



MINUTES
OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
Friday, March 19, 2021
10:30 A.M.

MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr. John Elliott, Chairman, District I
Mr. Paul Cain, Vice Chair, District III
Mr. Julian Davis III, Chairman Pro Tem, District IV
Mr. Glenn Hart, District V
Mr. Matthew Durham, District II

Oconee County Council met at 10:30 a.m. in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Council Members, County Administrator Amanda F. Brock, County Attorney David Root, and Katie. D. Smith, Clerk to Council, 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.

Members of the press present: Riley Morningstar / Daily Journal.

Call to Order:

Mr. Elliott called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Discussion Items [*to include Vote and/or Action on matter brought up for discussion, if required*]

Discussion regarding Westminster Magistrate Office

Mr. Danny Duncan, City of Westminster Council member, addressed Council utilizing a letter and resolution from City Council [copies of both filed with backup materials] and read into the record.

Lengthy discussion continued between all Council members with various opinions offered.

Ms. Brock addressed Council utilizing a timeline handout entitled “New Westminster Magistrates Office” [copy filed with backup materials] that was distributed at the August 18, 2020 Real Estate, Facilities, & Land Management Committee meeting.

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cain, to revoke the prior directive to coordinate the sale of the Free Gospel Holiness Church property, and to direct staff to (1) bring back to Council costs to demolish the building on the site and construct a new magistrate’s facility, (2) to also bring back costs to renovate the current building for use as a magistrate’s facility, and (3) to bring back information on any suitable alternate

Council’s meetings shall be conducted pursuant to the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act, Council’s Rules and the Model Rules of Parliamentary Procedure for South Carolina Counties, latest edition. This agenda may not be inclusive of all issues which Council may bring up for discussion at this meeting. Items are listed on Council’s agenda to give public notice of the subjects and issues to be discussed, acted upon, received as information and/or disposed of during the meeting. Items listed on Council’s agenda may be taken up, tabled, postponed, reconsidered, removed or otherwise disposed of as provided for under Council’s Rules, and Model Rules of Parliamentary Procedure for South Carolina Counties, latest edition, if not specified under Council’s rules.

sites.

Additional discussion continued between all Council members.

Regarding the previous motion made by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Cain, it was approved 3 – 2 [Mr. Hart & Mr. Durham opposed] to revoke the prior directive to coordinate the sale of the Free Gospel Holiness Church property, and to direct staff to (1) bring back to Council costs to demolish the building on the site and construct a new magistrate’s facility, (2) to also bring back costs to renovate the current building for use as a magistrate’s facility, and (3) to bring back information on any suitable alternate sites.

Adjourn:

Mr. Hart made a motion, approved unanimously, to adjourn at 11:28 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Katie D. Smith
Clerk to Council