

MINUTES OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING SEPTEMBER 6, 1977

The County Council meeting was opened by Chairman Phinney with the opening prayer by Walhalla Mayor Robert Gaillard. Mr. Moore was the only Councilman absent.

Mr. Thomas moved, Mr. Bailes seconded and it was carried to approve minutes of the August 16th meeting as printed.

Walhalla Mayor Robert Gaillard, on behalf of the City of Walhalla, offered land located on South Broad Street between South Pine and South Chestnut streets in Walhalla for the site of the new Library. The lot is approximately 1 block long and 100 ft wide. Chairman Phinney thanked Mayor Gaillard on behalf of County Council. Mr. Herring, Chairman of the Library Building Committee also told of his appreciation of the offer and moved to accept the property as the site for the new Walhalla Library and further recommended to purchase land at the corner of North Ave and Isundega Streets in Westminster at a cost of \$10,000 for the site of the new Westminster Library and to proceed with bids for topographic survey's of both sites immediately and turn over to the Architect Firm of Freeman, Wells and Majors (previously chosen as the Architects for the construction). Mr. Thomas seconded Mr. Herring's motion and all votes were in favor.

Henry Cater, Treasurer briefed Council on the duties and activities of his office and requested permission to request the Banks in the County, collecting taxes this year as a service to their customers, turn the money and receipts over to his office at least weekly. Heretofore they have been waiting until the end of the month causing persons paying taxes early in the month not to receive their tax receipts for sometimes 4 weeks. Mr. Thomas moved, Mr. Frady seconded and it was carried giving Mr. Cater permission to make this request.

Mr. Thomas moved for the adoption of Flood Ordinance 77-8 on second reading. Mr. Bailes seconded and it was passed unanimously.

Mr. Ables moved to adopt Resolution 77-5 requesting participation in the FEderal Surplus Property Program. Mr. Bailes seconded and it was carried.

Mr. Bailes moved to adopt on 1st reading Ordiance 77-9 to purchase \$800,000 Tax Anticipation Notes. Mr. Thomas seconded and the vote was 6 for and 0 against.

Mr. Crain presented and moved for its adoption, a joint Resolution by the City of Seneca, City of Westminster and County Council requesting the State Highway Department complete the four-laning of State Highway between Seneca and Westminster. Mr. Thomas seconded and all voted in favor.

Mr. Crain moved to appoint Mr. Phinney as the designated person to receive the \$286,000 EDA Grant Funds for road work, Mr. Ables seconded and it was carried.

Since the theft of communication equipment at station#2 on Long mountain has not yet been replaced, Mr. Thomas moved to replace it, get bids on a 6 ft. chain link fence to enclose this station and to place an alarm system there. The approximate cost of this should run around \$6,200 and be paid from the Contingent account. Mr. Cox seconded this motion and all Council Members voted yes.

A motion was entered by Mr. Thomas seconded by Mr. Bailes and carried to approve funds in the amount of \$1,040 for conduit line from the civil defense section of the new law enforcement center to the communication department.

Mr. Ables moved to approve the Municipal Association's appointment of Walhalla Mayor Robert Gaillard and Col. Tom Ramsey as their Representatives on the Appalachian Council of Governments. Mr. Thomas seconded Mr. Ables motion and all votes were in favor.

Colonial Income Protection Ins. Co. had requested permission to discuss their income protection policy to department heads and Mr. Cox moved that this be allowed. Mr. Thomas seconded and it was pointed out that this in no way would be on payroll deduction. It was carried by a vote of 4 (Bailes, Cox, Thomas and Ables) to 2 no (Crain and Frady).

Budget and Planning Director, Richard Lay, briefed Council on the guide lines for the road construction grant and regulations pertaining to the use of revenue sharing funds for road and library construction. It has become necessary to re-advertise for bids for road work to be paid from revenue sharing in order for the bids to include the Davis Bacon clause. Mr. Lay also reported no word yet on the application for cleaning streams under Public Service Employment. He did state that he would also try through another source, the Rural Development Service in Washington.

It was agreed to adjourn at 9:30 P.M. and go into executive session to discuss personnel.