

MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL
Mr. Steven R. Moore, District I Mr. Kenneth E. Johns, Jr., District II
Rev. William "Bill" Rinehart, District III Mr. Marion E. Lyles, District IV
Mr. H. Frank Ables, Jr., District V

MINUTES, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

The Oconee County Council met Tuesday, January 7, 2003 at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Council Members except Mr. Lyles present. Mr. Norton, County Attorney was also present.

Press:

Members of the press notified (via mail): Keowee Courier, Westminster News, Daily Journal, Anderson Independent, WGOG Radio, WYFF TV & WLOS TV.

Members of the press present: Dick Mangrum – WGOG Radio, Dave Williams – Anderson Independent & Ray Chandler – Daily Journal.

Other Organizations Notified:

Also notified were the Oconee County Tax Payers Association and the Oconee County Democratic Party.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor-Chair Hughes

Invocation:

Rev. Rinehart gave the invocation.

Council Chaplain:

Mrs. Hughes made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ables, approved 4 – 0 that Rev. Rinehart serve as the County Council chaplain.

Minutes:

Mr. Johns made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ables, approved 4 – 0 that the minutes of the regular meeting held December 17, 2002 be adopted as printed.

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Council Standing Committees:

Mrs. Hughes made the following standing committee appointments:

Budget & Finance Committee:

Mr. Moore, Chair
Mr. Kenneth E. Johns, Jr.
Rev. William "Bill" Rinehart
Mr. Marion E. Lyles
Mr. H. Frank Ables, Jr.

Law Enforcement, Safety, Health, Welfare & Services Committee:

Rev. William "Bill" Rinehart, Chair
Mr. Marion E. Lyles
Mr. Kenneth E. Johns, Jr.

Roads & Transportation Committee:

Mr. Kenneth E. Johns, Jr., Chair
Mr. Steven R. Moore
Mr. H. Frank Ables, Jr.

Personnel & Intergovernmental Committee

Mr. H. Frank Ables, Jr., Chair
Rev. William "Bill" Rinehart
Mr. Kenneth E. Johns, Jr.

Purchasing, Contracting, Real Estate, Building & Grounds Committee:

Mr. Marion E. Lyles, Chair
Mr. H. Frank Ables, Jr.
Rev. William "Bill" Rinehart

County Attorney:

Mrs. Hughes reappointed Mr. Bradley A. Norton as County Attorney.

Council of Governments Representative:

Mrs. Hughes reappointed Mr. Marion E. Lyles as the County Representative on the SC Appalachian Council of Governments Board.

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Council Vice Chair:

Mrs. Hughes made a motion that Mr. Steven R. Moore be elected as Vice Chair of Council; however, this motion was withdrawn when Council Members expressed a desire for all Council Members to be present when the Vice Chair is elected.

Council Clerk:

Mrs. Hughes made a motion, seconded by Mr. Moore, approved 4 – 0 that Mrs. Opal O. Green be reappointed as Council Clerk.

Solid Waste:

Upon recommendation of Ms. Marianne Dillard, Procurement Director & Ms. Melissa Grant, Solid Waste Director, Mr. Johns made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ables, approved 4 – 0 that the bid for remediation of the Five Forks Landfill be awarded to Hutch-N-Son who was the only responsive bid at a cost of \$78,275. (See attached bid sheet)

DSS/DHHS Building Needs:

Mr. Robert Banks, County Engineer, Mr. Joseph Stribling, DSS Director & Ms. Leann Greene, DHHS Director addressed Council regarding space needs for those offices. To Mrs. Hughes inquiry, Mr. Banks replied that he was going to make a recommendation to relocate these offices, as they will be getting additional employees and needing additional space. Mrs. Hughes assigned this matter to the Purchasing, Contracting, Real Estate, Building & Grounds Committee.

Ordinance 2002-16:

Mr. Johns made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ables, approved 4 – 0 that Ordinance 2002-16, "AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE SUSPENSION OF SUNDAY WORK PROHIBITIONS UNDER SOUTH CAROLINA LAW DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER" be adopted on third and final reading.

SWAG Committee:

Mr. Norton reported the Sewer & Water Action Group meet every first and third Wednesday, he will present their findings to Council for their approval and also there is some Solid Waste information that needs to be discussed in the Purchasing, Contracting, Real Estate, Building & Grounds Committee.

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Personnel & Intergovernmental Meet:

The Personnel & Intergovernmental Committee scheduled a meeting Tuesday, January 21, 2002 at 12:00 noon in Council Chambers for the purpose of discussing several personnel matters.

Sewer Issues:

Mr. Jerry Barlow, Sewer Commission Member, addressed Council expressing concerns that although sewer is located ninety (90) feet from the business, the business was denied access to sewer and the business owner was denied sewer through the City of Seneca because he refused to pay Seneca's yearly cost of \$2,200 in addition to the cost of installation.

After a brief discussion, Mr. Rinehart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ables, approved 4 – 0 that the county seek an attorney general's opinion regarding the legality of a municipality charging city taxes to businesses located outside their corporate limits or be denied access to utilities.

Budget & Finance Recommendation:

Upon recommendation of the Budget & Finance Committee, Council voted unanimously to freeze the balance of the designated capital improvements account.

Gravel Request:

Mr. Moore made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ables, approved 4 – 0 that the attached request from the Nation Guard for three loads of gravel be adopted.

Auditor Petty Cash (Contingency):

Upon recommendation of Mrs. Lombard, Mr. Ables made a motion, seconded by Mr. Moore, approved 4 – 0 that \$100 be taken from contingency for a petty cash fund for the Auditor's Office for the purpose of selling temporary tags.

Public Comment Session:

There was no one present with comments during the public comment session.

Adjourn:

Adjourn: 7:50 PM

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Respectfully Submitted:

Opal O. Green

Council Clerk