

MINUTES SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNTY COUNCIL 7:00 P.M. June 27,1978

A special meeting of County Council was opened by Chairman Phinney with the opening prayer by Mr. Cox. All Members were present.

Mr. Bailes moved to adopt on Third Reading Budget Ordinance 78-7, Mr. Crain seconded the motion and the following amendments were offered:

1. Mr. Thomas moved to include approximately \$3,990 as the county's payment for a new ambulance for the Civil Defense (balance to be paid by State/ Federal funds). Mr. Crain seconded and the vote 8 Yes and 0 No.

A request from Anderson/Pickens/Oconee Mental Health for an additional \$5,000 for their budget was presented after which Mr. Herring moved to fund the additional monies requested. The motion did not receive a second.

Councilman Earle again stated he was opposed to capital expense budget Item 99-2209 calling for \$741,000 for a new rock crushing facility and requested it be deleted from the budget. Mr. Thomas seconded, however it was defeated by a 1 For, (Earle) 5 Against (Bailes, Cox, Crain, Frady, Ables) and 1 Abstaining vote (Herring)

Budget Director, Richard Lay, announced that \$81,001 of the EDA sewer refund would not be received by June 30th therefore it would be included as income on the revenue listing in the budget and substracted from the carry forward amount. This would not result in any changes to budget totals.

Mr. Thomas moved to withdraw the merit raise as provided for in the budget. Mr. Cox seconded then Mr. Cox amended the motion to allow a 2½% across the board raise to all county employees using the amount budgeted for merit raises. Mr. Herring seconded the amendment which was defeated. The vote 2 For (Cox,Herring) and 6 No. (Bailes, Crain, Frady, Ables, Earle and Thomas). Budget Ordinance 78-7 was then adopted on Third and final Reading by a 6 Yes(Bailes, Cox, Crain, Frady, Thomas, and Able§ and 2 No (Earle,Herring) vote.

Motion by Mr. Bailes to adopt Resolution 78-8 honoring W. Frank Addis, who is retiring, for his many years service to Oconee County as Probation Officer. Mr. Thomas seconded and it was unanimously adopted.

Motion by Mr. Bailes to adopt Resolution 78-9 stating that the main Branch of the Walhalla Library be dedicated to and named for, Mrs. Sarah M. Norton for her service on the Oconee County Library Committees and Commissions for the past 30 years and her efforts in establishing the first Oconee County Library. Mr. Ables seconded the motion which was unanimously adopted.

Transferring of funds from one line item to another in departmental budgets was discussed and it was agreed that a memorandum would be issued pertaining to this in early July.

Mr. Bailes moved, seconded by Mr. Thomas and carried to ratify the agreement with the Neil Byerley CPA Firm to conduct an audit of delinquent taxes in the Tax Collectors Office.

Councilman Crain introduced and read a letter that was sent to School employees by the Supt. of Education(a copy of letter is attached). After reading the letter, he asked Mr. Lay to summarize what had happened reference the school borrowing money against next year's tax anticipation. Mr. Lay summarized the actions that

had taken place and stated that Mr. Hamilton had discussed the matter with Sinkler, Gibbs, and Simmons and that the School Governing Body (by interpretation, the Oconee County School Board) had the authority to approve an Ordinance for the school to borrow the money. Further, that the County Council would not be required to become involved in the transaction.

Councilman Thomas recommended Council support the Rural Firemen in their efforts to have a court hearing with regard to the 1% insurance rebate which has been in question for some time. This would not require any funds as the firemen are paying all court costs.

It was announced that the ground breaking ceremonies for the new libraries would be July 18th. A letter of invitation would be sent out to various Personnel, (Mayors, Delegation, Etc).

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Oconee County School District
P. O. Box 220
Walhalla, S. C. 29691
June 22, 1978

Dear Fellow Worker,

Attached is your check for the Month of June.

Due to circumstances beyond our control, it is impossible for us to get your checks for July and August to you prior to July 3. The School District will receive approximately \$1,300,000.00 immediately after July 1; however, we are not allowed to borrow against this money until July 1.

In the event you have an emergency situation, please contact us immediately. There is an excellent possibility that we can release all checks to you. Please do not make such a request unless it is an emergency.

I have worked every way possible to have this money available; however, our attorney advised me at 12:15 on June 21 that we could not get the money until July 3 to make the other payments.

In the event you have questions, I'll be happy to hear from you. Your understanding and cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Fred P. Hamilton, Supt.
of Education

FPH:iow

Attachment