

MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr. Steven R. Moore, District I Mr. Kenneth E. Johns, Jr., District II
Rev. William "Bill" Rinehart, District III Mr. Marion E. Lyles, District IV
Mr. H. Frank Ables, Jr., District V

MINUTES, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

The Oconee County Council met Tuesday, August 19, 2003 at 3:00 PM in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Council Members except Mr. Johns present. The County Attorney was also present.

Press:

Members of the press notified (via mail): Keowee Courier, Westminster News, Daily Journal, Anderson Independent, WGOG Radio, WYFF TV & WLOS TV.

Members of the press present: Ashton Hester – Keowee Courier

Other Organizations Notified:

Also notified were the Oconee County Tax Payers Association and the Oconee County Democratic Party.

Call to Order:

Vice Chair Ables called the meeting to order.

Invocation:

Mr. Rinehart gave the invocation.

Minutes:

Mr. Moore made a motion; seconded by Mr. Lyles, approved 3 – 0 that the minutes of the regular meeting held August 5, 2003 and the minutes of the special meeting held August 12, 2003 be adopted as printed.

Resolution 2003-30:

Mr. Steven Moore, Council Member, District I, presented Resolution 2003-30, "A RESOLUTION HONORING SAM COBB" to Mr. Cobb in appreciation for his years of service to the Oconee County Sheriff's Department.

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Public Hearing RE: Ordinance 2003-13:

The next item on the agenda was a public hearing regarding Ordinance 2003-13, "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A FEE IN LIEU OF TAX AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AND VALENITE MANUFACTURING INC.; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO, WITHOUT LIMITATION, PAYMENT OF A FEE IN LIEU OF TAXES".

There were no written comments submitted regarding the above titled ordinance.

Ms. Susie Cornelius asked the County to implement a plan insuring industries that come into the county with payment of fee in lieu of taxes keep the commitments they make to the county.

Mr. B. J. Littleton expressed concerns that some companies might take advantage of the tax break for five years and then move from Oconee County to take advantage of the tax break somewhere else.

Third & Final Reading Ordinance 2003-13:

Mr. Lyles made a motion, seconded by Mr. Moore, approved 3 – 0 that Ordinance 2003-13 (titled above) be adopted on third and final reading.

Public Hearing RE: Ordinance 2003-12:

The next agenda item was a public hearing regarding Ordinance 2003-12, "AN ORDINANCE ENACTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE KEOWEE FIRE TAX DISTRICT AND ESTABLISHMENT OF THE KEOWEE FIRE COMMISSION, AND RENAMING OF THE KEOWEE KEY FIRE DEPARTMENT"

See the attached written remarks from the Keowee Fire Commission.

Mr. B. J. Littleton spoke against Council adopting this ordinance.

Mr. Moore made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lyles, approved 3 – 0 that Ordinance 2003-12 (titled above) be adopted on third and final reading.

Parks:

Upon recommendation of Ms. Vickie Satterfield, Parks Director, Mr. Ables made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rinehart, approved 3 – 0 that funds in the amount of \$9,790 be given to the Fair Oaks Youth Center from line item 010 202 30905.

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Parks Continued:

Also, upon request of Ms. Satterfield, Mr. Lyles made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rinehart, approved 3 – 0 that the attached transfers from Parks Operational Funds into Parks School/Seminars/Training in the amount of \$1,000 and from Parks Operational Funds into Parks Clothing & Uniforms be in the amount of \$400 be adopted.

Rural Fire:

Upon recommendation of Mr. Ronald Butts, County Fire Chief, Mr. Moore made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rinehart, approved 3 – 0 that a 1972 brush truck used by the Mountain Rest Fire Department be titled back to the fire department and that a 2004 Ford F350 be purchased from state purchasing through the County with Mountain Rest Fire Department furnishing the funds for the fire department and the truck remain in the name of the County for insurance purposes

Also, upon recommendation of Mr. Butts, Mr. Rinehart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lyles, approved 3 – 0 that a brush truck currently being used by the Cross Roads Fire Department be titled back to the fire department and the insurance be transferred to a truck obtained from State Forestry.

Aeronautics:

Mr. Robert Banks, Airport Director, informed Council that after Council adopted the new hangar lease, some individuals are now selling an interest in their plane to be able to sub-lease the hangar. After considerable discussion Mr. Ables assigned the matter to the Purchasing, Contracting, Real Estate, Building & Grounds. Committee.

Solid Waste:

Ms. Melissa Grant, Solid Waste Director, addressed Council regarding the following changes in tire disposal:

(1) Requirement of a bill of lading and waste generators and haulers being registered with the county in addition to businesses removing tires from rims.

(2) A charge of \$100 per ton or \$5 per tire for off-road and tractor trailer tires

After a brief discussion, Council referred this back to the Solid Waste Commission with a recommendation to be made at the first Council Meeting in October.

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Solid Waste Continued:

Ms. Grant also addressed Council regarding disposal of mobile homes, Mr. Lyles made a motion, seconded by Mr. Moore, approved 3 – 0 that this matter be referred to the Planning Commission for a recommendation and no more mobile homes be taken until the matter is resolved.

Ordinance 2003-11:

Mr. Rinehart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Moore, approved 3 – 0 that Ordinance 2003-11, "AN ORDINANCE REQUIRING THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER OF OCONEE COUNTY TO SUBMIT THE ANNUAL BUDGET TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF OCONEE COUNTY OF THE OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL BY APRIL 1ST OF EACH CALENDAR YEAR" be amended to include that the original budget requests received by Council be placed in the Libraries.

Mr. Moore then made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rinehart, approved 3 – 0 that Ordinance 2003-11 (titled above), as amended, be adopted on third and final reading.

Resolution 2003-31:

Mr. Moore made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rinehart, approved 2 – 0 (Mr. Lyles out of room) that Resolution 2003-31, "A RESOLUTION HONORING MR. ROBERT BLACKWELL" be adopted on first and final reading.

Purchasing, Contracting, Real Estate, Building & Grounds Committee Recommendations:

Upon recommendation of the Purchasing, Contracting, Real Estate, Building & Grounds Committee, Council unanimously adopted the following:

(1) The Procurement Director be permitted to sign the contract for maintenance of the elevator in the courthouse and funding be taken care of in the Supplemental Appropriations Ordinance

(2) The Public Buildings Director transfer funds from one line item to another to cover the cost of diesel for the courthouse generator

(3) Approximate cost for repair of the Lunney Museum be secured and the extent of the repair that needs to be made to the roof

(4) \$10,000 be taken from the closure/post closure funds for continued monitoring of the methane wells

(5) Fencing at Five Forks proceed when a reasonable cost is secured with the funding coming from closure/post closure funds

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Purchasing, Contracting, Real Estate, Building & Grounds Committee Recommendations Continued:

(6) Manned convenience center #12 be forwarded to the Planning Commission for a recommendation

Rock Crusher Road:

Mr. Lyles made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rinehart, approved 3 – 0 that funding for the asphalt for paving of the roadway into the new building at the Rock Quarry be approved from road paving funds.

Roads:

Ms. Dillard, Procurement Director, also informed Council she had received a letter from Garrett Construction's Bonding Company informing her they would be taking over Garrett's contract with the County.

Resolution 2003-32:

Mr. Moore made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rinehart, approved 3 – 0 that Resolution 2003-32, "A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PROPOSED WATER TREATMENT PROJECT FOR UPPER LAKE KEOWEE" be adopted on first and final reading.

Amendment to May 2, 2003 Minutes:

Mr. Rinehart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Moore, approved 3 – 0 that the minutes of the May 2, 2003 be amended to include all capital improvements in the procedural changes.

Budget & Finance:

Mrs. Phyllis Lombard, Finance Director, informed Council that the Duke Power Assessment came in \$5,000,000 less than anticipated.

The Budget & Finance Committee scheduled a meeting Wednesday, August 27, 2003 at 10:00 AM in Council Chambers to discuss the matter.

Public Comment Session:

Ms. Susie Cornelius addressed Council regarding the county budget being placed on the web, the water resolution being needed, however, she did object to it being adopted without being an agenda item and Poor Farm Lake.

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Public Comment Session Continued:

Mr. B. J. Littleton addressed Council regarding Poor Farm Lake, surveyors, Harry Potter books and the Mountain Rest Fire Department.

Adjourn:

Adjourn: 5:10 PM

Respectfully Submitted:

Opal O. Green, Clerk to Council