

A regular meeting of the Georgetown County Council was held on Tuesday, November 26, 2002 at 5:30 PM in County Council Chambers.

Present:	Ron Charlton Thomas Earl Drayton Sel Hemingway	Johnny Morant Helen Rudolph Tom Swatzel
Staff:	Thomas W. Edwards, Jr. Theresa Floyd	Jack Scoville, Jr.

Other staff members, members of the public, and representatives of the media were also present.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, a copy of the agenda was sent to newspapers, television and radio stations, citizens of the County, Department Heads, and posted on the bulletin board located in the lobby of the Courthouse.

Chairman Sel Hemingway called the meeting to order. Councilman Drayton gave an invocation and all joined in the pledge of allegiance. Chairman Hemingway noted that Councilman Hood would not be in attendance and Councilwoman Rudolph would be arriving late.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

The following additions/changes were made to the agenda: addition of Ordinance # 2002-70 to amend the Law Enforcement Budget, a report regarding purchasing patrol car video cameras for the Sheriff's Office, a report regarding partnering with other entities to seek federal funding for a desalination water treatment facility, and a request to seek outside legal counsel for a specific matter.

A motion was made by Councilman Charlton and seconded by Councilman Morant to approve the meeting agenda as amended. Chairman Hemingway asked for discussion. There was none.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton Thomas Earl Drayton Sel Hemingway	Johnny Morant Tom Swatzel
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Not Present: Helen Rudolph

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Steve Strickland

Mr. Strickland stated that he was present to address questions regarding the proposed rezoning of approximately 127 acres on the west side of Highway 701 (Ordinance # 2002-67).

Jack Hensley

Mr. Hensley stated that he was present to address questions regarding the proposed rezoning for the True Blue Nursery (Ordinance # 2002-65).

Loretta McCray

Ms. McCray read a letter signed by Franklin McCray disputing his involvement with the County Attorney in writing a previous letter to County Council related to the Arcadia Development Project.

Franklin McCray

Mr. McCray commented on the letter previously read by his wife, Loretta McCray, reinforcing his denial that the County Attorney was involved in writing the letters.

Councilman Charlton asked the County Attorney to render an opinion regarding Mr. McCray's statements that he (Mr. Charlton) should have excluded himself from voting on the Arcadia Development issue due to "business ties". Mr. Scoville stated that Councilman Charlton had no involvement in the Arcadia Development Project from a financial standpoint and therefore he did not have a conflict of interest regarding this issue.

**MINUTES:**

A motion was made by Councilman Morant to approve the minutes of the special council meeting of October 14, 2002. Councilman Drayton seconded the motion. Chairman Hemingway asked for discussion. There was no discussion.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Johnny Morant
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Tom Swatzel
	Sel Hemingway	

Not Present: Helen Rudolph

A motion was made by Councilman Morant to approve the minutes of the regular council meeting of November 12, 2002 as amended. Councilman Charlton seconded the motion. Chairman Hemingway asked for discussion. There was no discussion.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Johnny Morant
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Tom Swatzel
	Sel Hemingway	

Not Present: Helen Rudolph

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

Ordinance # 2002-63

A public hearing was held on Ordinance # 2002-63, an Ordinance to amend the FY 2003 Operating Budget of Georgetown County. There were no public comments and Chairman Hemingway declared the public hearing closed.

**BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:**

Board of Disabilities & Special Needs

Councilman Hemingway made a motion on behalf of Councilman Hood to nominate Ms. Elizabeth Bazemore and Mr. Gordon Haselden to the Georgetown County Board of Disabilities and Special Needs. Councilman Drayton seconded the motion. Chairman Hemingway asked for discussion. There was no discussion.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Johnny Morant
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Tom Swatzel
	Sel Hemingway	



established commercial buildings when there is a proposed color change. Councilman Swatzel added that residential structures that are converted to a commercial use must also comply with color guidelines and seek approval for color changes.

In Favor:           Ron Charlton                                 Sel Hemingway  
                          Thomas Earl Drayton                     Johnny Morant

Opposed:           Tom Swatzel

Not Present:       Helen Rudolph

Ordinance # 2002-65

Councilman Charlton made a motion to adopt the Planning Commission's recommendation, and grant second reading approval of Ordinance # 2002-65 to amend the Official Zoning Map of Georgetown County to rezone approximately 5.08 acres of property on US Highway 17 and extending through Bromley Place and Minnow Drive from General Residential to Planned Development to allow for the development and expansion of the existing nursery operations. Councilman Morant seconded the motion. Chairman Hemingway asked for discussion. There was none.

In Favor:           Ron Charlton                                 Johnny Morant  
                          Thomas Earl Drayton                     Tom Swatzel  
                          Sel Hemingway

Not Present:       Helen Rudolph

Ordinance # 2002-66

Councilman Charlton made a motion to grant second reading approval of Ordinance # 2002-66, an Ordinance to amend the Official Zoning Map of Georgetown County to amend the Master Conceptual Plan for Pawleys Business Center Planned Development to increase the density of the development. Councilman Swatzel seconded the motion. Chairman Hemingway asked for discussion. There was none.

In Favor:           Ron Charlton                                 Johnny Morant  
                          Thomas Earl Drayton                     Tom Swatzel  
                          Sel Hemingway

Not Present:       Helen Rudolph

Ordinance # 2002-67

Councilman Swatzel made a motion to grant second reading approval of Ordinance # 2002-67, an Ordinance to amend the Official Zoning Map for Georgetown County to rezone approximately 127+ acres on the west side of Fraser Street (US Highway 701) north of the intersection of Wedgefield Road and Browns Ferry Road from Residential ½ Acre to Planned Development to allow for a logging operation and the future development of a pond through a mining operation with the following stipulations: (1) access to the McKenzie property through York Drive is limited to 2 years, and (2) the developer/property owner must properly maintain this access road during the approved period of use.

Councilman Charlton seconded the motion. Chairman Hemingway asked for discussion. There was none.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Helen Rudolph
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Johnny Morant
	Sel Hemingway	Tom Swatzel

Ordinance # 2002-68

Councilman Charlton made a motion to grant second reading approval of Ordinance # 2002-68, an Ordinance to implement the referendum to establish the Council-Administrator form of Government in Georgetown County, South Carolina. Councilwoman Rudolph seconded the motion. Chairman Hemingway asked for discussion. There was none.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Helen Rudolph
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Johnny Morant
	Sel Hemingway	Tom Swatzel

Ordinance # 2002-69

Councilman Morant made a motion to grant second reading approval of Ordinance # 2002-69, an Ordinance to authorize the conveyance of 2.5+ acres in the County Airport Industrial Park owned by Georgetown County to be conveyed to McClay Properties, LLC and grant a right of first refusal on an adjacent 2.2 acre tract for a period of three years. Councilman Drayton seconded the motion. Chairman Hemingway asked for discussion. There was none.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Helen Rudolph
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Johnny Morant
	Sel Hemingway	Tom Swatzel

**FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES – By Title Only**

The following Ordinances was introduced for first reading approval:

Ordinance # 2002-70 – An Ordinance to amend the Law Enforcement Fund Budget.

**BIDS**

Murrells Inlet Dredging

This issue was deferred.

**REPORTS TO COUNCIL**

Special Presentation – Georgetown County Ports Authority

Mr. David Shronce, Director of the Georgetown County Port, presented a check in the amount of \$5825 to Sheriff A. Lane Cribb. The donation was raised by twelve businesses representing the waterfront community to purchase a K-9 officer for the Sheriff's Department. The following business contributed: Akzo Nobel Salt America, Butler Trucking Company, Carolina Shipping Co., Inc., Georgetown Steel Company, LLC, Holcim (US) Inc., International Paper Company, McAllister Towing of Georgetown Inc., Propeller Club of Georgetown, S & S Barge (Savannah Marine Services, Inc.), SSA/Cooper Stevedoring, Wilmington Shipping Company, and WSI of the Southeast, LLC.

Murrells Inlet 2007 – Placement of Public Signs

Councilman Swatzel made a motion to approve a request from Murrells Inlet 2007 for the placement of four community wide directional/informational signs in the Murrells Inlet area. Councilman Morant seconded the motion. Chairman Hemingway asked for discussion. There was none.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Johnny Morant
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Helen Rudolph
	Sel Hemingway	Tom Swatzel

800 Mhz. Radio System Installation

Councilman Charlton made a motion to approve utilizing the consulting services of L. Robert Kimball and Associates during the installation phase of the County's 800 Mhz. Radio System at a fee not to exceed \$25,000. Councilwoman Rudolph seconded the motion. Chairman Hemingway asked for discussion. There was none.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Johnny Morant
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Helen Rudolph
	Sel Hemingway	Tom Swatzel

December Meeting Schedule

By consensus, County Council approved a proposed meeting schedule of only one regular Council meeting during the month of December.

Increase in Property Insurance Coverage

Councilman Charlton made a motion to approve an increase in insurance premium of approximately \$6662.00 as necessary to raise the insurance coverage of several County buildings and the contents up to the current replacement value. Councilman Morant seconded the motion. Chairman Hemingway asked for discussion. There was none.

In Favor:	Ron Charlton	Johnny Morant
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Helen Rudolph
	Sel Hemingway	Tom Swatzel

Murrells Inlet Dredging Agreements

This issue was deferred.

Law Enforcement Budget

A motion was made by Councilman Charlton, and seconded by Councilman Swatzel to approve a request from the Sheriff's Department to utilize block grant funding to fund a lease purchase arrangement for patrol car video cameras. Chairman Hemingway asked for discussion.

Councilman Morant questioned if the motion would authorize the submission of a grant application for this purpose. The County Administrator, Thomas Edwards, stated that the grant funding has already been awarded, however, a lease purchase would anticipate the continued funding over a five year period. In a memorandum to County Council the Sheriff has stated that his department would absorb the annual payment from within his operational budget if the federal funding ceased.

