

**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, October 7, 2003 at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Council Members except Mr. Ables 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: Dick Mangrum – WGOG Radio, Ray Chandler – Daily Journal, Ashton Hester – Keowee Courier & Rolann Lee – Westminster News.

**Other Organizations Notified:**

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

**Call to Order:**

Interim Supervisor-Chair Hamilton called the meeting to order.

**Invocation:**

Mr. Rinehart gave the invocation.

**Minutes:**

Mr. Johns made a motion; seconded by Mr. Lyles, approved 3 – 0 that the minutes of the regular meeting held September 2, 2003 and September 16, 2003 be adopted as printed.

**George Shealy Award:**

Mrs. Louise Bell, on behalf of the Oconee County Arts & Historical Commission presented an "Award of Appreciation" to Mr. George Benet Shealy for his service to God and mankind.

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**Public Hearing Regarding Ordinance 2003-15:**

Council then held a public hearing to receive written and/or oral comments regarding Ordinance 2003-15, "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE BONDS (INDUSTRIAL BUILDING PROJECT) SERIES 2003; THE ENTERING INTO OF CERTAIN COVENANTS AND AGREEMENTS AND THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF CERTAIN INSTRUMENTS RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF THE AFORESAID BOND, INCLUDING AN INDENTURE; AND CERTAIN OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO".

There was no one present with any written comments regarding this ordinance.

Ms. Susie Cornelius addressed Council stating the public would like to see the figures of what the proposed speculation building will do for the county in terms of employment, money brought into the county, etc.

Mr. James Alexander, Economic Development Director, stated it is hard to give any numbers at this time; we are building the "spec" building in hopes that someone will use it and create at least twenty to thirty jobs.

Mr. Johns made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lyles, approved 4 – 0 that Ordinance 2003-15 (Titled Above) be adopted on third and final reading.

**Public Hearing Regarding Right of Way & Lease Agreement RE: Sewer Commission:**

The next item on the agenda was a public hearing to receive written and/or oral comments regarding the attached right-of-way and lease agreement between Oconee County/Oconee County Sewer Commission and New Horizons Electric Cooperative.

There was no one present with written and/or oral comments regarding this agreement.

Mr. Rinehart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lyles, approved 4 – 0 that the right-of-way and lease agreement be adopted.

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**Public Hearing Regarding Ordinance 2003-16:**

Council then held a public hearing to receive written and/or oral comments regarding 2003-16, "OCONEE COUNTY SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET".

Ms. Susie Cornelius reminded Council that when the budget was being discussed, remarks were made regarding a lack of funds to cover the operational expenses in the budget, however \$3,500,000 was moved from bond payments to cover the deficit in the budget and she requested Council rescind the \$15.00 vehicle fee.

Third & final reading of Ordinance 2003-16 was postponed.

**Ordinance 2003-17:**

Mr. Johns made a motion, seconded by Mr. Moore, approved 4 – 0 that Ordinance 2003-17, "AN ORDINANCE OF AMENDMENT AND RESTATEMENT OF TRUST INDENTURE AND AMENDMENT OF LOAN AGREEMENT RELATING TO THE \$77,000,000 OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA POLLUTION CONTROL BONDS, SERIES 1993 (DUKE POWER COMPANY PROJECT) (THE "BONDS") TO PROVIDE FOR CHANGE IN INTEREST RATE FROM FIXED TO VARIABLE RATE, TO PROVIDE FOR APPOINTMENT OF BANC ONE CAPITAL MARKETS, INC., AND REMARKETING AGENT, REMARKETING OF THE BONDS AND EXECUTION OF DOCUMENTS RELATING THERETO, AND TO PROVIDE FOR CHANGE IN COLLATERAL SUPPORT FOR THE BONDS BY DELIVERY OF LETTER OF CREDIT ISSUED BY BANK ONE" be adopted on second reading.

**ATAX Grant:**

Upon recommendation of Ms. Ansley Fraser, ATAX Committee, Mr. Lyles made a motion, seconded by Mr. Rinehart, approved 4 – 0 that the attached ATAX Grant to Oconee Station State Historic Site in the amount of \$1,400 be adopted.

**Solid Waste:**

Upon recommendation of Ms. Melissa Grant, Solid Waste Director, Mr. Moore made a motion, seconded by Mr. Johns, approved 4 – 0 that the attached recommendation to charge \$1.50 to dispose of a regular size tire and \$5.00 to dispose of a large tire at the landfill be adopted.

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**USDA Lease Agreement:**

Mr. Rinehart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Moore, approved 4 – 0 that the attached lease agreement between the United States Department of Agriculture and Oconee County for the housing of Farm Service Agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service and Oconee Soil & Water Conservation District be adopted with the following changes:

Item #3 be changed from: This lease, made and entered into this day by and between Oconee County Supervisor to: This lease made and entered into this day by and between Oconee County.....

Item #4c be changed from.....Rent checks shall be made payable to: Oconee County Supervisor to Rent checks shall be made payable to Oconee County

**Herbicide Spraying (Contingency):**

Mr. Moore made a motion, seconded by Mr. Johns, approved 4 – 0 that \$3,678 be taken from contingency for payment of herbicide spraying at Five Forks.

**Statement of Support for Guard & Reserve:**

Mr. Lyles made a motion, seconded by Mr. Moore, approved 4 – 0 that the attached *Statement of Support for the Guard & Reserve* be adopted on first and final reading.

**Rosa Clark (Contingency):**

Mr. Rinehart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Moore, approved 4 – 0 that \$500 be taken from contingency for repairs at Rosa Clark Clinic.

**Road Committee Meeting:**

The Roads & Transportation Committee scheduled a meeting Tuesday, October 21, 2003 at 2:00 PM to discuss several roadway issues.

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**Budget & Finance Recommendations:**

Mr. Moore, Chair, Budget & Finance Committee, informed Council of the following recommendations of the committee, which were adopted unanimously:

- (1) A \$25,000 capitalization threshold be established for County owned buildings for GASB purposes
- (2) \$3,500 be unfrozen from the Pine Street Account for HVAC system in computer storage area
- (3) The repair work at the airport be done in house

**Committee Resignation:**

Mr. Johns made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lyles, approved 4 – 0 that Hugh Foster's resignation as a member of the Housing & Revitalization Committee be regretfully accepted.

**Personnel & Intergovernmental Recommendations:**

Upon recommendation of the Personnel & Intergovernmental Committee, Council voted unanimously to have a regional search for an administrator and use the SC Appalachian Council of Governments to assist in this search.

Also, upon recommendation of the Personnel & Intergovernmental Committee, Council voted unanimously to authorize Mr. Hamilton to locate someone to work part time in the Register of Deeds Office.

Further, upon recommendation of the Personnel & Intergovernmental Committee, Council voted unanimously to reclassify the Administrative Assistant in the Assessor's Office to Chief Deputy Auditor at a pay grade of 19I and reclassify an Equipment Operator I to an Equipment Operator II at a pay grade of 10E with the funding being addressed in the Supplemental Ordinance.

In addition, upon recommendation of the Personnel & Intergovernmental Committee, Council voted unanimously to adopt the attached agreement between Oconee County and the Town of Westminster.

Further, upon recommendation of the Personnel & Intergovernmental Committee, Council voted unanimously to adopt Ordinance 2003-18, "AN ORDINANCE TO APPOINT BOARD MEMBER TO LAKEVIEW ASSISTED LIVING, INC." on second reading.

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**Personnel & Intergovernmental Recommendations Continued:**

Also, upon recommendation of the Personnel & Intergovernmental Committee, Council voted unanimously to adopt Ordinance 2003-19, "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 97-14, THE OCONEE COUNTY PERSONNEL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL" on first reading.

**Public Comment Session:**

Ms. Susie Cornelius addressed regarding the Request of the Register of Deeds for part time personnel and other county actions.

Mr. B. J. Littleton addressed Council regarding different county activities.

**Executive Session:**

Mr. Moore made a motion, seconded by Mr. Johns, approved 4 – 0 that Council go into executive session for the purpose of receiving a legal briefing regarding the Tri County Regional Landfill property and the courthouse.

**Adjourn:**

Adjourn: 8:30 PM

Respectfully Submitted:

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Opal O. Green, Clerk to Council