

## Minutes

6:00 PM, Monday, August 14, 2023  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

### Members Present

Joshua Owens  
Charlie Whiten  
Rex Blanton  
Tessa Moxley  
Kim Alexander  
Trent Smith  
Chris 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-** July 10, 2023. Mr Whiten made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Mr. Smith and approved 6/0.
6. **Public discussion 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](mailto:planninginfo@oconeesc.com) or 864-638-4218, so that we may receive your comment and read it into the record*
7. **Presentations** [to include Vote and/or Action on matters brought up in discussion if required]
  - Mr. Owens made a motion to add the Department of Forestry to the presentations, seconded by Mr. Smith and approved 6/0.
  - **Victor Wyatt-**
    - i. US forest service-department of agriculture. Manage the Sumter National Forest.
    - ii. Trey Cox-point of contact with the forestry commission for management by private owners.
    - iii. Canton Mill closure had a dramatic ripple effect on the market. “A managed forest is a healthy forest”.
    - iv. Federal grant programs are available for individuals willing to start up and/or expand a sawmilling operation.

1. Marcus Taylor-wood innovations and grant expert
  2. Workshop coming up-how to submit a grant proposal. No set date yet.
- **Isaac Quaye-voluntary Ag Districts**-Mr. Quaye was not present. Ms. Alexander spoke briefly on the topic. If you want to protect agriculture this is a proven way to do so.
    - i. Ms. Alexander made a motion to postpone Mr. Quaye's presentation until October. The motion was approved 6/0.
  - **Agricultural II Zoning District**
    - i. The Planning Commission voted it down, but has been added back on the agenda due to public comment
  - **September meeting-District 2- Mountain Rest**
    - i. Ms. Moxley requested that the Forest Service send an agent to this meeting, as District 2 has a number of folks who manage timber, as well as a small sawmill operation
  - **Meeting items through December 2023**
8. **Adjourn:** Mr. Whiten made a motion to adjourn, 6:26pm, seconded by Mr. Blanton and approved 6/0.