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WALHALLA — Oconee
County Councilman
Wayne McCall made a



McCall

proposal that
he thought
could get
the county
and some of
his fellow
council
members out
from under
a pending

lawsuit.

McCall urged his col-
leagues to overturn two
zoning decisions that are
being challenged in court
by residents of the North
Fairview community.

"Once again, to save
taxpayer money, let's
revisit 2010-15 and 2010-
16," McCall said, refer-
ring to zoning ordinances
that recently have been
dragged into court.

McCall's plea fell on
deaf ears at Tuesday
night's council meeting.

His motion calling for
a resolution to revisit the
two ordinances died for
lack of a second.

Earlier, McCall also
tried unsuccessfully to
get council to release
emails that were the
subject of a Freedom of
Information Act request
by the North Fairview
residents.

"I've been told by
council there is nothing
there ... so let's make the
emails public," McCall
said. "If we weren't doing
things above board, then
there's a problem."

Again, McCall's motion
received the cold shoul-
der.

Although the county re-
leased a number of emails
in response to the FOIA
request, officials refused
to make public other
emails by claiming their
release would violate at-
torney-client privilege.

The lawsuit filed by at-
torney Roberta Barton on
behalf of Jean Jennings
and David and Michelle
McMahan references the
emails released by the
county.

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Peers give McCall cold shoulder

Colleagues snub
motions related to
Oconee zoning
decisions

ZONING: Martin can not represent county

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Barton claims the
emails show that coun-
cil's ultimate decision,
which denied the rezon-
ing request made by Jen-
nings and the McMahans,
was tainted by private
discussions between
county officials and
members of Advocates for
Quality Development, Inc.

AQD endorsed the
North Cane Creek peti-
tion that was at odds with
the Fairview request.

Also, AQD President Jim
Codner personally spear-
headed the Cane Creek
petition.

A week ago, council
convened a special meet-
ing to privately discuss
in executive session the
lawsuit and sort out who
would be their attorney.

County Attorney Tom
Martin can't represent
the county because his
actions are called into
question in the lawsuit.

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