



MINUTES

BUDGET, FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

April 25, 2017

MEMBERS, ALL OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

Ms. Edda Cammick District I, Chairwoman
Mr. Wayne McCall, District II Mr. Paul Cain, District III
Mr. Julian Davis, District IV Mr. Glenn Hart, District V

The Oconee County Budget, Finance & Administration Committee met Tuesday, April 25, 2017 at 5:30 PM in Council Chambers, Oconee County Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with Committee members Ms. Cammick; Mr. McCall; Mr. Hart, Mr. Cain and Mr. Davis, as well as Administrator Scott Moulder, County Attorney David Root, and Katie Smith, 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.oconeese.com/council]. In addition it was made available [*upon request*] to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

Member of the press present: Steven Bradley – Daily Journal.

Call to Order:

Ms. Cammick called meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Cammick noted a Scribner's error on the February 14, 2017 minutes. The Clerk has been made aware of the error and would be corrected prior to the minutes being filed. Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCall, approved 5 – 0, to approve the February 14, 2017 minutes as presented.

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cain, approved 5 – 0, to amend agenda for Mr. Moulder to present FY 2017-2018 Budget Process discussion prior to the Strategic Planning meeting.

Discussion Items

FY 2017-2018 Budget Process Discussion

Mr. Moulder addressed the Committee utilizing a handout [copy filed with these minutes] regarding retirement numbers. He noted Governor Henry McMaster has signed the bill which will have a 13.65% increase in the employee contributions and has gone into effect and will impact employees next year.

Mr. Moulder addressed the Committee utilizing the Administrator's Recommended Budget FY 2017-2018 [copy filed with these minutes] and noted the summary changes to include:

- Lost Revenue includes for a Budget Reduction of \$1,787,420:
 - Fund Balance Usage
 - TCTC Transfer
 - Economic Development Transfer
 - Miscellaneous Revenue

- Expense Changes to include Reduced Expenses of \$1,292,722:
 - Removed Fund Balance Replenishment
 - Sheriff Salary Structure
 - Cut Expenses
 - Add-in OPEB ARC
 - Miscellaneous Reduction of Users

The Current out of Balance total is \$494,698. With the expense reduction, expense addition, and proposed additional expense reduction, it would put a positive surplus at \$396,509 that could be allotted for other purposes or for fund balance replenishment.

Discussion followed.

The Committee thanked Mr. Moulder and Finance staff for their hard work regarding the budget.

Ms. Cammick suggested that a portion of the total that is left over and assign to the volunteer fire stations to hire part time paid staff. They are having issues with staffing during the week and during the day because most of their volunteers have jobs. There is no issue with staffing on weekends, holidays, or nights.

Mr. McCall made a motion based on Ms. Cammick's previous suggestion, seconded by Mr. Hart, to assign a portion of the leftover balance to the volunteer fire stations to hire part paid staff. Lengthy discussion followed to include but not limited to:

- Send to Transportation Committee to discuss
- Municipality contract
- Extended Fire Contracts by one year
- 17 fire stations, not counting substations
- Staff at each station every day
- Volunteers to float among the stations
- Phase out funds for the cities
- \$265,000 which includes salary, insurance, etc. for 6 positions
- 11 of 16 fire stations would be covered every day
- OPEB
- 15 Positions Reduction in Force

Regarding the motion made by Mr. McCall, seconded by Mr. Hart, it was approved 5 – 0 to direct the County Administrator to consider to add a percentage of the remaining funds to the FY2018 Budget.

Mr. Cain noted that he would like to discuss adding a hospitality tax at some point in the future. He noted that positions are being eliminated and have to find other sources of revenue.

Strategic Planning Summary

Unpaid Boat Taxes

- Letter was sent to Senator Thomas Alexander and he acknowledged receipt of the letter

Dilapidated Structure Ordinance

- International Maintenance Code has already been adopted
- No new ordinance is needed
- Code Enforcement Officer
- Funds to pay for the demolition

Licensing Pets

- Spay/Neuter Program
- Oconee County DOG AND CAT Population Control Ordinance 4/17 [copy filed with these minutes]
- Program in place that allows registration for licensures

Government Slow to Act

- County Vehicles need to have sticker placed on side of car that reads “Property of Oconee County Motor Pool – Official Use Only” and on front and back of car needs to display a number and remove department names and go to motor pool and check out for use
- Some departments use county vehicles everyday so having to check out with motor pool may become problematic
- Easier to see identify who has vehicle if department name remains on vehicle
- Substantial penalty involved through personnel policy manual, i.e. written reprimand, days off without pay, etc.
- Display sign on dashboard that reads “Handheld cell phone use prohibited”

Upon Mr. McCall’s request, Mr. Andy Lee addressed Council regarding Building Codes concerning the permit process and inspections.

Tri-County Tech not Meeting the Needs of Industry

- Everchanging
- Putting people to work
- Specialty areas to include Industrial Electronics, Mechatronics, etc.

Recreation Funding

- Would be best paid for with Capital Project Sales Tax
- Impacts that recreation has on youth
- Different avenues of recreation to include art, music, etc. not just football, basketball, etc.

Mr. Davis to make plan for Recreation Funding.

Management Restructure Plan

- Moving forward with Mr. Martin
- Other ideas to make adjustments

Mr. Moulder updated Council with numbers for ADA Compliance.

- High Falls in house: \$125,000 not \$214,000
- Chau Ram in house: \$100,000 not \$150,000

Other Business

None discussed at this meeting.

Adjourn

Mr. Hart made a motion, approved unanimously, to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Katie D. Smith
Clerk to Council