

MINUTES OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING DECEMBER 4, 1979

The regular meeting of County Council was opened by Chairman Phinney with the opening prayer by Mr. Crain. All Council Members were present.

Minutes of the November 20th meeting were approved as furnished. Motion by Mr. Crain, second by Dr. Earle.

Walhalla Mayor, Bob Gaillard spoke briefly to Council with reference to a county wide water system asking Council to consider a feasibility study, stating the County has an abundant water supply - naming Lake Keowee and Lake Jocassee as possible sources. He urged Council to give this consideration at an early date. Mayor Gaillard then thanked Council Members for their many kindnesses to him during his term as Mayor of Walhalla.

Dr. Earle moved to adopt on Third and Final Reading Ordinances 79-16 through 23 "Re-organization of Boards and Commissions", after several changes and deletions were made. Dr. Earle read each of the changes and furnished Members with an updated copy of each. Mr. Crain seconded and motion was carried. - The vote 5 Yes and 0 No.

Mr. Ables moved to adopt on Second Reading Ordinances 79-24,26 and 27, "Sewer Revenue Bonds" - Dr. Earle seconded and motion was carried. - The vote 5 Yes and 0 No.

Solicitor Henry Raines, Mr. John Field, Assistant Solicitor and Mr. Steve Haggler, Assistant Solicitor gave an up date/briefing on the Solicitor's activities which revealed they are doing much to screen cases. The first year 25% of the cases were screened and did not require court proceedings. Mr. Raines pointed out the major problem he has to deal with is the drug problem.

Mrs. Jennings moved to approve a contract agreement between Oconee County and Russell and Axxon Engineers to do a complete preliminary study on the construction of Phase 1 and 2 of the centralized landfill. The contract stipulated that the total cost would not exceed \$8,500. Mr. Crain seconded and motion was passed by a vote of 5 Yes and 0 No. Mrs. Jennings further stated that the CCS budget calls for \$72,000 for vehicle maintenance and through October \$62,000 of this has been spent.

Mr. Ables announced that \$500,000 has been borrowed at 7.2% interest to be used along with money on hand to pay the \$750,000 rock crusher note to the First National Bank in Clemson.

As Chairman of the Budget Committee, Mr. Ables read a memorandum from his Committee as it pertains to the request for funding for the Planning Commission for the balance of FY79-80. (A copy is Attached) He then moved to accept the Committee's recommendation - Dr. Earle seconded and motion was carried. The vote 5 Yes and 0 No. Council directed the Clerk to send a copy of this memorandum to the Executive Director and Chairman of the Planning Commission.

Mr. Crain announced the Grant has been approved for the Walhalla Middle School, a total of some \$22,931, and it is hoped this road can be ready for use by September 1980

Dr. Earle moved to approve from the Contingency Account, funds not to exceed \$500 for the Chairman of the Election Commission to attend a seminar in Winston-Salem, N.C. in January. Mr. Crain seconded - The vote 5 Yes and 0 No.

Council Members, The Civil Defense Director, The Director of DSS, A Representative of the Health Department and Representatives of several Civil Defense Rescue Units discussed the first of the nuclear evacuation plan held at the Duke Power Plant on December 1st. It was generally agreed that the main problem was the inadequate communication system- It was agreed to give consideration to this problem.

Mr. Crain announced the Energy Crisis Assistance Program should be taking applications within two weeks. Initially the county will receive \$41,490 and approximately \$102,000 in early January. Some 40% of these funds are earmarked for the elderly and handicapped citizens. He then moved to allow Mr. Phinney to sign (after review and approval by the County Attorney) the contract for this program. Dr. Earle seconded -The vote 5 Yes and 0 No.

Since the Oxford Oil Co. in Seneca has sold its business to another firm who will not be servicing heating oil customers, Mr. Crain moved to pass a Resolution to request this Company's allocation for fuel be kept in Oconee County and be re distributed to other dealers. Dr. Earle seconded and the vote was 5 Yes and 0 No. Mr. Crain further announced the gasoline allocation for County use for December seems to be sufficient.

Dr. Earle announced that at the present the CETA Program has 92 employees with more funds for projects expected.

Chairman Phinney announced that, if agreeable with Council, County Employees will be given 3 Christmas Holidays, December 24, 25, and 26th and that payroll checks for December will be issued on December 21st. He further stated the next County Council meeting will be January 8<sup>th</sup> 1980. It was agreed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 P.M.