

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF OCONEE
ORDINANCE 2026-09**

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.

BE IT ORDAINED, by the County Council for Oconee County, South Carolina, in meeting duly assembled, that:

SECTION I:

“AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE BUDGET FOR OCONEE COUNTY, AND PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES WHICH PROVIDES 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”, Ordinance 2025-01, is hereby amended and modified to:

- 1) Authorize the transfer of \$3,385,904 of the proceeds from the 2023 General Obligation Bond proceeds from the 012 Capital Projects Fund to the 315 Economic Development Fund, reimbursing qualifying prior-year expenditures incurred in the 315 Economic Development Capital Projects Fund.

- 2) Authorize a transfer of \$500,000 in available net position from the 017 Rock Quarry Enterprise Fund to the General Fund.
- 3) Appropriate fund balance of \$20,000 for payout of a retiring Visit Oconee employee's sick pay and a portion of the South Cove Park pickle ball courts construction from within the 230 State Accommodations Tax Special Revenue Fund.
- 4) Appropriate fund balance of \$580,000 for a portion of the South Cove Park pickle ball courts construction from within the 235 Local Accommodations Tax Special Revenue Fund.
- 5) Recognize SC National Heritage Corridor Grant revenue in the amount of \$24,628 for the High Falls Park fishing dock in the 235 Local Accommodations Tax Special Revenue Fund.
- 6) Recognize SC National Heritage Corridor Grant revenue in the amount of \$20,000 for the South Cove Park fishing dock in the 235 Local Accommodations Tax Special Revenue Fund.
- 7) Recognize SC National Heritage Corridor Grant revenue in the amount of \$14,372 for the South Cove Park kayak dock in the 235 Local Accommodations Tax Special Revenue Fund.
- 8) Authorize a transfer of \$1,413,500 in available fund balance from the 250 Tri-County Technical College Special Revenue Fund to the General Fund.
- 9) Appropriate fund balance of \$86,500 for feasibility study for a potential Tri-County Technical College forestry and workforce-related facility associated with the Oconee Industry and Technology Park from within the 250 Tri-County Technical College Special Revenue Fund.
- 10) Authorize a transfer of \$430,000 in available fund balance from the 275 Community Health & Human Services Special Revenue Fund to the General Fund.
- 11) Authorize a transfer of \$3,385,904 in available fund balance from the 315 Economic Development Capital Projects Fund to the General Fund. Funds available due to the 2023 GO Bond reimbursement of prior year expenditures.
- 12) Authorize a transfer of \$1,783,376 in available fund balance from the 315 Economic Development Capital Projects Fund to the General Fund. Funds available due to the OJRSA refund of an overpayment.
- 13) Authorize a transfer of \$1,000,000 in available fund balance from the 315 Economic Development Capital Projects Fund to the General Fund.

- 14) Authorize a transfer of \$1,000,000 in available fund balance from the 325 Capital Equipment & Vehicle Capital Projects Fund to the General Fund.
- 15) Appropriate fund balance of \$200,000 for the purchase of ballistic capital equipment for the Sheriff's Department from within the 325 Capital Equipment and Vehicle Capital Projects Fund.
- 16) Appropriate fund balance of \$80,597 for the purchase of a Kubota tractor including attachments for the Airport from within the 325 Capital Equipment and Vehicle Capital Projects Fund.
- 17) Appropriate fund balance of \$10,134 for the Solid Waste horizontal grinder equipment repairs in the 325 Capital Equipment and Vehicle Capital Projects Fund.
- 18) Appropriate fund balance of \$879,010 for a portion of the South Cove Park pickle ball courts construction from within the 330 PRT Capital Projects Fund.
- 19) Appropriate fund balance of \$70,990 for a concrete slab foundation for the pre-engineered metal maintenance building at Chau Ram Park from within the 330 PRT Capital Projects Fund.
- 20) Authorize a transfer of \$1,000,000 in available fund balance from the 335 Fire/Emergency Services Capital Projects Fund to the General Fund.
- 21) Appropriate fund balance of \$96,669 for the refurbishment of the Sutphen fire truck from within the 335 Fire/Emergency Services Capital Projects Fund.
- 22) Authorize a transfer of \$1,000,000 in available fund balance from the 340 Capital Request Fund to the General Fund.
- 23) Appropriate fund balance of \$16,870 for repairs related to the Detention Center's bar screen from within the 340 Capital Request Capital Projects Fund.
- 24) Appropriate fund balance of \$60,845 for PAI Health Insurance Administrative Runout for May and June from within the General Fund.
- 25) Appropriate fund balance of \$31,122 for Retiree Supplement (Exhibit A) for May and June from within the General Fund.
- 26) Appropriate net position of \$1,436 for Retiree Supplement (Exhibit A) for May and June from within the 017 Rock Quarry Enterprise Fund.

SECTION II:

The 2025-2026 Oconee County Budget is hereby amended by adding the following, for the aforesated purposes:

Fund: 010 General Fund

Revenues and Funding Sources

Interfund Transfers from 017 Rock Quarry Enterprise Fund	\$ 500,000
Interfund Transfers from 250 Tri-County Technical College Special Revenue Fund	1,413,500
Interfund Transfers from 275 Community Health & Human Services Special Revenue Fund	430,000
Interfund Transfers from 315 Economic Development Capital Projects Fund	3,385,904
Interfund Transfers from 315 Economic Development Capital Projects Fund	1,783,376
Interfund Transfers from 315 Economic Development Capital Projects Fund	1,000,000
Interfund Transfers from 325 Capital Equipment & Vehicle Capital Projects Fund	1,000,000
Interfund Transfers from 335 Fire/Emergency Services Capital Projects Fund	1,000,000
Interfund Transfers from 340 Capital Requests Capital Projects Fund	1,000,000
Fund Balance	31,122
Fund Balance	60,845
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	\$ 11,604,747

Appropriations

Fund Balance	\$ 11,512,780
Retiree Supplement (Exhibit A) for May and June	31,122
PAI Health Insurance Administrative Runout for May and June	60,845
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	\$ 11,604,747

Fund: 012 General Capital Projects Fund

Revenues and Funding Sources

Fund Balance	\$ 3,385,904
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Appropriations

Interfund Transfers to 315 Economic Development Capital Projects Fund	\$ 3,385,904
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Fund: 230 State Accommodations Tax Special Revenue Fund

Revenues and Funding Sources

Fund Balance	\$ 20,000
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Appropriations

Oconee County ATAX Commission	\$ 17,377
Capital Improvements - Pickle Ball Courts	2,623
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	\$ 20,000

Fund: 235 Local Accommodations Tax Special Revenue Fund

Revenues and Funding Sources

Fund Balance	\$ 580,000
SC National Heritage Corridor Grant Revenue - High Falls Park Fishing Dock	24,628
SC National Heritage Corridor Grant Revenue - South Cove Park Kayak Dock	14,372
SC National Heritage Corridor Grant Revenue - South Cove Park Fishing Dock	20,000
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	\$ 639,000

<u>Appropriations</u>	
Capital Improvements - Pickle Ball Courts	\$ 639,000

Fund: 250 Tri-County Technical College Special Revenue Fund

<u>Revenues and Funding Sources</u>	
Fund Balance	\$ 1,413,500
Fund Balance	86,500
	<hr/> \$ 1,500,000

<u>Appropriations</u>	
Interfund Transfers to 010 General Fund	\$ 1,413,500
TCTC Special Projects Funding	86,500
	<hr/> \$ 1,500,000

Fund: 275 Community Health & Human Services Special Revenue Fund

<u>Revenues and Funding Sources</u>	
Fund Balance	\$ 430,000

<u>Appropriations</u>	
Interfund Transfers to 010 General Fund	\$ 430,000

Fund: 315 Economic Development Capital Projects Fund

<u>Revenues and Funding Sources</u>	
Fund Balance	\$ 1,783,376
Fund Balance	1,000,000
Interfund Transfers from 012 General Capital Projects Fund	3,385,904
	<hr/> \$ 6,169,280

<u>Appropriations</u>	
Interfund Transfers to 010 General Fund	\$ 1,783,376
Interfund Transfers to 010 General Fund	1,000,000
Interfund Transfers to 010 General Fund	3,385,904
	<hr/> \$ 6,169,280

Fund: 325 Capital Equipment & Vehicle Capital Projects Fund

<u>Revenues and Funding Sources</u>	
Fund Balance	\$ 1,000,000
Fund Balance	10,134
Fund Balance	200,000
Fund Balance	80,597
	<hr/> \$ 1,290,731

<u>Appropriations</u>	
Interfund Transfers to 010 General Fund	\$ 1,000,000
Administrator - Capital Vehicles	10,134
Sheriff - Capital Equipment	200,000
Airport - Capital Equipment	80,597
	<hr/> \$ 1,290,731

Fund: 330 PRT Capital Projects Fund

Revenues and Funding Sources

Fund Balance	\$ 879,010
Fund Balance	70,990
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	\$ 950,000

Appropriations

South Cove Park - Capital Improvements-Pickle Ball Courts	\$ 879,010
Chau Ram Park - Capital Improvements - Concrete Slab Foundation	70,990
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	\$ 950,000

Fund: 335 Fire/Emergency Services Capital Projects Fund

Revenues and Funding Sources

Fund Balance	\$ 1,000,000
Fund Balance	96,669
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	\$ 1,096,669

Appropriations

Interfund Transfers to 010 General Fund	\$ 1,000,000
Emergency Services - Vehicle Maintenance	96,669
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	\$ 1,096,669

Fund: 340 Capital Requests Capital Projects Fund

Revenues and Funding Sources

Fund Balance	\$ 1,000,000
Fund Balance	16,870
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	\$ 1,016,870

Appropriations

Interfund Transfers to 010 General Fund	\$ 1,000,000
Detention Center - Maintenance Buildings/Grounds-Bar Screen	16,870
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	\$ 1,016,870

Fund: 017 Rock Quarry Enterprise Fund

Revenues and Funding Sources

Net Position	\$ 510,436
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Appropriations

Interfund Transfers to 010 General Fund	\$ 500,000
Retiree Supplement (Exhibit A) for May and June	1,436
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	\$ 510,436

SECTION III:

In the aggregate, the adopted fiscal year 2025-2026 budget, prior to these amendments stands at:

Governmental Funds - Original FY25-26 Budget Ordinance 2025-01

Fund: 010 General Fund

Budgetary Revenues and Other Financing Sources	\$	66,335,544
Budgetary Expenditures and Other Financing Uses		66,335,544
Budgetary Change in Fund Balance (Increase/(Decrease))	\$	-

Fund: 012 General Capital Projects Fund

Budgetary Revenues and Other Financing Sources	\$	-
Budgetary Expenditures and Other Financing Uses		-
Budgetary Change in Fund Balance (Increase/(Decrease))	\$	-

Fund: 230 State Accommodations Tax Special Revenue Fund

Budgetary Revenues and Other Financing Sources	\$	592,576
Budgetary Expenditures and Other Financing Uses		592,576
Budgetary Change in Fund Balance (Increase/(Decrease))	\$	-

Fund: 235 Local Accommodations Tax Special Revenue Fund

Budgetary Revenues and Other Financing Sources	\$	1,107,000
Budgetary Expenditures and Other Financing Uses		1,107,000
Budgetary Change in Fund Balance (Increase/(Decrease))	\$	-

Fund: 250 Tri-County Technical College Special Revenue Fund

Budgetary Revenues and Other Financing Sources	\$	3,260,042
Budgetary Expenditures and Other Financing Uses		3,260,042
Budgetary Change in Fund Balance (Increase/(Decrease))	\$	-

Fund: 275 Community Health & Human Services Special Revenue Fund

Budgetary Revenues and Other Financing Sources	\$	5,170,709
Budgetary Expenditures and Other Financing Uses		5,170,709
Budgetary Change in Fund Balance (Increase/(Decrease))	\$	-

Fund: 315 Economic Development Capital Projects Fund

Budgetary Revenues and Other Financing Sources	\$	2,401,096
Budgetary Expenditures and Other Financing Uses		1,801,096
Budgetary Change in Fund Balance (Increase/(Decrease))	*	\$ 600,000

Fund: 325 Capital Equipment & Vehicle Capital Projects Fund

Budgetary Revenues and Other Financing Sources	\$	1,740,018
Budgetary Expenditures and Other Financing Uses		1,740,018
Budgetary Change in Fund Balance (Increase/(Decrease))	\$	-

Fund: 330 PRT Capital Projects Fund

Budgetary Revenues and Other Financing Sources	\$	728,269
Budgetary Expenditures and Other Financing Uses		728,269
Budgetary Change in Fund Balance (Increase/(Decrease))	\$	-

Fund: 335 Fire/Emergency Services Capital Projects Fund

Budgetary Revenues and Other Financing Sources	\$	1,456,538
Budgetary Expenditures and Other Financing Uses		1,456,538
Budgetary Change in Fund Balance (Increase/(Decrease))	\$	-

Fund: 340 Capital Requests Capital Projects Fund

Budgetary Revenues and Other Financing Sources	\$	1,456,538
Budgetary Expenditures and Other Financing Uses		1,337,823
Budgetary Change in Fund Balance (Increase/(Decrease))	** \$	118,715

Enterprise Fund - Original FY25-26 Budget Ordinance 2025-01

Fund: 017 Rock Quarry Enterprise Fund

Budgetary Revenues	\$	10,050,000
Budgetary Expenses		9,490,232
Budgetary Transfers		1,500,000
Budgetary Transfer to Net Position for Land Acquisition		250,000
Budgetary Change in Net Position (Increase/(Decrease))	\$	(1,190,232)

As so amended, herein, the new amended budget will be:

Governmental Funds - Amended Budget

Fund: 010 General Fund

Budgetary Revenues and Other Financing Sources	\$	66,335,544
Interfund Transfers from 017 Rock Quarry Enterprise Fund		500,000
Interfund Transfers from 250 Tri-County Technical College Special Revenue Fund		1,413,500
Interfund Transfers from 275 Community Health & Human Services Special Revenue Fund		430,000
Interfund Transfers from 315 Economic Development Capital Projects Fund		3,385,904
Interfund Transfers from 315 Economic Development Capital Projects Fund		1,783,376
Interfund Transfers from 315 Economic Development Capital Projects Fund		1,000,000
Interfund Transfers from 325 Capital Equipment & Vehicle Capital Projects Fund		1,000,000
Interfund Transfers from 335 Fire/Emergency Services Capital Projects Fund		1,000,000
Interfund Transfers from 340 Capital Requests Capital Projects Fund		1,000,000
Budgetary Expenditures and Other Financing Uses		66,335,544
Retiree Supplement (Exhibit A) for May and June		31,122
PAI Health Insurance Administrative Runout for May and June		60,845
Budgetary Change in Fund Balance (Increase/(Decrease))	\$	11,420,813

Fund: 012 General Capital Projects Fund

Budgetary Revenues and Other Financing Sources	\$	-
Budgetary Expenditures and Other Financing Uses		-
Interfund Transfers to 315 Economic Development Capital Projects Fund		3,385,904
Budgetary Change in Fund Balance (Increase/(Decrease))	\$	(3,385,904)

Fund: 230 State Accommodations Tax Special Revenue Fund

Budgetary Revenues and Other Financing Sources	\$	592,576
Budgetary Expenditures and Other Financing Uses		592,576
Oconee County ATAX Commission		17,377
Capital Improvements - Pickle Ball Courts		2,623
Budgetary Change in Fund Balance (Increase/(Decrease))	\$	(20,000)

Fund: 235 Local Accommodations Tax Special Revenue Fund

Budgetary Revenues and Other Financing Sources	\$	1,107,000
SC National Heritage Corridor Grant Revenue - High Falls Park Fishing Dock		24,628
SC National Heritage Corridor Grant Revenue - South Cove Park Kayak Dock		14,372
SC National Heritage Corridor Grant Revenue - South Cove Park Fishing Dock		20,000
Budgetary Expenditures and Other Financing Uses		1,107,000
Capital Improvements - Pickle Ball Courts		639,000
Budgetary Change in Fund Balance (Increase/(Decrease))	\$	(580,000)

Fund: 250 Tri-County Technical College Special Revenue Fund

Budgetary Revenues and Other Financing Sources	\$	3,260,042
Budgetary Expenditures and Other Financing Uses		4,760,042
TCTC Special Projects Funding		86,500
Interfund Transfers to 010 General Fund		1,413,500
Budgetary Change in Fund Balance (Increase/(Decrease))	\$	(1,500,000)

Fund: 275 Community Health & Human Services Special Revenue Fund

Budgetary Revenues and Other Financing Sources	\$	5,170,709
Budgetary Expenditures and Other Financing Uses		5,170,709
Interfund Transfers to 010 General Fund		430,000
Budgetary Change in Fund Balance (Increase/(Decrease))	\$	(430,000)

Fund: 315 Economic Development Capital Projects Fund

Budgetary Revenues and Other Financing Sources	\$	2,401,096
Interfund Transfers from 012 General Capital Projects Fund		3,385,904
Budgetary Expenditures and Other Financing Uses		1,801,096
Interfund Transfers to 010 General Fund		1,783,376
Interfund Transfers to 010 General Fund		1,000,000
Interfund Transfers to 010 General Fund		3,385,904
Budgetary Change in Fund Balance (Increase/(Decrease))	* \$	(2,183,376)

Fund: 325 Capital Equipment & Vehicle Capital Projects Fund

Budgetary Revenues and Other Financing Sources	\$	1,740,018
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Budgetary Expenditures and Other Financing Uses	1,740,018
Administrator - Capital Vehicles	10,134
Sheriff - Capital Equipment	200,000
Airport - Capital Equipment	80,597
Interfund Transfers to 010 General Fund	1,000,000
Budgetary Change in Fund Balance (Increase/(Decrease))	<u>\$ (1,290,731)</u>

Fund: 330 PRT Capital Projects Fund

Budgetary Revenues and Other Financing Sources	\$ 728,269
Budgetary Expenditures and Other Financing Uses	728,269
South Cove Park - Capital Improvements-Pickle Ball Courts	879,010
Chau Ram Park - Capital Improvements - Concrete Slab Foundation	70,990
Budgetary Change in Fund Balance (Increase/(Decrease))	<u>\$ (950,000)</u>

Fund: 335 Fire/Emergency Services Capital Projects Fund

Budgetary Revenues and Other Financing Sources	\$ 1,456,538
Budgetary Expenditures and Other Financing Uses	1,456,538
Emergency Services - Vehicle Maintenance	96,669
Interfund Transfers to 010 General Fund	1,000,000
Budgetary Change in Fund Balance (Increase/(Decrease))	<u>\$ (1,096,669)</u>

Fund: 340 Capital Requests Capital Projects Fund

Budgetary Revenues and Other Financing Sources	\$ 1,456,538
Budgetary Expenditures and Other Financing Uses	1,337,823
Detention Center - Maintenance Buildings/Grounds-Bar Screen	16,870
Interfund Transfers to 010 General Fund	1,000,000
Budgetary Change in Fund Balance (Increase/(Decrease))	** <u>\$ (898,155)</u>

Enterprise Fund - Amended Budget

Fund: 017 Rock Quarry Enterprise Fund

Budgetary Revenues	\$ 10,050,000
Budgetary Expenses	9,490,232
Retiree Supplement (Exhibit A) for May and June	1,436
Budgetary Transfers	1,500,000
Interfund Transfers to 010 General Fund	500,000
Budgetary Transfer to Net Position for Land Acquisition	250,000
Budgetary Change in Net Position (Increase/(Decrease))	<u>\$ (1,691,668)</u>

SECTION IV:

Except as specifically modified, amended or deleted herein, all appropriations of funds created by the “**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**”, Ordinance 2026-09, are hereby ratified and shall remain in full force and effect as originally adopted. All other sections of Ordinance 2025-01 not modified, directly or by implication shall likewise remain in full force and effect. This ordinance shall take effect immediately on approval on third reading. All ordinances and resolutions inconsistent herewith are, to the extent of such inconsistency only, hereby revoked, repealed, and rescinded.

Passed and approved this day, _____, of _____ 2026.

OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

Matthew Durham, Council Chairman
Oconee County, South Carolina

ATTEST

Jennifer C. Adams
Clerk to County Council

First Reading (*in title only*): April 07, 2026
Second Reading: April 21, 2026
Public Hearing: April 29, 2026
Third & Final Reading: April 29, 2026

EXHIBIT A

AMENDMENTS TO OCONEE COUNTY'S POLICY REGARDING RETIREE *[HEALTH]* BENEFITS

THESE PROVISIONS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE, AND OCONEE COUNTY'S ABILITY TO FUND THESE BENEFITS CAN BE IMPACTED BY FISCAL CHALLENGES AND LEGISLATIVE CHANGES. DUE TO THE RISK OF UNKNOWN CIRCUMSTANCES, THE BENEFITS, AS DESCRIBED HEREIN, MAY BE DEEMED UNSUSTAINABLE AT SOME FUTURE TIME. THE RETIREE BENEFITS DESCRIBED HEREIN ARE DISCRETIONARY ON THE PART OF THE COUNTY AND DO NOT CREATE ANY EXPRESS OR IMPLIED CONTRACT FOR THESE BENEFITS TO BE PROVIDED IN THE FUTURE OR IN ANY PARTICULAR AMOUNT AT ANY PARTICULAR TIME. NO PAST PRACTICES OR PROCEDURES, PROMISES OR ASSURANCES, WHETHER WRITTEN OR ORAL, FORM ANY EXPRESS OR IMPLIED AGREEMENT TO CONTINUE SUCH PRACTICES OR PROCEDURES, PROMISES OR ASSURANCES. ALL BENEFITS DESCRIBED HEREIN ARE ALWAYS SUBJECT TO ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS BY THE OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL.

1. To the extent there are any inconsistencies between the provisions contained herein and the provisions of "EXHIBIT A" to Ordinance 2026-09, including as adopted by and incorporated in the annual budget ordinances for Oconee County, South Carolina, the provisions herein supersede and replace such provisions, which are hereby revoked and repealed.
2. Oconee County (the "County") acting by and through the Oconee County Council ("County Council") has historically paid a percentage of the total cost of health benefits for certain retirees of Oconee County.
3. **Grandfathered Employees:**
 - a. "Grandfathered Employees" are those employees of Oconee County who had at least twenty (20) consecutive years of full-time employment for Oconee County as of December 31, 2013.
 - b. As the County has transitioned from its prior self-insured health plan ("Former County Plan") to the South Carolina State Insurance Benefits Program offered by the South Carolina Public Employee Benefit Authority, neither Grandfathered Employees nor their spouses may participate in the Former County Plan.
 - c. Once a Grandfathered Employee retires and reaches age 65 or when they become Medicare eligible, whichever occurs first, they will receive a supplemental payment (the "Supplement").
 - d. The Supplement:
 - i. The County desires to contribute the Supplement on a monthly basis to

- all Grandfathered Employees when they retire and reach 65 years of age or when they become Medicare eligible, whichever occurs first.
- ii. Therefore, effective May 1, 2026 the County will begin contributing the Supplement on a monthly basis in the amount of \$239.40 per eligible retired Grandfathered Employee or \$478.80 per month if the eligible retired Grandfathered Employee is married and the spouse was covered under the Former County Plan.

4. **Non-Grandfathered Employees.**

- a. “Non-Grandfathered Employees” are those employees of Oconee County hired prior to December 31, 2003, who complete 20 years of consecutive employment for Oconee County, but who do not qualify as Grandfathered Employees.
 - b. As the County has transitioned from the Former County Plan to the South Carolina State Insurance Benefits Program offered by the South Carolina Public Employee Benefit Authority, neither Non-Grandfathered Employees nor their spouses may participate in the Former County Plan.
 - c. Once a Non-Grandfathered Employee retires and reaches age 65 or when they become Medicare eligible, whichever occurs first, they will receive a supplemental payment (the “Supplement”)
 - d. The Supplement:
 - i. The County desires to contribute the Supplement on a monthly basis to all Non-Grandfathered Employees when they retire and reach 65 years of age or when they become Medicare eligible, whichever occurs first
 - ii. Therefore, effective May 1, 2026 the County will begin contributing the Supplement on a monthly basis in the amount of \$239.40 per eligible retired Grandfathered Employee. No Supplement will be provided the spouses of Non-Grandfathered Employees.
5. For all groups (Grandfathered and Non-Grandfathered), identified in these guidelines, only actual Oconee County employment time is considered for the purpose of determining contributions by Oconee County. No purchased service time of any kind will be considered for any group for purposes of retiree health benefits from Oconee County.

Summary:

Grandfathered Employees

- Must have 20 consecutive years of County employment as of December 31, 2013.
- When retired and having reached age 65 or upon Medicare eligibility, whichever occurs first, a monthly Supplement in the amount of \$239.40 for Retiree or \$478.80 for Retiree/Spouse will be contributed under this ordinance to the subject persons.

Non-Grandfathered Employees

- Must have 20 consecutive years County employment and hired before December 31, 2003.
- When retired and having reached age 65 or upon Medicare eligibility, whichever occurs first, a monthly Supplement in the amount of \$239.40 for Retiree will be contributed under this ordinance to the subject persons. Spouses receive no Supplement.

TRI-COUNTY TECHNICAL COLLEGE



D. Galen DeHay, Ph.D.
President

March 25, 2026

Honorable Matthew Durham
Chairman, Oconee County Council
415 S. Pine Street
Walhalla, SC 29691

Mr. Stewart Jones
County Administrator
Oconee County
415 S. Pine Street
Walhalla, SC 29691

Dear Chairman Durham and Mr. Jones:

I am writing to respectfully request your approval for Tri-County Technical College (TCTC) to utilize \$86,500 from the TCTC fund balance (Account 250-095-00171-00010) to finance the attached proposal from McMillan Pazdan Smith (MPS) to conduct a feasibility study for a potential forestry and workforce-related facility associated with the Oconee Industry and Technology Park. The scope of this study also includes the potential location of the Oconee Economic Alliance in the facility.

The proposed scope of work is limited strictly to a feasibility study and does not constitute authorization for design development, construction, or capital investment. The intent of this effort is to provide objective analysis and decision-support information to determine whether the concept merits further consideration by TCTC, Oconee County, and potential partners.

As outlined in the attached proposal dated January 28, 2026, the feasibility study will evaluate the physical, operational, and financial viability of an envisioned facility that may include forestry technician apprenticeship training space, co-located office space for the Oconee Economic Alliance, shared community meeting space, and associated outdoor instructional elements. Key components of the study include site analysis, space programming, co-location feasibility, conceptual architectural options, preliminary cost modeling, delivery timeline considerations, and alignment with economic and workforce development goals.

This study offers several potential benefits to Oconee County and the region, including:

- Informed decision-making prior to any long-term commitments
- Stronger alignment with forestry, natural resources, and industry-driven workforce needs
- Enhanced coordination with economic development and business attraction efforts
- Sound fiscal stewardship before pursuing external funding or capital investment

The proposed lump sum fee of \$86,500, inclusive of reimbursable expenses, would be funded solely through TCTC's fund balance and would not require a county appropriation. Findings from the study would be shared with Oconee County leadership and relevant stakeholders upon completion.

Tri-County Technical College values its strong partnership with Oconee County and remains committed to transparency, collaboration, and responsible planning. Your approval will allow us to proceed with this feasibility study and ensure that any future discussions regarding facilities or programs are grounded in sound analysis and shared priorities.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have questions or require additional information. Thank you for your continued support of workforce and economic development initiatives in Oconee County.

Sincerely,



Galen DeHay, Ph.D.
President
Tri-County Technical College



January 28, 2026

Galen DeHay, President
Tri-County Technical College
Pendleton, SC 29670

Stewart Jones, Oconee County Administrator

RE: Feasibility Study – Oconee Campus Facility

Dear Galen and Stewart,

McMillan Pazdan Smith (MPS) is pleased to continue to work with Tri-County Technical College, Oconee County and its industry partners on the growth and development of the Oconee Industry and Technology Park. At MPS we believe in a collaborative, multidisciplinary approach to placemaking, and we are excited to be part of the process. Throughout the design process, we will work collaboratively with the client and other stakeholders to ensure that all voices are heard, and the best ideas are realized. The scope and associated fees outlined below have been tailored to our understanding of your priorities.

Scope of Services

TCTC has requested that McMillan Pazdan Smith conduct a feasibility study that evaluates the physical, operational, and financial viability of the envisioned facility and provides recommended design pathways. The study should be grounded in the following program elements:

- Forestry Technician Apprenticeship Training space
- Office space for the Oconee Alliance
- Community room
- Outdoor space for a scaled version of Top of the Tunnels

The current scope of work includes the following assumptions:

- Original site and topographic plans will be provided to McMillan Pazdan Smith from Thomas & Hutton

1. Visioning and Programming

MPS will host a programming meeting to define project goals, space needs and site programming.

2. Programming and Initial Co-location Feasibility

The Project Team will work collaboratively to provide initial program summary and preliminary opinions of cost to analyze early project costs.

3. Conceptual Design and Response Process

The Project Team will work collaboratively to develop design strategies and concepts defined by the Visioning meeting and prepare a conceptual master plan that illustrates the general

Project arrangement and approach. The design team will then present the conceptual master plan to the Owner and additional stakeholders (Tri County Technical College, Oconee County, and others as identified) for review and comment.

4. Conceptual Design Refinement Process:
The Project Team will work collaboratively to refine the design concepts, project cost opinions, project delivery and schedule recommendations in order to prepare a final deliverable package for the Owner's use.

Desired Outcomes of the Study

The feasibility study should deliver the following outcomes:

1. Site Analysis & Suitability
2. Space Program & Functional Requirements
3. Co-Location Feasibility with Oconee Alliance
4. Conceptual Architectural Options
5. Cost Modeling & Funding Alignment
6. Timeline & Project Delivery Recommendations
7. Alignment with Economic & Workforce Goals

Deliverables

1. We anticipate the following final deliverables:
 - a. Written feasibility report
 - b. Space program and site analysis diagrams
 - c. Conceptual architectural drawings (floor plans, site plan, elevations/massing)
 - d. Preliminary cost model
 - e. Presentation of findings to TCTC leadership and key partners

Schedule

1. As soon as practicable after receipt of a written notice to proceed, MPS will submit for the Owner's approval a schedule for the performance of the Architect's services including milestones dates.

Fee

We propose a lump sum fee of \$86,500.00 including reimbursable expenses.

MPS will invoice monthly, reflecting the percentages of work completed.

Thank you again for your time to discuss your needs, and for the opportunity to propose on this project. On behalf of McMillan Pazdan Smith, I want to extend our appreciation of the opportunity to continue to support Tri-County Technical College and Oconee County as each continues to focus on quality of life, education, workforce, and business attraction. Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me at (864) 603-5290 or via email at jgarvin@mcmillanpazdansmith.com



1/28/26

Jonathan Garvin, AIA, NCARB, WELL AP
Senior Associate

DATE

Galen DeHay
President – Tri-County Technical College

DATE

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PETS

Oconee Humane Society offers low-cost spay/neuter vouchers to ALL Oconee County residents. Find out more at oconeehumane.org or call 864-882-4719

REPORT YOUR LOST PET to Oconee County Animal Shelter 888-0221 or email info to: ocas@netmds.com
You may include a photo. We will contact you if we find your pet.

ADOPT A DOG!
Save a Life!
Loyal, loving dogs & puppies \$35 adoption fee includes spay/neuter, vaccines, microchipping. Take a wonderful companion home today!
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: Pursuant to SC Self-Service Storage Facility Act & to satisfy Owner's lien Storage Sense located at 2254 Sandifer Blvd. Westminster, SC, 29693 intends to sell the personal property described below. Everything sold is purchased AS-IS for cashier's check or money orders NO CASH. See and bid on all units 24/7 at www.lockerfox.com Bidding ends on Wednesday, April 29th @ 11am. Storage Sense reserves the right to refuse any bid or rescind any purchase until the winning bidder takes possession of

the property. TERMS are listed on the auction website. B10201, Peter Gilson, Instruments.

GARAGE & YARD SALES

Big Yard Sale!
Thursday-Saturday
Starting at 10 AM
At Provision Beauty Supply Store Area
905 E. N. 1st St., Seneca

There will be many cheap items. Everything must go. Call 864-247-8090 for any more information. Come and shop for your treasure!

The Living Estate of Barbara Reese a 28 year Pickens Flea Market dealer at 160 Bethel Church Rd Westminster (oakway)
Sausage and Coffee 8:00 AM
Hot Dog Plates 10:30 AM
4/11/26 8 AM - 4 PM

Huge Tool Sale!
50 year collection!
1627 Keowee Lakeshore Dr Seneca SC
Friday, April 10th & Saturday, April 11th
8 AM - 3 PM

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PUBLISHERS NOTICE
All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination" based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

LEGALS

Notice of Self Storage Sale
Please take notice Midgard Self Storage - Anderson2 located at 3508 Hopewell Rd Anderson SC 29621 intends to hold an Auction of storage units in default of payment. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.storageauctions.com on 4/24/2026 at 1:00 PM. This sale is pursuant to the assertion of lien for rental at the self-storage facility. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods, furnishings and garage essentials. Joyce Wilson; Joyce Wilson; Tisha Robinson. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply.

Notice of Self Storage Sale
Please take notice Midgard Self Storage - Seneca Boat located at 1448 Blue Ridge Blvd Seneca SC 29672 intends to hold an Auction of storage units in default of payment. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.storageauctions.com on 4/24/2026 at 1:00 PM. This sale is pursuant to the assertion of lien for rental at the self-storage facility. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods, furnishings and garage essentials. Kelly Hanley; Kelly Gibson; Linda Anderson. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply.

Notice of Self Storage Sale
Please take notice Midgard Self Storage - Seneca Greenleaf located at 600 Shiloh Rd Seneca SC 29678 intends to

hold an Auction of storage units in default of payment. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.storageauctions.com on 4/24/2026 at 1:00 PM. This sale is pursuant to the assertion of lien for rental at the self-storage facility. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods, furnishings and garage essentials. Wanda Jones; Nicholas Wourms; Jacob Painter; Gary Entreklin; Richard Czajkowski; Eric Edwards; Kailey Owens; Kelly Ann Abrams; Tokyia Rickmon. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply.

Notice of Self Storage Sale
Please take notice Midgard Self Storage - Anderson located at 3215 N Highway 81 Anderson SC 29621 intends to hold an Auction of storage units in default of payment. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.storageauctions.com on 4/24/2026 at 1:00 PM. This sale is pursuant to the assertion of lien for rental at the self-storage facility. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods, furnishings and garage essentials. Andrea McDowell; Horace Alexander; Hudean Brownlee; Austin Beddingfield; Jason Beauchamp. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF ESTATES

All persons having claims against the following estates MUST file their claims on FORM #371ES with the Probate Court of OCONEE County, the address of which is 415 S PINE ST Walhalla SC 29691, within eight (8) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice to Creditors or within one (1) year from date of death, whichever is earlier (SCPC 62-3-801, et seq.), or such persons shall be forever barred as to their claims. All claims are required to be presented in written statements on the prescribed form (FORM #371ES) indicating the name and address of the claimant, the basis of the claim, the amount claimed, the date when the claim will become due, the nature of any uncertainty as to the claim, and a description of any security as to the claim.

Estate: SHIRLEY E SWAFFORD
Date of Death: 2/15/2026
Case Number: 2026ES3700185
Personal Representative: MILDRED ANN SORRELLS
Address: 142 AVALON DRIVE WALHALLA, SC 29691

Estate: ELIZABETH REED SISSON
Date of Death: 2/28/2026
Case Number: 2026ES3700191
Personal Representative: CRISTINE E VALENTI
Address: 2612 HUNTERS PLACE HIGHLANDS RANCH, CO 80129

Estate: SUSAN MARIE GREEN CONWAY
Date of Death: 1/30/2026
Case Number: 2026ES3700194
Personal Representative: DANNY JONATHAN CONWAY
Address: 185 COUNTRY JUNCTION ROAD WEST UNION, SC 29696
Attorney, if applicable: EMMA W MORRIS
Address: PO BOX 795 SENECA, SC 29679

Estate: LORETTA BALLEW
Date of Death: 5/3/2020
Case Number: 2026ES3700016
Personal Representative: DAVID WESLEY COLVARD
Address: 5120 YELLOW STONE DRIVE FLOWERY BRANCH, GA 30542

Estate: JOHN THOMAS MACISAAC III
Date of Death: 1/29/2026
Case Number: 2026ES3700093
Personal Representative: SALLY ELIOTT MACISAAC
Address: 402 RIDGE POINTE COURT SENECA, SC 29672

Estate: BRANDON JAMES BALEVRE
Date of Death: 1/12/2026
Case Number: 2026ES3700113
Personal Representative: RANDY ALLEN BALEVRE
Address: 100 HENRY AVENUE SENECA, SC 29678
Attorney, if applicable: CAROLYN G BAIRD
Address: PO BOX 987 ANDERSON SC 29622

Estate: JOSHUA DANIEL WILSON
Date of Death: 11/9/2025
Case Number: 2026ES3700115
Personal Representative: JAMES C. WILSON
Address: 232 CASTLEBROOK DR WALHALLA, SC 29691
Attorney, if applicable: M. ED MCLAURIN
Address: 10 COMMONS BLVD SENECA, SC 29678

Estate: KENNETH RUDOLPH BURNSIDE
Date of Death: 3/1/2026
Case Number: 2026ES3700189
Personal Representative: ROBERT CHRISTOPHER BURNSIDE
Address: 638 WEST SPRINGWOOD DR SENECA, SC 29672
Attorney, if applicable: EMMA W. MORRIS
Address: PO BOX 795 SENECA, SC 29679

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Estate: DEBORAH ANN HAYES
Date of Death: 6/3/2025
Case Number: 2026ES3700210
Personal Representative: MARK ANTHONY HAYES
Address: 419 CLEVELAND FERRY ROAD FAIR PLAY, SC 29643
Attorney, if applicable: WILLIAM K. HUBBARD
Address: 1510 BLUE RIDGE BOULEVARD, SUITE 205 SENECA, SC 29672

Estate: DAVID CLARK PRINGLE
Date of Death: 10/21/2025
Case Number: 2026ES3700005
Personal Representative: NIKI SARA PRINGLE
Address: 945 CANDLESTAR LOOP N FOUNTAIN, CO 80817

Estate: ARLENE MAE MANLEY
Date of Death: 3/4/2026
Case Number: 2026ES3700187
Personal Representative: LAURIE BETH TOWER
Address: 20828 59TH AVE NE ARRLINGTON, WA 98223

Estate: DOLORES CLARA SMITH AKA DOLORES C. SMITH
Date of Death: 2/16/2026
Case Number: 2026ES3700207
Personal Representative: STEVEN RICHARD SMITH
Address: 525 NORTH FLAGSHIP DRIVE SALEM, SC 29676
Attorney, if applicable: EMMA W. MORRIS
Address: PO BOX 795 SENECA, SC 29678

Estate: DEBRA LYNN SHAHAN
Date of Death: 12/20/2025
Case Number: 2026ES3700214
Personal Representative: ANTHONY T PHILLIPS
Address: 200 BURNS MILL ROAD WEST UNION, SC 29696
Attorney, if applicable: EMMA W MORRIS
Address: PO BOX 795 SENECA, SC 29679

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Estate: SUSAN MARIE GREEN CONWAY
Date of Death: 1/30/2026
Case Number: 2026ES3700194
Personal Representative: DANNY JONATHAN CONWAY
Address: 185 COUNTRY JUNCTION ROAD WEST UNION, SC 29696
Attorney, if applicable: EMMA W MORRIS
Address: PO BOX 795 SENECA, SC 29679

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Date of Death: 5/3/2020
Case Number: 2026ES3700016
Personal Representative: DAVID WESLEY COLVARD
Address: 5120 YELLOW STONE DRIVE FLOWERY BRANCH, GA 30542

Estate: JOHN THOMAS MACISAAC III
Date of Death: 1/29/2026
Case Number: 2026ES3700093
Personal Representative: SALLY ELIOTT MACISAAC
Address: 402 RIDGE POINTE COURT SENECA, SC 29672

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Date of Death: 1/12/2026
Case Number: 2026ES3700113
Personal Representative: RANDY ALLEN BALEVRE
Address: 100 HENRY AVENUE SENECA, SC 29678
Attorney, if applicable: CAROLYN G BAIRD
Address: PO BOX 987 ANDERSON SC 29622

Estate: JOSHUA DANIEL WILSON
Date of Death: 11/9/2025
Case Number: 2026ES3700115
Personal Representative: JAMES C. WILSON
Address: 232 CASTLEBROOK DR WALHALLA, SC 29691
Attorney, if applicable: M. ED MCLAURIN
Address: 10 COMMONS BLVD SENECA, SC 29678

Estate: KENNETH RUDOLPH BURNSIDE
Date of Death: 3/1/2026
Case Number: 2026ES3700189
Personal Representative: ROBERT CHRISTOPHER BURNSIDE
Address: 638 WEST SPRINGWOOD DR SENECA, SC 29672
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Address: PO BOX 795 SENECA, SC 29679

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Estate: SIDNEY DAVIS
Date of Death: 11/16/2025
Case Number: 2026ES3700206
Personal Representative: LOUVENIA DAVIS
Address: 290 JENKINS BRIDGE ROAD WESTMINSTER, SC 29693

Estate: STANLEY PAUL SMITH
Date of Death: 1/22/2026
Case Number: 2026ES3700088
Personal Representative: RITA DARLENE HIGHTOWER
Address: 170 LEWIN WAY TAMASSEE, SC 29686
Attorney, if applicable: EMMA MORRIS
Address: 107 N. FAIRPLAY STREET SENECA, SC 29678

Estate: LINDA NGUYEN DISANTI
Date of Death: 2/28/2026
Case Number: 2026ES3700220
Personal Representative: LIENANH THUY NGUYEN
Address: 311 HILLDALE RD SENECA, SC 29672
Attorney, if applicable: SCOTT ALLMON
Address: 1606 BLUE RIDGE BLVD SENECA, SC 29678

Estate: JIMMY HOYT COOPER
Date of Death: 10/26/2025
Case Number: 2026ES3700051
Personal Representative: WYLDER HOYT COOPER
Address: 2561 34TH STREET ASTORIA, NY 11103

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell for cash, at an ONLINE public auction on Monday, April 20th, 2026, at 11:00am AT STORAGETREASURES.COM. Please note: THIS AUCTION IS NOT IN PERSON. PLEASE DO NOT SHOW UP TO OUR

PHYSICAL LOCATION. ALL AUCTION PARTICIPANTS MUST SIGN UP AND BID ONLINE.

Flex Storage
640 Business Park Drive Seneca, SC 29678
• 193: SATIN BROWN-410 West South 4th street, Seneca, SC 29678
o CONTENTS: Mattresses, Bed Frame, Couch, Table, Entertainment Center, TV, Washer, Dryer and Boxes
• 207: D ANNA GETER-43 Elm St., Unit 2, Clemson, SC 29631
o CONTENTS: DRESSERS, NIGHT STANDS, BEDFRAMES, MATTRESSES, CLOTHES, TV, LAMPS, PERSONAL EFFECTS.

• 419: PATRICIA LUCE: 8710 Evangeline Drive, Apt. 813, North Charleston, SC 29420
o CONTENTS: Dressers, Mattresses, Bedding, Wall Art, TVs, Boxes, Bags, Personal Effects.

Oconee County Council will hold a special meeting and public hearing at 9 am on Wednesday, April 29, 2026 in Council Chambers located at 415 S. Pine St., Walhalla, SC for the following:

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



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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, Larry Davidson, 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 10, 2026

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



Larry Davidson
General Manager

Velma J. Nelson
Notary Public
State of South Carolina

Subscribed and sworn to before me this
1/10/2026

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HOUSES FOR SALE

PUBLISHERS NOTICE

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitations or discrimination" based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

LEGALS

Public Notice

Linda A. Traynor, Director of the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, is authorizing construction in Navigable Waters Permit to remove 177 cubic yards of silt by using an excavator on a barge at the edge of the shoreline and transported by barge to the off-load staging area. The silt will be removed from under and around the privately owned dock located at 122 Fair Haven Ct in Seneca, SC on Lake Keowee. Comments will be received by South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control at 2600 Bull St, Columbia SC 29201, ATTN: Charles Hightower, Division of Water Quality, until January 23, 2025.

Public Notice

Sharon Swindale has applied to the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control for a Construction in Navigable Waters Permit to remove 256 cubic yards of silt by using an excavator on a barge at the edge of the shoreline and transported by barge to the off-load staging area. The silt will be removed from under and around the privately owned dock located at 13058 Janda Road in Seneca, SC on Lake Keowee. Comments will be received by South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control at 2600 Bull St, Columbia SC 29201, ATTN: Charles Hightower, Division of Water Quality, until January 23, 2025.

The Oconee County Aeronautics Commission meeting scheduled for Thursday January 29, 2026 has been canceled.

The meeting will instead be held on Tuesday January 27, 2026 at 3:30 pm in the Oconee County Chambers located at 415 S. Pine St., Walhalla, SC.

MEETING NOTICE OF THE PIONEER RURAL WATER DISTRICT

5500 West-Oak Hwy., Westminster, SC
Tuesday January 13, 2026 @ 3:00 pm

Agenda:
Call To Order
Concerns of the District
Limited: 2 citizens per meeting, for 5 minutes,
prior scheduling required.
Agenda & Non Agenda Items: Combined both are limited to a total of forty (40) minutes, four (4) minutes per person.
Approval of Minutes
Financial Report / System Report
Treatment Plant PER Discussion
Old Business
New Business
Adjourn

The Oconee County Council will meet in 2026 on the first and third Tuesday of each month with the following exceptions:

June and November meetings, which will be only on the third Tuesday of each of these months; October 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 Friday, February 20, 2026 to establish short- and long-term goals.

This meeting will be held off-site at 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 5, 2027 in Council Chambers at which point they will establish their 2027 Council and Committee meeting schedules. Additional Council meetings, workshops, and/or committee meetings may be added throughout the year as needed.

Oconee County Council Committees will meet in 2026 prior to County Council meetings on the following dates/times in Council Chambers located at 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, South Carolina unless otherwise advertised.

The Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Health, & Welfare Committee at 4:30 p.m. on the following dates: February 17, May 19, July 21, & September 15, 2026.

The Transportation Committee at 4:30 p.m. on the following dates: February 17, May 19, July 21, & September 15, 2026.

The Real Estate, Facilities, & Land Management Committee at 4:30 p.m. on the following dates: April 7, June 16, August 18, & October 06, 2026. The Planning & Economic Development Committee at 4:30 p.m. on

the following dates: April 7, June 16, August 18, & October 06, 2026. The Budget, Finance, & Administration Committee at 9:00 a.m. on the following dates: Friday, February 20th [Strategic Planning Retreat], Friday, February 27th [Budget Workshop] and 4:30 p.m. on the following dates: March 3, April 21, & May 5, 2026.

The Corinth-Shiloh Fire Commission will meet during 2026 on the third Thursday of each month. All Commission meetings, unless otherwise noted, will be held at the Corinth-Shiloh Fire Department, 940 Old Clemson Highway, Seneca, SC 29672, at 6:00 p.m. in the training room.

The Commission will hold two budget workshops on Tuesday, February 12, and Tuesday, March 6, at 6:00 p.m. at the fire department. The annual budget meeting will be held on Thursday, March 19, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Additional Commission meetings and/or workshops may be scheduled throughout the year as needed. A monthly schedule is available at the fire department.

Members of the Commission are invited to attend Corinth-Shiloh Volunteer Fire Department meetings, trainings, and community activities. These events will have no Commission agenda items and no Commission action will be taken. The monthly department meeting is held on the first Monday of each month. Training is held on the third Monday of each month, as well as the Saturday following the third Monday. A monthly schedule of activities, including dates and times, is available at the fire department.

Several fire department ceremonies are planned for 2026, to which the Fire Commission is invited. These events will have no Commission agenda items and no Commission action will be taken. Scheduled events include Meet the Chief on January 15 from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., and the Transfer of Command on Friday, February 27, at 6:00 p.m. Summer and fall family events, Station Open Houses and other community fire department events, and the annual Christmas dinner has not yet been scheduled. Once

finalized, dates, times, and locations will be available at the fire department. These events will have no Commission agenda items and no Commission action will be taken.

Commission agendas will be available and publicized no later than the day prior to the scheduled meeting and/or workshop at www.corinthshilohfd.com. All meetings and workshops, with the exception of executive sessions, are open to the public.

CLASSIFIEDS WORK!

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

John Elliott
District I

Matthew Durham
Chairman
District II

Don Mize
Vice Chairman
District III

Thomas James
Chairman Pro Tem
District IV

J. Glenn Hart
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)

**AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY
OCONEE COUNTY, SC**

**COUNCIL MEETING DATE: April 29, 2026
COUNCIL MEETING TIME: 9:00 AM**

ITEM TITLE: [Brief Statement]

Council Consideration and Approval of Addendum to Employer Resolution for Participation in the State Insurance Benefits Program regarding County / Municipality Councilmember Coverage

BACKGROUND DESCRIPTION:

At the November 18, 2025 County Council meeting, Council unanimously voted to direct the Interim County Administrator to submit a non-binding application for a quote from PEBA Health Insurance Benefits. Again, by unanimous vote at the January 20, 2026 County Council meeting, Council directed County Administrator to proceed with acquisition of health insurance coverage with PEBA, including authority to transfer and expend necessary funds to begin the process. A letter of intent dated January 23, 2026 was sent to PEBA notifying them of the County's intent to proceed with acquiring health insurance coverage for Oconee County employees through PEBA.

An Optional Employer Participation Resolution for participating in the State Insurance Benefit program was approved and signed by Council majority on February 3, 2026.

In order for County Council to be eligible for coverage through PEBA, an addendum to the Employer Resolution for Participation in the State Insurance Benefits Program regarding County/Municipality Councilmember Coverage needs approval by a majority vote of Council.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS OR CONCERNS: [only if applicable]

None

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Financial impact is dependent upon the number of Council members that elect to receive coverage.

ATTACHMENTS

November 11, 2025 County Council approved minutes.
January 20, 2026 County Council approved minutes.
PEBA Letter of Intent
February 3, 2026 County Council approved minutes.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is the staff's recommendation that Council approve the addendum that allows members of Council to be eligible to participate in the State Insurance Benefits program.

Submitted or Prepared By:

Approved for Submittal to Council:

Department Head/Elected Official

Stewart O. Jones, 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.



MINUTES

OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

November 18, 2025

MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

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

Oconee County Council met at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Council Members, Interim County Administrator Phil Shirley, County Attorney David Root, & Jennifer C. Adams, Clerk to Council present.

Press: Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting, date, time, place of meeting and agenda were posted on the bulletin board at the County Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC, and the County Council website [www.oconeesc.com/council]. In addition, it was made available [*upon request*] to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

Members of the press present: None

Call to Order

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

Moment of Silence

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

Invocation by County Council Chaplain

Mr. Root, County Council Chaplain, gave the Invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Attorney's Comments

None for this meeting.

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Brought to you by Your Oconee.**

Administrator's Comments

As requested by Mr. Shirley, Mr. Elliott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mize, approved 5 – 0, to remove item #5 and item #8 from the consent agenda for further review.

Consent Agenda

1. October 21, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes

2. October 24, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes

3. October 28, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes

4. Procurement Item:

2026 International HX620 Tri-Axel Dump Truck

Department: Roads & Bridges

Amount: \$216,056.87

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

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

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

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

~~**5. Procurement Item:**~~

~~**2026 Ford F-550 with Utility Body**~~

~~**Department: Emergency Services**~~

~~**Amount: \$91,954.00**~~

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

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

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

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

6. Procurement Item:

Vehicle Upfitting

Department: Vehicle Maintenance / Sheriff's Office

Amount: \$118,335.11

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

Budget:

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

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

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

Procurement was approved by Council in Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget process. Budget:
\$25,000.00 Project Cost: \$25,000.00 Balance: \$0.00

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

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

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

~~Budget: \$53,298.00 Project Cost: \$53,298.00 Balance: \$0.00 (Funding from Capital Equipment / (325) Vehicle Fund)~~

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

Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Elliott, approved 5 - 0, to approve all items on the consent agenda, excluding item #5 and item #8, as presented.

Public Comment Session

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.

1. Mr. Lee Sheehan addressed Council with his concerns related to comments posted on Facebook [copy in backup] by a current Oconee County Conservation Bank Board member and in opposition to the request for hiring two sworn deputies to address homelessness in Oconee County.

Council Members Comments

Mr. Durham noted that this is Mr. Shirley's first full Council meeting as Interim County Administrator and expressed his appreciation for Mr. Shirley's hard work over the last several weeks.

Public Hearing for the Following Ordinances

ORDINANCE 2025-17 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING, PURSUANT TO TITLE 4, CHAPTERS 1 AND 29, OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA 1976, AS AMENDED, THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDIT AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, AND BAXTER MANUFACTURING LLC (PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED BY THE COUNTY AS PROJECT BEAMER), ACTING FOR

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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.

Mr. Durham opened the floor for Public Comment.

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

Mr. Durham closed the Public Hearing regarding **Ordinance 2025-17**.

Third Reading of the Following Ordinances

ORDINANCE 2025-17 (*see caption above*)

Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Elliott, to approve **Ordinance 2025-17** on third and final reading.

Mr. Durham extended his thanks to Baxter Manufacturing for their investment in Oconee County.

Motion approved 5 – 0.

Second Reading of the Following Ordinances

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

Mr. Elliott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mize, approved 5 - 0, to approve **Ordinance 2025-22** on second reading.

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

Mr. Elliott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 - 0, to approve **Ordinance 2025-23** on second reading.

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

Mr. Elliott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mize, to approve **Ordinance 2025-24** on second reading.

As requested by Mr. Hart, Mr. Root provided background information related to the above ordinance, noting this ordinance is just an administrative clean up of former Oconee County Sewer Commission provisions to decrease any confusion.

Motion approved 5 – 0.

First Reading of the Following Ordinances

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

Mr. Elliott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, to approve **Ordinance 2025-25** on first reading.

Mr. Shirley informed Council that the above requested amendment is to ensure compliance with new State laws related to golf cart regulations.

Motion approved 5 – 0.

Action on Matters Removed from Consent Agenda at Council Member Request

None for this meeting.

Discussion Regarding Action Items

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

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

There is no financial impact to Oconee County.

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

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Mr. Durham made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 - 0, to approve the amended Horton's 2019 Performance Agreement for the company's South Carolina Set-Aside Grant Agreement.

Request for Council's approval for the addition of a Victim Advocate position for the Solicitor's Office

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

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

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

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

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

On behalf of Solicitor Micah Black, Mr. Chris Beeco provided Council with details related to the above request.

Mr. Durham noted there would be no cost to Oconee County should this request receive approval.

Mr. Elliott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0, to approve the addition of a Victim Advocate position for the Solicitor's Office.

Mr. Hart provided comments in support of the below request for two deputies to address increased homelessness in Oconee County.

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

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

Oconee County would be responsible for the full salaries and fringe for two sworn officers after the grant period

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ends. The grant does not cover equipment and vehicle costs. For two new deputies, equipment and upfitted vehicles will cost \$128,304.

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

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

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

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

Sheriff Mike Crenshaw provided Council with information related to the above request and answered all questions presented by Council.

Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mize, approved 5 – 0 and contingent upon fund availability identified by Interim County Administrator, to approve and support the FY25 COPS Hiring Grant and commit matching funds, up to \$184,056, for the hiring of two deputies to address homelessness in Oconee County. Oconee County further requests Oconee County Council approve the allocation of funding for the equipment and upfitted vehicles for the two deputies, in the amount of \$128,304

Council Committee Reports

None for this meeting.

Board & Commission Appointments

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

No questionnaires on file requesting consideration of appointment.

Fire Service Advisory Commission..... Districts I II III IV V

District I: 0 questionnaires requesting initial appointment

Mr. Elliott made a nomination, approved 5 – 0, to appoint Mr. David Nabors as District I representative on the Oconee County Fire Service Advisory Commission.

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District III: 2 questionnaires requesting initial appointment

Mr. Mize nominated Mr. Favion Skelton as the District III representative on the Oconee County Fire Service Advisory Commission.

Mr. Hart indicated that Mr. Skelton actually lives in District V.

Mr. Durham and Mr. Mize agreed to postpone this appointment to the December 2, 2025 Council meeting.

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

Executive Session

Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Elliott, approved 5 – 0, to enter into Executive Session for the following purposes, as allowed for § 30-4-70(a) of the South Carolina Code of Laws:

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

Council entered into Executive Session at 6:25 p.m.

Council returned from Executive Session at 8:11 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. James, seconded by Mr. Elliott, approved 5 – 0.

As requested by Mr. Root related to Executive Session item number three, Mr. Elliott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0, to direct County Attorney to draft a Memorandum of Understanding memorializing the terms of engagement for the Interim County Administrator for the County Council Chair to execute.

Mr. Durham made a nomination, seconded by Mr. Elliott, approved 5 – 0, to appoint Mr. Glen Hart to serve on the OJRSA Reconstitution Ad Hoc Committee to represent the County.

As requested by Mr. Root related to Executive Session item number seven, Mr. Elliott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0, to direct Interim County Administrator to work with the Sewer Authority to draft and send a letter to the Department of Transportation as discussed and for the project engineers to evaluate the underlying issues.

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As requested by Mr. Root related to Executive Session item number eight, Mr. Elliott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0, to direct the Interim County Administrator to submit a non-binding application for a quote from PEBA Health Insurance Benefits.

Adjourn:

Mr. Elliott made a motion, approved unanimously, to adjourn at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jennifer C. Adams
Clerk to Council

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MINUTES

OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

January 20, 2025

MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

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

Oconee County Council met at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Council Members [Mr. Elliott via phone], County Administrator Stewart Jones, Mr. Phil Shirley, County Attorney David, & Jennifer C. Adams, Clerk to Council present.

Press: Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting, date, time, place of meeting and agenda were posted on the bulletin board at the County Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC, and the County Council website [www.oconeesc.com/council]. In addition, it was made available [*upon request*] to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

Members of the press present: Dick Mangrum / 101.7 WGOG

Call to Order

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

Moment of Silence

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

Invocation by County Council Chaplain

Mr. Root, County Council Chaplain, gave the Invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Beverly Jenkins led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Attorney's Comments

Mr. Root noted Project Broadway, Ordinance 2025-21, is requiring additional site evaluation works, therefore second reading needs to be removed from the agenda.

Mr. Durham made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, to amend the agenda by removing second reading of Project Broadway Ordinance 2025-21.

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Mr. Durham added to the above motion by requesting the removal of Consent Agenda items #2 and #3 per Administration request.

Motion approved 5 – 0, to amend the agenda by removing second reading of Project Broadway Ordinance 2025-21 and Consent Agenda items #2 and #3.

Administrator's Comments

Mr. Jones, County Administrator, provided the following statement:

“Mr. Chairman, over the past two weeks I have been meeting with department heads, starting to assess our policies and procedures, conducting a deep dive into our financials and processes of our budget, and day to day operations. Looking at our county’s health insurance, we are seeing that the county actually started to run a deficit about 10 years ago in funding the employee health plan. This deficit has been covered with other funding such as the enterprise fund and then later on CAP Accounts, as the deficit grew. We are now looking at improving these budget practices and to eliminate the deficit. The good news is that we are in the process of renegotiating our health insurance for Oconee County employees, and are considering all options on the table - these options should equate to a savings of at least \$1.2 million, most likely more depending on actions council takes in the 26-27 budget. The other major contributor to the deficit was a miscalculation and miscommunication between the Finance Department and the Auditor’s Office - in the calculation of the millage rate for property tax collections, dating back to at least 2019. Until recently, higher than budgeted performance in other revenue streams offset the shortfall in property tax collections caused by the rate calculation error. As those offsetting revenues have normalized, the underlying gap in tax collections has become more apparent. Currently, we are calculating potentially a \$5-\$6 million deficit, \$5.7 million in the GF to be exact. Some of the people that were involved, no longer work for the county and so we are going through and finding all the information that we can on how this happened and most importantly how to fix it - so that we can ensure that it never happens again. As we get closer to our strategic planning for the coming 26-27 fiscal year - I will be coming to council with requests, and changes in budget practices, policies and procedures, and working to implement practices that will help our county stay on solid financial footing for the long-term. Council’s foresight in recent years to separate funds has provided greater transparency into our financial position and I’m glad the Council took this step.”

Mr. Jones went on to provide Council with details as to how this miscalculation occurred in the FY 2024-2025 budget year.

Mr. Durham provided the following clarifying statement:

“I want to be very clear for the public. What Mr. Jones has described did not arise recently. These issues developed over several years and across multiple councils. This was not an easy conversation, but it is a necessary one, and it did not begin tonight. Last year, concerns were raised with Council regarding under-collection in property tax revenues. At that time, the nature and cause of the issue were not yet fully understood.

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As the issue was examined further, it became clear that this was not a posting or accounting issue. It was a miscalculation in the millage rate itself. More concerning, this was not a one-time error, but a pattern going back several years, to at least 2019.

Once it became clear that this was a systemic issue, the prior administration was asked to determine how it occurred and what controls failed. That work was not completed.

During this same period, the County paid for annual external audits each year. Those audits did not flag the ongoing under-collection or the millage miscalculation, even as the County received recognition for financial reporting. That contrast tells us that existing safeguards were not sufficient.

Before this can be fully corrected, the County must have strong financial leadership in place, and filling the finance director position is a priority. We must also determine the appropriate level of audit and review, because this was not a routine variance.

Taxpayers deserve to know not just what happened, but how it was allowed to persist. Going forward, this Council will insist on stronger checks and balances, clearer verification of revenue assumptions, and processes that ensure this cannot happen again.”

Consent Agenda

1. January 06, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes

2. ~~Procurement Item:~~

~~2018 Bell B30E Articulated Water Truck~~

~~Department: Rock Quarry~~

~~Amount: \$227,000.00~~

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

~~—Budget: \$227,000.00—Project Cost: \$227,000.00—Balance: \$0.00~~

~~(Funding from Rock Quarry Capital Equipment budget)~~

~~It is the staff's recommendation that Council approve the purchase of the used 2018 Bell B30E articulating water truck from National Equipment Dealers in Columbia, SC, in the amount of \$227,000.00.~~

3. ~~Procurement Item:~~

~~2025 Volvo EC500 Excavator~~

~~Department: Rock Quarry~~

~~Amount: \$503,670.00~~

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

~~Budget: \$503,670.00—Project Cost: \$503,670.00—Balance: \$0.00~~

~~(Funding from Rock Quarry Capital Equipment budget)~~

~~It is the staff's recommendation that Council approve the purchase of a 2025 Volvo EC500 Excavator from Ascendum Machinery, Inc. of Piedmont, SC, in the amount of \$503,670.00, per Sourcewell Contract # 011723-VCE.~~

Mr. James made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 - 0, to approve item #1 on the consent agenda as presented.

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Public Comment Session

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.

1. Ms. Susan Blount addressed Council with her concerns related to special source revenue incentives and their effect on the School District of Oconee County.
2. Mr. David McMahan addressed Council with an expression of thanks from the Oconee County Agricultural Advisory Board [copy of statement in backup].

Council Members Comments

Mr. James requested further information related to the former Administrator's County issued phone and its whereabouts.

Mr. Stewart informed Council that the phone is in the possession of the Oconee County Sheriff's office and was wiped prior to its return to the County, noting the phone could be acquired and an attempt could be made to retrieve data.

Mr. Stewart went on to state that data was retrieved off of a laptop and hoped that it would help to provide some answers to a number of issues.

Mr. Mize inquired if a "spending freeze" would need to be implemented in the future and if there is any fiscal accountability from the auditing firm(s) that performed audits in the last several years.

Mr. Jones responded that non-critical items were being put on hold while an assessment is being conducted and further noted there could be a potential spending freeze in the FY 2026-2027 budget.

Mr. Jones went on to provide comments related to previous auditing firms and the possible reason they did not catch the miscalculation, noting a new auditing firm was contracted last year and should be finishing up their audit soon.

Mr. Hart commented that, in the past, he made the suggestion that it would be beneficial to hire a new auditing firm.

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

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

Mr. Durham opened the floor for Public Comment.

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

Mr. Durham closed the Public Hearing regarding **Ordinance 2025-25**.

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ORDINANCE 2025-26 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 28-9 (“USED AND WASTE TIRES”) OF CHAPTER 28 (“SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT”) OF THE OCONEE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES TO ALIGN THE SAME WITH THE 2025 AMENDMENTS TO S.C. CODE SECTIONS 44-96-170(E) AND (F) RELATING TO WASTE TIRE RECEIPT AND FEES; AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS.

Mr. Durham opened the floor for Public Comment.

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

Mr. Durham closed the Public Hearing regarding **Ordinance 2025-26**.

ORDINANCE 2025-27 AN ORDINANCE TO REVISE AND EXPAND THE LOCAL CONTRACTOR / VENDOR PREFERENCE PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN THE OCONEE COUNTY PROCUREMENT CODE.

Mr. Durham opened the floor for Public Comment.

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

Mr. Durham closed the Public Hearing regarding **Ordinance 2025-27**.

Third Reading of the Following Ordinances

ORDINANCE 2025-25 *(see caption above)*

Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mize, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Ordinance 2025-25** on third and final reading.

ORDINANCE 2025-26 *(see caption above)*

Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. James, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Ordinance 2025-26** on third and final reading.

ORDINANCE 2025-26 *(see caption above)*

Mr. Mize made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Ordinance 2025-27** on third and final reading.

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Second Reading of the Following Ordinances

~~ORDINANCE 2025-21 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING, PURSUANT TO TITLE 12, CHAPTER 44 OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA 1976, AS AMENDED, THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A FEE IN LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES AND SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDIT AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, AND [PROJECT BROADWAY] ACTING FOR ITSELF, ONE OR MORE CURRENT OR FUTURE AFFILIATES AND OTHER PROJECT COMPANIES (COLLECTIVELY, "COMPANY"); PROVIDING FOR A FEE IN LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES INCENTIVE; PROVIDING FOR A SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDIT; DEVELOPING A JOINT COUNTY INDUSTRIAL AND BUSINESS PARK BETWEEN OCONEE COUNTY AND PICKENS COUNTY SO AS TO DESIGNATE THE PROPERTY OF THE PROJECT AS PART OF A MULTI-COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT BETWEEN COUNTY AND COMPANY FOR THE TRANSFER OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY FROM COUNTY TO COMPANY, SUBJECT TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS SET FORTH IN THE PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT; AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS.~~

Second reading of **Ordinance 2025-21** was removed from agenda at the beginning of the meeting on a motion made by Mr. Durham, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0.

First Reading of the Following Ordinances

None for this meeting.

First & Final Reading for the Following Resolutions

~~RESOLUTION 2026-01 A RESOLUTION APPOINTING AND COMMISSIONING LUCAS WHITE AS A CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER (ANIMAL CONTROL) FOR THE PROPER SECURITY, GENERAL WELFARE, AND CONVENIENCE OF OCONEE COUNTY; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.~~

Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. James, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Resolution 2026-01** on first and final reading.

Action on Matters Removed from Consent Agenda at Council Member Request

None for this meeting.

Discussion Regarding Action Items

None for this meeting.

Council Committee Reports

None for this meeting.

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Board & Commission Appointments

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

No questionnaires on file requesting consideration of appointment.

Fire Service Advisory Commission *District I*

No questionnaires on file requesting consideration of appointment.

Board of Zoning Appeals *District V*

No questionnaires on file requesting consideration of appointment.

One questionnaire was received prior to the meeting requesting appointment to the District V seat on the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Mr. Hart made a nomination, approved 5 – 0, appointing Mr. Chad Overholt to serve as the District 5 representative on the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Executive Session

Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mize, approved 5 – 0, to enter into Executive Session for the following purposes, as allowed for § 30-4-70(a) of the South Carolina Code of Laws:

- 1. Receive legal advice and discuss potential contractual matter regarding employee benefits consultants / vendors and issues directly related thereto.*
- 2. Receive legal advice and discuss security measures at and about County facilities.*
- 3. Receive legal advice and discuss application of statutory real property development incentives with respect to historic properties.*
- 4. Receive legal advice and discuss fiscal / accounting review processes.*
- 5. Discuss contractual issues related to legal service provision.*

Council entered into Executive Session at 6:24 p.m.

Council returned from Executive Session at 7:43 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Hart, seconded by Mr. James, approved 5 – 0.

As requested by Mr. Root, Mr. James made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0, to direct County Administrator to proceed with acquisition of health insurance coverage with PEBA, including authority to transfer and expend necessary funds to begin the process.

Mr. Durham indicated that if the insurance change does not prove beneficial to employees, Administration should regroup and reassess the matter.

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As requested by Mr. Root, Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mize, approved 5 – 0, to direct County Administrator to execute a waiver for potential possible conflict of interest regarding legal services with current County Attorney.

Adjourn:

Mr. James made a motion, approved unanimously, to adjourn at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jennifer C. Adams
Clerk to Council

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**Oconee County
Council Office**

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

Phone: 864-718-1023
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Clerk to Council
Jennifer C. Adams

E-mail:
jennifercadams@oconeesc.com

John Elliott
District I

Matthew Durham
Chairman
District II

Don Mize
Vice Chairman
District III

Thomas James
Chair Pro Tem
District IV

J. Glenn Hart
District V



January 23, 2026

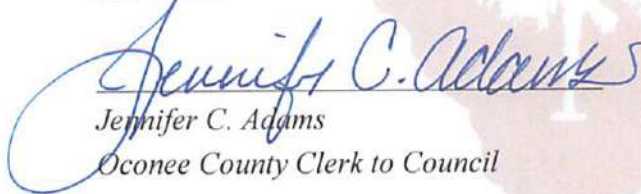
South Carolina Public Employee Benefit Authority
202 Arbor Lake Dr.
Columbia, SC 29223

Re: State Health Insurance Benefits – Oconee County, South Carolina

Dear Sir or Madame:

As requested, please note that the Oconee County Council, in meeting duly assembled on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, voted unanimously to proceed with acquiring health insurance coverage for Oconee County employees through PEBA. Council also approved the expenditure of One Hundred Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$100,000.00) as required by PEBA at this juncture of the application process.

ATTESTED:


Jennifer C. Adams
Oconee County Clerk to Council

COPY



MINUTES

OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

February 03, 2026

MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

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

Oconee County Council met at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Council Members [Mr. Elliott and Mr. Mize via phone], County Administrator Stewart Jones, Mr. Phil Shirley, County Attorney David [via phone], & Jennifer C. Adams, Clerk to Council present.

Press: Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting, date, time, place of meeting and agenda were posted on the bulletin board at the County Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC, and the County Council website [www.oconeesc.com/council]. In addition, it was made available [*upon request*] to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

Members of the press present: None

Call to Order

Mr. Durham called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Moment of Silence

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

Invocation by County Council Chaplain

Mr. James gave the Invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Staff Sargent Mulwee led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Attorney's Comments

None for this meeting.

Administrator's Comments

Mr. Jones extended his thanks to all departments that provided assistance during the recent ice and snow events that affected the County.

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Brought to you by Your Oconee.**

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. January 20, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes**
- 2. January 23, 2026 Emergency Meeting Minutes**
- 3. Procurement Item:
2018 Bell B30E Articulated Water Truck
Department: Rock Quarry
Amount: \$227,000.00**

Procurement was approved by Council in Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget process.
Budget: \$227,000.00 Project Cost: \$227,000.00 Balance: \$0.00
(Funding from Rock Quarry Capital Equipment budget)

It is the staff's recommendation that Council approve the purchase of the used 2018 Bell B30E articulating water truck from National Equipment Dealers in Columbia, SC, in the amount of \$227,000.00.

- 4. Procurement Item:
2025 Volvo EC500 Excavator
Department: Rock Quarry
Amount: \$503,670.00**

Procurement was approved by Council in Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget process.
Budget: \$503,670.00 Project Cost: \$503,670.00 Balance: \$0.00
(Funding from Rock Quarry Capital Equipment budget)

It is the staff's recommendation that Council approve the purchase of a 2025 Volvo EC500 Excavator from Ascendum Machinery, Inc. of Piedmont, SC, in the amount of \$503,670.00, per Sourcewell Contract # 011723-VCE.

- 5. Procurement Item:
2018 John Deere 1050K Crawler Dozer Repair
Department: Solid Waste
Amount: \$185,074.00
Contingency 15%: \$27,761.10
Total: \$212,835.10**

Procurement was approved by Council in Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget process.
Budget: \$212,835.10 Project Cost: \$212,835.10 Balance: \$0.00
(Funding from One Time Capital / (340))

It is the staff's recommendation that Council:

- 1. Approve the 2018 John Deere 1050K Crawler Dozer repairs to Dobbs Equipment Southeast, LLC in the amount of \$185,074.00.*
- 2. Approve a 15% contingency in the amount of \$27,761.10.*
- 3. Authorize the County Administrator to execute documents for this project and sign any change orders within the contingency amount.*
- 4. Authorize the County Administrator to transfer funds to the appropriate line items.*

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6. Procurement Item:
2007 Morbark 4600LX Wood Hog Horizontal Grinder Repair
Department: Solid Waste
Amount: \$ 52,387.02
Contingency 15%: \$7,858.05
Total: \$ 60,245.07

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

Budget: \$60,245.07 Project Cost: \$60,245.07 Balance: \$0.00

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

It is the staff's recommendation that Council:

- 1. Approve the 2007 Morbark Horizontal Grinder repairs to James River Equipment, LLC in the amount of \$52,387.02.*
- 2. Approve a 15% contingency in the amount of \$7,858.05.*
- 3. Authorize the County Administrator to transfer funds to the appropriate line item.*
- 4. Authorize the County Administrator to execute documents for this project and sign any change orders within the contingency amount.*

Mr. James made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0, to approve all items on consent agenda as presented.

Public Comment Session

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.

1. Lee Shehan encouraged Council to provide more transparency to the public related to the recently revealed budget shortfall, along with the 2023 general obligation bond.
2. Mr. Josh Barber addressed Council with comments and concerns related to the management of stray dogs within the County.

Council Members Comments

Mr. Durham addressed Mr. Barber and Mr. Shehan related to their public comments.

Third Reading of the Following Ordinances

None for this meeting.

Second Reading of the Following Ordinances

None for this meeting.

First Reading of the Following Ordinances

None for this meeting.

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First & Final Reading for the Following Resolutions

RESOLUTION 2026-02 A RESOLUTION APPOINTING AND COMMISSIONING THE FOLLOWING PERSONS: LANDYN CHAPMAN, DAVID LINDER, MATTHEW HEATH, ETHAN HOLLAND, AHRIN MCCOY, AND PATRICK MCDUGAL AS CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS (PARK RANGERS) FOR THE PROPER SECURITY, GENERAL WELFARE, AND CONVENIENCE OF OCONEE COUNTY; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. James, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Resolution 2026-02** on first and final reading.

RESOLUTION 2026-03 *(Numbered for administrative purposes)* **OPTIONAL EMPLOYER PARTICIPATION RESOLUTION FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE STATE INSURANCE BENEFITS PROGRAM.**

Mr. James made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, to approve **Resolution 2026-03** on first and final reading.

Mr. Durham stated that the County's decision to transition to PEBA for health insurance would save the County taxpayers a little over three million dollars per year and coverage would be comparable to the current insurance offered to employees.

Motion approved 5 – 0.

Action on Matters Removed from Consent Agenda at Council Member Request

None for this meeting.

Discussion Regarding Action Items

None for this meeting.

Council Committee Reports

None for this meeting.

Board & Commission Appointments

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

No questionnaires on file requesting consideration of appointment.

Fire Service Advisory Commission *District I*

No questionnaires on file requesting consideration of appointment.

One questionnaire was received before the meeting for the Fire Service Advisory Commission and will be considered at the February 17, 2026 Council meeting.

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Executive Session

Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. James, approved 5 – 0, to enter into Executive Session for the following purposes, as allowed for § 30-4-70(a) of the South Carolina Code of Laws:

1. *Receive legal advice and discuss code enforcement matter related to Lake Overlay.*
2. *Discuss personnel and recruitment issues related to the Finance, Planning and Legal departments.*
3. *Receive legal advice and discuss ongoing litigation issues related to a former county employee.*
4. *Receive legal advice and discuss code enforcement litigation – cleanup and contempt proceedings.*
5. *Receive legal advice and discuss potential contractual matter regarding utilities / infrastructure project(s).*

Council entered into Executive Session at 6:15 p.m.

Council returned from Executive Session at 7:00 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Hart, seconded by Mr. James, approved 5 – 0.

As requested by Mr. Root in regards to code enforcement matter related to Lake Overlay, Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. James, approved 5 – 0, to direct County Attorney and County staff to proceed as discussed.

As requested by Mr. Root regarding ongoing litigation issues related to a former county employee, Mr. James made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0, to proceed as discussed.

As requested by Mr. Root regarding code enforcement litigation, Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. James, approved 5 – 0, to proceed with enforcement as discussed.

As requested by Mr. Root related to potential contractual matter regarding utilities / infrastructure project(s), Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. James, approved 5 – 0, to pursue grant opportunities as discussed.

Adjourn:

Mr. Hart made a motion, approved unanimously, to adjourn at 7:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jennifer C. Adams
Clerk to Council

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PUBLIC HEARING SIGN IN SHEET

Oconee County Council Meeting

April 21, 2026 ~ 6:00 p.m.
9am

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.

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.

Written comments may be submitted at any time prior to the hearing for inclusion in the official record of the meeting.

PRINT Your Name & Check Ordinance[s] You Wish to Address

	Ordinance #	ORD 2026-09
1. Lee Shehan		11
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