



MINUTES
OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR BUDGET ORDINANCES
June 10, 2014

MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL
Mr. Joel Thrift, District IV, Council Chairman
Mr. Paul Corbeil, District I, Vice Chairman
Mr. Wayne McCall, District II, Chairman Pro Tem
Mr. Paul Cain, District III
Mr. Reg Dexter, District V

Oconee County Council met at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Council Members [except Mr. McCall], Administrator Scott Moulder & Clerk to Council Elizabeth G. Hulse present.

Press: Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting, date, time, place of meeting and agenda were posted on the bulletin board at the County Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC, and the County Council website [www.oconeese.com/council]. In addition it was made available [upon request] to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens. Member of the press present: Dick Mangrum – WGOG Radio, Ashton Hester – Keowee Courier, Ray Chandler-Anderson Independent & Norman Cannada -The Daily Journal.

Call to Order:

Mr. Thrift called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Prior to the Public Hearings, Mr. Thrift requested the Administrator to provide a brief budget process history to include the strategic planning process, revenue projections, administrator's recommended budget [\$41,963,483], amended version one, adopted version two [\$40,757,475] and the budget as presented at second reading with council changes related to the CVB and the spay/neuter program [\$40,867,475]. Mr. Moulder stated that the total budget for all funds is \$57,934,397. Discussion followed. No actions were taken.

Public Hearings Final Reading of the Following Ordinances

Mr. Thrift noted that several citizens had signed up to speak regarding multiple ordinances; therefore, he opened the floor for all three ordinances initially for public hearing.

Ordinance 2014-01 “AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE BUDGET FOR OCONEE COUNTY AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES FOR ORDINARY COUNTY PURPOSES, FOR THE TRI-COUNTY TECHNICAL COLLEGE SPECIAL REVENUE FUND, FOR THE ROAD MAINTENANCE SPECIAL REVENUE FUND, FOR THE VICTIM SERVICES SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS, FOR THE BRIDGE AND CULVERT CAPITAL PROJECT FUND, AND THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CAPITAL PROJECT FUND, ALL IN OCONEE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2014 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2015.”

Ordinance 2014-02 “AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH THE BUDGET FOR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF OCONEE COUNTY (the “School District”) AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES FOR THE OPERATIONS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF OCONEE COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2014 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2015.”

Ordinance 2014-03 “AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES FOR THE KEOWEE FIRE SPECIAL TAX DISTRICT AND TO ESTABLISH THE BUDGET FOR THE KEOWEE FIRE SPECIAL TAX DISTRICT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2014 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2015.”

Mr. Steve Moore addressed Council regarding **Ordinance 2014-01** [the proposed Oconee County budget] to include broadband staffing, consideration for addition of employee raises for staff making \$40,000 or less, grant coordinator position, CAT bus funding, LGF shortfall funding, state mandated agencies, sheriff office budget cuts, solid waste pay-as-you-go program and other matters not related to the county's budget ordinance.

Mr. Moore additionally addressed several issues related to **Ordinance 2014-02** [the SDOC proposed budget] to include impact of Act 388, staffing added with stimulus money and other matters not related to their budget ordinance.

Mr. Dick Hughes addressed Council regarding **Ordinance 2014-01** requesting any revenues received above conservative revenue projects be allocated to the sheriff's office and consideration for addition of employee raises for staff making \$40,000 or less.

Noting that no other citizens signed up to address Council; Mr. Thrift opened the floor for any citizen wishing to address Council regarding this ordinance.

Mr. Richard Marcengill addressed Council regarding **Ordinance 2014-01**; however, his comments were not related to the county's budget ordinance before council at this public hearing.

No other citizens stepped forward to address Council.

Mr. Thrift asked if any citizens wished to submit written comments regarding **Ordinance 2014-01**; no citizen presented any written comments for the record.

Mr. Thrift closed the Public Hearing regarding **Ordinance 2014-01**.

Mr. Thrift asked if any citizens wished to submit written comments regarding **Ordinance 2014-02**; no citizen presented any written comments for the record.

Mr. Thrift closed the Public Hearing regarding **Ordinance 2014-02**.

Mr. Thrift asked if any citizens wished to submit written comments regarding **Ordinance 2014-02**; no citizen presented any written comments for the record.

Mr. Thrift closed the Public Hearing regarding **Ordinance 2014-03**.

Other Business

Local Government Fund [LGF]

Mr. Dexter updated those present noting that the legislature is not fully funding the LGF in the amount of \$3,807,895; but is funding at the same level as last year in the amount of \$2,806,134. Additionally, the state is not fully funding the students with a shortfall of \$670 per student in Oconee County.

Adjourn

Mr. Dexter made a motion, approved unanimously 4 - 0, to adjourn at 6:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth G. Hulse
Clerk to Council