

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

MINUTES, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

The regular meeting of the Oconee County Council was held Tuesday, April 20, 2004 at 3:00 PM with all Council Members and the County Attorney present.

Press:

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

Members of the press present: Dick Mangrum – WGOG Radio, Ray Chandler – Daily Journal, Channel 4 Representative & Channel 7 Representative.

Other Organizations Notified:

Other Organizations Notified: Oconee County Democratic Party & Oconee County Tax Payers Association.

Call to Order:

Vice Chairman Ables called the meeting to order.

Invocation:

Mr. Rinehart gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mr. Norton, County Attorney, led the pledge of allegiance to the US Flag.

County Administrator:

Mr. Rinehart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lyles, approved 5 – 0 that Mr. Harry R. Hamilton be named as Oconee County's first administrator.

Council Chair:

Mr. Johns made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lyles, approved 4 – 0 (Mr. Ables abstaining) that Mr. Ables be named Council Chair.

Vice Chair:

Mr. Rinehart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ables, approved 4 – 0 (Mr. Lyles abstaining) that Mr. Lyles be named Vice Chair.

Attorney:

Mr. Rinehart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lyles, approved 5 – 0 that Mr. Bradley A. Norton be named County Attorney.

Clerk to Council:

Mr. Johns made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rinehart, approved 5 – 0 that Mrs. Opal Green be named Clerk to Council.

Council Committees:

Mr. Moore made a motion, seconded by Mr. Johns, approved 5 – 0 that the Council Committees remain the same for the time being.

Planning & Economic Development Committee:

Mr. Ables volunteered to chair the newly formed Planning & Economic Development Committee with Mr. Moore and Mr. Lyles also serving on this committee.

Chair ProTem:

Mr. Moore made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rinehart, approved 4 – 0 (Mr. Johns abstaining) that Mr. Johns be named as Chair Pro Tem.

Minutes:

The minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting April 13, 2004 were adopted by consensus.

Resolution 2004-02:

Ms. Melissa Grant, Solid Waste Director, presented Mr. Milford Eades with Resolution 2004-02, "A RESOLUTION HONORING MILFORD EADES".

SC Appalachian Council of Governments:

Mr. Robert Strother, Executive Director, SC Appalachian Council of Governments presented the attached update of COG Services to Council. In his presentation, Mr. Strother informed Council of the following:

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SC Appalachian Council of Governments Continued:

Oconee County's annual investment in COG is \$27,951 and the return on that investment was \$17,082,580, which is a return of \$611 to \$1.

The SC Appalachian Council of Governments also offered these services during 2003:

- (1) Terrorism awareness classes for Oconee County LEC, Fire & EMS personnel
- (2) Continued work on a Natural Disaster Mitigation Plan, which will keep Oconee County eligible to receive FEMA disaster mitigation funds
- (3) Reviewed twenty-one discharge permit requests from Oconee County
- (4) Continued work on a transit needs analysis for Oconee, Pickens & Anderson Counties
- (5) Provided assistance to the Oconee County Council in pursuing recruitment of a County Administrator
- (6) Continued to provide support for the City of Westminster in using COG developed business license and court assessment computer software programs
- (7) Provided staff support and information to the Oconee County First Steps program
- (8) Provided planning technical assistance to the Cities of Walhalla & Westminster
- (9) Responded to one hundred, eleven requests for economic and demographic information regarding Oconee County
- (10) Completed 2003 Oconee County Economic Activity Report and began work on the 2003-04 Oconee County Economic Profile
- (11) Provided GIS related technical support, training, information and mapping for the Oconee County Economic Development Commission (See attached report)

Foothills Alliance:

Mrs. Fay Brown addressed Council regarding the work of the Foothills Alliance in Oconee County. Mrs. Brown informed Council their agency had made forty-five presentations in the County schools and there were thirty-nine cases of child abuse in Oconee County last year. (See attached information)

Mr. Moore made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lyles, approved 5 – 0 that funds allocated in the 2003-04 budget to Foothills Alliance be released pending the County receiving a signed contract.

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SHARE:

Ms. Helen Heaton, SHARE requested funds in the amount of \$10,000 for the remainder of the 2003-04 fiscal year. This request was referred to the Budget & Finance Committee.

Humane Society:

Mrs. Lindsay Addis, Humane Society addressed Council requesting funds in the amount of \$31,526 for bills and expected expenditures for the remainder of the 2003-04 fiscal year. This request was referred to the Budget & Finance Committee.

Solid Waste:

Upon recommendation of Ms. Marianne Dillard, Procurement Director, Mr. Lyles made a motion, seconded by Mr. Johns, approved 5 – 0 that Goldie & Associates proceed with the closure project of the Seneca Landfill as presented to Council February 17, 2004 at a cost of \$168,700.

Budget & Finance Committee Recommendations:

Upon recommendation of the Budget & Finance Committee, Council adopted the following recommendations:

- (1) Option No. 1 on the attached sheet with American National (Alliance) at a total maximum cost of \$4,050,981.12 for health insurance for fiscal year 2004-05.
- (2) \$21,006 be taken from miscellaneous capital expenditures for paving at transfer station
- (3) \$1,400 be taken from miscellaneous capital expenditures to go toward the purchase of a roll-off truck for Solid Waste
- (4) Mr. Tom Hendricks, Planning Director & Mr. Lake Julian, Construction Projects Manager come to the next Budget & Finance Committee Meeting to discuss the proposed DSS Building.

Ordinance 2004-11:

Mr. Lyles made a motion, seconded by Mr. Moore, approved 5 – 0 that Ordinance 2004-11, "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND OCONEE COUNTY ORDINANCE 2002-15, AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE USE OR ALL OCONEE COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS" be adopted on second reading.

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Solid Waste:

Mr. Moore made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rinehart, approved 5 – 0 that the attached transfer in the amount of \$13,500 to go toward the purchase of a roll-off truck for Solid Waste be adopted.

Roads & Transportation Committee Recommendation:

Upon recommendation of the Roads & Transportation Committee, Council voted unanimously to accept the following variance requested by Goldie & Associates for Stone Gate Subdivision:

Due to the proposed subdivision being a high density subdivision with smaller than average lots, the proposed roads onsite be approximately two hundred linear feet on center instead of the required four hundred linear feet and sidewalks along the back of the right-of-way on both roads which will begin at the edge of the right-of-way line and come off of the right-of-way line five linear feet.

Blood Connection:

Mr. Ables made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rinehart, approved 4 – 1 (Mr. Moore voting against) that Mr. Hamilton execute, on behalf of the county, the water policy for the City of Seneca for the "Blood Connection" building only.

Public Comment Session:

Ms. Susie Cornelius addressed Council regarding the request of SHARE for funding, the possibility of receiving a grant from Duke Power, Goldie & Associates and the annexation required by the City of Seneca.

Mr. Ernest Riley addressed Council regarding annexation laws in the United States and the City of Seneca.

Mr. B. J. Littleton addressed Council regarding the annexation required by the City of Seneca.

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Adjourn:

Adjourn: 4:05 PM

Respectfully Submitted:

Opal O. Green
Clerk to Council