

MEETING OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING SEPT. 12, 1978

The County Council meeting was opened by Chairman Phinney with the invocation by Mr. Cox. Councilmen Thomas and Ables were absent.

Motion by Mr. Cox seconded by Dr. Earle and carried, to approve minutes of the August 1st meeting as furnished.

Forest Ranger, Bill Craig, requested Council adopt a Resolution stating their feelings with regard to RARE II (Roadless Area Review Evaluation). In discussion Mr. Craig pointed out that the Forest Service is not taking a stand either way. They will abide by the wishes of the residents and other interested citizens. Dr. Earle stated he felt it should remain in multi-purpose use rather than designated as a wilderness area. Council agreed to have the requested Resolution on the agenda for the next meeting with a copy furnished each Member beforehand.

Mr. Crain brought Council Members up to date on the status of the new Rock Crushing facility after which he moved for the adoption on First Reading (without being read in its entirety) Ordinance 78-8 "To provide for the sale of Surplus Gravel". Mr. Frady seconded the motion. Mr. Crain stated Interstate Equipment was the apparent low bidder and had requested a letter of intent. This letter is needed so they can proceed with drawing plans which would include a cancellation clause. Mr. Bailes inquired as to why there was such a price difference in the two bids. Only two bids were submitted, Mitchell Distributing Co. and Interstate Equipment. Councilmen Frady and Crain explained the difference in the bids after which they pointed out no bid could actually be awarded until bonds are sold. Mr. Bailes moved, Mr. Crain seconded to amend this Ordinance by inserting under Section III PRIORITIES line 7 "and Forest Service". The vote on the amendment 6 for and 0 against, the vote on Adoption of Ordinance on First Reading 6 for and 0 against.

Mr. Bailes moved, Mr. Crain seconded to adopt on Second Reading Ordinance 78-7 "Sale of Tax Anticipation Notes"- The Vote 6 yes and 0 No.

Mr. Wally Dost, Vice Chairman of the Arts Commission and President of the Oconee Community Theatre, gave a report on the activities and programs of the Arts Commission and the Oconee Community Theatre. His request for a transfer of \$250 from budget code 06 83 00 and \$250 from 06 83 02 to help with the cost of repairing the air conditioner at the Community Theatre was referred to the Intergovernmental Committee by Chairman for study and a report.

Finance Chairman Bailes moved to approve \$1500 from the Contingency account to supplement budget item 99 02 00 (Capital Expense Concession Stand for 4-H Center at Oak Grove). The additional funds will be used for the balance needed for the construction of the stand and a topographic survey of the property which was given to the center several years ago by Mr. Barnett. Mr. Crain seconded and all votes were in favor.

Councilman Cox expressed his appreciation to the Sheriff's Dept. for their help with the recent break-in at his home.

It was announced by Mr. Crain that the first road construction grant for the Walhalla Middle School road was disapproved, however, it is being rewritten and hopefully it will go through this time. School trustees are considering an alternate route for the second application.

Since the first year warranty on the Law Enforcement Center is soon to run out, the Law Enforcement Committee will meet soon with the Architects to check the building throughly it was announced by Mr. Crain.

Mr. Herring moved to approve the Buildings and Grounds Committee's recommendation to tear off the kitchen(new part) of the old jail, restore the original building and pave a parking area adjacent to the building. Mr. Cox seconded the motion. Councilman Crain requested the vote on this be postponed until the next meeting but withdrew his request. The vote was 5 for and 0 against and 1 abstained (Crain).

A motion by Mr. Herring seconded by Mr. Cox to allow the Health Dept. to use the surplus paint and wallpaper left over from their redecorating at the satalite building in Seneca. It was agreed.

The Buildings and Grounds Committee recommended the minor repairs at the Smith Garage be made by the manpower crew and wait until next year for the major repairs.

Mr. Herring also announced the Buildings and Grounds Committee will meet with regard to a recommendation on the furnishings and carpet for the new libraries. At the present there are no funds budgeted for these items. Mr. Wells, Architect for the structures, is going to do another study to get a more accurate figure on the furnishings and carpet and a projected completion date for the projects.

Mr. Herring moved to approve the opening of a door between the Veterans Affairs Office and the office occupied by his secretary at the Law Enforcement Center. Mr. Crain seconded and the vote was 4 for and 1 against (Cox) and 1 abstained(Frady).

Council Members discussed the need for transportation for the County's senior Citizens to attend group meetings,etc. No action was taken.

Mr. Herring moved to give permission for the Walhalla Jaycees to use the old Jail Halloween night, Mr. Cox seconded and it was unanimously carried. Insurance for the event will be provided by the Jaycees.

Mr. Frady moved to fund \$300 for 6 Tri City Rescue Members to attend a "High Rise and Mountain Rescue" seminar at Greenville Tec. Council agreed to use funds presently in the budget for training and replace later if necessary.

A request by the Walhalla Recreation Dept. for funds to help with the Senior Citizens Banquet October 25th was referred to Committee for a report.

Mr. Phinney suggested the 3rd Tuesday in September meeting be skipped and hold the next meeting on schedule, the first Tuesday in October at 7:00 P.M. Council agreed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 P.M.