



MINUTES
OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
Regular Meeting
September 2, 2014

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. Paul Cain, 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, County Administrator Scott Moulder, County Attorney Thomas Martin 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.

Members of the press present: Ray Chandler/Anderson Independent, Ashton Hester/Keowee Courier, Dick Mangrum/WGOG Radio and Steven Bradley/The Daily Journal.

Call to Order:

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

Public Comment Session / Agenda Action Items Only:

Dr. Michael Thorsland, School District of Oconee County [SDOC] Superintendent, addressed Council requesting millage sufficient to fund the FY2014-2015 SDOC year at \$59,393,849.

County Council Response to Public Comment:

Mr. McCall noted a poor turnout for Ms. Kathy Rodgers benefit; noting her devoted service to Oconee County as the local chapter Red Cross Director for 20+ years.

Moment of Silence

Mr. Thrift asked that everyone to please keep Kathy Rodgers family and friends in their thoughts and prayers upon her recent passing. *{see copy of PowerPoint slide filed with these minutes}*

Invocation by County Council Chaplain:

Mr. Tom Martin, County Council Chaplain, gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mr. Dexter led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Corbeil made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cain, approved 4 – 0 – 1 [Mr. Dexter abstained – form filed with these minutes] to approve the August 19, 2014 regular meeting as presented.

Presentations to Council by Outside Organizations

ACOG 2014 CEDS Progress Report / Mr. David Shellhorse

Mr. Shellhorse, Economic Development Services Manager, addressed Council utilizing the 2014 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Progress Report [CEDS] [copy filed with these minutes]. Additionally, Mr. Shellhorse requested input from Council regarding the report and any amendments. Mr. Corbeil requested that in the Infrastructure section that the recent referendum change regarding sewer and our Broadband success be added to the section. Mr. Shellhorse agreed to amend.

Mr. Thrift thanked Mr. Shellhorse for his presentation.

Administrator's Report & Agenda Summary

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

- First & Final Reading of Resolutions: R2014-13, 2014-14
- Second Readings: 2014-16, 2014-17 & 2014-21
- First Reading for Ordinances: 2014-2016 & 2014-22 [in title only]
- Discussion Items
- Board/Commission Appointments
- Executive Session [*for the purpose of discussing several Economic Development matters and a contractual matter*]

First Reading of the Following Resolutions

Resolution R2014-13 "A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT BETWEEN SPARTANBURG COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE AND THE OCONEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE"

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corbeil, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Resolution R2014-13** on first & final reading.

Resolution R2014-14 "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF AN INDUCEMENT AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AND **PROJECT PLUME**, WHEREBY, UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS, OCONEE COUNTY WILL EXECUTE A FEE IN LIEU OF TAX AGREEMENT FOR A PROJECT INVOLVING NOT LESS THAN TWO MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$2,500,000) INVESTMENT"

Mr. Dexter made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCall, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Resolution R2014-14** on first & final reading.

Third & Final Reading of the Following Ordinances

[None at this meeting]

Second Reading of the Following Ordinances

Ordinance 2014-16 "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE OCONEE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES, **ARTS AND HISTORICAL COMMISSION**; REVISING CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE IV, DIVISION 4, SECTIONS 321-326; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO"

Mr. Corbeil made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cain, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Ordinances 2014-16** on second reading.

Ordinance 2014-17 "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A FEE IN LIEU OF TAX AGREEMENT BETWEEN OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AND **PROJECT PLUME**; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, PAYMENT OF A FEE IN LIEU OF TAXES RELATED TO THE PROJECT"

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corbeil, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Ordinances 2014-17** on second reading.

Ordinance 2014-21 “AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY BY AND FROM OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO”

Mr. Corbeil made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dexter, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Ordinances 2014-21** on second reading.

First Reading of the Following Ordinances

Ordinance 2014-20 “AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 20 OF THE OCONEE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADOPTION OF SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS, 1976, AS AMENDED: SECTION 4-9-145, ENTITLED *LITTER CONTROL OFFICERS; CUSTODIAL ARREST AUTHORITY; NUMBER OF OFFICERS; POWERS AND DUTIES*, AND SECTION 56-7-80, ENTITLED *COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL UNIFORM ORDINANCE SUMMONS*, AS PART OF SUCH AMENDED CHAPTER 20; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO”

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corbeil, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Ordinances 2014-20** on first reading.

Ordinance 2014-22 *[in title only]* “AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND OCONEE COUNTY ORDINANCE 2014-01, THE BUDGET ORDINANCE FOR OCONEE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1ST, 2014 AND ENDING JUNE 30TH, 2015, IN CERTAIN LIMITED REGARDS AND PARTICULARS, ONLY, SO AS TO INCLUDE A PROVISIO FOR DISBURSEMENT OF CERTAIN FUNDS; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO”

Mr. Corbeil made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cain, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Ordinances 2014-22** on first reading in title only.

Discussion Regarding Action Items:

Oconee County Millage for Tax Year 2014

Mr. Ken Nix, Oconee County Auditor, addressed Council utilizing a PowerPoint presentation [copy filed with these minutes] and a handout [copy filed with these minutes] regarding his recommendation for millage for tax year 2014 for Oconee County, SDOC and the Keowee Fire Special Tax District as follows:

Oconee County:	73.9 mills
SDOC Operations:	111.1 mills <i>[total 142.1 mills with bond millage]</i>
Keowee Fire Special Tax District:	14.5 mills

Lengthy discussion followed. Mr. Corbeil stated he felt that Council should “hold the line on taxes” based on several variables include future funding of the LGF, Act 388, infrastructure needs, etc. Mr. Cain, Mr. McCall & Mr. Dexter concurred noting that the mill value needs to continue to be increased rather than increasing the millage.

Mr. Corbeil made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCall, approved 4 – 1 [Mr. Thrift opposed] to hold millage at the current levels as outlined below:

Oconee County:	73.9 mills
SDOC Operations:	110.1 mills <i>[total 141.1 mills with bond millage]</i>
Keowee Fire Special Tax District:	14.5 mills

Old Business: None at this meeting.

New Business: None at this meeting.

Board/Commission Appointments

Library Board

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dexter, approved 5 – 0 to defer this matter indefinitely in order to solicit additional questionnaires to fill this seat.

Executive Session:

Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corbeil, approved 5 – 0 to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing several Economic Development matters and a contractual matter.

Council entered Executive Session at 6:53 p.m.

Upon entering Chambers but prior to reconvening Mr. McCall left the meeting.

Council returned from Executive Session at 9:58 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Corbeil, seconded by Mr. Cain, approved 4 – 0.

Mr. Thrift stated that no action was taken in Executive Session.

Mr. Corbeil made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cain, approved 4 – 0 to authorize the County Administrator and Economic Development Staff to continue negotiations regarding the various Economic Development matters as discussed in Executive Session.

Public Comment Session Non Agenda Action Items:

Mr. Turetzky signed up to speak however he left the meeting prior to the public comment session. Mr. Turetzky did provide written comments to Council [copy filed with these minutes].

Council Member Comments:

None at this meeting.

Adjourn

Mr. Cain made a motion, approved unanimously 4 - 0, to adjourn at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth G. Hulse
Clerk to Council