

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE FLORENCE COUNTY COUNCIL,
THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2016, 9:00 A.M., COUNTY COMPLEX,
180 N. IRBY STREET, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ROOM 803,
FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA**

PRESENT:

Roger M. Poston, Chairman
Kent C. Caudle, Vice Chairman
Mitchell Kirby, Secretary-Chaplain
Waymon Mumford, Council Member
Alphonso Bradley, Council Member
James T. Schofield, Council Member
Willard Dorriety, Jr., Council Member
Jason M. Springs, Council Member
H. Steven DeBerry, IV, Council Member
K. G. Rusty Smith, Jr., County Administrator
FitzLee McEachin, County Attorney
Connie Y. Haselden, Clerk to Council

ALSO PRESENT:

Arthur C. Gregg, Jr., Public Works Director
Kevin V. Yokim, Finance Director
Jonathan B. Graham, III, Planning Director
Ronnie Pridgen, Parks & Recreation Department Director
Bill Griffenberg, CIO
Patrick Fletcher, Procurement Director
Jack Newsome, Tax Assessor
Jamie Floyd, Tax Assessor's Office
Samuel K. Brockington, Jr., Fire/Rescue Services Coordinator
David Alford, Voter Registration/Elections Director
Alan Smith, Library Director
Joshua Lloyd, Morning News Staffwriter

A notice of the regular meeting of the Florence County Council appeared in the August 17, 2016 edition of the **MORNING NEWS**. In compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, copies of the meeting Agenda and Proposed Additions to the Agenda were provided to members of the media, members of the public requesting copies, posted in the lobby of the County Complex, provided for posting at the Doctors Bruce and Lee Foundation Public Library, all branch libraries, and on the County's website (www.florenceco.org).

Chairman Poston called the meeting to order. Secretary-Chaplain Kirby provided the invocation and Vice Chairman Caudle led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Chairman Poston welcomed everyone attending the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Mumford made a motion Council Approve The Minutes Of The July 21, 2016 Regular Meeting Of County Council. Councilman Springs seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

The Clerk published the titles and the Chairman declared public hearings open for the following:

ORDINANCE NO. 02-2016/17

An Ordinance To Ratify FY16 Budget And Grant Council Actions Previously Authorized By Council And Other Matters Related Thereto.

ORDINANCE NO. 04-2016/17

An Ordinance To Amend The Florence County Code Of Ordinances Sections 11-171(b) and 11-171(c) Regarding Uses For The Proceeds Of The Road System Maintenance Fee And Other Matters Related Thereto.

APPEARANCES:

RODDIE AND CARLA CROUCH

Mr. & Mrs. Crouch Appeared Before Council To Express Opposition To The Commercial Zoning For Property Located At 114 Steele Avenue, Pamplico. (*Ordinance No. 03-2016/17*) One of their greatest concerns was traffic and the potential for vehicular traffic to park on the roadway as well as adjacent properties since the property in question was a small lot. They also expressed concern that a funeral home in a residential area would devalue the surrounding property. Chairman Poston thanked Mr. & Mrs. Crouch for coming and participating in the process.

P. ALAN SMITH, LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Library Director Alan Smith, Along With Library Board Member Dr. Sharon Askins, Appeared Before Council To Present The Florence County Library 2016-2018 Strategic Plan. Mr. Smith stated that the Florence County Library system was a good library system, which led regionally and nationally for the services provided, but this was a moving target. The Library Board asked staff to begin a strategic plan process in order to ensure the Library's continued success in achieving its goal of serving the patrons and the community. Staff received feedback from users via a survey with over 1600 responders, not just from patrons at the library but out in the community as well. Some of the results were not surprising but what was surprising was that computers came up as the number one choice for library services. The data was taken to diverse community groups in each of the six (6) libraries across the counties to talk about the needs in each of the communities and how the library could help meet those needs. The consensus among all the groups as far as the top two (2) issues that were vital to continued success at the library were early literacy and technological literacy. Staff and management came up with a goal that children of all abilities, locations, backgrounds, etc. have access to tools inside and outside the library to achieve success in literacy. Each of the goals has an

objective target for staff to review one year from now and determine if the goals have been met or if the library fell short of meeting the goal. The desire was for 90% of parents to agree the program was beneficial. The end result would be a shared sense of purpose throughout the County. He invited everyone to come out to the library. Chairman Poston and members of Council commended Mr. Smith and the library staff for the excellent job they were doing. Councilman Mumford stated he and other members of the community have contacted Mr. Smith on various occasions for events and the library staff 'went all out' to assist.

THOMASENA THOMAS

Miss Thomas Requested To Appear Before Council To Present Her Company FairyCakessc, A Business That Employs Students And Works With Schools In FSD1 To Inspire Youth To Become Entrepreneurs. Prior to the meeting, Miss Thomas requested that her appearance be deferred to a later date.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

There Were No Reports.

RESOLUTIONS/PROCLAMATIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 05-2016/17

The Clerk published the title of Resolution No. 05-2016/17: A Resolution Authorizing Approval Of A Memorandum Of Understanding, Mutual Aid Between Jasper County Detention Center And The Florence County Detention Center And Authorizing The County Administrator To Execute Said Agreement. Councilman Dorriety made a motion Council approve the Resolution as presented. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

There being no signatures on the sign-in sheets for Public Hearings, the Chairman closed the Public Hearings. (The sign-in sheets are attached and incorporated by reference.)

ORDINANCES IN POSITION:

ORDINANCE NO. 26-2015/16 – THIRD READING

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 26-2015/16: An Ordinance To Rezone Property Owned By Chandler Investment Properties, Inc. Located On W. Palmetto Street, Florence, As Shown On Florence County Tax Map No. 00076, Block 01, Parcel 083; Consisting Of Approximately 18.25 Acres From General Commercial District (B-3) To Planned Development District (PD); And Other Matters Related Thereto. Councilman Caudle made a motion Council approve third reading of the Ordinance. Councilman DeBerry seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 34-2015/16 – THIRD READING

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 34-2015/16: An Ordinance For Text Amendments To The Florence County Code of Ordinances, CHAPTER 30, ZONING ORDINANCE, ARTICLE IV. – APPEARANCE, BUFFERING, SCREENING, LANDSCAPING, AND OPEN SPACE REGULATIONS, Section 30-121, Bufferyards, Table VI Bufferyard Requirements; ARTICLE VII. – GENERAL AND ANCILLARY REGULATIONS, Section 30-246, Accessory Buildings And Uses, (2) General Requirements, a. Residential Districts And ARTICLE X. – DEFINITIONS, Section 30-311, Definitions.; And Other Matters Related Thereto. Councilman Mumford made a motion Council approve third reading of the Ordinance. Councilman Springs seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 35-2015/16 – THIRD READING

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 35-2015/16: An Ordinance For Text Amendments To The Florence County Code Of Ordinances, Chapter 7, BUILDING REGULATIONS, ARTICLE II. – STANDARDS FOR CONSTRUCTION, INSTALLATIONS AND MAINTENANCE, DIVISION 1. – GENERALLY, Section 7-11. – Building Code Administration, To Comply With The International Building Code Adopted; And Other Matters Related Thereto. Councilman Caudle made a motion Council approve third reading of the Ordinance. Councilman Dorriety seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 36-2015/16 – THIRD READING

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 36-2015/16: An Ordinance Authorizing The Award, Execution, And Delivery Of A Lease Purchase Agreement By Florence County, South Carolina In A Principal Amount Of Not Exceeding \$500,000, Relating To Lighting For The Johnsonville Athletic Complex; Authorizing The Execution Of Other Necessary Documents And Papers; And Other Matters Relating Thereto. Councilman Caudle made a motion Council approve third reading of the Ordinance as presented. Councilman Springs seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. In response to a question from Councilman Kirby, County Administrator K. G. Rusty Smith, Jr. stated that this was a project under the CPST II but the original project did not include lighting. This was the largest league in the County and the only one with no lights. Should there be realized savings in the CPST II sufficient to cover the cost, the County could potentially pay the Lease Purchase early without penalty (interest rate was less than 2%).

ORDINANCE NO. 37-2015/16 – THIRD READING

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 37-2015/16: An Ordinance Authorizing An Amendment To The Fee-In-Lieu Of Ad Valorem Taxes Agreement Between Florence County, South Carolina And McCall Farms, Inc. To Provide For The Inclusion Of A Proposed Expansion In The Fee-In-Lieu Of Ad Valorem Taxes Agreement, The Extension Of The Term Thereof, The Provision Of Enhanced Special Source Revenue Credits Thereunder, And Other Matters Related Thereto. Councilman Caudle made a motion Council approve third reading of the Ordinance. Councilman Springs seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

The Chairman stated second reading of Ordinance No. 38-2014/15 and Ordinance No. 24-2015/16 would be deferred.

ORDINANCE NO. 38-2014/15 – SECOND READING DEFERRED

An Ordinance To Zone Properties Inclusive Of All Unzoned Properties In Council Districts Five And Six Bounded By Freedom Boulevard, Jefferies Creek, Francis Marion Road, Wickerwood Road, Flowers Road, Pamplico Highway, South Vance Drive, Furches Avenue, And The Westernmost Boundary Of Council District Six That Connects Furches Avenue And Freedom Boulevard, Florence, SC From Unzoned To The Following Zoning Designations Of RU-1, Rural Community District, B-1, Limited Business District, B-2, Convenience Business District And B-3, General Commercial District; Consistent With The Land Use Element And Map Of The Florence County Comprehensive Plan; And Other Matters Related Thereto.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-2015/16 – SECOND READING DEFERRED

An Ordinance Authorizing (1) The Execution And Delivery Of A First Amendment To The Fee In Lieu Of Tax Agreement Between Florence County, South Carolina (The “County”) And A Company Identified For The Time Being As Project Mirror, To Provide For Certain Special Source Credits In Connection With Additional Investment In Certain Manufacturing And Related Facilities In The County; And (2) Other Matters Relating Thereto.

ORDINANCE NO. 02-2016/17 – SECOND READING

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 02-2016/17: An Ordinance To Ratify FY16 Budget And Grant Council Actions Previously Authorized By Council And Other Matters Related Thereto. Councilman Schofield made a motion Council approve second reading of the Ordinance. Councilman DeBerry seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 03-2016/17 – SECOND READING

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 03-2016/17: An Ordinance To Rezone Property Owned By South Carolina Home Mission Located On 114 Steele Avenue, Pamplico, As Shown On Florence County Tax Map No. 60008, Block 01, Parcel 004; Consisting Of Approximately 0.823 Acres From Single-Family Residential District (R-2) To General Commercial District (B-3); And Other Matters Related Thereto. Councilman Mumford made a motion Council approve second reading of the Ordinance. Councilman DeBerry seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 04-2016/17 – SECOND READING

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 04-2016/17: An Ordinance To Amend The Florence County Code Of Ordinances Sections 11-171(b) and 11-171(c) Regarding Uses For The Proceeds Of The Road System Maintenance Fee And Other Matters Related Thereto. Councilman Springs made a motion Council approve second reading of the Ordinance. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

The Clerk published the title of Ordinance No. 05-2016/17 and the Chairman declared the Ordinance Introduced.

ORDINANCE NO. 05-2016/17 – INTRODUCED

An Ordinance Amending Florence County Code, Chapter 28, Public Utilities, Article 1, Section 28-7 In Order To Increase The Water/Sewer System Service Area Previously Granted To The Town Of Coward; And Other Matters Related Thereto.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

DEVELOPING COMMUNITIES COMMISSION

Councilman Springs made a motion Council Approve The Re-Appointment Of Marion Lowder To Serve On The Developing Communities Commission, Representing The City Of Lake City (Seat 3) With Appropriate Expiration Term. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

DISTRICT 1 RE-APPOINTMENTS

Councilman Springs made a motion Council Approve The Re-Appointments Of The Following Individuals To Serve On Various Boards/Commissions, Representing Council District 1 With Appropriate Expiration Terms:

- Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee – Shelby Kirby, Seat 6
- City-County Civic Center Commission – C. B. Askins, Jr., Seat 4
- Economic Development Partnership - Richie McCutcheon
- Museum Board – Jacqueline Mouzon
- Pee Dee Regional Airport Authority – E. LeRoy Nettles, III, Seat 1 (recommendation to the Governor for appointment)
- Planning Commission – Karon Epps

Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

DEVELOPING COMMUNITIES COMMISSION

Mr. Smith stated that in response to a query by the Chairman, he reviewed the records and found that the representative for the Town of Timmons ville was currently serving an expired term (expired June 30, 2016). Councilman Kirby made a motion Council Approve The Re-Appointment Of Fronnie Pettigrew To Serve On The Developing Communities Commission, Representing The Town of Timmons ville (Seat 9) With Appropriate Expiration Term. Councilman Springs seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL:

ADMINISTRATION

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

County Administrator K. G. Rusty Smith, Jr. stated that Council was provided with a comprehensive update on the Capital Project Sales Tax I (CPST I) and Capital Project Sales Tax II (CPST II), as well as the most recent report from the very beneficial monthly department heads meeting. In addition, Council was provided with a copy of the Unified Fire Protection District Strategic Plan, an update on Emergency Management for discussion at a later date, information relative to questions asked at the August 17th meeting of the Committee on Administration & Finance relative to the Harlee Memorial Sculpture, and information relative to the computer software upgrade, which was an item that would be presented later on the Agenda.

The County continued to work expeditiously and as of this date 257 roads had been completed and an additional 27 roads were currently under contract. Work on Section XII was nearing completion. Country Lane, Cherry Johnson, Ball Park, McLaurin, Highland, Laurel, R Bar M Ranch, Joan, Hughes and Cato Road were complete. Moulds Road was nearing completion, as well as Law Road. The clearing and piping on Law was complete but paving was delayed due to unforeseen circumstances. The contractor for the SC51 project located a "borrow pit" on Law Road and the large volume of truck traffic that would be generated would not be conducive to the enhancement of Law Road. They felt it prudent to make the final improvements to Law Road after the hauling was finished for SC51. Bids were opened August 9th for SC51 Section 3 and 4 from Pamplico to US 378 and the apparent low bidder was R. E. Goodson Construction with a bid of \$31,526,876. Substantial savings were realized on this project. The next low bidder was also local with a \$500,000 difference.

The municipalities were also moving forward with a number of projects that were being advertised for construction or already under construction. The Johnsonville-Vox water line was under construction; Coward-Salem Road waterline had been advertised; the Coward water tank project was currently under review; and the following projects had an August advertising date: Central Road, Butler Scurry Road, Olanta Fire Station waterline and the Pamplico Francis Marion Road waterline. The Lake City pump station had an August 16 pre-construction meeting and the Brookgreen drainage project bids were scheduled to be received August 18, 2016.

Also of note, the Online Employment Application System was functioning extremely well and had already yielded benefits. The County was already noticing a significant increase in applications and had been able to hire more qualified personnel to help serve the citizens of Florence County.

The County was continuing its outstanding Health Care initiative to further enhance the overall health of its workforce and to reduce and maintain the experience MOD to further reduce health insurance costs as well as Workman's Comp costs. In the near future the fitness center should be opened. Staff was presently contracting with a local plumbing contractor to complete renovation of the restroom facilities that would service the gym.

Jordan & Sons Plumbing was the low responsive bidder in the amount of \$38,289.50 (CPST II funding). Mr. Smith stated that if there were no objections, he would proceed. No objections were voiced.

As the County continued its assault on litter, 161.85 miles of roadway had been cleaned in the last 3 months. The Palmer Inmate Program and the weekend crew picked up 88,398 pounds of litter. In addition, 64 citations were written with close to \$20,000 in fines collected.

Environmental Services also was proactively spraying to minimize the risk of the Zika virus. The Department also successfully placed 304 dogs and cats in a “new home” thru adoption. This program was a result of partnering with “Lucky Dog” animal rescue organization and all the animals were spayed or neutered prior to being placed in homes in the Arlington, VA area.

He stated that one item of concern was that the County was experiencing problems with its waste tire recycler. He had Public Works Director Carlie Gregg and Grants Manager Kathy Nephew working diligently to address this very important issue. The recycler could have temporary disposal problems and the County may have to take some emergency action to dispose of the tires and remove them from the waste sites.

Councilman Dorriety was approached with a request from a citizen in West Florence concerning the need for a county-wide ordinance relating to “door to door” peddling. Mr. Smith discussed this issue with the County Attorney and if Council so desired, an ordinance would be presented at the next meeting for introduction. After introduction, Council could refer to the Committee on Public Services and County Planning to modify the ordinance.

There was also discussion at the meeting of the Committee on Administration & Finance regarding the Civic Center expansion. As a follow-up to the discussion, Mr. Smith conducted some research on the pre and post numbers on the Civic Center area. In 1990 before the Civic Center was built, total taxes collected for the 298 acres in the business district were \$446. In 2016 the taxes collected for that same area were \$2.3 million and growing with all of the hotels/motels/restaurants, etc. being added. He stated that while you may not be able to tie all of the escalation to the Civic Center, he was of the opinion that the Civic Center was the impetus and a driving force for the increase. Councilman Dorriety commended Mr. Smith for his report and stated that not only did the property taxes increase but he felt it behooved us to realize that the 3% accommodations tax was how the County was paying for the expansion. Without the hotels/motels at the intersection, the County wouldn't have the funding for this project. Also, the penny sales tax certainly produced a lot of revenue to help pay for all of the new programs, fire stations, etc. being constructed. So what the Civic Center had brought to the County was much more than what was realized for the shortfall in the operating revenue, which was typical for that type of facility. The benefits far out-weighed any cost and had been a ‘good thing’ for Florence County.

Councilman Dorriety stated he also wanted to comment on how proud he was of McCall Farms and how it had grown and was helping the area. He thanked the Swink Family for their vision and what they had done for the County. He stated the County needed to look at other businesses and industries that had impacted economic growth in Florence County over the years.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS

Mr. Smith stated that Monthly Financial Reports Were Provided To Council For Fiscal Year 2016 Through June 30, 2016 For Council's edification.

ADMINISTRATION/INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

RECLASSIFICATION AND SALARY INCREASE REQUESTS

Councilman Schofield made a motion Council Authorize The Reclassification Of An IT Director (Vacant Slot #001) To A Computer Technician, A Network/Security Engineer (Slot #002) To An Information Technology Manager II, And An Operations Manager (Slot #004) To An Information Technology Manager I; Authorize An Increase In Salary For A Website Developer (Slot #003), A Computer Technician (Slot #005), A Systems Administrator (Vacant Slot #008), And A Database Administrator (Vacant Slot #007) To Be Funded From FY17 Budgeted Funds. (*Request Was Budget Neutral.*) Councilman Springs seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

FINANCE/INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

UPDATE ON COUNTY SOFTWARE SYSTEM

Mr. Smith, Finance Director Kevin Yokim and CIO Bill Griffenberg Provided An Update On The Status Of The County's Software System. Capers Strawn, the current software programmer for the AS400 system, advised the County of his intent to retire within the next two years. Mr. Yokim provided a brief overview of the status. The County currently utilized a system that was fully integrated with regard to financial management (general ledger, payroll, accounts payable, human resources, procurement, etc.), tax billing and collection system (Auditor & Treasurer), and a Computer Assisted Mass Appraisal system (Tax Assessor). The County began with this system and Strawn & Neil in the mid to late 70s. This system practically eliminates manual processes because it completes the cycle between the three disparate systems. Mr. Yokim convened two separate meetings with the major departments that would be impacted by this change. The first meeting was to discuss the current situation and a plan for moving forward. Each of the affected offices reached out to offices across the State to determine other systems being utilized then met again to discuss options. Mr. Smith was presented with a 'whitepaper' on the issue and potential remedy. There was no one vendor that provided all three of the processes needed so it would be difficult to transition to separate vendors and tie all of the data together in a way that would function efficiently with minimal amount of manual entries for the data to be shared.

Mr. Griffenberg provided an overview of the mapping and integration the County would be facing. He stated the County had a system that contained about 50,000 separate programs that were all tied together with zero documentation. What the County would have to do was to map the existing data, then come up with a system to move that data over to a new system. Most IT products fail because when you move the data over, you don't move it over correctly so that was an important step. It was like having 50,000 file cabinets with four drawers each full to over-flowing in a warehouse and you ask someone to go find something but none of the filing drawers were labeled. That was the point the County was at now with the AS400 system once Mr. Strawn retired. The hardware itself was at the end of its life so it needed to be replaced at this point regardless. Staff was currently looking at all possibilities for a path forward to minimize any loss of files or productivity to the affected departments.

Councilman Schofield stated he had been talking with the Administrator for the nine years he had been on Council regarding this issue. His business operated on an iSeries system and he was familiar with the issues the County was facing with a transition. He expressed concerns that the County was bound to operate under the laws of the State of South Carolina, which were constantly changing and there was no one program that would be structured around those laws. He stated this was a critical situation and one that required a great deal of time, effort and thought.

Councilman Mumford stated it sounded like Council needed to move forward on this item and with the cost estimated at around \$2 million he suggested that this item be assigned to the Committee on Administration & Finance to study and devise a path forward.

MUSEUM

ACCEPT DONATION OF PROPERTY

Councilman Kirby made a motion Council Accept The Donation Of Two (2) Automobiles From Cale Yarborough For Display/Exhibit At The Florence County Museum. Councilman Caudle seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. Councilman Caudle stated this was a project that had been a long-time coming for the County. He stated people who grew up here understood the significance of the donation by Cale Yarborough and in his opinion this would attract visitors to the Museum that would not visit it otherwise. In response to a question regarding the value of the vehicles, Mr. Smith responded that the Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme No. 29 was the last car that Cale Yarborough raced in his career and had an appraised value of \$120,000 and the 1969 Mercury Cyclone Cale Yarborough Special was believed to be the earliest known example that existed according to Cyclone and was never offered for sale to the general public had an appraised value of \$283,000 for a total contribution value of \$403,000.

PROCUREMENT

DECLARATION OF SURPLUS PROPERTY

Councilman Mumford made a motion Council Declare Two (2) Trucks As Surplus Property For Disposal Through Public Internet Auction Via GovWorld Auctions, LLC. Councilman Dorriety seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS/PROCUREMENT

POTHOLE PATCHER

Councilman Springs made a motion Council Approve The Use Of The National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA) Cooperative Purchasing Program To Procure One (1) 2016 TCM-485 Pothole Patcher from H. D. Industries, Inc. of Jacksonville, TX Using NJPA Contract No. 113012-HDI In The Total Amount Of \$175,200.00 (Including \$300 Tax) From The FY 2016-2017 Budgeted Funds And Authorize The County Administrator To Execute The Contract. Councilman Dorriety seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

(Councilman Caudle left the room at 10:01 a.m.)

HANNAH-SALEM-FRIENDFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT/PROCUREMENT

AWARD BID NO. 02-16/17

Councilman Schofield made a motion Council Award Bid No. 02-16/17 For The New Friendfield Fire Station To Ace Construction Of Florence, SC In The Amount Of \$350,398.00 To Be Funded From The Capital Project Sales Tax II Funds (2 *Compliant Bids*). Councilman DeBerry seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously (Councilman Caudle was not present for the vote). Mr. Smith commented that Chief Tedder and staff worked to value engineer this project to bring it within budget.

OTHER BUSINESS:

INFRASTRUCTURE

NEW VA ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

Councilman Schofield made a motion Council Approve The Expenditure Of Up To \$3,675 From Council District 8 Infrastructure Funding Allocation For Sod To Be Installed At The New Veterans Affairs Administration Building On National Cemetery Road. Councilman Springs seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously (Councilman Caudle was not present for the vote).

TOWN OF COWARD

Councilman Kirby made a motion Council Approve The Expenditure Of Up To \$6,000 From Council District 5 Infrastructure Funding Allocation To Assist The Town Of Coward With Computer Upgrades, To Include Security Software. Councilman Springs seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously (Councilman Caudle was not present for the vote).

ROAD SYSTEM MAINTENANCE FEE (RSMF)

SANDY LANE

Councilman Springs made a motion Council Approve The Expenditure Of Up To \$1,500.00 From Council District 2 RSMF Funding Allocation To Pay For MBC Stone To Be Put On Sandy Lane. Councilman Dorriety seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously (Councilman Caudle was not present for the vote).

THEATER CIRCLE ROAD

Councilman Dorriety made a motion Council Approve The Expenditure Of Up To \$8,400.00 From Council District 9 RSMF Funding Allocation To Pay For MBC Stone For Theater Circle Road. Councilman Kirby seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously (Councilman Caudle was not present for the vote).

INFRASTRUCTURE/UTILITY

PEE DEE COALITION

Councilman Mumford made a motion Council Approve The Expenditure Of Up To \$14,034 From Council Districts' Infrastructure/Utility Funding Allocations (Approximately \$1,560 From Each District) To Assist The Pee Dee Coalition With The Purchase Of Equipment For The Durant Children's Center, The Florence Crisis Center, And The Florence Shelter. Councilman Springs seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously (Councilman Caudle was not present for the vote).

ROAD SYSTEM MAINTENANCE FEE (RSMF)

SPRINGS ROAD

Councilman Kirby made a motion Council Approve The Expenditure Of Up To \$1,500.00 From Council District 4 RSMF Funding Allocation To Pay For 50 Tons Of MBC Stone For Springs Road. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously (Councilman Caudle was not present for the vote).

INFRASTRUCTURE

TOWN OF SCRANTON

Councilman Springs made a motion Council Approve The Expenditure Of Up To \$3,000.00 From Council District 1 Infrastructure Funding Allocation To Assist With The Request From The Town Of Scranton To Purchase Mobile Data Terminal and Associated Equipment For The Police Department. Councilman Mumford seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously (Councilman Caudle was not present for the vote).

(Councilman Caudle re-entered the meeting at 10:05 a.m.)

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Schofield stated there was an editorial comment recently that implied the County was dragging its feet with regard to the parking situation downtown. He asked Mr. Smith to provide an update on that situation. Mr. Smith responded that the engineer had been requesting on a weekly basis an update from the City on the parking study they conducted, but had not received any information yet. They had been meeting with SCDOT discussing Baroody Street parking in an attempt to gain additional parking by re-designing. Also discussed with BE&K opening up approximately 53 parking spaces across the road at the new Judicial Center site but ran into a delay caused by issues with the need for the City to relocate a water hydrant. Mr. Smith said he was hesitant to spend any additional money on the existing Complex parking lot until there was a clear plan on future parking.

Councilman Schofield stated he was of the understanding that the City received the parking study but had questions and sent it back for response. It was also his understanding that the study indicated a deficiency of about 350 – 400 parking spaces in the downtown area. The problem was that the Complex parking lot had enough spaces to serve the Complex but visitors to the Complex were not the only individuals parking in this parking lot. As new businesses opened downtown, the Complex parking lot was being utilized by those patrons. He asked that Mr. Smith follow-up with the City to obtain a copy of the parking study and try to begin working on the project some more.

There being no further business to come before Council, Councilman Caudle made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Kirby seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:10 A.M.