



MINUTES

LAW ENFORCEMENT, PUBLIC SAFETY, HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE MEETING

Special Meeting

June 03, 2025

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Don Mize, Chair, District III

Mr. Matthew Durham, District II

Mr. Glen Hart, District V

The Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Health & Welfare Committee met at 5:04 p.m. in Council Chambers, located at 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Committee Members, County Administrator Amanda F. Brock, County Attorney David Root, & Jennifer C. Adams, Clerk to Council, present.

Members of staff present: Sheriff Mike Crenshaw, Chief Scott Krien / Director of Oconee County Emergency Services

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 to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

Members of the press present: Dick Mangrum / 101.7 WGOG

Call to Order

Mr. Mize called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

Moment of Silence

Mr. Mize asked for a moment of silence.

Invocation

Mr. David Root, County Council Chaplain, gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Durham, approved 3 – 0, to approve the November 19, 2024 special meeting minutes and the February 18, 2025 regular meeting minutes as presented.

Discussion Items

Discussion regarding the Oconee County Noise Ordinance and enforcement thereof / Discussion regarding commercial applications of Noise Ordinance permits

Sheriff Mike Crenshaw provided the Committee with a detailed update regarding noise ordinance enforcement, specifically in relation to fraternities located in Oconee County. [A copy of the Sheriff's office implementation plan can be found in the online backup materials for this meeting.]

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Sheriff Crenshaw also offered comments related to noise generated from tannerite target shooting and inquired if the Committee would like to address this issue within the current noise ordinance.

Mr. Mize referenced section 12-34, number 9, in the Oconee County Noise Ordinance and asked County Attorney, Mr. Root, to add language that addresses the noise from tannerite target shooting within this section and bring back to full Council for approval.

Discussion regarding Trespass Enforcement Authorization Program and ordinances regarding Prohibited or Restricted Conduct and Public Nuisance

Sheriff Crenshaw noted that the only change made to the Trespass Enforcement Authorization Program was that the cost of “No Trespassing” signs and installation be a responsibility of the business owner and not provided by the County.

Relating to the Prohibited or Restricted Conduct and Public Nuisance ordinances, Sheriff Crenshaw noted there were no changes made to these ordinances and that there is a possibility that fraternities could be considered a public nuisance if there are multiple incidences of noise complaints.

Mr. Durham made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 3 – 0, to send ordinances related to Prohibited or Restricted Conduct and Public Nuisance on to full Council for consideration of approval.

Mr. Root reminded the Committee that the Trespass Enforcement Authorization Program is under the authority of the Sheriff’s office.

Mr. Durham offered the comment that Clemson University Police Department has statewide jurisdiction and inquired if they could offer the Sheriff’s office support with enforcement of the above topics as they relate to fraternities.

Sheriff Crenshaw stated that, while Clemson University Police Department does have statewide jurisdiction, it is only on property that is owned by Clemson University, further noting the fraternity houses located in Oconee County are not owned by the University.

Discuss modifications to ordinances governing Rescue Squad Advisory Commission and Fire Service Advisory Commission

Mr. Durham addressed the proposed changes to the ordinances governing Rescue Squad Advisory Commission and Fire Service Advisory Commission, noting in the past these Commissions advised full Council with matters affecting operation and activities and now, with the proposed changes, would advise or report to the Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Health and Welfare Committee.

Mr. Durham then requested that membership appointment/election to these commissions return to how the original ordinances state, in that the representatives are to be elected and/or appointed by the Oconee County Rescue Squads and Fire Departments and not by Council.

Mr. Durham also requested a provision that allows the above advisory commissions to reconstitute after the passing of these proposed ordinance changes.

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Mr. Durham made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 3 – 0, to approve allowing the Rescue Squad Advisory Commission and the Fire Service Advisory Commission to reconstitute should the above ordinance changes be approved by full Council.

Mr. Durham inquired as to what boards and commissions receive pay for their service.

Ms. Brock provided information related to Mr. Durham’s above inquiry.

Mr. Durham noted that he would like to revisit the topic of board and commission pay at a later date.

Mr. Durham made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 3 – 0, instructing Mr. Root to update the wording contained within item number six on each of these proposed ordinances to exclude a hard number related to meeting requirements for commissioners.

Mr. Durham made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 3 – 0, to send the proposed Rescue Squad Advisory Commission ordinance and the Fire Service Advisory Service Commission ordinance, with the above amendments, to full Council for consideration of approval.

Discussion regarding Volunteer Fire Physicals

Mr. Durham provided background information regarding Volunteer Fire Physicals, noting he would like to make the process of obtaining these physicals as easy as possible in order to retain volunteer firefighters.

Chief Scott Krien, Director of Oconee County Emergency Services, provided the Committee with information regarding standards for firefighter physicals and the differences between being able to be qualified for interior and exterior firefighting.

Mr. Durham stated he would like volunteer firefighters have the option to visit their personal physicians for completion of their annual physicals, provided their personal physician is able to perform the annual physical requirements.

Ms. Brock inquired if there was a standard form that can be used for all firefighter physicals that would be uniform across the board.

Chief Krien noted there is a standard form that can be obtained from Emergency Services.

Mr. Durham made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 3 – 0, to allow volunteer firefighters to use their personal physicians for completion of their annual fire physicals.

Adjourn:

Mr. Hart made a motion, approved unanimously, to adjourn the meeting at 5:39 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jennifer C. Adams
Clerk to Council

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