



MINUTES
OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
Tuesday, June 13, 2017
6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL
Mr. Paul Cain, District III
Mr. Wayne McCall, District II
Ms. Edda Cammick, Chairwoman, District I
Mr. Julian Davis III, Vice Chair, District IV
Mr. Glenn Hart, Chair Pro Tem, District V

Oconee County Council met at 6:00 P.M. in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Council Members, County Administrator Scott Moulder, County Attorney David Root, and Katie D. Smith, 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: Dick Mangrum / WGOG & Steven Bradley / The Journal

Call to Order

Ms. Cammick called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Ms. Cammick opened the floor for public comment on the following Ordinances:

Ordinance 2017-01 “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 ROAD MAINTENANCE SPECIAL REVENUE FUND, FOR THE VICTIM SERVICES SPECIAL REVENUE FUND, FOR THE BRIDGE AND CULVERT CAPITAL PROJECT FUND, AND FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CAPITAL PROJECT FUND, ALL IN OCONEE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2017 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2018.”

Ordinance 2017-02 “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, 2017 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2018.”

Ordinance 2017-03 “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, 2017 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2018.”

Gloria Moore, SDOC, addressed Council utilizing a handout [copy filed with these minutes] regarding the School District of Oconee County Budget and final projections to include but not limited to:

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- Presented Budget in April 2017
- Updated information as follows:
 - decreased amount in local taxes by \$665,000 due to increases in state funding
 - state sources increased by \$128,000
 - transfers have increased by \$105,000
 - state is covering 1% of retirement increase; first quarter of next year there should a credit of \$676,750
- Net request from Council is \$65,797,636.00

Lengthy discussion followed to include but not limited to:

- 1% Salary increases for all employees
- Increased salary schedule
- Increase in retirement contribution
- Additional funding in the base student cost
- Fringe benefits
- EIA/EFA Formula
- Fund Balance
- Amount that is being presented is close to \$10 million more than in 2010
- Increased class size
- Ranked in the top 10 in some areas and in the middle in other areas
- Numbers
- Millage

Mr. Moulder addressed Council regarding the following to include:

- Maintain millage rate
- Reassessment
- Fund balance
- Rollback year
- Revenue neutral format minus the allowed increases by state law
- CPI
- Cap calculations
- Not asking for a tax increase

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0, to close Public Hearings for Ordinance 2017-01, Ordinance 2017-02 and Ordinance 2017-03.

Council inquired about several different departments regarding the Updated Administrator’s Recommended Budget [copy filed with these minutes] to include:

Interest and Investment Income

- Administrative Investment Accounts
- Treasurer manages account
- Not a long term account
- Funds that are kept from an operating capital standpoint and invests repeatedly through smaller investments
- Council requested a breakdown of the investment strategy, where the money comes from and how

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they are invested

Communications – Oconee County Sheriff's Department

- Salary and wages are the primary source for the increase
- Detention Center, Animal Control and other Sheriff operated departments
- Increase based on anniversary date
- Salary Restructure Plan
- 55 to 45 breakdown – 55% of the expense was in this fiscal year; 45% remaining coming in next fiscal year
- Should not be an increase in salaries for those department in fiscal year 2019

Lengthy discussion continued to include:

- Fire Positions
- Adding an expense to the budget could carry the costs every year on reoccurring expense
- \$245,000 for new positions
- Reduction in force of 15 positions
- Replacing same annual reoccurring cost
- Saving in reduction are more significant than what is being added back in
- Adjustment among funds
- Reduced debt millage to 3.2
- Increased General Fund millage as well as Tri-County Tech millage
- Reduced Economic Development millage
- Bond Payment

Mr. Cain thanked Mr. Moulder and his staff for their hard work on the budget.

Adjourn

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0 to adjourn at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Katie D. Smith
Clerk to Council