

A G E N D A
SPECIAL MEETING, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, AUGUST 10, 1999
OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
415 SOUTH PINE STREET
WALHALLA, SC
5:00 PM

1. Call to Order
2. Invocation
3. Discussion Concerning Personnel Matters, to Include a Discussion Concerning Filling the Planning Position for Oconee County, and Discussion Incident to Proposed Contractual Arrangements for Professional Planning Services Pending the Retention of a Full Time Planner for Oconee County – Mr. Harrison Orr – There may be an Executive Session to Discuss These Issues Prior to Discussion in Open Session
4. Discussion Concerning Status of Newry Water/Sewer Systems and Grants
5. Adjourn

The meeting of the Oconee County Budget & Finance Committee previously scheduled for Tuesday, August 10, 1999 at 5:30 PM will begin immediately after the Special Council Meeting described above. The Oconee County Law Enforcement, Safety, Health, Welfare & Services Committee will meet at the conclusion of the Budget & Finance Committee meeting on the same date and at the same location.

C: County Council
County Attorney
Media

MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr. Tim O. Hall, III, District I Mr. J. Harold Thomas, District II
Mr. Harry R. Hamilton, District III Mrs. Ann H. Hughes, District IV
Mr. Charles R. "Chuck" Timms, District V

MINUTES, SPECIAL MEETING, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

The Oconee County Council held a special meeting Monday, August 10, 1999 at 5:00 PM in Council Chambers with all Council Members and the County Attorney present.

Press:

Members of the press notified (via facsimile): Journal/Tribune, Keowee Courier, Westminster News, Anderson Independent, Greenville News, Northland Cablevision, WYFF TV, WLOS TV & WSPA TV.

Members of the press present: Dick Mangrum – WGOG Radio.

Call to Order:

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

Invocation:

The invocation was given by Mr. Hall.

Executive Session:

Mr. Hamilton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thomas, approved 5 – 0 that Council go into executive session for the purpose of discussion contractual and personnel matters.

Open Session:

County Planner:

Mr. Orr made the following recommendation: As you are aware, as a part of the 1999-2000 budget, the County Council appropriated money to fund the position of a county planner. After the county advertised this position, I interviewed several applicants for this position.

County Planner Continued:

Although we had several promising applicants for this position, one applicant, in my mind, possesses the qualifications and experience that would make him the most qualified person for this job. He holds a BS degree from Fayetteville State University and has additional training at two other institutions of higher learning. Perhaps the most important aspect of his qualifications is his experience in local government, including overseeing the planning efforts of a county which faces the same kind of challenges as our own County of Oconee.

This applicant has had over ten years of experience in managing local government, and has been intimately involved in planning and developing projects ranging from concepts for regional solid waste and sewer projects, minority recruitment programs, emergency preparedness planning, the implementation of an emergency 911 program, and a county-wide comprehensive plan. He has overseen the administration of a county budget of \$34,000,000, which including a county planning department and has been responsible for construction projects over a ten year period with a cost in excess of \$12,000,000, all of which came in ahead of schedule and under budget.

This applicant also is very familiar with Oconee County and its people, and will be in a unique position to be sensitive to the concerns that many of our residents will have about land use planning, but is also aware of the long term cost of failing to plan effectively for growth and resource management.

Unfortunately, this applicant, due to his existing contractual obligations, will not be available to accept this position on a full time basis right away, but can, under the terms of his current employment agreement, serve as a consultant to Oconee County until he can come on board full time early next year.

It is for this reason that I recommend that Council approve entering into a contractual arrangement with Mr. John T. (Tom) Hendricks, on a temporary basis for planning services until such time as Mr. Hendricks can become employed full time as the head of the Planning Department for Oconee County, at a cost not to exceed \$1,700 per month for such services. This amount would be less than half of the approved amount per month as budgeted for the full time planner, when factoring in required fringe and benefits. I further recommend that the funds for such arrangement be transferred from the salary line item for the planning position for this purpose, with this arrangement to extend up to February 7, 2000.

After a brief discussion in which Mr. Timms stated he would like to have a full time planner by October 1, 1999, Mr. Thomas made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Hughes, approved 4 – 1 (Mr. Timms voting against) that Mr. Orr's recommendation be adopted.

Newry Sewer:

Mr. Cain, County Attorney, informed Council he had received a phone call from Mr. Sam Cargill, Department of Commerce, informing him there were many projects in other counties in need of grant funding. Mr. Cargill urged the county to resolve any problems that would prohibit the county from accepting the grant funds that are currently available for the Newry Sewer & Water Project.

After a brief discussion, Mr. Timms suggested a meeting between Oconee County, the City of Seneca and Mr. Cargill.

Treasurer's Office:

Mrs. Hughes made a motion, seconded by Mr. Timms, approved 5 – 0 that the Treasurer's Office be allowed to hire a temporary employee while one of the employees is out on worker's compensation and the temporary salary be paid from that employee's line item.

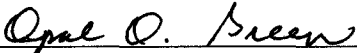
Courthouse:

Mr. Timms informed Council that Mr. F. J. Clark would be in attendance at the August 17, 1999 Council Meeting to update on the progress of the courthouse plans.

Adjourn:

Adjourn: 6:10 PM

Respectfully Submitted


Opal O. Green
Council Clerk