

**PLANNING and ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
MARCH 22, 2011**

The Planning and Administration Committee met on Tuesday, March 22, 2011 in the Committee Room, located on the second floor of the Administration Building beginning at 1:25 p.m. Mr. Jeffcoat, Committee Chairman, presided.

Members Attending:

Johnny W. Jeffcoat, Chairman  
Kenneth Brad Matthews  
James E. Kinard, Jr.

George H. Davis, V Chairman  
William B. Banning, Sr.

Also attending: Katherine Hubbard, County Administrator; Joe Mergo, Deputy County Administrator; Larry Porth, Finance Director/Assistant County Administrator; 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.

**Landscape and Open Space Requirements for Detention Ponds - Community Development & Public Works - Robbie Derrick, Landscape Administrator and John Fechtel, Director of Public Works** - Mr. Derrick and Mr. Fechtel presented information on the landscape and open space requirements for detention ponds with a Power Point presentation. Mr. Derrick gave an overview of sections of the landscape ordinance that pertain to the requirements for detention ponds for commercial and residential developments. He reported the original Landscape Ordinance was adopted January 1, 2001 for the north and northeast areas of Lexington County and included provisions for both detention and retention ponds and July 1, 2010 the ordinance went countywide. Mr. Derrick presented images of landscaped detention ponds approved by the County. Mr. Fechtel reported on some of the issues with the approximately 140 county maintained ponds. He said this is an extensive cleanup process and staff is only halfway through the cleanup with anticipated completion to take about a year. Staff will follow-up with spraying a herbicide to keep down vegetation. Mr. Fechtel reported they have contacted Horry and Charleston counties and found they do not require landscaping on residential ponds. Mr. Derrick said he contacted Mr. Dan Walker, Town of Lexington Landscape Administrator, and the Town's landscape ordinance is very similar to the County's detention pond requirements. Mr. Derrick is waiting on response about the Town's regulations for subdivisions and commercial ponds. The Committee agreed they did not want to see brown holes around the County from herbicide spraying to keep down the undergrowth. Public Works and Community Development staff will research alternatives and return with recommendations. For information only, no action taken.

**Zoning Text Amendment T11-01 - Public Service Signs - 1<sup>st</sup> Reading - Planning & GIS -**  
Mr. Charlie Compton, Planning and GIS Director, presented Zoning Text Amendment T11-01 regarding Article 2 - Application of Regulation, Chapter 5 - Signs. He reported on the proposed recommendations as outlined in the draft for Public Service Signs that would expand the definition of public service activities.

A motion was made by Mr. Kinard, seconded by Mr. Matthews to recommend to full Council to approve 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Zoning Text Amendment T11-01.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Approval of Minutes - Meeting of February 8, 2011** - A motion was made by Mr. Matthews, seconded by Mr. Davis to approve the February 8, 2011 minutes as submitted.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Old Business/New Business** - None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy R. Busbee  
Assistant to the Clerk

Johnny W. Jeffcoat  
Chairman

Diana W. Burnett  
Clerk