

**MINUTES
ORANGEBURG COUNTY COUNCIL
MAY 7, 2012
5:30 P.M.**

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, the news media was notified and notice was posted on the bulletin board 24 hours prior to the meeting.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

**Johnnie Wright, Sr., Chairman
Janie Cooper, Vice Chairman
Clyde B. Livingston
Heyward H. Livingston
Willie B. Owens
Johnny Ravenell
Harry F. Wimberly**

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT:

**Bill Clark, County Administrator
D'Anne Haydel, County Attorney
Jacqueline P. Turner, Clerk to Council**

CALL TO ORDER

Johnnie Wright, Sr., Chairman

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Moment of silence observed

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Councilman Ravenell, seconded by Councilman Harry Wimberly, to approve minutes of April 16, 2012 with corrections, if any. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

AGENDA ITEMS

NO COMMENTS

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

OTHER MATTERS

Mr. Alex Dibble, a resident of North Road, spoke to Council about being charged a \$25 fee for dumping shingles at the County's Landfill. Mrs. Norma Murdaugh spoke to Council about her request to be reimbursed for veterinary fees following her dog being bitten by a pit bull last year. County Administrator Clark stated both matters would be investigated further, and a report made to Council.

1. RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE ISSUANCE BY THE SOUTH CAROLINA JOBS-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF ITS HOSPITAL REVENUE BONDS (THE REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER OF ORANGEBURG AND CALHOUN COUNTIES) SERIES 2012, PURSANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF TITLE 41, CHAPTER 43, OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA 1976, AS AMENDED, IN THE AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$25,000,000 AND AUTHORIZING A PLEDGE OF REVENUES OF THE REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER OF ORANGEBURG AND CALHOUN COUNTIES IN CONNECTION HEREWITH

Chairman Wright asked County Administrator Clark to give a review of the Resolution. Mr. Clark stated he received instructions from Council to make certain the Resolution was reviewed and the transactions were not detrimental to the interests of the County that would make the County liable for any future financial transactions by the Regional Medical Center. The review has been completed by the financial expert for the County, Pierre Kristenoff and the expert from the Regional Medical Center, and both are in agreement regarding the financial soundness of the Resolution. With the addition of information on page 2, section 2, that was to clarify some information and put additional information to it, the amendment has been reviewed by all parties, and it is being recommended tonight for adoption. Pending approval by Council tonight, the Hospital will move forward with its intention to close on their transaction with the bank Friday, May 12, 2012. Pierre Kisteneff is available at this meeting to answer any questions Council might have.

Motion by Councilman Clyde Livingston to pass the resolution seconded by Councilwoman Cooper. Motion passed unanimously.

Following passage of the resolution, Councilman Wimberly asked Mr. Kisteneff in light of information received by Mr. Clark today from TRMC trustees, and copies Council received, does the information affect the bonds whatsoever? Mr. Kisteneff responded, "not in the least".

2. RESOLUTION – PEACE OFFICER’S MEMORIAL DAY

Chairman Wright read the Resolution. Motion by Councilman Heyward Livingston, seconded by Councilman Owens to adopt the Resolution. Motion carried.

3. PROCLAMATION – NATIONAL WOMEN’S HEALTH WEEK

Resolution read by Councilwoman Cooper. Motion to adopt the Proclamation made by Councilman Wimberly, seconded by Councilman Ravenell. Motion passed.

4. PROCLAMATION – ORANGEBURG COUNTY COUNCIL ON AGING – 40th ANNIVERSARY RECOGNITION

Motion to adopt Proclamation made by Councilwoman Cooper, seconded by Councilman Owens. Motion passed.

5. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT – COUNCILMAN RAVENELL, CHAIRMAN

Chairman Ravenell stated the Public Works Committee met earlier in the day to review the request by Mt. Zion Baptist Church to abandon maintenance on Arista Road. Public Works Director Sinkler Boone, informed the Committee the correct name for the road is Jessroe Road, and about 250 feet is on Church property, where they are expecting to build a community life family center.

The Committee’s recommendation to County Council is to abandon maintenance on the entire 250 feet of Jessroe Road in Bowman as requested by Mt. Zion Baptist Church.

Motion by Councilman Ravenell, seconded by Councilman Heyward Livingston, to abandon maintenance on 250 feet of Jessroe Road, formerly known as Arista Road in Bowman, S.C, as requested by Mt. Zion Baptist Church. Motion passed.

6. APPOINTMENT – CONSTABLE APPOINTMENT – PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

County Administrator Clark explained Ms. Irene Hood, Animal Control Officer has completed the requirements for an appointment by County Council as a Constable/Code Enforcement Officer. He is recommending Ms. Hood receive Council’s approval. He also stated Ms. Hood was not present to meet with members of Council as is customary, due to a recent illness and hospitalization. She will be sworn in and meet with Council upon her return to work.

Motion by Councilman Wimberly, seconded by Councilman Owens, to approve the appointment of Ms. Irene Hood as a Constable/Code Enforcement Office in the Animal Control Department. Motion passed.

Councilman Ravenell asked whether a person certified as a Constable was legally trained to carry a weapon. Mr. Clark replied they are legally trained in the

classroom and both on and off the job to carry weapons prior to appointment by Council.

7. PRESENTATION OF AUDIT REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2011- DAWN STRICKLAND, CPA, C.C. MCGREGOR & COMPANY

Chairman Wright yielded to Ms. Strickland. Ms. Strickland expressed her pleasure at appearing before Council, indicating the report was issued April 23, 2012. C.C. McGregor issued a qualified opinion on the financial statement. The qualified opinion is for the Sheriff's office bank accounts and the potential for un-inventoried capital assets. She stated this means the financial statements as presented are materially correct except for these areas for which McGregor cannot satisfy themselves through audit procedures, and are not issuing an opinion on these areas.

Ms. Strickland gave a detailed report on McGregor's findings indicating 13 instances of deficiencies in internal controls of financial reporting with five of them being considered significant or material weaknesses.

Motion by Councilman Clyde Livingston to accept the audit as information and carry it forward for a review by the full Council at some date in the future. Motioned seconded by Councilman Wimberly. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Wright called for a motion to vote for an executive session to discuss (1) a legal briefing regarding potential legal claims the county is considering asserting against third parties, (2) a contractual matter regarding real estate, (3) an economic development update, and (4) a personnel matter.

Motion by Councilwoman Cooper, seconded by Councilman Ravenell to vote for an executive session based on the four (4) items cited by Chairman Wright. Motion passed unanimously.

Prior to adjourning for an executive session, Councilman Clyde Livingston, on behalf of the Cordova community brought a word of thanks to Orangeburg County staff for their help in cleaning 5.9 tons of trash in that area of the county. Special thanks went to Community Development, Detention Center, Litter Control and the Sheriff's Department, Harold Young, Jim Bishop and Willie Bamberg. Additionally private sector participants who helped in the clean up were also thanked for their participation.

Chairman Wright thanked Councilman Livingston for bringing this matter to light, letting all those who participated and helped in any way that their efforts were appreciated for the teamwork demonstrated in coming together to work for a common goal in the community.

Councilman Owens asked about the number of litter citations issued in view of the tons of trash picked up in the area. Councilman Livingston indicated there is a problem with some of the people in the county. While the groups were out picking up trash and litter, there were people driving by littering. He indicated there is a real education program needed in the county about litter.

Councilman Owens stated there needs to be greater efforts in giving citations. Once people start getting citations for throwing out litter, it is his belief the problem will get better. Councilwoman Cooper indicated it was a state-wide problem requiring more aggressive efforts in locating and identifying those who litter. Councilman Owens favored staking out areas of the county where there is consistency and a pattern of littering. The consensus of opinion by those speaking was a campaign of education and enforcement.

Motion to adjourn made Councilman Owens, seconded by Councilman Wimberly. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned.

Jacqueline P. Turner, Clerk

Johnnie Wright, Sr., Chairman