



MINUTES

OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

October 15, 2024

MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr. John Elliott, District I
Mr. Matthew Durham, Chairman, District II
Mr. Don Mize, Vice Chairman, District III
Mr. Julian Davis III, District IV
Mr. Glenn Hart, Chairman Pro Tem, District V

Oconee County Council met at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Council Members [Mr. Davis and Mr. Hart absent], County Administrator Amanda F. Brock, County Attorney David Root, & Jennifer C. Adams, 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: None

Call to Order

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

Moment of Silence

Mr. Durham asked for a moment of silence prior to the Invocation.

Invocation

Mr. David Root, County Attorney, gave the Invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Jamie Gilbert led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Mize made a motion, seconded by Mr. Elliott, approved 3 - 0, to approve the September 30, 2024 emergency meeting minutes as presented.

Mr. Elliott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mize, approved 3 - 0, to approve the October 1, 2024 regular meeting minutes as presented.

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Attorney's Comments

None for this meeting.

Administrator's Comments

Ms. Brock provided updates regarding the County's response to the bridge outage on HWY 76.

Presentation

Oconee County Elections Commission Chair, Mr. Jim Murray, along with Council, Ms. Brock and Voter Registration and Elections staff, presented the winners of the "I Voted" sticker contest with their awards.

Public Comment Session

If you are not able to attend in person and you have a comment, you may submit it by contacting our Clerk to Council, Jennifer C. Adams at jennifercadams@oconeesc.com or 864-718-1023, so that she may receive your comment and read it into the record.

1. Mr. Jason Boyle addressed Council with his concerns regarding the Oconee County Detention Center.

Council Members Comments

Mr. Elliott spoke briefly on the topics of Council salaries and term limits, then proceeded to make a motion, seconded by Mr. Mize, approved 3 – 0, to amend the agenda to add this topic for Council discussion and to instruct staff to compare Oconee County Councils salary to other Council salaries within the state, that have similar operating budgets, and to inquire about the possibility of term limits for Council members.

Mr. Mize inquired if there was a time limit to complete the above request.

Ms. Brock noted that there should be ample time to complete this request by the November 19, 2024 Council meeting.

Mr. Durham added comments related to the bridge outage on HWY 76.

Public Hearing for the Following Ordinances

ORDINANCE 2024-23 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PORTIONS OF CHAPTERS 32 AND 38 OF THE OCONEE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES, IN LIMITED REGARDS AND PARTICULARS ONLY, IN ORDER TO REVISE CERTAIN SETBACK-RELATED PROVISIONS, INCLUDING DEFINITIONS AND THE APPLICATION THEREOF; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

Mr. Durham opened the floor for Public Comment.

Noting that no citizens signed up to address Council; Mr. Durham opened the floor for any citizen wishing to address Council regarding this ordinance. No citizen addressed Council and no citizen submitted or presented any written comments for the record.

Mr. Durham closed the Public Hearing regarding **Ordinance 2024-23**.

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Third Reading of the Following Ordinances

ORDINANCE 2024-23 (*see caption above*)

Mr. Elliott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mize, approved 3 - 0, to approve **Ordinance 2024-23** on third and final reading.

Second Reading of the Following Ordinances

ORDINANCE 2024-24 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING, PURSUANT TO TITLE 12, CHAPTER 44 OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA 1976, AS AMENDED, THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A FEE-IN-LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES AND SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDIT AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, AND PROJECT MAYFLOWER, ACTING FOR ITSELF, ONE OR MORE CURRENT OR FUTURE AFFILIATES AND OTHER PROJECT COMPANIES (COLLECTIVELY, "COMPANY"); PROVIDING FOR A FEE-IN-LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES INCENTIVE; PROVIDING FOR A SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDIT; DESIGNATING THE PROPERTY OF THE PROJECT AS PART OF A MULTI-COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF ONE OR MORE GRANT AGREEMENTS; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT RELATED TO THE CONVEYANCE OF CERTAIN REAL ESTATE FOR PROJECT MAYFLOWER; AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS.

Mr. Elliott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mize, approved 3 - 0, to approve **Ordinance 2024-24** on second reading.

First Reading of the Following Ordinances

ORDINANCE 2024-25 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING, PURSUANT TO TITLE 12, CHAPTER 44 OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA 1976, AS AMENDED, THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A FEE-IN-LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES AND SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDIT AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, AND PROJECT SHAKER, ACTING FOR ITSELF, ONE OR MORE CURRENT OR FUTURE AFFILIATES AND OTHER PROJECT COMPANIES (COLLECTIVELY, "COMPANY"); PROVIDING FOR A FEE-IN-LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES INCENTIVE; PROVIDING FOR A SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDIT; DEVELOPING A JOINT COUNTY INDUSTRIAL AND BUSINESS PARK BETWEEN OCONEE COUNTY AND PICKENS COUNTY SO AS TO DESIGNATE THE PROPERTY OF THE PROJECT AS PART OF A MULTI-COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK; AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS.

Mr. Elliott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mize, approved 3 - 0, to approve **Ordinance 2024-25** on first reading.

First & Final Reading for the Following Resolutions

RESOLUTION 2024-17 A RESOLUTION PROVIDING PRELIMINARY APPROVAL PURSUANT TO TITLE 12, CHAPTER 44 OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA 1976, AS AMENDED, FOR THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A FEE-IN-LIEU OF AD

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VALOREM TAXES AND SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDIT AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, AND A COMPANY IDENTIFIED FOR THE TIME BEING AS PROJECT SHAKER, ACTING FOR ITSELF, ONE OR MORE CURRENT OR FUTURE AFFILIATES, AND OTHER PROJECT COMPANIES (COLLECTIVELY, "COMPANY"); PROVIDING FOR A FEE-IN-LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES INCENTIVE; EXPANDING A JOINT COUNTY INDUSTRIAL AND BUSINESS PARK BETWEEN OCONEE COUNTY AND PICKENS COUNTY SO AS TO INCLUDE PROJECT PROPERTY IN THE PARK; AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS.

Mr. Elliott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mize, approved 3 - 0, to approve **Resolution 2024-17** on first and final reading.

Discussion Regarding Action Items

2024 Edward Byrne Memorial JAG Grant Notification

Oconee County Sheriff's Department is eligible to receive an allocation of \$14,832.00 from the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The grant program requires the notification of intent be made available for Oconee County Council and the public to review and comment on the proposed use of funds. The Sheriff's Department plans to use the funds from this program to purchase 31 digital siren units, including the cost for connectivity. Any overage will be paid from the Sheriff's Department Capital Equipment line item.

Staff recommends Oconee County Council approve the use of the Bureau of Justice Assistance funds for the purchase and connectivity of the digital siren system for the Oconee County Sheriff's Office.

Mr. Elliott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mize, approved 3 - 0, to approve the use of the Bureau of Justice Assistance funds for the purchase and connectivity of the digital siren system for the Oconee County Sheriff's Office.

Title: PO 56316 Change Order No. 1

Department(s): Detention Center

Amount: PO 56316: \$64,259.00

Change Order No. 1: \$44,725.00

Contingency: \$8,016.00

Total: \$117,000.00

Procurement was approved by Council in Fiscal Year FY 2024-2025 Budget process.

Budget: \$117,000.00 Project Cost: \$117,000.00 Balance: \$0.00

(Funding is from One-Time Capital 340 Fund)

On September 3, 2024, Council approved a contract with Trane U.S., Inc. of Greenville, SC, for \$64,259.00, plus a \$6,425.00 contingency, to replace the boilers and water heaters at the Detention Center.

On October 2, 2024, Trane technicians met with Detention Center staff to discuss the project and schedule the replacements and repairs. During this meeting, it became clear that the original quote and approval covered only one boiler / water heater. While the initial estimate addressed most of the Detention Center's needs, it did not include the replacement of the second unit. Not replacing the second boiler / water heater would put excessive strain on the remaining unit, leading to increased wear and tear.

To ensure a fully functional system that will provide reliable service for years to come, the Detention Center's maintenance staff, along with Trane technicians, recommend replacing the second boiler and water heater.

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This request seeks Council approval for Change Order No. 1 to Trane U.S., Inc., which includes the replacement of the second boiler and water heater at a cost of \$44,725.00.

If approved, this would increase the total purchase order to \$108,984.00. Additionally, staff is requesting an \$8,016.00 contingency to address any unforeseen issues that may arise.

If this system fails, the department could encounter unpredictable delays and costs to restore functionality, severely disrupting daily operations at the Detention Center. Trane U.S., Inc. currently holds an Omnia Partners Contract for HVAC Products, Installation, Labor Based Solutions, and Related Products and Services. This contract allows government agencies to purchase directly from the manufacturer. Omnia Partners contracts are bid and awarded on a national level.

It is the staff's recommendation that Council:

- 1. Approve Change Order No. 1, PO 56316 to Trane U.S., Inc. of Greenville, SC in the amount of \$44, 725.00, for a total purchase order amount of \$108,984.00.***
- 2. Approve a Contingency in the amount of \$ 8,016.00.***

Mr. Elliott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mize, to approve Change Order No. 1, PO 56316 to Trane U.S., Inc. of Greenville, SC in the amount of \$44, 725.00, for a total purchase order amount of \$108,984.00 and to approve a contingency in the amount of \$8,016.00.

Mr. Mize offered comments related to this request.

Motion approved 3 – 0.

Title: Two (2) 2023 Ram 1500 SSV's One (1) 2024 Ram 1500 SSV & Ten (10) 2025 Dodge Durango PPV's

Department: Sheriff's Office

Amount: \$594,818.00

Procurement was approved by Council in Fiscal Year 2024-2025 budget process.

Budget: \$ 594,818.00 Project Cost: \$594,818.00 Balance: \$0.00

(Funding from Capital Equipment / (325) Vehicle Fund)

The Fiscal year 2024-2025 Capital Replacement plan includes two (2) 2023 Ram 1500 SSV's, one (1) 2024 Ram 1500 SSV and ten (10) 2025 Dodge Durango's for the Sheriff's Office Investigations, Narcotics, and Road Deputies. These vehicles are on the lot or in transit to the dealership and there will be very little wait time in delivery. If the County places orders for these vehicles, it will be late Spring or Early Summer 2025 before they are received and delivered.

The new vehicles will replace a 2000 Crown Vic with 126,432 miles, 2011 Sierra with 222,374 miles, 2009 Tahoe with 172,848 miles, 2009 Crown Vic 200,672 miles, 2016 Tahoe 230,200 miles, 2003 Tahoe 167,641 miles, 2014 Tahoe with 261,589 miles, 2016 Colorado 124,465 miles, 2015 Tahoe (totaled), 2019 Tahoe (Totaled), 2022 Durango (totaled), 2019 Tahoe (totaled) and 2018 Tahoe (totaled).

The vehicles being replaced will be sold as surplus or replace older vehicles used in other County departments. The Fleet Maintenance Director also approves this purchase.

Santee Automotive of Manning, SC was awarded SC State Contract # 4400035151 for Dodge vehicles.

Santee Automotive of Manning, SC is a SC State Contract holder for Dodge vehicles.

It is the staff's recommendation that Council approve the purchase of two (2) 2023 Ram 1500 SSV's, one (1) 2024 Ram 1500 SSV and ten (10) 2025 Dodge Durango's from Santee Automotive of Manning, SC, in the amount of \$594,818.00.

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Mr. Mize made a motion, seconded by Mr. Elliott, to approve the purchase of two (2) 2023 Ram 1500 SSV's, one (1) 2024 Ram 1500 SSV and ten (10) 2025 Dodge Durango's from Santee Automotive of Manning, SC, in the amount of \$594,818.00.

Mr. Elliott offered his thanks to the Sheriff's Department and the Vehicle Maintenance Department for stretching out the mileage on the out-going vehicles.

Mr. Mize inquired if the new vehicles would be upfitted with the bullet proof windshields before they are placed in service.

Ms. Brock noted that the vehicles will be upfitted with the windshields after they arrive.

Mr. Mize requested that the out-going vehicles be utilized in other areas within the County, if possible.

Mr. Elliott inquired if these out-going vehicles would be sold and, if so, would they be sold with the bullet proof windshields.

Mr. Dwayne Pay, Vehicle Maintenance Director, informed Council that when a vehicle is taken out of service and listed for sale, the bullet proof windshields are removed.

Mr. Peay then went on to provide details as to how vehicles are selected for purchase for the Sheriff's Department.

Ms. Brock commended Mr. Peay for his diligence in locating vehicles that are on dealer lots, noting most of the vehicles included within this request will be received by Oconee County within a one-month period.

Motion approved 3 – 0.

Request for Council's approval to add the United Way application to the submission of the second round of 2024/2025 Oconee County Opioid Recovery Fund Request to the South Carolina Opioid Recovery Fund (SCORF) Board.

- The Opioid Recovery Fund is settlement funding through a yearly requisition process to the State of South Carolina Opioid Recovery Fund (SCORF) Board.
- The abatement strategies, or, proposed projects are approved by the SCORF Board after requests for funding and yearly strategies have been submitted to them.
- Once abatement strategies and funding are approved by SCORF, awarded funds are sent back to Oconee County for program implementation(s).
- These funds do not require a match and are guaranteed political subfunds designated for Oconee County.
- On September 3, 2024, Oconee County Council approved the submission of two applications as part of round two of the request to the SCORF Board.
- The United Way application included a request for \$127,200 for prevention programs in Oconee County, if approved, bringing the total request to \$415,855.00.
- According to the June 19, 2024 Settlement Report, allocated funds, designated as guaranteed political

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subfunds for Oconee County, total \$3,253.306.76.

These applications have been reviewed and approved by the Oconee County Opioid Response Task Force for Council consideration. There is no match requirement for this grant.

It is staff's recommendation that Council approve the addition of the United Way application to the submission of the second round of 2024/2025 Oconee County Opioid Recovery Fund Request to the SCORF Board for additional abatement strategies under the Oconee County Opioid Recovery Fund.

Mr. Elliott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mize, approved 3 - 0, to approve the addition of the United Way application to the submission of the second round of 2024/2025 Oconee County Opioid Recovery Fund Request to the SCORF Board for additional abatement strategies under the Oconee County Opioid Recovery Fund.

Council Committee Reports

None for this meeting.

Board & Commission Appointments

None for this meeting.

Executive Session

None for this meeting.

Adjourn:

Mr. Elliott made a motion, approved unanimously, to adjourn at 6:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jennifer C. Adams
Clerk to Council

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