



MINUTES
OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
Regular Meeting
December 14, 2010

MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL:

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

Oconee County Council met on Tuesday, December 14, 2010 at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Council Members, Thomas L. Martin County Attorney, County Administrator Scott Moulder, Sr. Executive Assistant Amanda Brock and Clerk to Council, Elizabeth G. Hulse 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.oconeesc.com/council]. In addition it was made available *[upon request]* to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

Member of the press present: Ray Chandler – Anderson Independent, Ashton Hester – Keowee Courier & Carlos Galarza - Daily Journal.

Call to Order: Mr. Dexter called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Extended Public Comment Session:

Mr. Shea Airey / Conservation in Oconee County

Mr. Airey, a Walhalla-based attorney, addressed Council to express his support of forming Conservation Bank in Oconee County. He supports the formation of a Conservation Bank to increase the assistance and support of sustainable tourism, land use and planning and to small working farms.

Mr. Eddie Martin / Oconee County Conservation Bank

Mr. Martin, President of Oconee Preservation Stewardship Trust, and Chairman of the Oconee County Scenic Highway Committee, addressed Council to express his support of the formation of a Conservation Bank in Oconee County similar to those in Beaufort and Berkeley counties, South Carolina. Mr. Martin expressed his support of the principles and objectives set forth in the *Oconee By Choice Vision Plan 2008 – 2028*.

Public Comment Session [related to specific agenda items]:

None at this meeting.

Public Comment Session [related to non-agenda items]:

Mr. Randy Simpson addressed the Council utilizing a PowerPoint presentation [copy filed with these minutes] voicing concerns regarding Globalization.

Mr. Bo Horne addressed Council regarding in Mr. Moulder's miscalculation of the estimated millage increase for the construction of the new Law Enforcement Center.

Mr. Tom Markovich addressed Council regarding the potential uses and plans for the Project North property.

Mr. Randy Abbot, Planning Commission member, addressed Council regarding his opposition in the passage of Ordinances 2010-15 and 2010-16 as amended by Council.

Mr. B. J. Littleton signed up to speak, but declined to speak when called upon.

County Council Response to Public Comment:

Mr. Suarez read a statement into the record [copy filed with these minutes] voicing his support for cooperative work in protecting our cultural and environmental sites.

Mr. Thrift, addressing Mr. Markovich's concerns regarding the potential uses and planning for the Project North property, stated that the formation of a Blue Ribbon Panel would take place in the near future.

Mr. Corbeil also noted in response to Mr. Markovich's concerns regarding the Project North property that he would like to see an advisory group formed to help make recommendations and remain involved during the development process.

Meeting Recess:

Mr. Dexter recessed the meeting to 6:38 p.m.

Meeting Reconvene:

Mr. Dexter reconvened the meeting to 7:02 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: Mr. Suarez led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

Minutes:

Mr. Thrift made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corbeil, approved 5 – 0 that the minutes from the December 7, 2010 regular meeting be adopted as printed.

Public Hearing regarding the following Ordinances:

Ordinance 2010-38

“AN ORDINANCE ACKNOWLEDGING THE ACCEPTANCE OF CERTAIN ROADS INTO THE OCONEE COUNTY ROAD SYSTEM; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF AN ACCESS EASEMENT AGREEMENT RELATED TO THE SAME; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO”

Mr. Dexter opened the Public Hearing regarding this ordinance.

No one spoke; and no written comments were submitted.

Mr. Dexter closed the Public Hearing.

Consideration of the Following Resolutions:

Resolution R2010-20

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corbeil, approved 5 – 0 to approve **Resolution R2010-20** “A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE EXTENSION BY OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA OF THE FEE AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN TIMKEN US CORPORATION (NOW KNOWN AS KOYO BEARINGS USA LLC) AND OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA (KOYO BEARINGS USA LLC PROJECT), PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SOUTH CAROLINA CODE ANNOTATED, SECTION 12-44-30(13), CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA 1976, AS AMENDED” and Extension Agreement on first and final reading.

Resolution R2010-21

Mr. Corbeil made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thrift, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Resolution R2010-21** "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ASSIGNMENT OF CERTAIN RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS FROM DUNLOP MAXFLI SPORTS CORPORATION TO EDGAR INVESTMENTS, LLC PURSUANT TO THAT CERTAIN LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AND DUNLOP MAXFLI SPORTS CORPORATION, DATED AS OF DECEMBER 1, 1999; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO, INCLUDING THE ASSUMPTION BY EDGAR INVESTMENTS, LLC OF THE OBLIGATIONS OF DUNLOP MAXFLI SPORTS CORPORATION UNDER THE LEASE AGREEMENT AND THE CONTINUATION OF A FEE IN LIEU OF TAX ARRANGEMENT PERTAINING TO SUCH LEASE AGREEMENT on first and final reading.

Consideration of the Following Ordinances:

Ordinance 2010-38

Mr. Thrift made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCall, approved 5 – 0 to approve as presented in the agenda packages **Ordinance 2010-38** "AN ORDINANCE ACKNOWLEDGING THE ACCEPTANCE OF CERTAIN ROADS INTO THE OCONEE COUNTY ROAD SYSTEM; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF AN ACCESS EASEMENT AGREEMENT RELATED TO THE SAME; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO" on third and final reading.

Ordinance 2010-39

Mr. Suarez made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corbeil, approved 5 – 0 to approve **Ordinance 2010-39** "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CREATION OF AND PARTIAL FUNDING OF A NEW WORTHLESS CHECK UNIT IN THE OFFICE OF THE TENTH CIRCUIT SOLICITOR, IN OCONEE COUNTY; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN OCONEE COUNTY AND THE TENTH CIRCUIT SOLICITORS OFFICE REGARDING THE CREATION OF AND FUNDING FOR SUCH WORTHLESS CHECK UNIT; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO" on second reading.

Discussion & Possible Action Items:

\$71,000.00 / Sheriff's Department / Spay/Neuter program

Captain Mike Crenshaw addressed Council utilizing a PowerPoint presentation [a copy is filed with these minutes] regarding the above request for funding.

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thrift, approved 5 – 0, to approve \$71,000 [to be funded from the Council's contingency account] for the remainder of FY 2010-2011 a spay/neuter program as outlined on the agenda item summary.

Board & Commission Appointments:

The Clerk to Council noted that Council continues to solicit for positions that will be open in 2011 on various Boards & Commissions. She noted that the Questionnaire is available on Council website and in the Council office for those interested in serving.

Mr. Dexter requested Ms. Hulse as Clerk to Council to contact all Oconee County Boards and Commissions, and request their cooperation in not electing their respective Board or Commission Chair until after the beginning of each calendar year, as members are appointed [or reappointed] on a calendar year basis.

Commission & Board Reports to Council:

None scheduled for this meeting.

Council Committee Reports:

None scheduled for this meeting.

Administrator's Report:

Mr. Moulder addressed Council to provide updates [copy of his report filed with these minutes] on various County projects since the last Administrator Report on November 9, 2010.

Questions from Council regarding the Administrator's Report:

Concerns of Overcrowding at Jail

Mr. McCall stated he would like the County to identify and utilize any viable options to reduce overcrowding at the jail.

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corbeil, approved 5 – 0, to direct the Administrator to work in conjunction with other staff members at the jail and Solicitor's Office to alleviate overcrowding at the County jail.

Old Business:

Project North Marketing

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corbeil to direct the Administrator to investigate the viability of hiring an external marketing firm to market the Project North property to prospective industrial/commercial companies. The motion failed 1 – 4 [Mr's. Dexter, Thrift, Corbeil and Suarez opposed].

New Business:

Employee Relations Committee

Mr. Dexter expressed his appreciation for the Employee Relations Committee's work for the Annual Employee Appreciation Luncheon.

County Council Retreat

Mr. Dexter confirmed the date of a County Council Retreat, to be held 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday, January 27, 2011 at Devil's Fork State Park.

Mr. Suarez Appreciation

Mr. Dexter expressed appreciation for Mr. Suarez's four years of service on the County Council. Mr. Corbeil and Mr. Thrift also voiced their appreciation for Mr. Suarez's service.

Executive Session:

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thrift, approved 5 – 0 to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of receiving a legal briefing regarding a pending legal matter and to discuss a contractual matter

Council entered into Executive Session at 8:38 p.m.

Council returned from Executive Session at 9:00 p.m.

Mr. Dexter noted that no action was taken in Executive Session.

Adjourn:

Mr. McCall made a motion at 9:01 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:

Amanda Brock
Sr. Executive Assistant