



MINUTES
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING
October 1, 2019
COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Mr. Glenn Hart, District V, Chairman
Mr. Julian Davis, District IV
Mr. Paul Cain, District III

The Transportation Committee was scheduled to meet at 4:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, Oconee Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all members present, County Administrator Amanda F. Brock, County Attorney David Root, and Katie D. Smith, Clerk to Council present.

Staff Present: Mr. Kyle Reid / Assistant Manager, Roads & Bridges Department

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.oconeesc.com/council]. In addition, it was made available to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

Members of the press present: Caitlin Herrington / Daily Journal.

Call to Order:

Mr. Hart called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cain, approved 3 – 0 to approve the May 7, 2019 minutes as presented.

Discussion & Action Regarding the Following Items:

Mr. Kyle Reid, Assistant Manager with the Oconee Roads & Bridges Department, addressed the Committee utilizing a PowerPoint presentation entitled “Transportation Committee Meeting, October 1, 2019” [copy filed with backup materials] regarding the following discussion items and highlighted the following to include but not limited to:

Discussion regarding the abandonment of a portion of Linhart Rd (WA-156)

- Council approved Resolution 2017-09 consenting to abandon a portion of the road
- Currently a county road still in use by the general public
- Signs posted noticing the abandonment and have received no comments
- Drawing of the proposed cul-de-sac [copy filed with backup materials]

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cain, approved 3 – 0, to continue to move to the abandonment of Linhart Road as stated.

Discussion regarding revisions to Chapter 26 of the Oconee County Code of Ordinances

Mr. Reid noted he and his staff were tasked at the last Committee meeting to come back with recommendations to clean up some items in Chapter 26 and to look at some issues, specifically

pertaining to subdivision roads. The ordinance in place is straight from the highway design manual and may not always be workable regarding subdivisions. Discussion continued.

The Committee took no action on this matter.

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cain, approved 3 – 0, to add Public Comment session to the agenda regarding discussion of acceptance of the roads in Willow Creek Subdivision.

Public Comment Session

Mr. Thomas Wagner addressed the Committee noting Willow Creek Subdivision started in 2007 with two phases and were not developed at the same time and the roads were not approved by the County.

Ms. Amy Gantt, primary owner of Tigerhart Construction, addressed the Committee noting the roads that were built in 2007 were up to the County Ordinance at that time. She further noted that Phase 2 was approved but documentation seems to be missing where the County or the Committee spoke about Phase I. She also noted the road was inspected and passed to the County specifications per Harold Knight and even had a road moved and diverted to meet the County requirements and noted there is a County sign at the beginning of the road. She further noted that because Phase 2 was approved, she will willingly deed access and this would need to be morally and legally maintained by the County.

Discussion regarding the acceptance of the roads in Willow Creek Subdivision – Phase I

- Roads are in fair to good condition
- Summary of items that did not meet the minimum standards as observed by JW White Consulting, LLC [copy filed in backup materials]
- Developer willing to pay for the sign and willing to work with Blue Ridge Electric regarding lights
- Goal is to have Willow Creek Phase 1 accepted into the system
- Variances

Ms. Brock noted she would like to ride the property with Chief King and Mr. Reid and come up with a feasible plan and find a solution that would work for the community and for the County. Discussion continued.

Ms. Gantt noted they had a meeting to show it was not substandard and Phase 2 was already accepted. She further noted Willow Creek was a very unique neighborhood. Additionally, she noted Phase 2 has already been approved and accepted and further proved they did not build a substandard road for Phase 1 or Phase 2. Discussion continued.

It was the consensus of the Committee to schedule a special Transportation meeting on Tuesday, December 17, 2019 at 4:30 p.m., to thoroughly review the information and bring back to the Committee.

Other Business

Mr. Davis noted he has noticed what other counties are doing in certain areas regarding rumble strips at stop signs and asked what the recommendation was for Oconee County.

Mr. Reid noted cost would be a factor. He noted he would research the cost the County would incur for every stop condition. Discussion continued.

Adjourn:

Mr. Davis made a motion to adjourn, approved unanimously at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Katie D. Smith
Clerk to Council