

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, May 6, 2003 at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Council Members and the County Attorney 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: 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:

Vice Chair Ables called the meeting to order.

Invocation:

Mr. Rinehart gave the invocation.

Minutes:

Mr. Rinehart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lyles, approved 4 – 0 that the minutes of the regular meeting held April 15, 2003 be adopted as amended (the contract with Byerly & Payne for auditing of county records be renewed for the next two fiscal years to allow for continuity in the implementation of GASB 34).

Public Hearing RE: Fair Play Fire Department:

The first agenda was a scheduled public hearing to receive written and/or oral comments regarding Oconee County deeding a lot and building located at 502 Fair Play Blvd., Fair Play, SC to the Fair Play Fire Department.

There were no written comments presented to Council regarding this matter.

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Public Hearing RE: Fair Play Fire Department Continued:

To Mr. B. J. Littleton's inquiry as to what would happen if the Fire Department should decide not to accept the lot and building, Mr. Norton, County Attorney stated it is the only fire department that liability insurance is provided for by Oconee County and if the Fair Play Fire Department does not want the property, Council will have to make a decision whether to keep the property or sell it to the highest bidder.

Parks Recommendations:

Upon recommendation of Ms. Vickie Satterfield, Parks & Recreation Director, Mr. Moore made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rinehart, approved 4 – 0 that \$9,000 be granted to the Tamassee-Salem Recreation Corporation from line item 010 202 30901.

Ms. Satterfield also presented the following recommendations regarding implementation of the Recreation Master Plan:

- (1) Oconee County continue financial assistance to youth recreation programs to include Districts I & V as follows:

District	Name	2003-04 Recommended Funding	1
Tamassee-Salem	\$17,500		
2	Walhalla	8,000	
3	Seneca	8,000	
4	Westminster	8,000	
5	Fair Play	18,000	

- (2) Hire an Athletic Director – Approximate Cost: \$35,000 - \$40,000

- (3) Purchase Property located in geographical center of county – Estimated Cost: \$200,000 - \$400,000 (See attached)

Mr. Moore made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lyles, approved 4 – 0 that consideration of any items costing funds be postponed until the 2003-04 budget deliberations.

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Ordinance 2003-06:

Mr. Johns made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lyles, approved 4 – 0 that Ordinance 2003-06, "AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE TIME LIMITATIONS FOR RECEIVING TAX REFUNDS FROM OCONEE COUNTY, AND REPEALING OCONEE COUNTY ORDINANCE 95-8" be adopted on second reading.

Ordinance 2003-07:

Mr. Rinehart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Moore, approved 4 – 0 that persons wishing to comment on the proposed ordinance be allowed five minutes.

Ms. Susie Cornelius presented the attached written comments relating to Ordinance 2003-06 to Council.

Mr. B. J. Littleton noted he had not seen a copy of the proposed ordinance to make comments on it.

Mr. Johns made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rinehart, approved 4 – 0 that Ordinance 2003-07, "OCONEE COUNTY ORGANIZATIONAL ORDINANCE" be adopted on second reading.

Ordinance 2003-08:

Mr. Lyles made a motion, seconded by Mr. Moore, approved 4 – 0 that Ordinance 2003-08, "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE JOINTLY OWNED AND OPERATED INDUSTRIAL/BUSINESS PARK IN CONJUNCTION WITH PICKENS COUNTY, DATED MAY 4, 1998 AND AMENDED ON DECEMBER 7, 1998, ON DECEMBER 21, 1999 AND APRIL 4, 2000; SUCH INDUSTRIAL/BUSINESS PARK BEING GEOGRAPHICALLY LOCATED IN PICKENS COUNTY AND OCONEE COUNTY AND ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS OF 1976 §4-1-170, ET SEQUITUR, AS AMENDED; TO PROVIDE FOR A WRITTEN AGREEMENT WITH PICKENS COUNTY PROVIDING FOR THE EXPENSES OF THE PARK, THE PERCENTAGE OF REVENUE APPLICATION, AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF FEES IN LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAX TO THE COUNTIES AND RELEVANT TAXING ENTITIES; AND, TO PROVIDE THAT JOBS TAX CREDITS ALLOWED BY LAW BE PROVIDED FOR INDUSTRIES LOCATING IN SAID PARK, AND TO PERMIT A USER FEE IN LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXATION" be adopted on first reading.

ATAX GRANT:

Mr. Rinehart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Johns, approved 4 – 0 that the attached ATAX Grant in the amount of \$700 to Boy Scout Troop 124 be adopted.

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Sewer Commission Appointee:

Mr. Rinehart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Moore, approved 4 – 0 that Mr. Ronald Knoerr be reappointed to the Sewer Commission.

Public Comment Session:

Mr. B. J. Littleton addressed Council regarding several issues that have come before Council recently.

Executive Session:

Mr. Lyles made a motion, seconded by Mr. Moore, approved 4 – 0 that Council go into executive session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter and receipt of legal advice.

Open Session:

There was no action when open session resumed.

Adjourn:

Adjourn: 8:25 PM

Respectfully Submitted:

Opal O. Green, Clerk to Council