



MINUTES
PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE MEETING
June 28, 2016

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Reg Dexter, District V, Chairman
Mr. Paul Cain, District III
Mr. Joel Thrift, District IV

No recording was made of this meeting.

The Planning & Economic Development Committee met at 5:30 PM in the Conference Room [not Council Chambers as advertised to allow Registration and Elections to set up to tally and report the election results for the run off race in Oconee County], Oconee County Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all members present and Clerk to Council, Elizabeth Hulse.

STAFF PRESENT: Mr. Richard Blackwell, Oconee Economic Alliance [OEA] Director & Mr. Josh Stephens, Community Development Deputy Director.

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 Radio & Steven Bradley – Daily Journal.

Call to Order:

Mr. Dexter called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thrift, approved 3 – 0, to approve the minutes from the March 8, 2016 meeting as presented.

Economic Development:

Mr. Blackwell addressed the Committee utilizing a PowerPoint presentation [*copy filed with these minutes*] and several handouts discussing the following topics:

- OEA Activities Update:
 - Economic Development Efforts
 - May 2016 Unemployment Rate
 - Labor Participation
- Made in Oconee Video
- OEA Development Update
 - Baxter / Hi-Tech
 - Hartwell Village / Casto Project
 - Deep South Defense
 - Oconee Industry & Technology Park [OITP] Trees

Mr. Blackwell addressed the Committee requesting consideration of approval for a road project at the Seneca Rail Park. He outlined the scope of the project, proposed improvements and the Santee Cooper Site Readiness Grant [including partnerships with SC Power Team, Oconee C-Funds Committee and Blue Ridge Electric].

Mr. Blackwell recommended funding Oconee County's portion as follows noting no monies would be required from the General Fund:

Santee Cooper Grant	\$ 355,000
C Funds	\$ 70,000
Blue Ridge Electric Coop	\$ 100,000
Oconee County Portion:	

Timber Sales from OITP	\$ 120,000
Site Certification Reimbursement	\$ 60,000
OEA Contribution	<u>\$ Balance Needed</u>
	\$ 710,000

Mr. Thrift made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cain, approved 3 - 0 to recommend to full Council moving forward with the road construction project as outlined in the presentation.

Planning / Community Development Update

Mr. Stephens addressed the Committee utilizing a PowerPoint presentation [*copy filed with these minutes*] and discussed the following topics:

- Building Permits
- Planning & Zoning
- Comprehensive Plan
- Community Development
- Strategic Planning
 - Keowee-Toxaway Project Relicensing
 - Air Quality
 - Flood Maps

Other Business:

None addressed at this meeting.

Adjourn:

Mr. Thrift made a motion, approved unanimously, to adjourn the meeting at 6:04 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth G. Hulse
Clerk to Council