



MINUTES
LAW ENFORCEMENT, PUBLIC SAFETY, HEALTH &
WELFARE COMMITTEE MEETING
July 8, 2014

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Wayne McCall, Chairman, District II
Mr. Paul Cain, District III
Mr. Joel Thrift, District IV

The Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Health & Welfare Committee met at 5:30 PM in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Committee Members present, Administrator Scott Moulder and Elizabeth G. Hulse, 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 to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

Member of the press present: Ray Chandler / Anderson Independent & Dick Mangrum / WGOG Radio.

Call to Order

Chairman McCall called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Thrift made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCall, approved 2 – 0 [Mr. Cain abstained – form filed with these minutes] to approve the January 14, 2014 minutes as presented.

New Business:

Animal Control Ability to Enforce County Animal Control Ordinance in Municipalities

Mr. McCall recognized Sheriff Mike Crenshaw who addressed the Committee seeking direction regarding the sheriff's office inability to assist the municipalities [City of Walhalla specifically] to enforce the county's animal control ordinance. Discussion followed.

It was the consensus of the Committee to agree with the Sheriff that the County Attorney could assist each municipality upon request in drafting identical language to the county's ordinance and additionally authorize the Sheriff's Office deputies to enforce their ordinance within their municipality's boundary.

Exotic/Dangerous Pet Ordinance

Mr. McCall recognized Sheriff Mike Crenshaw who addressed the Committee utilizing a handout [copy filed with these minutes] seeking direction regarding a potential exotic/dangerous pet ordinance. Sheriff Crenshaw noted that it is a public safety issue that affects both his department and all emergency service responders.

Mr. McCall recognized Mr. Sydney Lamar Digby, Jr., who addressed the Committee regarding his experiences with exotic/dangerous animals in Oconee County. He offered a suggestion to have citizens post on their front and back doors a yellow caution sign stating that venomous snakes and/or reptiles are in the dwelling. Lengthy discussion followed.

It was the consensus of the Committee to request the Sheriff initiate a public awareness campaign and ask that citizens voluntarily post their homes with warning signs for the public's safety.

Old Business:

Walhalla Fire Department / Fire Hydrants

Mr. Moulder reported that the City of Walhalla and their fire department decided to no longer pursue installation of fire hydrants and have withdrawn their request for county assistance.

Dry Hydrants

Mr. Moulder noted that there are approximately 30-35 left to finish and that work was ongoing with property owners.

Uniform Summons Ordinance

Mr. Moulder noted that work is ongoing with the county attorney and sheriff's office to identify all areas in the Code of Ordinances that require modification and that this matter would be brought to full council in the future.

Mosquito Control

Mr. Moulder noted that the County does not have a spraying program as it is costly. Mr. McCall voiced concerns with issues related to insect borne illnesses that increase with standing water.

Mr. Moulder stated that he would have the Public Information Officer look at a promotional program along with our solid waste department to utilize some of our print and radio advertisements to make people more aware.

Mosquito Pointe

Mr. Moulder stated that he received on July 7, 2014 a letter from the Army Corp of Engineers authorizing the dock. He noted that the final step is to obtain Duke approval and that he is working on this and will report back at a future meeting.

Recycling Program

Mr. McCall noted that the proposal presented to the Committee for consideration [copy filed with these minutes] was expensive and stated that additional plans need to be evaluated. Discussion followed.

No action was taken by the committee at this meeting.

Adjourn:

Mr. McCall adjourned the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth G. Hulse
Clerk to Council