



MINUTES

OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

June 4, 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, 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 / Daily Journal & Jimmy Watt / WGOG.

Call to Order:

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

Public Comment Session

Ms. Jean Jennings addressed Council regarding Utica Village and placing an Oconee County Sheriff's Office substation in this area.

Mr. Jerry Barnett addressed Council regarding blight homes and tearing their homes down.

County Council Response to Public Comment

None at this meeting.

Moment of Silence

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

Invocation by County Council Chaplain:

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

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Pledge of Allegiance:

Sheriff Mike Crenshaw, Oconee County Sheriff's Office, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Elliott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cain, approved 5 – 0 to approve the May 21, 2019 Regular Minutes as presented.

Proclamation 2019-06

Proclamation 2019-06 Honoring K-9 Officer Jak

Mr. Davis read **Proclamation 2019-06** into the record.

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cain, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Proclamation 2019-06**.

Corporal Roy McKenzie stepped forward and accepted proclamation from Council.

Corporal McKenzie thanked Council for their support. He further noted to remember K-9 Officers, as they are just as important.

Proclamation 2019-08

Proclamation 2019-08 of Congratulations to the Oconee County WHEP Teams

Mr. Elliott read **Proclamation 2019-08** into the record.

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cain, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Proclamation 2019-08**.

Stephen Schutt, South Cove County Park, recognized the junior and senior level youth of the WHEP Teams as well as the teachers.

Council members presented the proclamation to Mr. Schutt for the junior and senior members.

Recognition of New Officers – Sheriff Mike Crenshaw / OCSO

Sheriff Crenshaw noted in his 32 years of law enforcement in Oconee County, this was a historical moment as there were 9 graduates from the Criminal Justice Academy. He thanked Council for recognizing the new deputies and for their support of law enforcement. The graduates that were present included David Scealf, P.J. Heaton, Twila Owens, Brandon Justice, Billy Lee, Michael Smith, and Chris Johnson. Mr. Johnson was awarded the JP Strom Award.

Administrator's Comments

Ms. Brock noted she was very proud of Oconee County.

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Public Hearings for the Following Ordinances

Ordinance 2019-02 “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, 2019 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2020.”

Mr. Davis opened the floor for Public Comment.

Mr. Rick Bagby addressed Council in support of **Ordinance 2019-02**.

Mr. Davis opened the floor for any citizen wishing to address Council regarding this ordinance. No other 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 2019-02**.

Ordinance 2019-11 “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 32 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. 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 2019-11**.

Ordinance 2019-12 “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 38 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. Davis opened the floor for Public Comment.

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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 2019-12**.

Ordinance 2019-16 “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2 OF THE OCONEE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES BY REVISING SECTION 2-191 IN RELATION TO THE EMPLOYMENT, DUTIES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE OCONEE COUNTY ATTORNEY.”

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 2019-16**.

Third Reading of the Following Ordinances

Ordinance 2019-11 [see caption above]

Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Mr. Elliott, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Ordinance 2019-11** on 3rd & final reading.

Ordinance 2019-12 [see caption above]

Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Mr. Elliott, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Ordinance 2019-12** on 3rd & final reading.

Ordinance 2019-16 [see caption above]

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cain, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Ordinance 2019-16** on 3rd & final reading.

Second Reading of the Following Ordinances

Ordinance 2019-02 “AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE BUDGET FOR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF OCONEE COUNTY (the “School District”) AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY

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OF TAXES FOR THE OPERATIONS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF OCONEE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2019 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2020.”

Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Mr. Elliott, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Ordinance 2019-02** on second reading.

First Reading for the Following Ordinances

None at this meeting.

First & Final Reading of the Following Resolutions

Resolution 2019-15 “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AMENDMENT OF AN AGREEMENT TO DEVELOP A JOINT-COUNTY INDUSTRIAL AND BUSINESS PARK BY AND BETWEEN OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AND PICKENS COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE BOUNDARIES OF THE MULTI-COUNTY INDUSTRIAL/BUSINESS PARK CREATED THEREBY TO INCLUDE CERTAIN ADDITIONAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN PICKENS COUNTY; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.”

Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Mr. Elliott, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Resolution 2019-15** on first & final reading.

Discussion Regarding Action Items

Camera System Upgrade at the Oconee County Courthouse / Sheriff’s Office / 56,265.37 [State Contract]

Budget: 56,265.37 / **Project Cost:** 56,265.37 / **Balance:** \$0.00

On March 25, 2019 we received a quote from Encore Technology Group of Greenville, SC to upgrade the Camera System at the Oconee County Courthouse. Encore Technologies is a State Contract vendor for Audio Visual Products and Service.

On October 1, 2018, Oconee County received notification that we had been awarded \$35,820 dollars from the State of South Carolina Department of Public Safety Office of Highway Safety and Justice Programs Justice Assistance Grant Program (JAG) to upgrade the Camera System at the Oconee County Courthouse. The State has given permission to utilize \$14,818.84 of the remaining funds left over from the X-Ray Machine & Walk-Through Metal Detector to complete the Camera System Upgrade Project. The Sheriff’s Office has funds to cover the 10% Grant Match (\$5,626.53).

It is the staff’s recommendation that Council approve the Award of \$56,265.37 to Encore Technology Group, of Greenville, SC for the Camera System upgrade at the Oconee County Courthouse.

Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Mr. Elliott, approved 5 – 0, to approve the Award of \$56,265.37 to Encore Technology Group, of Greenville, SC for the Camera System upgrade at the Oconee County Courthouse.

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Board & Commission Appointments

Building Codes Appeal Board

No questionnaires were submitted for the 2 At Large seats.

Library Board

Mr. Elliott made a nomination, approved 5 – 0, to appoint Sarai Melendez as an At Large representative on the Library Board.

Motion of Clarification

Ms. Brock asked for a motion of clarification for the Camera System Upgrade at the Oconee County Courthouse to approve the award of \$56,265.37.

Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Mr. Elliott, approved 5 – 0, to clarify the approval of the award of \$56,265.37 for the Camera System Upgrade at the Oconee County Courthouse.

Unfinished Business

None at this meeting.

New Business

None at this meeting.

Executive Session:

Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Mr. Elliott, 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] Discussion regarding an Economic Development matter, Project Aztec.

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

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

[4] To receive legal advice and discuss personnel matters related to the following departments: The Rock Quarry, Auditor, Finance, Assessor, Information Technology, Human Resources, Sheriff's Office, Airport, Treasurer, Facilities Maintenance, Roads and Bridges, Planning, Solid Waste, Registration & Elections, Procurement, and Administration, including internal review procedures.

[5] Discuss personnel matter related to the County Attorney.

[6] Receive legal advice and discuss opioid litigation.

Council entered Executive Session at 6:31 p.m.

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Council returned from Executive Session at 7:56 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Hart, seconded by Mr. Cain, approved 5 – 0.

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

[#3] Mr. Root asked for a motion to initiate negotiations as discussed regarding Project Bolt.

Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Mr. Elliott, approved 5 – 0, to initiate negotiations as discussed regarding Project Bolt.

[#6] Mr. Root asked for a motion to proceed with litigation as discussed regarding the opioid litigation.

Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Mr. Elliott, approved 5 – 0, to proceed with litigation as discussed regarding the opioid litigation.

Discussion Regarding Action Items [cont'd]

Discuss and take action on proposed contract of employment for the Oconee County Attorney

Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Mr. Davis, approved 5 – 0, to direct the County Administrator to execute the contract of employment with the County Attorney as presented and discussed.

Adjourn:

Mr. Hart made a motion, approved unanimously, to adjourn at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Katie D. Smith
Clerk to Council

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