



MINUTES

BUDGET, FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Council Chambers, Oconee Administrative Offices, Walhalla, SC

May 5, 2016

MEMBERS, ALL OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr. Paul Cain, District III, Chairman

Ms. Edda Cammick District I Mr. Joel Thrift, District IV

Mr. Wayne McCall, District II Mr. Reg Dexter, District V

The Oconee County Budget, Finance & Administration Committee met at 1:30 PM in Council Chambers, Oconee County Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Council Members [except Mr. McCall], Administrator Scott Moulder, Public Information Officer Amanda Brock, Finance Director Ladale Price and Elizabeth G. Hulse Clerk to Council present.

Press: Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting, date, time, place of meeting and agenda were posted on the bulletin board at the County Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC, and the County Council website [www.oconeese.com/council]. In addition it was made available [upon request] to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens. Member of the press present: Dick Mangrum – WGOG, Ray Chandler – Anderson Independent & Steven Bradley – Daily Journal.

Call to Order:

Mr. Cain called meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Thrift made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dexter, approved 4 – 0 to approve the minutes from the April 26, 2016 meeting as presented.

Continued Budget Discussions re: Oconee County FY2016-2017 Budget

Mr. Cain turned the meeting over to Mr. Moulder who presented Council with a handout entitled “*Budget Committee: Documentation for April 26, 2016 Meeting Inquires*” [copy filed with these minutes] addressing approved changes to the budget from the April 26th meeting and issues that arose to include:

- Other Post-Employment Benefits / ARC
- Fire Hose Donation to Keowee Ebenezer Volunteer Department
- PRT Seasonal Staff Analysis
- HR Office Staff Development
- Solid Waste Professional Services
- Communications / Network Infrastructure
- South Cove Lawn Mower
- Oconee Joint Regional Sewer Authority [OJRSA] monies
- Job Descriptions & Satisfaction of Requirements
- Other Issues:
 - County Park Fee Competitiveness
 - Emergency Services Vehicle Replacement

Mr. Moulder next presented Council with a handout entitled “*Oconee County Administrator’s Recommended Budget: Fiscal Year 2016-2017 **VERSION 2 as of April 26, 2016***” [copy on CD filed with these minutes]. Mr. Moulder reviewed with Council the Version 2 summary entitled “*Oconee County FY 2016-2017 Budget History Worksheet*” [copy filed with these minutes] which outlines the approved changes from the April 26th meeting. Lastly, Mr. Moulder noted that the Version 2 budget reduces the mill increase to 1.32 mills from 2.1 mills. Discussion followed.

Mr. Moulder also presented to Council a handout entitled “*Oconee County Administrator’s Recommended Budget: Fiscal Year 2016-2017 **VERSION 3 as of May 5, 2016***” [copy on CD filed with these minutes]. Mr. Moulder reviewed with Council the Version 3 summary entitled “*V3 Summary*” [copy filed with these minutes] which outlines proposed changes to the budget that would allow Council to pass a budget without a millage increase.

Mr. Moulder provided a disclaimer to Council noting that Version 3 is not his recommendation for FY 2016-2017 as it employs techniques that only delay the inevitable and that taking money from various funds to cover general operating expenses is not sustainable.

Lastly, Mr. Moulder presented to Council a handout entitled “*Fiscal Year 2017 General Obligation Bond Proposal*” [copy filed with these minutes]. He reviewed the projects and funding structure and payment schedule.

Discussion arose regarding the appropriateness of purchase of the Patillo property on Highway 123. Mr. Dexter asked that Mr. Moulder approach Patillo again to identify if they would be willing to consider the original land swap proposal. Mr. Moulder stated he would contact Patillo but he noted that based on Council action that he was directed to negotiate the deal and close on the property; which is scheduled for May 16, 2016.

Lengthy discussion followed with various opinions offered regarding the various budget versions and the bonding proposal to include but not limited to: Local Government Funding by the State; the need for incremental millage increases as part of good planning and consistency; Oconee County’s bond ratings; shells buildings, etc.

Break:

Council took a brief break from 2:51– 2:57 p.m.

Continued Budget Discussions re: Oconee County FY2016-2017 Budget

Council reconvened and discussed at some length the options presented in the **Version 2** and **Version 3** budget documents to include but not limited to: concerns with transferring an additional \$400,000 from the Rock Quarry Enterprise Fund to cover general operations; future development plan for the Rock Quarry [*Mr. Moulder noted that he will present a plan within the next few months*]; and, debt millage and bonding.

Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cammick, approved 3 – 1 [Mr. Thrift opposed] to direct the Administrator to incorporate Version 3 into Ordinance 2016-01 for second reading on May 17, 2016.

Lastly, Mr. Moulder requested Council identify what projects they wish to have funded through bonding prior to any additional requests for bond proposals. He noted that proposals to date have been based on Council’s 2016 Strategic Plan report and not specific Council prioritization and instruction.

Continued Budget Discussions re: SDOC FY2016-2017 Budget

Not discussed at this meeting.

Other Business

None discussed at this meeting.

Adjourn

Mr. Dexter made a motion, approved unanimously, to adjourn the meeting at 3:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth G. Hulse
Clerk to Council