



MINUTES

STRATEGIC PLANNING RETREAT MEETING

March 2, 2018

MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL
Ms. Edda Cammick, District I, Chairwoman
Mr. Wayne McCall, District II
Mr. Paul Cain, District III
Mr. Julian Davis, District IV, Vice Chairman
Mr. Glenn Hart, District V, Chairman Pro Tem

Oconee County Council met on Friday, March 2, 2018 at 9:00 AM in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Council Members, County Administrator Scott Moulder; County Attorney David Root, Public Information Officer Amanda F. Brock, and Clerk to Council, Katie D. Smith 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: Norm Cannada / The Daily Journal & Dick Mangrum / WGOG.

Call to Order: Ms. Cammick called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

Mr. Moulder addressed Council and the audience with the following:

- Microphone cords are running on the floor
- Emergency exits
- Lunch will not be provided as meeting should be completed early

Mr. Moulder thanked the Finance Department and Ms. Amanda Brock for all of their hard work.

Financial Analysis & 2019 Pre-Budget Presentation / Mr. Moulder

Mr. Moulder addressed Council utilizing a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Oconee County Pre-Budget Workshop Annual Budget for the Year Ending June 30, 2019" [copy filed with these minutes] highlighting the following key areas:

- Cash Flow Projection
- Expenditure History
- Personnel v. Operations
- Percent of Expenses
- Number of Personnel
- Personnel Difference
- Cost to Serve Analysis
- Revenue History
- Millage Rate Trends
- Debt Margin
- Fund Balance Breakdown
- General Fund Balance Sheet Comparison
- Balance Sheet Comparison
- Capital Projects Fund
- Special Revenue Fund
- Revenue Projections

Mr. McCall arrived during the Financial Analysis & 2019 Pre-Budget presentation.

Discussion & Prioritization of Goals for Strategic Plan / Mr. Moulder

Mr. Moulder addressed Council utilizing a handout entitled "Summary of FY 2019 Strategic Goals by Council Committee" [copy filed with these minutes] highlighting the following areas:

Real Estate, Facilities, & Land Management Committee

- Westminster Magistrate Office
- Pine Street Security
- Park Upgrades & ADA Compliances

Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Health & Welfare Committee

- Recycling Center Improvements
- Ambulance Service Expansion
- Continue EMS Improvement Plan
- Increase OCSO Investigators
- Expansion of Youth Activities / Mentors at Sheriff's Office

Transportation Committee

- Sewer South / Phase II
- Simplified Process for Road Approval & Acceptance
- Scanning of Plats from 1992 and Prior
- Parking Improvements & Crosswalk at Lakeview Assisted Living Facility

Planning & Economic Development Committee

- Workforce Housing – less than \$150,000
- Industrial Recruitment
- Continued Development of Industrial Properties
- Expansion of Sewer to I-85
- Work with Cities to Encourage Downtown Revitalization & Growth
- Comprehensive Bike / Pedestrian Trails Plan
- Technology Incubator
- Continued Replacement of Gateway Signage
- Corridor Plan for US Hwy 123

Mr. Moulder addressed Council utilizing a handout entitled “Summary of FY 2019 Strategic Goals by Boards and Commissions” [copy filed with these minutes] highlighting the following areas:

Planning Commission

- Maintain focus on the completion of the 2020 Comprehensive Plan Update

Agricultural Advisory Board

- Provide as much assistance to the FARM Center for roadside signage and to create and post signs along corridors in the County that speak to the economic impact of agriculture in Oconee County
- Create and execute a marketing and public education campaign that focuses on agriculture with the intent of garnering interest and support for agriculture and possibly encourage new people to create new farms
- Attend and present to County Council meetings the impact, economically, of agriculture and refine goals in an attempt to attain a budget for the Ag Board's activities from the County

Recreation Review Task Force

- Recommend the designation of one mil for recreational funding that will be shared among the recreational districts in the County

Mr. Moulder addressed Council utilizing a handout entitled “Strategic Planning Scoring Sheet” [copy filed with these minutes] highlighting the following areas:

- Scoring sheet for the goals listed above from each Committee
- Prioritize individual goals
- Westminster Magistrate received a vote from each Council member as a priority

Break

Council took a break at 10:01 a.m. and resumed at 10:18 a.m.

Mr. Moulder updated Council with the FY2017-2018 goals:

- Continuing to look into the Westminster Magistrate office
- Convenience Center reconfigurations with Ebenezer and Salem as the top priorities
- Golden Corner Roads and Spec building
- Continuing in Recycling efforts
- Treasurer's entrance at Pine Street
- Car tax tag DMV process
- County Rec Task Force
- Road Approval and Acceptance procedure
- Continuing to work with municipalities with their recycling
- Inmate labor
- County website
- Capital Vehicle and Equipment Plan
- Pine Street security
- Trails Grant research
- Restructuring cost to serve

Most of the goals that were identified last year and for this year will be accomplished in a short timeframe, especially once the weather starts to clear.

Discussion continued to included:

- Heritage Farm driveway is completed
- Pave driveway at Village Creek once weather is clear
- Laying bank back at Bountyland and work toward encroachment permit
- ADA accessibility issue at the DSS building; repairs needed to the parking area
- Seneca Creek landing; received grant for this project
- Can obtain the grant research for the Trails Grant but will not have funds to match or apply for the grant

Mr. Moulder noted there were modifications on how the implementation on the goal setting process was completed this year. Further, he noted the Committees have presented suggestions for goals at the first meeting of the year. The following have been identified as goals from each of the Committees:

Real Estate, Facilities, & Land Management

- Continuation of trying to find a permanent location for the Westminster Magistrate office
- Pine Street security; analysis completed by the Oconee County Sheriff's Office & Emergency Services and have generated a preliminary action report but are continuing to focus attention on what improvements can be made
- Park Upgrades & ADA compliance rights; Chau Ram County Park and High Falls County Park have restrooms that are not ADA compliant and they need to be either torn down and build new or remodel current ones.

Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Health & Welfare

- Continued recycling center improvements; will not be able to complete all of the facilities in one year so this will be a recurring goal
- Ambulance Service expansion; complete the EMS improvement plan that Emergency Services is working on with Greenville Hospital System [GHS] and other stakeholders and put in place an expansion plan to provide services in remote areas of the County for more immediate health care and emergency response
- Increasing the number of investigators at the Oconee County Sheriff's Office; several meetings with Sheriff Crenshaw to identify the areas needed to increase services

- Expansion of Youth Activities and Mentors at Oconee County Sheriff's Office; may be grant opportunities to create mentoring programs to expand School Resource Officer [SRO] program and will require additional services

Transportation

- Sewer South, Phase II; continuing efforts toward grant applications and receipt to expand the sewer to the interstate at Exits 1, 2, & 4
- Simplify the process for road approval and acceptance; currently working on this project and may have this goal completed before next budget year
- Scanning of plats from 1992 and prior; will put a plan in place to scan 1992 and prior
- Parking improvements and Crosswalk at Lakeview Assisted Living; potentially will be completed this fiscal year. Mr. Moulder, Kyle Reid, and Rick Martin have met with the director and making improvements for not only safety but accessibility for visitors and staff.

Planning & Economic Development

- Promote and/or generate the development of workforce housing; identified a gap or absence of available workforce quality housing at \$150,000 or less and would like improvements
- Industrial Recruitment; to bring in additional industrial development and capitalize on our investment in our industrial parks and sewer
- Continue development of industrial properties
- Expansion of sewer to I-85
- Work with Cities to Encourage Downtown Revitalization & Growth; lot of effort from Oconee Economic Alliance [OEA], Destination Oconee, Think Oconee, etc.
- Comprehensive Bike / Pedestrian Trails Plan; looking at how to connect the Issaqueena Trail with other trails; used Swamp Rabbit Trail in Greenville as example of how to connect the communities for pedestrian access, for biking or running, etc. to not only increase the health of our community but access to those types of amenities
- Technology Incubator; potential program with Clemson or other organizations to try and generate an incubation facility for technology type improvements.
- Continued Replacement of Gateway Signage; completed one on Hwy 11 and one on Hwy 123; refocus back on replacing the Gateway Signage in corridors
- Corridor Plan for US Hwy 123; Planning Commission wants to look at consultant help for Corridor Plan and also for the comp plan

Council asked for the Planning Commission, Agricultural Advisory Board, and Recreation Review Task Force to also submit goals, but was not set as priorities. Priorities were specifically kept for the County items but have been included for discussion.

Planning Commission

- Maintain focus on the completion of the 2020 Comprehensive Plan Update

Agricultural Advisory Board

- Provide as much assistance to the FARM Center for roadside signage and to create and post signs along corridors in the County that speak to the economic impact of agriculture in Oconee County
- Create and execute a marketing and public education campaign that focuses on agriculture with the intent of garnering interest and support for agriculture and possibly encourage new people to create new farms
- Attend and present to County Council meetings the impact, economically, of agriculture and refine goals in an attempt to attain a budget for the Ag Board's activities from the County

Recreation Review Task Force

- Recommend the designation of one mil for recreational funding that will be shared among the recreational districts in the County

Mr. Moulder explained the Strategic Planning Scoring Sheet [copy filed with these minutes] noting the projects by Committees are listed down the left and each Council member is to designate five priorities. Members of Council are to examine column one and mark their first priority; column two and mark second priority, etc. until all five columns are completed. The priority receiving the lowest score will be put at the top of the list. A calculation will be completed and will be ranked based on the importance Council identified through their five priorities.

Ms. Cammick noted she is available to scan the plats once school is over and it would not cost the County. She noted to cross this project off of the list as it would be taken care of.

Ms. Cammick also noted to cross off Parking Improvements & Crosswalk at Lakeview Assisted Living Facility due to this project currently being completed and will have most of this work completed by the end of the fiscal year.

Mr. Moulder noted the following priorities had votes:

- Westminster Magistrate Office
- Park Upgrades and ADA Compliance
- Recycling Center Improvements
- Ambulance Service Expansion as part of the continued EMS improvement plan
- Increase number of investigators
- Expansion of Youth Activities / Mentoring with the Oconee County Sheriff's Office
- Sewer South Expansion
- Simplified process for Road Approval
- Workforce housing
- Industrial Recruitment
- Expand Sewer South to the Interstate
- Work with Cities to Encourage Revitalization and Growth
- Comprehensive Bike Pedestrian Trails plan
- Technology incubator
- Corridor plan for Hwy 123

The project receiving the most number of votes is the Westminster Magistrate Office. The second number of votes received was between Workforce Housing, Industrial Recruitment, Corridor Plan for Hwy 123, Sewer South, Recycling Center improvements, and Park Upgrades & ADA Compliance. Discussion continued.

Mr. Moulder's final report will be attached into these minutes as part of the permanent record.

Adjourn: Ms. Cammick adjourned the meeting at 10:57 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Katie D. Smith
Clerk to Council