



MINUTES
OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
Regular Meeting
December 20, 2016

MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr. Paul Cain, District III, Chairman
Mr. Wayne McCall, District II, Vice Chairman
Ms. Edda Cammick, District I, Chairman Pro Tem
Mr. Joel Thrift, District IV
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 David Root, Public Information Officer Amanda Brock and Elizabeth G. Hulse, 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.

Members of the press present: Ray Chandler / Anderson Independent & Stephen Bradley / Daily Journal.

Call to Order

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

Public Comment Session

Ms. Jean Jennings addressed Council in opposition to development of the Golden Corner Commerce Park [GCCP], traffic concerns, and voicing her desire that Council considers selling the property.

Mr. Ben Turetzky addressed Council thanking Mr. Thrift & Mr. Dexter for their 8 years of service and support for Economic Development.

Mr. Jim Schoonover addressed Council thanking Mr. Thrift & Mr. Dexter for their 8 years of service.

Mr. Tom Markovich addressed Council thanking Mr. Thrift & Mr. Dexter for their 8 years of service; thanked Ms. Hulse for her service as Clerk to Council and his concerns regarding the zoning ordinance dealing with setbacks.

Mr. Eddie Martin, Oconee County Soil & Water Conservation District, submitted a letter [copy filed with these minutes] for inclusion in the meeting material [read into the record by Mr. Moulder] thanking Council for their support for land conservation in Oconee County.

County Council Response to Public Comment

Mr. Dexter addressed traffic issues raised by Ms. Jennings noting the ease to reach I85 from the GCCP.

Moment of Silence

Mr. Cain asked for a moment of silence prior the Invocation by the County Chaplain.

Invocation by County Council Chaplain:

The County Council Chaplain gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Ms. Hulse led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Thrift made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cammick, approved 5 - 0 to approve the December 6, 2016 meeting minutes as presented.

Administrator's Report & Agenda Summary

Mr. Moulder noted that Council was testing the new video recording system in preparation for live streaming on You Tube.

Additionally, he briefly reviewed with Council and for the public's benefit specifics related to the following matters before Council at this meeting:

- Public Hearings for Ordinances: 2016-35, 2016-36
- Third & Final Ordinance Readings: 2016-35, 2016-36
- Second Ordinance Readings: 2016-38
- First Ordinance Readings: 2016-39, 2016-40 [title only], 2016-41 [title only]
- First & Final Resolution Readings: R2016-14
- Discussion Items
- Council Committee Reports
- Executive Session [*noting that item #1 is no longer needed at this meeting*]
- First Ordinance Readings [continued]: 2016-42 [title only]

Motion to Amend Agenda

Mr. Thrift made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dexter, approved 5 - 0 to amend Executive Session; removing item #1 from the session.

Outgoing County Council Member Recognition

Mr. Cain on behalf of Council, county staff and the public presented Mr. Joel Thrift, District IV, and Mr. Reg Dexter, District V plaques noting their tenure as Council Chairman and their eight years of service. Senator Thomas Alexander, Representatives Bill Sandifer & Bill Whitmire also presented letters of thanks [copies filed with these minutes] for Mr. Thrift & Mr. Dexter.

Additionally, Council recognized Ms. Hulse at her last meeting for her 9 ½ years.



Public Hearing Regarding the Following Ordinances

Ordinance 2016-35 "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DISSOLUTION OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA **WORKLINK WORKFORCE INVESTMENT CORPORATION**, A SOUTH CAROLINA NONPROFIT CORPORATION, ESTABLISHED TO SERVE AS THE LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD FOR THE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AREA COMPRISED OF ANDERSON COUNTY, OCONEE COUNTY, AND PICKENS COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AND CANCELLATION OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BY AND AMONG SAID COUNTIES; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO"

Mr. Cain opened the floor for Public Comment.

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

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

Mr. Cain closed the Public Hearing regarding **Ordinance 2016-35**.

Ordinance 2016-36 "AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE CONVEYANCE OF **EASEMENT RIGHTS TO AMERICAN LEGION POST 124** FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING ACCESS TO DISPOSE OF SANITARY SEWER INTO A PUBLICLY-OWNED SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM THAT CAN BE ACCESSED ON COUNTY-OWNED PROPERTY; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO."

Mr. Cain opened the floor for Public Comment.

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

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

Mr. Cain closed the Public Hearing regarding **Ordinance 2016-36**.

Third & Final Regarding the Following Ordinances

Ordinance 2016-35 "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DISSOLUTION OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA **WORKLINK WORKFORCE INVESTMENT CORPORATION**, A SOUTH CAROLINA NONPROFIT CORPORATION, ESTABLISHED TO SERVE AS THE LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD FOR THE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AREA COMPRISED OF ANDERSON COUNTY, OCONEE COUNTY, AND PICKENS COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AND CANCELLATION OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BY AND AMONG SAID COUNTIES; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO"

Mr. Dexter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thrift, approved 5 - 0 to approve **Ordinance 2016-35** on third and final reading.

Ordinance 2016-36 "AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE CONVEYANCE OF **EASEMENT RIGHTS TO AMERICAN LEGION POST 124** FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING ACCESS TO DISPOSE OF SANITARY SEWER INTO A PUBLICLY-OWNED SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM THAT CAN BE ACCESSED ON COUNTY-OWNED PROPERTY; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO"

Mr. Moulder noted that the American Legion has requested that this ordinance be removed as they have found a more cost effective way to access the sewer system.

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dexter, failing 0 - 5 to approve **Ordinance 2016-36** on third and final reading.

Second Reading for the Following Ordinances

Ordinance 2016-38 "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 32 OF THE OCONEE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES IN CERTAIN LIMITED REGARDS AND PARTICULARS PERTAINING TO COMMUNICATION TOWERS, ONLY; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO"

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dexter, approved 5 - 0 to approve **Ordinance 2016-38** on second reading.

First Reading for the Following Ordinances

Ordinance 2016-39 "AN ORDINANCE CANCELLING, REVOKING, AND RESCINDING OCONEE COUNTY ORDINANCE 2010-14 IN PART, AS IT RELATES TO ITS AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE IV OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF OCONEE COUNTY, ESTABLISHING THE CAPITAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO"

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cammick, approved 5 - 0 to approve **Ordinance 2016-39** on first reading.

Ordinance 2016-40 [title only] "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 38 OF THE OCONEE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES, IN CERTAIN LIMITED REGARDS AND PARTICULARS ONLY, REGARDING SETBACKS; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO"

Ms. Cammick made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCall, approved 5 - 0 to approve **Ordinance 2016-39** on first reading in title only.

Ordinance 2016-41 [title only] "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 38 OF THE OCONEE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES, IN CERTAIN LIMITED REGARDS AND PARTICULARS ONLY, REGARDING THE ADDITION OF AGRICULTURAL ZONING DISTRICTS AND AMENDING AN EXISTING ZONING DISTRICT; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO"

Ms. Cammick made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thrift, approved 5 - 0 to approve **Ordinance 2016-39** on first reading in title only.

First & Final Reading for the Following Resolutions

Resolution R2016- 14 "AUTHORIZING THE AMENDMENT OF A LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AND BORGWARNER TORQTRANSFER SYSTEMS INC.""

Mr. Thrift made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cammick, approved 5 - 0 to approve **Resolution R2016-14** on first and final reading.

Discussion Regarding Action Items:

Local ATAX / \$42,000

Ms. Cammick made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thrift, approved 5 - 0 to approve the Local ATAX grant recommendations per the provided spreadsheet in an amount of \$42,000.

Avtec Radio Console Upgrade / 911 Center/ Communications/ \$446,093.84

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cammick, approved 5 - 0 to approve the purchase of a new 911 Center Radio Console System from Avtec, Inc., of Lexington, SC in the amount of \$446,093.84.

Engineering Services /Oconee Industry & Technology Park [OITP] / \$488,870.00

Lengthy discussion followed regarding this matter and overall development of the OITP.

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cammick, approved 5 - 0 to approve the total award of \$488,870.00 to Thomas & Hutton, of Greenville, SC for engineering services as presented in the backup material.

Mr. Thrift made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dexter, approved 4 - 1 [Mr. McCall opposed] to bid out the development for the park in tandem with the RFP currently out for equipment rental.

Council Committee Reports

Planning & Economic Development / Mr. Dexter

Mr. Dexter read from a prepared statement [copy filed with these minutes] highlighting activities at the December 13, 2016 meeting.

Mr. Dexter made a motion approved unanimously to affirm the Committee's recommendation to authorize the OEA to proceed with applying for the Santee Loan for a third Spec Building to be constructed at the GCCP.

Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Health & Welfare / Mr. McCall

Mr. McCall read from a prepared statement [copy filed with these minutes] highlighting activities at the December 13, 2016 meeting.

Mr. McCall made a motion approved unanimously to affirm the Committee's recommendation to move forward with additional voter sites with available funding and in tandem to work on a viable long term capital plan to address the radio issues.

Old / Unfinished Business:

Outgoing Council Member Comments

Mr. Thrift thanked a host of people [Council, Mr. Moulder, staff, Ms. Hulse, volunteers who serve on boards/commissions and the county citizens] stating it had been his honor to serve for 8 years as the District IV Council representative.

Mr. Dexter echoed Mr. Thrift's comments thanking a host of people and noting accomplishments made with the help of the Appalachian Council of Governments and the South Carolina Association of Counties.

Mr. Cain thanked Mr. Thrift, Mr. Dexter for their service to the citizens of the county.

New Business:

None discussed at this meeting.

Executive Session:

Mr. Thrift made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cammick, approved 5 - 0 to enter into Executive Session as allowed for in §30-4-70 (a) of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, as amended, 1976 for the purpose of :

~~[1] to receive legal advice & discuss a contractual matter related to the use and operation of approximately fifty eight (58) acres of County owned property located on Sandifer Blvd., TMS# 252-00-02-003, and [removed earlier via motion - see page 2]~~

[2] discussion of an Economic Development matter related to Project Goggles

Council entered Executive Session at 7:38 p.m.

Council returned from Executive Session at 8:01 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Thrift, seconded by Mr. Dexter, approved 5 - 0.

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

Adjourn

Mr. Dexter made a motion, approved unanimously 5 - 0, to adjourn at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth G. Hulse
Clerk to Council