ABBEVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 9, 2002

PRESENT: Chairman Walker, Vice Chairman Gunnells, Councilmen Thomas, Calhoun, Brown, Norris, Forrester, Director Doug Burns, Attorney Pruitt, Clerk to Council Carol Chrisley.

Chairman Walker called the Public Hearing to order as follows:

a. Adopt an Ordinance to amend Ordinance 90-7 as it relates to personnel policies and procedures for Abbeville County and more specifically the hiring of relatives within Abbeville County Government. Mr. Art Lloyd requested a brief synopsis. Director Burns said that the current ordinance has a provision in it which states that employment of close relatives may be permitted in strictly emergency situations for temporary periods of time, not to exceed 30 calendar days with the approval of county council in cases where other qualified applicants are not available for an essential task. The proposed ordinance would delete the entire statement.

b. Repeal of existing Personnel Policy (90-7) Chairman Walker said this was the existing personnel policy that exists to date for Abbeville County and was passed 12 years ago and we are in the process of re-writing this personnel policy. It is in the draft stage at this time, but we hope to adopt this policy at the time we repeal the existing policy.

c. Approve the expenditures of the Title III Funds. County Emergency Management Director Steve McDade and County Fire Marshall Jim Sosebee said that their agencies could benefit from the monies along with the Sheriff's Dept. Together, they submitted a proposal for the use of these funds. After further discussion, Chairman Walker called the public hearings to a close.

I. Chairman Walker called the meeting to order with prayer given by Councilman Thomas.

First item on the agenda was approval of the November 25, 2002, County Council meeting minutes. Vice Chairman Gunnells made a motion to approve the minutes that was seconded by Councilman Thomas.

Chairman Walker discussed several grammatical changes and a former action by County Council wherein they appointed Norman Farmer and Emma Goodwin to the Piedmont Technical College Board. He mentioned that Charles Williams was formerly appointed to the Board in May, and that there is therefore only one vacancy. He stated that Mr. Williams can only be removed from the Board, once appointed, with cause, and that cause does not exist. He, therefore, made a motion that the grammatical errors be amended and that we nullify the part of the minutes relative to these appointments and reconsider the appointment of an individual to the Board of Piedmont Tech. It was

seconded by Billy Norris. The motion carried unanimously. A vote was then taken on the original motion. The motion carried unanimously.

II. Presentation.

A. Dr. Guillory, of the Department of Juvenile Justice to address Council about the "Communities That Care" program.

III. Committee Reports.

Chairman Walker referred to a memo that was received from Director Burns dealing with a Board of Appeals for Building Codes. He asked Mr. Forrester who chairs the Intergovernmental Relations Committee to take this under advisement and calls for 5 board members. Director Burns said it was limited to a 5-member board and the requirements under the International Bldg Codes is that these individuals must be certified.

IV. Old Business:

A. Consideration of 3rd Reading to extend the Donalds Due West Service Area further into Western Abbeville County. Director Burns asked that this be tabled again. He has a meeting scheduled on Friday with Donalds-Due West, City of Abbeville, Town of Calhoun Falls and Greenwood CPW to try and work out the boundaries. Once this is done it will be forwarded back to the Planning Committee for a recommendation

B. Consideration of 3rd Reading of an Ordinance to amend Ordinance 90-7 as it relates to Personnel Policies and Procedures for Abbeville County and more specifically, the hiring of relatives within Abbeville County Government. Councilman Norris made a motion to have 3rd Reading that was seconded by Councilman Brown and passed unanimously.

C. Consideration of 2nd Reading of an Ordinance to repeal Abbeville County Personnel Ordinance. Councilman Thomas made a motion to have 2nd Reading that was seconded by Councilman Norris and passed unanimously.

D. Consideration of expenditures of Title III Funds. After a brief discussion, Director Burns recommended that this be tabled in order to allow enough time to forward a formal recommendation back to council about how the monies should be distributed. Chairman Walker made a motion that Director Burns work with appropriate interested, stakeholders to come up with a recommendation and to report back at the next council meeting. Councilman Norris seconded the motion that was passed unanimously.

E. Consideration of a Resolution authorizing the purchase of telephones and telephone lines from ESI for installation at the County Office Building for the Bldg. Dept. and Planning Dept. Since this was tabled at the last meeting, Chairman Walker made a

motion that this item be removed from the table. V. C. Gunnells seconded motion. After a brief discussion in which Director Burns said that this system was much more modern than what was previously used and it had voice mail, call forwarding and other modern features, council agreed to purchase the system at a cost of approximately $3,300. Motion passed unanimously.

F. Appointment to Piedmont Tech Board. Chairman Walker made a motion to return this item back to the committee for further consideration and report back at the next meeting. Motion was seconded by Councilman Brown and passed unanimously.

V. Director's Report:

A. Announcement of Grant Award under the Drug Control and System Improvement Program in the amount of $10,929.00
B. Woodlawn Mobile Home Park. As per DHEC, permits are in hand.
C. Contractual Matter between B.P. Barber and Abbeville County Concerning Landfill. It was recommended that the contract be awarded to B.P. Barber as specified in the documents presented to council. Councilman Forrester made a motion to approve the contract with B.P. Barber in the amounts of $15,650 and $16,250 that was seconded by Councilman Brown and passed unanimously.
D. Governor's Report On proposed cut in Local Government. Notice has been received from the SC Association of Counties that based on recommendations from the Governor's Office, it looks as though local government will possibly receive a decrease of about 6 1/2% in aid to political subdivisions. It was also out that this would be the first cut and there would probably be another coming in January or February of 3 to 3 1/2%, probably culminating with a 10% cut across the board which in Abbeville's case would amount to about $120,000. Mr. Burns also asked his department heads to cut a minimum of 5% from their budget , which would amount to approximately $160,000. After a brief discussion, Councilman Thomas made a motion that we empower our county director to send a letter of support of the Association of Counties in regards to the above statements with the Chairman's signature. Motion was seconded by Councilman Norris and passed unanimously.
E. Auditors in Town- Ms. Wiles faxed the last information to the auditors today and the Auditor's will be here tomorrow morning to begin the completion of the audit.
F. Director Burns reminded council that Gresham Barrett would be in Town on Wendsday at 9:30am would be in the City Council Chambers.
G. Mr. Burns said that he met with the Consultant that we retained to do the Comp and Class Study. He will be here on December 23rd at 9am to meet with all Dept. Heads to brief them on it. The Personnel Committee may want to attend.

VI. Executive Session:

A. Discuss a Contractual Matter and Personnel Matter.

Councilman Norris made a motion to go into executive session that was seconded by Councilman Forrester and passed unanimously. Chairman Walker reconvened regular

session and stated that there was no action taken in executive session. Councilman Forrester made a motion to adjourn that was seconded by Councilman Norris and passed unanimously.