

**ABBEVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
AUGUST 14, 2006  
MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Chairman Gunnells, Vice Chairman Simpson, Councilman Thomas, Councilman Davis, Councilman Calhoun, Councilman O'Quinn and Councilman Norris.

**ABSENT:** None

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Gunnells called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Chairman Gunnells led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**INVOCATION:**

Councilman Thomas gave the invocation.

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT:**

Chairman Gunnells stated for the record that both the Press and Banner and the Index Journal were notified of the meeting and that the meeting was posted on County Buildings as required by the Freedom of Information Act.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Vice Chairman Simpson made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 24, 2006, regular county council meeting. Councilman O'Quinn seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0 with amendments to the Director's Report.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mr. Jim Irwin of 625 Highway 20, Abbeville spoke in opposition to Resolution (06-52) stating that this was a family cemetery and not the Counties responsibility.

Mr. Jim Irwin of 625 Highway 20, Abbeville requested that with the opening of the Abbeville Area Medical Center the old hospital on S.C. 72 be sold, so as not to be a drain on the taxpayers.

Mr. David King of 395 McGill Circle, Abbeville stated that in 1997 he attended a board meeting in Calhoun Falls on EMS services. A mutual aid agreement was established with Anderson County. Now the agreement was dead and it is Councils job to get it back in place. Chairman Gunnells requested Steve McDade speak on this issue. Mr. McDade stated that the agreement was signed by the Chief of the Rescue Unit in 1997 and with the agreement being voided; they were looking into the possibility of placing a QRV unit in the area.

Ms. Sarah Snell of 508 Suttles Landing Road, Abbeville says when she experienced a heart attack it took the ambulance 50 minutes to respond and that the driver did not know how to get to Anderson Hospital from her location. Does it take the death of a neighbor before an agreement is made? We need a solution; this is a life and death situation.

Ms. Sylvia Creech of 424 Suttles Landing Road, Abbeville states that a 30 minute response time is excessive. Most residents in the Lake Secession area use cell phones and do not receive a good signal. Proper training of personnel to know the directions to the closest hospital in the area is imperative.

Mr. Ricky Canfield of 3104 Highway 20, Abbeville requested assistance from Council on an unnamed county road being closed off by the land owner and denying him access to his property. Chairman Gunnells asked Mr. Buddy Agan if this road was on the 2000 road ordinance and it was not. Council requested that this issue be discussed in executive session.

**PRESENTATIONS:** None

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- a) First Readings: New Policy – All first readings are read into the record by the Chairman, and a vote is not necessary.
- b) Resolutions:
  - 1) A resolution (06-51) authorizing the County Director to enter into a contractual relationship with Greenville County Landfill Authority, P.O. Box 5519, Greenville, SC 29606 for the acceptance of solidification material for disposal in the Abbeville County MSW Landfill at a rate of \$10.00/ton. Chairman Gunnells requested that this be tabled until after executive session and Council agreed.
  - 2) A resolution (06-52) authorizing the County Director to proceed with the purchase of an abandoned piece of property on Vienna Street. Councilman Norris made a motion to table this resolution until further information could be obtained. Vice Chairman Simpson seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.

- 3) A resolution (06-53) authorizing the County Director to enter into a contract with Clemson Extension for the lease of the Agricultural Building. Councilman Davis made a motion to approve this resolution. Councilman O'Quinn seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.
- 4) A resolution (06-54) authorizing the County Director to purchase GIS software in accordance with the development of the Geographical Information System (GIS). Councilman Norris made a motion to approve this resolution. Vice Chairman Simpson seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** None

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- a) Finance Committee—Ray Gunnells, Claude Thomas and Billy Norris. No report was given.
- b) Personnel and Administration—Mike Davis, Jeff Simpson and Claude Thomas. No report was given.
- c) Public Works—Jeff Simpson, Larry O'Quinn and Billy Norris. No report was given but Councilman Simpson informed Council that the paving of the fire stations would begin this week.
- d) Intergovernmental Relations—Billy Norris, Mike Davis and John Calhoun. No report was given.
- e) Planning and Industrial Development—Claude Thomas, Ray Gunnells and John Calhoun. No report was given.
- f) Education, Recreation, Health and Welfare—John Calhoun, Jeff Simpson and Larry O'Quinn. No report was given.
- g) Public Safety—Larry O'Quinn, John Calhoun and Billy Norris. No report was given.

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Simpson to go into Executive Session to discuss the following issues:

- |                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Economic Issues:    | Project Blackbird                             |
|                     | Development incentives for Calhoun Falls      |
| Contractual Issues: | Existing contract with Southern Home Accents  |
|                     | Adams Container Bldg. on SC 28                |
|                     | Resolution 06-51 landfill dumping             |
|                     | Resolution 06-55 for the purchase of property |

Councilman Norris seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Chairman Gunnells reconvened the meeting following executive session and proceeded with New Business.

**NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:**

- 5) A resolution (06-51) previously tabled by Chairman Gunnells. Vice Chairman Simpson made a motion to approve this resolution. Councilman O’Quinn seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.
- 6) A resolution (06-55) authorizing the purchase of property, with improvements, located in Abbeville County, South Carolina. Councilman Norris made a motion to approve this resolution. Councilman Davis seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further items of discussion Councilman Davis made a motion to adjourn. Vice Chairman Simpson seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm.

Done this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2006

**Abbeville County Council**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ray Gunnells, Chairman

ATTEST:

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lynn Sopolosky, Clerk to Council

