



MINUTES

OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

February 19, 2019

MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr. John Elliott, Chair Pro Tem, District I

Mr. Paul Cain, Vice Chair, District III

Mr. Julian Davis III, Chairman, District IV

Mr. Glenn Hart, District V

Mr. Wayne McCall, District II

Oconee County Council met at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Council Members, Interim County Administrator Amanda F. Brock, 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.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 & Norm Cannada / Daily Journal.

Call to Order:

Mr. Davis called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Public Comment Session

Mr. Chuck Korimelink addressed Council regarding the development of I-85 corridor and Sewer South.

Ms. Jean Jennings addressed Council regarding the Federal Paving Grant for the Oconee Industry & Technology Park [OITP], Tri-County Tech Oconee Campus.

County Council Response to Public Comment

None at this meeting.

Moment of Silence

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

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Approval of Minutes

Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cain, approved 5 – 0 to approve the February 5, 2019 Regular meeting minutes as presented.

Administrator's Comments

Ms. Brock briefly updated Council regarding the following:

- Thanked Ms. Shelby Henderson from the Bertha Lee Strickland Cultural Museum for allowing the County to borrow the banners for Proclamation 2019-02
- Need a motion to rescind the vote that was made on January 22 for George Smith, Building Codes Appeal Board, District 1

Mr. Elliott made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCall, approved 5 – 0, to rescind the vote on January 22, 2019 for George Smith for the District 1 Building Codes Appeal Board seat.

Recognition of staff within the Finance Department for the Government Finance Officers Association [GFOA] Distinguished Budget Presentation Award

Mr. Davis read from a letter [copy filed with these minutes] received from the Government Finance Officers Association dated January 8, 2019.

Ms. Ladale Price, Finance Director, and other staff present came forward to accept the certificate of recognition.

Proclamation 2019-02

PROCLAMATION 2019-02 RECOGNIZING FEBRAURY 2019 AS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Mr. Davis read the proclamation into the record.

Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, to approve **Proclamation 2019-02**.

Mr. Davis thanked Ms. Henderson for allowing the County to borrow the banners for the meeting and also thanked the citizens that continue to keep black history alive.

Regarding the previous motion made by Mr. Cain, seconded by Mr. Hart, it was approved 5 – 0, to approve **Proclamation 2019-02** on first & final reading.

Presentation to Council

- Emergency Medical Services Update / Aaron Dix, Director of Mobile Services – Prisma Health

Mr. Aaron Dix, Administrator for Emergency Medical Services for Prisma Health-Upstate, addressed Council utilizing a PowerPoint presentation [copy filed with these minutes] highlighting the following:

- Services to the County
- Key Changes during 2018

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- Future Accomplishments

Mr. Davis thanked Mr. Dix and his staff for all they do for the County and also for the partnerships they provide.

Mr. Cain thanked Mr. Dix for his presentation and also commented on how great the emergency care and health care is in Oconee County. He further thanked Mr. Dix and his staff and the volunteers who put their lives on the line to protect the County.

2017-2018 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and Auditor’s Discussion and Analysis / Grant H. Davis – Mauldin & Jenkins, LLC

Mr. Grant Davis, Mauldin & Jenkins, LLC, addressed Council utilizing a handout entitled “Auditor’s Discussion & Analysis (AD&A)” [copy filed with these minutes] & “Comprehensive Annual Financial Report” [click the following link for the CAFR report: <https://oconeesc.com/documents/finance/statements-and-reports/2017-2018-comprehensive-annual-financial-report.pdf>] highlighting the following:

- Purpose of Annual Auditor’s Discussion & Analysis
- Independent Auditor’s Report
- Comprehensive Annual Financial Report [CAFR]

Discussion continued to include:

- Procurement Ordinance
- Cybersecurity

Mr. Davis thanked him for working with the County and also thanked the Finance Department for their hard work.

Mr. Davis asked Ms. Brock to work with the Information Technology [IT] Department regarding cybersecurity and to give an update at a later time. Ms. Brock noted she has already spoken with the IT Director regarding this matter. Discussion continued.

Mr. Grant Davis also thanked the Finance Department and all of their hard work.

Sewer South Transfer Discussion / Scott Parris, Chairman, and Chris Eleazer, Executive Director of Oconee Joint Regional Sewer Authority [OJRSA]

Mr. Scott Parris, Chair of OJRSA, and Chris Eleazer, OJRSA Executive Director, addressed Council utilizing a handout [copy filed with these minutes] highlighting the following:

- Sewer South project
- Interstate 85 Corridor / Fair Play (“Sewer South”) Sewer System
- Economic Development
- Golden Corner Commerce Park
- Existing Agreements that govern projects
- Addressing County’s Recent Requests

Mr. Davis thanked Mr. Parris and Mr. Eleazer for the presentation and giving clarification as the County

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moves forward. Mr. Davis invited Mr. Parris and Mr. Eleazer into Executive Session to finalize the contracts if Council agreed.

Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cain, approved 5 – 0, to allow Mr. Parris and Mr. Eleazer into Executive Session for the discussion of a contractual matter regarding the Sewer South Transfer and Operation Agreement with OJRSA.

Public Hearings for the Following Ordinances

Ordinance 2019-04 “AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF AN ADDENDUM TO THE LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN OCONEE COUNTY, AS LESSOR, AND OCONEE HERITAGE CENTER, INC., NOW KNOWN AS OCONEE HISTORY MUSEUM, INC., AS LESSEE, IN RELATION TO THE PREMISES KNOWN AS THE TOBACCO BARN, LOCATED AT THE CORNER OF TUGALOO STREET AND BROAD STREET IN WALHALLA, SOUTH CAROLINA.”

Mr. Davis opened the floor for Public Comment.

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

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

Mr. Davis closed the Public Hearing regarding **Ordinance 2019-04**.

Ordinance 2019-06 “AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF A GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND (KEOWEE FIRE TAX DISTRICT) OF OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA. IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT EXCEEDING \$550,000; FIXING THE FORM AND CERTAIN DETAILS OF THE BOND; AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO DETERMINE CERTAIN MATTERS RELATING TO THE BOND; PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE BOND AND THE DISPOSITION OF THE PROCEEDS THEREOF; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO.”

Mr. Davis opened the floor for Public Comment.

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

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

Mr. Davis closed the Public Hearing regarding **Ordinance 2019-06**.

Ordinance 2019-07 “AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 22 OF THE OCONEE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES, ENTITLED PARKS, RECREATION, AND TOURISM; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.”

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Mr. Davis opened the floor for Public Comment.

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

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

Mr. Davis closed the Public Hearing regarding **Ordinance 2019-07**.

Ordinance 2019-08 “AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND OCONEE COUNTY’S ROAD ENCROACHMENT PERMIT POLICY AND ENCROACHMENT PERMIT APPLICATION; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.”

Mr. Davis opened the floor for Public Comment.

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

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

Mr. Davis closed the Public Hearing regarding **Ordinance 2019-08**.

Third Reading of the Following Ordinances

Ordinance 2019-04 *[see caption above]*

Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Mr. Elliott, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Ordinance 2019-04** on third & final reading.

Ordinance 2019-06 *[see caption above]*

Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Mr. Elliott, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Ordinance 2019-06** on third & final reading.

Ordinance 2019-07 *[see caption above]*

Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cain, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Ordinance 2019-07** on third & final reading.

Ordinance 2019-08

Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Ordinance 2019-08** on third & final reading.

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Second Reading of the Following Ordinances

Ordinance 2019-09 “AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN OCONEE COUNTY, AS LESSOR, AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA / U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE – FARM SERVICE AGENCY, AS LESSEE, IN RELATION TO CERTAIN PREMISES LOCATED AT 301 WEST SOUTH BROAD STREET, WALHALLA, SOUTH CAROLINA.”

Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Ordinance 2019-09** on second reading.

Ordinance 2019-10 “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 26 OF THE OCONEE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES, BY REVISING CERTAIN TERMS CONTAINED THEREIN, IN ORDER TO PROPERLY DESCRIBE NEW DEPARTMENTS AND DEPARTMENTAL POSITIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES RESULTING FROM COUNTY COUNCIL’S DIRECTIVE TO DIVIDE THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT INTO BUILDING CODES AND PLANNING DEPARTMENTS.”

Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cain, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Ordinance 2019-10** on second reading.

First Reading for the Following Ordinances

None at this meeting.

First & Final Reading of the Following Resolutions

None at this meeting.

Discussion Regarding Action Items

Change Order #1 for PO 52727 Engineering Services for Entrance Roadway Improvements for Seneca Rail Park / Oconee Economic Alliance / Amount: \$10,865.00

Budget: \$10,865.00 / Project Cost: \$10,865.00 / Remaining Balance: \$0.00

At the June 6, 2017 meeting of Council, it was approved to award Engineering Services for Entrance Roadway Improvements to Seneca Rail Park to Thomas & Hutton of Greenville, SC (On Call Engineering RFP 15-09 for Category E) Thomas & Hutton provided services that included engineering design services for approximately 2500 LF of industrial grade roadway, permitting, bidding and award assistance for the project. The Roadway Project was made available for bidding on August 30, 2018; bids were opened on September 18, 2018 with one (1) bid being received. The bid was rejected because it significantly exceeded our budget. In order to re-bid the project it required Thomas & Hutton to provide additional design services, bidding and award services. The amount of the requested Change Order is \$10,865.00 which will bring the total to \$85,495.00.

It is the staff’s recommendation that Council approve [1] Change Order #1 PO 52727 (Addendum #1) to

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Thomas & Hutton, of Greenville, SC for additional engineering services required to re-bid the Entrance Roadway Improvements for Seneca Rail Park in the amount of \$10,865.00. This will bring the total amount of the PO to \$85,495.00, and [2] Authorize the County Administrator to sign / execute the change order.

Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cain, approved 5 – 0, to approve [1] Change Order #1 PO 52727 (Addendum #1) to Thomas & Hutton, of Greenville, SC for additional engineering services required to re-bid the Entrance Roadway Improvements for Seneca Rail Park in the amount of \$10,865.00. This will bring the total amount of the PO to \$85,495.00, and [2] Authorize the County Administrator to sign / execute the change order.

Letter of support for recommendation of The Order of the Palmetto for Dr. Ronnie Booth, President of Tri-County Technical College

Dr. Ronnie Booth will retire in June after sixteen years of service as President of Tri-County Technical College. Tri-County Technical College will be submitting a nomination for him to be inducted into the Order of the Palmetto, the highest civilian honor awarded to citizens of South Carolina for extraordinary lifetime achievement and for national or statewide service. A letter of support for the recommendation of The Order of the Palmetto is being requested for this prestigious award.

Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cain, to approve the letter of support for the recommendation of The Order of the Palmetto for Dr. Ronnie Booth, President of Tri-County Technical College.

Mr. Davis thanked Dr. Booth for his many years of service to Tri-County Technical College and for always being a great advocate for Oconee County and continuing to train our workforce.

Regarding the previous motion made by Mr. Hart, seconded by Mr. Cain, it was approved 5 – 0, to approve the letter of support for the recommendation of The Order of the Palmetto for Dr. Ronnie Booth, President of Tri-County Technical College.

Board & Commission Appointments

Board of Zoning Appeals

Mr. Elliott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Davis, approved 5 – 0, to appoint Mr. John Eagar as the At Large representative on the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Building Codes Appeal Board

No questionnaires were submitted for the At Large seat.

Arts & Historical

No questionnaires were submitted for the 2 At Large seats.

Conservation Bank Board

Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0, to appoint Mr. Deryl Ryan Keese as the District III representative on the Conservation Bank Board.

Park, Recreation, & Tourism Commission

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No questionnaires were submitted for the 1 At Large seat.

Appointment of Council Representatives

[motion required to affirm appointments]

**Questionnaires for external boards/commissions are not required*

- Oconee Economic Alliance Board of Directors
 - Mr. Paul Cain, Council Representative
 - Ms. Amanda Brock, Interim County Administrator
 - Mr. Sammy Dickson, OEA General Nomination, requested by OEA

Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Davis, approved 5 – 0, to approve the above representatives for the Oconee Economic Alliance Board of Directors.

- SC Appalachian Council of Governments Board of Directors
 - Bob Winchester, Citizen Representative
 - Minority Representative

Mr. Elliott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cain, approved 5 – 0, to approve Mr. Julian Davis as the Citizen Representative on the SC Appalachian Council of Governments Board of Directors.

Unfinished Business

None at this meeting.

New Business

Mr. McCall acknowledged four Walhalla High School freshmen who started an online newspaper on their own and have shown initiative and involvement while thinking about their future.

Executive Session:

Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCall, 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] To receive legal advice and discuss a contractual matter regarding the Sewer South Transfer and Operation Agreement with the Oconee Joint Regional Sewer Authority.

The agenda was amended earlier in the meeting to allow Mr. Scott Parris and Mr. Chris Eleazer to enter into Executive Session for discussion regarding the OJRSA.

[2] Discussion regarding an Economic Development matter, Project Aztec.

[3] Discussion regarding an Economic Development matter, Project Plan 4.

[4] Discussion regarding an Economic Development matter, Project Zulu.

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[5] Receive legal advice and discuss purchase of properties adjacent to Rock Quarry.

[6] Receive legal advice and discuss purchase of properties adjacent to Rock Quarry.

Council entered Executive Session at 7:19 p.m.

Council returned from Executive Session at 9:20 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Cain, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0.

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

First & Final Reading for the Following Resolutions *[if necessary]*

Resolution 2019-02 “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL TRANSFER AND OPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN OCONEE COUNTY AND THE OCONEE JOINT REGIONAL SEWER AUTHORITY IN RELATION TO THE SEWER SYSTEM EXTENDING BETWEEN THE GOLDEN CORNER COMMERCE PARK AND THE CONEROSS CREEK SEWER TREATMENT PLANT; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.”

Mr. Root asked for a motion to approve **Resolution 2019-02** with a revision to the transfer and operation agreement removing language requiring a membership and commission seat in favor of the County in exchange for an Ex-Officio seat.

Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cain, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Resolution 2019-02** with a revision to the transfer and operation agreement removing language requiring a membership and commission seat in favor of the County in exchange for an Ex-Officio seat.

Adjourn:

Mr. Cain made a motion, approved unanimously, to adjourn at 9:21 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Katie D. Smith
Clerk to Council