



MINUTES

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING

March 8, 2011

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Joel Thrift, District IV, Chairman

Mr. Paul Corbeil, District I

Mr. Wayne McCall, District II

The Transportation Committee met Tuesday, March 8, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. in Council Chambers, Oconee Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all members present, Administrator Scott Moulder, County Engineer Mack Kelly 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 and Dick Mangrum - WGOG Radio

Call to Order:

Chairman Thrift called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Minutes:

Mr. Corbeil made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCall, approved 3 – 0 to approve the minutes as presented from the February 17, 2011 meeting.

Citizen Appearances [10 minute maximum per topic]

Doug Hollow Road/Kelly Ridge Road: Mr. Richard Cottingham

Mr. Cottingham addressed the Committee utilizing handouts [copies filed with these minutes] to include:

- Lake Keowee Investors, Inc letter dated March 7, 2011
- Administrative & Legal Procedures for Road Relocation
- DRAFT Road Relocation Agreement between Duke Energy and Lake Keowee Investors
- Lake Keowee Restaurant Clarification of Facts Sheet
- Maps [Lighthouse Restaurant, Road Relocation [Site Plan], Road Relocation [Grading & Drainage Plan], Road Relocation [Signage], Legal Description of Site, and Legal Description of Duke Property
- Opinion letter from Mr. Harry I. Rivers, Jr., Esq.

Mr. Cottingham stated that the request by Lake Keowee Investors, Inc. is to have the County agree to the relocation of a portion of Doug Hollow Road in accordance with the plans and administrative and legal procedures as presented. Discussion followed.

Mr. McCall questioned several aspects of the project; specifically voicing concerns related to an easement allowing the Kelly family ingress & egress to Lake Keowee [copy filed with these minutes]. Mr. McCall provided a deed asking the County Administrator

to follow up with the County Attorney for his opinion regarding the matter. Mr. Cottingham noted that his attorney will make himself available to the County Attorney on this matter.

Mr. Moulder voiced concerns that [1] the County would have part of the road gravel and a portion paved; noting that the next closest gravel road is approximately 3 miles away, and [2] that movement of the roadway may affect the right of ways. Discussion followed.

Mr. Thrift made a motion, seconded by Mr. Corbeil, approved 3 – 0 to recommend to full Council approval of the relocation of a portion of Doug Hollow Road along with the relocation agreement; noting that Mr. Cottingham and Lake Keowee Investors, Inc. will continue to work with the Road Department as the project progresses.

Proposed Ordinance Review/Discussion/Ordinance 2010-26

Mr. Moulder notified the Committee that the County Attorney had not yet completed work on this ordinance and asked that this discussion be deferred to a future meeting. The Committee concurred.

Proposed Ordinance to Resolve Conflicting Language in the Sign Ordinance

Mr. Moulder notified the Committee that the County Attorney had not yet completed work on this ordinance and asked that this discussion be deferred to a future meeting. The Committee concurred.

Ongoing Project Status / Staff Report *[10 minute maximum per topic]*

Mr. Kelly noted that speed limit signs were placed on Damascus Church Road after the last meeting.

New Business:

Public Input Session for Preparation of Yearly Road Paving Listing

Mr. Moulder and Mr. Kelly addressed the Committee requesting permission to institute a new program that would provide the public with a forum to meet with staff to request road work and/or paving. The two sessions yearly would be scheduled in advance of the budget process [March in 2011]. These sessions would also provide for opportunities to provide educational information to the public about what is needed to widen a road, pave a gravel road, etc.

Mr. Thrift asked that this program be instituted and that Mr. Moulder report back to the Committee regarding success.

Old Business:

Alice Lane

Mr. Kelly noted that he met with the residents and developed cost estimates based on review of the roadway. There are water pipes down the center of the road way and utility poles along the right of way. Any improvement would require dealing with either one or both of these issues. Lengthy discussion followed regarding options for resident funding a portion of the road work.

Mr. Moulder stated that he would prepare various cost estimate scenarios and meet with the residents and report back to the committee what the residents are willing to contribute financially.

Stone Pond Subdivision Cost Estimates

Mr. Moulder addressed this issue noting that he has prepared cost estimates if the residents of this subdivision wish to form a special tax district to fund their road improvements. Mr. Moulder provided an example where the tax could increase by 2.5 times to cover the debt service. Discussion followed.

Mr. Thrift directed Mr. Moulder to meet with the residents or their representatives and outline the tax impact for the road improvements and report back to the Committee.

Lakewood Drive Follow Up

Mr. Moulder noted that the County Attorney reviewed the documents presented by Mr. Justice stating that Mr. Martin did not find any documentation that the county maintains the road.

Mr. Thrift stated that this matter is concluded and instructed the Administrator to send a letter to Mr. Justice with the county's position.

Adjourn:

Mr. McCall made a motion, approved unanimously to adjourn at 6:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth G. Hulse
Clerk to Council