

**MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL**

Mr. George C. Blanchard, District I Mr. Thomas S. Crumpton, Jr., District II  
Mr. Mario Suarez, 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, June 5, 2007 at 7:00 pm in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Council Members and the County Attorney present.

**Press:**

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

Members of the press present: Dick Mangrum – WGOG Radio, Brett McLaughlin – Daily Journal, Dave Williams – Anderson Independent & Ashton Hester – Keowee Courier.

**Other Organizations Notified:**

Also notified were the Oconee County Tax Payers Association & Citizens for Recreation Center.

**Call to Order:**

Chairman Lyles called the meeting to order.

**Pledge to US Flag:**

Mr. Ables led the pledge of allegiance to the US Flag.

**Minutes:**

Mr. Crumpton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ables, approved 5 – 0 that the minutes of the May 15, 2007 meeting be adopted as presented.

**Public Comment Session:**

Mr. Tim Grant addressed Council regarding the proposed emergency services plan and asked that Council consider reallocating the funds so that each fire department receives \$50,000.

**Public Comment Session Continued:**

Ms. Susie Cornelius addressed Council regarding the proposed emergency services plan and submitted the attached information.

Mr. George Cleveland addressed Council regarding the proposed emergency services plan, the vehicles requested in the 2007-08 budget and Mr. Tom Hendricks tenure as County Administrator.

Mr. Bo Horne addressed Council regarding the proposed emergency services plan.

Mr. B. J. Littleton addressed Council with disparaging remarks regarding Mr. Blanchard.

**Arts & Historical:**

Mr. Luther Lyle, Chair, Arts & Historical Commission, presented Ms. Rose Cashin & Mrs. Louise Bell with awards for their service on the Arts & Historical Commission.

**Worklink/Workforce:**

Upon request and recommendation of Ms. Julia S. Hoyle, Director, Mr. Ables made a motion, seconded by Mr. Crumpton, approved 5 – 0 that the attached 2007 modification to the Worklink Workforce Investment Board Five-Year Strategic Plan be approved for submittal to the governor.

Mr. Ables made a motion, seconded by Mr. Crumpton, approved 5 – 0 that the following Worklink/Workforce Board Members be appointed to three year terms beginning July 1, 2007:

|                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Ms. Alena Pelfrey | Reappointment   |
| Mr. Melvin Martin | Reappointment   |
| Mr. Robert Dubose | New Appointment |

**Treasurer's Office:**

Mr. Ables made a motion, seconded by Mr. Suarez, approved 5 – 0 that the attached agreement with Smith Data Processing and Global Payments, at a one time cost of \$5,250 from line item 010 711 30056 and a monthly cost of \$70.83 from line item 010 711 30056 be adopted to provide the capability for the Treasurer's Office to collect taxes via the internet utilizing credit cards.

**Treasurer's Office Continued:**

Mr. Crumpton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Suarez, approved 5 – 0 that the attached agreement with Smith Data Processing be adopted to provide the capability for the printing of vehicle registration decals as a part of the vehicle license tag renewal and vehicle property tax payment. The County should realize an income stream of \$37,000 annually after costs.

**Clerk of Court:**

Mr. Ables made a motion, seconded by Mr. Crumpton, approved 5 – 0 that the attached agreement with Smith Data Processing to provide a software agreement for court management, at a cost of \$13,650 from line item 010 501 50840 be adopted.

**Law Enforcement Center:**

Mr. Suarez made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ables, approved 5 – 0 that the attached agreement with Sprint Communications for cell phone repeaters in the LEC be adopted.

**Solid Waste:**

Mr. Ables made a motion, seconded by Mr. Crumpton, approved 5 – 0 that the bid and two alternates for replacement of steel plates at the Oconee County Transfer Station be awarded to Leak & Associates at a cost of \$86,000. \$35,000 of the funding for this project will come from line item 016 718 50850. (See attached bid sheet)

Mr. Suarez made a motion, seconded by Mr. Crumpton, approved 5 – 0 that the attached transfer in the amount of \$65,000 from line item 016 718 60007 to line item 016 718 50850 be approved to complete the funding for the replacement of the steel plates at the Oconee County Transfer Station. (See attached transfer)

**Rock Quarry:**

Mr. Blanchard made a motion, seconded by Mr. Crumpton, approved 5 – 0 that the bid to sell a 1998 Thunderbird Kobelco Portable Rock Crushing plant from the Oconee County Rock Quarry be awarded to Pickens Construction for \$126,000. (See attached bid sheet)

**Resolution 2007-04:**

Mr. Crumpton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ables, approved 5 – 0 that Resolution 2007-04, “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF AN INDUCEMENT AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AND PROJECT PHOENIX PLUS, WHEREBY, UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS, OCONEE COUNTY WILL EXECUTE A FEE IN LIEU OF TAX AGREEMENT FOR A PROJECT INVOLVING NOT LESS THAN THIRTEEN MILLION (\$13,000,000) INVESTMENT”

**Ordinance 2007-04:**

Mr. Crumpton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ables, approved 5 – 0 that Ordinance 2007-04, “THE 2007-2008 BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE FOR OCONEE COUNTY” be adopted on second reading.

**Ordinance 2007-05:**

Mr. Ables made a motion, seconded by Mr. Blanchard, approved 5 – 0 that Ordinance 2007-05, “THE 2007-2008 BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE FOR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF OCONEE COUNTY AND TRI-COUNTY TECHNICAL COLLEGE” be adopted on second reading.

**Ordinance 2007-06:**

Mr. Blanchard made a motion, seconded by Mr. Crumpton, approved 5 – 0 that Ordinance 2006-07, “OCONEE COUNTY EMERGENCY RESPONSE ACCESS ORDINANCE” be adopted on third and final reading.

**Ordinance 2007-07:**

Mr. Blanchard made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ables, approved 5 – 0 that Section D of Ordinance 2007-07 be amended that the terms of the commission members be terminus with the Council Members.

Mr. Blanchard then made a motion, seconded by Mr. Suarez, approved 5 – 0 that Ordinance 2007-07, as amended, “AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE OCONEE COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES PROTECTION DEPARTMENT” be adopted on third and final reading.

**Ordinance 2007-08:**

Mr. Blanchard made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ables, approved 5 – 0 that Ordinance 2007-08, “AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE OCONEE COUNTY SPECIAL TAX DISTRICT FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES PROTECTION” be adopted on third and final reading.

**Ordinance 2007-10:**

Mr. Crumpton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Suarez, approved 5 – 0 that Ordinance 2007-10, “ROAD NAMING AND ADDRESSING ORDINANCE OF OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA” be adopted on first reading.

**Ordinance 2007-11:**

Mr. Suarez made a motion, seconded by Mr. Crumpton, approved 5 – 0 that Ordinance 2007-11, “AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE OCONEE COUNTY PARKS, RECREATION AND TOURISM COMMISSION, AND REPEALING ORDINANCE 2003-26, AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE OCONEE COUNTY PARKS AND TOURISM COMMISSION AND REPEALING ORDINANCE 2003-27, AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE OCONEE COUNTY RECREATION COMMISSION” be adopted on first reading. There was discussion regarding the removal or clarification of 5e.

**Ordinance 2007-12:**

Mr. Ables made a motion, seconded by Mr. Blanchard, approved 5 – 0 that Ordinance 2007-12, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2004-16, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2002-14, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2001-05, AN ORDINANCE FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING A LOCAL ACCOMMODATIONS TAX TO APPLY TO ALL ACCOMMODATIONS LOCATED IN OCONEE COUNTY” be adopted on first reading.

**Council Committee Reports:**

Mr. Blanchard, Chair, Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Health & Welfare Committee, expressed his appreciation to all who attended the meeting regarding public safety on Friday Night, June 1, 2007.

Upon recommendation of the Budget, Finance & Procurement Committee, Council voted unanimously to take \$5,151 from contingency for the hiring of three park rangers for the remainder of this fiscal year.

**Council Committee Reports Continued:**

Mr. Crumpton reported that the Road & Transportation Committee met just prior to the Council Meeting and had worked out an agreement on McAlister Road. The committee also determined it would be appropriate for the County Engineer to review rights-of-ways until the new Administrator begins his tenure.

**Administrator Report:**

Upon recommendation of Mrs. Lombard, Mr. Crumpton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Suarez, approved 5 – 0 that Resolution 2007-03, “A RESOLUTION HONORING OPAL O. GREEN UPON HER RETIREMENT” be ratified.

**Keowee Key Fire Department:**

Mr. Blanchard informed Council that the Keowee Key Fire Department did not feel the May 1, 2007 minutes accurately reflected approval of their revised budget.

**Library Board Appointment:**

Mr. Suarez made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lyles, approved 5 – 0 that Mr. William J. “Biff” Kennedy be appointed to the Library Board with his term beginning July 1, 2007.

**Patriot’s Hall (Contingency):**

Mr. Blanchard made a motion, seconded by Mr. Suarez, approved 5 – 0 that \$5,000 be taken from contingency and donated to Patriot’s Hall to complete the renovation of that building.

**Executive Session:**

Mr. Suarez made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ables, approved 5 – 0 that Council go into executive session for the purpose of discussing contractual and personnel matters.

**Open Session:**

When open session resumed, Mr. Lyles informed those present that Council had discussed the contract for the new County Administrator.

**Minutes, Oconee County Council Meeting**

**June 5, 2007**

**Adjourn:**

Adjourn: 8:35 pm

Respectfully Submitted:

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Opal O. Green  
Clerk to Council