



MINUTES
BUDGET, FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
WORKSHOP MEETING
November 9, 2009
COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, WALHALLA, SC

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Reg Dexter, Chairman, District V
Mr. Paul Corbeil, District I
Mr. Wayne McCall, District II
Mr. Mario Suarez, District III
Mr. Joel Thrift, District IV

The Budget, Finance & Administration Committee on Monday, November 9, 2009 at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers with all Council Members present along with Kendra Brown, Interim Administrator and Elizabeth G. Hulse, Clerk to Council.

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.oconeese.com/council]. In addition it was made available to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

Members of the press present: Dick Mangrum – WGOG Radio, Carlos Galarza – Daily Journal & Ray Chandler – Anderson Independent.

Call to Order:

Chairman Dexter called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Thrift made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corbeil, approved 4 – 0 [Mr. Suarez had not yet arrived] that the minutes from the October 7, 2009 Budget, Finance & Administration Committee meeting be adopted as printed.

Public Comment:

Mr. Garry Littlefield addressed the Committee regarding construction of a new jail facility and the option to build a larger facility than needed and rent out a portion as a source of revenue to offset costs.

Mr. C. W. Richards addressed the Committee regarding concerns with the Assessor's office and the last property assessments.

Ms. Susie Cornelius addressed the Committee regarding mandating work load indicator reporting by department on a monthly or quarterly basis to be used as a tool in decision making as it relates to budgets.

New Business:

Potential Project Priorities/Sewer Options:

Mr. Dexter noted that a representative from the Blue Ribbon Panel was present the Committee would address this item out of order. Mr. Dexter recognized Mr. Greg Dietterick, Blue Ribbon Panel Chair, addressed the Committee referring to the final recommendation report [copy Budget, Finance & Administration Committees Minutes November 9, 2009

filed with these minutes] regarding sewer at the Golden Corner Commerce Park [GCCP] and along I85. He outlined the three phase recommendation discussing time frames for construction and costs. Discussion followed.

Mr. Dexter directed Administration and Finance to identify funds currently designated for sewer infrastructure and other funding sources and be ready to report at the Council workshop meeting with the Oconee Joint Regional Sewer Authority scheduled for Thursday, October 12, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.

Discussion of Work Plan for Capital Projects:

Ms. Brown addressed the Committee reviewing a PowerPoint presentation [filed with these minutes] which discussed steps completed and tasks needed in the identification and prioritization of capital projects for the County.

Mr. Dexter addressed adding a line item for depreciation in the next budget. Discussion followed regarding replacement schedules and funding for various departments.

Council approved the Work Plan for Capital Projects as presented.

**Discussion of Departmental Capital Project Request Listing
Potential Project Priorities:**

Ms. Brown noted that this workshop was intended not to discuss any project in great detail; only to identify those projects which Council wants as priorities so that staff may compile additional information. Ms. Brown provided the Committee with a handout [filed with these minutes] outlining capital requests from departments that exceed \$100,000. Various other projects were discussed to include the roof at the old courthouse, EOC placement and the landfill expansion. Lengthy discussion followed.

The Committee designated the following projects as priorities and asked Ms. Brown to gather additional information:

- Courthouse Costs unknown at present
- Jail Committee set a \$10 million maximum budget
- Westminster Fire Joint Station \$2.5 million maximum budget
- Sewer Options Committee agreed with phase approach, set \$6.6 million budget for Phase I
- Cobb Bridge \$1.2 million budget – Funds on hand – Committee directed staff to initiate process for replacement

Old Business:

No Old Business was discussed at this meeting.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting was not scheduled at this time.

Adjourn:

Mr. Thrift made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCall, approved 5 – 0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth G. Hulse, Clerk to Council