



MINUTES
OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
Regular Meeting
June 20, 2017

MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr. Paul Cain, District III
Mr. Wayne McCall, District II
Ms. Edda Cammick, Chairwoman, District I
Mr. Julian Davis III, Vice Chair, District IV
Mr. Glenn Hart, Chair Pro Tem, District V

Oconee County Council met at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Council Members, County Administrator Scott Moulder, County Attorney David Root and Katie D. Smith, 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 [*upon request*] to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

Members of the press present: Stephen Bradley / Daily Journal.

Call to Order

Ms. Cammick called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Public Comment Session

Ms. Jean Jennings addressed Council utilizing a handout [copy filed with these minutes] regarding zoning.

Mr. Ben Turetzky, Executive Director of FOLKS and speaking on their behalf addressed Council utilizing a handout [copy filed with these minutes] regarding Fall Creek.

County Council Response to Public Comment

Mr. McCall responded to Mr. Turetzky noting there needed to be more access to the lake for private owners.

Moment of Silence

Ms. Cammick asked for a moment of silence prior the Invocation by the County Chaplain.

Invocation by County Council Chaplain:

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

Pledge of Allegiance:

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

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0, to re-approve the March 14, 2017 Special Meeting minutes as presented.

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0, to approve the June 6, 2017 Special Meeting minutes as presented.

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0, to approve the June 6, 2017 Regular Meeting minutes as presented.

Administrator's Report & Agenda Summary

Mr. Moulder briefly reviewed with Council and for the public's benefit specifics related to the following matters before Council at this meeting:

- J. Powell OCCB Application
- Public Hearing of Ordinance: 2017-10, 2017-12, 2017-13, 2017-01, 2017-02, 2017-03
- Third Reading of Ordinance: 2017-10, 2017-12, 2017-13, 2017-01, 2017-02, 2017-03
- Second Reading of Ordinance: 2017-09, 2017-14, 2017-16
- First Reading of Ordinance
- First & Final Reading of Resolution: R2017-10
- Discussion Regarding Action Items
- Board/Commission Appointments
- Council Committee reports

Mr. Moulder requested to amend the agenda to add to the Executive Session the discussion of a personnel matter in reference to the reduction in force issues.

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0, to amend the agenda to add to the Executive Session the discussion for the reduction in force matter for the reduction in force of employment positions that was changed.

J. Powell OCCB Application

IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED ON TUESDAY, JUNE 8, 2017 WITH RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL OF THIS APPLICATION AND FUNDING REQUEST.

Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Mr. Davis, to bring J. Powell OCCB Application to the floor for discussion.

Discussion followed to include:

- Initial funding for the survey
- Oconee Soil & Water Conservation District
- Grant from State Conservation District
- NRCS

Regarding the previous motion made by Mr. Cain, seconded by Mr. Davis, approved 4 – 0 [Mr. Hart recused himself, copy of form filed with these minutes] to approve the application and funding request for J. Powell.

Public Hearings for the Following Ordinances

Ordinance 2017-10 “AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 6, ARTICLE III OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF OCONEE COUNTY PERTAINING TO THE OCONEE COUNTY BOARD OF BUILDING CODE APPEALS; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.”

Ms. Cammick opened the floor for any citizen wishing to address Council regarding this ordinance and asked if any citizen. No citizen addressed Council.

Ms. Cammick asked if any citizens wished to submit written comments regarding this ordinance; no citizen presented any written comments for the record.

Ms. Cammick closed the Public Hearing regarding **Ordinance 2017-10**.

Ordinance 2017-12 “AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A GROUND LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN OCONEE COUNTY AS LESSOR AND THE FOOTHILLS AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE AND MARKETING CENTER AS LESSEE; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.”

Mr. Stanley Gibson, Foothills Agricultural Resource and Marketing Center Chairman, addressed Council in support of **Ordinance 2017-12**.

Mr. Tim Donald addressed Council in support of **Ordinance 2017-12**.

No additional citizens spoke at this meeting.

Ms. Cammick opened the floor for any citizen wishing to address Council regarding this ordinance and asked if any citizen. No citizen addressed Council.

Ms. Cammick asked if any citizens wished to submit written comments regarding this ordinance; no citizen presented any written comments for the record.

Ms. Cammick closed the Public Hearing regarding **Ordinance 2017-12**.

Ordinance 2017-13 “AN ORDINANCE GRANTING CERTAIN EASEMENT RIGHTS TO DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC FOR THE PURPOSE OF LOCATING AND MAINTAINING ELECTRIC AND/OR COMMUNICATION FACILITIES ON COUNTY-OWNED PROPERTY; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.”

Ms. Cammick opened the floor for any citizen wishing to address Council regarding this ordinance and asked if any citizen. No citizen addressed Council.

Ms. Cammick asked if any citizens wished to submit written comments regarding this ordinance; no citizen presented any written comments for the record.

Ms. Cammick closed the Public Hearing regarding **Ordinance 2017-13**.

Ordinance 2017-01 “AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE BUDGET FOR OCONEE COUNTY AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES FOR ORDINARY COUNTY PURPOSES, FOR THE TRI-COUNTY TECHNICAL COLLEGE SPECIAL REVENUE FUND, FOR THE ROAD MAINTENANCE SPECIAL REVENUE FUND, FOR THE VICTIM SERVICES SPECIAL REVENUE FUND, FOR THE BRIDGE AND CULVERT CAPITAL PROJECT FUND, AND FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CAPITAL PROJECT FUND, ALL IN OCONEE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2017 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2018.”

Ms. Cammick opened the floor for any citizen wishing to address Council regarding this ordinance and asked if any citizen. No citizen addressed Council.

Ms. Cammick asked if any citizens wished to submit written comments regarding this ordinance; no citizen presented any written comments for the record.

Ms. Cammick closed the Public Hearing regarding **Ordinance 2017-01**.

Ordinance 2017-02 “AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE BUDGET FOR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF OCONEE COUNTY (the “School District”) AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES FOR THE OPERATIONS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF OCONEE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2017 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2018.”

Ms. Cammick opened the floor for any citizen wishing to address Council regarding this ordinance and asked if any citizen. No citizen addressed Council.

Ms. Cammick asked if any citizens wished to submit written comments regarding this ordinance; no citizen presented any written comments for the record.

Ms. Cammick closed the Public Hearing regarding **Ordinance 2017-02**.

Ordinance 2017-03 “AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES FOR THE KEOWEE FIRE SPECIAL TAX DISTRICT AND TO ESTABLISH THE BUDGET FOR THE KEOWEE FIRE SPECIAL TAX DISTRICT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2017 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2018.”

Ms. Cammick opened the floor for any citizen wishing to address Council regarding this ordinance and asked if any citizen. No citizen addressed Council.

Ms. Cammick asked if any citizens wished to submit written comments regarding this ordinance; no

citizen presented any written comments for the record.

Ms. Cammick closed the Public Hearing regarding **Ordinance 2017-03**.

Third Reading of the Following Ordinances Ordinance 2017-10 [Captioned above]

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Ordinance 2017-10** on third & final reading.

Ordinance 2017-12 [Captioned above]

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, to approve **Ordinance 2017-12** on third & final reading.

Mr. Cain thanked all who have supported this initiative and wishes all the best to the Farm Center.

Mr. Davis thanked all for the interest and is in support of the Farm Center.

Regarding the previous motion made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Hart, it was approved 5 – 0, to approve **Ordinance 2017-12** on third & final reading.

Ordinance 2017-13 [Captioned above]

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Ordinance 2017-13** on third & final reading.

Ordinance 2017-01 [Captioned above]

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cain, to approve **Ordinance 2017-01** on third & final reading.

Mr. Davis thanked Mr. Moulder and his staff and the difficult decisions that had to be made.

Mr. Cain thanked Mr. Moulder and Ms. Ladale Price [Finance Director] and staff that worked on the budget.

Regarding the previous motion made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Cain, it was approved 5 – 0, to approve **Ordinance 2017-01** on third & final reading.

Ordinance 2017-02 [Captioned above]

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cain, to approve **Ordinance 2017-02** on third & final reading.

Mr. Root noted at the last public hearing the School District of Oconee County [SCOD] presented a slight decrease in their numbers. The prior on a second reading school operations were noted at \$66,463,508

which was decreased to \$65,797,536, which would reduce the total school district to **\$82,895,916**.

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cain approved 5 – 0, to amend **Ordinance 2017-02** to reflect the corrected amount as stated by Mr. Root, County Attorney.

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cain, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Ordinance 2017-02** as amended on third & final reading.

Ordinance 2017-03 [Captioned above]

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, to approve **Ordinance 2017-03** on third & final reading.

Mr. Root noted there was a slight increase in the total numbers. The increase was from \$698,200 to **\$702,700**.

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart approved 5 – 0, to amend **Ordinance 2017-03** to reflect the corrected amount as stated by Mr. Root, County Attorney.

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Ordinance 2017-03** as amended on third & final reading.

Second Reading of the Following Ordinances

Ordinance 2017-09 “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 32 OF THE OCONEE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES IN CERTAIN LIMITED REGARDS AND PARTICULARS PERTAINING TO SIGN CONTROL, ONLY; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.”

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Ordinance 2017-09** on second reading.

Ordinance 2017-14 “AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A CONTRACT FOR THE DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, AND OPERATION OF THE OCONEE COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CENTER, AND FURTHER, AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF THE LAND UPON WHICH THE OCONEE COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CENTER WILL BE LOCATED; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.”

Mr. Cain made a motion, seconded by Mr. Davis, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Ordinance 2017-14** on second reading.

Ordinance 2017-16 “AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A REAL PROPERTY LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN OCONEE COUNTY AS LESSOR AND THE FAIR-OAK YOUTH CENTER, INC. AS LESSEE; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.”

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0, to approve **Ordinance 2017-16** on

second reading.

First Reading of the Following Ordinances

First & Final Reading for the Following Resolutions

Resolution 2017-10 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN OCONEE COUNTY AS TENANT AND RALPH ALEXANDER, INCORPORATED, AS LANDLORD IN RELATION TO CERTAIN PROPERTY GENERALLY LOCATED AND DESCRIBED AS 207A AND 207B EAST NORTH FIRST STREET, SENECA, SOUTH CAROLINA FOR USE AS A MAGISTRATE'S OFFICE / SUMMARY COURT.

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 4 – 0 [Mr. Cain recused himself, copy of form filed with these minutes] to approve **Resolution 2017-10** on first & final reading.

Discussion Regarding Action Items

Board & Commission Appointments

Building Codes Appeal Board

Mr. Davis made a nomination, approved 5 – 0, to appoint Mr. Kevin Knight as the District IV representative on the Building Codes Appeal Board.

Old / Unfinished Business:

Ms. Cammick noted there have been several budget meetings and also the strategic planning meeting, however, Mr. Moulder was not given the Administrator's Goal list for the fiscal year 2017-2018 [copy filed with these minutes].

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, to approve the Administrator's Goal list as the opportunities present to follow through with the goals.

Mr. Cain wanted to additional items to the list:

- Incentive municipalities to increase recycling
- Utilize inmate labor
- Scan plats and maps onto Internet
- Revamping the County website
- Instituting a true capital investment/vehicle plan
- Building security at Pine Street
- Connect the Palmetto Trail to the Green Crescent Trail

Mr. Moulder noted a temporary employee has been diligently working for about a month and a half with scanning records in Register of Deeds. All of the records should be scanned in by the summer. He further noted he would like to move her to Probate Court so that the records could be scanned as well.

On Mr. McCall's previous motion, he also added an amendment to the agenda to add the task list as provided, including Mr. Cain's additions that was approved unanimously.

Ms. Cammick noted the email [copy filed with these minutes] from Brian Ramey, Mayor of Westminster, was eye-opening. He notes in the email that out of 852 participants in Westminster's recreation program, 589 are outside of the city limits and they are funding \$196,037 and requested that Council consider increasing funding for recreation to help offset some of those costs.

Mr. Davis thanked the City of Westminster and Mayor Brian Ramey for presenting the document about these issues. He noted that this is not just in Westminster but also in Seneca, Walhalla, and Salem as well. He further noted he has received numerous phone calls regarding the Recreation Task Force and citizens are very appreciative of the funding.

New Business:

None at this meeting.

Council Committee Reports:

None at this meeting.

Executive Session:

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0 to enter into Executive Session for the following purposes, as allowed for in § 30-4-70(a) of the South Carolina Code of Laws:

[1] to receive legal advice regarding potential resolution of claim brought in the South Carolina Administrative Law Court against the Oconee County Assessor regarding an alleged overpayment of property taxes.

[2] to receive legal advice regarding a contract with RCI Services to provide plan review and inspection services on an as needed basis.

[3] the discussion of a personnel matter in reference to the reduction in force issues.

Council entered Executive Session at 6:57 p.m.

Council returned from Executive Session at 7:43 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Cain, approved 5 – 0.

Ms. Cammick stated that no action was taken in Executive Session.

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0, to direct the County Attorney to work to resolve the claim as discussed regarding legal advice on the potential resolution of the claim for the overpayment to the Assessor.

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0, to direct the County Administrator to investigate departmental reconfiguration as discussed.

Adjourn

Mr. Davis made a motion, approved unanimously 5 – 0, to adjourn at 7:44 p.m. .

Respectfully Submitted:

Katie D. Smith
Clerk to Council