

PUBLIC HEARING:

- 1) Ordinance (09-16) to accept the Deed of Right-of-Way from the property owner of Clearview Drive in Clearview Shores Subdivision in Abbeville County. Hearing no comments, Chairman McClain closed the public hearing.

**ABBEVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 11, 2010
MINUTES**

PRESENT: Chairman McClain, Vice Chairman Gunnells, Councilman Campbell, Councilman Klugh, Councilman Thomas, Councilman Calhoun and Councilman Norris.

ABSENT: None

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman McClain called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Chairman McClain turned the meeting over to the County Attorney Lee Roper, who opened the floor for nominations on Chairman. Chairman McClain nominated Councilman Thomas. Councilman Norris made a motion to close nominations. Councilman Klugh seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0-0 and the County Attorney certified Councilman Thomas as Chairman. The County Attorney opened the floor for nominations on Vice Chairman. Councilman Calhoun nominated Councilman McClain. Councilman Klugh made a motion to close nominations. Councilman Norris seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0-0 and the County Attorney certified Councilman McClain as Vice Chairman. The County Attorney turned the floor over to Chairman Thomas.

INVOCATION:

Councilman Norris gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Chairman Thomas led the Pledge of Allegiance.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT:

Chairman Thomas stated for the record that the agenda has been posted and notice has been provided to the local news media as required by the Freedom of Information Act.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Gunnells made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2009, regular county council meeting. Councilman Calhoun seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.

PRESENTATIONS: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a) Second reading of Ordinance (09-16) to accept the Deed of Right-of-Way from the property owner of Clearview Drive in Clearview Shores Subdivision in Abbeville County. Councilman Norris made a motion to approve second reading. Vice Chairman McClain seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a) Resolutions:
 - 1) Resolution (2010-01) in opposition to H.3272 of the 118th South Carolina General Assembly. Vice Chairman McClain made a motion to approve this resolution. Councilman Calhoun seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.
 - 2) Resolution (2010-02) authorizing the County Director to Abbeville County to accept an industrial building as a donation from a benefactor (Benefactor) for Industrial Development for Abbeville County, SC. Councilman Norris made a request to move this resolution to after Executive Session so they could receive some legal counsel. Chairman Thomas agreed to the request along with the rest of Council.
 - 3) Resolution (2010-03) to authorize the transfer of \$254,027.70 from the Local Option Sales Tax Account to the General Fund. Councilman Gunnells made a motion to approve this resolution. Councilman Norris seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Chairman Thomas asked the County Director if he had any information on responsibilities between the Upper Abbeville County Recreation Association and the County. Director Moulder informed the Chairman that they do not have a draft version of the agreement yet. Chairman Thomas asked that this agreement be completed for the February meeting. Director Moulder said if Council wants it by that meeting and the Chairman reminded him it was requested two (2) prior meetings ago.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a) Finance Committee—Don Campbell, Bryan McClain and Claude Thomas. No report was given.
- b) Personnel and Administration—Bryan McClain, Billy Norris and Oscar Klugh. No report was given.
- c) Public Works—Oscar Klugh, Ray Gunnells and John Calhoun. No report was given.
- d) Intergovernmental Relations—Billy Norris, John Calhoun and Ray Gunnells. Councilman Norris made a committee recommendation for Ms. Mary Bolen to be appointed to the Library Board. The recommendation passed 7-0-0. Councilman Norris made a committee recommendation for Rev. Brenda Lomax to be reappointed to the Accommodations Tax Committee. The recommendation passed 7-0-0. Councilman Norris made a committee recommendation for Mr. Matthew Kimsey to be reappointed to the Accommodations Tax Committee. The recommendation passed 7-0-0. Councilman Norris made a committee recommendation for Mr. Bobby Crosby to be appointed to the Development Board. The recommendation passed 7-0-0.
- e) Planning and Industrial Development—Claude Thomas, Oscar Klugh and Don Campbell. No report was given.
- f) Education, Recreation, Health and Welfare—John Calhoun, Don Campbell and Bryan McClain. No report was given.
- g) Public Safety—Ray Gunnells, John Calhoun and Billy Norris. No report was given.
- h) Training & Travel—Don Campbell, Claude Thomas and Ray Gunnells. No report was given. Chairman Thomas said let me say officially that I am dissolving this committee and putting it back in the hands of our County Director.

PUBLIC COMMENT (sign in sheet only):

Mr. Jim Irwin of 625 Highway 20, Abbeville gave Council two documents. Number one is the McCormick Center Senior transit system which is run at little cost to the County. The second is the expense and revenue income for the first six (6) months of Abbeville EMS. Read it, these figures are available monthly from the Treasurer's office. I will let you make the decision if this is profitable.

Mr. Shane Brown of 90 Oakwood Farms Court, Greenwood (Abbeville County) asked Council to take a big step in the name of freedom and completely abolish the personnel property tax. This is one of the most unjust systems in the land enslaving every citizen who owns property. Are Abbevillians to be taxed out of their homes due to rising taxes? I would like to know every Councilman's position on this subject. What can we do, this is for all of us. Chairman Thomas informed Mr. Brown that they will respond to him after conferring with our legal advisor.

Chairman Thomas recognized the new Mayor of Calhoun Falls, Mr. Lee Garrett and Mr. Byron Smith of Onestop, who were in the audience.

A motion was made by Vice Chairman McClain to go into Executive Session for two personnel issues in regards to EMS and the Coroner's office, legal advice on Resolution 2010-02 and an update on litigation concerning the Calhoun Falls Rescue Squad. Councilman Norris seconded the motion to go into Executive Session. The motion carried 7-0-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Chairman Thomas reconvened the meeting following executive session and announced that one item needed to be addressed:

Resolution (2010-02) authorizing the County Director to Abbeville County to accept an industrial building as a donation from a benefactor (Benefactor) for Industrial Development for Abbeville County, SC. Councilman Gunnells made a motion to approve this resolution. Councilman Norris seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.

Chairman Thomas asked if any activity was going on in the districts. District One (1), Councilman Gunnells responded none. District Two (2), Councilman Calhoun responded none. District Three (3), Chairman Thomas responded that the water line was progressing and they were hoping for its completion before the end of March. District Four (4), Councilman Norris responded none. District Five (5), Councilman Klugh responded none. District Six (6) Councilman Campbell informed all that the Sanctuary had sold for 2 ½ million. District Seven (7), Vice Chairman McClain responded none.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Done this _____ day of _____, 2010

Abbeville County Council

By: _____
Claude Thomas, Chairman

ATTEST:

By: _____
Lynn Sopolosky, Clerk to Council