



MINUTES
OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
Regular Meeting
January 4, 2011

MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

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

Oconee County Council met on Tuesday, January 4, 2011 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, serving as 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 [*upon request*] to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

Member of the press present: Ray Chandler – Anderson Independent, Dick Mangrum – WGOG Radio & Carlos Galarza - Daily Journal.

Call to Order: Mr. Martin called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Extended Public Comment Session: None at this meeting.

Public Comment Session [related to specific agenda items]:

Mr. Larry Linsin addressed council regarding recess after the Public Comment Session.

Ms. Claire Muzal read from a prepared statement [copy filed with these minutes] regarding any costs incurred from Council members serving on the Appalachian Council of Governments Board and other boards.

Ms. Suzie Cornelius expressed concern for the ATAX grant request [Item 18]. She stated purchases from ATAX grants in previous years were poorly executed. She demonstrated by showing a map of Oconee County that had no National Forest roads on the map.

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

Ms. Donna Linsin read from a prepared statement [copy filed with these minutes] regarding County spending on Economic Development projects, and voiced support of the Proposed Oconee County Fire Plan.

Ms. Michelle McMahan read from a prepared statement [copy filed with these minutes] expressing opposition to Ordinance 2010-16.

Mr. Joe Jones voiced concern regarding the recess time at Council meetings. He also distributed a newspaper editorial [copy filed with these minutes] regarding the Project North property. Mr. Jones also voiced his opposition to unfunded state, county and city pensions.

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

County Council Response to Public Comment:

Mr. McCall stated that David McMahan was nominated Deputy of the Year. Mr. McMahan is a deputy at the Oconee County Sheriff's Office.

Mr. Dexter noted that Ordinances 2010-15 and 2010-16 were initially approved in title only.

Meeting Recess:

Mr. Martin recessed the meeting at 6:38 p.m.

Meeting Reconvene:

Mr. Martin reconvened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Martin realized he mistakenly failed to recognize Mr. B.J. Littleton, therefore he asked Mr. Littleton to speak.

Mr. Littleton addressed Council regarding potential uses for the Project North Property.

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

Minutes:

Mr. Corbeil made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thrift, approved 4 – 0 [Mr. Barron abstained as he was not a Council member at the time] that the minutes from the December 14, 2010 regular meeting be adopted as printed.

Mr. Corbeil made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thrift, approved 3 – 0 [Mr. Barron [see note above] and Mr. McCall abstained – form filed with these minutes] that the minutes from the December 21, 2010 special meeting be adopted as printed.

Election of Council Officers:

Mr. Martin stated that Oconee County follows the SC Model Rules of Parliamentary Procedure which provides for two alternate methods for voting: ballot method and the method traditionally followed by Oconee County which allows the presiding officer to take all nominations then Council votes on them sequentially until a candidate is successfully elected. Using this method going forward with nominations it is not necessary to have a second as it is not a motion just a nomination.

Mr. Dexter nominated, approved 4 – 0 [Mr. Thrift abstained], Mr. Thrift as the 2011 Council Chairman. Mr. Thrift expressed his appreciation to Council in their vote of confidence to lead Council and to Mr. Dexter for his services for past 2 years as Chair.

Mr. Thrift nominated, approved 5 – 0, Mr. Corbeil as the 2011 Council Vice Chairman.

Mr. Barron nominated, approved 5 – 0, Mr. McCall as the 2011 Council Pro Tem.

Re-Appointment of the following Appointed Officials:

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corbeil, approved 5 – 0, re-appoint Ms. Hulse as Clerk to Council.

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dexter, approved 5 – 0, re-appoint Mr. Martin as County Attorney.

Appointment of Council Committees by Council Chairman:

Mr. Corbeil made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dexter, approved 5 – 0, to approve the following nominations made by Mr. Thrift for the 2011 County Council Committees:

Budget, Finance & Administration:

Mr. Dexter, Chairman
All Council members on Committee

Transportation:

Mr. Thrift, Chairman
Mr. Corbeil
Mr. McCall

Real Estate, Facilities & Land Management:

Mr. Barron, Chairman
Mr. Corbeil
Mr. McCall

Planning & Economic Development:

Mr. Corbeil, Chair
Mr. Barron
Mr. Dexter

Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Health & Welfare:

Mr. McCall, Chairman
Mr. Barron
Mr. Thrift

Appointment of Council Representatives by Chairman:

Mr. Corbeil made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barron, approved 5 – 0, to approve the following appointments made by Mr. Thrift for the 2011 County Council Representatives as listed:

- South Carolina Appalachian Council of Government Board of Directors – Mr. Dexter
- Upstate Alliance Board of Directors – Mr. Corbeil
- Oconee Alliance Board of Directors – Mr. Dexter and Mr. Corbeil
- Infrastructure Advisory Commission – Mr. Corbeil
- South Carolina Association of Counties Budget & Finance Steering Committee – Mr. Dexter

Scheduling of Meeting for 2011:

County Council:

Mr. Dexter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corbeil, approved 5 – 0, to adopt the attached meeting schedule for 2011.

County Council Committees:

Mr. Dexter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corbeil, approved 5 – 0, to defer to a future meeting the adoption the Council Committee Meeting schedule for 2011.

Consideration to Amend the Agenda to Add Resolution R2011-02:

Mr. Dexter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corbeil, approved 5 – 0, to amend the agenda to add Resolution R2011-02 for council consideration.

Consideration of the Following Resolutions:

Resolution R2011-01

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corbeil, approved 5 – 0, to approve **R2011-01** “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OR RATIFICATION OF A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, AND THE WHITEWATER LAKE FISHING AND BOATING CLUB, INC.” on first and final reading.

Resolution R2011-02

Mr. Dexter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corbeil, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Resolution R2011-01** “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING PURSUANT TO THE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT OF 1998 FOR GOVERNANCE OF THE WORKLINK AREA ONESTOP SYSTEM” on first and final reading.

Discussion & Possible Action Items:

ATAX / \$2,500 / 2011 Motor Coach Familiarization (FAM) Tour

Mr. Barron made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCall, approved 5 – 0, to award the ATAX grant in the amount of \$2,500 as outlined on the agenda item summary presented.

Board & Commission Appointments:

Mr. Dexter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corbeil, approved 5 – 0, to appoint Mr. Richard Hughes to the Board Of Zoning Appeals.

Commission & Board Reports to Council:

None scheduled for this meeting.

Council Committee Reports:

None scheduled for this meeting.

Administrator’s Report:

None scheduled for this meeting.

Old Business:

None at this meeting.

New Business:

None at this meeting.

Executive Session:

Mr. Corbeil made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dexter, approved 5 – 0 to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of receiving a legal briefing regarding pending litigation and a potential settlement offer.

Council entered into Executive Session at 7:47 p.m.

Council returned from Executive Session at 8:08 p.m.

No action was taken during Executive Session.

Mr. Corbeil made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCall, approved 5 – 0 to allow the Administrator and Mr. Martin to reach a settlement agreement with the property owners around Lake Yohna that paid higher tax rates than the 2008 assessed values.

Adjourn:

Mr. McCall made a motion at 8:10 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:

Amanda Brock
Sr. Executive Assistant