

MINUTES OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING JANUARY 9, 1979

The meeting of County Council was opened by Chairman Phinney with the invocation by Councilman Crain. All Members were present.

The Oath of Office was administered to Dr. Earle and Mrs. Jennings by Clerk of Court Roy Harden.

Minutes of the December 5th meeting were approved as furnished. Motion by Mr. Ables seconded by Mr. Crain and carried.

Mr. Ables moved to adopt on First Reading Ordinance 79-1 "Organization and Rules of Oconee County Council" as procedure and rules pending final approval on Third Reading. Mr. Crain seconded the motion. Dr. Earle stated he felt some parts of this Ordinance need to be clarified and amended and suggested Council hold a working session before Second Reading. It was agreed and was referred to Dr. Earle's Committee for study by Chairman Phinney. The Ordinance was then passed on First Reading by a unanimous vote.

The following appointments were made by Council:

Vice Chairman, Hugh Ables - Motion by Dr. Earle seconded by Mr. Crain and carried.

Council Clerk, Ann Orr - Motion by Mr. Ables seconded by Mr. Crain and carried.

Chairman Phinney appointed W. Jerry Fedder as County Attorney, Dr. C. T. Battle, County Physician and Dr. Earle to replace Mr. Ables as Council's Representative on the Appalachian Council of Governments. Mr. Phinney also announced the following Standing Committees:

1. PERSONNEL AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS:  
Dr. Earle, Chairman, Mr. Ables and Mrs. Jennings
2. ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION:  
Mr. Crain, Chairman, Mr. Ables and Dr. Earle
3. LAW ENFORCEMENT AND PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE:  
Mrs. Jennings, Chairman, Dr. Earle and Mr. Frady
4. PURCHASING AND REAL ESTATE, BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS:  
Mr. Frady, Chairman, Mr. Crain and Mrs. Jennings
5. BUDGET AND FISCAL AFFAIRS:  
Mr. Ables, Chairman, Mr. Crain, Mrs. Jennings, Dr. Earle and Mr. Frady

Ordinance 79-2 "Cable Television - Oconee County" was discussed and County Attorney Fedder stated he had requested Ft. Hill Cable T.V. to furnish him a copy of their proposed contract for his review but has not received it therefore Ordinance 79-2 was not ready for first Reading at this time.

Mr. Crain moved to adopt on First Reading "Oconee County Affirmative Action Plan and Program" and re-number it Ordinance 79-3 (this Ordinance formerly 78-10 received only one reading under the previous Council and therefore was re numbered and received First Reading by this Council) Mr. Ables seconded the motion which was carried.

Mr. Clyde Kerr discussed the Barrier Free Building Plans for the county and told Council he had been advised by telephone by HEW that no funds would be available to the county because funds had been misused from 1968 to 1974. Council agreed for Mr. Lay to attend a meeting with Mr. Kerr concerning this in Charleston at a later date.

Assistant Solicitor John Fields gave Council a briefing on the activities of the Solicitors Office. He announced this department has received a federal grant which pays 90% of the salary for another assistant solicitor for Anderson and Oconee Counties. The new solicitors role is to screen cases that should never reach the courts thus speeding up the court proceedings. He also assists the investigators in this department. Mr. Fields reported there are presently approximately 100 cases on the docket and he has requested the Supreme Court for a special session in the spring to hopefully clear the docket.

Tax Collector John Fowler briefed Council on the progress his office is making in collecting delinquent taxes and stated collections were ahead of last year. Council agreed to set a meeting to purge uncollected tax rolls.

Mr. LeCroy reported building A of the hospital construction was now approximately 65% complete and hoped it would be complete in April. Building B of the construction completion date is set for the end of this year. According to Mr. LeCroy the Westminster Library is now complete except for base boards and carpet and completion date of the Walkalla Library is April.

In old business Dr. Earle stated his Committee has reviewed the cost of repairing the CCS truck that was burned and the purchase of a new one and decided to repair the truck at a cost not to exceed \$7,000. Funds will come from the contingency account. McLees Garage in Anderson will make the repairs. It is hoped this truck will be back in service in 4 to 5 weeks. Dr. Earle also reported the Smith Garage and motor pool is getting underway with the purchasing department in charge using present personnel. No new employees will be hired at this time and the budget for this operation to be funded from other departments. It is estimated to take 5 or 6 thousand dollars to get it in operation which will come from the Supervisor's budget.

Mr. Frady reported the purchasing Committee met on December 19th to open bids for re roofing the old jail building. The low bid was \$9,000 and the Committee decided to table this for the present for further discussion.

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\$2,200 for materials and labor has been received through the man power program for this renovation. The Arts Commission is scheduled to meet on January 10th and report on the projected use of this building. Mr. Frady's Committee also decided to continue with Ward Exxon Co. for the gas and oil bid due to oil allocation during the energy crisis. Tire bids were also received, Edwards Auto and Super Service were the only bidders. It was the consensus of the Committee that since Edwards Auto did not bid on retreads and did not sign their bid, the bid would be awarded to Super Service. It was further agreed that a 30 day notice would be given when the County garage begins to do their own service on tires. Mr. Frady then moved, Mr. Crain seconded to accept the Super Service tire bid. All Members agreed. Building and Grounds Committee has also agreed to accept the low bid of \$25,000 (to come out of the contingency account) to complete the South Cove Residence with the stipulation this residence be used by the PRT Director, house his office and that he also serve as Director of South Cove Park.

Mrs. Jennings moved to fund from the contingency account an additional \$200 for the Seneca Magistrate for jury trials. Mr. Frady seconded the motion which was unanimously carried.

An update on the construction progress of the new rock crusher was given by Mr. Crain. He stated the two trucks has been delivered at a cost of \$88,000 each. The concrete for the jaw crusher has been installed and excavation for the site is 70% complete. The estimated completion date for this project is set for early spring. With the acreage purchased for this facility Mr. Crain estimated the cost per ton at .0192.

Mr. Frady moved to authorize the Chairman and Clerk to sign a deed for the School District for land sold to Corinth Baptist Church for \$1,000. Mr. Ables seconded and motion carried.

Meeting dates for Council was discussed however no action was taken until after Ordinance 79-1 has been reviewed. Chairman Phinney announced the next meeting would be January 23rd at 3 P.M.

Mr. Lay announced the Tax Collections are 89% complete according to Mr. Caters records. He also announced that the budget Memorandum was sent out today and that W-2 forms would be out early next week.

Council agreed to go into executive session at 9:15 to discuss personnel and pending legal matters.