



MINUTES

LAW ENFORCEMENT, PUBLIC SAFETY, HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE MEETING

February 15, 2022

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Julian Davis, Chairman, District IV

Mr. Matthew Durham, District II

Mr. John Elliott, District I

The Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Health & Welfare Committee met at 5:15 p.m. in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Committee Members present [Mr. Durham absent], County Administrator Amanda F. Brock, County Attorney David Root, & Jennifer C. Adams, Clerk to Council, present.

Staff Present: Sheriff Mike Crenshaw / Oconee County Sheriff's Office
Mr. Swain Still / Solid Waste Director

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 to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

Members of the press present: Riley Morningstar / The Journal

Call to Order

Mr. Davis called the meeting to order at 5:13 p.m.

Moment of Silence

Mr. Davis asked for a moment of silence prior to the Invocation by County Council Chaplain.

Invocation by County Council Chaplain

Mr. Root, County Council Chaplain, gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Sheriff Mike Crenshaw led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Elliott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Davis, approved 2 – 0, to approve the July 20, 2021 minutes as presented.

A video recording of this meeting is available at www.oconeesc.com. Meetings have been live-streamed beginning January 17, 2017. Brought to you by Your Oconee.

Discussion Items

Discussion regarding brown goods - Swain Still, Solid Waste Director

Mr. Still, Solid Waste Director, addressed the Committee utilizing a power point presentation [copy filed in backup materials] entitled “Recycle Center and Brown Goods” and gave an extended overview of the Recycling Centers in Oconee County related to their capacity to handle the current population and possible addition of Pre-Crusher Compactors.

Ms. Brock addressed the Committee, asking for the opportunity to explore a possible expansion of the Recycling Center at the Five Forks location, due to its central locality, property ownership by the County, and adequate power supply to run additional compactors.

Ms. Brock communicated to the Committee that it may be time look at alternative locations to consider expanding Solid Waste Services County wide.

Mr. Elliot made a motion, seconded by Mr. Davis, approved 2 – 0, to direct staff to investigate the purchase of additional Brown Goods (Pre-Crusher) Compactors.

Mr. Elliott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Davis, approved 2 – 0, to direct staff to explore a possible land purchase and construction of a Recycling Center between the Ebenezer and Salem area.

Discussion regarding current recycling center locations and future needs

Mr. Davis noted that the current discussion of brown goods has lead into the discussion regarding current recycling center locations and future needs.

Ms. Brock noted that the motion to explore a possible land purchase and construction of a Recycling Center between the Ebenezer and Salem area was the direction that she and additional staff were aiming towards.

Ms. Brock addressed the Committee, inquiring about the possible abandonment and relocation of specifically the Salem Convenience Center, noting that they are land locked as far as expansion of the center is concerned and that safety is the County’s main priority.

Short discussion followed related to the Salem Convenience Center.

Discussion regarding private MSW Tipping Fees

Mr. Davis stated that he will allow Mr. Lanphear and Mr. Gully, private residential haulers, to speak during the meeting, since they had been in contact him prior to the meeting.

Ms. Brock addressed the Committee stating there are four residential hauling companies represented at the meeting.

Ms. Brock explain that certain municipalities, based on email requests from customers, have taken it upon themselves to offer a curbside garbage pickup service for outside of city limits residents at a much cheaper rate than small business owners can offer.

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Ms. Brock noted that the County currently does not charge Municipalities at the landfill, which enables them to charge customers at a much cheaper rate, and this is putting a strain on privately owned companies who offer the same service but are charged by the County at the landfill.

Short discussion followed related to private MSW Tipping Fees.

Small business owner Mr. Cole Lanphear, L & M Waste, addressed the Committee related to MSW tipping fees and the impact they have on his business.

Mr. David Gully, owner and manager of Evolve Recycle and Waste, addressed the Committee related to MSW tipping fees and the possibility of the County waving fees for residential haulers.

Mr. Davis stated that he would like the topic of MSW tipping fees be included on Council agenda in March or April of this year.

Discussion regarding Law Enforcement Salaries – Sheriff Mike Crenshaw

Sheriff Mike Crenshaw addressed the Committee, utilizing a handout [copy filed in backup] concerning Oconee County Law Enforcement salaries.

Sheriff Crenshaw requested that the Committee consider an increase in salaries to be competitive in the hiring process of new officers for the County.

Short discussion followed between the Committee and Sheriff Crenshaw related to Oconee County Law Enforcement salaries.

Mr. Davis instructed Sheriff Crenshaw to touch base on 911 calls from student housing and other top call areas within the County.

Sheriff Crenshaw went on to give an overview of the amount and the increase of calls from the Utica area and student housing in the County.

The Committee took no action on this matter at this time.

Adjourn:

Mr. Elliott made a motion, approved unanimously, to adjourn the meeting at 6:09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jennifer C. Adams
Clerk to Council