



MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING / STRATEGIC PLANNING RETREAT MEETING

February 27, 2019

MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr. John Elliott, Chairman Pro Tem, District I

Mr. Wayne McCall, District II

Mr. Paul Cain, Vice Chairman, District III

Mr. Julian Davis, Chairman, District IV

Mr. Glenn Hart, District V

Oconee County Council met on Wednesday, February 27, 2019 at 2:00 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 Clerk to Council, Katie D. Smith 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.

Member of the press present: Caitlin Herrington / Daily Journal & Dick Mangrum / WGOG.

Call to Order:

Mr. Davis called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Mr. Davis thanked everyone in attendance for being present and also thanked the Administration staff for their hard work.

Mr. Davis asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session due to time restraints.

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0, to amend the agenda to enter into Executive Session first.

Executive Session:

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, 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 personnel matters related to the following departments: The Rock Quarry, Auditor, Finance, Assessor, Information Technology, Finance, Human Resources, Sheriff's Office, Airport, Treasurer, Facilities Maintenance, Roads and Bridges, Planning, Solid Waste, Registration & Elections, Procurement, and Administration.

Council entered Executive Session at 2:03 p.m.

Council returned from Executive Session at 3:19 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Hart, seconded by Mr.

Elliott, approved 5 – 0.

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

Mr. Root asked for a motion to direct the County Administrator to hire an independent forensic auditor to conduct an employee compensation review including salary increases and checks and balance in relation thereto.

Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCall, approved 5 – 0, to direct the County Administrator to hire an independent forensic auditor to conduct an employee compensation review including salary increases and checks and balance in relation thereto.

Strategic Planning Session began addressing the topics listed below:

- Current Initiatives
- Budget Analysis
- District Discussion
- Oconee County Priorities
- Departmental Needs

Ms. Brock’s final report will be attached into these minutes as part of the permanent record.

Mr. Davis thanked Council members, Administration Staff, Finance Staff, & Clerk to Council for all of their hard work.

Adjourn: Mr. Hart made a motion, approved unanimously, to adjourn at 5:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Katie D. Smith
Clerk to Council

2019 STRATEGIC PLANNING REPORT



OCONEE COUNTY MISSION

It is the mission of Oconee County to provide our current and future citizens and visitors with quality services while protecting our communities, heritage, environment and natural resources, in an ever-changing world.

OCONEE COUNTY VISION

Oconee County – A diverse, growing, safe, vibrant community guided by rural traditions and shaped by natural beauty; where employment, education and recreation offer a rich quality of life for all generations, both today and tomorrow.

BACKGROUND

Since 2011, Oconee County Council and Administrative Staff have held an annual planning retreat to review the previous year's accomplishments and to discuss priorities. This session serves an important role in starting the annual budget process for the County as well as establishing guidelines and direction for the Administrator and staff.

The 2019 Strategic Planning Retreat was held on Wednesday, February 27, in Oconee County Council Chambers. In attendance were all five (5) Council Members; the County Administrator; County Attorney, members of staff; interested citizens; and members of the local media.

PLAN DEVELOPMENT FORMAT

The 2019 strategic planning process was modified to incorporate initiatives remaining from the 2018 Strategic Plan, or "current initiatives", priorities for each of the five County Council Member's districts and the county as a whole. The worksheet provided by the Administrator encouraged discussion regarding established priorities and list possible funding strategies for those priorities.

2019 Strategic Plan Report

As Discussed at the February 27, 2019 Strategic Plan

Priorities	Estimated Cost	County Council Funding Recommendations
Community Services		
Develop Programs for Elderly and Children in the County		
Removal of the Fair Oak Youth Center		
Meth Education and Treatment		
Boater Safety and Public Awareness	\$10,000	
Construct Oakway School Walking Path	\$20,000	
Culture, Tourism, and Recreation		
Greenway Connection from Palmetto Trail to Green Crescent Trail		Grants; Hospitality Tax
Seneca Library Improvements		
Expand Oconee County Regional Airport Runway and Construct Hangars	\$1,000,000 [FAA Estimates]	Bonds; Property Taxes on Planes; Hangar Leases; Enterprise Fund
Improve Lake Hartwell Boat Ramps		
Oconee County Park Upgrades	\$300,000 Annually	Grants; Hospitality
Economic Development		
Utica Revitalization	\$250,000 Annually	Grants ; Tax Credits
Opportunity Zones	\$250,000 Annually	Grants ; Tax Credits
Identify Possible Location and Conduct Feasibility Study for Technology Incubator / Relocation of Oconee Economic Alliance Office	\$1,500,000	Grants; Tax Credits
Continue Economic Development of Industrial Parks	Ongoing	Economic Development Millage / FILOT
Expand Sewer to I-85 Exits I, II and IV	> \$2,000,000	
Establish Sheep Farm Road Sewer	\$500,000	Grants
Establish Bountyland Fire Substation	\$500,000 Annually	
General Government		
Increase Unassigned Fund Balance		Budgeting and Planning
Vehicle Replacement Schedule	\$500,000 Annually	
Plat Scanning in Register of Deeds (1987 to Current)	\$10,000	Budgeting and Planning
Pine Street Security Implementation	\$500,000 Designated	Phased in Implementation
Westminster Magistrate's Office	\$750,000	\$500,000 Bond Already Approved
Review Brown Building Current and Future Use	\$30,000	
Planning		
Plan Bountyland SC-188 / 28 Corridor: Traffic / Greenspace / Signage	\$50,000	Refer to Planning Commission for Recommendations
US-123 Corridor Plan Implementation	\$39,000	

Solid Waste		
Litter Awareness Through Education / Public Outreach		Grants
Alternative Uses for Recycled Glass		
Add Compactors at Convenience Centers for Recycled Plastics		
Implement Solid Waste Convenience Center Master Plan		