



MINUTES
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING
July 12, 2016
COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Mr. Joel Thrift, District IV, Chairman
Ms. Edda Cammick, District I
Mr. Wayne McCall, District II

The Transportation Committee met at 5:30 p.m. in Council Chambers, Oconee Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all members present, Administrator Scott Moulder, County Attorney David Root and Elizabeth G. Hulse, Clerk to Council present.

Staff Present: Mr. Mack Kelly, County Engineer; Mr. Kyle Reid, Asst. Public Works 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 to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

Member of the press present: Stephen Bradley – Daily Journal.

Call to Order:

Mr. Thrift called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Minutes:

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cammick, approved 3 – 0 to approve the March 8, 2016 minutes as presented.

Discussion & Action Regarding the Following Items:

Mr. Moulder & Mr. Kelly addressed the Committee utilizing a PowerPoint presentation and two handouts [copies filed with these minutes] for all Discussion & Action Items listed below.

Rudimentary Road Program / Minimum Maintenance Road Program

Mr. Kelly addressed the Committee utilizing a handout “Citizen Guide to Rudimentary Road Program Process”. Discussion followed. The Committee took no further action regarding this matter at this meeting.

Update re: Citizen Request regarding Vickery Road

Mr. Kelly and Mr. Moulder noted that the developer has abandoned their desire to access their proposed subdivision off Vickery Road and will create their entrance off Crooked Crook Road instead. No further action required regarding this matter.

Update re: Honey Road Citizen Concerns

Mr. Kelly addressed the Committee utilizing a PowerPoint presentation slide outlining recent Sheriff’s Department activities to address concerns regarding speeding. No further action by the Committee is required regarding this matter.

Staff Activity Report / Update

Department Activity Update:

Mr. Kelly addressed the Committee utilizing a PowerPoint presentation and a written report [copies filed with these minutes] outlining the department activity and special projects to include:

- Preventative Maintenance Crack Fill & Seal
- South Cove Water Feature
- Mauldin Mill Bridge Project
- Whetstone Fire Substation
- Brown Farm Road

Brown Farm Road

Mr. McCall requested that the chairman allow citizen comment. Mr. Thrift concurred.

Mr. David Hubbard, Owner Hubbard Paving, addressed the Committee voicing concern that his company's reputation has been negatively impacted by a recent story [June 24, 2016 article in the Daily Journal; copy filed with these minutes] and a "Tell Willie" article in the Daily Journal newspaper. He made several allegations regarding the quality of county work, county employees fear to talk with him, county employees feeding misinformation to the paper, quality of county equipment, the county firing F & R Engineering, etc. Lastly, Mr. Hubbard asked for an internal investigation regarding the paving project and communication with the media.

Ms. Christie Hubbard, Hubbard Paving Treasurer and Oconee County Auditor, addressed the Committee stating her belief that the "Tell Willie" article that appeared June 23, 2016 [copy filed with these minutes] was given to the paper by "somebody in this room".

Mr. McCall stated that he along with Mr. Hubbard and Mr. Glenn Hart, newly elected District V Council representative, went to the landfill at Five Forks; found the asphalt partially buried and no silt fencing and that they photographed what he stated were clear DHEC violations.

Mr. Moulder reported that after Mr. McCall called him to report his concerns that he asked DHEC to investigate the site. The DHEC Solid Waste Investigation Notice [dated June 30, 2016 and filed with these minutes] noted that no deficiencies were noted and no further action was to be taken by the Department.

Mr. Kelly noted that the permit allows for material to be stored for up to two years.

Mr. Moulder stated that the County does not have issues with Mr. Hubbard's work; noting that Council will be asked at their July 19, 2016 regular meeting to award the next years paving bid to Hubbard Paving. He noted that he had responded to Mr. Bradley at Daily Journal via email on June 22, 2016 [copy of email thread filed with these minutes] in which he did not blame the project on Hubbard Paving; noting there were various issues related to the project to include the stone mix from the county quarry, failed proof rolls, poorly compacted soil, etc.

Additionally, he stated he was unsure where Mr. Hubbard got the information that the County had fired Froehling & Robertson, Inc [F&R] noting that they still have two ongoing jobs with Oconee County. Lastly, he stated that F&R were not selected during the last RFQ process to be an on call engineering/materials testing firm.

Lengthy discussion followed.

Mr. Thrift stated that as this was not on the agenda for action and that a lot of accusations were being made that a member of the Committee meet with Mr. Moulder, Mr. Root and Mr. & Mrs. Hubbard to discuss in length concerns regarding this paving project. Mr. McCall volunteered to be the Committee representative at this meeting.

Other Business

None at this meeting.

Adjourn:

Mr. McCall made a motion to adjourn, approved unanimously at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth G. Hulse
Clerk to Council