



# **AG E N D A**

## **OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING**

### **November 18, 2025**

### **6:00 PM**

**Council Chambers, Oconee County Administrative Offices  
415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC**

**Call to Order**

**Moment of Silence**

**Invocation by County Council Chaplain**

**Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America**

**County Attorney Comments**

**County Administrator Comments**

### **Consent Agenda**

*[Consent agendas are used to more quickly dispose of routine business by allowing Council to approve more than one item at the same time, without debate, amendment, or individual motions. If a Council member requests discussion about one or more of these items, that item(s) will be removed from the consent agenda and placed on the regular agenda to be discussed later in the meeting.]*

- 1. October 21, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes**
- 2. October 24, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes**
- 3. October 28, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes**
- 4. Procurement Item:**  
**2026 International HX620 Tri-Axel Dump Truck**  
**Department: Roads & Bridges**  
**Amount: \$216,056.87**

Procurement was approved by Council in Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget process

Budget:\$216,056.87 Project Cost: \$216,056.87 Balance:\$0.00

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

*It is the staff's recommendation that Council approve the purchase of a 2026 International HX620 Tri-Axle Dump Truck from Carolina International Trucks of Greer, SC in the amount of \$216,056.87, per Sourcwell Contract Number 032824-NVS.*

### **COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Matthew Durham, Chair, District II      Don Mize, Vice Chair, District III  
Glenn Hart, Chair Pro-Tem, District V      John Elliott, District I  
Thomas James, District IV

**5. Procurement Item:**  
**2026 Ford F-550 with Utility Body**  
**Department: Emergency Services**  
**Amount: \$91,954.00**

Procurement was approved by Council in Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget process.

Budget: \$91,954.00 Project Cost: \$91,954.00 Balance: \$0.00

*(Funding from Emergency Services Capital Equipment / Vehicle Fund (335))*

*It is the staff's recommendation that Council approve the purchase of a Ford F-550 with utility bed to Ford of Spartanburg of Spartanburg, SC, in the amount of \$91,954.00, per SC State Contracts.*

**6. Procurement Item:**  
**Vehicle Upfitting**  
**Department: Vehicle Maintenance / Sheriff's Office**  
**Amount: \$118,335.11**

Procurement was approved by Council in Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget process.

Budget: \$118,335.11 Project Cost: \$118,335.11 Balance: \$0.00

*It is the staff's recommendation that Council approve the purchase of upfitting equipment from Dana Safety Supply, Inc. of Greensboro, NC, in the amount of \$118,335.11, per State Contract #4400025308.*

**7. Procurement Item:**  
**PO Change Order No. 1 – Smith Gardner, Inc.**  
**Department: Solid Waste**  
**PO 55436: \$112,800.00**  
**Change Order 1: \$25,000.00**  
**Purchase Order Total: \$137,800.00**

Procurement was approved by Council in Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget process.

Budget: \$25,000.00 Project Cost: \$25,000.00 Balance: \$0.00

*It is the staff's recommendation that Council approve PO# 55436, Change Order # 1, to Smith Gardner, Inc. of Raleigh, NC, in the amount of \$25,000.00, for a revised purchase order total of \$137,800.00.*

**8. Procurement Item:**  
**2025 Chevrolet Silverado**  
**Department: Information Technology (IT)**  
**Amount: \$53,298.00**

Procurement was approved by Council in Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget process.

Budget: \$53,298.00 Project Cost: \$53,298.00 Balance: \$0.00

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

*It is the staff's recommendation that Council approve the purchase of one (1) 2025 Chevrolet Silverado from Hendrick Chevrolet of Columbia, SC, in the amount of \$53,298.00.*

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Thomas James, District IV

## **Public Comment Session** *[Limited to a total of fifty (50) minutes, five (5) minutes per person]*

*If you are unable to attend in person and you have a comment you would like to be considered by Council, please email or call the Council Member for your district (<https://oconeesc.com/council-home/council-officials>), so that they may consider and perhaps include your comments during Council Member comments, as and if appropriate.*

## **Council Member Comments**

**Public Hearing for the Following Ordinances** *If you would like to be heard during public hearings, please contact Clerk to Council Jennifer C. Adams at [jennifercadams@oconeesc.com](mailto:jennifercadams@oconeesc.com) or 864-718-1023 so that your participation by may be coordinated.*

**ORDINANCE 2025-17** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING, PURSUANT TO TITLE 4, CHAPTERS 1 AND 29, OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA 1976, AS AMENDED, THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDIT AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, AND A LEGAL ENTITY IDENTIFIED BY THE COUNTY AS PROJECT BEAMER, ACTING FOR ITSELF, ONE OR MORE CURRENT OR FUTURE AFFILIATES AND OTHER PROJECT COMPANIES; PROVIDING FOR CERTAIN SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDITS; DESIGNATING CERTAIN PROPERTY TO BE INCLUDED IN A MULTI-COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK; AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS.

## **Third Reading of the Following Ordinances**

**ORDINANCE 2025-17** *(see caption above)*

## **Second Reading of the Following Ordinances**

**ORDINANCE 2025-22** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING, PURSUANT TO TITLE 4, CHAPTER 29, SECTION 68 OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA 1976, AS AMENDED, THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDIT AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, AND [PROJECT JOE], ALSO KNOWN AS PROJECT JOE, ACTING FOR ITSELF, ONE OR MORE CURRENT OR FUTURE AFFILIATES AND OTHER PROJECT COMPANIES (COLLECTIVELY, "COMPANY"); PROVIDING FOR A SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDIT; AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS.

**ORDINANCE 2025-23** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE OF EASEMENT RIGHTS TO BLUE RIDGE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. FOR THE PURPOSE OF UTILITY INFRASTRUCTURE CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE AT PROPERTY LOCATED AT 150 SCHOOL HOUSE ROAD, WESTMINSTER, SOUTH CAROLINA, SUCH PROPERTY CURRENTLY IDENTIFIED BY TAX PARCEL NUMBER 300-00-02-031; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

**ORDINANCE 2025-24** AN ORDINANCE FORMALLY REPEALING ARTICLE IV (SEE ORDINANCE 1995-07) AND ARTICLE V (SEE ORDINANCE 1989-06) OF CHAPTER 34 ("UTILITIES") OF THE OCONEE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES, AS RELATES TO SEWER REGULATIONS OF THE FORMER OCONEE COUNTY SEWER COMMISSION; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

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## **First Reading of the Following Ordinances**

**ORDINANCE 2025-25** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE IV (“USE OF PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS”) OF CHAPTER 22 (“PARKS AND RECREATION”) OF THE OCONEE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES, WITH RESPECT TO THE REGULATION OF GOLF CART OPERATION AT COUNTY PARKS; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

## **First & Final Reading for the Following Resolution**

*None for this meeting.*

## **Action on Matters Removed from Consent Agenda at Council Member Request**

## **Discussion Regarding Action Items**

### **Council consideration to amend Horton’s 2019 Performance Agreement for the company’s South Carolina Set-Aside Grant Agreement**

In 2019 Horton received a South Carolina Set-Aside Grant for \$540,000 for the construction of their new engine cooling fans manufacturing facility at Oconee Industry and Technology Park in Westminster. The grant required them to have a capital investment of \$20,000,000 and create 125 new jobs by March 2025. The company has exceeded the investment requirement by 80%; however, has not met the required job numbers. The South Carolina Coordinating Council for Economic Development, which administers the grant, has agreed to extend the job creation deadline to December 31, 2027. The extension requires Oconee County to amend the grant’s performance agreement to reflect the date change.

*There is no financial impact to Oconee County.*

***It is the staff’s recommendation that Council approve the amended performance agreement.***

### **Request for Council’s approval for the addition of a Victim Advocate position for the Solicitor’s Office**

- The Solicitor’s Office applied for grant funding for a new Victim Advocate through the Attorney General’s Crime Victim Assistance Grant Program.
- The reimbursement grant covers costs associated with the salary and fringe benefits for the position.
- The salary + fringe benefits total \$75,005.
- The grant is a \$60,000 grant that requires a \$15,005 match.
- The grant funds will be provided directly to the Solicitor’s Office and administered by their staff.
- The Solicitor’s Office has seen an increase in caseloads over the last few years and requested this position in the FY 2025-2026 budget proposal; however, it was not included in the approved budget.

The Solicitor’s Office would like to continue this position after the end of the grant period. The office will apply for additional grant funding, if available, to support the position.

The match will be paid out of the Solicitor’s Office General Fund, which utilizes state funding and alternate revenue resources.

Are Matching Funds Available: No, Oconee County would not be providing the match from the general fund, or special revenue funds for this grant.

***It is staff’s recommendation that Council support the FY2025 Crime Victim’s Assistance Grant and approve the addition of the Victim Advocate position under the Solicitor’s Office.***

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## Request for Council’s approval to commit funds, towards the US Department of Justice FY25 COPS Hiring Program Grant, for the hiring of two sworn deputies to address increased homelessness in Oconee County.

- Oconee County has seen an increase in the number of homeless people, impacting business owners with loitering and littering, as well as increasing the needs for medical services at the local hospital.
- Homelessness often has an underlying cause, such as substance use disorders or mental health disorders.
- The Oconee County Sheriff’s Office has experienced an increase in calls for law enforcement related services due to homelessness.
- This grant would allow the Oconee County Sheriff’s Office to hire two new deputies that would be able to help homeless persons suffering from addiction and mental health-related issues.
- The grant award is \$250,000 and requires a minimum 25% match. The grant period is over three years, beginning on November 1, 2025 and ending on October 31, 2028.
- Estimated total project cost is \$434,056, with the County match totaling \$184,056.

Oconee County would be responsible for the full salaries and fringe for two sworn officers after the grant period ends. The grant does not cover equipment and vehicle costs. For two new deputies, equipment and upfitted vehicles will cost \$128,304.

As the grant does not correlate with the Fiscal Calendar, funding will need to be allocated across four fiscal years to support the grant.

Fiscal Year	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029	Total
County Match	\$ 40,902.00	\$ 61,352.00	\$ 61,352.00	\$ 20,450.00	\$ 184,056.00
Equipment	\$ 24,104.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 24,104.00
Upfitted Vehicles	\$ 104,200.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 104,200.00
<b>Total</b>					<b>\$ 312,360.00</b>

Funding for these positions, equipment and upfitted vehicles were not included in the approved budget for FY 2025-2026.

*It is staff’s recommendation that Council support the FY25 COPS Hiring Grant and commit matching funds, up to \$184,056, for the hiring of two deputies to address homelessness in Oconee County. Oconee County further requests Oconee County Council approve the allocation of funding for the equipment and upfitted vehicles for the two deputies, in the amount of \$128,304.*

## Council Committee Reports

*None for this meeting.*

## Board & Commission Appointments

*The Board & Commission seats listed below are co-terminus with Council District seats and will require [in the 1st quarter of 2025] appointment and/or reappointment as follows:*

### Building Codes Appeal Board..... 2 At Large Seats

- No questionnaires on file

### Fire Service Advisory Commission..... District I, District III

District I: 0 questionnaires requesting initial appointment

District III: 2 questionnaires requesting initial appointment

*At-large positions are appointed by Oconee County Fire Chiefs’ Association*

*[Board and Commission questionnaires that are received later than 72 hours before this meeting will be added for Council consideration of appointment and reflected in the official meeting minutes.]*

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## **Executive Session**

*[upon reconvening Council may take a Vote and/or take Action on matters brought up for discussion in Executive Session, if required]*

- 1. Discussion regarding an economic development matter, Project Hawk.*
- 2. Discuss personnel matter related to emergency service operations.*
- 3. Discuss personnel matter related to Interim County Administrator.*
- 4. Discuss contractual matter regarding personnel recruitment.*
- 5. Discuss contractual matter regarding legal services – County Attorney.*
- 6. Discuss personnel matter related to committee appointment.*
- 7. Receive legal advice and discuss matters related to proposed location, expansion, or the provision of services to encourage economic development.*
- 8. Receive legal advice and discuss contractual matter regarding employee benefits consultants / vendors and issues directly related thereto.*

## **Adjourn**

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