

MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

Mrs. M. Fran Burrell, District I Mr. Jerry D. Dyar, District II
Mr. Michael E. Harper, Disstric 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, April 2, 1991 at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers with all Council Members except Mr. Strickland present. Mr. Brandt, County Attorney was also present.

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

Press

Members of the press present: Tom Johnson - Anderson Independent, Dick Mangrum - WGOG Radio, Robin Boyle - Seneca Journal & Ashton Hester - Keowee Courier.

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. Harper.

Invocation

Mrs. Burrell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stone, approved 4 - 0 (Mr. Strickland absent) that the minutes of the March 19, 1991 meeting be adopted as printed.

Mr. Archie Barron & Mr. W. H. Hudson addressed Council regarding a new hospital for the county.

Hospital

Mr. Barron stated that a decision must be made in the near future regarding the direction of a hospital facility to provide proper medical care in Oconee County. There are a number of options open including renovation and/or a new facility.

Mr. Barron further stated this was necessary to maintain or regain the market share which has declined in recent years. This is critical in recruiting new physicians to come to Oconee County.

Mr. Barron informed Council that the building committee had made a recommendation which had been approved by the full board and the medical staff at the hospital had adopted a resolution supporting the recommendation.

Mr. Barron stated the Hospital Building Committee was attending the Council Meeting to ask them to:

- (1) Approve architect schematic drawings, proceed with design, development and completion of project
- (2) Finance project through revenue bonds
- (3) Support of recommendation, approval of revenue bonds to finance facility and extend hospital lease to cover period of bonds

Mr. Louis Batson of Batson Architectural Firm then showed Council schematic drawings of the recommendations.

Mr. Batson stated his firm had designed a one hundred, twenty (120) bed acute care facility to be physically attached to the present hospital through a connecting corridor to existing hospital.

Level one is to contain all diagnostic and treatment services for the hospital, level two connects to ground level of present hospital, some areas will convert to educational space, meeting space, auditoriums, classrooms and dining area. Level two would also be a mechanical level to be designed so that it could be expanded without interrupting the operation of the hospital.

Level three is a special care unit including an eight (8) bed labor and delivery care unit. This floor also contains sixteen (16) gynecological beds, twelve (12) critical care beds and sixteen (16) progressive care beds. This floor can also be expanded if necessary.

The third floor of the present facility would be converted into a forty four (44) bed long term nursing care unit.

Level four would be the medical, surgical care unit and the fourth, fifth and sixth floors of the present hospital would be an assisted care unit.

The concept presented to Council this night is basically concept "B" of the proposal given to Council in April, 1990, the major difference is where the long term care beds are located.

This facility as proposed would be an expansion to meet health care needs for thirty (30) years.

Mr. Kevin McDonald of Ernest & Young Auditing Firm addressed Council regarding the financial status of the hospital and informed Council that from 1987 until 1990 the increase in the revenue had been about 15% annually.

Mr. McDonald stated that phase I, construction of a one hundred, twenty bed replacement hospital which would take around sixteen month to complete would cost \$21,500,000, phase II, renovation of the basement and first floor would cost \$2,500,000 and phase III, renovation of the second through the fifth floor would cost approximately \$3,300,000. Mr. McDonald suggested that phase I & II be financed through a bond issue and phase III be financed through hospital funding.

Sources of Funds:

1992 Revenue Bonds	\$25,640,000
Construction Fund Earnings	\$ 1,165,000
Interest	\$ 214,000
Contributions	\$ 750,000
Hospital Equity	\$ 2,896,000
Total:	\$30,665,000

Uses:

Project Costs	\$24,005,000
Funded Interest	\$ 3,248,000
Debt Service Reserve Fund	\$ 2,646,000
Underwriter Discount	\$ 513,000
Insurance Costs	\$ 253,000
Total	\$30,665,000

See attached financial feasibility study.

Mr. Crain assured Mr. Barron and Mr. Hudson he would assign this to committee for a recommendation..

At the request of Mrs. Dottie Chandler, Library Director, Mr. Dyar made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stone, approved 4 - 0 (Mr. Strickland absent) that laser guns, computer stands, etc be purchased from Data Research Association for the library as they are the only practical source.

Library

Mr. Stone made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Burrell, approved 4 - 0 (Mr. Strickland absent) that the attached transfer for the Assessor's Office be approved.

Assessor
(Transfer)

Mr. Stone made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dyar, approved 4 - 0 (Mr. Strickland absent) that the attached transfer for the Motor Pool be approved.

Motor Pool
(Transfer)

Mr. Dyar made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stone, approved 4 - 0 (Mr. Strickland absent) that the bid for a brake lathe for the Motor Pool be awarded to Oconee Auto Parts. They were low bid at \$7,172.47. (See attached bid)

Motor Pool

Mrs. Marianne Dillard, Purchasing Director, informed Council that in order to keep the building replacement insurance current, the present policy needed to be increased by \$200,000 which is an increase of \$200 in premium cost. Mr. Dyar made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stone, approved 4 - 0 (Mr. Strickland absent) that this be done.

Insurance

Mr. Stone made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harper, approved 4 - 0 (Mr. Strickland absent) that the attached transfer for PRT be approved.

PRT
(Transfer)

Mr. Dyar made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harper, approved 4 - 0 (Mr. Strickland absent) that PRT be allowed to apply for a \$750 SC Tourism Fund grant to be matched by local funding in the amount of \$750 for PRT brochures.

PRT

Mr. Harper made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Burrell, 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 Wastewater Collection and Treatment Facilities" be adopted on third and final reading.

Ord. 91-2

Mr. Dyar made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stone, approved 4 - 0 (Mr. Strickland absent) that the title to Ordinance 91-2 be amended to:

Amendment

"An Ordinance Authorizing Monetary Grants Not to Exceed \$500,000.00 Each to the Municipalities of Seneca, Walhalla and Westminster to be used by the Municipalities Exclusively for the Rehabilitation of Their Respective Sewage Collection Lines to Eliminate Inflow and Infiltration (I & I) From Said Lines in Order to Preserve and Protect the Economic Development and Welfare, and to Improve Public Health Throughout the County" and also that Section 8 be amended to:

The grant shall be funded by the appropriation of \$250,000.00 of sewer user fee revenues from prior years that are presently held by the Oconee County Sewer Commission; \$250,000.00 of the Oconee County Fund Balance; and the issuance by the County of a general obligation bond in the amount of \$1,000,000.00. Each of the cities shall, however, pay to the County one-third (1/3) of all costs incurred in the issuance of the \$1,000,000.00 general obligation bond, which sum shall be deducted from the grant to each of the cities at such time as the bonds are sold and the costs of issuance are determined.

Ordinance 91-2 as amended was then adopted 4 - 0 (Mr. Strickland absent).

Mr. Stone made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dyar, approved 3 - 0 (Mr. Harper abstaining) that Council send a letter to the South Carolina Department of Highways supporting the position taken by the City of Westminster that the elevation of the roadway in front of Westminster Produce and Yousef's Kitchen remain as is. (See attached letter)

Letter to
SC Hwy.
Dept.

Mr. Stone made a motion that the Clerk of Court be given \$870.75 funds to hire an employee two weeks before present employee leaves and also funds (undetermined) to pay employee who is leaving vacation pay. This motion died for lack of a second.

Clerk of
Court

Mrs. Burrell, Chairman of the Purchasing, Contracting, Real Estate, Building & Grounds Committee recommended that the attached Contract for the Humane Society to take over the operation of the Oconee County Animal Shelter be approved.

Humane Societ;

Mr. Brandt, County Attorney, recommended that Section 5d be amended that the Humane Society will maintain the septic system, 5e be amended from transfer to lease regarding the trucks and that Section 9 include animal control facility.

Mrs. Burrell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dyar, approved 4 - 0 (Mr. Strickland absent) that these amendments be made to the proposed contract.

Mrs. Burrell then made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dyar, approved 4 - 0 (Mr. Strickland absent) that the contract commence July 1, 1991 contingent upon funding.

The original motion as amended was then adopted 3 - 0 (Mr. Stone abstaining, Mr. Strickland absent).

Mr. Crain stated this was no reflection on the Humane Society but he wanted to go on record as opposing the contracting of this service.

Mr. Harper made a motion that the bid process be waived to obtain an engineer to advise the county regarding fuel tanks at the airport. This motion died for lack of a second.

Aeronautics

Mr. Harper also informed Council that Mr. Willimon had also asked Talbert & Bright to send in the necessary information to acquire the land around the airport. This would be 95% federally funded, 5% state funded and 5% local funds. April 15, 1991 is the deadline to have this information sent in.

Mrs. Burrell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stone, approved 4 - 0 (Mr. Strickland absent) that the CCS Department be allowed to use the small room next to their office for a computer room.

CCS

Mr. Crain referred the request of the City of Walhalla for the county to maintain Boundary Street to the Roads & Transportation Committee.

City of Walhalla Request

Mr. Dyar made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stone, approved 4 - 0 (Mr. Strickland absent) that Ordinance 91-3, "1991-92 Supplemental Appropriation Ordinance" be adopted on first reading in title only.

Ord. 91-3

The Budget & Finance Committee scheduled a meeting Thursday, April 11, 1991 at 3:00 PM in Council Chambers to discuss the proposed supplemental appropriation ordinance, the proposed 1991-92 budget ordinance and other budgetary matters.

Budget Meetin

Mr. Brandt, County Attorney, informed Council he would ~~have~~ the ordinance for Command Cable ready for first reading in title only at the next regular meeting.

Command Cable

Mr. Crain showed Council a film of the progress of Jenkins Bridge.

Jenkins Bridge

Adjourn: 9:55 PM

Norman D. Crain
Supervisor-Chairman
Oconee County Council