

OCONEE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

415 South Pine Street - Walhalla, SC



TEL (864) 638-4218 FAX (864) 638-4168

LIMITED IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE PERMITTED

Due to the Novel Coronavirus pandemic and the ongoing state of emergency, in-person attendance at this Commission meeting by members of the general public will be limited. Attendance will be limited to twenty percent of the stated maximum occupancy, which equates to thirty-four (34) persons (including Council members, other elected officials, and staff). Attendees will be required to sit in designated seats, appropriately spaced. In-person attendance will be allowed on a “first-come” basis.

*Additionally, to ensure the meeting otherwise remains open to the public, we will continue to broadcast it live on the County’s YouTube channel, which can be found via the County’s website at Oconeesc.com. Further, the public may call in and listen by dialing **888-475-4499 OR 877-853-5257** and entering meeting ID # **828 4377 0168**. And, individuals parked in close proximity to Council Chambers may listen to the meeting on FM 92.3.*

PARTISAN POLITICAL ACTIVITY PROHIBITED

During this election season, please remain aware that engaging in partisan political activity during a County Commission meeting is prohibited. Oconee Code of Ordinances Section 2-61. “Partisan political activities” are those activities that are directed at the success or failure of a political party, candidate for political office, or political group.

Minutes

5:30 pm- Monday, October 19, 2020

Council Chambers - Oconee County Administrative Complex

Members Present

Frankie Pearson
Mike Smith
Gwen McPhail
Alex Vassey
Mike Johnson
Stacy Lyles

Staff Present

Adam Chapman
Vivian Kompier

Media Present

None

1. Call to Order – Ms. McPhail called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.
2. Invocation
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Public Comment for Non-Agenda Items (3-minutes per person) – Mr. Kurt Vong, President of Keowee Harbours Subdivision, spoke about Mr. Cason’s property on Stamp Creek Rd. and what he is building there does not meet the HOA Covenants and Restrictions. Mr. Vong would like the county to not issue any permits without their input. Mr. Vong also asked what our short term rental is defined as.
5. Commission member comment – None

6. Approval of minutes from 10/05/2020 – Mr. Pearson made a motion to accept the minutes, with Mr. Vassey seconding the motion. The motion was approved 6/0.
 7. Housing in Oconee County
 - A. Citizen comment (3-minutes per person) – None
 - B. Discussion – Mr. Chapman gave a presentation explain housing and the definitions of affordable, attainable, and workforce housing. Mr. Chapman suggested that the Planning Commission formulate a statement of need, set up a meeting with Oconee Economic Alliance, Oconee Joint Regional Sewer Authority and the Home Builders Association, as well as research what other jurisdictions in South Carolina have done.
 - C. Motion/Vote – None
 8. Development standards
 - A. Citizen comment – Mr. Peter Barnes, President of Keowee I, II, and III, would like to see Highway 130 as a scenic highway.
Mr. Tom Markovich does not understand why the Development Standards are being addressed in Chapter 38 since they are already addressed in Chapter 32. Mr. Markovich also says it conflicts with the zoning that is already in place and adding more regulations will only raise home building prices and add to the housing needs.
 - B. Discussion – There was discussion about moving the Development Standards to the Planning & Economic Development Committee.
 - C. Motion/Vote- Mr. Smith made a motion to forward the Development Standards to the Planning & Economic Development Committee at their next meeting for consideration. Mr. Vassey seconded and the vote passed 4/2 with Mr. Pearson and Ms Lyles opposing.
 9. 2021 Goals, Objectives, and Strategies for Implementation
 - A. Citizen comment – None
 - B. Discussion – Mr. Smith mentioned that there is a list of priorities of the citizen’s needs and thinks that is where we should start. Mr. Chapman was asked to take some of these to the Agricultural Advisory Board for them to look at.
 - C. Motion/Vote - None
13. Adjourn – The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 6:38 pm.

Anyone wishing to submit written comments to the Planning Commission can send their comments to the Planning Department by mail or by emailing them to the email address below. Please Note: If you would like to receive a copy of the agenda via email please contact our office, or email us at achapman@oconeesc.com.