

**MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL**

Mr. George C. Blanchard, District I Mr. Thomas S. Crumpton, Jr., District II  
Mr. Mario Suarez, 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, April 3, 2007 at 7:00 pm in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Council Members except Mr. Ables 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, WSPA TV & WSNW Radio.

Members of the press present: Peter Kent – WGOG Radio, Brett McLaughlin – Daily Journal, Ashton Hester – Keowee Courier & Dave Williams – Anderson Independent.

**Other Organizations Notified:**

Also notified were the Oconee County Tax Payers Association & Citizens for Recreation Center.

**Call to Order:**

Chairman Lyles called the meeting to order.

**Pledge to US Flag:**

Mr. Crumpton led the pledge of allegiance to the US Flag.

**Minutes:**

Mr. Suarez made a motion, seconded by Mr. Blanchard, approved 4 – 0 that the minutes of the March 20, 2007 meeting be adopted as presented.

**Public Comment Session:**

Mr. C. W. Richards addressed Council regarding the proposed budget and road fee and the process of selecting the new County Administrator.

**ATAX Grant:**

Mr. Crumpton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Suarez, approved 4 – 0 that the attached ATAX Grant to the Ram Cat Alley Merchants’ Association in the amount of \$4,541 for billboard advertising of Arts on the Alley be adopted.

**Economic Development:**

Mr. Blanchard made a motion, seconded by Mr. Suarez, approved 4 – 0 that Economic Development be authorized to apply for a South Carolina Budget & Control Board Grant in the amount of \$85,000 for the development of a visionary plan for Oconee County.

**Ordinance 2007-03:**

After a brief discussion, Mr. Crumpton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Suarez, approved 4 – 0 that Ordinance 2007-03, “AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF AN INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE AGREEMENT BY AND AMONG OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, LIFT, LLC AND LIFT TECHNOLOGIES, INC. WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROPERTY IN THE COUNTY, WHEREBY SUCH PROPERTY WILL RECEIVE CERTAIN INFRASTRUCTURE CREDITS IN RESPECT OF ITS INVESTMENT IN RELATED INFRASTRUCTURE; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO” be adopted on first reading.

**Council Committee Reports:**

Mr. Blanchard informed Council that he along with Art Holbrooks, Phil Shirley and Sean McGuffee met with eleven representatives of Duke Energy Monday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> to share background information regarding Cane Creek, Stamp Creek, Fall Creek and Keowee Towne Landings. Mr. Scott Jolley of Duke Energy led the meeting and the County was assured that Duke Energy would be willing to lease the landings to the County at no charge and the County could then sublease the landings.

The next step will be for the County Administrator to instruct Phil Shirley, PRT Director to develop the standards necessary for an RFP which will be reviewed by Duke Energy Officials before being sent out.

**Billboards in Oconee County:**

Mr. Blanchard informed Council he had received correspondence from E. Adam Webb regarding protecting his client’s billboard advertising in the County. Mr. Norton, County Attorney, assured Council that he and Art Holbrooks, Planning Director were already discussing regulations to govern billboards in the County.

**Commission Appointments:**

Mr. Suarez made a motion, seconded by Mr. Crumpton, approved 4 – 0 that the following Commission appointments be made:

Tourism:	Wayne Frady
Arts & Historical:	Al Robinson

**Work Session with Library Board:**

Mr. Lyles announced there would be a work session with the Library Board and all interested persons regarding the Seneca Library at a future date.

**Adjourn:**

Adjourn: 7:25 pm

Respectfully Submitted:

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Opal O. Green  
Clerk to Council