



# UPDATED AGENDA

## OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

May 5, 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

### 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. April 21, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes**

**2. April 29, 2026 Special Meeting Minutes**

**3. Procurement Item:**

**Kubota Tractor**

**Department: Airport**

**Amount: \$80,596.42**

Procurement was approved by Council in Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget process  
(Ordinance 2026-09)

Budget: \$80,596.42    Project Cost: \$80,596.42    Balance: \$0.00

*It is the staff's recommendation that Council:*

- 1. Approve the purchase of a Kubota Tractor with Land Pride Attachments from Oakway Tractor, Inc of Seneca, SC, in the amount of \$80,596.42, per Sourcewell Contract #'s 082923-KBA & 032525-LPI.*
- 2. Authorize the County Administrator to transfer funds to the appropriate line item.*

### Proclamations

**PROCLAMATION 2026-04 A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE WALHALLA HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' VARSITY BASKETBALL TEAM ON THEIR SECOND CLASS 3A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP**

#### COUNCIL MEMBERS

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

**PROCLAMATION 2026-05** A PROCLAMATION FOR THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER  
**PROCLAMATION 2026-06** A PROCLAMATION FOR PEACE OFFICERS' MEMORIAL DAY

## **Presentation To Council**

*Appalachian Council of Government – Mr. Steve Pelissier / Executive Director*

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

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

## **Council Member Comments**

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

**ORDINANCE 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.

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

**ORDINANCE 2026-10** *(see caption above)*

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

*None for this meeting.*

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

**ORDINANCE 2026-01** AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE BUDGET FOR OCONEE COUNTY AND PROVIDE 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, 2026 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2027.

*(in title only)*

### **COUNCIL MEMBERS**

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

**ORDINANCE 2026-02** AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE BUDGET FOR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF OCONEE COUNTY AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES FOR THE OPERATIONS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF OCONEE COUNTY FOR THE **FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2026 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2027.**

*(in title only)*

**ORDINANCE 2026-03** AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES FOR THE KEOWEE FIRE TAX DISTRICT AND TO ESTABLISH THE BUDGET FOR THE KEOWEE FIRE TAX DISTRICT FOR THE **FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2026 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2027.** *(in title only)*

**ORDINANCE 2026-12** AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES FOR THE CORINTH-SHILOH SPECIAL PURPOSE TAX DISTRICT FOR FIRE PROTECTION AND TO ESTABLISH THE BUDGET FOR THE CORINTH-SHILOH SPECIAL PURPOSE TAX DISTRICT FOR FIRE PROTECTION FOR THE **FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2026 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2027.** *(in title only)*

**ORDINANCE 2026-13** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A REAL PROPERTY LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN OCONEE COUNTY, AS LESSOR, AND OCONEE HISTORY MUSEUM, INC., AS LESSEE, FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY, KNOWN AS THE TOBACCO BARN, LOCATED AT 123 BROWN SQUARE DRIVE, WALHALLA, SOUTH CAROLINA; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO. *(in title only)*

**ORDINANCE 2026-14** AN ORDINANCE TO EXEMPT FROM THE PROPERTY TAX, FORTY-TWO AND 75/100 PERCENT OF THE FAIR MARKET VALUE OF A WATERCRAFT AND ITS MOTOR PURSUANT TO S.C. CODE ANN. SECTION 12-37-220 (B)(38)(B). *(in title only)*

**ORDINANCE 2026-15** AN ORDINANCE TO IMPOSE A MORATORIUM ON ANY NEW CONSTRUCTION OR DEVELOPMENT OF PLANNED SUBDIVISIONS SEEKING TO ESTABLISH MORE THAN 10 RESIDENTIAL DWELLING UNITS, AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO. *(in title only)* Requested by Councilman Mr. Don Mize

**ORDINDNCE 2026-16** AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF SENECA FOR THE ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATION OF 911 AND DISPATCH COMMUNICATION SERVICES; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO. *(in title only)*

**ORDINANCE 2026-17** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 38 OF THE OCONEE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES TO RENAME THE "CONTROL FREE DISTRICT" AND ITS ABBREVIATION "CFD" TO THE "GENERAL USE DISTRICT" AND "GUD" RESPECTIVELY, AND TO MAKE CONFORMING CHANGES THROUGHOUT CHAPTER 38; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO. *(in title only)*

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

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

## First & Final Reading for the Following Resolutions

*None for this meeting.*

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

#### Discussion Regarding Action Items

~~*Council consideration of approval to remove the former Oconee County Courthouse from the National Register of Historic Places*~~ *(This item has been removed from the agenda prior to the meeting.)*

#### ***Approval for the Transfer of Funds, in the Amount of \$13,900.00, to Cover the Reduced Probate Court Budget***

The Oconee County Administrator is authorized to 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) Dollars.

The maximum sum of such transfers has occurred during the current fiscal year, requiring Council authorization for all salary appropriation transfers going forward.

Probate Court is requesting a budget transfer to cover expenditures that were reduced by the previous County Administrator. The reduction was to be covered via a transfer from the Administrator's Contingency line item, if needed. Due to the reductions, the Probate Court accounts are currently with negative balances.

Funding is available as a result of the Assessor's employee vacancies, resulting in available, budgeted funds in the employee health insurance fringe account.

*Staff recommends Council approve the transfer of funds from the Assessor's health insurance fringe account to various Probate Court line items.*

#### ***Approval for the Transfer of Funds, in the Amount of \$15,000.00, to Cover Expenditures Related to May Jury Summons Court Costs***

The Oconee County Administrator is authorized to 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) Dollars.

The maximum sum of such transfers has occurred during the current fiscal year, requiring Council authorization for all salary appropriation transfers going forward.

The Clerk of Court is requesting a budget transfer to cover expenditures related to a May Jury Summons of approximately 700+ jurors.

Funding is available from unfilled employee positions budgeted in the Assessor's Salary line item.

*Staff recommends Council approve the transfer of funds from salaries for costs associated with the Clerk of Court's May Jury Summons.*

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Thomas James, Chair Pro-Tem, District IV      John Elliott, District I  
Glenn Hart, District V

***Approval for the Transfer of Funds, in the amount of \$70,000.00, to provide grant match funds for the City of Walhalla Fire Department’s grant***

The Oconee County Administrator is authorized to 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) Dollars. The Administrator has reached the maximum approval limit for such transfers and now must obtain Council approval.

On May 20, 2025, County Council made a motion, approved by a 4 – 0 vote, directing County Administrator to identify funding, in the amount of \$70,000.00, for the City of Walhalla to provide fire and emergency response to County citizens and citizens/businesses within City limits. However, the funding was omitted from the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget Ordinance for the third and final reading. Available funding has been identified in employee fringe accounts with surplus balances resulting from unfilled positions in the Roads and Bridges (601) and Solicitor (504) Departments.

*Staff recommends that Council approve the transfer of budgeted funds from Roads and Bridges and the Solicitor’s Department to provide the required grant math for the Walhalla Fire Department.*

***Approval for the Transfer of Funds, in the Amount of \$66,320.00, to Cover the Building Codes RCI Invoices for April 2026-June 2026***

The Oconee County Administrator is authorized to 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) Dollars. The Administrator has reached the maximum approval limit for such transfers and now must obtain Council approval.

Due to the increased volume of inspection services and commercial plan reviews, the current budget for these expenditures is no longer sufficient to cover the RCI invoices associated with the additional inspections. Although the revenue collected under Building Codes’ Plan Review Fee (010-080-00805-13705) is intended to offset the RCI billings, accounting rules prevent these revenues from being posted to the expenditure code – and likewise prevent expenditures from being posted to the revenue code. As a result, the professional services expenditure line requires a budget transfer.

Funding is available from budgeted employee fringe accounts with surplus balances created by unfilled positions in the Solicitor (504) and Solid Waste (718) departments.

*Staff recommends that Council approve the transfer of budgeted funds from the unused fringe accounts of the Solicitor, Clerk of Court, and Solid Waste Departments to cover Building Codes Department’s RCI inspection invoices for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2025-2026 (April – June).*

**Council Committee Reports**

*Budget, Finance and Administration Committee / Mr. Durham .....April 21, 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

**Agricultural Advisory Board ..... District 1**

- One questionnaire on file

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Glenn Hart, District V

## **Executive Session**

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

1. *Discussion regarding an economic development matter, Project Hawk.*
2. *Receive legal advice and discuss potential contractual matters related to Emergency Services.*
3. *Discuss a contractual matter regarding law enforcement safety equipment.*
4. *Discussion of personnel matters related to Emergency Services and regarding a pending threatened or potential claim.*
5. *Receive legal advice and discuss contractual matter regarding pending threatened or potential claim.*
6. *Receive legal advice and discuss contractual and personnel matters regarding Roads and Bridges.*

## **Adjourn**

### **COUNCIL MEMBERS**

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