

County Council held a planning work session on Tuesday, February 18, 2003 at 2:00 PM in County Council Chambers.

Present: Ron Charlton Johnny Morant
 Thomas Earl Drayton Jerry Oakley
 Sel Hemingway Helen Rudolph
 David Hood

Staff: Thomas 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. He announced that the purpose of this meeting is to be a planning session where County Council will be updated and informed on various issues. The intention is not for County Council to take action or make definite decisions at this workshop, but to gain information and indicate to staff the "direction" County Council is interested in moving.

A motion was made by Councilman Oakley and seconded by Councilman Charlton to adopt the meeting agenda. Councilman Hemingway asked for discussion. There was none.

In Favor: Ron Charlton Johnny Morant
 Thomas Earl Drayton Jerry Oakley
 Sel Hemingway Helen Rudolph
 David Hood

Automation of Council Agenda and Briefing Books

Clerk to Council, Theresa Floyd, provided members of County Council with an informational report on automating the County Council meeting agendas. This process will increase efficiency, provide greater public accessibility and provide a potential cost savings. Ms. Lisa Somerville, Information Services Project Manager with Greenville County provided a demonstration of the process, as Greenville County is already using this method of providing information to council members and the public.

Chairman Hemingway suggested that staff bring this issue back to County Council for conceptual approval, and then move forward with bids and cost estimates.

Consultants Report – Financial Software

Mr. Jeff Polizzotto, Mr. Greg Dodd, and Mr. Sandy Reeser, representatives of VC3, Inc. were present at the meeting. Mr. Dodd provided a status report on the consultants findings related to the finance and taxing software being used by the County. The team has evaluated both Strawn & Neil

Software and New World Software for various options and limitations in integrating the two. He stated that the desired integration process is possible in time.

The Consultants requested that a portion of their report be given in Executive Session as it involved personnel issues.

A motion was made by Councilman Charlton and seconded by Councilwoman Rudolph to move into Executive Session. Chairman Hemingway asked for discussion. There was none.

Present:	Ron Charlton	Johnny Morant
	Thomas Earl Drayton	Jerry Oakley
	Sel Hemingway	Helen Rudolph
	David Hood	

Council moved into Executive Session at 3:00 PM.

Open Session resumed at 5:30 PM. Chairman Hemingway stated that while in Executive Session County Council was briefed by the Consultants on some personnel related issues. County Council made no decisions and no votes were taken while in Executive Session.

Strategic Plan Update

Members of County Council were provided with an update report on various strategic plan projects and a financial overview. County Administrator, Thomas Edwards Jr., informed Council members that the information was provided for informational purposes at this time. The revised strategic plan will be presented for adoption at the next regular meeting of County Council.

Andrews Industrial Park

Planning and Development Director, Allen Burns, provided County Council with an update report on the Industrial Park including costs associated with implementation of Phase 1 of the Industrial Park. Grant funding in the amount of 1.6 million has been obtained to implement water and sewer.

FY 2004 Budget

County Administrator provided a brief overview on budget projections for FY 2004. Staff continues to address revenue shortfalls. Council will need to make serious decisions in the upcoming year to either reduce current expense or raise additional revenue.

Planning & Development Organizational Structure

County Council discussed the organizational structure and advantages and disadvantages of the combined Planning and Development Departments, as well as financial considerations. Chairman Hemingway suggested that County Council meet individually with both the Planning Commission and the Economic Development Commission to gain input and exchange ideas.

Administrative Office Building

County Council discussed a new Administrative Building, existing facility limitations, and financing considerations. Councilman Charlton suggested that this issue be referred to the Administration & Finance Committee for closer study.

Boat Landing Projects, River Access and Beach Access

County Administrator, Thomas Edwards, informed County Council that engineering studies are being performed on the Sampit Boat landing property. Once those analyses are complete this issue will be referred to the Health, Education & Leisure Committee.

Research has been done on revenues that could be available to provide much need beach and river access in Georgetown County. He suggested that County Council consider the possibility of committing future local accommodations and hospitality tax to address these needs.

Bynum Center – Agreement with the Georgetown County School District.

The County continues to negotiate with the School District for possession of the Bynum Center facility. At this time there is nothing in absolute terms to present to County Council.

Cash Management

This issue was deferred, as the County Treasurer was unable to attend this meeting.

Zoning Study and Comprehensive Land Use Plan

Planning and Development Director, Allen Burns stated that the Planning Commission has been working on the Zoning Ordinance rewrite for approximately 8 months. Sections of the revised Comprehensive Land Use Plan will be provided to the Planning Commission this week. He provided County Council with a draft copy of Vismor & Associates report.

Georgetown County Fire and Midway Fire Department – Board Structure

County Council directed the County Attorney to review existing ordinances related to the Midway Fire Department Board and draft an ordinance creating a board for Georgetown County Fire District 1, and also bring the Midway Fire Department Ordinance into compliance with the newly adopted Council-Administrator Form of Government.

Fee Implementation

County Council will need to study and evaluate the implementation of landfill fees and Emergency Medical Service fees to address potential financial difficulties in the future.

Citizens Volunteer Group

County Council endorsed a Citizens Volunteer Group to be set up by Beth Goodale.

Activation of Visions Committee

County Council was supportive of reactivating the Visions Committee.

Airport Hangar Construction

County Council was apprised of the need for hangars at the Georgetown County Airport. Funding issues will need to be addressed at a future date.

North Santee, Sampit, and Lambertown Parks

Councilman Drayton brought up three recreational park issues within Council District Three (3). Ball fields and a Community Center is needed at Lambertown, North Santee Park needs interior work in the Community Center including the installation of bathrooms and tile in the auditorium, and the Sampit Community has requested a 20x30 metal building to be used as a Community

Center. The total cost of all three projects is estimated at \$30,000. Some funding could possibly be derived through the Legislative Delegation.

Hazardous Waste, Pervious Surfaces, and Building Size Limitations

Councilman Hood stated that the Land Use Committee recently met and to discuss waste issue associated with commercial hog farms, pervious surfaces, and settings limitations on commercial building sizes on the Waccamaw Neck. Planning Director, Allen Burns, stated that all of these issues would be addressed in the revised Zoning Ordinance, which is due to the Planning Commission in May.

Being no further business to discuss, Councilman Oakley made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Date Approved

Clerk to Council