

**COMMITTEE of the WHOLE COMMITTEE
JANUARY 24, 2012**

The Committee of the Whole met on Tuesday, January 24, 2012 in the Committee Room, located on the second floor of the Administration Building, beginning at 2:35 p.m. Mr. Banning presided.

Members Attending:

William B. Banning, Sr., Chairman	Johnny W. Jeffcoat, V Chairman
James E. Kinard, Jr.	Frank J. Townsend, III
George H. Davis	Debra B. Summers
Bobby C. Keisler	K. Brad Matthews
M. Todd Cullum	

Also attending: Joe Mergo, III, Interim County Administrator; Larry Porth, Finance Director/Assistant County Administrator; Jeff Anderson, County Attorney; other staff members, citizens of the county and representatives of the media.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, a copy of the agenda was sent to radio and TV stations, newspapers, and posted on the bulletin board located in the lobby of the County Administration Building.

Update on the Ground Level Ozone Standard - Public Works - Synithia Williams, Environmental Coordinator and Robert J. Brown, Jr., Director of the Division of Air Assessment, Innovations, and Regulation with the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control - Ms. Williams and Mr. Brown presented an update on the Ground Level Ozone Standard. Ms. William reported the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has implemented the 2008 Ozone Standard of .075 parts per million (ppm). The ozone standard was due to be revisited but EPA elected not to and scheduled for review in 2013. Mr. Brown provided a handout to the Committee with information and technical data on the Lexington County Air Quality status. He reviewed the data provided for the individual standards and reported the County is in compliance with all standards. For information only, no action taken.

Executive Session - A motion was made by Mr. Matthews, seconded by Ms. Summers to go into Executive Session for a legal briefing.

The vote was in favor. Mr. Banning was not present at the time the vote was taken.

Mr. Jeffcoat reconvened the meeting in open session with no motions to be considered.

Ordinance 12-02 - Property Maintenance Ordinance - 1st Reading (Goal 2) - Sheriff's Department - Keith Kirchner, Chief Deputy - Mr. Charlie Compton, Planning and GIS Director, presented a proposed draft of Ordinance 12-02 - Property Maintenance Ordinance, The ordinance is intended for the protection of property values and improving the safety of County residents. He provided a Power Point with three options for possible target areas based on density numbers for the Committee's review: Option 1 - Neighborhoods, Option 2 - Tracts and Block Groups, Option 3 -

Same map for Option 2 but clean-up boundaries for good continuity to follow a straight line. The Committee discussed the pros and cons of enacting the ordinance. Mr. Banning said Council asked staff to draft an ordinance based on calls Council has been receiving, not just about residential neighborhoods but commercial areas as well. Chief Kirchner provided additional information of County areas highlighting the main issues of concern. He reported if the ordinance is passed that only the Sheriff's Code Enforcement Division would be responsible for enforcing. Some of the main concerns are: unkempt swimming pools that are a breeding ground for mosquitoes; excessive grass, weeds, and uncultivated vegetation; portable storage units; and structural disrepair and maintenance. Mr. Banning requested staff to obtain copies of other similar ordinances and plan for a public hearing in March.

A motion was made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Ms. Summers to recommend to Council to approve 1st reading of Ordinance 12-02.

In favor: Mr. Davis Ms. Summers
 Mr. Banning Mr. Jeffcoat
 Mr. Cullum

Opposed: Mr. Kinard Mr. Townsend
 Mr. Keisler

*Mr. Matthews was not present at the time the vote was taken.

Old Business/New Business - Local Contractor Procurement - None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy R. Busbee
Assistant to the Clerk

William B. Banning, Sr.
Chairman

Diana W. Burnett
Clerk