

# PROCUREMENT - AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

OCONEE COUNTY, SC

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: August 19, 2025

## ITEM TITLE:

**Title: 2025 Chevrolet Silverado PPV**

**Department: PRT**

**Amount: \$53,288.00**

## FINANCIAL IMPACT:

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

Budget: **\$ 53,288.00** Project Cost: **\$53,288.00**

Balance: **\$0.00**

Finance Approval: \_\_\_\_\_

*(Funding from Capital Vehicle/ (235) Fund)*

## BACKGROUND DESCRIPTION:

The Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget includes funding for a new Deputy position assigned to patrol all County Public Recreation areas. To support this role, a vehicle is required for patrol duties.

The 2025-2026 PRT Capital Vehicles Budget includes the purchase of one (1) 2025 Chevrolet Silverado PPV for Parks, Recreation, and Tourism (PRT) to support this new position. This vehicle is currently available on the dealership lot, ensuring minimal wait time for delivery. If the County were to place a custom order, delivery would be delayed until the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2026.

The Fleet Interim Maintenance Director has reviewed and approved this purchase.

Hendrick Chevrolet is the awarded vendor under South Carolina State Contract #4400037566 for Chevrolet vehicles.

## SPECIAL CONSIDERATION(S):

Hendrick Chevrolet of Columbia SC is a SC State Contract holder for Chevrolet vehicles.

## ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Pricing Spreadsheet
2. Hendrick Chevrolet quote
3. SC State Contract information

## STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

It is the staff's recommendation that Council approve the purchase of one (1) 2026 Chevrolet Silverado from Hendrick Chevrolet of Columbia, SC, in the amount of \$53,288.00.

Submitted or Prepared By: \_\_\_\_\_ Approved for Submittal to Council: \_\_\_\_\_

**Tronda C Popham, Procurement Director**

**Amanda F. Brock, County Administrator**

*Council has directed that they receive their agenda packages a week prior to each Council meeting, therefore, Agenda Items Summaries must be submitted to the Administrator for his review/approval no later than 12 days prior to each Council meeting. It is the Department Head / Elected Officials responsibility to ensure that all approvals are obtained prior to submission to the Administrator for inclusion on an agenda.*

*A calendar with due dates marked may be obtained from the Clerk to Council.*

Chevrolet Silverado **State Contract #4400037566**

Description	Quantity	Total Price
2025 Chevrolet Silverado Crew Cab	1	\$52,788.00
Includes: 5.3L V8 Gas Engine; Automatic Transmission; Air Conditioning; AM/FM Radio with Bluetooth; Vinyl 40/20/40 Bench Seat; Rearview Camera; Power Steering; Power Brakes; Power Windows and Door Locks; Cruise Control; Vinyl Floor; Lane Change Alert; Forward Collision Alert Sensor; Front Pedestrian Braking Sensor		
Subtotal	1	\$52,788.00
Add \$500 State Sales Tax	1	\$500.00
GRAND TOTAL		\$53,288.00



HENDRICK CHEVROLET COLUMBIA

100 PARKRIDGE DRIVE COLUMBIA, S.C. 29212

DON LOCKHART, HENDRICK GOVERNMENT SALES

803-513-5905

[donald.lockhart@hendrickauto.com](mailto:donald.lockhart@hendrickauto.com)

STATE CONTRACT # 4400037566 FOR STATE OF S.C.

2025 CHEVROLET SILVERADO PURSUIT RATED PPV 4WD

\$53288.00

INCLUDES S.C. IMF FEE AND DMV TEMP

WHITE, STERLING GRAY, BLACK EXTERIOR

EBONY CLOTH/VINYL INTERIOR

5.3L V8 GAS ENGINE

POLICE PURSUIT PACKAGE 4X4

SHORT BED CREW CAB MODEL ONLY

10 SPEED AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION

STANDARD CONTROL A/C

POWER WINDOWS, DOOR LOCKS AND MIRRORS

CRUISE CONTROL

TILT STEERING WHEEL

KEYLESS REMOTE ENTRY-6 FOBS

PUSH BUTTON START



7" COLORTOUCH AM/FM STEREO/BLUETOOTH  
REAR VISION CAMERA HD  
VINYL FLOOR COVERING  
HIGH CAPACITY AIR CLEANER  
HD 4 WHEEL ABS AND ANTILOCK BRAKES  
INTEGRATED TRAILER BRAKE CONTROLLER  
SKID PLATES  
LOCKING DIFFERENTIAL  
TRAILER HITCH AND WIRING  
Z7X SUSPENSION LIFT 2"  
2 SPEED TRANSFER CASE ROTARY DIAL  
FRONT BENCH 40/20/40 SEATING WITH FOLD DOWN  
CONSOLE/ARMREST-CLOTH FRONT SEAT  
POWER SEAT FOR DRIVER  
2<sup>ND</sup> ROW SPLIT BENCH SEATS/VINYL  
DEEP TINTED GLASS  
BLACK ASSIST STEPS  
CHEVYTEC SPRAY-IN BEDLINER CARGO AREA  
WIRING FOR HORN AND SIREN CIRCUIT  
WIRING FOR GRILLE LAMPS AND SPEAKER  
20"BLACK PAINTED STEEL WHEELS  
20" ALL TYERRAIN TIRES BW  
CALIBRATION FOR SURVEILLANCE MODE  
LANE CHANGE ALERT  
AUTOMATIC EMERGENCY BRAKING



FORWARD COLLISION ALERT SENSOR  
SENSOR FOR FRONT PEDESTRIAN BRAKING

PAYMENTS TO BE SENT TO:  
HENDRICK CHEVROLET COLUMBIA  
100 PARKRIDGE DRIVE  
COLUMBIA, S.C. 29212



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Procurement Services

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Statewide Term Contracts

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## Vehicles

Classification	Contract Type	Manager	Phone#
Goods & Services	StateTerm	<a href="#">Michael S. Speakmon</a>	803.737.9816

## Vehicles

**Start Date:** 09/13/2024 | **End Date:** 09/12/2027

**Solicitation#:** 5400026980

**Vendor:** [Alan Jay](#)

**Contract#:** 4400035155

**Vendor#:** 7000281243

**Address:** 5530 US Hwy 27 S, Sebring, FL 33870

**Contact:** Matt Forte

**Phone#:** 863-402-4234

**Email:** [matt.forte@alanjay.com](mailto:matt.forte@alanjay.com)

**Vendor:** [Beach Automotive Group](#)

**Contract#:** 4400035158

**Vendor#:** 7000344224

**Address:** 851 Jason Blvd., Myrtle Beach, SC 29578

**Contact:** Keith Laylo

**Phone#:** 570-956-6007

**Email:** [keith@beachautomotive.com](mailto:keith@beachautomotive.com)

**Vendor:** [Benson Automotive of Spartanburg](#)

**Contract#:** 4400036886

**Vendor#:** 7000341724

**Address:** 1098 North Pine St. Spartanburg, SC 29303

**Contact:** Jimmy Benson

**Phone#:** 864-419-3627

**Email:** [jbenson@bensonautomotive.com](mailto:jbenson@bensonautomotive.com)

**Vendor:** [Benson Hyundai](#)

**Contract#:** 4400036887

**Vendor#:** 7000341998

**Address:** 250 Reidville Rd., Spartanburg, SC 29301

**Contact:** Jeff Belsky

**Phone#:** 843-200-7090

**Email:** [jbelsky@bensonautomotive.com](mailto:jbelsky@bensonautomotive.com)

**Vendor:** [Benson Nissan](#)

**Contract#:** 4400036885

**Vendor#:** 7000246679

**Address:** PO Box 3447, Spartanburg, SC 29304

**Contact:** Jimmy Benson

**Phone#:** 864-419-3627

**Email:** [jbenson@bensonautomotive.com](mailto:jbenson@bensonautomotive.com)

**Vendor:** Carl Black

**Contract#:** 4400035160

**Vendor#:** 7000358424

**Address:** 11500 E Colonial Dr., Orlando, FL 32817

**Contact:** Edgar Massoni

**Phone#:** 305-781-3661

**Email:** [emassoni@carlblack.com](mailto:emassoni@carlblack.com)

**Vendor:** Carolina International

**Contract#:** 4400035138

**Vendor#:** 7000083474

**Address:** 1619 Bluff Rd., Columbia, SC 29201

**Contact:** Steve Wiser

**Phone#:** 803-446-3443

**Email:** [swiser@carolinainternational.com](mailto:swiser@carolinainternational.com)

**Vendor:** Cooper Chevrolet

**Contract#:** 4400036888

**Vendor#:** 7000342507

**Address:** 351 North Jefferies Blvd,

**Contact:** Chip Cooper

**Phone#:** 864-939-0428

**Email:** [chip@coopermotor.com](mailto:chip@coopermotor.com)

**Vendor:** Dick Smith Ford

**Contract#:** 4400035139

**Vendor#:** 7000088455

**Address:** 7201 Garner's Ferry Rd., Columbia, SC 29209

**Contact:** Adam Rodriguez

**Phone#:** 803-343-5812

**Email:** [adamrodriguez@dicksmith.com](mailto:adamrodriguez@dicksmith.com)

**Contact:** Tom Counts

**Phone#:** 803-343-5821

**Email:** [thomascounts@dicksmith.com](mailto:thomascounts@dicksmith.com)



**Vendor:** [Excel Truck Group](#)

**Contract#:** 4400035153

**Vendor#:** 7000245133

**Address:** 2790 Shop Rd., Columbia, SC 29209

**Contact:** Bill Fuller

**Phone#:** 803-376-4455 Ext 1205

**Email:** [bfuller@exceltg.com](mailto:bfuller@exceltg.com)

**Vendor:** [Ford of Spartanburg](#)

**Contract#:** 4400035159

**Vendor#:** 7000346069

**Address:** 501 E. Daniel Wergan Ave., Spartanburg, SC 29302

**Contact:** David Vetter

**Phone#:** 864-585-3600 Ext 267

**Email:** [dvetter@fordofspartanburg.com](mailto:dvetter@fordofspartanburg.com)

**Vendor:** [Horace G Ilderton, LLC](#)

**Contract#:** 4400035150

**Vendor#:** 7000145179

**Address:** 701 S Main St., High Point, NC 27260

**Contact:** Catherine Martin

**Phone#:** 336-887-4043

**Email:** [cmartin@ilderton.com](mailto:cmartin@ilderton.com)

**Contact:** Kim Tuttle

**Phone#:** 336-822-8704

**Email:** [ktuttle@ilderton.com](mailto:ktuttle@ilderton.com)

**Vendor:** [Hendrick Chevrolet](#)

**Contract#:** 4400037566

**Vendor#:** 7000377020

**Address:** 100 Parkridge Dr., Columbia, SC 29202

**On July 17, 2025, the State terminated the Love Chevrolet Contract and awarded Hendrick Chevrolet in lieu of performing a novation due to the sale of Love to Hendrick.**

**Contact:** Shawn Roberts

**Phone#:** 803-518-1242

**Email:** [shawn.roberts@hendrickauto.com](mailto:shawn.roberts@hendrickauto.com)

**Vendor:** [Lynn Cooper](#)

**Contract#:** 4400036882

**Vendor#:** 7000025437

**Address:** 305 East Main Street, Clinton, SC 29325

**Contact:** Chip Cooper

**Phone#:** 864-939-0428

**Email:** [chip@coopermotor.com](mailto:chip@coopermotor.com)

**Vendor:** [Model 1](#)

**Contract#:** 4400036359

**Vendor#:** 7000348813

**Address:** 9225 Priority Way W Dr., Suite 300, Indianapolis, IN 46240

In January 2025, and for the purposes of this contract, Creative Bus Sales became Model 1 and the Creative Bus Sales contract (4400035152) was terminated and replaced with this Model 1 Contract.

**Contact:** Karla Lynch

**Phone#:** 470-373-7479

**Email:** [klynch@model1.com](mailto:klynch@model1.com)

**Vendor:** [Parks Chevrolet](#)

**Contract#:** 4400035156

**Vendor#:** 7000316590

**Address:** 1051 Asheville Hwy, Spartanburg, SC 29303

**Contact:** Steve Plowman

**Phone#:** 704-791-3824

**Email:** [splowman@parksautogroup.com](mailto:splowman@parksautogroup.com)

**Vendor:** [Parks Ford](#)

**Contract#:** 4400035157

**Vendor#:** 7000343706

**Address:** 601 Duncan Hill Rd., Hendersonville, NC 28792

**Contact:** Jeff Williams

**Phone#:** 828-693-4281, Ext 6253

**Email:** [jeffwilliams@parksautogroup.com](mailto:jeffwilliams@parksautogroup.com)

**Vendor:** [Richard Kay Automotive](#)

**Contract#:** 4400036884

**Vendor#:** 7000154825

**Address:** 1935 Pearman Dairy Rd., Anderson, SC 29625

**Contact:** Justin Heath

**Phone#:** 864-395-5532

**Email:** [jheath@richardkayauto.com](mailto:jheath@richardkayauto.com)

**Vendor:** [Santee Automotive](#)

**Contract#:** 4400035151

**Vendor#:** 7000214142

**Address:** 2601 Paxville Highway, Manning, SC 29102

**Contact:** Scott Watford

**Phone#:** 888-853-5338

**Email:** [scott@santeefleet.com](mailto:scott@santeefleet.com)

**Vendor:** [Shealy's Truck Center](#)

**Contract#:** 4400035137

**Vendor#:** 7000028278

**Address:** 1340 Bluff Rd., Columbia, SC 29201

**Contact:** Steve Gardner

**Phone#:** 803-201-9257

**Email:** [sgardner@shealytruck.com](mailto:sgardner@shealytruck.com)

**Vendor:** [Stivers Ford](#)

**Contract#:** 4400036910

**Vendor#:** 7000369259

**Address:** 4355 Jonesboro Road, Union City, GA 30291

**Contact:** Roger Moore

**Phone#:** 770-527-9041

**Email:** [rmoore@stiversonline.com](mailto:rmoore@stiversonline.com)

**Vendor:** [Team Dodge Ram of Myrtle Beach](#)

**Contract#:** 4400035215

**Vendor#:** 7000335857

**Address:** 4849 US Highway 501, Myrtle Beach, SC 29579

**Contact:** Chris Hardee

**Phone#:** 843-960-9130 ext 8005

**Email:** [chardee@teamautogroup.com](mailto:chardee@teamautogroup.com)

**Vendor:** [Toyota of Greensboro](#)

**Contract#:** 4400036889

**Vendor#:** 7000366128

**Address:** 2630 Battleground Ave., Greensboro, SC 27408

**Contact:** Andy Slaughter

**Phone#:** 336-5836-5846

**Email:** [aslaughter@toyotaofgreensboro.com](mailto:aslaughter@toyotaofgreensboro.com)

**Vendor:** US Fleet Source

**Contract#:** 4400035154

**Vendor#:** 7000264582

**Address:** 979 Village Oaks Dr., Covina, CA 91724

**Contact:** Sales

**Phone#:** 877-315-9397

**Email:** [sales@usfleetsource.com](mailto:sales@usfleetsource.com)



**Division of Procurement Services**

1201 Main St., Suite 600 | Columbia, SC 29201

**MAIN:** 803.737.0600 | **FAX:** 803.737.0639



**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF OCONEE  
PROCLAMATION 2025-08**

**A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE WESTMINSTER GIRLS 10U  
ALL-STARS SOFTBALL TEAM ON THEIR WIN OF THE  
SCAP STATE CHAMPIONSHIP**

**WHEREAS**, from June 5, 2025 through June 10, 2025, the Westminster Girls 10U All-Stars Softball Team participated in the South Carolina Western District Tournament, where they had a sweeping 5 – 0 win to become the South Carolina Western District Champions; and

**WHEREAS**, this phenomenal win at the district level secured their spot in participating in the SCAP State Championship held from Friday, June 20, 2025 through Sunday, June 22, 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, it was at this state championship tournament that the Westminster Girls 10U All-Stars Softball Team went undefeated to capture the title of SCAP State Champions in the 10U bracket for the second year in a row; and

**WHEREAS**, this accomplishment reflects the dedication, hard work, and leadership of Head Coach Bradley Dickson and assistant coaches Joe Perkins, Clay Chapman and Lee Cook, as well the tireless commitment and determination that each of the players demonstrated throughout the season; and

**WHEREAS**, the Westminster Girls 10U All-Stars Softball Team has brought great pride and recognition to Oconee County, serving as a shining example of sportsmanship, perseverance, and excellence in athletics.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, we, the Oconee County Council, wish to acknowledge and congratulate the Westminster Girls 10U All-Stars Softball Team and Coaches on their SCAP State Championship win.

**APPROVED AND ADOPTED** this 19<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2025.

OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

*ATTEST:*

*APPROVED:*

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Jennifer C. Adams  
Clerk to County Council  
Oconee County

---

Matthew Durham  
Chairman  
Oconee County Council

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF OCONEE  
ORDINANCE 2025-13**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 20 (LAW ENFORCEMENT) OF THE OCONEE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES BY ADDING ARTICLE V, ENTITLED “*PROHIBITED OR RESTRICTED CONDUCT – SOLICITATION, OBSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC STREETS, UNAUTHORIZED CAMPING,*” IN ORDER TO ADDRESS CERTAIN HAZARDS AND PUBLIC HARM RELATED THERETO; AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS.**

**WHEREAS**, consistent with the powers granted county governments by S.C. Code § 4-9-25 and S.C. Code § 4-9-30, Oconee County (“County”), a body politic and corporate and a political subdivision of the State of South Carolina, acting by and through its governing body, the Oconee County Council (“County Council”), has the authority to enact regulations, resolutions, and ordinances, not inconsistent with the Constitution and the general law of the State of South Carolina, including the exercise of such powers in relation to health and order within its boundaries and respecting any subject as appears to it necessary and proper for the security, general welfare, and convenience of the County or for preserving health, peace, order, and good government therein;

**WHEREAS**, the County has adopted multiple ordinances for the effective, efficient governance of the County, which, subsequent to adoption, are codified in the Oconee County Code of Ordinances (“Code of Ordinances”), as amended; and

**WHEREAS**, County Council recognizes that there is a need to revise the law of the County to meet the changing needs of the County, and that there is a need to amend, specifically, Article 20 (Law Enforcement) of the Code of Ordinances by adding Article V, entitled “Prohibited or Restricted Conduct – Solicitation, Obstruction of Public Streets, Unauthorized Camping,” in order to address certain hazards and public harm related thereto, and to affirm and preserve all other provisions of the Code of Ordinances not specifically or by implication amended thereby.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, it is hereby ordained by the Oconee County Council, in meeting duly assembled, that:

1. Chapter 20 (Law Enforcement) of the Oconee County Code of Ordinances is hereby amended by the addition of Article V, entitled “Prohibited or Restricted Conduct – Solicitation, Obstruction of Public Streets, Unauthorized Camping” as set forth in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

2. Should any part or provision of this Ordinance be deemed unconstitutional or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, such determination shall not affect the rest and remainder of this Ordinance, all of which is hereby deemed separable.

3. All ordinances, orders, resolutions, and actions of County Council inconsistent herewith are, to the extent of such inconsistency only, hereby repealed, revoked, and rescinded.

4. All other terms, provisions, and parts of the Code of Ordinances not amended hereby, directly or by implication, shall remain in full force.

5. This Ordinance shall take effect and be in full force from and after third reading and enactment by County Council.

ORDAINED in meeting, duly assembled, this \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer C. Adams  
Clerk to Oconee County Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
Matthew Durham  
Chair, Oconee County Council

First Reading: July 15, 2025  
Second Reading: August 19, 2025  
Third Reading: September 02, 2025  
Public Hearing: September 02, 2025

## EXHIBIT A

### ARTICLE V. - PROHIBITED OR RESTRICTED CONDUCT – SOLICITATION, OBSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC STREETS, UNAUTHORIZED CAMPING.

#### 1. APPLICATION.

This chapter applies to all unincorporated areas of the Oconee County, and to any other areas under its jurisdiction by intergovernmental agreement, operation of law, or otherwise.

#### 2. DEFINITIONS.

For the purpose of this chapter, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

- a. *Aggressive Manner* shall mean any of the following:
  - i. Before, during or after soliciting, approaching or speaking to a person, or following a person, if that conduct is intended or is likely to cause reasonable persons to fear bodily harm to themselves or to another, or damage to or loss of property, or to otherwise be intimidated into giving money or any other thing of value;
  - ii. In the course of soliciting, intentionally touching or causing physical contact with another person or an occupied vehicle without that person's consent;
  - iii. Intentionally blocking or interfering with the safe or free passage of a pedestrian or vehicle by any means, including unreasonably causing a pedestrian or vehicle operator to take evasive action to avoid physical contact with the solicitor;
  - iv. Before, during or after soliciting, using violent or threatening gestures toward a person;
  - v. Persisting in closely following or approaching a person, after the person has informed the solicitor by words or conduct that such person does not want to be solicited or does not want to give money or any other thing of value to the solicitor; or
  - vi. Before, during or after the solicitation, using profane, offensive or abusive language which is likely to cause the person solicited to be threatened by such language.
- b. *Right-of-Way or Rights-of-Way*. A public road over which a person or entity has the legal right to access.
- c. *Soliciting or Solicitation*. To approach someone with a request or plea for funds or items of value, whether in exchange for something of value or not.
- d. *Solicitor*. A person who engages in soliciting.
- e. *Special Event*. A pre-planned activity sponsored by an individual, group, organization or entity, to be held on public property, including public streets, sidewalks, trails, facilities, parks or other property owned or managed by the county, which event would



significantly impact either public property and/or normal vehicular and pedestrian traffic or require the use of county services, and which shall include but not be limited to a parade, foot race, bike or wheeled race, celebration, amusement event, cultural recognition, sporting event, demonstration, competition, commercial movie or television production, photography shoot, commercial for-profit event, charitable cause, or other similar activity.

### 3. SOLICITING.

- a. The provisions of this section do not apply to a permitted special event.
- b. Obstructing public ways and means of ingress to and egress from private property.
  - i. Solicitors shall not obstruct or otherwise inhibit the free, safe, and efficient flow of vehicular or pedestrian traffic on any public sidewalks, streets, rights-of-way, or other public property.
  - ii. Solicitors shall not obstruct or otherwise inhibit the free, safe, and efficient flow of vehicular or pedestrian traffic into and out of private property adjacent to any public right-of-way.
- c. Soliciting during certain hours prohibited. No person shall engage in soliciting between sunset and sunrise.
- d. Approaching vehicular traffic prohibited. Under no circumstances shall a person soliciting approach any moving vehicle or step into the roadway to approach a vehicle stopped at an intersection.
- e. Soliciting unlawful on private property. It shall be unlawful to engage in soliciting on any property where a sign is posted that states “No Trespassing,” “No Peddlers,” “No Solicitors,” “No Buskers,” or words of similar import.
- f. Blocking rights-of-way.
  - i. Solicitors shall position themselves so that they, and any crowd that they may draw, will not:
    - 1. Block roadways, fire apparatus access roads, sidewalks, crosswalks, driveways, doors, stairways, curb cuts, or handicapped access ramps;
    - 2. Block access to buildings, parks, conveyances, businesses, or traffic control poles containing a pedestrian crosswalk button(s);
    - 3. Be within three feet of a utility apparatus or appurtenance; or
    - 4. Be within twenty (20) feet of a fire hydrant, fire department connection, fire alarm or other emergency communication device. At a minimum, there shall be at least a five-foot passageway on the sidewalk.
  - ii. If a solicitor shall attract a crowd sufficient to violate this section, then a law enforcement officer shall have authority to disperse that portion of the crowd that is in violation.

- iii. Personal property used for soliciting shall not be left unattended on any public right-of-way or other publicly-owned place.
- iv. Noise. The conduct and behavior of all solicitors shall otherwise comply in all respects with existing noise ordinances at all times.
- v. Littering. Solicitors shall remove all trash and debris that has been generated during the time of their solicitation.
- vi. Aggressive solicitation prohibited. No person shall solicit in an aggressive manner on a public right-of-way, sidewalk, or other publicly-owned property.
- g. Prohibited areas for solicitors. There shall be no soliciting within fifty (50) feet of the perimeter of a(n):
  - i. Automatic teller machine (ATM);
  - ii. Church grounds, while in session;
  - iii. School grounds, while in session;
  - iv. Library;
  - v. Hospital;
  - vi. Funeral home;
  - vii. Bank or other financial institution;
  - viii. Hotel, motel, or other lodging accommodations generally open to the public;
  - ix. Outdoor dining or merchandise area;
  - x. Entrance or exit of a performance venue;
  - xi. Special event;
  - xii. Food or merchant "drive-through" area;
  - xiii. Transit stop;
  - xiv. Parking lot;
  - xv. Daycare; or
  - xvi. Construction areas. During times of construction work on the streets, sidewalks or other public infrastructure, the county may from time to time temporarily prohibit solicitors from the area near such construction work.

#### 4. PROHIBITED BEHAVIOR ON PUBLIC OR PRIVATE PROPERTY.

- a. Obstructing streets. Any person who remains standing, lying, or sitting down on any public sidewalk, street, alley, or other public property in such a manner as to obstruct or impede the free passage of pedestrians or public travel, after being requested to

immediately move by a law enforcement officer, shall be found in violation of this section (obstructing streets).

b. Disorderly conduct – Unauthorized camping; damaging county property.

i. Any person who shall occupy, lodge, or sleep in any building, structure, or place, whether public or private, or in any motor vehicle, without the written permission of the owner or person entitled to possession or in control thereof, shall be found in violation of this section (disorderly conduct).

ii. Camping on public property.

1. It shall be unlawful for any person, except as may be specifically authorized by the appropriate governmental authority, to use any of the streets, sidewalks, parks, or playgrounds, or any other public property for the purpose of camping at any time; or to cause or permit any vehicle to remain in any of said places to the detriment of public travel or convenience.

2. It shall be unlawful for any person, except as may be specifically authorized by the appropriate governmental authority, to light or use a campfire or a bonfire on public property.

3. It shall be unlawful for any person, except as may be specifically authorized by appropriate governmental authority, to hang, fasten, or attach any rope, wire, chain, or electrical device or power cord to any public property, including buildings, bridges, overpasses, or utility poles.

iii. Damaging county property. It is unlawful for any person, except as may be specifically authorized by appropriate governmental authority, to willfully or negligently to cut, mutilate, deface or otherwise injure any building, tree, shrub, lamppost, fence, bridge, hydrant, cart, vehicle, or other real or personal property belonging to or under the control of the county, or used for any public purpose.

5. PENALTY.

Any person who violates any provision of this ordinance may be fined not more than \$500, imprisoned for not more than 30 days, or both.

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF OCONEE  
ORDINANCE 2025-14**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 20 (LAW ENFORCEMENT) OF THE OCONEE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES BY ADDING ARTICLE VI, ENTITLED “PUBLIC NUISANCES,” IN ORDER TO ADDRESS CERTAIN HAZARDS AND PUBLIC HARM RELATED THERETO; AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS.**

**WHEREAS**, consistent with the powers granted county governments by S.C. Code § 4-9-25 and S.C. Code § 4-9-30, Oconee County (“County”), a body politic and corporate and a political subdivision of the State of South Carolina, acting by and through its governing body, the Oconee County Council (“County Council”), has the authority to enact regulations, resolutions, and ordinances, not inconsistent with the Constitution and the general law of the State of South Carolina, including the exercise of such powers in relation to health and order within its boundaries and respecting any subject as appears to it necessary and proper for the security, general welfare, and convenience of the County or for preserving health, peace, order, and good government therein;

**WHEREAS**, the County has adopted multiple ordinances for the effective, efficient governance of the County, which, subsequent to adoption, are codified in the Oconee County Code of Ordinances (“Code of Ordinances”), as amended; and

**WHEREAS**, County Council recognizes that there is a need to revise the law of the County to meet the changing needs of the County, and that there is a need to amend, specifically, Article 20 (Law Enforcement) of the Code of Ordinances by adding Article VI, entitled “Public Nuisances,” in order to address certain hazards and public harm related thereto, and to affirm and preserve all other provisions of the Code of Ordinances not specifically or by implication amended thereby.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, it is hereby ordained by the Oconee County Council, in meeting duly assembled, that:

1. Chapter 20 (Law Enforcement) of the Oconee County Code of Ordinances is hereby amended by the addition of Article VI, entitled “Public Nuisances” as set forth in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.
2. Should any part or provision of this Ordinance be deemed unconstitutional or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, such determination shall not affect the rest and remainder of this Ordinance, all of which is hereby deemed separable.
3. All ordinances, orders, resolutions, and actions of County Council inconsistent herewith are, to the extent of such inconsistency only, hereby repealed, revoked, and rescinded.

4. All other terms, provisions, and parts of the Code of Ordinances not amended hereby, directly or by implication, shall remain in full force.

5. This Ordinance shall take effect and be in full force from and after third reading and enactment by County Council.

ORDAINED in meeting, duly assembled, this \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

**ATTEST:**

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Jennifer C. Adams  
Clerk to Oconee County Council

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Matthew Durham  
Chair, Oconee County Council

First Reading: July 15, 2025  
Second Reading: August 19, 2025  
Third Reading: September 02, 2025  
Public Hearing: September 02, 2025

## EXHIBIT A

### ARTICLE VI. - PUBLIC NUISANCES.

#### 1. DEFINITIONS.

- a. *Business* means any commercial establishment, use, property or structure used in, or part of, a business or commercial use or establishment. Business does not include purely residential property.
- b. *Continuous breach of the peace* means a pattern of repeated acts or conduct which either (1) directly disturbs the public peace or (2) disturbs the public peace by inciting or tending to incite violence.
- c. *Public nuisance* means conduct, conditions, events, circumstances, or the unreasonable interference or the causing of unreasonable interference with rights of the public, wherever occurring, including, but not limited to, a business or commercial establishment, a public place, or where the public congregates or is invited or permitted to congregate.

Public nuisance includes those conditions or circumstances constituting a nuisance as set forth in S.C. Code § 15-43-10, specifically, the construction, establishment, continuance, maintenance, use, ownership, occupation, the leasing or releasing of any property, building or other place used for the purposes of lewdness, assignation, prostitution, human trafficking, repeated acts of unlawful possession or sale of controlled substances, or continuous breach of the peace.

Public nuisance also includes and is founded upon the sound principle set forth in South Carolina case law that "if one maintains a place where the laws are publicly, repeatedly, persistently, and intentionally violated, then such place would become a common or public nuisance." *State v. Turner*, 198 S.C. 499, 505, 18 S.E.2d 376, 378 (1942).

#### 2. NUISANCES OFFENDING PUBLIC DECENCY, PEACE AND ORDER. The following are hereby declared to be public nuisances affecting public decency, peace and order, whether such violations are of an intermittent, cyclical, continual, reoccurring or constant nature; and including when the responsible party generates, enables, or contributes to the occurrence of the unlawful behavior by an absence or failure of property management policy or practice, absence or failure of control over the property, absence or failure of supervision of guests or invitees, or clients, customers, patrons, or any other person providing some form of compensation for some type of product or service, or absence or failure of security measures:

- a. Any business where gambling devices, slot machines, punch boards and other such contrivances of similar character involving any elements of chance as a consideration or any type of gambling, bookmaking, wagering or betting is carried on, and all gambling equipment, except where such specific form of gambling is permitted by law;
- b. Any business operated as a bawdy house, house of assignation, place of prostitution or used and maintained for the commercial or criminal purposes of unlawful sexual activity or human trafficking in violation of federal or state law or local ordinances;
- c. Any business where alcohol or intoxicating liquors are manufactured, sold, bartered or given away in violation of federal or state law or local ordinances, or where alcohol or intoxicating liquors are kept for sale, barter or distribution in violation of federal or state

law or local ordinances, and all alcohol, liquors, bottles, kegs, pumps, bars and other property kept at and used for maintaining such a place; or where required fire marshal or other safety plans are not in place, or where persistent violations of law occur under a failed or ineffective fire marshal or other safety plan;

- d. Any business where acts of sale, manufacture, possession or distribution of controlled substances occur in violation of federal or state law or local ordinances;
- e. Any business where violations against federal or state law or local ordinances occur with such frequency or intensity that they require an excessive public safety response cost. "Excessive public safety response" means:
  - i. The recurring deployment of law enforcement officers, peace or code enforcement officers commissioned pursuant to S.C. Code § 4-9-145, fire marshals or emergency services personnel to an emergency scene at a business as a result of an unlawful act which results in or could result in great bodily injury or death, or the recurring need for public safety or county code enforcement personnel or emergency vehicles at a business when compared to the frequency or intensity of law or regulation enforcement required at other similarly situated businesses; or
  - ii. There have been six (6) or more law or peace officer enforcement dispatches, incident reports, citations, or search warrants executed, or a combination thereof, at a business for any of the following during the preceding twelve (12) months:
    - 1. Violation of any federal, state, or local alcohol law;
    - 2. Violation of any federal, state, or local narcotics law;
    - 3. Violation of any federal, state, or local gun law;
    - 4. Assaults;
    - 5. Crimes of violence against another person(s); or
    - 6. Crimes against property.

### 3. CRIMINAL ENFORCEMENT. PENALTIES.

A person who erects, establishes, continues, maintains, uses, owns, occupies, leases, or releases, or serves as lessor or lessee of any building in such a way as to create a public nuisance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be subject to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500.00) and imprisonment not exceeding thirty (30) days. Court costs are not included in any fine imposed by the court.

Each day any violation of this ordinance continues shall constitute a separate offense.

The Oconee County Sheriff's Office shall enforce this ordinance with the consultation and concurrence of the County Administrator ("Administrator"). The Oconee County Sheriff ("Sheriff") and the Administrator, acting jointly, may declare a business in violation of this ordinance a public nuisance, and the Sheriff or any Deputy Sheriff may enforce the provisions of this ordinance upon the declaration of a public nuisance as provided for herein by uniform traffic ticket, or warrant or by any other lawful process.

4. **REMEDIES NOT EXCLUSIVE.** The provisions of this ordinance are in addition to, and not in lieu of, any other enforcement provision or process permitted by law. Nothing in this ordinance supplants, alters, or limits a statutory or common law right of a person to bring an action in court or the right of Oconee County to prosecute a person for the establishment of a nuisance.

DRAFT



**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF OCONEE  
ORDINANCE 2025-15**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 10 (EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT AND SERVICES) OF THE OCONEE COUNTY  
CODE OF ORDINANCES BY REVISING THE PROVISIONS OF  
ARTICLE II.A., ENTITLED “RESCUE SQUAD ADVISORY  
COMMISSION”; AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS.**

**WHEREAS**, consistent with the powers granted county governments by S.C. Code § 4-9-25 and S.C. Code § 4-9-30, Oconee County (“County”), a body politic and corporate and a political subdivision of the State of South Carolina, acting by and through its governing body, the Oconee County Council (“County Council”), has the authority to enact regulations, resolutions, and ordinances, not inconsistent with the Constitution and the general law of the State of South Carolina, including the exercise of such powers in relation to health and order within its boundaries and respecting any subject as appears to it necessary and proper for the security, general welfare, and convenience of the County or for preserving health, peace, order, and good government therein;

**WHEREAS**, the County has adopted multiple ordinances for the effective, efficient governance of the County, which, subsequent to adoption, are codified in the Oconee County Code of Ordinances (“Code of Ordinances”), as amended; and

**WHEREAS**, County Council recognizes that there is a need to revise the law of the County to meet the changing needs of the County, and that there is a need to amend, specifically, Chapter 10 (Emergency Management and Services) of the Oconee County Code of Ordinances by revising the provisions of Article II.A. “Rescue Squad Advisory Commission” in order to reorganize the Rescue Squad Advisory Commission, its responsibilities and reporting procedures; and to affirm and preserve all other provisions of the Code of Ordinances not specifically or by implication amended thereby.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, it is hereby ordained by the Oconee County Council, in meeting duly assembled, that:

1. Article II.A. “Rescue Squad Advisory Commission” of Chapter 10 (Emergency Management and Services) of the Oconee County Code of Ordinances is hereby revised, amended, and restated as set forth in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.
2. Should any part or provision of this Ordinance be deemed unconstitutional or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, such determination shall not affect the rest and remainder of this Ordinance, all of which is hereby deemed separable.
3. All ordinances, orders, resolutions, and actions of County Council inconsistent herewith are, to the extent of such inconsistency only, hereby repealed, revoked, and rescinded.

4. All other terms, provisions, and parts of the Code of Ordinances not amended hereby, directly or by implication, shall remain in full force.

5. This Ordinance shall take effect and be in full force from and after third reading and enactment by County Council.

ORDAINED in meeting, duly assembled, this \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

**ATTEST:**

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Jennifer C. Adams  
Clerk to Oconee County Council

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Matthew Durham  
Chair, Oconee County Council

First Reading: August 19, 2025  
Second Reading: September 02, 2025  
Third Reading: September 16, 2025  
Public Hearing: September 16, 2025

## **ARTICLE II.A. RESCUE SQUAD ADVISORY COMMISSION**

### **Sec. 10-31. - Purpose of article.**

The purpose of this article is to restructure the Oconee County Rescue Squad Advisory Commission, whose mission is to provide a body of active members of the Oconee County rescue service to be responsible for guidance, advice, and recommendations to the Oconee County Council (“County Council” or “Council”) on current and future rescue squad activities and needs in Oconee County (“County”).

### **Sec. 10-32. – Reorganization of the Oconee County Rescue Squad Advisory Commission.**

The County Council hereby reorganizes the Oconee County Rescue Squad Advisory Commission (the “Rescue Commission” or “Commission”) as follows:

- (a) **Membership.** The Rescue Commission shall consist of seven members, all of which shall be entitled to vote on matters brought before the Rescue Commission.
  - 1. One member shall be appointed by the Oconee County Rescue Squad Chiefs and one member shall be appointed by the Oconee County Emergency Services Rescue Chief, and such members may reside anywhere within the County.
  - 2. County Council shall appoint the remaining five members, with one member to be nominated for appointment by each County Council member from his or her respective district. All members of the Commission appointed by County Council must be, and remain, residents of the County Council district from which they are appointed to serve.
  - 3. All commissioners must remain active rescue squad members in good standing in Oconee County.
  - 4. Appointment of new members under this ordinance shall be held within forty-five (45) days of the enactment of this ordinance or as soon thereafter as reasonably possible. The Oconee County Rescue Squad Advisory Commission commissioners that are in office at the time of the enactment of this ordinance shall be succeeded by a new slate of commissioners to be appointed under this section. The current commissioners shall continue to serve, however, until their successors are appointed hereunder, and current commissioners may be appointed to the Commission reorganized hereby.
- (b) **Term of members.**
  - 1. The length of the term served by each commissioner appointed by County Council shall be four years, beginning on January 1 of the year of appointment.
  - 2. For the purposes of implementing the standards of this section and thereby establishing a reappointment / replacement schedule of the membership of the Commission to staggered terms, the initial term of all members appointed by County Council after the enactment of this ordinance shall be the same length as the remaining term of the Council member who nominated them.

3. After the initial appointment, the term of each Commission member appointed by County Council shall be four years, equal to and coinciding with the term of the Council member nominating them, with all terms beginning as of January 1 of the year of appointment or reappointment.
4. The Oconee County Rescue Squad Chiefs and the Oconee County Emergency Services Rescue Chief shall appoint or reappoint their respective commissioners annually.
5. Commissioners ultimately serve at Council's pleasure and may be removed by Council, with or without cause, by a vote of a positive majority of Council. There are no term limits.

**Sec. 10-33. – Meetings and officers.**

- (a) The Rescue Commission shall meet at least monthly at a time and place selected by the membership thereof or at a place designated by County Council. Within sixty (60) days of the passage of this ordinance and the appointment of the Rescue Commission members hereunder, or as soon thereafter as reasonably possible, and thereafter during the January meeting of each year, there shall be selected a chairman, a vice-chairman, and a secretary, together with such other officers as the Rescue Commission may deem necessary. These officers shall serve for one year, or until their successors are duly elected and qualified. The terms of the officers elected from the initial Commission established after enactment of this ordinance shall end December 31, 2025.
- (b) In addition, the Rescue Commission may adopt such by-laws as it deems necessary for the orderly performance of its duties and functions. Any by-laws which may be adopted by the Rescue Commission for the orderly performance of its duties must comply with this article, all applicable ordinances of the County, and the laws of the State of South Carolina, specifically including, but not limited to, the Freedom of Information Act. All meetings shall be open to the public. Notice of the meetings shall be given to the Clerk to County Council, the media, and the public in a manner consistent with the Freedom of Information Act.

**Sec. 10-34. – Powers and duties.** The powers and duties of the Rescue Commission shall be as follows:

- (a) To advise the County Council's Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Health & Welfare Committee (or "Committee") on matters affecting the operation and activities of the various rescue squads and other emergency protection service agencies of the County and to formulate plans and advise the Committee on the operation and maintenance of the rescue squads and emergency protection service agencies and their equipment, personnel, and training.
- (b) To submit its advice and counsel to the Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Health & Welfare Committee in the form of oral and/or written reports for consideration at the Committee's quarterly meetings, which reports shall summarize the activities, findings, and functions of the Commission, together with the

agenda for the Commission's next meeting, all of which shall be submitted to the chairman of the Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Health & Welfare Committee or his/her designee within a reasonable time prior to the Committee's respective meeting.

- (c) To participate in the formulation of the budget and budgetary appropriations affecting the areas of concern of the Rescue Commission for County Council consideration.
- (d) To prepare plans and recommendations to the Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Health & Welfare Committee in the areas of the Commission's responsibility and activity, with recommendations for the implementation of such plans.
- (e) To generally advise the County Council's Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Health & Welfare Committee on any matter within the scope of the Rescue Commission's activities, which would tend to improve the efficiency and beneficial operation of County government in the fields of activity with which the Rescue Commission is concerned.
- (f) Each commissioner appointed by County Council shall visit each rescue squad within the commissioner's respective County Council district, and meet with the chief(s) thereof, as frequently as necessary in order to stay informed of the business and operations of such squads.
- (g) Any advice or recommendations conveyed to the Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Health & Welfare Committee may be prepared and presented (1) orally by the Chairman of the Rescue Commission at a regularly scheduled quarterly meeting of the Committee, after due notice for agenda purposes, or (2) in writing forwarded to the Committee Chairman and Clerk to Council for dissemination to Committee members.

#### **Sec. 10-35. – Salaries and funding.**

Each member of the Rescue Commission shall be paid the sum of \$100.00 dollars per year, plus expenses for out-of-county travel, as their sole compensation. Any expense item or claim for same shall first be approved by the Chairman of the Commission, unless the same is made by the Chairman, and submitted for approval and payment to County Council, consistent with the County's then current budget and procurement policies. In no event shall any member of the Commission be entitled to any other compensation, direct or indirect, for services on the Commission, and the members of the Commission shall not provide any services, materials, products, goods, or equipment to the County unless the same is sold or offered for sale in accordance with existing County and state purchasing procedures and ethical requirements.

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF OCONEE  
ORDINANCE 2025-16**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 10 (EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT AND SERVICES) OF THE OCONEE COUNTY  
CODE OF ORDINANCES BY REVISING THE PROVISIONS OF  
ARTICLE II.B. “FIRE SERVICE ADVISORY COMMISSION”;  
AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS.**

**WHEREAS**, consistent with the powers granted county governments by S.C. Code § 4-9-25 and S.C. Code § 4-9-30, Oconee County (“County”), a body politic and corporate and a political subdivision of the State of South Carolina, acting by and through its governing body, the Oconee County Council (“County Council”), has the authority to enact regulations, resolutions, and ordinances, not inconsistent with the Constitution and the general law of the State of South Carolina, including the exercise of such powers in relation to health and order within its boundaries and respecting any subject as appears to it necessary and proper for the security, general welfare, and convenience of the County or for preserving health, peace, order, and good government therein;

**WHEREAS**, the County has adopted multiple ordinances for the effective, efficient governance of the County, which, subsequent to adoption, are codified in the Oconee County Code of Ordinances (“Code of Ordinances”), as amended; and

**WHEREAS**, County Council recognizes that there is a need to revise the law of the County to meet the changing needs of the County, and that there is a need to amend, specifically, Chapter 10 (Emergency Management and Services) of the Oconee County Code of Ordinances by revising the provisions of Article II.B. “Fire Service Advisory Commission” in order to reorganize the Fire Service Advisory Commission, its responsibilities and reporting procedures; and to affirm and preserve all other provisions of the Code of Ordinances not specifically or by implication amended thereby.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, it is hereby ordained by the Oconee County Council, in meeting duly assembled, that:

1. Article II.B. “Fire Service Advisory Commission” of Chapter 10 (Emergency Management and Services) of the Oconee County Code of Ordinances is hereby revised, amended, and restated as set forth in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

2. Should any part or provision of this Ordinance be deemed unconstitutional or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, such determination shall not affect the rest and remainder of this Ordinance, all of which is hereby deemed separable.

3. All ordinances, orders, resolutions, and actions of County Council inconsistent herewith are, to the extent of such inconsistency only, hereby repealed, revoked, and rescinded.

4. All other terms, provisions, and parts of the Code of Ordinances not amended hereby, directly or by implication, shall remain in full force.

5. This Ordinance shall take effect and be in full force from and after third reading and enactment by County Council.

ORDAINED in meeting, duly assembled, this \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

**ATTEST:**

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Jennifer C. Adams  
Clerk to Oconee County Council

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Matthew Durham  
Chair, Oconee County Council

First Reading: August 19, 2025  
Second Reading: September 02, 2025  
Third Reading: September 16, 2025  
Public Hearing: September 16, 2025

## **ARTICLE II.B. FIRE SERVICE ADVISORY COMMISSION**

### **Sec. 10-40. - Purpose of article.**

The purpose of this article is to restructure the Oconee County Fire Service Advisory Commission, whose mission is to provide a body of active members of the Oconee County fire service to be responsible for guidance, advice, and recommendations to the Oconee County Council (“County Council” or “Council”) on current and future fire service activities and needs in Oconee County (“County”).

### **Sec. 10-41. – Reorganization of the Oconee County Fire Service Advisory Commission.**

The County Council hereby reorganizes the Oconee County Fire Service Advisory Commission (the “Fire Commission” or “Commission”) as follows:

- (a) **Membership.** The Fire Commission shall consist of seven members, all of which shall be entitled to vote on matters brought before the Fire Commission.
  - 1. One member shall be appointed by the Oconee County Fire Chiefs’ Association, Inc. and one member shall be appointed by the Oconee County Emergency Services Fire Chief, and such members may reside anywhere within the County.
  - 2. County Council shall appoint the remaining five members, with one member to be nominated for appointment by each County Council member from his or her respective district. All members of the Commission appointed by County Council must be, and remain, residents of the County Council district from which they are appointed to serve.
  - 3. All commissioners must remain active fire service members in good standing in Oconee County.
  - 4. Appointment of new members under this ordinance shall be held within forty-five (45) days of the enactment of this ordinance or as soon thereafter as reasonably possible. The Oconee County Fire Service Advisory Commission commissioners that are in office at the time of the enactment of this ordinance shall be succeeded by a new slate of commissioners to be appointed under this section. The current commissioners shall continue to serve, however, until their successors are appointed hereunder, and current commissioners may be appointed to the Commission reorganized hereby.
- (b) **Term of members.**
  - 1. The length of the term served by each commissioner appointed by County Council shall be four years, beginning on January 1 of the year of appointment.
  - 2. For the purposes of implementing the standards of this section and thereby establishing a reappointment / replacement schedule of the membership of the Commission to staggered terms, the initial term of all members appointed by County Council after the enactment of this ordinance shall be the same length as the remaining term of the Council member who nominated them.



3. After the initial appointment, the term of each Commission member appointed by County Council shall be four years, equal to and coinciding with the term of the Council member nominating them, with all terms beginning as of January 1 of the year of appointment or reappointment.
4. The Oconee County Fire Chiefs' Association, Inc. and the Oconee County Emergency Services Fire Chief shall appoint or reappoint their respective commissioners annually.
5. Commissioners ultimately serve at Council's pleasure and may be removed by Council, with or without cause, by a vote of a positive majority of Council. There are no term limits.

**Sec. 10-42. – Meetings and officers.**

- (a) The Fire Commission shall meet at least monthly at a time and place selected by the membership thereof or at a place designated by County Council. Within sixty (60) days of the passage of this ordinance and the appointment of the Fire Commission members hereunder, or as soon thereafter as reasonably possible, and thereafter during the January meeting of each year, there shall be selected a chairman, a vice-chairman, and a secretary, together with such other officers as the Fire Commission may deem necessary. These officers shall serve for one year, or until their successors are duly elected and qualified. The terms of the officers elected from the initial Commission established after enactment of this ordinance shall end December 31, 2025.
- (b) In addition, the Fire Commission may adopt such by-laws as it deems necessary for the orderly performance of its duties and functions. Any by-laws which may be adopted by the Fire Commission for the orderly performance of its duties must comply with this article, all applicable ordinances of the County, and the laws of the State of South Carolina, specifically including, but not limited to, the Freedom of Information Act. All meetings shall be open to the public. Notice of the meetings shall be given to the Clerk to County Council, the media, and the public in a manner consistent with the Freedom of Information Act.

**Sec. 10-43. – Powers and duties.** The powers and duties of the Fire Commission shall be as follows:

- (a) To advise the County Council's Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Health & Welfare Committee (or "Committee") on matters affecting the operation and activities of the various fire stations and other emergency protection service agencies of the County and to formulate plans and advise the Committee on the operation and maintenance of the fire stations and emergency protection service agencies and their equipment, personnel, and training.
- (b) To submit its advice and counsel to the Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Health & Welfare Committee in the form of oral and/or written reports for consideration at the Committee's quarterly meetings, which reports shall summarize the activities, findings, and functions of the Commission,

together with the agenda for the Commission's next meeting, all of which shall be submitted to the chairman of the Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Health & Welfare Committee or his/her designee within a reasonable time prior to the Committee's respective meeting.

- (c) To participate in the formulation of the budget and budgetary appropriations affecting the areas of concern of the Fire Commission for County Council consideration.
- (d) To prepare plans and recommendations to the Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Health & Welfare Committee in the areas of the Commission's responsibility and activity, with recommendations for the implementation of such plans.
- (e) To generally advise the County Council's Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Health & Welfare Committee on any matter within the scope of the Fire Commission's activities, which would tend to improve the efficiency and beneficial operation of County government in the fields of activity with which the Fire Commission is concerned.
- (f) Each commissioner appointed by County Council shall visit each fire station within the commissioner's respective County Council district, and meet with the chief(s) thereof, as frequently as necessary in order to stay informed of the business and operations of such stations.
- (g) Any advice or recommendations conveyed to the Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Health & Welfare Committee may be prepared and presented (1) orally by the Chairman of the Fire Commission at a regularly scheduled quarterly meeting of the Committee, after due notice for agenda purposes, or (2) in writing forwarded to the Committee Chairman and Clerk to Council for dissemination to Committee members.

#### **Sec. 10-44. – Salaries and funding.**

Each member of the Fire Commission shall be paid the sum of \$100.00 dollars per year, plus expenses for out-of-county travel, as their sole compensation. Any expense item or claim for same shall first be approved by the Chairman of the Commission, unless the same is made by the Chairman, and submitted for approval and payment to County Council, consistent with the County's then current budget and procurement policies. In no event shall any member of the Commission be entitled to any other compensation, direct or indirect, for services on the Commission, and the members of the Commission shall not provide any services, materials, products, goods, or equipment to the County unless the same is sold or offered for sale in accordance with existing County and state purchasing procedures and ethical requirements.

# THE JOURNAL

## PUBLISHER'S AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF OCONEE

OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

IN RE:

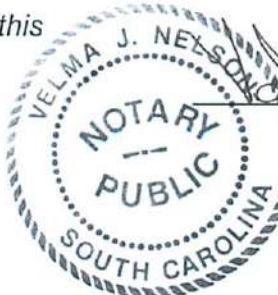
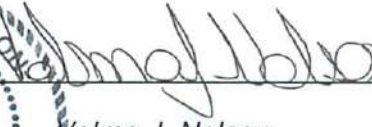
**BEFORE ME** the undersigned, a Notary Public for the State and County above named, This day personally came before me, Hal Welch, who being first duly sworn according to law, says that he is the General Manager of THE JOURNAL, a newspaper published Tuesday through Saturday in Seneca, SC and distributed in **Oconee County, Pickens County** and the Pendleton area of **Anderson County** and the notice (of which the annexed is a true copy) was inserted in said papers on

**January 11, 2025**

the rate charged therefore is not in excess of the regular rates charged private individuals for similar insertions.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Hal Welch  
General Manager

Subscribed and sworn to before me this  
1/11/2025

  
  
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Velma J. Nelson  
Notary Public  
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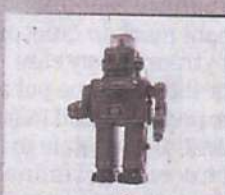
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J BREAZEALE

Address: 124 LOLA DRIVE FAIR  
PLAY, SC 29643

Estate: EDWARD TATE ZEIGLER  
SR

Date of Death: 9/22/2024

Case Number: 2024ES3700851

Personal Representative: ED-  
WARD T ZEIGLER JR

Address: 38 LANNEAU DRIVE  
GREENVILLE, SC 29605

The Oconee County Council will meet in 2025 on the first and third Tuesday of each month with the following exceptions: July, August, and November meetings, which will be only on the third Tuesday of each of these months; March, June and December meetings, which will be only on the first Tuesday of each of these months.

All Council meetings, unless otherwise noted, are held in Council Chambers, Oconee County Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, South Carolina.

Oconee County Council will also hold a Planning Retreat beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 20, 2025 to establish short- and long-term goals. This meeting will be held off-site in the Tri-County Technical College, Oconee Campus, conference room located at 552 Education Way, Westminster, South Carolina.

Oconee County Council will also meet on Tuesday, January 6, 2026 in Council Chambers at which point they will establish their 2026 Coun-

cil and Committee meeting schedules.

Additional Council meetings, workshops, and/or committee meetings may be added throughout the year as needed.

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The Real Estate, Facilities, & Land Management Committee at 4:30 p.m. on the following dates: April 1, June 3, August 19, & October 21, 2025.

The Planning & Economic Development Committee at 4:30 p.m. on the following dates: April 1, June 3, August 19, & October 21, 2025.

The Budget, Finance, & Administration Committee at 9:00 a.m. on the following dates: February 20 [Strategic Planning Retreat] and 4:30 p.m. on the following dates: March 4 [4 p.m.], April 15, & May 6, 2025.

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION**  
Notice is hereby given that Ash

South Carolina Department of Revenue for a license/permit that will allow the sale and On Premises consumption of Beer, Wine and Liquor at 671 Highway 123 Bypass Seneca SC 29678.

To object to the issuance of this permit/license, written protest must be postmarked no later than January 26, 2025.

For a protest to be valid, it must be in writing, and should include the following information:

- (1) The name, address and telephone number of the person filing the protest;
- (2) The specific reasons why the application should be denied;
- (3) That the person protesting is willing to attend a hearing (if one is requested by the applicant);
- (4) That the person protesting resides in the same county where the proposed place of business is located or within five miles of the business; and,
- (5) The name of the applicant and the address of the premises to be licensed. ent of Revenue, ABL SECTION, P.O. Box 125, Columbia, SC 29214-097.

## Yard Sale?

Call 864-973-6676  
today to place an ad!



# Oconee County Council

Oconee County  
Administrative Offices  
415 South Pine Street  
Walhalla, SC 29691

Phone: 864-718-1023  
Fax: 864 718-1024

E-mail:  
[jennifercadams@oconeesc.com](mailto:jennifercadams@oconeesc.com)

John Elliott  
District I

Matthew Durham  
Chairman  
District II

Don Mize  
Vice Chairman  
District III

Thomas James  
District IV

J. Glenn Hart  
Chairman Pro Tem  
District V



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Sec. 2-61. - Access to and conduct at county meetings, facilities and property.

(a) *Purpose.* The county council has determined that it is necessary to regulate access to county facilities, grounds and property in order to ensure the safety and security of the public who visit these areas or the county employees who serve them. The conduct of persons who visit county facilities and/or who have contact with county employees must also be regulated to preserve public order, peace and safety. The regulation of access and conduct must be balanced with the right of the public to have reasonable access to public facilities and to receive friendly, professional service from county employees. These regulations apply to all county facilities and meetings, as defined below, for and over which county council exercises control and regulation, and to the extent, only, not pre-empted by state or federal law.

(b) *Definitions.* The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this section, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this subsection, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

*Facility* means any building, structure, or real property owned, leased, rented, operated or occupied by the county or one of its departments, offices or agencies.

*Meeting* means any assemblage of persons for the purpose of conducting county governmental business, operations or functions or any assemblage of persons within a county governmental facility. The term "meeting" includes, but is not limited to, county council meetings, county board and committee and staff meetings, trials, hearings and other proceedings conducted in the courts of general sessions and common pleas, family court, master-in-equity, probate court and magistrate's court; and other meetings by entities duly authorized by the county council.

(c) *Prohibited acts.* It shall be unlawful for any person to:

- (1) Utter loud, obscene, profane, threatening, disruptive or abusive language or to engage in any disorderly or disruptive conduct that impedes, disrupts or disturbs the orderly proceedings of any meeting, or operations of any department or function of the county government, including, without limitation, speaking when not explicitly recognized and authorized to do so by the presiding official in such meeting.
- (2) Bring, carry, or otherwise introduce any firearm, knife with blade longer than two inches or other dangerous weapon, concealed or not concealed, into any facility or meeting. This prohibition does not apply to law enforcement personnel or any other person whose official, governmental duties require them to carry such firearm, knife, or other weapon.
- (3) Engage in partisan political activity, including speech, in any meeting not authorized and called for the purpose of partisan political activity and explicitly authorized for such purpose in the facility in which such activity is to be conducted, or refusing to cease such activity when

the presiding official of the meeting in question has ruled that the activity in question is partisan political activity and has directed that such activity stop.

- (4) Interfere with, impede, hinder or obstruct any county governmental official or employee in the performance of his duties, whether or not on county government property.
- (5) Enter any area of a county government facility, grounds or property when such entry is prohibited by signs, or obstructed or enclosed by gates, fencing or other physical barriers. Such areas include rooms if clearly marked with signs to prohibit unauthorized entry.
- (6) Enter by vehicle any area of a county governmental facility, grounds or property when such area is prohibited by signs or markings or are obstructed by physical barriers; or park a vehicle in such restricted areas; or park in a manner to block, partially block or impede the passage of traffic in driveways; or park within 15 feet of a fire hydrant or in a fire zone; or park in any area not designated as a parking space; or park in a handicapped parking space without proper placarding or license plate; or park in a reserved parking space without authorization.
- (7) Use any county governmental facility, grounds or other property for any purpose not authorized by law or expressly permitted by officials responsible for the premises.
- (8) Enter without authorization or permission or refuse to leave any county governmental facility, grounds or other property after hours of operation.
- (9) Obstruct or impede passage within a building, grounds or other property of any county governmental facility.
- (10) Enter, without legal cause or good excuse, a county governmental facility, grounds or property after having been warned not to do so; or, having entered such property, fail and refuse without legal cause or good excuse to leave immediately upon being ordered or requested to do so by an official, employee, agent or representative responsible for premises.
- (11) Damage, deface, injure or attempt to damage, deface or injure a county governmental property, whether real property or otherwise.
- (12) Enter or attempt to enter any restricted or nonpublic ingress point or any restricted access area, or bypass or attempt to bypass the designated public entrance or security checkpoint of a facility without authorization or permission.
- (13) Perform any act which circumvents, disables or interferes with or attempts to circumvent, disable or interfere with a facility's security system, alarm system, camera system, door lock or other intrusion prevention or detection device. This includes, without limitation, opening, blocking open, or otherwise disabling an alarmed or locked door or other opening that would allow the entry of an unauthorized person into a facility or restricted access area of the facility.
- (14) Exit or attempt to exit a facility through an unauthorized egress point or alarmed door.

- (d) *Penalty for violation of section.* Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be punished in accordance with section 1-7. In addition, vehicles that are improperly parked on any county property, facility, or other premises may be towed at the owner's expense.

(Ord. No. 2003-04, §§ 1—4, 4-15-2003; Ord. No. 2012-06, § 1, 4-3-2012)



Oconee County, South Carolina  
Local Accomodations Tax Special Revenue Fund (235)  
2025-2026 Budget

Account Number	Description	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2026 Approved Budget 06/03/2025
<b>Revenue</b>					
235 080 00800 90093	LAT Revenue	999,800	1,085,655	1,069,383	1,107,000
235 080 00805 08888	Encumbrance Reserve	-	-	-	-
235 090 00180 07190	OFS - Insurance Proceeds	-	4,696	-	-
<b>Total Revenues</b>		<b>999,800</b>	<b>1,090,351</b>	<b>1,069,383</b>	<b>1,107,000</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>					
200	Culture & Recreation	234,548	218,869	205,607	325,811
202	Parks, Recreation & Tourism	25,454	209,851	91,338	289,912
203	High Falls Park	143,071	210,597	194,418	188,914
204	South Cove Park	542,468	202,871	114,432	159,744
205	Chau Ram Park	3,872	33,972	58,023	85,727
213	Heritage Center Museum	-	54,967	38,873	56,892
214	Seneca Creek	-	240,372	-	-
<b>Total Expenditures</b>		<b>949,411</b>	<b>1,171,499</b>	<b>702,689</b>	<b>1,107,000</b>

**BUDGET REPORT BY DEPARTMENT - EXPENDITURE**

Fiscal Year Start Date: 07/01/2025

Current Period End Date: 07/01/2025

Oconee County

FY 2025-2026

Ideal Remaining Percent: 100 %

Account	Budgeted	Current	Year To Date	Remaining Balance	PCT
<b>Department: 200 Culture &amp; Recreation</b>					
235-200-90093-00000 Lat -Grants To Agencies	295,811.00	0.00	0.00	295,811.00	100
Culture & Recreation Subtotal	295,811.00	0.00	0.00	295,811.00	100
<b>Department: 202 Parks, Recreation, &amp; Tour</b>					
235-202-30025-00014 Professional-Interns/Temp	8,412.00	0.00	0.00	8,412.00	100
235-202-30068-00000 Advertising	34,000.00	0.00	0.00	34,000.00	100
235-202-30084-00000 Training	19,000.00	0.00	0.00	19,000.00	100
235-202-40027-00000 Safety Equipment	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00	100
235-202-40031-00000 Non-Capital Equipment	15,000.00	0.00	0.00	15,000.00	100
235-202-40034-00000 Food	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	100
235-202-50870-00000 Capital Vehicles	70,000.00	0.00	0.00	70,000.00	100
Parks, Recreation, & Tour Subtotal	152,412.00	0.00	0.00	152,412.00	100
<b>Department: 203 High Falls Park</b>					
235-203-10110-00000 Salaries - Local	31,200.00	0.00	0.00	31,200.00	100
235-203-20013-00000 Social Security/Medicare	2,387.00	0.00	0.00	2,387.00	100
235-203-20014-00000 Retirement	5,791.00	0.00	0.00	5,791.00	100
235-203-20015-00000 Workers' Compensation	78.00	0.00	0.00	78.00	100
235-203-20016-00000 Health Insurance	9,139.00	0.00	0.00	9,139.00	100
235-203-20027-00000 Dental Insurance	550.00	0.00	0.00	550.00	100
235-203-20028-00000 Vision Insurance	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	100
235-203-30025-00000 Professional	8,000.00	0.00	0.00	8,000.00	100
235-203-30025-00014 Professional-Interns/Temp	81,669.00	0.00	0.00	81,669.00	100
235-203-30025-62059 Professional-Lake Hartwe	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	100
235-203-33022-00000 Maintenance Bldgs/Groupr	35,000.00	0.00	0.00	35,000.00	100
235-203-33022-62059 Maint Bld/Grnd-Lake Hart	6,500.00	0.00	0.00	6,500.00	100
235-203-34042-00000 Gas & Fuel Oil	2,500.00	0.00	0.00	2,500.00	100
235-203-34043-00000 Electricity	22,500.00	0.00	0.00	22,500.00	100
235-203-34044-00000 Water/Sewer/Garbage	3,250.00	0.00	0.00	3,250.00	100
235-203-40031-62059 Non-Cap Eq-Lake Hartwe	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	100
235-203-40032-62059 Operational-Lake Hartwel	6,500.00	0.00	0.00	6,500.00	100
High Falls Park Subtotal	217,164.00	0.00	0.00	217,164.00	100
<b>Department: 204 South Cove Park</b>					
235-204-30025-00000 Professional	12,000.00	0.00	0.00	12,000.00	100
235-204-30025-00014 Professional-Interns/Temp	86,744.00	0.00	0.00	86,744.00	100
235-204-30025-00227 Professional-Events/Prog	4,000.00	0.00	0.00	4,000.00	100
235-204-33022-00000 Maintenance Bldgs/Groupr	36,000.00	0.00	0.00	36,000.00	100
235-204-34042-00000 Gas & Fuel Oil	250.00	0.00	0.00	250.00	100
235-204-34043-00000 Electricity	40,000.00	0.00	0.00	40,000.00	100
235-204-34044-00000 Water/Sewer/Garbage	6,000.00	0.00	0.00	6,000.00	100
235-204-40031-00227 Non-Capital Equip-Events	9,000.00	0.00	0.00	9,000.00	100
235-204-40032-00227 Operational-Events/Progr	9,000.00	0.00	0.00	9,000.00	100
235-204-40034-00227 Food	3,000.00	0.00	0.00	3,000.00	100
South Cove Park Subtotal	205,994.00	0.00	0.00	205,994.00	100
<b>Department: 205 Chau Ram Park</b>					
235-205-30025-00000 Professional	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	100
235-205-30025-00014 Professional-Interns/Temp	51,727.00	0.00	0.00	51,727.00	100
235-205-33022-00000 Maintenance Bldgs/Groupr	33,500.00	0.00	0.00	33,500.00	100
235-205-34042-00000 Gas & Fuel Oil	1,500.00	0.00	0.00	1,500.00	100

**BUDGET REPORT BY DEPARTMENT - EXPENDITURE**

Fiscal Year Start Date: 07/01/2025  
Current Period End Date: 07/01/2025

Oconee County  
FY 2025-2026  
Ideal Remaining Percent: 100 %

Account	Budgeted	Current	Year To Date	Remaining Balance	PCT
235-205-34043-00000 Electricity	9,000.00	0.00	0.00	9,000.00	100
235-205-34044-00000 Water/Sewer/Garbage	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	100
Chau Ram Park Subtotal	98,227.00	0.00	0.00	98,227.00	100
<b>Department: 213 Heritage Center Museum</b>					
235-213-10110-00000 Salaries	36,119.00	0.00	0.00	36,119.00	100
235-213-20013-00000 Social Security/Medicare	2,763.00	0.00	0.00	2,763.00	100
235-213-20014-00000 Retirement	6,703.00	0.00	0.00	6,703.00	100
235-213-20015-00000 Workers' Compensation	1,518.00	0.00	0.00	1,518.00	100
235-213-20016-00000 Health Insurance	9,139.00	0.00	0.00	9,139.00	100
235-213-20027-00000 Dental Insurance	550.00	0.00	0.00	550.00	100
235-213-20028-00000 Vision Insurance	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	100
Heritage Center Museum Subtotal	56,892.00	0.00	0.00	56,892.00	100
<b>Department: 215 Lat-Prt</b>					
235-215-10110-00000 Salaries - Lat Prt	53,932.00	0.00	0.00	53,932.00	100
235-215-20013-00000 Social Security - Lat Prt	4,125.00	0.00	0.00	4,125.00	100
235-215-20014-00000 Retirement - Lat Prt	11,453.00	0.00	0.00	11,453.00	100
235-215-20015-00000 Workers Comp - Lat Prt	1,201.00	0.00	0.00	1,201.00	100
235-215-20016-00000 Health Insurance - Lat Prt	9,139.00	0.00	0.00	9,139.00	100
235-215-20027-00000 Dental Insurance - Lat Prt	550.00	0.00	0.00	550.00	100
235-215-20028-00000 Vision Insurance - Lat Prt	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	100
Lat-Prt Subtotal	80,500.00	0.00	0.00	80,500.00	100
<b>Report Total Expenditure</b>	<b>\$1,107,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$1,107,000.00</b>	<b>100</b>



**Public Comment**  
**SIGN IN SHEET**  
**6:00 PM**

**August 19, 2025**

The Public Comment Sessions at this meeting is limited to a total of 50 minutes, 5 minutes per person. Please be advised that citizens not utilizing their full four [5] minutes may not "donate" their remaining time to another speaker.

**PLEASE PRINT**

	FULL NAME	PURPOSE OF COMMENT
1	Susan Christensen	NOISE ORDINANCE
2	Sue Blount	nuisance ordinance
3	Jason Boyle	Corrupt Judges, Singletary, McIntosh
4	Mario Suarez	Invitation
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Everyone speaking before Council will be required to do so in a civil manner. Council will not tolerate personal attacks on individual council members, county staff or any person or group. Racial slurs will not be permitted. Council's number one priority is to conduct business for the citizens of this county. All citizens who wish to address Council and all Boards and Commission appointed by Council should do so in an appropriate manner.

My name is Sue Christensen. I have lived in the Bountyland area for 22 years. Our neighborhood is in close proximity to approx. 80 other homes. For 18 years we had all enjoyed the quiet, peacefulness of our homes until a homeowner, adjacent to our neighborhoods, began an obsession with extremely loud fireworks 4 years ago. Our neighborhood has never been the same since.

*There is something wrong* with the language and interpretation of the current Noise Ordinance regarding Fireworks noise and what qualifies as disturbing the peace.

*There is something wrong* with the inability to enforce it near residential neighborhoods, referred to as 'occupied dwellings in close proximity'.

*There is something wrong* when extreme fireworks, such as mortars, cakes and repeat aerals, all between 120 and 150 decibels, are allowed to be used near residential neighborhoods. Or, as this homeowner has publicly called us 'subdivision rats' and threatened property damage because we are complaining about losing the enjoyment of our homes and other adverse effects from his frequent explosions.

We are extremely grateful for the efforts of Sheriff Crenshaw and his Deputies in corralling this homeowner to be within the current Noise Ordinance on allowable days and times. However, the volume, duration and intensity of these explosive products remains an issue.

The current Ordinance appears to have no enforceable limits on the loudness or intensity, nor clearly stated hours ( is July 4<sup>th</sup> 24 hours or 3 days?), or executable metrics to establish 'close proximity to occupied dwellings' to restore the peaceful enjoyment of our homes.

These Fireworks are not your typical Cul de sac Fireworks, they are **explosions** that rattle windows and shake homes as far away as 1/4 mile in our neighborhood alone, and have affected us in various ways.

Today, it's **our** neighborhood but tomorrow it could be **yours**. And with the 250 year celebration next July this issue needs to be addressed now.



We are asking for relief through *clarity, education and enforcement*:

1. Reduce the Days and hours for Fireworks:
  - a. July 4<sup>th</sup> 4:30pm to 11:00pm
  - b. New Years Eve 8:00 pm up to 1:00 am the following day, New Years Day.
  - c. Removing Christmas Eve entirely
2. Limit **ALL** Fireworks products to 85 decibels at 100 feet per:
  - a. *Sec 12-37 Special-Permits*
  - b. *Sec 12-39 Measurement of noise level, establishment of prima facie violation without a permit.*
3. Require a Permit for mortars, cakes, repeat aerals and other 'like' products (100-500 grains) capable of 90-150 decibels requiring a minimal distance of 1,000 feet from any occupied dwelling(s) or Permit in a designated and approved common Fireworks area.
  - a. There have been many counties adopting 1000 feet distance requirements for livestock. Why can't humans get the same consideration in Oconee County?
4. Consider adopting a *Silent Fireworks* County Ordinance

These changes are a *reasonable compromise* because this is not a one person, one neighborhood, one county, one state issue. It has become a global issue with the growth of residential populations worldwide and development of extremely loud pyrotechnical products available on the market today as 'legal'.

These changes are a *considerate compromise* for those with extreme noise and long durations issues, such as loss of sleep and rotating work shift hours, veterans suffering from PTSD, sensory-sensitive individuals with Autism, young infants with highly sensitive startle reflexes. *Adults have that, too.*

These are ***p-e-o-p-l-e*** living in these so called '*dwellings*' that are struggling with their own health problems, like coping with cancer treatment and caring for elderly parents with all stages of Dementia and Alzheimer's that require extra medication and care just to calm them down from confusion and agitation. *What if that was your family member?*

Pets too terrified to go outside and hover behind furniture and can't control themselves, pets run away and are never seen again. Our neighborhood is no different than others with heart problems, breathing problems, asthma, tinnitus, seizures; all brought on by stress and air filled with toxic chemicals from every blast from mortars and cakes that

**\*Citizen Provided Material\***  
**\*Not Official Oconee County Document\***  
**Sue Christensen public comment at the August 19, 2025**  
**County Council meeting.**

linger in the air for hours, sometime even days. Our homes sound like they are being *sandblasted* from the sound waves from these explosions. I have audio to prove it.

We who speak out about the problems of Fireworks noise are tired of being accused of being unpatriotic or whinners. We are just as patriotic as everyone else

We are not suggesting banning them.

We are asking for reasonable and considerate use of these products amended into our County's Noise Ordinance so that **everyone** can enjoy these important holidays without dread, anxiety or anger.

-Surely, our public servants have better things to do than chase 'ghost' Fireworks noise complaints.





Anna Wintour  
is seeking a new  
Vogue  
editor-in-chief  
but will  
maintain  
editorial control

BY LEANNE ITALIE  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Anna Wintour is stepping down as Vogue editor-in-chief but will retain editorial control over the storied magazine. The longtime Vogue powerhouse told staff Thursday she’s seeking a head of editorial content to handle more of the day-to-day operations. But she’s holding on to plenty of power to keep her a force at the magazine that built her reputation in fashion.



Wintour will remain chief content officer for Condé Nast and global editorial director of Vogue. The news shook the fashion world and Wintour-watchers on social media amid breathless headlines that she was “stepping down” from the magazine. The new lead will report directly to Wintour in her capacity as global editorial director, Vogue said in a statement posted to its website later Thursday.

“Anybody in a creative field knows how essential it is never to stop growing in one’s work. When I became the editor of Vogue, I was eager to prove to all who might listen that there was a new, exciting way to imagine an American fashion magazine,” Wintour told staff.

“Now, I find that my greatest pleasure is helping the next generation of impassioned editors storm the field with their own ideas, supported by a new, exciting view of what a major media company can be,” she added.

As chief content officer, Wintour will continue to oversee every Condé Nast brand globally, including Vogue, Wired, Vanity Fair, GQ, AD, Condé Nast Traveler, Glamour, Bon Appétit, Tatler, World of Interiors, Allure and more, with the exception of The New Yorker.

“In effect, the addition of a new editorial lead for Vogue US will allow Wintour greater time and flexibility to support the other global markets that Condé Nast serves,” the Vogue statement said.

Wintour also oversees the annual Met Gala, fashion’s biggest night and a major fundraiser for the fashion wing of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. And she’ll remain involved in Vogue World, a traveling fashion and cultural event the magazine began in 2022.

Four years ago, Condé Nast changed its editorial structure, bringing together editorial teams around the world for the first time. Every market where Condé Nast operates has a head of editorial content led by a global editorial director. The new role at American Vogue is part of that reorganization. The new structure has already been rolled out at other Vogue titles around the world.



Local playwright to hold  
public reading of inaugural work

SEAN SMITH | THE JOURNAL

In Mario Suarez’s musical, “La Zafra,” the fictional town of Cidersville, South Carolina, is modeled after Long Creek and the main farm is reminiscent of Chattooga Belle Farm.

BY ANDREA KELLEY  
THE JOURNAL

GREENVILLE — A local healthcare worker turned playwright had his first musical accepted at a Greenville theater for a public reading.

Mario Suarez, who worked in pathology in Oconee County for years and had a stint on Oconee County Council, recently



Suarez

received word his musical, “La Zafra,” was accepted to be part of Centre Stage’s new play showcase called Front and Centre. Suarez’s musical is first in the season lineup, with a public reading scheduled on Oct. 18.

Suarez first put pen to paper in 2001 and finished “La Zafra” in 2006. Two years later, he lost his job in Oconee and began a job that required traveling to laboratories across the country, leaving no time to dedicate to the play.

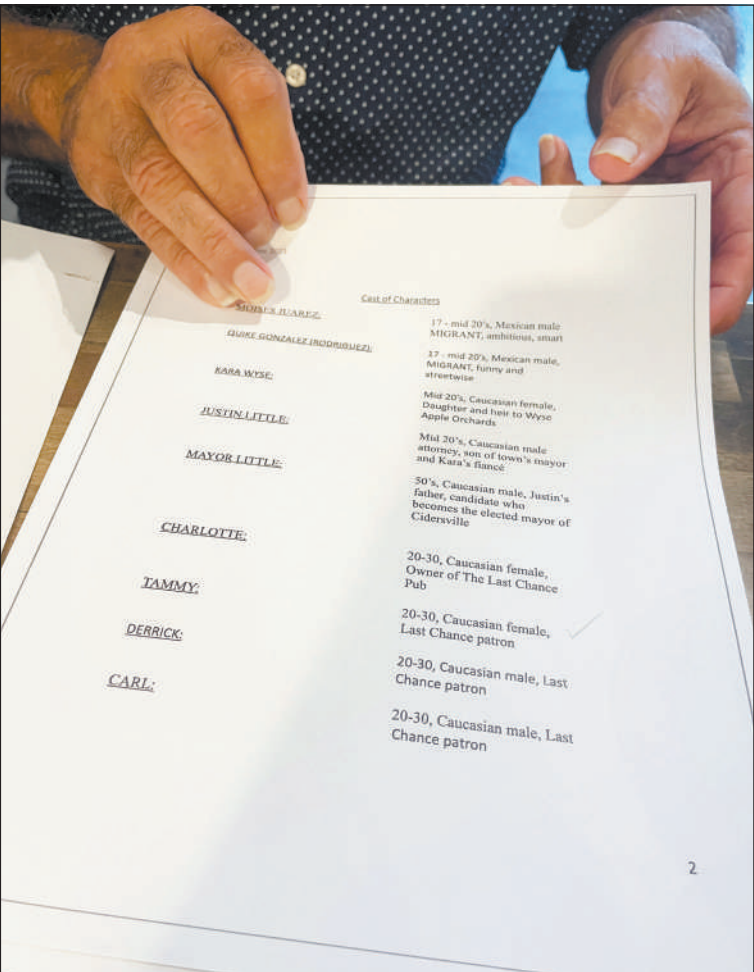
“From 2008 to 2019, it was basically collecting dust,” he said. “When I slowed down on my work assignments throughout the country considerably, I said, ‘OK, I either burn it or work on it.’ And I knew it was going to be hard to work on it, so I started back in 2019 real fast, real hard, and sent it to different theaters.”

Centre Stage was one of two theaters that responded, and the director told Suarez she wanted to schedule two private readings to provide feedback and held develop the play.

“They had that first reading, which was very helpful to me,” he said. “I noticed some things that I needed to work on, and they suggested some things that I work on.”

When Suarez sent in his revised draft, the theater decided to schedule a public reading. The general public is invited, along with people who might be interested in producing the play.

Suarez said the actors will predominantly concentrate on the script but will play a few of the songs that best “emphasize the story.”



ANDREA KELLEY | THE JOURNAL

Oconee County playwright Mario Suarez combs through the cast of characters for his musical, “La Zafra,” or “The Harvest.” Centre Stage in Greenville is hosting a public reading for Suarez’s play in October as part of its Front and Centre fall lineup.

COMBINING THEIR STORIES

Though this is Suarez’s first play, his theater roots go back to his childhood in Mexico, when he and his brother both took an interest in the field.

“I was in oratory. I was in high school plays,” Suarez told The Journal. “My brother is pretty well known in Mexico as an actor, a director — mainly in the live theater.”

Suarez emigrated from Mante, Mexico — the same opening setting for the musical.

“It started as an autobiography, and I could not quite get into it,” he said of the musical. “I have been a very fortunate man. Everything’s gone well for me, but the story was just like my brother said, ‘It’s too sweet.’ So even though I put a little drama, it still was not what I wanted, so I scratched everything

about being an autobiography. It’s semi-autobiographical.

“Most works, the writer or the playwright — they’re in it. I mean, you can’t help but your experiences get in it,” he added. “I created characters that I wanted to send a message to the audience, so to speak.”

The play, which translates to “The Harvest,” follows Moises Juarez, a migrant worker in the sugarcane fields of Mexico who immigrates to the U.S. to “make a better life.”

“He ends up getting a job at an apple orchard, picking up apples,” Suarez explained. “He comes and discovers that is not what he thought it would be.”

Juarez also develops an interracial relationship with the orchard owner, which Suarez said “causes disturbances within the community.”

“(Juarez) runs into trouble not created by him,” he added. “I don’t want to give it away, but this is the essence, the backbone of the play.”

Audience members might find some of the settings in the play familiar, as the fictional town of Cidersville, South Carolina, is modeled after Long Creek and the main farm is reminiscent of Chattooga Belle Farm. Other prominent Oconee County locations pop up throughout the story as well.

Suarez drew much of his inspiration from stories he heard while treating migrant workers at Rosa Clark Clinic in Walhalla.

“I listened to their stories. Some of them gave up apple picking and created a business, but their stories are just like, ‘whoa,’ you know?” he said. “That’s where it all started, really — the stories that I heard, and put all the stories into one story.”

‘WE ALL ARE IMMIGRANTS’

Suarez said throughout its revisions, the play has “always been about immigration,” which he said applies to most people or their ancestors.

“Here there were nothing but indigenous people, just like in Mexico. Europeans came to Mexico from Portugal and Spain to South America and Mexico,” he said. “What I want people to understand is that we all are immigrants and continue to be.”

He said it can be as simple as a person moving from one state to another.

“It’s all migration. ... It’s migration for a better life, and that’s what my main character is seeking,” Suarez said. “He has a rough time, because life is not ‘hunky dory,’ like they say here. That’s the main point, immigration.”

And why is the name Moises so significant?

“Moises is Moses: my father’s name, my oldest brother’s name, my son’s name and Moises is in the Bible,” Suarez said. “And what did he do? Migrated! To the Promised Land.”

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