PUBLIC HEARING: None

ABBEVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 13, 2006
MINUTES

PRESENT: Chairman Gunnells, Vice Chairman Simpson, Councilman Davis, Councilman Calhoun, Councilman Thomas and Councilman Norris.

ABSENT: None

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Gunnells called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Chairman Gunnells led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION:

Mr. Steve McDade of Emergency Management 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:

Councilman Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2006, regular county council meeting. Councilman Norris seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0-0.

Chairman Gunnells introduced the new County Director Timothy Scott Moulder.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ms. Martha Cann of 2030 Seneca Street Extension, Calhoun Falls, read a letter on what 4-H has taught her children.

Ms. Laurie Pearman of 285 Belton Circle, Abbeville, spoke on the impact 4-H has on our future generations and that this program is one we cannot afford to lose.

Ms. Kacy Pearman of 285 Belton Circle, Abbeville, informed Council that she has participated in 4-H since the age of 8 and now that she is a senior at Dixie High the lessons she has learned are invaluable.

Ms. Sarra MacLinton of 1751 Secession Street Extension, Abbeville, thanked Council for all the help it gave in order to secure the Block Grant for Secession Street Extension.

PRESENTATIONS:

Mr. Jim Jones who has served with 4-H from 1961 to 1992 informed Council that 4-H was needed to get the children away from computers and video games to outside activities. 4-H deals with more than just animals, it develops people skills and life skills. Ms. Bridget Powell provided a slide show and illustrated that with a $25,000.00 investment from the County we would profit from a 20 million dollar agricultural industry.

Mr. Steve Bowles of Development Services informed Council that the new FA zones had been approved by the Planning Commission. A workshop with Council will be set up to go over the zones before ratification.

OLD BUSINESS:

a) Third reading of an ordinance (06-01) authorizing the execution and delivery of a second amendment to agreement for creation and development of joint county industrial business park between Abbeville County, South Carolina and McCormick County, South Carolina, to add a certain parcel of land to such park agreement, amending the ordinance of the Abbeville County Council originally authorizing the park agreement, and other matters relating thereto. Councilman Thomas made a motion to approve third reading. Councilman Calhoun seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0-0.

b) Third reading of an ordinance (06-02) to amend the FY 05-06 Budget for Abbeville County by incorporating an expenditure thereof. Councilman Norris made a motion to approve third reading. Councilman Thomas seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

a) First Readings: New Policy – All first readings are read into the record by the Chairman, and a vote is not necessary.

    1) An ordinance (06-03) to lower the property assessment rate on aircraft from 10.5% to 4.0% for Abbeville County.

2) An ordinance (06-04) to amend the Abbeville County Official Zoning Map for a 12.805 acre tract of land located at Willow Point and identified by tax map number 054-00-00-333 from Forest/Agricultural (FA) to General Residential (GR).

Councilman Norris made a motion to add item #3 a resolution (06-09). Councilman Calhoun seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0-0.

b) Resolutions:

1) A resolution (06-07) designating Emerald Center Multi-County Board for Disabilities and Special Needs as an entity in Abbeville County to provide transportation to the Elderly or Persons with Disabilities. Councilman Norris made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilman Calhoun seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0-0.

2) A resolution (06-08) recognizing and honoring Mr. Willie J. Thomas for his dedicated years of service to the residents of Abbeville County. Vice Chairman Simpson made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilman Calhoun seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0-0.

3) A resolution (06-09) recognizing Life Reach 2 for service provided to Abbeville County and its citizens. Councilman Thomas made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilman Calhoun seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0-0.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Interim County Director Larry Walker informed Council that the repairs were completed at the Lakelands Commerce Center and the cost was $2,544.00.

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. Councilman Davis informed Council that a draft of the Personnel Policy has been handed out for their review.

c) Public Works—Jeff Simpson and Billy Norris. No report was given.

d) Intergovernmental Relations—Billy Norris, Mike Davis and John Calhoun. Councilman Norris nominated Ms. Doris Starks to the Board of Zoning Appeals. Councilman Davis seconded the nomination. The

nomination carried 6-0-0. Councilman Norris nominated Ms. Jennifer Jones and Mr. Joseph Ashley to the Fire Commission. Councilman Davis seconded the nomination. The nomination carried 6-0-0. Councilman Norris nominated Mr. Timothy George to the Development Board. Councilman Thomas seconded the nomination. The nomination carried 6-0-0.

e) Planning and Industrial Development—Claude Thomas, Ray Gunnells and John Calhoun. No report was given. Councilman Thomas requested that the G.I.S. be discussed in Executive Session.

f) Education, Recreation, Health and Welfare—John Calhoun and Jeff Simpson. No report was given.

g) Public Safety—John Calhoun and Billy Norris. No report was given.

h) Ad Hoc Committee—Claude Thomas, Jeff Simpson and Billy Norris. No report was given.

i) Ad Hoc Committee—Ray Gunnells, Charles Goodwin, Steve McDade, Ricky Busby, Mayor Johnnie Waller, Darrell Smith, Randy Ruble, Carroll Ellis and Dan Evatt. No report was given.

Chairman Gunnells created an Ad Hoc Committee consisting of Billy Norris, Jeff Simpson, Claude Thomas, John Parkman, Paul Parnell, and Will Blackwell to research a county tax credit for appointed board members, EMS volunteers and Rural Fire volunteers. In addition a money figure per call for volunteer Firemen and EMS workers.

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Simpson to go into Executive Session to discuss a contractual matter on the County Farm Prison Building and the G.I.S. Also, a legal issue pertaining to EMS. Councilman Calhoun seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Chairman Gunnells reconvened the meeting following executive session and announced that one issue needed to be addressed.

Chairman Gunnells went on to say "before we went into executive session we had an economic issue to discuss, which was discussed in executive session. I need a motion that we approve a resolution for a tax abatement for Ware Shoals Industries". Councilman Norris made the motion to approve the resolution. Councilman Davis seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0-0.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further items of discussion Vice Chairman Simpson made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Calhoun seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0-0.

The meeting adjourned at 10:17 pm.

Done this 27th day of February, 2006

Abbeville County Council

By: _____
Ray Gunnells, Chairman

ATTEST:

By: _____
Lynn Sopolosky, Clerk to Council