



MINUTES
OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
Special Meeting
April 24, 2012

MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr. Joel Thrift, District IV, Council Chairman
Mr. Paul Corbeil, District I, Vice Chairman
Mr. Wayne McCall, District II, Chairman Pro Tem
Mr. Archie Barron, District III
Mr. Reg Dexter, District V

Oconee County Council met at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Council Members [except Mr. Thrift and Mr. McCall], Administrator Scott Moulder, Assistant Administrator Glenn Breed and Clerk to Council, Elizabeth Hulse 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.oconeesc.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: Ray Chandler - Anderson Independent, Dick Mangrum - WGOG Radio & Carlos Galarza, Mike Eads - Daily Journal.

Call to Order:

Mr. Corbeil called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

County Administrator's Budget Presentation to Council for Fiscal Year 2013

Mr. Corbeil turned the floor over to Mr. Moulder who utilizing a PowerPoint presentation [copy filed with these minutes] a summary line by line budget [copy filed with these minutes] and a detailed line by line budget [copy maintained in the Oconee County Finance Office] reviewing with Council the following issues related to the FY2012-2013 proposed budget:

- Vision, Mission, Strategic Plan Goals & FY 2013 Appropriation Focus
- Significant Changes
- Interfund Transfers
- Special Revenue Funds, Rock Quarry Fund, Economic Development Fund, Capital Projects Fund, Emergency Services Protection District Fund and the Bridges & Culverts Fund
- General Fund - Detail Review to include:
 - Total Requests
 - New Personnel Requests
 - Capital Outlay
 - Summary
 - Revenues & Expenditures
 - Other Financing Sources / Uses

Mr. Moulder announced that the Budget, Finance & Administration Committee meeting originally scheduled for Tuesday, May 8, 2012 has been moved to Thursday, May 3, 2012 to accommodate the three Council members running for re-election to participate in the League of Women Voters debate.

Discussion followed regarding various aspects of the proposed budget to include: proposed increase in fire millage, sewer funding, direct aid, employee salaries, aid to subdivisions, health insurance issues, revenue projects vs. receipts, reassessment impact on budget, fund balances.

Public Comment / Questions:

Mr. Corbeil opened the floor for public comment / questions.

Mr. Richard Hughes asked for clarification regarding the proposed balance for the Economic Development Fund.

Mr. Moulder responded stating that the proposed balance would be zero if adopted as presented.

Mr. Dan Colby suggested that pay raises for county employees be removed and the savings be allocated to fund fire protection.

Mr. Moulder noted that county employees are an asset to the county and that in order to remain competitive increases need to be allocated.

Mr. Dick Mangrum – WGOG Radio, asked for clarification on the estimated fund balance for Fiscal Year 2013.

Mr. Moulder noted that the fund balance estimate at the end of FY2013 will be approximately \$1 million dollars less than FY2012.

Ms. Susie Cornelius voiced concerns with a 1 mill increase from 2.9 to 3.9 mills for fire protection in the unincorporated areas of the county as proposed in the Administrators budget. She also voiced concerns that there would be a fund balance in the Emergency Services Protection Fund.

Mr. Moulder addressed the need to add millage to continue with the approved Fire Plan and that a fund balance is needed in this fund to allow for unexpected costs related to emergency vehicle replacement/repair, etc.

Mr. George Cleveland questioned if hiring a nurse practitioner would assist in reducing the rising health care costs for county employees.

Mr. Moulder noted that at present the county has a contract with Oconee Medical Center to have a nurse practitioner at the county twice a week; noting that this has reduced costs for both the county and the employees.

Adjourn:

Mr. Dexter made a motion, approved unanimously to adjourn at 7:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth G. Hulse
Clerk to Council