



MINUTES
OCONEE COUNTY
CAPITAL PROJECT SALES TAX COMMISSION
October 10, 2013

MEMBERS

Ms. Brenda Davis, City of Westminster Representative
Mr. Don Fuller, County Representative
Mr. Russell Price, County Representative
Mr. Glen McPheeters, County Representative
Ms. Thelma Miller, City of Walhalla Representative
Ms. Mollie Smith, City of Seneca Representative

The Oconee County Capital Sales Tax Commission [CPSTC] met at 6:30 PM in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all representatives present and Clerk to Council Elizabeth G. Hulse present. Oconee County staff present: Mr. Art Holbrooks, Strategic Planner & Special Projects.

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: Dick Mangrum – WGOG Radio, Ray Chandler – Anderson Independent & Monica Kreber -The Daily Journal.

Call to Order:

Ms. Hulse called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Introduction of Members

Each members of the Commission introduced themselves to the group and provide some background biographical information.

In addition, Ms. Hulse presented each member with a binder with key documents [copies filed with these minutes] related to their role and responsibility on this Commission:

- Projected Revenues
- R2013-16: Creating Commission
- SC Capital Project Sales Tax Act
- 2006-21: Capital Project Sales Tax Ordinance
- General Board/Commission Orientation booklet

Acceptance of Minutes

The minutes from the September 20, 2013 meeting were accepted unanimously by the Commission.

Election of Officers

Ms. Hulse reviewed with the Commission nomination procedures and opened the floor for nominations for Chairman and Vice Chairman.

Chairman

Mr. McPheeters nominated Mr. Price as Chair. Hearing no other nominations, Ms. Hulse called for the vote. Mr. Price was elected Chair unanimously.

Vice Chairman

Mr. Price nominated Ms. Miller as Vice Chair. Hearing no other nominations, Ms. Hulse called for the vote. Ms. Miller was elected Vice Chair unanimously.

At this point, Mr. Price took over and chaired the remainder of the meeting.

Capital Project Sales Tax Presentation / Mr. Holbrooks

Mr. Holbrooks addressed the Commission utilizing a PowerPoint presentation [copy filed with these minutes] highlighting the following key areas:

- Purpose of Tax
- 8-Year Limit for Tax
- Types of Funded Projects
- Commission Role
- Project List
- County Council Role
- Referendum Question Components
- County Election Commission Role
- Tax Imposition Timing
- Revenue Collection & Administration
- Remaining Funds at Termination of Tax
- A Note on Timing
- Proposed Timeline

Discussion followed. Mr. Holbrooks also noted that based on the recent Supreme Court decision that the referendum question was not required to be submitted to the Department of Justice for approval prior to submission to the County Election Commission for inclusion on the November 2014 general election ballot.

The Chair thanked Mr. Holbrooks for his presentation.

Historical Review re: Previous Capital Sales Tax Commissions / Mr. Fuller

Mr. Fuller addressed the Commission utilizing a handout [copy filed with these minutes] highlighting the following areas:

- 58 projects on previous referendum
- Better strategy with 3-5 projects max
- Voting results
- Possible reasons for referendum failure
- Full municipality support
- Marketing key to success
- Criteria development
- Public Education/Marketing budget
- Networking with local citizens and businesses

Discussion followed. Mr. Fuller reiterated the importance of public education regarding the imposition of the tax, the period of time for the tax, and ultimately the value of the projects to the county citizens. In addition, he noted that in 2008 after Council made the decision to disband the previous CPSTC that they created a group called the Capital Project Advisory Committee. This committee has been working since 2010 to evaluate and score projects for review and recommendation by the Oconee County Planning Commission. Mr. Price requested Ms. Hulse provide the Commission with a copy of their Capital Improvement Project Listing [CIP v2013.2] at the next meeting.

Establishment of 2013 Meeting Schedule

Mr. Price led discussion regarding the 2013 meeting schedule. It was decided that each member would provide Ms. Hulse with their unavailable dates through the end of 2013 prior to the next meeting so that a 2013 meeting schedule may be established.

Mr. Price scheduled the next CPSTC meeting for Thursday, October 17, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chamber, 415 S. Pine Street, Walhalla, SC.

Other Business

None discussed at this meeting

Adjourn

Mr. Fuller made a motion, seconded by Ms. Miller, approved unanimously by the Commission to adjourn the meeting at 7:19 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth G. Hulse
Clerk to Council