

PUBLIC HEARING:

- 1) Ordinance (2010-23) to rent industrial building to Project Law. Hearing no comment, Chairman Thomas closed the public hearing.
- 2) Ordinance (2010-24) to sell a one (1) acre tract of land along Old Calhoun Falls Road. County Fire Marshall Dan Evatt requested Council look into the idea of requesting a trade of this acre for an acre the purchaser owns at the back of his property. This property is adjacent to property the county owns and has leased to the fire department so they can build a training center. This land is flat and would save considerable time and money to the county. Councilman Campbell asked County Attorney Lee Roper if the county was under obligation to sell this acre. Attorney Lee Roper stated the previous Ordinance 05-21 was a sale to a corporation and this one was to an individual. The Corporation never came forward and closed the deal so it is within Councils discretion to change their opinions. Councilman Norris stated that the previous Council made a promise before and this Council should stick to it. Mr. Jim Irwin of 625 Highway 20, Abbeville asked how this value of the land was arrived at. These are two different situations. Hearing no further comments, Chairman Thomas closed the public hearing.

**ABBEVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 13, 2011
MINUTES**

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

ABSENT: None

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

INVOCATION:

Councilman Klugh gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Chairman Thomas led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Chairman Thomas turned the meeting over to the County Attorney Lee Roper, who opened the floor for nominations on Chairman. Councilman Don Campbell nominated Vice Chairman McClain. Councilman Stone seconded the nomination. Councilman Campbell made a motion to close nominations. Councilman Norris seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0-1 with Vice Chairman McClain abstaining and the County Attorney certified Vice Chairman McClain as Chairman. The County Attorney opened the floor for nominations on Vice Chairman. Councilman Klugh nominated Councilman Campbell. Chairman McClain seconded the nomination. Councilman Norris nominated Councilman Thomas, who declined the nomination. Chairman McClain made a motion to close nominations. Councilman Thomas seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-1-1 with Councilman Norris opposed and Councilman Campbell abstaining and the County Attorney certified Councilman Campbell as Vice Chairman. The County Attorney turned the floor over to Chairman McClain.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT:

Chairman McClain 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:

- a) Councilman Norris made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 13, 2010, regular county council meeting. Councilman Thomas seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.
- b) Vice Chairman Campbell made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 17, 2010, special county council meeting. Councilman Thomas seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.
- c) Vice Chairman Campbell made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 30, 2010, special county council meeting. Councilman Klugh seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.

PRESENTATIONS: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a) Third reading of Ordinance (2010-23) to rent industrial building to Project Law. Councilman Calhoun made a motion to approve third reading. Councilman Norris seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.

- b) Third reading of Ordinance (2010-24) to sell a one (1) acre tract of land along Old Calhoun Falls Road. Councilman Norris made a motion to approve third reading. Councilman Thomas seconded the motion. Councilman Thomas asked Fire Marshall Evatt how this land swap would help the county and he replied it would give them one acre of flat land. Councilman Thomas asked the County Attorney if he knew why it had taken so long for us to get this issue resolved. The County Attorney stated he did not know, but the buyer had never followed through with the closing. The reason this is back before Council now is the deed would be in an individuals name not a corporation. The land was never sold; Council passed an ordinance authorizing a sale to the corporation; which was never closed on. Councilman Stone stated there is five (5) years between the two ordinances. Councilman Campbell stated at this time we were only considering the sale of the land, not a land swap. Councilman Norris stated both were to the same people. Chairman McClain stated he did not understand how the county could sell one (1) acre of land for \$1,000.00; when the County paid \$10,000.00 for two (2) acres of land for the Sharon Convenience Center. Councilman Norris said this acre was by itself and not bringing in any taxes. I believe we need to keep our previous promise and sell this land at the price agreed on at that time. The motion failed 1-6-0 with Councilman Norris in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

a) Resolutions:

- 1) Resolution (2011-01) to authorize the transfer of \$324,826.02 from the Local Option Sales Tax Account to the General Fund. Councilman Norris made a motion to approve this resolution. Vice Chairman Campbell seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.
- 2) Resolution (2011-02) authorizing the County Director to enter into a contractual agreement with the South Carolina Budget and Control Board for aerial photos of the County not to exceed \$25,000.00. Councilman Thomas made a motion to approve this resolution. Councilman Klugh seconded the motion. Councilman Campbell asked the County Director where the money would come from and was informed \$15,000.00 from the Clerk of Court, \$5,000.00 from 911 Subscriber fees and \$5,000.00 from Public Safety. The motion carried 6-1-0 with Vice Chairman Campbell opposed.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Interim County Director Barry Devore informed Council that the audit was completed on time.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a) Finance Committee—Claude Thomas, Billy Norris and Bryan McClain. No report was given.
- b) Personnel and Administration—Bryan McClain, Ray Gunnells and Don Campbell. No report was given.
- c) Public Works—Billy Norris, Claude Thomas and John Calhoun. No report was given.
- d) Intergovernmental Relations—Oscar Klugh, Ray Gunnells and Bryan McClain. Chairman Klugh informed Council that Mr. William Cann had declined his position with the Registration and Elections Board.
- e) Planning and Industrial Development—John Calhoun, Oscar Klugh and Claude Thomas. No report was given.
- f) Education, Recreation, Health and Welfare—Ray Gunnells, Don Campbell and John Calhoun. No report was given.
- g) Public Safety—Don Campbell, Oscar Klugh and Billy Norris. No report was given.

DISTRICT REPORTS:

- District #1 None
- District #2 None
- District #3 None
- District #4 None
- District #5 None
- District #6 None
- District #7 None

Councilman Stone questioned the need for the mileage report. A unanimous decision of Council to do away with receiving this report resulted; however Chairman McClain did request that the Department Heads continue to keep this report should any questions from Council arise. Then Councilman Stone requested a better understanding on the vendor charges and was instructed to meet with the County Director.

Councilman Klugh suggested that for the Invocation each Councilman encourage a person in their district to attend and for the Pledge of Allegiance someone under the age of 18. This would encourage citizen participation. All of Council agreed and District #1 would begin in February.

PUBLIC COMMENT (sign in sheet only): None

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Campbell to go into Executive Session for personnel issues in regards to Deputy EMS, an Economic Development issue and a contractual issue involving RFQ's. Councilman Thomas seconded the motion to go into Executive Session. The motion carried 7-0-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Chairman McClain reconvened the meeting following executive session and announced that no items needed to be addressed.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further items of discussion Councilman Norris made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Calhoun seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Done this 14th day of February, 2011

Abbeville County Council

By: Robert B. McClain
Robert B. McClain, Chairman

ATTEST:

By: Lynn Sopolosky
Lynn Sopolosky, Clerk to Council