



MINUTES
OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR BUDGET ORDINANCES
June 11, 2013

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 [except Mr. McCall], Administrator Scott Moulder, Assistant Administrator Glenn Breed, Finance Director Mark Pullium 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: Dick Mangrum – WGOG Radio, Ashton Hester – Keowee Courier, Ray Chandler-Anderson Independent & Norman Cannada -The Daily Journal.

Call to Order:

Mr. Thrift called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Public Hearings Final Reading of the Following Ordinances

Mr. Thrift noted that several citizens had signed up to speak regarding multiple ordinances; therefore, he opened the floor for all three ordinances initially for public hearing.

Ordinance 2013-01 “AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE BUDGET FOR OCONEE COUNTY AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES FOR ORDINARY COUNTY PURPOSES, FOR THE TRI-COUNTY TECHNICAL COLLEGE SPECIAL REVENUE FUND, FOR THE EMERGENCY SERVICES PROTECTION SPECIAL REVENUE FUND, FOR THE ROAD MAINTENANCE SPECIAL REVENUE FUND, FOR THE VICTIM SERVICES SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS, FOR THE BRIDGE AND CULVERT CAPITAL PROJECT FUND, GENERAL CAPITAL PROJECT FUND, AND FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CAPITAL PROJECT FUND, ALL IN OCONEE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2013 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2014.”

Ordinance 2013-02 “AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE BUDGET FOR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF OCONEE COUNTY (the "School District") AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES FOR THE OPERATIONS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF OCONEE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2013 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2014.”

Ordinance 2013-03 “AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES FOR THE KEOWEE FIRE SPECIAL TAX DISTRICT AND TO ESTABLISH THE BUDGET FOR THE KEOWEE FIRE SPECIAL TAX DISTRICT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2013 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2014.”

Mr. Ben Turetzky addressed Council reading from a prepared statement [copy filed with these minutes] in support for passage of **Ordinance 2013-01 & Ordinance 2013-02**.

Ms. Lyn Morrey signed up to address Council regarding **Ordinances 2013-01, 2013-02 & 2013-03**. Ms. Morray’s comments were not specifically related to the ordinances before Council at this public hearing.

Mr. Glen McPheeters addressed Council reading from a prepared statement [copy filed with these minutes] in support for passage of **Ordinances 2013-01, 2013-02 & 2013-03**.

Mr. Randy Gilchrist signed up to address Council regarding **Ordinances 2013-01 & 2013-02**. Mr. Gilchrist’s comments were not specifically related to the ordinances before Council at this public hearing.

Mr. Greg Hammill addressed Council in support for passage of **Ordinance 2013-03**.

At this time Mr. Thrift solicited comments from citizens specifically related to individual ordinances.

Ordinance 2013-01 “AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE BUDGET FOR OCONEE COUNTY AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES FOR ORDINARY COUNTY PURPOSES, FOR THE TRI-COUNTY TECHNICAL COLLEGE SPECIAL REVENUE FUND, FOR THE EMERGENCY SERVICES PROTECTION SPECIAL REVENUE FUND, FOR THE ROAD MAINTENANCE SPECIAL REVENUE FUND, FOR THE VICTIM SERVICES SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS, FOR THE BRIDGE AND CULVERT CAPITAL PROJECT FUND, GENERAL CAPITAL PROJECT FUND, AND FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CAPITAL PROJECT FUND, ALL IN OCONEE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2013 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2014.”

Mr. Ryan Honea addressed Council in support for passage of **Ordinance 2013-01**.

Ms. Gretchen Fuller addressed Council in support for passage of **Ordinance 2013-01**.

Mr. John Morrey addressed Council in opposition to passage of **Ordinance 2013-01**; and specifically spending tax dollars to install infrastructure to assist with economic development.

Mr. Honea rebutted Mr. Moore’s comments regarding infrastructure to assist with economic development.

Mr. Thrift asked if any citizens wished to submit any additional written comments regarding this ordinance; no citizen presented any written comments for the record.

Mr. Thrift closed the Public Hearing regarding **Ordinance 2013-01**.

Ordinance 2013-02 “AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE BUDGET FOR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF OCONEE COUNTY (the "School District") AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES FOR THE OPERATIONS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF OCONEE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2013 AND ENDING JUNE 30,2014.”

Mr. Thrift opened the floor for Public Comment.

Noting that no citizens signed up to address Council; Mr. Thrift opened the floor for any citizen wishing to address Council regarding this ordinance. No citizen addressed Council.

Mr. Thrift asked if any citizens wished to submit written comments regarding this ordinance; no citizen presented any written comments for the record.

Mr. Thrift closed the Public Hearing regarding **Ordinance 2013-02**.

Ordinance 2013-03 “AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES FOR THE KEOWEE FIRE SPECIAL TAX DISTRICT AND TO ESTABLISH THE BUDGET FOR THE KEOWEE FIRE SPECIAL TAX DISTRICT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2013 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2014.”

Mr. Thrift opened the floor for Public Comment.

Noting that no citizens signed up to address Council; Mr. Thrift opened the floor for any citizen wishing to address Council regarding this ordinance. No citizen addressed Council.

Mr. Thrift asked if any citizens wished to submit written comments regarding this ordinance; no citizen presented any written comments for the record.

Mr. Thrift closed the Public Hearing regarding **Ordinance 2013-03**.

Mr. Moulder briefly reviewed with Council and for the public’s benefit two documents for review that will be before Council for action at the June 18, 2013 Council meeting. He noted that the two documents would replace existing exhibits to **Ordinance 2013-01**.

Council commended Mr. Moulder and staff for a job well done in preparing the budgets for FY 2013-2014. In addition, Mr. Thrift reminded those present that the county is still not receiving full funding from the Local Government Fund and he asked citizens to please speak with the Legislative Delegation members to request that full funding be approved to lessen the burden on Oconee County taxpayers.

Other Business

None at this meeting.

Adjourn

Mr. Dexter made a motion, approved unanimously 4 - 0, to adjourn at 6:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth G. Hulse
Clerk to Council