

MINUTES, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

The regular meeting of the Oconee County Council was held Tuesday, June 4, 1985 at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers with all members present.

Members of the press notified (by mail): Seneca Journal, Keowee Courier, Greenville News, Anderson Independent, WGOG Radio & WSNW Radio.

Press

Members of the press present: Dick Mangrum - WGOG Radio, Randall Holcombe - Seneca Journal, Dale Perry - Greenville News, Mary Heaton - Anderson Independent & Ashton Hester - Keowee Courier.

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor-Chairman Crain who welcomed the guests and media.

The invocation was given by Mr. Harper.

Mr. Williams made a motion, seconded by Mr. Butts, approved 5 - 0 that the minutes of the May 21, 1985 meeting be adopted as printed.

Minutes

First on the agenda was a discussion of the School Budget for fiscal year 1985-86. Members of the School Board present: Dr. Harry Mays, Mrs. Fran Burrell, Mrs. Ann Hoshall & Mr. James G. Brown.

School budget discussion

First to speak was Mr. Jimmy Dupre, Superintendent of Education, who gave the attached presentation to Council. Mr. Dupre also stated he felt like the School Board had done all they could do to reduce the school budget for fiscal year 1985-86. He also read a letter to Council signed by a majority of the School Board Members asking Council to do whatever was necessary including a raise in taxes to keep our educational level at the level it is now.

Mr. Bill Frady, President of Concerned Citizens for Academic Excellence in Walhalla, expressed his concern about the effect the proposed cuts in the School District would have on the advanced classes in the Walhalla area. He stated he would like very much to maintain the present staff that is in the Walhalla Schools.

Mr. Eric Stafford addressed Council concerning the quality of education in Oconee County. He stated he would like to see an end to: 1) the endless conflict between the School District and County Council; 2) the battle for schools in the Seneca area; 3) the battle over the budget each year. He also stated that he would like to see a realistic budget, how could Council define the school budget as unrealistic and which body should know the needs of the school district.

Mr. Stafford then issued a challenge to Council to cooperate with the School Department, to find the funds, look past politics and vote for a tax increase.

Dr. Earle pointed out that the School Budget has increased about one million dollars a year for the past ten years.

Mr. Harper made a motion, seconded by Dr. Earle that Ordinance 85-5, "1985-86 Oconee County Budget Ordinance" be adopted on third and final reading as amended on second reading.

Ord. 85-5

Mr. Harper then made a motion that Ordinance 85-5 be amended to add one tax mill for the operation of the schools. This motion died for lack of a second.

Mr. Harper then made a motion that the attached list of amendments be made to Ordinance 85-5, this motion was seconded by Mr. Butts and approved 5 - 0.

Ordinance 85-5, "1985-86 Oconee County Budget Ordinance" was adopted as amended on third and final reading by a vote of 4 - 0 with Mr. Williams abstaining due to relatives working with the School District and with the County.

Next on the agenda was a discussion of the proposed land exchange between the Aeronautics Commission & Clemson University. After considerable discussion Council deemed it necessary to hold a public hearing concerning the proposed land exchange with Clemson University July 2, 1985 at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers.

The proposal is to trade to Oconee County a 4.59[±] acre parcel of land on Route 123 as described on a plat by Harold W. Hawkins, Registered Surveyor, dated December 10, 1981, presently owned by Clemson University in exchange for a 6.19[±] acre parcel of land, said parcel being a part of Clemson-Oconee Airport owned by Oconee County and being located southeast of the runway as depicted on a plat by Harold W. Hawkins, Registered Surveyor, dated January 27, 1982.

Further, as fee title of the airport parcel is deeded over from the county to Clemson University, which includes the rights the sponsor must have to fulfill its sponsorship commitments to the federal government. The third action would be for the county to grant a long term sub-lease to the university for its hanger and maintenance facilities.

Moreover, Oconee County will consider selling and/or exchanging the property acquired from Clemson University for earth moved by a contractor for the Oconee County Aeronautics Commission.

Mr. Butts made a motion, seconded by Dr. Earle, approved 5 - 0 that Ordinance 85-6, "Proposed Land Exchange Ordinance" be approved in title only on first reading.

Ord. 85-6

Mr. Williams made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dyar, approved 5 - 0 that Council go into executive session to discuss a contractual matter.

Executive session

When Council went back into open session Dr. Earle made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dyar, approved 5 - 0 that the county enter into a one year contract with Helping Hands to house children that need it either on a long term or short term basis.

Contract with Helping Hands

The contract will be for eight beds at \$35,000 per year to be paid on a quarterly basis; it will be for one year with option to renew and goes into effect July 1, 1985.

The Roads & Transportation Committee set a meeting for Tuesday, June 11, 1985 at 5:00 PM in the Supervisor's Office to go out and look at the Hopewell Church Road.

Rd. Comm. meeting

Mr. Williams made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dyar, approved 5 - 0 that Office Machine Center be awarded the bid for typewriter maintenance for fiscal year 1985-86 at a cost of \$2,850.

Typewriter maintenance

Mr. Williams made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dyar, approved 5 - 0 that Morris Communications be awarded the bid for maintenance on the county radio equipment for fiscal year 1985-86 at a cost of \$990.50.

Radio equip.

Dr. Earle made a motion, seconded by Mr. Butts, approved 5 - 0 that Blue Cross/Blue Shield be awarded the bid for insurance for fiscal year 1985-86 to include dental care and the prescription card.

Insurance

Dr. Earle asked for and received a consensus from Council to set up a census tract program. Mr. Bob Gaillard has consented to work with the Chambers of Commerce in the counties in compiling this information.

Census

Dr. Earle made a motion, that when a car becomes available for the Solicitor that it be given to him for use on his job. This motion was seconded by Mr. Harper and approved 5 - 0.

Car for Solicitor

Mr. Harper made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dyar, approved 5 - 0 that the attached transfers be approved.

Transfers

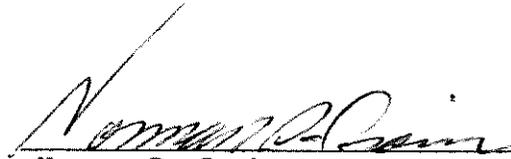
Dr. Earle made a motion, seconded by Mr. Butts, approved 5 - 0 that \$426.20 be taken from contingency and placed in line item 10 060 150 00026 (Court Expense) for jurors for the remainder of fiscal year 1984-85.

Magistrate

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Dr. Earle made a motion, seconded by Mr. Butts, approved 5 - 0 that the county purchase a fixed assets program for the county at a cost of \$395 plus \$400 for more memory in the program.

Fixed assets
program



Norman D. Crain
Supervisor-Chairman
Oconee County Council