

**ABBEVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 9, 2015
MINUTES**

PRESENT: Chairman McClain, Vice Chairman Stone, Councilmen McCord, Campbell, Thomas, Norris and Calhoun.

ABSENT: None

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman McClain called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

INVOCATION:

Councilman McCord gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Councilman McCord led the Pledge of Allegiance.

STATEMENT OF ADHERENCE TO FOIA:

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 October 12, 2015, regular county council meeting. Councilman Campbell seconded the motion for the minutes to be approved. The motion carried 7-0-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- 1) Third reading of Ordinance (2015-14) adopting and enacting a new Code of Ordinances for the County of Abbeville, South Carolina; providing for the repeal of certain ordinances not included therein; providing a penalty for the violation thereof; providing for the manner of amending such code; and providing when such code and this ordinance shall become effective. Councilman Thomas made a motion to approve third reading of this ordinance. Councilman Campbell seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.
- 2) Second reading of Ordinance (2015-15) authorizing (1) the execution and delivery of a Fee In Lieu of Tax Agreement by and between Abbeville County, South Carolina (The "County") and Sage Automotive Interiors, Inc., a company previously identified as Project Future, acting for itself, one or more affiliates and/or other project sponsors (The

“Company”), pursuant to which the County shall covenant to accept certain negotiated Fees In Lieu of Ad Valorem Taxes with respect to the establishment and/or expansion of certain facilities in the County (The “Project”); and (2) other matters relating thereto. Councilman Thomas made a motion to approve third reading of this ordinance. Councilman Norris seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a) First Readings: Policy – All first readings are read into the record by the Chairman, and a vote is not necessary per Ordinance 05-11.
 - 1) Ordinance (2015-16) to adopt a new, updated Abbeville County Personnel Manual and to rescind all prior ordinances or resolutions that may be in conflict.
- b) Resolutions:
 - 1) Resolution (2015-39) adopting Abbeville County’s Administrative Policy 15-01 and to rescind all prior procedures that may be in conflict. Councilman Norris made a motion to approve this resolution. Councilman Campbell seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.
 - 2) Resolution (2015-40) authorizing the County Director to enter into a contractual relationship with Overholt Grading of Abbeville, South Carolina not to exceed \$15,000.00 for paving of the Abbeville County shop entrance and fueling station. Councilman McCord made a motion to approve this resolution. Councilman Norris seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.
 - 3) Resolution (2015-41) authorizing the County Director to enter into a contract with The Palladian Group for a new Abbeville County Development Services website not to exceed \$15,000.00. Councilman Campbell made a motion to approve this resolution and that the money for this is provided by a grant. Councilman McCord seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.
 - 4) Resolution (2015-42) authorizing the County Director to enter into a contract with Creative Economic Development Consulting, South Carolina, for a Strategic Plan for Abbeville County. Councilman Campbell made a motion to approve this resolution. Councilman Norris seconded the motion. Councilman Thomas asked how this group was selected and the County Director informed him by a selection committee established through the United Abbeville County organization. Chairman McClain stated this would be paid for with the grant received by the power team; plus the money raised from the community. The motion carried 7-0-0.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

County Director David Porter informed Council the additional road closings and upcoming meeting with FEMA on 11/17/15. Also spoke on Veterans Day events at the Blue Hole in

Calhoun Falls at 8:00 a.m. and at the Civic Center in Abbeville at 11:00 a.m. Additionally; he will have a presentation to Council at the December meeting on the credit card policy.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a) Finance Committee—Bryan McClain, Claude Thomas and Billy Norris. Committee Chairman McClain informed Council that the committee has met to discuss the animal shelter and credit cards, but are not ready with proposal for Council.
- b) Personnel and Administration—Charlie Stone, Rick Campbell and Claude Thomas. Committee Chairman Stone requested Council review the employee manual changes.
- c) Public Works—James McCord, Rick Campbell and Charlie Stone. Committee Chairman McCord made a motion to approve the Goodwill boxes at the convenience centers. Councilman Thomas requested this issue be placed on hold until after executive session. Chairman McClain placed this under a legal issue for executive session.
- d) Intergovernmental Relations—Rick Campbell, John Calhoun and Bryan McClain. Committee Chairman Campbell made a recommendation for Dale Gilchrist to be appointed for the Accommodations Tax Committee representing District 2. Council passed this recommendation unanimously.
- e) Planning and Industrial Development—Claude Thomas, James McCord and Charlie Stone. No report was given.
- f) Education, Recreation, Health and Welfare—John Calhoun, Billy Norris and James McCord. No report was given.
- g) Public Safety—Billy Norris, Bryan McClain and John Calhoun. Committee Chairman Norris stated the committee has met with EMS Director Will Blackwell and he informed them of money saving ideas and enhancements for response times.

COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT/COMMENTS:

Vice Chairman Stone made a motion to donate the sign removed from the front of the Abbeville County Administrative Complex to the Upper Abbeville County Recreational Facility; who would reface the sign and run power to it. Councilman Norris seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.

Councilman Thomas requested the County Director to emphasize that the Abbeville County Agricultural Building is the correct name of that facility not Clemson Extension. He informed all of the Operation Impact dinner scheduled for 11/14/15 at 6:00 p.m. at Long Cane AME Church. Councilman Thomas continued to inform Council on his meeting with the following: Mike Jones of SCDOT, Jeff Sorrow with Probation and Parole, Sheriff Ray Watson, Public Works Director Daniel Shaw and County Director David Porter which convened on debris and litter being left on roadways after grass cutting and to come up with a resolution on this issue.

The group would like to meet again in December to try and have something ready for January. Councilman Thomas further requested Council to approve this group as the Abbeville County Task Force on Litter with County Director David Porter as coordinator. This was approved unanimously by Council.

Councilman Campbell informed all on the economic revitalization of downtown Calhoun Falls and requested Council to give support for this project.

PUBLIC COMMENT (sign in sheet only):

Mr. Jim Irwin of 625 Highway 20, Abbeville spoke on this year containing the largest number of delinquent taxes and foreclosure of property. He requested Council cut expenses and place themselves in the position of those who are losing their property.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Councilman Norris to go into executive session to discuss an economic development update, contractual issue regarding Administrative Complex and Courthouse; and a legal matter regarding Goodwill boxes. Councilman McCord seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.

ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS:

Chairman McClain reconvened the meeting following executive session and announced that several issues discussed in Executive Session required action to be taken by Council.

Councilman McCord made a motion for Goodwill boxes to be in convenience centers. Vice Chairman Stone seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.

Councilman Thomas made a motion for the County Director to execute a contract with Design South for renovations not to exceed \$15,000.00. Councilman Norris seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0-0.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Done this 14th day of December, 2015

Abbeville County Council

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

ATTEST:

By: Lynn Sopolosky
Lynn Sopolosky, Clerk to Council