

MINUTES OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MARCH 11, 1976

The County Council meeting was opened by Chairman Bailes at 7:30 P.M. Invocation by C. Dick Plyler.

Councilman Thomas moved and Mr. Moore seconded that minutes of the February 12th meeting stand as printed.

Mr. H. F. Harris of the BEar Swamp Community and a group from Double Springs Church in that same area told Council of their road problem on the road to "The Old House". Mr. Moore agreed to meet on Saturday with them to look over the road.

Mr. James Senn of the Sewer Commission requested some \$166,500.00 for the next step of the Sewer Program. This was referred to the Finance Committee. It was also announced that a meeting would be held March 19th to discuss the facts regarding the referendum on the Sewer Project to be held in April.

Mr. Ted Parker of the Appalacian Council of Governments spoke briefly on highway classification. Mr. Thomas moved, Mr. Moore seconded, to endorse Resolution #15 adopting this concept in Federal Roads Program that will include designated State roads in an improvement program.

Mr. Thomas moved, Mr. Moore seconded a motion which passed unanimously to adopt Resolution # 16 setting the school trustee election date May 18, and the run-off (if there should be one) 14 days thereafter.

Law Enforcement Committee CHairman Buddy Herring entered a motion that received a second from Councilman Moore and passed setting up a Drug Squad for the County. This Squad to be composed of a 5 member committee whcih will be the Sheriff, and one Representative from the County Council, Legislative Delegation, Education Dept. and one of the four Police Chiefs. Councilman Thomas then moved to appoint Mr. Herring as the Council's Representative. Mr. Moore seconded the motion and it was passed. Council expressed hope that this Committee could be appointed in the next few days. It could then furnish Council with policies and a proposed budget and hopefully be in operation July 1st if a suitable Squad CHief can be hired by then.

Councilman Moore proposed the paving of 50 miles of roads this year and suggested the necessity of contracting possibly as much as 90% of this work in order to proceed with it as quickly as possible. He also stated he had contacted the State HIghway Officials and they had agreed to assist the County with engineering services. Mr. Moore then moved to proceed with accepting bids on 5 miles at the present. Mr. Thomas seconded and it was unanimously passed.

Mr. Moore sited the need for a rest home in the County. Mr. Bailes appointed Mr. Moore and Mr. Herring as a Committee to investigate the feasibility and legality of such a facility.

In committee reports Mr. Thomas agreed to get bids for a new tower at the Courthouse relative to the air conditioning renovation. He announced that budget hearings will begin around April 1st. County Purchasing Agent Gene Gaillard gave a brief report on his activities at the seminar he attended in Chapel Hill, N.C. last week. Mr. Thomas then moved, Mr. Moore seconded to recommend Mr. Gaillard to replace Mr. Thomas on the COG Cooperative Purchasing Committee. Tax collections, he stated, not stands at some \$6,300,000.00 . The computer terminal is in operation in the Public Service Building.

Mr. Thomas moved to adopt Resolution # 17 allowing county home owners to

apply for tax ratio rates by mail. Mr. Moore seconded and it was adopted. County Attorney Jerry FEdder pointed out the Resolution will not affect homeowners but is necessary under the uniform reassessment program.

Council approved a contract combining the Tri City Rescue Squad and the Oconee County Civil Defense Agency for a 1 year trial basis.

Seneca Policeman, Earl Holcombe, commended the Council Members for their support of the EIV System and proposed DRug Squad.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 P.M.