



MINUTES
OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
Regular Meeting
November 20, 2012

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

Oconee County Council met 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, Assistant Administrator Glenn Breed 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.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 & Mike Eads/The Daily Journal.

Call to Order:

Mr. Thrift called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Prior to Public Comment Mr. Thrift wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving season; noting also that the elections are over and asked everyone to work together with Council for the benefit of Oconee County.

Mr Thrift stated that with the sewer referendum passing that the public needs to be assured it was not a blank check and that Oconee County is not getting into the sewer business.

Lastly, he noted that several members of council attended and enjoyed the Ebenezer Community Club's holiday feast.

Public Comment Session [related to specific agenda items]:

Ms. Donna Linsin addressed Council voicing concerns regarding Ordinance 2012-24; noting that any plan should be developed in a way to not interfere with truck traffic to the Golden Corner Commerce Park.

Mr. Tom Markovich addressed Council regarding the Capital Improvement Project listing approved by the Planning Commission for Council's possible inclusion in the next budget cycle; noting that he did not feel the Planning Commission did the required due diligence when approving the list.

Ms. Susie Cornelius addressed Council in support of Resolution R2012-17.

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

Mr. Ken Nix, Rosa Clark Board President, addressed Council regarding the Secretary of State's "Angel Award" recently received by Rosa Clark. The Angel Award is awarded to only 10 agencies who best utilize donated funds; Rosa Clark uses \$.99 of every \$1 for program services.

Mr. B. J. Littleton addressed Council regarding several issues including support for Rosa Clark, his opposition to the Fair Play village plan, and requesting a recording system for the Magistrate Court rooms.

County Council Response to Public Comment:

Mr. Dexter addressed concerns voiced regarding the Fair Play Village plan noting that there have not been any discussions and/or plans regarding roads. He noted that the community supports the plan and that meetings in the community were well attended. Lastly, Mr. Dexter asked the Administrator to meet with Ms. Linsin to clarify any misconceptions/concerns she might have regarding the plan.

Meeting Recess:

Mr. Thrift announced a recess at 6:19 p.m.

Meeting Reconvene:

Mr. Thrift reconvened the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

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. Dexter, approved 4 – 0 [Mr. Barron abstained – form filed with these minutes] to approve the minutes from the October 16, 2012 regular meeting as presented.

Presentations to Council:

Personal Property Tax Presentation / Mr. Ken Nix, Auditor

Mr. Nix addressed Council utilizing a PowerPoint presentation [copy filed with these minutes] highlighting his responsibilities as Auditor regarding vehicles, boats & motors, business personal property and airplanes taxes.

Mr. Nix provided a listing of 10 delinquent airplane owners [2000-2011] totaling \$267,618.80. In addition, he provided copies of letters [filed with these minutes] utilized by the County and sent to each of the owners requesting information. Mr. Nix requested that Council direct the Administrator to take action to pursue collection of these delinquent airplane taxes. Discussion followed.

Mr. Thrift requested on behalf of Council that the Administrator direct the Delinquent Tax Collector to pursue collection of all delinquent airplane taxes.

Capital Project Advisory Committee [CPAC] Report / Mr. Scott Moulder, Administrator

Mr. Moulder and Mr. John Rau, CPAC At Large Member, addressed Council utilizing a PowerPoint presentation and a handout [copies filed with these minutes] highlighting the activities and accomplishments of the Committee along with some discussion of the Capital Improvement Project list.

Conservation Bank Board report to County Council / Mr. Shea Airey, Chair

The Clerk to Council stated that Mr. Airey was unable to attend the Council meeting however he requested that the written report be received as information. The handout [copy filed with these minutes] highlights the activities and accomplishments of the board.

Administrator's Report & Agenda Summary

Mr. Moulder as part of his Administrator's Report highlighted the following two issues:

1. Oconee County as part of the Jocassee Gorge area is highlighted in the *National Geographic's special publication "50 of the World's Last Great Places"* [copy of the article only filed with these minutes]. He noted what an honor it is for Oconee County and the upstate to be featured in this prestigious publication.

2. Mr. Mark Pullum was introduced as the new Finance Director who began his employment with the county in October 2012. Council welcomed Mr. Pullum noting they look forward to working with him in the future.

Mr. Moulder briefly reviewed with Council and for the public's benefit specifics related to the following matters before Council at this meeting:

Ordinance 2012-12
Ordinance 2012-33

Ordinance 2012-34
Resolution R2012-17

In addition, Mr. Moulder reviewed the following Action Items before Council.

1. Capital Improvement Project [CIP] Listing
2. Board / Commission Appointments
3. January 2013 Council meeting schedule

Third & Final Reading of the Following Ordinances

None at this meeting.

Second Reading of the Following Ordinances

[Note: Public Hearings will be scheduled at or before third & final reading for the following ordinances as required]

Ordinance 2012-12 "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE OCONEE COUNTY ZONING ENABLING ORDINANCE, ORDINANCE 2007-18, IN CERTAIN LIMITED REGARDS AND PARTICULARS, ONLY, AS TO REZONE A SERIES OF PARCELS SPECIFIED HEREIN, AND TO RATIFY AND AFFIRM ALL OTHER PROVISIONS OF ORDINANCE 2007-18 NOT AMENDED OR MODIFIED HEREBY; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO"

[Biggerstaff Rezoning]

On August 16, 2012, the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) held a public hearing in regards to an appeal that was filed concerning **Ordinance 2012-12**. On August 23, 2012, the BZA issued a findings/order [copy filed with these minutes].

The Planning Commission held a meeting on Monday October 15, 2012, and during that meeting the Commission discussed **Ordinance 2012-12** with discussion centered on the BZA's decision. A motion was made at the Planning Commission meeting, approved 5 – 1, recommending that Council permanently removed from consideration **Ordinance 2012-12**.

Discussion followed.

Mr. Corbeil made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barron, approved 5 – 0 to permanently remove from consideration **Ordinance 2012-12** asking staff to contact the sponsor of the ordinance to provide them with options.

First Reading of the Following Ordinances

Ordinance 2012-33 "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013 BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE FOR OCONEE COUNTY IN CERTAIN LIMITED REGARDS AND PARTICULARS, ONLY; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO"

Mr. Dexter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corbeil, approved 5 – 0 to approve **Ordinance 2012-33** on first reading.

Ordinance 2012-34 "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 38 "ZONING" OF THE OCONEE CODE OF ORDINANCE, INCLUDING ALL ZONING MAPS INCORPORATED THEREIN AND THEREBY, IN CERTAIN LIMITED REGARDS AND PARTICULARS, ONLY; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO"

Mr. Dexter made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCall, approved 5 – 0 to approve **Ordinance 2012-34** on first reading in title only.

First Reading of the Following Resolutions

Resolution R2012-17 “OCONEE COUNTY SUPPORTS INCREASED AGRIBUSINESS”

Mr. Dexter made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCall, approved 5 – 0 to approve Resolution R2012-17 on first & final reading. Ms. Gwen McPhail accepted the Resolution on behalf of the farming community members present.

Discussion Regarding Action Items

Capital Improvement Project [CIP] Listing

Mr. Thrift tabled, with Council approval, action regarding the Capital Improvement Project [CIP v16] until the December 4, 2012 meeting to allow Council to further review the listing.

Board & Commission Appointments

Conservation Bank Board

Mr. Thrift tabled, with Council approval, action regarding appointment of an At Large member to the Oconee County Conservation Bank Board until January 22, 2013.

Scenic Highway Committee

Mr. Thrift tabled, with Council’s approval, action regarding appointment of an At Large member to the Scenic Highway Committee until January 22, 2013.

Stone Pond Special Tax District Commission

Mr. Barron made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dexter, approved 5 – 0 to appoint Mr. Brett Smagala, Mr. John Hubbard & Mr. Jim DeNisco to the Stone Pond Special Tax District Commission.

Old Business

None scheduled for this meeting.

New Business

January 2013 County Council Meeting Schedule

Mr. Barron made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corbeil, approved 5 – 0 to establish Council’s January 2013 meeting schedule to meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays [January 8, 2013 and January 22, 2013].

Adjourn

Mr. McCall made a motion, approved unanimously 5 - 0, to adjourn at 7:34 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth G. Hulse
Clerk to Council