safety it doesn’t need a second. Any more discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed like sign. Let the record show Ms. Floyd is back on the bench. Vote is unanimous.

Moving on to item number (d), 2020-004, an ordinance to amend an agreement for the development of the joint county industrial and business park, 2010 park, of Anderson and Greenville Counties so as to enlarge the park to add Project Yellow to the business park. At this time -- I meant to do this before the meeting or at the beginning of the meeting. At this time I’d like -- Mr. Nelson has been under the weather. How is he doing, Mr. Burns?

RUSTY BURNS: He is doing better today, sir.

TOMMY DUNN: Is he at home?

RUSTY BURNS: Yes, sir, he is now.
TOMMY DUNN: Let’s keep him in our thoughts and prayers as we go through this about him and his family, make a speedy recovery. This is second reading on this. Do we have a motion to move this forward?

JIMMY DAVIS: So moved.

TOMMY DUNN: Motion Mr. Davis; second Ms. Wilson. Any discussion? Hearing and seeing none, all in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously.

Going to move on to item number 9, ordinance first reading, 9(a), 2020-005, an ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of special source revenue credit agreement by and between Anderson County, South Carolina and Project Robo, with respect to special source revenue credit to be applied against fee in lieu of tax payments related to certain investments in the county. Mr. Burns, you going to take this?

RUSTY BURNS: Mr. Chairman, what we have here is a company that already employs thirty people in Anderson County. They want to invest 1.7 million dollars within five years and they want to generate twenty-one new jobs. The jobs will pay thirty-seven dollars and seventy-three cents an hour. This is the first expansion. We expect four other companies to result from this activity.

CRAIG WOOTEN: Mr. Chairman, I just want to see if I can recuse myself. I actually worked for this company. I no longer work for them, but I worked for them for about seven years. And so I just think it would be appropriate to recuse myself.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you. Appreciate it. Let the record show Mr. Wooten has recused himself and he stated his reason. 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. Any discussion? Hearing none, all in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously. Mr. Graham, will you get Mr. Wooten to step back in here?

RAY GRAHAM: Yes, sir.

TOMMY DUNN: Number 10, there are none. Number 11, a report from the Public Safety Committee meeting of February 12. Can’t be a whole lot because I think most of it was in executive session.

RAY GRAHAM: It wasn’t. Mr. Chairman, there’s really nothing to discuss. We did go into
executive session to discuss contracts and really more
or less educating some of the members of Public Safety
as far as updating as far as what was going on. No
changes. Nothing was determined. More or less just a
discussion meeting. So at this time there’s nothing to
report.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Moving on now, item number 12, bid approval, 12(a),
this is bid number 20-032 concessions at the Anderson
Sports and Entertainment Center. A bid was put out to
handle concessions at the Anderson Sports and
Entertainment Center because we currently do not have a
preferred caterer at the Civic Center. The bid was
sent out to five catering companies. There was only
one responded, Dove Catering. Concessions will pay
Anderson County, as follows: twenty-two percent for
the first twenty-five thousand monthly gross sales;
twenty-five percent for monthly gross sales in excess
of twenty-five thousand. Staff recommends awarding the
contract to Dove Catering who is a local vendor. They
have all their insurance and stuff in place.

Do we have a motion to move this forward?

CINDY WILSON: So moved.

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

JIMMY DAVIS: Second.

TOMMY DUNN: Second Mr. Davis. Any
discussion?

CINDY WILSON: May I?

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Wilson and then we’ll
come to Ms. Floyd.

CINDY WILSON: How long will this
contract run? It doesn’t state?

TOMMY DUNN: I think it’s a year; ain’t
it?

CINDY WILSON: So we’ve got a year to try
them out and make sure it’s working? Okay. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Ms. Floyd.

GRACIE FLOYD: ... Mr. Carroll was one of
the ones who did this. Mr. Carroll, am I right?

TOMMY DUNN: Yeah.

GRACIE FLOYD: Is he not saying anything?

TOMMY DUNN: He nodded his head.

GRACIE FLOYD: Oh, he did? I can’t see
way back there. Mr. Carroll, what I’m concerned about
is that we sent out five bids and we only heard back
from one. Okay. There are other places in Anderson
County that I’m familiar with with catering. But I
don’t see, I don’t see many of them. In fact, I only
notice one person. Were the rest of them from Anderson
1 County, as well?
2 ROBERT CARROLL: I don’t believe so, ma’am.
3 We reached out to other venues like over at AU, over at
4 North Greenville, at the Bon Secour Center, at Clemson,
5 and found who had concessions and that type for them
6 for catering. And those are the companies we reached
7 out to. We have Dove Catering to come in to request a
8 copy of it. I think they’ve done some events at the
9 Civic Center in previous years.
10 TOMMY DUNN: They have.
11 GRACIE FLOYD: Yeah, they have. But I
12 don’t see Anderson College. Did they not -- I mean you
13 didn’t list them as giving a bid?
14 ROBERT CARROLL: It’s the companies that do
15 work for those universities and other locations I just
16 mentioned. These other four that are listed.
17 GRACIE FLOYD: Café Bon Appetite, no
18 response. Mercer Technologies, Center Plate, as well
19 as Aramark, Anderson College and other places.
20 ROBERT CARROLL: Yes, ma’am. That I
21 mentioned. Yes, ma’am.
22 GRACIE FLOYD: That really concerns me
23 because we only had one person out of five to respond
24 to the -- to this?
25 ROBERT CARROLL: Yes, ma’am.
26 GRACIE FLOYD: And Mr. Chairman, what’s
27 the possibility of having it rebidded?
28 TOMMY DUNN: I don’t think that would
29 be a good idea. Someone won it in a fair bid, and they
30 would have every reason to sue us, I would think, if we
31 didn’t do that. That wouldn’t be -- this ain’t the
32 first time since I’ve been on council this has happened
33 as far as the vendor at the Civic Center, not getting
34 nobody to bid on it. I think last time they only had
35 one company to bid on it, the last time. I think we’ve
36 personally -- I don’t know nothing about Dove Catering,
37 but I think we’re fortunate to have somebody to put in
38 for it and give it a try.
39 GRACIE FLOYD: I seem to remember there
40 was one time we did go back and rebid it for one
41 reason. I can’t remember the reason why we did it.
42 But I just don’t feel comfortable with Dove Catering.
43 I just think that when we get one -- when we only get
44 one bidding -- one bid in, we need to go back and look
45 at why. Maybe we’re not doing something right.
46 TOMMY DUNN: We’re good. Anyone else?
47 All in favor of the motion. All opposed. Show the
48 motion carries with Mr. Davis, Mr. Sanders, Mr. Dunn,
49 Mr. Graham, Mr. Wooten, Ms. Wilson in favor; Ms. Floyd
50 opposes.
ROBERT CARROLL: Thank you.
TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Carroll.
Moving on to item number 13, this is capital for roads and bridges equipment. This will be item number 13, capital, roads and bridges equipment. This is permission seeking to purchase a FP5 Flameless Patcher that will be mounted to a freight liner conventional cab. The bid was sent out but there was not a response that met the specifications due to the following three items that are needed on this piece of equipment: a proprietary swing arm for performing shoulder-type work; electric heating design; a telematics package which is cloud-based software which generates performance data and information for each crew and all materials that area used that will feed into our existing Cartegraph system. Therefore, staff is recommending purchasing sole source from Kergkamp, Incorporated out of Kansas. It’s the only company that offers the piece of equipment that contains the three items listed above. This machine will allow Road and Bridges to perform pothole patches effectively which result in the patching lasting longer. Roads and Bridges currently cold patches, which means they use cold asphalt to fill and roll over it with a pickup truck. This new equipment will come with a self-contained roller/compactor that will be used to roll over the hot asphalt. The new equipment will also result in less waste of asphalt because it has an asphalt hopper on the back which keeps the asphalt hot for up to forty-eight hours which results in less waste. All the tools will be on the truck and the job will be accomplished more efficiently and effectively like it’s supposed to be accomplished. Price is one hundred eighty-nine thousand three hundred thirty-two dollars and paid for out of the capital funds that’s it’s already budgeted for it.
Do we have a motion to put this on the floor?
Motion Ms. Wilson. Do we have a second.
RAY GRAHAM: Second.
CINDY WILSON: I see that the delivery cost is thirty-seven hundred fifty dollars. Would it be less expensive to ---
TOMMY DUNN: Speak up. I’m sorry.
CINDY WILSON: It’s thirty-seven hundred and fifty dollars delivery. Would it be viable for us to send an employee and a flatbed out to pick it up?
Would that ---
TOMMY DUNN: Probably not. We can
check on that. It’s coming from Kansas. Probably have
to send two people. They’re going to lose some work;
wear and tear on your equipment going through all the
DOT stuff and everything. Probably not.

JIMMY DAVIS: It becomes a liability
issue by the title of ownership of the vehicle when it
takes place.

CINDY WILSON: Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Anyone else?

JIMMY DAVIS: Mr. Chair?

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Davis.

JIMMY DAVIS: I just want to make a
clarification on this just so that we know. I’ve spent
some time with Matt Hogan and speaking of this because
I was pretty concerned about it. But one of the
problems that we have as a county is we’re filling
potholes and cracks and other places in our county
roads and everybody knows we have terrible road
conditions. But one of the problems that we have,
especially in the cold months, is the only thing that
we can do is, because the asphalt plants are closed, we
can’t use hot asphalt. This will allow us an
opportunity and wherewithal to do a better job of
filling potholes that will be on a permanent basis or a
more permanent basis. There’s no permanent
(inaudible), but it will fill the pothole in a better
way that’s more to our standards and they will last
longer until we can do something with the roads. This
is the best equipment that will do the best job to fill
the potholes for Anderson County. It will do a much
better job than anything we’ve ever done. And I think
it’s much needed especially -- I can say it’s much
needed in my district, District 6. I’m in full support
of it. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Davis.

Anyone else? Mr. Sanders.

BRETT SANDERS: Yes, sir. Mr. Burns, do
you know if we have to hire additional personnel or use
the same staff?

RUSTY BURNS: Use our same staff.

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

At this time do we have a motion to go into
executive session to take legal advice regarding some
legal matters regarding Mungo Home Properties, LLC?

JIMMY DAVIS: Mr. Chair, I’d like to
make a motion that we move into executive session to
discuss legal advice regarding Mungo Home Properties,
LLC.
CINDY WILSON: Second.

TOMMY DUNN: Have a motion Mr. Davis; have a second Ms. Wilson. All in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously. We’ll be back shortly.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

TOMMY DUNN: I call the county council meeting back in session. Motion, Ms. Wilson?

CINDY WILSON: Mr. Chairman, may we make the motion to come back into session from executive session, having received legal advice regarding Mungo Home Properties, LLC and Anderson County Planning Commission, with no votes taken.

TOMMY DUNN: Have a motion by Ms. Wilson. Have a second?

JIMMY DAVIS: Second.

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

Mr. Davis, do you have a motion?

JIMMY DAVIS: Mr. Chair, thank you. I’d like to make a motion that the county -- Anderson County move forward with the hearing now scheduled for March 30, 2020 in the Mungo Homes case.

TOMMY DUNN: We have a motion Mr. Davis. Do we have a second?

CINDY WILSON: Second.


We’ll be moving on now to item number 15, appointments. I didn’t see none. Does anybody have any? Anything come up, any boards? Seeing and hearing none, requests by council members. Mr. Sanders, do you have one? Mr. Sanders, get your mic.

BRETT SANDERS: I have one for Goats for Goodness in District 4 for the amount of fifteen hundred.

TOMMY DUNN: We have a motion by Mr. Sanders for fifteen hundred dollars for goats and goodness.

CINDY WILSON: Second.

TOMMY DUNN: Second Ms. Wilson. Now is there any discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously. Anything else, Mr. Sanders?

BRETT SANDERS: Yes, sir. I would like to do five hundred for the Shriners circus.
RUSTY BURNS:    If I may, Mr. Chairman, in
everybody’s box, I believe it was last week, the annual
request from the Shriners for the Shrine Circus at the
Anderson County Civic Center. That’s coming up the
latter part of March. And so this is just the usual
request that they make in order for us to get tickets
to give to children.

TOMMY DUNN:    Thank you. Mr. Sanders,
five hundred dollars for Shriners. Do we have a
second?

CINDY WILSON:    Second.

TOMMY DUNN:    Second Mr. Davis. Any
discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands.
All opposed like sign. Show the motion carries
unanimously. Anybody else have anything?

CINDY WILSON:    May I?

TOMMY DUNN:    Ms. Wilson.

CINDY WILSON:    District 7 would also like
to appropriate five hundred for the Shriners’ tickets
for the children.

TOMMY DUNN:    We have five hundred
dollars from Ms. Wilson’s account. Do we have a
second?

JIMMY DAVIS:    Second.

TOMMY DUNN:    Second Mr. Davis. Any
discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands.
All opposed like sign. Motion carries unanimously.
Anyone else? Mr. Graham.

RAY GRAHAM:    Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
Mr. Chairman, this is actually one we had a couple of
meetings back and we didn’t have all the information,
so I pulled it at the last minute. I’d like to
allocate twelve hundred -- I’m sorry, I’m trying to
pull this number up -- twelve hundred forty-three
dollars and eighty cents to Crescent High School
Anglers. I bring this in the form of a motion.

TOMMY DUNN:    Have a motion by Mr.
Graham. We need second.

CINDY WILSON:    Second.

TOMMY DUNN:    Second Mr. Sanders. Any
discussion? All in favor of the motion of Mr. Graham
show of hands. Opposed. Show the motion carries
unanimously. Anyone else?

RAY GRAHAM:    I’d also like to do five
hundred dollars to the Shriners Circus for the tickets,

TOMMY DUNN:    Mr. Graham puts a motion
for five hundred dollars for the circus. We need a
second. Second Mr. Sanders. Any discussion? All in
favor of the motion show of hands. Show the motion
carries unanimously. Anyone else?

2 Out of District 5, five hundred dollars for the circus. Put that in the form of a motion. Second Mr. Sanders. Any discussion? All in favor of the motion show of hands. All opposed like sign. Show the motion carries unanimously. Anyone else?

Moving on to administrator’s report.

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

TOMMY DUNN: Moving on now to 18, citizens comments. When Mr. Harmon calls your name you’ve got three minutes. Please address the chair. Mr. Harmon. State your name and district for the record.

LEON HARMON: Mr. Chairman, first speaker is Ankoma Anderson.

ANKOMA ANDERSON: Yes, first of all let me say good evening to everyone.

TOMMY DUNN: Good evening.

ANKOMA ANDERSON: Mr. Chair, I come on behalf of the Anderson County Ministers Organization, as well as I serve as pastor of the Welfare Baptist Church in Belton, District 2. And I want to speak about the SC Carry presentation that was done a few moments ago. I want to say a few things.

Our fourth President of the United States of America said that if men were angels, no government would be necessary. He further stated that if angels were to govern men, neither external nor internal controls of government would be necessary. And so I want to be clear here today that my stance is not in opposition to citizens having the right to bear arms; but rather it’s in vehement opposition to loose regulations and easy access to firearms.

Currently there’s a growing body of research that suggests that a lack of gun control and easily accessible firearms contribute to gun violence in all forms. This begs relevant questions. How many more young people we do need to be gunned down in Anderson County? How many more bodies need to be slain? How much more blood needs to be senselessly spilled in our streets? How many more lives with unmet potential need to be lost before citizens and the conscience of this council exclaim that enough is enough?

Therefore, it’s incumbent upon us, you, me, to protect our citizens from the terrorism of gun violence. This council decides to side with loose regulation, it will become even more difficult to tell exactly who the terrorists are. And I want to say this, as well. I’m somewhat disappointed that I’ve
come here today and it seems as if you guys have
already fixed what you are going to support and how it
is that you’re going to vote. But I want to go on to
say that nationally our Congress has been infiltrated,
packed, political action committees, NRA, members who
are paid to enact legal legislation that continues to
allow gun manufacturers to produce massive profits at
the sake of our citizens.

What citizens? The ones in South Carolina. The
ones who fell prey to white supremacists in Charleston
at Mother Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church.
What citizens? The citizens of Anderson County.
Eleven year old Ja’Naiya Scott was gunned down in her
west end apartment in Anderson County back in June.
What citizens? The ones who were -- or the guy who was
shot down at a convenience store here in Anderson. And
lastly, let’s not forget the precious life of Jacob
Hall at Townville Elementary.

So lastly I say, let’s not make Anderson County a
sanctuary for guns, but a sanctuary of safety.

LEON HARMON:    Time, Mr. Chairman.

ANKOMA ANDERSON:    I want to go on record to
say that individuals are already able to carry weapons
with concealed weapons permit. But what we’re doing
here today, or what was discussed was to lessen
regulations so that anybody can have a weapon. And
that doesn’t need to take place. Thank you.

APPLAUSE

TOMMY DUNN:    Thank you. Mr. Harmon.

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

ELIZABETH FANT:    Total change of
environment. I want to talk about being careful with
what we say, what we record, so forth. Opportunities
it seems like this week are just coming down the
pipeline one right after the other. I was at one
meeting where four hundred dollars was written on the
information and it was supposed to be four thousand. I
worked with a charitable group where we were taking
donations and one person wanted to give five thousand
sixty-nine dollars, and the person at the other end
thought it was fifty dollars and sixty-nine cents, so
they missed out on about five thousand on a donation.

I was checking some of my receipts getting ready to
do my taxes. I had a credit card where somebody added
two dollars to what I had on my credit card. I also
have a place where somebody gave a five hundred
donation, and I have the receipt that I got from the
bank where it was supposed to be deposited. It’s not
on my bank statements, so I now have to go after that.
I understand on Facebook that there’s several restaurants here in town that are overcharging people. Another organization that I went to this week, they had in the minutes that a certain person had said a certain thing and that certain person wasn’t even at the meeting. Another meeting I went to, the minutes, the person’s last name was left off in the minutes. Another thing that I saw was a calendar and the date is wrong for the event on the calendar.

Everybody can make mistakes. Mistakes are made. None of us are not human. But we need to, on whatever we are presenting, make sure we are as accurate as we can be because people look at that and think, y’all are not serious about whatever it is that you are -- the organization that you’re dealing with.

I see so many errors, grammatical errors and things that I think people must think we are just local yokels. I see toys for tots. T-o-y-’-s for tots. I see you’re welcome, y-o-u-r, your welcome, et cetera. We really need to step up our game. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman, no one else is signed up.

Thank you, Mr. Harmon.

Moving now to comments from council. Mr. Davis?

Mr. Chairman, my microphone is on so I can be properly recorded tonight. We need to watch what we read on Facebook, but it ain’t always true; right? Ronald Reagan once said, great change in America will happen at the dinner table. And I believe that that’s one of the things that America has got to get back to. If we want to see great change, we’ve got to get back to the family unit.

Points well taken. I fully support our Second Amendment. I am a concealed weapons holder. I am a proud member of the NRA, member number 5884474. And I believe in my right to be able to buy firearms, hunt with them and do what I need to them. I understand the problem. But being in restrictive regulation is not where this country, this state or this county needs to be. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Thank you, Mr. Davis. Mr. Sanders.

Nothing at this time.

Thank you. Ms. Floyd.

Do you hear me now? Good. Thank you. I want to talk about the budget transfer. First of all, they were supposed to be typed; not written. I know I’m the only one up here that had problems reading the handwritten budget transfer from PRT to SP-Pops, six hundred dollars. I couldn’t read
it at all; what it was saying.

Also, we’ve got some more here from sheriff to
sheriff. I don’t bother them too much, though. But
there’s one here that was also written and it’s hard to
understand what it’s saying. It’s supposed to be
typed. And there’s another one here, Ms. Fant, it’s
supposed to be for asphalt and they have two thousand
five hundred dollars. But the total -- I think the
total was two fifty. Instead of writing two thousand
five hundred, they had to go back and write in a zero
on that part. And it was also written. Golly, the
budget transfer from the PRT and the Sports Complex, I
wish you could see it. It was five thousand dollars.
Then they scratched that out and they put three
thousand eight hundred. And then the bottom thing was
five hundred dollars -- one, two -- five thousand
dollars. It’s a mess. It’s a mess.

Also, one of the meetings I attended, the Finance
meeting, there were several errors that was presented
to the committee. And there were -- they wrote reasons
why there were problems in it, but it shouldn’t have
been a problem on it. If we have all those people down
there working in the Finance Department, those errors
should have been caught before it got to the point.

Okay. You missed a Valentine’s Day party. Was
anybody here, anybody here that went there? Okay.
God, you missed it. You really missed it. We had a
good time. We had a real good time. Mr. Burns, you
looked real good in your black pants and your white
shirt acting as a host for it. Seth Ridley, you did a
good job being there. I thank you guys. Anybody else?
Let me know. But believe it, it was good. It was
good. We had a lot of people there. And my senior
sisters were there and we had a good time. You were
there. Did you have fun? You had fun? Yes, yes, we
had fun, too.

When I see errors in the minutes, I don’t bother
with she left the s off of this and supposed to be a
period there. I go for the meat of the thing. And
when I say something is wrong, I only do it so it can
be corrected before the minutes have been voted on.
Because once the minutes has been voted on, that’s it.
So Ms. Fant, it’s not the fact that I was pointing out
that you couldn’t hear other people. All I was doing
was pointing out there is a mistake here, it should be
fixed. And if it’s the fault of these things here,
then that should be fixed, too.

Also, something that was said tonight about
stopping people in trucks and all of that. That’s
profiling. You can’t do that. You have to have a
reason to stop somebody. You can’t just stop a person because, number one, he’s driving a truck or he’s coming down this road. It’s got to be for a reason. And I think I’m right about this. If you’re looking for crackerjacks but you see a box full of guns, then you have to stay with the crackerjacks because that’s what you were going for. Sheriff’s office, am I right? Well, if I’m not right, that’s the way it ought to be.

I have some concerns in today’s things. I don’t -- there’s some questions I need to ask before I vote on it again. Mr. Davis, I have some questions I’d like to talk to you about after -- well, maybe at home. But all in all, it was a pretty good meeting. Oh, except for one thing. You guys are on Facebook. Some of y’all are on Facebook. Who Facebook? Nobody but me? Oh, nobody else. And not me, I’m not on Facebook. I don’t have time for that. But I wasn’t on Facebook, but somebody called me and read something and sent me a copy of my name saying that I was not signing some paper. I didn’t understand that thing at all. So I made a phone call and found out that there was some sheets going around for somebody to sign in support of gun stuff. All right. Did you get a sheet? Did you sign something? Well, they said I was the only one that didn’t sign, Brett. We need to find out what they’re doing to you. But they said I was the only one that did not sign; okay? No, I didn’t sign because I didn’t know I was supposed to sign something. I don’t do Facebook.

And about this gun thing, you know, folks, I’m worried about the family that we had to get a boat to get them out of the water. That’s what I’m worried out. I’m worried about those seventy-seven houses that’s got to be torn down or move people out of and then tear them down. That’s what I’m worried about. I’m not worried about no gun. You see this? That’s a concealed weapon. How do you get one of these? You’ve got to have a gun. I’ve got two. I’ve got two. But it’s not going to save your life; it’s going to save my life. And I’ve got them and I’ll use it. I will use it. But I don’t like people to tell lies. I don’t know who y’all are listening to when you’re reading this stuff. But call me, Gracie Floyd, call me, and I’ll tell you what I’ve got. In fact, you can come 3:00 in the morning and I’ll tell you, too. But don’t play me because anything I do, I can tell you I did it. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Mr. Graham.
RAY GRAHAM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
First and foremost, I do support the Second Amendment.
Definitely was honored listening to the gentleman that come tonight and speak about South Carolina Carry. I have done some research on that group and it definitely seems to be a great group with a strong passion. Definitely looking forward to see what they’re able to do.

Over the past several weeks, we have had some -- just some tremendous bad weather in Anderson County. And a lot of times there are so many -- you know, we rely so much on our county employees, the different divisions, to step up. Normally it’s when everybody else is at home either in bed or taking care of their own families or what not. I don’t mean -- who is Meredith Lake Road; is that yours, Mr. Chairman. I’m not sure whose district it is, but out in the Townville area, but I actually rode out there. It literally was washed away. And those guys basically went in and rebuilt that and got access back to those residents. County employees. I’m sure they worked overtime and worked some long weekends to get that to come to fruition. You know, that’s Roads and Bridges. Sheriff’s Department, EOC, David Baker and his group. I mean they worked tireless hours during these storms that we had. And I definitely want to take this opportunity to commend each and every one of them, each and every one of our employees that stepped up, naturally our department heads, the entire staff. I mean there was just some tireless hours that was put in. And at the end of the day it was to keep the citizens safe and basically bring back to order what was damaged through the storm. We did have some serious wind and rain over the past several weeks and just want to commend each and every one of those guys and let them know that we do notice and we do appreciate all their work. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Graham.

Mr. Wooten.

CRAIG WOOTEN: Yes. I’d like to thank Mr. Jones for speaking earlier. I saw Mr. Jolly in the back. I don’t know if Mr. Lanier is here. But I know Mr. Shirley was here. I have found that these individuals that I’ve been able to speak with and attend their meetings over the last month have focused a lot on education. They’ve been very articulate in their message. And I find it encouraging that regardless of what your position is on an issue that people will rally together, come to a county council meetings and petition their government for change and/or -- not even change but almost sort of a reaffirmation of belief.
So I know that some of these items can be polarizing, but to say that I support the Second Amendment by no means deems that I want guns in violent people’s hands or I want people hurt. Actually I feel safer that some people do have guns because I know there are situations where they’re protecting people.

So I hope as this conversation continues we don’t let the national media polarize us, but we actually allow ourselves to have legitimate conversation on it. And I think that’s key to any democracy or republic, as you’d have it, but more so in the local community. So I do appreciate those opinions being brought forth and I do appreciate the people who have spoken on it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Mr. Wooten.

CINDY WILSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Sadly the most dangerous cities for gun violence in our nation have also the strictest gun control laws. And that evil creature, Dylann Roof, should never have been allowed to have a gun. He had a violation that the FBI failed to pick up on. That is horrific. He was treated with kindness and hospitality by those dear saintly people. That’s horrible.

Anyway, we had a meeting over in the Cheddar Community this past week, and thank you to our county and all who attended. There are still serious issues over in that community. We have the landfill, sewer lines, pipelines, ethanol facility all clustered in one area. Unfortunately Kinder-Morgan which is a national company, which was welcomed to this county, failed to engage with our county to form emergency contact protocols during their purchase of the ethanol facility. Then low and behold, they’ve had two terrible pipe bursts for fuel in the Belton and Honea Path -- excuse me -- the Belton and Cheddar areas. One was a big geyser that went out and was tended to. The other was almost half a million gallons spilled into the community over there that was not picked up by the company but by citizens going by.

We’re five years into the clean-up. DHEC has done some good over there. But unfortunately there’s nowhere near the collection of the fuel out of the ground that needs to be done. They’ve collected about two hundred and twenty thousand gallons. It’s now gone into the bedrock. It’s gotten into the creek. I would hopefully have a measure for our council to respectfully request DHEC at some point in the near future to require the company to punch wells into the bedrock and pump the fuel out. Their biosparging and
other measures are not being as effective as it should. After five years the people living downstream and in the area deserve better.

Another quick comment. In looking at the transfers, I thought that any of the transfers that were more than ten thousand required council approval and I would hope that we weigh in, in the future. Thank you.

TOMMY DUNN: Thank you, Ms. Wilson. Couple of quick things brought to our attention tonight, quickly on a couple of things. One is the clock. The clock we go by, that one sitting back there on the wall, it was one minute past when I started the meeting. That’s the clock I go by. It’s fair. Everybody can see that.

And on the minutes Ms. Floyd was talking out, the first one was the one in January and the other one was in February. That’s when I called them out. That’s one we was talking about; that’s the one we voted on.

Thirdly, I want to thank Mr. Burns, you and your team, everybody, everybody that works for county government just about plays a part in these storms and works on these delays. Appreciate them and what they do. I seen them out working again yesterday. Sewer Department was running ragged trying to pump out some lines and everything over this torrential downpour and really taxing our employees, but want to appreciate them.

One last thing I want to say is on this -- I’m a firm believer in the Second Amendment. But also, since I’ve been on council, I don’t think there’s been nothing more misunderstood in a short period of time what this thing went around. My phone blew up the other night. I even got a text coming in to the thing tonight and people not understanding what this thing is about and what we’re talking about and it got all -- one group thought it was doing sanctuary cities for illegal immigrants. Then it got we’re going to take people’s guns away. Went the right opposite. County council couldn’t do that if we wanted to. This is a feel-good thing. We’ve got a Second Amendment.

Somebody told me the other day, Mr. Driver made the comment -- me and him don’t agree on a lot of things, but he made the comment about what we’re talking about, you’ve got a Second Amendment.

I fully expect, as Mr. Wooten has been involved with several groups and talking about it, I think this group’s got one opinion, this other group’s got an opinion. Our thing, the way our government does, council will come up with something hopefully be a
resolution. Mr. Harmon will be the one that writes it. He has to oversee us in our county ordinances that way and he keeps us out of trouble, not to let us get in trouble.

But there’s certain things -- nobody on Anderson County Council, nobody, is trying to take nobody’s guns, but there will be, I think in the near future, hope we can get something by next meeting night, a resolution to get it out where everybody can look at it, see it; very plain, very simple spoken so everybody can understand about what you call it.

I appreciate everyone here tonight and I hope we keep having big turnouts. Thank y’all very much.

(MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:03 P.M.)