

MINUTES OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING OCTOBER 3, 1978

The regular meeting of County Council was opened by Chairman Phinney with the invocation by Mr. Crain. Councilman Herring was the only Member absent. Mr. Cox arrived late and was not present for the vote on the two Ordinances.

Motion by Mr. Bailes seconded by Mr. Thomas and carried to approve minutes of the September 12th meeting as furnished.

Ordinance 78-7 "Sale of Tax Anticipation Notes" was adopted on Third Reading- Motion by Mr. Crain seconded by Mr. Bailes - the vote 6 Yes and 0 No.

Ordinance 78-8 "Sale of Surplus Gravel" was adopted on Second Reading - Motion by Mr. Crain seconded by Mr. Bailes - The vote 6 Yes and 0 No.

Rural Fire Commission Chairman, Raymond Fendley requested funds to purchase a rural fire truck for West Union. The city of West Union has agreed to furnish the building for the station. He pointed out a demonstrator truck completely equipped could be purchased from Anderson Safety Company for approximately \$40,000 which would save some \$8,000 over the cost of a new truck. At the request of Dr. Earle this was referred to Committee for further study and recommendation after which Mr. Bailes moved to authorize the Committee to purchase the truck if that was their recommendation. Mr. Thomas seconded and motion was carried. Council agreed that if this truck is purchased they would not include funds for a truck in the 1979-80 budget.

County Building Inspector, Jim LeCroy gave an update on the progress of the construction of the hospital and libraries in which he reported all work on these projects progressing on schedule. Brick work on the hospital expansion is now 20% complete, the Westminster library is now 60% complete but the Walhalla library is moving somewhat slower according to Mr. LeCroy. Mr. LeCroy stated that he was completely satisfied with the quality of the construction and that the construction was in accordance with the blue prints and building specifications.

A briefing was given by Tax Assessor Medford on the activities of the Tax Assessors Office.

In his regular update on the progress of the county-wide sewer project, Mr. Howard Adams stated the work was on schedule and there were no problems at this time. He said the plant site was well under way, the right-of-way's 90% complete and line divisions 39% complete. Overall, he said, the project is approximately 35% complete at this time. Some change orders are being made but they will be a minus. Mr. Adams

requested an executive session after the meeting to discuss personnel - It was agreed.

Council unanimously ratified the letter written to the U. S. Forest Service with reference to RARE II endorsing the multi-use of National Forest land. Motion by Mr. Bailes seconded by Mr. Cox.

Mr. Crain reported that approximately 8 acres of land adjacent to the present rock quarry has been purchased at a cost of \$4,000 per acre, total cost \$32,000 from Mr. Jesse Harvey, Jr. who has requested 29% be paid now, 29% on January 1, 1979 and the balance to be paid January 1, 1980. Payment for this land to come from sale of bonds money. Mr. Crain moved to go along with this schedule for payment with the payment due now to be fronted from contingent account which would be reimbursed when bonds are sold. Mr. Thomas seconded and all votes were in favor.

It was agreed that an abandoned road going through the Brown Estate in the Whetstone Community be deeded by "Quick Claim Deed" back to the estate. Motion by Mr. Crain seconded by Mr. Thomas and carried.

Dr. Earle moved to notify COG that the County will accept the grant for one packer truck, one clean up truck and forty additional green boxes. Oconee's share would be approximately \$40,000 (one-half of the total cost of \$80,000) and to authorize the Supervisor to search for a single landfill site. Mr. Cox seconded and motion was carried. It was also agreed a follow on study be made to investigate the feasibility of using green boxes with a larger capacity up to 40 cubic yards.

Mr. Frady requested his sub-committee discuss in executive session the county purchasing procedures. He stated tires amounting to \$3,100 over the past year have been purchased from a firm who was not the low bidder.

Councilman Thomas moved to fund an additional \$500 from the contingent account to supplement the \$926 left in the Childrens Home budget account for air conditioners to cover the cost of materials for wiring which will cost approximately \$1,200. Mr. Thomas stated he felt the air conditioners should not be installed, however, until next summer. The county building and maintenance crew will do the wiring. Mr. Ables seconded this motion which was carried.

Motion by Mr. Ables to fund \$500 for Senior Citizens day October 25, 1978 honoring Oconee's Senior Citizens who have been married 50 years or longer. This is to be paid from grant to independent agencies-PRT account. Mr. Crain seconded - motion carried. Mr. Ables moved to fund \$1,200 from the same account to help with the purchase of an air conditioner for the Oconee Community Theatre and to transfer and allocate \$500 (\$250 from 06 83 00 "Programs" and \$250 from 06 83 02 "Awards") with in the Arts Commission toward this purchase which is agreeable with the Arts Commission. Mr. Cox seconded and the motion was carried. Council unanimously agreed to reimburse this account in the PRT budget for the above donations plus the \$955 previously donated to the Mountain Rest Cloggers.

An additional \$350 for extra clerical help for the Board of Registration while the clerk is on vacation, was referred to the personnel committee.

Mr. Bailes moved to authorize the architect to proceed with the completion plans for the new libraries with regard to furniture, carpet, etc. but to reserve the right for county personnel to do the landscaping. This to be a Resolution of intent to appropriate funds. Mr. Cox seconded the motion which was carried.

Director of Budget and Planning, Richard Lay reported the grant for the Oconee Station road has been approved at the COG level and has been forwarded to the Governor for approval. He also stated the grant application for the Walhalla Middle School road is being rewritten with the route change as approved by the school board. The Highway Commissioner feels "C" funds should not be earmarked for this project which will result in the county having to fund \$13,500 as a local match. Mr. Thomas moved to fund this amount, Mr. Cox seconded and it was carried.

Council agreed to go into executive session to discuss personnel as requested by Mr. Adams of the Sewer Commission.

In executive session Council authorized Mr. Adams to enter into negotiations in the hiring of a project manager for the county-wide sewer system with a salary range from \$18,000 to \$22,000. This action will be ratified at the next council meeting held October 17, 1978.