

Minutes

6:00 PM, Monday, October 10, 2022

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

OCONEE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLEX

Members Present

Charlie Whiten

Kim Alexander

Rex Blanton

Ashley Townsend

Tessa Moxley

Christopher Talley

Staff Present

James Coley

Media Present

None

1. **Call to order-** Ms. Alexander called the meeting to order at 6:01pm.
2. **Moment of silence**
3. **Invocation**
4. **Pledge of allegiance**
5. **Approval of minutes-** August 8, 2022. Mr. Whiten made a motion to approve minutes, seconded by Ms. Townsend. Ms. Alexander called for a vote. The motion passed 5/0.
6. **Public Comment Session** *[3 minutes per person] If you are not able to attend in person and you have a comment, you may submit it by contacting the Planning Department at planninginfo@oconeesc.com or 864-638-4218, so that we may receive your comment and read it into the record*
7. **Presentation-**
8. **Discussions** [to include vote and/or action on matters brought up in discussion if required]
 - o Food Council-Mandolin Bright
 - i. Ms. Bright was scheduled to present at the September meeting. The meeting was canceled. Ms. Bright did not receive notice to attend this October meeting and was not present.
 - o Soil and Water Conservation -Celia Myers
 - i. Adopted a 5 year strategic plan in August of 2022
 1. Top issues and goals: conservation planning, conservation awareness, agricultural support, natural resource management
 - ii. Less than 25% of soil in Oconee County is Prime Soil, heightening

the importance of conservation

- iii. Celebration of agriculture banquet: November 17, 2022 at 6:00pm-
South Union Baptist Church Fellowship Hall

Discussion: Rex suggests that the council look into ways to raise funding for conservation easements, as there is currently not sufficient funding for all applications.

- o Legislative Updates/Issues -Charlie Whiten
 - i. As of June 28th, Buildings used for agricultural purposes will not be taxed.
- o Proclamation of support for the Ag community- Rex Blanton - working on a proclamation recognizing and supporting the Agricultural community (in conjunction with Soil and Water Conservation) for the month of November.*

*Deadline for getting it on the County Council Agenda is November 1st

- 9. Adjourn:** Mr. Whiten made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Blanton and approved 5/0.