



**MINUTES
PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE MEETING
February 18, 2010**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Paul Corbeil, District I, Chairman
Mr. Wayne McCall, District II
Mr. Reginald T. Dexter, District V

The Planning & Economic Development Committee met on Thursday, February 18, 2010 at 4:00 PM in the Council Chambers, Oconee County Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all members present [except Mr. McCall].

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: Dick Mangrum – WGOG Radio, Ray Chandler – Anderson Independent & Carlos Galarza - Daily Journal.

Call to Order:

Chairman Corbeil called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM.

Approval of Minutes:

As a quorum of attendees for the August 20, 2009 meeting were not present; the minutes were received for information and approved for posting to the Council website.

Mr. Dexter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corbeil, approved 2 – 0 to approve the minutes from December 18, 2009 meeting as presented.

Department Reports / Updates:

Planning Department:

Mr. Art Holbrooks, Planning Director, addressed the committee utilizing a PowerPoint presentation [filed with these minutes] and discussed the following topics:

- Completed Draft Comprehensive Plan Update
- Census 2010 Update
- Keowee Toxaway Re-licensing
- Review of Adopted Standards:
 - Communication Tower
 - Group Home
 - Airport Height
 - Sexually Oriented Business

- Rezoning Update
- FEMA Issues

FEMA Update in Detail:

Mr. Holbrooks along with Mr. Adam Artigliere, McNair Attorneys, addressed Council regarding the current status of communication with FEMA. Staff noted that a letter was received from FEMA dated December 31, 2009 [on file in the Planning Office] outlining specific areas of concern. Mr. Artigliere addressed some specific issues related to previous visits and requests by FEMA in that letter. A draft letter [filed with these minutes] was presented by staff to the Committee for their review.

It was requested by the attorney that full Council after careful review approve the letter to be sent by the County Administrator at their next scheduled meeting.

Mr. Corbeil stated that he would meet with the County Administrator and staff to finalize the draft letter for approval by Council.

Economic Development:

Mr. Jim Alexander, Economic Development Director, addressed the Committee utilizing a PowerPoint presentation [filed with these minutes] highlighting the following items:

- Spec Building
 - Oconee County “product”
 - Why a spec building
 - Parameters
 - Funding Possibilities
- Golden Corner Commerce Park [GCCP] Sewer
 - DHEC Public Hearing
 - Grant Applications
- GCCP Phase I Road Development
- Industrial Property Search
- Other Activities:
 - ISO Small Manufacturing Support Facilities
 - Jobs Partnership
 - Advance SC
 - Upstate Alliance

Discussion followed regarding a spec building and funding sources.

New Business:

No new business was addressed at this meeting.

Old Business:

No old business was addressed at this meeting.

Public Comment:

Mr. Corbeil opened the floor for Public Comment even though it was not on the agenda.

Ms. Susie Cornelius addressed the Committee regarding concerns with the Keowee Toxaway Re-licensing.

Mr. Gary Littlefield addressed the Committee regarding access to and the priority for railroad access to industrial buildings in the county.

Adjourn:

Mr. Dexter made a motion to adjourn at 5:10 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth G. Hulse
Clerk to Council