



MINUTES
PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE MEETING
June 14, 2012

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Paul Corbeil, District I, Chairman
Mr. Archie Barron, District III
Mr. Reginald T. Dexter, District V

The Planning & Economic Development Committee met at 5:30 PM in the Council Chambers, Oconee County Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all members present, Administrator Scott Moulder, Assistant Administrator Glenn Breed and Clerk to Council, Elizabeth Hulse.

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

Call to Order:

Chairman Corbeil called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Dexter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barron, approved 3 – 0 to approve the minutes from March 13, 2012 meeting as presented.

Department Reports / Updates:

Planning Department

Mr. Art Holbrooks, Planning Director, addressed the Committee utilizing a PowerPoint presentation [copy filed with these minutes] and discussed two key areas; Planning Update and Comprehensive Plan Goals Update. Within those topics he addressed the following:

- Planning Update
 - Development Activity
 - Air Quality
 - Keowee Toxaway Relicensing
 - Fair Play Village Master Plan
 - Zoning
- Comprehensive Plan Goals Update
 - 5 Major Goals to include 28 Objectives and 128 Specific Strategies
 - Goal #1: Preserve, protect and enhance the quality and quantity of Oconee County's natural resources
 - Goal #2: Identify, develop and utilize all tools and funding sources necessary to meet the present & future economic development needs of Oconee County

- Goal #3: Establish an efficient, equitable and mutually compatible distribution of land uses that complements Oconee County's traditionally rural lifestyle, yet support sustainable economic development, protects the environment, and manages future growth and change
- Goal #4: Manage our community facilities, infrastructure, and public resources in a manner that ensures both the existing population and future generations may enjoy the benefits and economic opportunities that make Oconee County an attractive affordable place to live
- Goal #5: Expand appreciation for the arts, cultural heritage, significant natural features, and historic treasures in a manner that both enhances our lifestyle and promotes sustainable economic prosperity

Economic Development

Mr. Richard Blackwell, Economic Development Director, addressed the Committee utilizing a PowerPoint presentation [copy filed with these minutes] and discussed the following topics:

- Mission
- Project & Marketing Report
- MLBDC Recognition
- Strategic Plan
- Workforce Development
- Product Development
 - Echo Hills
 - Golden Corner Commerce Park
 - Seneca Rail Site
- Oconee County Shell Building

Mr. Dexter suggested that Mr. Blackwell make a presentation similar to the one for this committee at a future Oconee Alliance meeting as it was very important and full of good information that the community needs to hear.

Mr. Barron questioned the status of the Sewer South project. Mr. Moulder noted that staff are awaiting the county attorney's review of the draft agreement and after that is completed and executed that work will begin.

Lastly, Mr. Blackwell noted that it was not included in the presentation but that his department is also focusing on agribusiness in the County.

New Business:

None discussed at this meeting.

Adjourn:

Mr. Barron made a motion approved unanimously to adjourn at 6:42 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth G. Hulse
Clerk to Council