



MINUTES
OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
Regular Meeting
January 8, 2019

MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr. Paul Cain, District III
Mr. Wayne McCall, District II
Mr. John Elliott, District I
Mr. Julian Davis III, District IV
Mr. Glenn Hart, District V

Oconee County Council met at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Council Members, County Attorney David Root, Finance Director Ladale Price, 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.oconeesc.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: Caitlin Herrington / Daily Journal.

Call to Order

Mr. Root called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Root presided over the meeting pending the election of a new chairperson.

Public Comment Session

Ms. Sara Melendez addressed Council thanking them for their service and also regarding volunteering on Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Ms. Jean Jennings addressed Council regarding the election of the new County Council member and the meeting with Mr. Davis in March of 2018.

Mr. Jerry Barnett addressed Council regarding the oath and constitution of the United States.

Ms. Joy Scharich addressed Council thanking them for taking their time to run and campaign and proud of the way they run their districts.

County Council Response to Public Comment

Mr. Hart addressed Ms. Jennings comments.

Moment of Silence

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

Invocation by County Council Chaplain:

Mr. Root, County Council Chaplain, gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance:

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

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0 to approve the December 4, 2018 Regular meeting minutes as presented.

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 4 – 0 [Mr. McCall abstained; was not present at the meeting; recusal form filed with these minutes] to approve the December 19, 2018 Special meeting minutes as presented.

Election of Officers

Council Chairperson

Mr. Cain nominated Mr. Davis as Council Chairperson. Mr. Hart nominated Mr. Cain as Council Chairperson. Mr. Root called for the vote. Mr. Davis was elected Council Chairperson on a 3 – 2 [Mr. Hart & Mr. McCall opposed] vote.

The meeting was then turned over to Mr. Davis to preside as chair.

Council Vice Chairperson

Mr. Hart nominated Mr. Cain, approved 5 – 0, as Council Vice Chairperson.

Council Chairperson Pro Tem

Mr. McCall nominated Mr. Hart as Council Chairperson Pro Tem. Mr. Cain nominated Mr. Elliott as Council Chairperson Pro Tem. Mr. Hart withdrew his nomination. Mr. Davis called for the vote. Mr. Elliott was elected Council Chairman Pro Tem on a 5 – 0 vote.

Appointment/Re-Appointment of the following Appointed Officials

Clerk to Council

Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0, to reappoint Ms. Katie D. Smith as Clerk to County Council.

County Chaplain

Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0, to re-appoint Mr. Root as the County Chaplain.

Appointment of Council Committees for 2019 by Chairman

Mr. Davis made a nomination for the following County Council Committee appointments.

- Budget, Finance & Administration
Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved unanimously, to appoint Mr. Elliott as Chairperson; committee consists of all Council members.
- Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Health & Welfare
Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cain, approved unanimously to appoint Mr. McCall as Chairperson; Mr. Davis and Mr. Elliott as committee members.
- Planning & Economic Development
Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved unanimously, to appoint Mr. Cain as Chairperson; Mr. Davis and Mr. Elliott as committee members.

- Real Estate, Facilities & Land Management
Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved unanimously, to appoint Mr. Davis as Chairperson; Mr. Cain and Mr. Elliott as committee members.
- Transportation
Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Mr. Elliott, approved unanimously, to appoint Mr. Hart as Chairperson; Mr. Davis and Mr. Cain as committee members.

Appointment of 2019 Council Representatives by Chairman

Mr. Davis made a nomination for the following Council Representatives.

- SC Appalachian Council of Government Board of Directors
Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved unanimously, to appoint Mr. Elliott.
- Oconee Business Education
Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cain, approved unanimously, to reappoint Mr. Davis.
- Ten At The Top [TATT] Board of Directors
Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved unanimously, to reappoint Mr. Dave Eldridge.

2019 Meeting Schedule Establishment for Council / Committees

County Council

Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0, to approve the 2019 County Council meeting schedule as submitted. [Copy filed with these minutes.]

Council Committees

Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0, to approve the Council Committee meeting schedule as submitted. [Copy filed with these minutes.]

Public Hearing for the Following Ordinances

None at this meeting.

Third & Final Reading for the Following Ordinances

None at this meeting.

First Reading of the Following Ordinances

None at this meeting.

First & Final Reading of the Following Resolutions

None at this meeting.

Discussion Regarding Action Items

None at this meeting.

Board & Commission Appointments

Planning Commission

Mr. Elliott made a nomination, approved 5 – 0, to appoint Mr. Joseph Michael Smith as the

District I representative on the Planning Commission.

Mr. Cain made a nomination, approved 5 – 0, to reappoint Alex Vassey as the District III representative on the Planning Commission.

Mr. Cain made a nomination to reappoint Ms. Gwendolyn McPhail as the At Large representative on the Planning Commission. Mr. Cain made a nomination to appoint Marta Wahlen as the At Large representative on the Planning Commission. Mr. Davis called for the vote. Ms. Gwendolyn McPhail was nominated for reappointment as the At Large representative for the Planning Commission with a 3 – 2 vote [Mr. Hart & Mr. McCall opposed].

Arts & Historical Commission

Mr. Cain made a nomination, approved 5 – 0, to reappoint Mari Noorai as the District III representative on the Arts & Historical Commission.

No nominations were made for District I representative or At Large representative for Arts & Historical Commission.

Old / Unfinished Business:

None at this meeting.

New Business:

None discussed at this meeting.

Executive Session:

Mr. Elliott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cain, approved 5 – 0, to enter into Executive Session for the following purposes, as allowed for in § 30-4-70(a) of the South Carolina Code of Laws:

[1] Discuss personnel matter in relation to Interim County Administrator.

[2] Receive legal advice and discuss opioid litigation.

Council entered Executive Session at 6:27 p.m.

Council returned from Executive Session at 7:10 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0.

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

Mr. Root noted for item #2 under Executive Session no action was necessary at this point. Litigation is proceeding forward. He further noted item #1 under Executive Session ties into the Action Item.

Discussion Regarding Action Items

Discuss and appoint successor Interim Administrator

Mr. Root asked for a motion to appoint Amanda Brock as successor Interim Administrator replacing Mr. D. Richard Martin who will return to his former position in a full time capacity receiving his current rate of pay until the end of April and Ms. Brock will receive a pay increase as discussed during her service as Interim Administrator and for three months thereafter at Council's discretion as no contract of employment is created hereby in order to ensure a smooth transition to a permanent administrator or a new Interim Administrator. This appointment will become effective upon Ms. Brock's written acceptance of the same.

Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Mr. Davis, approved 5 – 0, to appoint Amanda Brock as successor Interim Administrator replacing Mr. D. Richard Martin who will return to his former position in a full time capacity receiving his current rate of pay until the end of April and Ms. Brock will receive a pay increase as discussed during her service as Interim Administrator and for three months thereafter at Council's discretion as no contract of employment is created hereby in order to ensure a smooth transition to a permanent administrator or a new Interim Administrator. This appointment will become effective upon Ms. Brock's written acceptance of the same.

Adjourn

Mr. Cain made a motion, approved unanimously 5 – 0, to adjourn at 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Katie D. Smith
Clerk to Council