



UPDATED AGENDA

OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

April 7, 2026

6:00 PM

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

Call to Order

Moment of Silence

Invocation

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

County Attorney Comments

County Administrator Comments

Presentation to Council

Oconee 250 Presentation – Ms. Jennifer Moss

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. March 17, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes

2. Procurement Item:

PO 56334 Change Order No. 1 – Thomas & Hutton Engineering Co.

Department(s): PRT

PO 56334: \$68,500.00

Change Order 1: \$32,350.00

Purchase Order Total: \$100,850.00

15% Contingency: \$15,127.50

Total: \$115,977.50

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

Budget: \$40,627.50 Project Cost: \$40,627.50 Balance: \$0.00

(Funding from project contingency funds for South Cove Court Improvements which is funded from PRT Local Accommodations Tax Fund (235).

The budget amount equals the total project cost minus the \$75,350.00 that was originally approved.

It is the staff's recommendation that Council:

- 1. Approve PO# 56334, Change Order #1, to Thomas and Hutton Engineering, Co. of Greenville, SC in the amount of \$32,350.00*
- 2. Approve at 15% contingency in the amount of \$15,127.50.*

COUNCIL MEMBERS

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Glenn Hart, District V

3. **Procurement Item:**
South Cove Dump Station
Department(s): PRT
Council Approved 12.2.25: \$30,000.00
Additional requested: \$15,000.00
Project Total: \$45,000.00
10% Contingency: \$ 4,500.00
Total: \$49,500.00

Project was approved by Council at the December 2, 2025 Council meeting.

Budget: \$49,500.00 Project Cost: \$49,500.00 Balance: \$0.00

(Funding for project is funded from PRT Local Accommodations Tax Fund Balance (235)

The project budget amount equals the total project cost plus additional 10% project contingency.

It is the staff's recommendation that Council:

- 1. Approve up to an additional \$15,000 from Local Accommodations Tax Fund Balance.*
- 2. Approve at 10% contingency in the amount of \$4,500.00.*

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

Third Reading of the Following Ordinances

None for this meeting.

Second Reading of the Following Ordinances

ORDINANCE 2026-07 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 10-275 (“EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION”) OF CHAPTER 10 OF THE OCONEE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES, IN CERTAIN LIMITED REGARDS AND PARTICULARS ONLY, WITH RESPECT TO THE MEANS OF ISSUING AN EMERGENCY DECLARATION; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

ORINANCE 2026-08 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A REAL PROPERTY LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, AS LESSOR, AND THE HOLLY SPRINGS FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC., AS LESSEE, FOR CERTAIN IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 11095 LONG CREEK HWY, WESTMINSTER, SOUTH CAROLINA, 29693, CURRENTLY IDENTIFIED BY TAX MAP NUMBER 201-00-01-048; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

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First Reading of the Following Ordinances

ORDINANCE 2026-09 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 2025-01, THE BUDGET FOR OCONEE COUNTY, WHICH PROVIDES FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES FOR ORDINARY COUNTY PURPOSES, FOR THE TRI-COUNTY TECHNICAL COLLEGE SPECIAL REVENUE FUND, FOR THE EMERGENCY SERVICES PROTECTION SPECIAL REVENUE FUND, FOR THE ROAD MAINTENANCE SPECIAL REVENUE FUND, FOR THE VICTIM SERVICES SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS, FOR THE STATE ACCOMMODATIONS TAX SPECIAL REVENUE FUND, FOR THE LOCAL ACCOMMODATIONS TAX SPECIAL REVENUE FUND, FOR THE COMMUNITY HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES SPECIAL REVENUE FUND, FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CAPITAL PROJECT FUND, FOR THE BRIDGE AND CULVERT CAPITAL PROJECT FUND, FOR THE CAPITAL VEHICLE / EQUIPMENT FUND, FOR THE PARKS, RECREATION, AND TOURISM CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND, FOR THE FIRE / EMERGENCY SERVICES CAPITAL VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT FUND, FOR THE GENERAL ONE TIME CAPITAL FUND, AND FOR THE DEBT SERVICE FUND, ALL IN OCONEE COUNTY FOR THE **FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2025 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2026.** *(in title only)*

ORDINANCE 2026-10 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 OWNED BY OCONEE COUNTY IN SENECA, SOUTH CAROLINA, CURRENTLY DESIGNATED BY OCONEE COUNTY TAX MAP NUMBERS 268-00-03-104 AND 268-00-03-089; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

ORDINANCE 2026-11 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 A SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDIT AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, AND A COMPANY CURRENTLY IDENTIFIED BY THE COUNTY AS PROJECT DEER, 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. *(in title only)*

First & Final Reading for the Following Resolutions

RESOLUTION 2026-05 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND DESIGNATING APRIL 2026 AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH

RESOLUTION 2026-06 A RESOLUTION IDENTIFYING PROJECT DEER; COMMITTING TO ENTER INTO A SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDIT AGREEMENT; COMMITTING TO MAINTAIN MULTI-COUNTY PARK STATUS; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

Action on Matters Removed from Consent Agenda at Council Member Request

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Discussion Regarding Action Items

Approval for the Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$39,711.00 from Volunteer Compensation

Transfer between salary appropriations and non-salary appropriations within a department, or between departments within a fund, provided that no such transfer exceeds Ten Thousand and 00/100 (\$10,000.00) Dollars.

During the budget process, the funds required for the insurance related to volunteer fire and rescue squads were included under the Volunteer Compensation line item.

The request, for the transfer of salary appropriations to non-salary appropriations, to insurance for volunteer firefighter and rescue squads, exceeds \$10,000, requiring Council approval.

Oconee County Emergency Services requires the following transfers to cover necessary insurance:

- \$14,751 to pay for supplemental insurance for volunteer fire and rescue squad members
- \$24,960 to pay for ambulance/helicopter insurance for volunteer fire and rescue squad members

The total amount to be considered for transfer out of the Volunteer Compensation is \$39,711.

Staff recommends Council approve the transfer of funds from Volunteer Compensation to cover insurance for volunteer fire and rescue squads.

Approval for the Transfer of Funds, in the Amount of \$98,406.00 to Cover Expenditures Related to Building Codes Inspections

Transfer between salary appropriations and non-salary appropriations within a department, or between departments within a fund, provided that no such transfer exceeds Ten Thousand and 00/100 (\$10,000.00) Dollars.

The Building Codes Department is requesting a budget to cover expenditures related to the increased need for inspections conducted through RCI of South Carolina, Inc.

Revenue collected for LP Plan Review Fees cannot be posted to the expenditure code to offset the RCI invoices, necessitating a budget transfer.

Funding is available from unfilled employee positions' salaries and fringe in the Oconee Public Library, Procurement and Finance Department.

The transfer is required to cover the cost of February and March building inspections.

Additional transfers will be required for April through June expenditures.

Staff recommends Council approve the transfer of funds from salaries and fringe for costs associated with RCI of South Carolina, Inc., building codes inspections.

Approval for the Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$10,000.00 from the Solicitor's Office

Transfer between salary appropriations and non-salary appropriations within a department, or between departments within a fund, provided that no such transfer exceeds Ten Thousand and 00/100 (\$10,000.00) Dollars.

The Solicitor's Office is requesting a one-time budget transfer from the Deputy Solicitor Salary budget to Professional.

The transfer is required to cover the cost of an attorney to prosecute DUI 1st Cases for the 4th Quarter of Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

Staff recommends Council approve the transfer of funds from Deputy Solicitor Salary to Professional for costs associated with contracting an attorney to prosecute DUI 1st Cases.

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PRT Commission-Local ATAX Recommendations / Spring 2026 Cycle / \$142,474.00

A portion of Local ATAX revenues received by Oconee County are made available for ATAX grants through Ordinance 2011-12. ATAX grants are to be tourism related grants that meet the ATAX guidelines specified by local and State mandates. Grants are recommended by the PRT Commission based on tourism impact of the project and approved by County Council. All external ATAX grant recipients are required to turn in intermediate reports every 60 days to the progress of the grant and a final report upon completion of the grant. These reports are placed in the grant folder, which is kept active by the PRT staff until the grant is considered complete. Internal projects through Oconee PRT are also funneled through local ATAX for eligible projects.

Beginning Local ATAX available balance: \$257,715.00

If all grants/projects approved/new balance will be: \$115,241.00

It is the staff's recommendation that Council approve the local ATAX recommendations as presented.

Mar-26

Local ATAX Grants

Applicant	Funds Request	Project Description	Amount Eligible for ATAX	PRT Commission Recommendation	
City of Seneca	\$10,000	Advertising-Independence Day Celebration	\$10,000	\$5,000	
City of Walhalla	\$15,059	Extend power/purchase vending machine	\$15,059	\$2,000	
City of Westminster	\$2,000	Website for William Bartram Statue project	\$2,000	\$600	
Discover Upcountry SC	\$15,000	Advertising	\$15,000	\$7,500	
Eagles Nest Art Center	\$7,320	Advertising and upgrades	\$7,320	\$4,000	
Lake Hartwell Country	\$10,000	Advertising	\$10,000	\$5,000	
South Carolina Apple Festival	\$10,000	Advertising	\$6,000	\$4,000	
The FARM Center	\$20,000	Digital sign, facility signage	\$20,000	\$3,600	
Upstate Heritage Quilt Trail	\$1,622	Advertising, equipment, digital marketing	\$1,622	\$1,000	
Walhalla Performing Arts Center	\$12,000	Advertising 2026 Season	\$12,000	\$6,650	
Westminster Music Center	\$11,083	2026 Music on Main	\$11,083	\$6,650	
Wild Hearts Equine Therapeutic Center	\$6,000	Construct RV sites and advertising	\$6,000	\$4,000	
	\$120,084		\$116,084	\$50,000	
PRT Internal Request					
PRT	South Cove Pavilion Repair	\$30,000	Construction repairs to unsafe posts	\$30,000	\$30,000
PRT	South Cove Maintenance	\$7,000	Emergency repairs-Restroom HVAC/Office	\$7,000	\$7,000
PRT	Chau Ram Mower	\$12,100	State Contract mower replacement	\$12,100	\$12,100
PRT	Granicus Contract	\$33,374	3-year renewal Short Term Rental software	\$33,374	\$33,374
PRT	Horton Complex sign	\$10,000	Partnership w/ Westminster-digital sign	\$10,000	\$10,000
		\$92,474		\$92,474	\$92,474
Total					\$142,474

Request for Council's approval for the submission of the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Oconee County Opioid Recovery Fund Application to the South Carolina Opioid Recovery Fund (SCORF) Board for consideration

- The Opioid Recovery Fund is settlement funding through a yearly requisition process to the State of South Carolina Opioid Recovery Fund (SCORF) Board.
- The abatement strategies, or, proposed projects are approved by the SCORF Board after requests for funding and yearly strategies have been submitted to them.
- Once abatement strategies and funding are approved by SCORF, awarded funds are sent to Oconee County for program implementation.
- The application, includes the request for funding, in the amount of \$2,309,744.49 includes projects for the Oconee County Sheriff's Office, Coroner, Emergency Services, as well as, various recovery and prevention programs.
- The County's current available amount is \$2,627,091.96.

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

It is staff's recommendation that Council approve the submission of the FY 2026-2027 Oconee County Opioid Recovery Fund application to the South Carolina Opioid Recovery Fund Board.

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Applicant	Funds Requested	Project Description	Amount Eligible	Opioid Task Force Recommendation
Christ Centreal Ministries Oconee / OARS	\$ 283,960.00	Harm Reduction Program - Continuation	\$ 283,960.00	\$ 283,960.00
Magnolia House	\$ 185,644.00	Recovery Housing Program for Women in Oconee County - Continuation	\$ 185,644.00	\$ 185,644.00
In His Arms Ministries	\$ 350,000.00	Establishment of a new recovery center in Oconee County - Denied	\$ 350,000.00	\$ -
Kingdom Over Culture	\$ 142,500.00	Recovery Housing Program for Women in Oconee County - Continuation	\$ 142,500.00	\$ 142,500.00
PlaySafe	\$ 110,000.00	Evidence-Based Prevention Program for Athletes/Students - Continuation	\$ 110,000.00	\$ 110,000.00
Giant Slayers Ministries	\$ 76,450.00	Coprehensive, Wrap-Around Services to Individuals with OUD - Continuation	\$ 76,450.00	\$ 76,450.00
FAVOR Upstate	\$ 130,273.56	Comprehensive Recovery Services for People with OUD - Continuation	\$ 130,273.56	\$ 130,273.56
Westminster Fire Department	\$ 78,188.28	Rapid Response to Overdose Patients in Wooded Areas - New	\$ 75,996.88	\$ 75,996.88
City of Seneca Police Department	\$ 67,000.00	Pill Take Back Boxes and Narcotics Removal Vehicle - Continuation	\$ 67,000.00	\$ 67,000.00
Tamassee DAR	\$ 112,202.00	Recovery Housing Program for Women with Children in Oconee County - Continuation	\$ 112,202.00	\$ 112,202.00
Prisma Health	\$ 85,000.00	Designated Vehicle and Monitor for Opioid Response Personnel - New	\$ 85,000.00	\$ 85,000.00
Oconee County Detention Center	\$ 472,708.05	Address the Needs of Criminal Justice-Involved Persons - New	\$ 472,708.05	\$ 472,708.05
Oconee County Coroner	\$ 81,610.00	Evidence-Based Data Collection and Research - New	\$ 81,610.00	\$ 81,610.00
Oconee County Emergency Services	\$ 105,900.00	Invest in Infrastructure and Staffing to Support Collaborative Coordination - Continuation	\$ 105,900.00	\$ 105,900.00
Oconee County Sheriff's Office	\$ 51,500.00	Evidence-Based Sata Collection and Research; LEAD (Prevention Program) - New	\$ 51,500.00	\$ 182,000.00
NOLA Network Recovery Bridges Program	\$ 198,500.00	Increased Access to Comprehensive, Evidence-Based Recovery Services - Continuation	\$ 198,500.00	\$ 198,500.00
	\$ 2,531,435.89		\$ 2,529,244.49	\$ 2,309,744.49
			Total	\$ 2,309,744.49

Council Committee Reports

Transportation Committee / Mr. HartMarch 17, 2026

Board & Commission Appointments

The Board & Commission seats listed below are co-terminus with Council District seats and will require [in the 1st quarter of 2027] appointment and/or reappointment as follows:

Building Codes Appeal Board..... 1 At-Large Seat

- No questionnaires on file

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. Receive legal advice and discuss potential contractual matter regarding utilities / infrastructure project(s).
2. Discussion regarding an economic development matter, Project Fox.
3. Receive legal advice and discuss fiscal / accounting review processes.

Adjourn

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