

MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

Mrs. M. Fran Burrell, District I Mr. Jerry D. Dyar, District II
Mr. Michael E. Harper, District III Mr. Roy B. Strickland, District IV
Mr. Johnny D. Stone, District V

MINUTES, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

The regular meeting of the Oconee County Council was held Tuesday, february 19, 1991 at 3:00 PM in Council Chambers with all Council Members and Tim Cain, Attorney present.

Members of the press notified (by mail): Seneca Journal, Keowee Courier, Westminster News, Anderson Independent, Greenville News, WGOG Radio, WSNW Radio, WBES Radio, WZLI/WJET Radio, WYFF TV & WLOS TV.

Press

Members of the press present: Robin Boyles - Seneca Journal, Dick Mangrum - WGOG Radio, & Tom Johnson - Anderson Independent.

All other persons who have asked to be notified of meetings were also notified by mail.

Other Persons

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor-Chairman Crain who welcomed the guests and media.

Call to Order

The invocation was given by Mr. Dyar.

Invocation

Mr. Dyar made a motion, seconded by Mr. stone, approved 5 - 0 that the minutes of the regular meeting held February 5, 1991 be adopted as printed.

Minutes
2/5/91

Mr. stone made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Burrell, approved 5 - 0 that the minutes of the special meeting held February 8, 1991 be adopted as printed.

Minutes
2/8/91

At the request of Sheriff Holcombe, Mr. Strickland made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dyar, approved 5 - 0 that two (2) mobile phones for the Sheriff's Department be approved at a cost of \$1,053.80 which is a state bid. The department has funds to cover the monthly costs.

Mobile Phones
for Sheriff's
Department

At the request of Mr. Robert Gaillard, Planning Commission Director, Mr. Stone made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Burrell, approved 5 - 0 that a grant from Duke Power Company be accepted for the printing of brochures. There will be no county funds involved.

Duke Grant
for Planning
Commission

Mr. Strickland made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stone, approved 5 - 0 that the attached transfer for the Planning Commission be approved.

Planning
Commission
(Transfer)

Mrs. Burrell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harper, approved 3 - 2 (Mr. Dyar & Mr. Strickland voting against) that Ordinance 91-1, An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of \$1,000,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 1991, Of Oconee County, South Carolina, for the Purpose of Providing Grants to Municipalities in Oconee County for Improvements to the Sewer System of Such Municipalities, Such Improvements Being for Economic Development and Improved Public Health Throughout Oconee County; Authorizing

Ord. 91-1

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the Distribution of a Preliminary Official Statement and a Final Official Statement; Fixing the Form and Details of the Bonds; Authorizing the County Supervisor to Prescribe Certain Matters Relating to the Bonds; Providing for the Payment of the Bonds and the Disposition of the Proceeds Thereof; and Other Matters Relating Thereto" be adopted on first reading in title only.

Mr. Dyar asked that it be made a part of the permanent records that his reasons for opposing this particular ordinance was not to be confused with his wholehearted support for the issuing of the grants in the amount of \$1,500,000 to the city governments in question, he did not support the means by which the funds would be appropriated, he did not support it at the previous meeting and it would be hypercritical of him to go along with it now. He could not support a tax increase when he felt the funds could be made available by other means in the next fiscal year.

Mr. Ron LeCroy stated the residents of the Salem area supported economic growth, however, they did feel the cost of repairing the sewer lines to correct the I & I should be paid back through user fees.

Mrs. Burrell commended the citizens of Salem for their interest in the problem but stated the problem does indirectly affect the Salem area.

Mr. Crain informed those present that the problem does affect all citizens of Oconee County, it just so happens that the problem is in Seneca, Walhalla & Westminster.

Mr. W. R. Richardson stated that it bothered him that the cities had been collecting user fees for a long time and not been using them to correct the problems.

Mr. Ray Harrison of the Tri County Board of Realtors stated the realty business depends on economic growth which is on the decline due to the moratorium, there is no way to create new jobs without sewer. It would be better to pay a little bit now than pay a lot later. Council should do the right thing for Oconee County.

Mr. Dyar stated it would likely be more than a one mill increase and if the Sewer Commission and County Council would go on record that there would only be a one mill increase he would support the ordinance.

Mr. Strickland stated he had talked with ten (10) business men in Westminster and they want to know if this is a bandaid proposition, they feel it is rewarding negligence and he would consequently have to vote against the ordinance. He further stated he felt the towns should work together as Walhalla is the only one who has made a firm commitment.

Mr. Crain stated that no one was in favor of a tax increase, all council members recognize the problem has to be solved. However, he questioned how badly some of them want to solve the problem if they give preference to their personal way of funding instead of how to fund the project when economic development is dead in Oconee County. He further asked how much is it going to cost if the problem is not corrected, there are no jobs being created in Oconee County and this problem must be solved before we can move on to other things.

Mrs. Burrell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harper, approved 5 - 0 that Ordinance 91-2, "An Ordinance Authorizing Monetary Grants Not to Exceed \$500,000 Each to the Municipalities of Seneca, Walhalla & Westminster to be Used by the Municipalities Exclusively for the Rehabilitation of Their Respective Sewage Collection Lines to Eliminate I & I From Said Lines as Well as Oconee County's Wastewater Collection & Treatment Facilities" be adopted on first reading in title only.

Ord. 91-2

At the request of Mr. Dewitt Mize, Rural Fire Marshal, Mr. Dyar made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stone approved 5 - 0 that a 1978 Chevrolet fire tanker owned by Mountain Rest Fire Department be titled to Oconee County for insurance purposes. (See attachment)

Rural Fire

Mr. Strickland made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stone that prior approval be given for a 1971 American pumper truck to be purchased by Corinth-Shiloh Fire Department be titled to Oconee County for the purpose of insurance and purchase of parts, etc. through the Oconee County Motor Pool.

Mr. Harper made a motion, seconded by Mr. Strickland, approved 5 - 0 that this motion be amended that the county accept responsibility for maintenance on this vehicle the same as any other truck. (See attachment)

The original motion was then adopted 5 - 0.

Mr. Strickland made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stone, approved 5 - 0 that the attached transfer for the Auditor's Office be adopted.

Auditor
(Transfer)

Mr. Stone made a motion, seconded by Mr. Strickland, approved 5 - 0 that the attached transfer for the Assessor's Office be adopted.

Assessor
(Transfer)

Mr. Stone made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Burrell, approved 5 - 0 that Warren Consolidated, Inc. be awarded the bid for culverts for the county for a six (6) month period with an option to renew the bid. (See attached bid)

Culverts

Mr. Strickland made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stone, approved 5 - 0 that the attached bid for the Comptroller's Office be adopted.

Comptroller
(Transfer)

Mr. Harper, Council Representative of the Hospital Board, informed Council that at the January 14, 1991 meeting of the Board of Directors they discussed the tentative financial report and at the January 17, 1991 meeting Mr. Archie Barron was elected Chairman, Mr. M. D. Watkins was elected Vice Chairman, Mr. Backman Glymph was elected Secretary and Mr. Robert Edwards was elected Treasurer. He further informed Council the board would be meeting Monday, February 25, 1991 and reports from Hospital Board meetings would be filed in the Council Clerk's Office.

Hospital

Mr. Dyar made a motion, seconded by Mr. Strickland, approved 5 - 0 that the attached transfers for the Motor Pool be adopted.

Motor Pool
(Transfers)

Mr. Stone made a motion, seconded by Mr. Strickland, approved 5 - 0 that \$10,000 be taken from contingency for the Rock Crusher for diesel for the remainder of this fiscal year and \$15,500 be taken from contingency for diesel for the CCS Department for the remainder of this fiscal year.

Motor Pool
(Contingency)

To Mr. Strickland's inquiry, Mr. Crain informed Council that the bid had been awarded for Jenkins Bridge, the work was to have been completed by December 31, 1990, however the "H" beams had to be modified and the weather had slowed this down.

Jenkins
Bridge

Mr. Strickland, Chairman of the Law Enforcement, Safety, Health and Welfare Services Committee informed Council he would attend the Sewer Commission meetings to keep Council informed on actions taken by Sewer Commission and if he was unable to attend he would let someone know.

Sewer
Commission

Mr. Strickland made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stone, approved 5 - 0 to participate in a survey for heartworms in dogs at the Oconee County Animal Shelter under the supervision of Dr. David Wise.

Animal Shelter

Mr. Strickland made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harper, approved 5 - 0 that Mr. Steven Brewer be appointed as at large member of the Oconee County Arts & Historical Commission with his term commencing immediately and expiring December 31, 1991.

Arts
& Historical

Adjourn: 4:30 PM

Norman D. Crain /sg
Norman D. Crain
Supervisor-Chairman
Oconee County Council