ABBEVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 25, 2002

PRESENT: Chairman Walker, Vice Chairman Gunnells, Councilmen Scott, Forrester, Norris, Thomas, Attorney Pruitt, Clerk to Council, Carol Chrisley

ABSENT: Councilman Calhoun and Director Burns

Chairman Walker called the Public Hearing to order as follows:

a. Adopt an Ordinance to extend the Donalds-Due West Service Area further into Abbeville County. Nolan Wiggins, Assistant Manager for the City of Abbeville presented a proposed map showing the existing city limits by service area and what their utility department has done is to show where the actual service area is. Mr. Wiggins went on by saying that the City Manager wanted to propose the creation of a County-Wide Advisory Board.

b. Adopt an Ordinance to purchase two acres of property for Site #6 Convenience Center on the Old Calhoun Falls Highway near Calhoun Falls to be purchased from Frank Kennedy Jr. There were no comments.

Chairman Walker called the public hearings to a close.

I. Chairman Walker called the regular meeting to order with prayer given by Attorney, Gene Pruitt.

First item on the agenda was approval of minutes of the October ~~8~~ 28, 2002 Regular council meeting. Vice Chairman Gunnells made a motion to approve these minutes that was seconded by Councilman Forrester. Chairman Walker noted a change on the last page that Ms. Chrisley said would be corrected. Motion passed with noted correction

Next item on the agenda was approval of November 13, 2002 Special meeting minutes. Councilman Forrester made a motion to approve the minutes that was seconded by Councilman Norris and passed unanimously.

II. Presentations:

Chairman Walker noted that there was an addendum to the agenda and he wanted to go ahead with the first item on the addendum, which was a presentation from Mr. Moore concerning maintenance of a road in the Antreville area. After a lengthy discussion, Chairman Walker stated that they had many situations similar or worse than the one he had described. Council would like to address these but they will have to be prioritized and dealt with as the funds become available.

III. Committee Reports.

A. Intergovernmental Relations chaired by Councilman Forrester commented by saying that he would have some appointments to boards later on in the agenda.

4. Old Business:

A. Consideration of 3rd Reading to extend the Donalds-Due West Service Area further into western Abbeville County. Chairman Walker said that the Planning Committee recommended that this be tabled in order for some of the details to be finalized. He made a motion to this effect that was seconded by Councilman Brown and passed unanimously.

B. Consideration of 3rd Reading to purchase two acres of property for Site #6 Convenience Center on the Old Calhoun Falls Highway near Calhoun Falls Highway near Calhoun Falls to be purchased from Frank Kennedy, Jr. Councilman Brown made a motion that this be 3rd Reading that was seconded by V. C. Gunnells and passed unanimously.

C. Consideration of 2nd 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 Brown made a motion to have 2nd Reading that was seconded by Councilman Norris and passed unanimously.

5. New Business:

A. Consideration of 1st Reading of an Ordinance to Repeal Abbeville County Personnel Ordinance. V. C. Gunnells made a motion to have 1st Reading that was seconded by Councilman Brown and passed unanimously.

B. Consider proposal for Wright Middle School. Chairman Walker said that we advertised for a Request for Proposal on how we might deal with Wright Middle School. He said that we did not get any proposals as a result of advertising. After a lengthy discussion, Chairman Walker said that he would ask our County Director to pursue a proposal to conduct a Level One Environmental Survey and to decide at that time whether or not we would like to pursue it.

C. Appointment of two individuals to the Piedmont Technical Board of Directors. Councilman Forrester, Chairman of Intergovernmental Relations addressed council by recommending the appointment of Norman Farmer and Emma Goodwin to serve on the board of directors at Piedmont Tech. He put this in the form of a motion that was seconded by Councilman Norris. Chairman Walker said that Mr. Williams currently chairs the Board and he is active and a valued member from Abbeville County as well. The school would like him to stay on this Board because of the work he does and the amount of time he puts into it. Councilman Brown said that he spent a lot of time and is very important in being nominated on the Piedmont Tech Board. Councilman Forrester said that Mr. Farmer is retired and would have plenty of time. Chairman Walker said that he would like to add the motion amended to nominate Mr. Farmer and Mr. Charles

Williams that was seconded by Councilman Norris. Councilman Thomas had a discussion on the amendment by saying that Piedmont Tech is asking that Mr. Williams be reappointed and he had no problem with it but he also heard that they were asking for a black female. Chairman Walker withdrew his motion to amend that was seconded by Councilman Norris. Councilman Brown made an amendment to the motion that Charles Williams be added to the board as well as Ms. Emma Goodwin. Councilman Thomas seconded motion. Councilman Norris said that Mr. Farmer's name was brought up several times and it has been talked about several times so he was in favor of Mr. Farmer and Mr. Williams. He felt that Ms. Goodwin would do well but tonight is the first time he heard her name. Chairman Walker said that with no further discussion or comments than the amendment on the table is to amend the motion to include Charles Williams and Emma Goodwin. Motion failed. Councilman Forrester made a motion to go back to the original motion to appoint Norman Farmer and Emma Goodwin. Motion passed unanimously.

D. Phone System for Building Inspection and Planner. Chairman Walker referred to a Resolution that was in council's packet dealing with the purchase of telephones and telephone lines from ESI for installation at the County Office Building for the Building Department and the Planning Department. The proposal will provide voice mail and other features that are not available. The cost of this would be $3,296.90 to be paid out of capital projects, after a brief discussion, Councilman Norris made a motion to table this until we could get additional clarification. Motion was seconded by Chairman Walker and passed unanimously.

E. Appointment to Library. Councilman Forrester made a motion to appoint Scotty Ray Willoughby of Lowndesville to the Library Board. Councilman Norris seconded motion. Motion passed unanimously. (Replaced Flo LeRoy)

Chairman Walker referred to a couple of addendum items as follows:

A. Early Action Compact dealing with Clean Air Act. After a brief discussion, Chairman Walker recommended that we sign up for the Early Action Compact and in doing so we will be using some of the capabilities of the Department of Health and Environmental Control as well as EPA. We will have to put a Plan. If we don't sign up, we will be faced with the 2004 deadline. If we sign up, there is a chance we could get a three- year extension even if we are not able to meet the eight-hour standard. He recommended that we go ahead and sign up and in the meantime try to learn more about this. Once a county signs up, they can request to be removed at any time. The EPA requires that the Early Action Compact be signed by 12/31/02. Chairman Walker made a motion that we sign up for the Early Action Compact that was seconded by Councilman Thomas and passed unanimously.

B. Membership in the National Association of Counties. Chairman Walker said this was an organization on the national level and is a very strong organization. They lobby for the benefit of any legislation that might impact counties and there are 46 counties in SC. 42 of the counties belong to this organization and we are one that does not participate.

Membership dues are about $450. He recommended that we become members of the National Association of Counties. There is a line item in the county council budget for membership and dues and we do have a county council contingency line with a couple of thousand dollars in it and we can move it over to the membership and dues within the county council budget. Councilman Thomas made a motion that we join NACO as a county, not to exceed $500. Councilman Norris seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

C. Chairman Walker said he had one other item to add to the agenda that deals with a Fee in Lieu of Taxes for Alladin/ Mohawk. Chairman Walker made a motion to add this to the agenda. Motion was seconded by Councilman Thomas and passed unanimously. Chairman Walker said that he received a call today from a Bond Attorney and back on July 22nd, we had 2nd Reading on a Fee in Lieu of Taxes for Alladin and everything had been tabled until a call was received. Alladin had not gotten some information back to them that was needed so we could go ahead with a public hearing and 3rd reading. He requested that we do this prior to the end of this year in order to complete this effort to grant them a fee in lieu of taxes for expansion work they are contemplating.. We have a meeting on the 9th of December which will not give us the 15 days prior notice. The next meeting would be December 23rd. Council agreed.

Next item was director's report on Christmas Bonus - 1st payday in December. Chairman Walker said it was agreed that we give $100 to all fulltime employees and $25 to part-time and it would be paid out the first payday in December.

Councilman Norris made a motion to adjourn that was seconded by Councilman Brown and passed unanimously.

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