



MINUTES
OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL
WORKSHOP MEETING
July 11, 2009

MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr. Reg Dexter, District V, Council Chairman
Mr. Joel Thrift, District IV, Vice Chairman
Mr. Mario Suarez, District III, Chairman Pro Tem
Mr. Wayne McCall, District II

Oconee County Council met on Saturday, July 11, 2009 at 9:00 AM in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Council Members [except Mr. McCall] and Elizabeth G. Hulse, Clerk to Council present.

Press:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting, date, time, place of meeting and agenda were posted on the bulletin board at the County Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC, and the County Council website [www.oconeese.com/council]. In addition it was made available to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

Members of the press present: Ray Chandler–Anderson Independent & Dick Mangrum-WGOG.

Call to Order:

Mr. Dexter called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Workshop Discussion regarding the open Administrator's position:

Mr. Dexter led a group discussion regarding criteria for selecting a new County Administrator. He reviewed with those present an updated "Procedures: Administrative Search" workshop [filed with these minutes] which outlined specific dates for application review, meetings, etc. Mr. Dexter also outlined the steps for including staff and public input into the process. He announced a special public comment session to be held at the July 21, 2009 meeting where citizens are encouraged to address Council with what they see as key areas to be considered during the interview process.

Mr. Dexter recognized Mr. Paul Corbeil and Mr. Jack Collins [District I Republican & Democratic candidates respectively] and asked if they had any statements that they wished to make. Mr. Corbeil addressed Council noting what he sees as priorities for selection. Mr. Collins stated that he would reserve his comment until later in the process.

Council discussion followed.

Mr. Dexter opened the floor to citizens if they had any comments they wished to add to the discussion.

Mr. C. W. Richard addressed Council and asked that the candidates be evaluated on their long term goals to stay in Oconee County and not use the job as a stepping stone.

Mr. Ryan Honea addressed Council and asked that Council be careful to not select an arrogant candidate who is able to give simple yes and no answers to citizens.

Mr. Dick Mangrum, WGOG, questioned Council regarding the specific date that three candidates would be announced.

Mr. John Murray addressed Council asking that they consider key issues as chemistry, commitment, character, sensitivity to the community, etc.

Ms. Susie Cornelius addressed Council regarding the need to have candidates familiar with the county demographics

Mr. Gary Owens, Advocates for Quality Development, addressed Council regarding his support for a structured interview process.

Adjourn:

Mr. Thrift made a motion, seconded by Mr. Suarez, approved 3 – 0 to adjourn at 9:55 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth G. Hulse, Clerk to Council