



MINUTES
OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
Tuesday, January 21, 2020
4:30 P.M.

MEMBERS, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL
Mr. John Elliott, Chairman Pro Tem, District I
Mr. Paul Cain, Vice Chair, District III
Mr. Julian Davis III, Chairman, District IV
Mr. Glenn Hart, District V
Mr. Wayne McCall, District II

Oconee County Council met at 4:30 p.m. in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Council Members, County Administrator Amanda F. Brock, County Attorney David Root, and Katie. D. Smith, Clerk to Council, 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.oconeesc.com/council]. In addition, it was made available [*upon request*] to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

Members of the press present: Caitlin Herrington / Daily Journal.

Call to Order:

Mr. Davis called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m.

Mr. Elliott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0, to amend the agenda to include Public Comment Session after the Discussion Regarding Action Items.

Executive Session:

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hart, approved 5 – 0, to enter into Executive Session for the following purposes, as allowed for in § 30-4-70(a) of the South Carolina Code of Laws:

[1] Receive legal advice relating to matters relevant to increased building construction activity.

Council entered Executive Session at 4:33 p.m.

Council returned from Executive Session at 5:06 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Cain, seconded by Mr. Elliott, approved 5 – 0.

Mr. Davis stated that no action was taken in Executive Session.

Discussion Regarding Action Items

Discussion regarding Action Items

- Discussion regarding Building Standards in Oconee County
- Discussion regarding County planning and response in relation to increased building construction activity

Mr. Elliott made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCall, to direct the Planning Department and Building Codes Department with assistance from the legal department to study impact fees, building code implementation, and issues related thereto and report back to full Council with plans or needs to address multi-family construction.

Discussion continued to include:

- Burden of extra deputies, fire, infrastructure, etc.
- Impact fees
- Manage larger projects
- Building standards

Regarding the previous motion made by Mr. Elliott, seconded by Mr. McCall, it was approved 5 – 0, to direct the Planning Department and Building Codes Department with assistance from the legal department to study impact fees, building code implementation, and issues related thereto and report back to full Council with plans or needs to address multi-family construction.

Public Comment Session

Ms. Patricia Layton, Clemson Wood Utilization and Design Institute, addressed Council regarding Clemson implementing building code changes in the 2021 code that will allow for more mass timber or heavy timber. She further noted Clemson has a new building that is located in Oconee County and invited Council, staff, building code inspectors, etc. to come and visit the building. Additionally, she noted the idea behind what they are doing is to increase the use of wood and construction and there are many aspects about using wood as long as it is used properly.

Mr. Paul Coats, American Wood Council, introduced himself to Council and staff and noted he has a background in building codes and noted he was open for any questions.

Mr. Davis wrapped up the meeting regarding the Clemson moratorium, housing projects, flow of traffic, corridor study, and student housing.

Adjourn:

Mr. Cain made a motion, approved unanimously, to adjourn at 5:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Katie D. Smith
Clerk to Council