because we’ve got probably what, Mr. Hinely, nine projects ahead of us, probably eight or nine projects. When we do one, we just add one on the bottom.

MR. MICHEL: And they’re defined, costed out, shovel ready?
MR. FERGUSON: Yes.
MR. MICHEL: There’s $1.1 billion in there. You might as well put an application in for some money out of that. If you got $500,000 or $600,000, you’d be that much farther ahead on where you otherwise were. (24). FAA facilities and equipment doesn’t apply to us, nor does the (25). high speed rail corridors or (26). Amtrak. (27). Transit formula grants have already come down. They have come down and gone to transit agencies. I think some of them went directly to some of the larger ones. I don’t know how that’s coming to the transit agency here, but it comes through the formula and it’s for rolling stock or capital improvements. Cannot spend that money on operations. (28). Fixed guideway modernization is for rail transit agencies. (29). New starts is for new transit programs. (30). Competitive grants for transportation. This is the big pot of money from which states and local governments will be trying to get road and bridge money. This is the non-formula transportation money.

MR. FERGUSON: And we are going to make application in this one, right, Mr. Brown?
MR. CHAIRMAN: Yeah, I would see where we need to.
MR. TRAPP: Would this grant pave any dirt roads or that’s for something totally different?
MR. CHAIRMAN: I think if we look at this list of priorities that that the Dennis Group put together, I think there’s quite a few bridges and different things in there. The way I look at it, I hate that Mr. McGraw is not here, but let Mr. McGraw continue to do what the CTC does as far as paving roads and since his money doesn’t do bridges and other things, let’s see what we can work to go hand in hand as far as what’s on that list and what Mr. McGraw has in the future plans.

MR. PERRY: One thing I want to say about this grant is if the grant is less than $20 million, it has to be waived by DOT.
MR. FERGUSON: Well, the bridges Mr. Brown’s talking about aren’t DOT bridges; those are county bridges, every one of them. If we’re talking about the bridges that was on that list, they are not DOT bridges, they are County.
MR. CHAIRMAN: Except for one. They still had one down here going from 34 to 321, that’s supposed to be a state bridge.
MR. FERGUSON: I would imagine though if we secured the money to put that bridge in, I doubt DOT would ...
MR. MICHEL: This is federal DOT that it’s referring to here. And that’s correct, it would have to be waived, but I think that there wouldn’t be a problem with waiving it. I think that this is one where we say that we absolutely want to see what the solicitation looks like. We want to take a look at it and be
ready to put something in if there's something that looks like it will work under the program. But it's going to be highly subscribed but it doesn't mean that there's not going to be money available.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The only thing I regret is some places where funds were cut out of Mr. Obama's original budget, like buildings for education. I think a lot of the transportation monies were taken out and, the whole thing was rebuilding our infrastructure, highways and interstates and then when it went back, a lot of those things that would really improve America got cut because of politics and that's probably one of them.

MR. MICHEL: And you see the next fund is where the bulk of all that money went, and that's where we have received word of the amount of money that we'll get in Fairfield County, I believe.

MS. ROBINSON: Over $5 million?

MR. MICHEL: I'm sorry, how much?

MS. ROBINSON: Something about the state's going to do?

MR. MICHEL: Right, the money that goes from the feds to the state to us by formula.

MS. ROBINSON: A little over $5 million. No, excuse me, I don't know how much it is, but it's a little over five miles.

MR. MICHEL: Of roadway, right. The next page is a throw-away for our purposes. The next page is for (31). public housing authorities. Does Fairfield County have a public housing authority?

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, we do not.

MR. MICHEL: Do we receive any public housing authority funds or does it ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, we do. I mean, we got Section 8 funding that we receive and that goes through that program, I think, does it not, Ms. Mickens, and I think there is some modernization money in there and modernization for Section 8 housing is what they told us in Washington as far as upgrading all of the air conditioning, heating systems, weatherization, and things like that, per house. And it was a pretty amazing number what they are planning on distributing, if it comes through.

(Next tape.)

MR. MARCHARIA: We need emergency shelter--that community.

MR. MICHEL: We will look and see whether this is (32). emergency shelter in terms of like a homeless shelter or whether it's a emergency shelter like a fallout shelter. Either one is needed.

MR. FERGUSON: Mr. Chairman, the other thing I was thinking about is what we consider the new Armory would be one of our most protected areas if we had to do an emergency area and that building is getting to the age where we probably could use some upfitting that building, so that might be another one, along with the one Mr. Marcharia's talking about, that some funds could be used to help us with that particular building up there.
MR. MARCHARIA: You’re speaking of Airport Road?
MR. FERGUSON: The one on the old Airport Road. Yes.
MR. CHAIRMAN: I think it needs a new roof on it now, doesn’t it, Mr. Hinely?
MR. FERGUSON: Sounds like a wonderful plan to me.
MR. MICHEL: (33). Lead hazard elimination.
MR. MARCHARIA: Is that a medical problem in the County, would anyone know? I know it’s been a gigantic fight around removing lead and I know when they fixed up some homes, they removed lead when they were doing the community development block grants, so is that still an issue in this county?
MR. CHAIRMAN: Any home built prior to 1968. I think that’s the magic number, 1968.
MR. MARCHARIA: That’s my house.
MR. CHAIRMAN: 1978. Anything built prior to 1978 definitely has a lead problem. If you ever go to sell it, you need to either paint it or either you need to go in there and borrow some money from these people and take it all out.
MR. MICHEL: (34). Community development financial institutions. I don’t know if we have any CDFIs in Fairfield County. CDFIs.
MR. CHAIRMAN: Not that I know of.
MR. MICHEL: (35). Army Corps of Engineers will not apply to us yet. (36). Bureau of Reclamation does not apply to South Carolina. (37). Department of Labor. I think it’s important to focus on these Department of Labor programs for a few minutes because they’re all directed towards states and workforce investment boards, and I would have to call on the knowledge of someone that’s greater than mine for what our workforce investment boards are here in the area.
MR. CHAIRMAN: You got workforce investment, which is kind of also controlled by the State and the Workforce Investment Act is also coming through the Governor’s office Commerce Department in South Carolina. That’s pretty much where that’s coming from. It has some directive coming in. Workforce Investments for the Midlands actually is a arm of the COG or is a division of the COG, but it still is Governor’s office funded and direction. So, right now, the workforce investment does quite a bit of work up here as far as the training facility and where you go to try to find you a new job and get your one step program and different things. So, we just need to let WIA know that we are definitely wanting them to apply for as much as they can on our behalf.
MR. MICHEL: And there’s a lot of formula money, if you look here there’s 4.45 ... there’s almost one, two, three billion dollars in formula money between (38). dislocated worker, (39). youth job program and (40). adult training that’s going to be available nationwide, which means that’s some six figure numbers, at least, I think that’ll trickle down to us and that doesn’t include the competitive money they can go after down below that. What I’m saying is we need to think through what we need to do to be ready
to fill out to respond to that e-mail when it comes and says we have this money if you can obligate it, because I think that there will be money coming our way for job training that we can obligate if we have the projects for it. If you look at the fifth one down, the (41). high growth and emerging industry job training, I had several discussions with our delegation in Washington about trying to make nuclear power green for the purposes of this bill, at least for the purposes of this provision of the bill, but was not successful in that. I don’t think that that’s going to provide any extra funding for nuclear power job training, which we need, because it’s not considered green or renewable. Though I don’t know if that’s absolutely the case, but I fear that that’s what it will be. But I’ll keep an eye on that. (42). Trade adjustment assistance does not apply to us.

MR. MARCHARIA: Excuse me, did you skip over (43). youthbuild? Page sixteen, the last one.

MR. MICHEL: I did, and I apologize. I thought that it went to the workforce training.

MR. MICHEL: Yeah, let me see what that is.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That looks more like a school program type thing there.

MR. MARCHARIA: No, they have 501C3 organizations who find young people and train them as apprentice or put them to work help building houses or in various projects throughout the State and counties.

MR. CHAIRMAN: How about the minister from your side of the county, can he not apply for that? Is he a 501C3 now?

MR. MARCHARIA: He’s doing construction work. Is that who you’re speaking of? There was a gentleman who came here and asked for some assistance with us when Mr. Ferguson was chair; have a church down here on 321. I can’t remember. He and his wife are lawyers here.

MS. KINLEY: Felder.

MR. MARCHARIA: He was running a program like this. I think Ms. Brown might know. Are Reverend Felder and his wife, on that youth thing they came and met with us one time and was asking for funds. But they’re probably not the only one. If someone had a grant, they do education, adult education programs, training, placing young people in jobs and work with them and mentoring.

MR. MICHEL: Yes, it’s available for 501C3s to apply for, not governments.

MR. MARCHARIA: I think we need to keep that on the radar in case we can help these young folks in the County.

MR. MICHEL: The workforce investment board?

MR. MARCHARIA: I think it’s separate. If you go on the website under the Governor, it’s run by the Governor, I think, but it’s not workforce, it’s a whole separate entity. Across the nation it has just about every state.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is that some of the money the Governor doesn’t want?
MR. MARCHARIA: Yes, probably.
MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. Go ahead, Mr. Michel.
MR. MICHEL: I have that that program is from the Lindsey Graham Office summary that that program, Youthbuild is eligible for 501C3s to apply to directly. I've started to keep an eye on it. Trade Adjustment Assistance Act. (44). Job Corps are $300 million for job corps. I don't know if we have job corps here in Fairfield and I'm not certain how that works. School system, do we need to do anything to alert them to this? (45). Community health centers, $500 million. The recipients of that should be community health centers for community health centers to apply for funding. Same with (46). Community health center modernization. That money I believe is all competitive.
MR. MARCHARIA: We should apply for it.
MR. CHAIRMAN: Who would be the applicant? Does the hospital need to be the applicant? That would be the only thing we would be representing. It's not like Palmetto or Richland Community Health Care. We definitely need to look into both of those.
MR. MICHEL: The other summary that I have, I have a third and a fourth and a fifth summary over there that I didn't bring up here, but this one has a higher amount of money that's available instead of $1.5 billion total for those things. It's $2.5 billion total for those things. So, 1.5 is a floor, at least we know that there's much. (47). Community services block grant will go to community action agencies as I've heard about that program two or three times. I was going to tell you what that's for, but I don't have that readily in front of me, but it will go to those community action agencies for some type of health program, and I can find out more about that if we need to.
MR. MARCHARIA: We already spoke on one which was Carolina Community Action, one of the agencies that do that kind of work.
MR. MICHEL: And I believe Mr. McGraw, was that his name?
MR. MARCHARIA: Yes, sir.
MR. MICHEL: I believe there's only one community action agency per geographical unit, is that correct?
MR. HINELY: I think so.
MR. MICHEL: So my guess is that Carolina Community Action will be administering that funding and that's a lot of money. We ought to look at how we get some of that for the health needs in the County. And I'll have to look and find out exactly what that can be spent on, but generally, when it's down to community action agencies, it's to benefit the less fortunate in society and taking care of their healthcare needs. I'll look into that. (48). Headstart is for states and Headstart providers.
MR. CHAIRMAN: School district does that. Or is Headstart separate from school district. Gleems Headstart, that's a separate entity. They know how to apply for those funds, I think, and they'll be applying for them. But we need to find out from Gleems what they're doing because we definitely need to take advantage of it.
MR. MARCHARIA: Under Title I?
MR. MICHEL: (49). The prevention and wellness fund is eligibility currently not known. States can receive money to implement healthcare associated infection reduction strategies. $300 million will go to CDC to carry out immunization program. $650 million will be used to carry out evidence based clinical and community based prevention and wellness strategies that deliver specific measurable health outcomes and address chronic disease rates.
MR. MARCHARIA: It would come under that. It comes under
MR. CHAIRMAN: You got somebody who can write that grant or keep in touch with that?
MS. KINLEY: Mac Russell probably could handle that.
MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. Tell her to keep in touch with that.
MR. MICHEL: This looks like it goes to states. But I’ll keep an eye on that and forward you any information that I see on it or what information comes out on it. (50). Health information technology is one we’ve discussed in the past for Fairfield Memorial. That money’s not going to be turned loose. Unless there’s some planning money, there’s not going to be any of that money released quickly for the same reason that the broadband money is not coming out quickly is because they have to agree on standards. The example that I use is operating systems. If you’ve got five different operating systems, you don’t want to tell everyone to go buy new software until you figure out which one operating system you’re going to have all that software on so that it can all talk to each other. (51). Administration on aging, nutrition services is formula. (52). School lunch program and emergency food assistance goes to the states.
MS. ROBINSON: Meals on Wheels?
MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes. That comes through comes through the COG.
MS. KINLEY: Is that going to be the state’s?
MR. CHAIRMAN: It’s through formula, so that’s going to be coming down through the COG?
MS. KINLEY: We could use some of that.
MR. MARCHARIA: Are they going to change their criteria now that there’s tons of money being poured in or they’re going to still have some of the restrictive kind of policies of who attends, how many, what numbers?
MR. CHAIRMAN: The reason it was restricted last year and the year before and the year before is the fact that they didn’t have this type money, but also there’s a lot more people who should be on the rolls receiving Meals on Wheels that haven’t been put on the rolls because the funding cuts already. This comes through the Governor’s office, mainly the Lieutenant Governor’s office, but it also comes through the COG through formula, so we’ll keep in touch with that. If it’s out there, we’ll try our best to get it. (53). Emergency food assistance, that would be things like food bank and your different organizations that distribute food to the homeless, etcetera, needy.
MR. MICHEL: By formula to the states. I don’t know if we receive any of that money. I honestly don’t know where that money goes through.
MR. CHAIRMAN: We need to check on that.
MR. MARCHARIA: We definitely need to look at it.
MR. MICHEL: Next page is (54). SBA. There’re all loans for small businesses. Nothing for the county to do.
MR. MARCHARIA: Doesn’t apply for us.
MR. CHAIRMAN: That next one will be very competitive, but we can let Mr. Hinely work on that.
MR. MICHEL: The next one is the (55). **Historic Preservation Fund**.
MR. CHAIRMAN: It’s $15 million nationwide.
MR. MICHEL: Why do I think that’s not the right number?
MR. CHAIRMAN: Well, it’s $15 million nationwide, so I think we would have to have a very strong grant writing application on that one. I mean, we’d be glad to do it.
MR. CHAIRMAN: I think we can apply for these things. If the Town of Ridgeway wants to apply, they need to apply also. That’s why I told Mr. Hinely I would let him handle that one. That’s his department.
MR. MICHEL: I don’t want to take away from this discussion, but I believe that there’s two historic preservation funds. One of them is a much larger fund for the preservation of historic structures within national parks. This one is a much smaller fund which is which is designated only for historically black colleges and universities. So there’s not one that would cover our courthouse. The next one is the (56). **National Endowment for the Arts Grants**, which are only for employment services to keep artists working. You have to have received an NEA grant within the last four years, so you have to be already a trusted federal recipient of grants.
MR. CHAIRMAN: I don’t think we have done that, have we, Mr. Hinely?
MR. MICHEL: You have to be a local arts agency.
MR. MARCHARIA: Well, the schools can do that, right? Are you talking about do we have any art programs outside of the school, community-wise?
MS. ROBINSON: Through the state.
MR. MICHEL: That’s the end of that document.
MR. CHAIRMAN: (57). **The State Fiscal and Stabilization Fund**.
MR. MICHEL: That’s the large amount of money that came to the State for shoring up state budgets that the state legislature has received to write into the next two budget years.
MR. CHAIRMAN: For school districts?
MR. MICHEL: Yes. There’s separate school district funds that the State’s received. Those aren’t in here because they’re not local government. They’re not something local government has to make a decision to go apply for.
MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. Prior to us going into this next folder we got here, Mrs. Brown has something for us to go take care of.
If we can have a recess for a few minutes. Do I have a motion to go into recess?

MR. FERGUSON: So moved.

MS. ROBINSON: Second.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Unanimous.

(Recess – 8:39 PM – 9:15 PM)

MR. MICHEL: This is from the Lindsey Graham’s office’s summary of the stimulus bill. The front page has a listing of the different programs. We’ll go right into what in your package should be page two, which down at the bottom of the page, should say page one. (1). The **distance learning, telemedicine and broadband program**. This is the main one that we’re going to watch for Fairfield County because it is run out of the Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, and it is for rural areas, which means we won’t be in competition with all of the urban interests that will be looking for the broadband program that we saw earlier. I’ll repeat that the likelihood of this solicitation coming out any time in the next 60 days is low, but we will watch it.

MR. MARCHARIA: Can I ask a question relative to this?

MR. MICHEL: Yes.

MR. MARCHARIA: Under this, earlier when you spoke about broadband, under that McCrory Liston has it and the nuclear power plant has broadband service, but given to the towers and whatnot, there’s no kind of way any of this money can like piggyback on either one of those two because it’s right in the community; I mean less than three miles from my house and I’m on a phone line?

MR. MICHEL: Mr. Hinely has had at least one meeting with a gentleman from VC3 to discuss this and I have some follow-up documentation from him that I have not read yet because I knew this wasn’t urgent.

MR. HINELY: He asked us for some maps and we got picture maps and we’re moving forward.

MR. CHAIRMAN: And actually, I looked at the map. They mapped every tall structure, even not cell towers, but like that tower up there at 99 and Shelton Road, that microwave station. If the money’s there, they can put whatever it takes to go up the top of that and be able to get in the Shelton area. From looking at it, there’s not too many places that are blank in Fairfield County, which there are three or four. So we might end up having to put some towers up and somebody doing towers still don’t know how it’s going to be administered or how it’s going to work, but this TC3-- that’s what they do--this company that Mr. Hinely’s already met with.

MR. MARCHARIA: The highest point in Fairfield County is on 215 and Fish Hook Road. The highest elevation is right there. So if they have this, is it based on towers or how did McCrory Liston and the nuclear power plant have this and this?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do they have satellite dish?

MR. TRAPP: HughesNet, direct net.
MR. MARCHARIA: And we couldn’t piggyback as an entity or something with them for rates or anything?
MR. FERGUSON: It’s about 90 bucks a month.
MR. CHAIRMAN: Well, hopefully, we will have it county-wide and it’s not going to cost that much.
MR. MICHEL: The priority for that program is under-served and unserved areas and they’re working out things like how much you’re going to be able to charge people and how much you’re not going to be able to charge people and how much penetration you have to have, meaning are you going to be able to pick it up in your living room; are you going to have to walk outside; are you going to have to buy antennas. All the standards for the program are being developed, which is why the program hasn’t been released yet. The next page is (2). watershed and flood prevention program and its loans, and down below, (3). the watershed rehabilitation program at the bottom of page two is also loans. You’ll stop me if there’s something we need to worry about.
MR. CHAIRMAN: We’ve got money in the County right now that’s soil conservation has already gotten not from the stimulus, but this past year’s budget, I believe. You know, they are doing some work on some of these old flood controlled dams we already got in the County.
MR. MICHEL: The next one is (4). forest service capital improvements maintenance, which doesn’t apply to us.
MR. CHAIRMAN: We’ve got U.S. forests in Fairfield County.
MR. MICHEL: U.S. forests in Fairfield County.
MR. CHAIRMAN: And, well, most of them are in pretty good shape. Most of the roads.
MR. MICHEL: It says eligibility are states and U.S. territories. I’m sure that the Forest Service will have a strong decision capacity in determining where that money goes. The next one says (5). wild land fire management. It’s either wild fire land management or wild land fire management, I’m not sure which one. But this is mostly for out west. I don’t know that we need any fire management funds here. Project grants, most of these are aimed at areas where they have the fires that you read about every year out west. (6). Farm Service Agency doesn’t apply to us. Down at the bottom of page four, that’s when we start getting into some of the things that do seriously apply to us. To provide the (7). RUS (Rural Utility Service), Rural Water and Waste Disposal Program. This is for sewer, 3.788 billion in loans and grants for water and waste disposal facilities in rural areas. This is water and sewer, I’m sorry. Drinking water and sewer. And you see down there under additional criteria, there are 2.82 billion in direct loans and 986 million for grants. So it’s almost an automatic that we’ll need to put in an application for a grant for the water system. Now, the one thing that I would hasten to add is checking with the Town of Winnsboro as to whether they’re going to take up
that mantle and do that project. I have sent a couple of e-mails to Mr. Wood and Mayor Gaddy over the last four or five days and I haven’t heard back from them—my asking them if they want to have this kind of meeting. So we need to figure out whether Winnsboro is going to put this in. Of course, I’ll urge them to and I think we should probably go forward with the idea that they will put this grant in because they have the capacity to put in this grant; they’ve got everything lined out, but I can’t tell you tonight that they have told me “We’re going to put this grant in for this water line.”

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let me ask, Ms. Mickens ...

MS. MICKENS: Yes, sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you and the grants woman at the Town, do you all ...

MS. MICKENS: Connie?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes

MS. MICKENS: I got an e-mail saying that she would think about it inaudible)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I know the day I met with the water committee at the Town and I was saying something about grant writers and she was very indignant that I didn’t know who she was and that she was an expert grant writer and she brought that out that she definitely could write grants for the Town of Winnsboro, so if you talk to her, find out if they are applying for this thing.

MR. FERGUSON: Now, which grant are you referring to now?

MR. MICHEL: The Phase I Water System, which is the second water line—the parallel water line to increase the flow. The other one’s not ready. I don’t know how shovel ready these are going to have to be, but I know that the water line to the Broad River is steps away—permitting and easements to be secured.

MR. CHAIRMAN: However, everybody we talked to in Washington said they would help with that process as far as going through the Corps of Engineers.

MR. FERGUSON: Well, this right here would be a big jump for them because even if they had the other one, they’d have to have this. This has got to be first.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Number one priority.

MR. MICHEL: Right.

MR. CHAIRMAN: And they need to be applying for it, I mean, and it’s supposed to be shovel ready.

MR. MICHEL: It is, according to HPG. It is ready to go.

MR. CHAIRMAN: And plus, Georgiana knows how to write grants, so I don’t know why they are dragging their feet if they are dragging their feet.

MR. MICHEL: No, we just haven’t had the conversation yet.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay.

MR. MICHEL: (8). Rural Housing Insurance Fund is loans. I don’t know that any of this is anything that we as a County need to apply for. Again, remember, this document that we went through earlier was targeted toward programs that might be of interest to
local units of government. This document we're looking at now is a comprehensive review of the USDA section of the stimulus bill.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** But now, is this coming through the normal channels or is something that anybody can apply for?

**MR. MARCHARIA:** Are you speaking of the loans, Mr. Chair? The housing loans? This whole area says you have to have at least a minimum of 10,000 people to apply for these loans, right? It says additional criteria.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Not more than 10,000. That's pretty much our whole County qualifies for that. The whole county has about 4,000, Winnsboro Mills got 4,000.

**MR. MARCHARIA:** We'll soon have 6,000. We'll soon have five to six if they start building reactors.

**MR. MICHEL:** It looks like under the eligibility that it's wide. Individuals, corporations, associations, trusts, partnerships, farm labor housing insured. That doesn't make sense, under the eligible applicants looks like it's that bottom one.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Mr. Hinely, this would be one that maybe Ms. Vickers and those would like to look at, too, if we could make her aware of this one.

**MR. MICHEL:** The next one is important to us, the (9). *Rural Community Facilities Program,* and we already have that health clinic pledged to be paid for, but we've also talked about a potential health clinic in addition to that one in Great Falls, in the Mitford area. What I would bring your attention to is that there's $63 million for community facility grants nationwide, but there is 1.171 billion for direct community facility loans, which is a lot of money for loans for rural facilities. You wouldn't want to look at that unless you had some kind of revenue component to whatever it was that you were going to go and construct with the loan.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** And I think that's what Richland Community Healthcare. They have demographics are about identical to the Eastover facility. They can see a revenue stream. Was that all grant money or was that some loan, do you know?

**MR. HINELY:** She said it was grant.

**MR. FERGUSON:** Grant money.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Because it should be a mechanism in there on long term loan to help pay this thing off.

**MR. FERGUSON:** Well, the one in Ridgeway was grant money.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** It was 100 percent grant?

**MR. MICHEL:** The question that I would have for the Palmetto Health people is whether if we built a facility in Great Falls/Mitford, would they be interested in staffing it and paying a lease payment to the county that would pay back the loan. They may not, but there may be something else that the County wants to do in the way of facilities that would generate revenue to pay back the loan. I'm just throwing that out there to think about and keep in mind, because that's a lot of loan money that's available.
MR. CHAIRMAN: You know, John Spratt's got these things once or twice and that would be locating a facility on the County line that would serve the Chester County and Fairfield, and we might need to take that back to John.

MR. FERGUSON: We certainly need to look at both of them and then see what floats out of it.

MR. MICHEL: I'm sorry, take a look at what?

MR. FERGUSON: I think what we need to do is apply for the grant side of it and keeping in mind that on the loan side also if we didn't get the grant. But like David said, if we put it in the right place in Mitford, it would be a pretty wide range up there where it'd touch two parts of Chester County and Fairfield County.

MR. MARCHARIA: Wait one moment. Before we go on, back to the rural thing, I am still going to advocate for a multi-purpose community center in Western Fairfield on that 8.5 acres of land that was given to us and we're just skipping right over that. And we build one medical center here; we'll put another one there, and we probably can figure out whether or not this Council would support a project like that or not and I think as a Council, we all thought that recreation or some type of facility in our communities were important to the growth and development of our community or the safety of our kids and children in the community. No one's speaking to that, so I'm certainly going to ask that that certainly be included and applied for.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let's keep going through it and see if there's anything in here for recreation. Let's keep going.

MR. MARCHARIA: Well, that's what we pay Mr. Kyle for to know this, right?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kyle knows, but he doesn't know everything. This came down from senator Graham's office, what, yesterday, Kyle?

MR. MICHEL: Right.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So much information coming down.

MR. MARCHARIA: Just let me say this. We've been talking about this for months, if not years, and look like somebody, the administration, this Council, whoever we have to do it, would know something by now. And we come in here and the clock is ticking on a deadline and nobody knows nothing about whether there's monies available for this or whether there's brick and mortar for this. At least I've asked. At least I could have got a response that "I looked and I didn't found nothing; you aren't getting it," or something. This has been going on for years.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Well, we pretty much, from what I understand, is we got the health clinic for a million and a half dollars.

MR. MARCHARIA: Yes, we got it, but it wasn't ours. They're getting it. That group is getting it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I mean, somebody has to administer it. They are in the business. We are not in the healthcare business. That's why when I mentioned Mitford a few minutes ago, whose going to be the applicant? Is it going to be the hospital or is it going to be a 501C3? The County is not in the healthcare business other
than the hospital. So, if there is a facility that we apply, we’ve got to apply in the name of somebody. Luckily, Richland Community Healthcare already had a million and a half dollars to put a new facility on the western side of the county and that’s great. We still probably need to look for monies for community facilities. Now, this says community facilities including hospital, health clinics, health and safety vehicles, doesn’t say anything about recreation right there.

MR. MARCHARIA: Well, is a recreation a community facility?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I reckon you could say that, so let’s keep going through this and see if there’s a certain line item in here that is recreation and if it is, we’ll look at that, too. But at the same time, we’re going to be looking at this for the eastern side and the western side. That’s what we already said.

MR. MARCHARIA: Did we have on our priority list that recreation was one of the number one. I’m just saying, it’s not being discussed; it’s not coming up. Let’s continue to search to see what happens. So if it’s not on the table and not discussed, it don’t happen.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, if it’s not in here, and there’s an avenue that we can go after recreation funds and we sat here the other night and said that if it’s not anything in the stimulus, if it’s not anything in the federal budget, that the County would look at seeing what they can do to start funding a county-wide recreation more so than we ever have. We talked about that the other night. Go ahead, Mr. Michel.

MR. MICHEL: (10). The Rural Business Program is the one that I noted at the beginning of the evening that has $20 million for rural business enterprise grants. Obviously, a lot of money for rural industry loans, and that can be drawn down by for profit businesses, as well, if there are any economic development targets that we have that are interested in that kind of financing. This would be the time and the place to assist them in getting that kind of money for investment in the County.

MR. FERGUSON: Mr. Marcharia, you were talking a couple of meetings back about folks getting in business before all that boom comes to western Fairfield. Now might be the time for some of those folks who you’re talking about—laundry mats and things like that, small business things, this would fit into that if you could find folks who wanted to get into investment. Part of it’s grants and part of it’s low interest loans, but now would be the time for somebody to step up if they wanted to do that ahead of the curve when all those folks actually start coming. They’re going to need the services you were talking about, but this would be a way to help finance some of that if you knew some folks over that way or some place else that wanted to come in over there and start those kind of businesses. That would be a good start.

MR. MARCHARIA: I think it would be an excellent start and initiative, but I think it would have to be taken on by the County, the newspaper to put it out to let people know that this
kind of funding money’s available. Then I think people would apply. But getting that around to word of mouth, most people who are business folks, they don’t let you know their plans anyway of who’s behind it, but if we advertise it in the papers, somebody might see it and say this is a golden opportunity to start a business.

MR. FERGUSON: Since that’s the newspaper lady sitting right there, why don’t you get with her and tell her your story about entrepreneurial opportunities out there and see if she could write something that would coincide with that?

MR. CHAIRMAN: And if you go back in the Recovery Act, the SBA loans, they got reduced fees through 2010 and they guarantee up to 90 percent with small business loans for all loans originating the next twelve months, so if somebody does want to build a building or go into business, they can come up with ten percent of the money, they can have the money guaranteed, which, in today’s market, as tight as the banks are, that’s a wonderful opportunity right there to go and, you know, to borrow money to go into business which you aren’t going to be able to get from a regular bank unless the SBA guarantees the note.

MR. MARCHARIA: Good suggestion.

MR. FERGUSON: I’m surprised really that we haven’t seen a big influx of folks wanting to start some kind of minimal income housing or rental units or something. With the influx is going to come, folks just aren’t jumping on it like I thought they would have.

MR. MARCHARIA: Well, if you read the NRC 800 page impact statement, it kind of prognosticates that there’ll be no more than 77 jobs given in this County or no more than 77 people out of that 3,500 will move to Fairfield County. And when you put that in writing, I guess the developers say hey, way a minute, I’m not going to touch it. I forget what page it’s on, but they’re saying that probably almost 90 percent of those people will not even stay, and I don’t know what that represents or what it means. But it’s a golden opportunity for folks to come here, very influential, making good salaries, they would probably perhaps build stores, do small business. But that’s what it says in the impact statement.

MR. FERGUSON: I wonder how that figure originated. Was that originated from the original plant being put out there?

MR. MARCHARIA: This is going on right now because I just met with them Friday. But prior to that, we met them twice at the high school and at McCrory Liston and they put out a 800 page impact statement. I forget what page it is, but they clearly said how many people might get jobs here and how many people’s going to live here in Fairfield County and we are out of the loop in terms of getting the jobs. Now, they’re saying this on paper and people living here, and the way they justify it, it won’t be negative because we’ll hire people regionally and that’s good for everybody. But Fairfield County, we’re not in the loop.

(Tape flipped)
MR. CHAIRMAN: ...town that were training people how to weld. We've got an organization going into the industrial park that's going to take that person that has a diploma from this training facility and you walk in the door, they'll hire you and will pay you while they train you to be the next level up welder. There are six nuclear plants, seven since they're building two out here.

MR. MARCARIO: Seven.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Seven being built in the southeast. And what these people are going to do is take people from this school that is in Fairfield County and this training facility is in Fairfield County and you're going to be working for these people and they're going to place you in all of these different nuclear plants throughout the southeast making money well in excess of $20, $25 an hour. They would put you and train you to do x-ray welding, which will get you into making around $40 an hour. So the last time we built the nuclear plant in Fairfield County, those positions were not there. This time we got Midlands Tech working with us to get people in training from Fairfield County; we got the County training people from Fairfield County; and if you can learn ... now, I know there's other jobs other than welding, but the highest demand right now for nuclear plants because you got the largest shortage is welders. And if Fairfield County can't produce welders in large amounts where people more than 77 people will be working, then something's wrong. I think Midlands Tech is also putting in a program where you can work at the nuclear plant once the nuclear plant opens up. They've got one down there at Denmark or somewhere down in that neighborhood, where you'll have to get a degree and you go to work at the nuclear plant. I think SCANA, SCE&G, Fairfield County and the State are all putting in the necessary training for people in Fairfield County to take advantage of that will give them long term employment, not only during construction, but after construction. But between the construction time that Fairfield County's going to be experiencing, which is six to seven, eight years, and these other facilities, we're looking at hopefully somebody working in the nuclear construction industry for the next seven to 15 years or longer.

MS. MICKENS: (inaudible) and they were talking about a study that's being done (inaudible) and so they (inaudible) do you know what the study says because (inaudible) Richland County in South Carolina and (inaudible) I was shocked. And they said within the next 20 years, we are going to be the richest county in South Carolina because of the nuclear plant and all the other things that's going to come (inaudible) that was ... got that from (inaudible) a part of that meeting (inaudible) they said it inaudible) because I'm from Fairfield County (inaudible).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the other thing is I met with the Town of Jenkinsville at a Council meeting not long ago and the same type concerns were expressed and they said "we don't have transportation to go back and forth to Winnsboro," and I said, "I can't sit here and guarantee it, but I think Fairfield County Council will be more than glad to vote on having a transit
authority pick up people at Town Hall in Jenkinsville and bring
them to this facility on the north end of town to be trained." So
there is no reason why people on the western side can’t come
to town and become welders making $25 to $45 an hour. I don’t know
as far as we’re looking up funding tonight in one of these things
as far as getting additional funding to help put programs in this
facility up here. Working with Midlands Tech, they might be able
to get us a control technician degree that they are training
people in the southern part of the state. I think there’s a lot
of things already in place and they hadn’t started yet because
it’s a little bit premature and we got to build buildings and we
got to do other things. But the avenues for Fairfield County
residents to take advantage of are coming. So I think the NRC
might be a little bit wrong.

MR. MARCHARIA: Well, I concur with you on everything what you
said. It seems like it’s a real probability or possibility to
happen, but this is what they put in writing. The only thing I
conveyed to you is what this said in that 800 page statement, the
impact statement. Now, it’s free, you can go online and look at
it and find it yourself. And when I read it, I just said “Whoa,
this don’t sound right to me,” but that’s what they’re advocating.

MR. FERGUSON: Well, I will just add this. If folks in Fairfield
County don’t get jobs at VC Summer, it’s their own fault. With
the education opportunities that’s afforded to people in this
County now, and I’ll tell anybody this, the only reason a person
now doesn’t go to work, the opportunities are afforded by the
County; if they’re unemployed or underemployed, they can go to
school for free; they can go up to that quick job shop, it won’t
cost them a penny. But if folks in this county over the next
two to four years don’t go to work, it’s because they don’t want
to go to work. Nobody’s going to work out there without an
education. Nobody went to work the last time that plant was built
without an education, and nobody’s going out there this time
without one. The only thing is last time we didn’t have the
opportunity for people to get the education that they got the
opportunity to do now. And this Council started three years ago
trying to get people aware of the fact that those jobs were going
to be there, but they’re going to have to come and get an
education to get those jobs. You look at a $30 an hour job
welding or there’s carpenters that’s going to work out there
that’s going to make 30 bucks an hour. But they’re going to have
to go and get themselves in that line. And the reason that some
of the folks from other states and other counties are coming in
here is because we’ve got folks who have been complacent for
years. We’ve had career centers that opened at night that nobody
would even come and take a welding or machine shop or auto
mechanics or heating and air program that was 60 bucks for 120
hours of instruction. So people who are underemployed in this
county, not all of them, but a lot of them, have had opportunities
to do better, but they hadn’t stepped up. But they’re going to
have to step up this time because the folks that come through that
plant gate out there are going to be educated people. They’re going to have to be professional people. They’re going to have to know what they’re doing when they get to the door. If they are from Richland or Fairfield, I know they are committed to try to get Fairfield County people in that plant. I know SCANA is. But the fact of it is that all stems from and revolves around our workforce going to school and getting to the place where they need to be.

MR. MARCHARIA: Mr. Ferguson, I agree with everything you said. You’re going to have to step up. I met with them last Friday and asked them what was the educational level just getting the jobs that’s coming out there now. I’m not talking about the ones professional after everything’s laid. They said all you need is a ninth grade reading level. And I said, to me, that will not do. But that’s what came out their own mouth Friday. That’s all you need to get a job out there, a ninth grade reading level. I know that’s not going to work.

MR. FERGUSON: You would be surprised, Mr. Marcharia, of the kids that graduated out of not Fairfield County schools, but every school in South Carolina that can’t read on a ninth grade level. That’s coming from 35 years of teaching. Ms. Caldwell, right there, can tell you the same thing. There’s a lot of folks, not in Fairfield County schools, I’m talking about every school in South Carolina, that graduated that can’t read out of a ninth grade book.

MR. MARCHARIA: We can move on. I just wanted to share that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Go ahead, Mr. Michel.

MR. MICHEL: I think Council needs to make a decision on whether or not to try to apply in the next three days for the money for the quick start job center that’s lacking from this program because if this is true, this is not a typo, this program is closing on Thursday.

MR. FERGUSON: Make a motion, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Can I have a second?

MR. PERRY: Second.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Any discussion? We’ve got that already written because we’ve already applied to EDA and we’ve already applied somewhere else. Get a copy of it and send the thing in because we applied to EDA for it already and we applied to the COG for it already. So that’s finished with somewhere, isn’t it?

MR. HINELY: We’ve already got the million.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I know, we applied to EDA, so if we can meet the EDA requirement, that should fix this, shouldn’t it?

MR. MICHEL: From everything I can gather, it should. And there’s no reason that we couldn’t apply to EDA for it, as well, in this EDA program.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We’ve already applied to EDA and they’re going to fund it. So is this EDA money?

MR. MICHEL: No. It’s Department of Commerce. This is USDA rural business.
MR. CHAIRMAN: Ms. Mickens, find a copy of that grant and let's send that thing in.

MS. MICKENS: Mr. Michel has a copy (audible).

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. Let's do it. That's done. We had a second. All in favor signify by saying aye.

PANEL: Aye.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All opposed likewise.

MR. MICHEL: The remainder of the programs here are beneficial and necessary, but none of them are awaiting a decision on the part of Council to apply for them. There's a rural housing insurance fund program. We've already discussed the rural community facilities program. (We were just on the rural business program. I'm sorry). I'm on page seven of your materials, (11). USDA building and facilities and rental payments, that's for in-house USDA, same with number (12), (13). Office of Inspector General doesn't concern us. (14). National School Lunch Program, that money goes to the states; it is not applied for by local governments. (15). The WIC program also comes down through something other than local government.

MR. FERGUSON: Hold on just a minute, Kyle. David, wasn't the COG involved in that program at one time?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The School Lunch Program? The WIC program? WIC was underneath aging—it may have been.

MR. FERGUSON: It was under it at one time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: WIA is, but WIC comes through the Health Department.

MR. MICHEL: We might want to notify someone, but it's not something that we can go fill out an application for.

MR. MICHEL: (16). Commodity Assistance Program.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We don't have any commodities in Fairfield County, I hate to say that. Wait a minute. Go back to that Commodity Assistance.

MR. MICHEL: One distributes food and one purchases food.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That should be through the USDA grant for homeless people and needy people, isn't that at same money?

MR. MICHEL: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Provide food and nutrition assistance to the needy. That's at USDA that I know the Good Samaritan House, Food Bank and the local food bank is distributing. Who applies for that?

MR. FERGUSON: It says State distribution agency, but the thing of it is like Jimmy Burroughs and those folks up there already on that list, David.

MS. ROBINSON: Some of it goes through the Council on Aging.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Some of it goes through Council on Aging. Some of it goes through used to be the old JEDA program. I mean, you know, when you used to give out honey and peanut butter.

MR. FERGUSON: I don't know that we need to do anything on that, but I that might be a pass along, David.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think the food bank must be getting some of that in Columbia. They're distributing it to these different organizations.
MR. MICHEL: (17). Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. This I believe is where they go and buy excess commodities from producers of cheese, government cheese, where they purchase that. It's a program that's administered by the State. There's not a local government component to it. The next one is (18). disaster payments. I believe, on farm operating loans. And I don't think we have any (19). aquaculture in the County, though you can correct me if I'm wrong.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We got one or two people raising catfish and that's about it.

MR. MICHEL: Aqua, aqua culture. People growing shrimp or catfish.

MR. FERGUSON: We got two that grow catfish, but not to the ... not to the tune of probably what that would be talking about.

MR. MICHEL: $50 million to assist with losses associated with high feed input costs during the 2008 calendar year. That's a pretty thorough scrub of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Anybody got any questions of Mr. Michel?

MR. FERGUSON: Good job.

MR. MICHEL: Thank you. Do we need to discuss this?

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, we'll just take that with us.

MR. MICHEL: Mr. Hinely, I'll turn the floor over to him to discuss the memo that was included in our packet.

MR. HINELY: Did you all see that? That's that one we sent out earlier. If you want to add some, speak now.

MR. FERGUSON: Mr. Chairman, if I may? I'll beat a dead horse even further and you know what I'm going to say, Mr. Hinely. I think we have one provision in there that's about half done and it's in the Town of Winnsboro and The projected site of it is to help kids from town that walk to school that don't have bus riding ability and they wanted to start a sidewalk at the apartments on Caithoun Street and that's a good venture, but before you get to Caithoun Street, when you're first leaving town, those same children have to walk in the road on a highway. There's no side skirting on the bridge. They get out on the bridge where the cars go and walk back across the bridge and then back to the grass or whatever and walk to school. So it doesn't seem to me to make a lot of sense if we're going to get the kids out of the grass where they're walking from the apartments to the bypass and we're going to leave the kids walking across that bridge over there on the same property that the cars have got to run on. I don't think we thought that thing through very well. So, that's an objection that I have to that. If we're going to spend just that amount of money, I'd like to see it start on the other side of the bridge and take in the bridge and then go as far as it can, which would actually take it out to the apartments.

MR. CHAIRMAN: How much money are you talking about in that budget, Mr. Hinely, in that specific budget?

MR. HINELY: I think they're just saying give them a list and they'll keep doing it until they run out of money.
MR. CHAIRMAN: Well, the whole thing, right there, Mr. Ferguson, there’s a bridge down there. This is starting at the apartments and going to the bypass?

MR. FERGUSON: The existing one starts at the apartments and goes to the bypass. It doesn’t incorporate the bridge. It doesn’t start on that end of town. It starts at the apartments and goes to 321 bypass.

MR. CHAIRMAN: And it goes over there already?

MR. HINELY: No. I say, that’s the proposal. My proposal would be if Council would go along with it, Mr. Hinely, is that we do the whole entire street—that we start up there by the church and take it all the way to the bypass. That would be my rather on the thing if we’re going to do something with that street, that we do the whole street.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Well, then let me ask this question, and this is because I don’t know. The people that live on Calhoun Street and Vanderhorst Street and in Frazier Street and down in that neighborhood, how do they get to school? By bus, don’t they?

MR. FERGUSON: They walk.

MS. ROBINSON: Not on Vanderhorst.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Not down, what I would say, by Ward One. Those people ride the bus. People from the apartments walk to school.

MR. FERGUSON: If you watch the kids who live from Winnsboro Builders down the hill from Winnsboro Builders, they walk to school. If you sit down there in the mornings and you sit on top of that hill, this is before you get to the apartments, and you watch the kids that walk down that corner, across that bridge, I mean, that’s how they get to school.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. So if we do that, we need to put pedestrian bridge in there, too.

MR. FERGUSON: It’s a pedestrian walkway, and Dan Dennis told me it could be strapped to that, you know, existing bridge kind of like they did out at the lake.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have no problem with that if the people are actually walking. If they aren’t; if the school bus is picking them up, plus, if the kids are walking to school, but the people who live at the apartments are walking to town to go up and get Coca Cola and stuff because there’s no facility anywhere. Either you got to go to the bypass or either you go to go to town. So I have no problem with that, just put it on the list, Mr. Hinely.

MS. KINLEY: Mr. Chairman, should we not check with the school district first to ask about bus routes?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think it would be wise, but I know when I go down Calhoun Street, I almost hit more people in between the bridge and the apartments than I do from the apartments to 321 because it’s tighter, people sneak up on you. It’s more narrow and it’s kind of hilly. I mean it’s dangerous down in that section of Calhoun Street. On the other end, you can see people. I mean you got a long distance view, and they can see you. I wouldn’t have a problem with that. You got rock in there, a good bit of rock.
MS. BROWN: Bus transportation is provided to Castlewood Apartments, but you do have some after school, which is where the buses maybe do not run after certain hours and you do have children walking from the middle school and high school to those apartments. But there is bus transportation provided to the apartment complex, especially for the elementary kids.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. Well, we can talk to the school system. I mean, but this is stimulus money, let’s apply for it. If it’s there, it’s there. We can do page one and page two so the whole thing won’t get kicked out. Why don’t we do it that way? Why don’t we put both of them at the top of the list and say we want page one and page two, both of them approved?

MR. FERGUSON: I’ll go along with that, Mr. Brown, if the phase one is to cover the kids crossing the bridge.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Hinely, you got that? Anybody else got any suggestions? Do I have a motion?

MS. KINLEY: Mr. Chairman, one comment. Mr. Johnston told me last week he was getting probably $2 million for his district which includes probably four counties, so that’s what he’s going to have to spend on sidewalks.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would like to see some cost estimates. I would much rather see some cost estimates as far as how much money we’re expending. If he doesn’t have but $4 million and Calhoun Street would take up most of it, then I mean there are other places that are already named that need it also.

MR. FERGUSON: There are some things that need to be done because of probably handicapped laws, but if you start talking about the danger of it, I think that would rank up there right along with the highest of them. And there have been some estimates, Mr. Brown. Dan Dennis did an estimate on that street when...(what’s the road by the hospital?

MS. KINLEY: Moultrie.

MR. FERGUSON: ...when Moultrie Street was done, then Mr. Dennis also did a preliminary on Calhoun Street from end to end.

MR. MARCHARIA: These are not the prices, Mr. Ferguson, that’s on the list.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That’s just the fee.

MR. MARCHARIA: Oh, it’s a fee.

MR. PERRY: Mr. Chair?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, sir. Got a question for you. Is the Town of Ridgeway going to be involved in this? I saw they had sidewalks on here. I know it’s not for redoing sidewalks unless it’s for the ADA.

MR. CHAIRMAN: They’ve got, on the Fairfield County priority list, the one that Dan Dennis did, they’ve got Ridgeway in here for $97,230. It doesn’t say how many feet of sidewalk, but it’s three different strips. So, apparently sidewalks don’t cost as much as I’m thinking they cost. So I think we just need to know from Dan Dennis the approximate linear foot cost of a sidewalk and I think we could find out kind of taking in the formula that Ms. Kinley
was talking about how much money Mr. Johnston has that we might think we might be getting, which is all guesswork.

MR. FERGUSON: Are those connected to a school, Mr. Brown, the ones in Ridgeway?

MR. CHAIRMAN: This one looks like it’s on Highway 34, that’s not for school. Yes, one goes to Geiger Elementary and then one is 34 Lugoff, which is not a school on that side. But that’s where all those houses are down through there. And then you got one that says Maple Street, which is in Winnsboro.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yeah, this is Winnsboro and Ridgeway, I’m sorry. I think we just need to get linear foot costs because we’ve got how many thousands of feet, Mr. Marcharia?

MR. FERGUSON: Does it have a total on there?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Probably got 23,000.

MR. MARCHARIA: 24,000.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 24,000 linear feet of different projects out there. So we need to kind of know what a linear foot cost, in my opinion. Why don’t we get that. When is the deadline on this, Mr. Hinely?

MS. BROWN: On the Sidewalk Enhancement Program.

MR. HINELY: Oh, it’s the 18th. I’d like to get it back from you by the 18th, but I think they want it a little later than that, but I’m trying to get it to them in time to do that.

MR. HINELY: The 20th is the very latest, but I thought we’d try to shoot it to her.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That’s Friday. Well, let’s just try them all and just see what happens. I don’t know how much going to get funded.

MR. HINELY: I think they’re only going to do what they’re going to do.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That’s right. That’s all they’re going to do.

MR. MARCHARIA: Mr. Chair, that number I gave you linear feet, it says sidewalk addition and repair for downtown Winnsboro and Ridgeway, $97,230, it’s 5,000 linear feet.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. Anybody got a calculator? Mr. Hinely, divide $97,230 by 5,000.

MR. HINELY: 19.45, so 20 bucks a foot.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 20 bucks a foot so it just depends on how much money they’ve got.

MR. FERGUSON: Yes, and that’s four districts, too.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Well, let’s just get as much as we can get.

MR. HINELY: One of the things I that I know is driving up those costs and, you know, I hate to say this, but it’s those handicap ramps on there because those things now cost about 2500 bucks a piece, so you got a lot of intersections, that’ll run up the cost, so it’s a function of not only the length, but then the number of intersections and yellow rubber dot stuff on it and all that kind of stuff. You need to have it.

MR. FERGUSON: Town of Winnsboro would probably be willing to kick in a little bit, put that in town, don’t you reckon, Mr. Brown?

MR. CHAIRMAN: No doubt. Just with open arms right after they help pay for the dog pound and the trash pick-up.
MR. CHAIRMAN: What's the next thing, Mr. Hinely?
MR. CHAIRMAN: I put one other letter in there from Mayor Ginyard as far as what he needs for the Town of Jenkinsville just to let you all have that information also. Anybody else got anything?
MR. TRAPP: Motion to adjourn, Mr. Chairman.
MR. CHAIRMAN: Do I have a second to that?
MR. MARCHARIA: Second.
MR. CHAIRMAN: Anybody else? Yes, sir, Mr. Anderson?
MR. ANDERSON: Mr. Stowers?
MR. FERGUSON: We have had a lot of calls. Ms. Kinley has had a bunch and I've had a bunch more than that about the tree cutting at the airport and I asked Mr. Hinely if he would do a brief report tonight on where we were so we could all talk on the same page when we're talking with these folks and that kind of stuff, because it's getting to be just where we thought it was going to get.
MR. HINELY: He mentioned that to me last night, I sent out an e-mail to everybody, which I'm sure you can't wait to read.
MR. CHAIRMAN: I have not seen that yet.
MR. HINELY: ... saying these are our guidelines. One of the complaints that we seem to be getting is they say, if the County's not going to pay for this, we're not going to pay twice or something like that. Under the FAA guidelines, for us to get reimbursed, they only pay once. You can either top the tree or you can cut it down. They don't really care. And, of course, I think everybody that knows anything about trees, knows if you top a pine, you might as well cut it down. You can top a (inaudible) and I think that's what the complaint seems to be and I don't know why they're not getting that message because I wrote this on February 19th at 1:00 p.m. and sent it to Ms. Jenkins and she's been going by this and what I would ask you to do maybe is, if you haven't read it, you might want to read this and if there's something else that you think that we need to be doing, please let me know and we can kind of make that adjustment.
MS. KINLEY: Well, 20 years ago paid one time; the way it is now, we don't pay any more?
MR. HINELY: Well, under the federal guidelines, 20 years ago, we paid to cut the tree down or something like that, we're forgetting all of that. What we're talking about is for now. If 20 years ago you were paid, we've got amnesia about that. So if you want us to top your tree down, we'll do that. If you were paid to top your trees 20 years ago, well, you got lucky. We'll pay to top those or to cut them down whichever you prefer. We prefer you cut them down.
MR. FERGUSON: I think, Mr. Hinely, that the biggest complaint, however, was that was part of it, but the other part was some of the folks in the Greenbrier community got compensated for their land being put in that taxiway and some were not, and that's what's coming back home to haunt me. Folks are calling me that didn't get compensated because some of them got compensated quite
quite well for having their property involved. So, you know, that's what part of the calls have come back to me about and that was before my time, so I don’t know, but I did talk to one gentleman who got $20,000-some for his property being in that fly zone, so I don’t know who we paid and who we didn't or why some was paid and some wasn’t. That’s what’s coming back home to haunt us now. They’re saying, you know, those that you paid, yeah, they knew theirs was in that flyway and they don’t have any reason to complain, but some people didn’t get paid and they didn’t even know theirs was in the flyway until now. They’ve got these letters that saying we’re going to cut your trees or somebody’s going to cut your trees and they were never informed that their property was involved in the thing.

MR. HINELY: I do know that we’ve had a lot of issues with just actually where that fly zone is and Mr. Stowers sent me I believe today an e-mail saying that they further refined it and a couple of people have actually been taken out of it.

MR. HINELY: The reason we were waiting on the counties is we were just going to bid it one time. We’re going to cut ours down, that’s not a problem. And also the railroad museum, they’ve agreed and we’re going to cut ours down.

MR. STOWERS: The study was further refined and one property owner was dropped out and the another property owner has already gone ahead and cut down his trees and he’s in compliance now.

MS. ROBINSON: Who’s not in compliance?

MR. STOWERS: That was the Bass property.

MR. FERGUSON: Bobby Bass, down by the railroad track.

MS. KINLEY: We are willing to cut the trees down or to top them? And in 20 years when this comes up if I go to sell my property, is that going to be a negative for me being able to sell my property if those trees have to be topped every 20 years? Who’s to say who’s going to take care of it next time? We wonder if there’s any way you can put it in writing what would happen?

MR. HINELY: Sure, I’ll be glad to guarantee you something 20 years from now. I’m serious, no, the FAA is getting more and more lenient on doing that kind of stuff because they know people are aggravated about that stuff. My guess is the FAA’s willing to pay for it now. They’ll be even more willing 20 years from now.

MS. KINLEY: But would it be a deterrent for them to be able to sell their homes?

MR. HINELY: Probably not so much as being on the end of the runway.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Any time you have a zoning flyway zone and they do a diagram on the property and there’s a flyway zone there, just depends on who the buyer is. If he thinks it’s a negative or if he doesn’t think it’s a negative. Flyway zone, you can’t put a structure in there taller than so many feet, so you can’t put a cell tower in the man’s back yard.

MS. ROBINSON: Another thing that’s been asked me is - is there any kind of easement that’s recorded because of it? We have zoning and how many people really go to check out the zoning?
MR. FERGUSON: Well, I reckon my big question is this, I sat in that back room and asked this question were we in safe zones in doing this, had we done our homework prior to this, are we legal doing this and that kind of stuff, because that’s the questions that’s coming back up. Mr. Anderson told me that he had a FOIA request that you could write a newspaper about. So, we’re going back to test one on this thing, not taking property, but just cutting trees down. So, we need to know did we do what we should have done upfront years ago, and I think what Mr. Hinely is suggesting if we are legal to do it, I think that’s a generous offer that we’ll cut them down at our expense and then we’ll put in there at 20 years or whenever they need to be cut again that the County would suffer the cost. And I don’t know of anything other than that you could do to make them whole, but I just want to know that we’re saying we’re going to do we got the right to do and we’re going to go on through with it because it’s either one of two things. We’re going to go on through with it. FAA in Atlanta said we’ve got two choices. We’re either going to go through with that or we’re going to put a nail in the door. One of the two, that’s what we’re talking about.

MS. ROBINSON: Well, the reason we have zoning right now on paper is because of the airport. The only way we were going to get federal funds is to put zoning in place so that we had a fly zone, because if we didn’t put zoning in place and have a fly zone, we were never going to get federal funding.

MR. FERGUSON: I agree.

MR. CHAIRMAN: But what I don’t understand is (inaudible) what we would pay for the trees?

MS. ROBINSON: I think it was kind of a going rate with what the FAA guidelines, wasn’t it, Mr. Hinely?

MR. HINELY: I don’t know, they know.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I mean, we need to know that.

MR. FERGUSON: It’s been brought to our attention. We got a map with every one of them with an X on it. I mean, the whole Council has seen because it was put on that table right next door over there and we saw who the property was.

MR. CHAIRMAN: But when we were discussing that, we wasn’t discussing pine trees. As much money as we’re paying whoever our engineers are, if they know every tree, I want to know what size every tree is, I want to know whether it’s pulpwood, saw timber, or shipping something. Because I don’t think we’re talking about enough money to jeopardize holding up this whole process. If we’re playing games with land owners, if we need to pay the landowner for the tree; cut the tree down and be done with it, we need to pay for them. We’re talking about a runway that we’ve already spent way more in legal costs than we’ll ever spend on these trees. So, it’s time for us to move forward. And hearing about this tonight, I’m a little bit ticked, to be honest with you.

MS. KINLEY: Well, I just got the call over the weekend, David. So I was just asking questions because ...
MR. CHAIRMAN: I know that Ms. Kinley, what I'm saying is we were adjourning a few minutes ago and then this was brought to my attention. I'm talking about for me personally, I'm a little bit ticked.

MS. KINLEY: Oh, okay.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Stowers has been sitting here for two hours and I didn't know why he was sitting there. I think we got a motion to adjourn ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Any more discussions? All in favor, signify by saying aye.

PANEL: Aye.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Those oppose, likewise.

(There being nothing further, the meeting was concluded.)