

**MINUTES
ORANGEBURG COUNTY COUNCIL
September 16, 2013
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.
Janie Cooper-Smith, Vice Chairman
Heyward H. Livingston
Willie B. Owens
Johnny Ravenell
Harry F. Wimberly
Clyde B. Livingston**

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT:

**Harold M. Young, County Administrator
D'Anne Haydel, County Attorney
Angel Howell, Interim Clerk to Council**

CALL TO ORDER

Johnnie Wright, Sr., Chairman

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Moment of silence observed

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 3, 2013

Motion by Councilwoman Cooper-Smith, seconded by Councilman Owens, to approve minutes of September 3, 2013 with corrections, if any. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

AGENDA ITEMS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

OTHER MATTERS

Abe Salama

Mr. Abe Salama commended Orangeburg County Council for not requiring citizens to submit a sign-up sheet for speaking to the elected officials.

1. RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION HONORING MRS. LOUISE KELLY

Chairman Wright yielded the floor to Councilman Ravenell. Councilman Ravenell asked any family members of Mrs. Kelly to stand and be recognized as he began to read the contents of the resolution.

Chairman Wright asked for a motion. Councilman Clyde B. Livingston made a motion to pass the resolution honoring Mrs. Kelly. Councilwoman Janie Cooper-Smith seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

2. PRESENTATION BY ORANGEBURG COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Chairman Wright yielded the floor to Glenda Lewis. Ms. Lewis stated that a presentation was given in Savannah at the Southeast Conservation District meeting, because Orangeburg County was the Conservation District of the year. Information was shared about the County. The Edisto Memorial Gardens was the key point during the presentation. It was stated that Orangeburg County qualified and were able to get 1 of 3 conservation innovation grants in the state of South Carolina. A tractor, truck, trailer and several pieces of equipment were purchased with that grant. The equipment is available to rent for landowners and farmers who are not able to afford the equipment themselves. The federal grant was funded by NRCS. A litter survey, which is conducted every year, will be spilt into the 7 county council districts. It was stated that the most littered item is cigarette butts. Councilwoman Cooper-Smith asked for clarification of the acronym KAB, which was later resolved as meaning "Keep America Beautiful". The Vice Chairman of the Conservation office stood and thanked Orangeburg County Council for the services that are provided to them. Councilman Ravenell complimented the department on there efforts to combat litter, but added that a lot more litter is in rural areas and suggested they come together to handle the issue. Councilwoman Cooper-Smith cleared up the issue as to how the areas are rated for litter. Areas are rated on a scale from 1-3, from very little to a lot.

3. ORDINANCE-SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF ORANGEBURG COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, AMENDING THE ZONING MAP OF UNINCORPORATED ORANGEBURG COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, TO CHANGE THE ZONING DESIGNATION FOR REAL PROPERTY DESIGNATED AS TAX MAP NUMBER 0286-00-09-006.00 AND LOCATED AT 7274 OLD NUMBER SIX HIGHWAY IN ORANGEBURG COUNTY FROM FA (FOREST AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT) TO RC (RURAL COMMUNITY DISTRICT), AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Chairman Wright opened the floor for public hearing. Mr. Abe Salama asked if this would make it easier for property to be changed from the RC district to CG. County Administrator Young stated that it would be the same process, regardless of what is trying to be change. Mr. Salama then asked for a distinct difference between FA and RC district. Mr. Young stated that a Rural Community is for an area that is consisted of a mixture of houses and some small businesses and small commercial use. FA is a more open, broader district that has a more rural sense, which has a more open use. Councilman Owens stated that it depended on what you wanted to put on the property. Chairman Wright suggested that Mr. Salama find out more information by attending Planning Commission meetings or by speaking with Mr. Young at a later date.

Chairman Wright asked for a motion for second reading. The motion was made by Councilman Wimberly and seconded by Councilman Clyde B. Livingston. Motion carried.

4. ORDINANCE-SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 6 OF THE ORANGEBURG COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES TO PROVIDE FOR ENFORCEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES, CODIFICATION OF THE PERMITTING AND INSPECTION DEPARTMENT, DUTIES OF THE BUILDINGS OFFICIAL, RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CONSTRUCTION BOARD OF APPEALS, AMENDING ALL PARTS OF CHAPTER SIX IN CONFLICT, PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY.

Chairman Wright asked that County Administrator Harold Young give a brief summary for the public. Mr. Young stated that the purpose of this code change is to establish the administration division and to codify what was done during the budget process and clarify and include the missing components that were left off. Chairman Wright opened the floor for public hearing. After no comments were made, the county council members were asked if they had any questions. Councilman Wimberly asked Mr. Hall if this would affect the agricultural exemptions. Mr. Hall stated that it would not.

A motion was made by Councilman Owens and seconded by Councilman Heyward Livingston. Motion carried.

5. ORDINANCE-FIRST READING

ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF ORANGEBURG COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED EIGHTY-FOUR MILLION DOLLARS PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (\$84,000,000.00) CAPITAL PROJECTS SALES AND USE TAX REVENUE BONDS (ORANGEBURG COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, PROJECT), SERIES 2013, BY

ORANGEBURG JOINT GOVERNMENTAL ACTION AUTHORITY; APPROVING THE FORM OF SAID BONDS; APPROVING THE FORM AND CONTENT OF THE TRUST AGREEMENT; APPROVING THE FORM AND CONTENT OF THE CAPITAL PROJECTS SALES AND USE TAX FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENT; APPROVING THE APPROPRIATION OF CAPITAL PROJECTS SALES AND USE TAX REVENUES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR THAT BEGAN ON JULY 1, 2013; AND OTHER MATTERS REALTED THERETO.

Chairman Wright asked County Administrator Harold Young to give a brief summary for the public. Mr. Young stated that bonding allows projects to move forward. Councilman Wimberly asked that Mr. Young give a little more detail. Mr. Young stated that if we did not bond the money out, the quarterly payments that the county receives would have to be decided between 122 projects. It would take over a course of seven years and coming together every quarter to decide which project to pursue. Mr. Young also stated that instead of going through this process, the issuance of bonds allows for the projects to be released at one time because the money will be received up front. Councilwoman Cooper-Smith asked Mr. Young that since 80% of the projects were completed in about seven years, will the other 20% be completed within 6 months. Mr. Young replied that it would be impossible to complete that task, because some very large projects have yet to break ground. Councilwoman Cooper-Smith stated that her reasoning behind the question was for clarification, just in case the Times & Democrat newspaper printed that information. None of the projects have been released because the bonds have not yet been completed. Mr. Young stated that the projects anticipated closing will be the end of the year.

Chairman Wright asked for a motion to pass first reading of this ordinance. A motion was made by Councilman Wimberly and seconded by Councilwoman Cooper-Smith. Motion carried.

6. OFFICIAL ACTION

**AN OFFICIAL ACTION OF ORANGEBURG COUNTY COUNCIL
AUTHORIZING ORANGEBURG COUNTY TO ENTER INTO A MUTUAL AID
AGREEMENT WITH RICHLAND COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT AND
ORANGEBURG COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

Chairman Wright asked that County Administrator give a brief summary. Mr. Young stated that the Sheriff is requesting that the mutual aid agreement be approved between Orangeburg County and Richland County. Many times, some of the investigations have led into Richland County because some offenders have gone there, leading to a multicounty investigation. Having a multicounty jurisdiction agreement with Richland County will allow warrants to be served using the Richland County deputies as backup. Chairman Wright asked if there were any questions. Councilman Owens asked if this agreement will be reciprocal with Richland County. County Administrator Young stated that it would also be the same with Richland County.

Chairman Wright asked for a motion to approve this official action. A motion was made by Councilman Owens and seconded by Councilman Ravenell. Motion Carried.

**7. TAX AND TOURISM ADVISORY COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATIONS**

Chairman Wright stated that there were a total of 5 recommendations and that they will all be done at the same time. The first recommendation was a request from New Perspective Media for the purchase of video equipment to promote and advance Orangeburg County through video. The recommended amount of funding for that was \$2,031. The second recommendation was a request from South Carolina State University for funding to market SCSU as well as Orangeburg County. This year the Buddy Pough Show will air on Fox Sports South. The amount recommended was \$25,000. The third request is from Orangeburg DORA (Downtown Orangeburg Revitalization Association) for funding to support advertising for the remainder of the 2013 calendar of events. The recommended funding was \$7,500. A request from the Town of Elloree to help cover the costs of billboard and advertising for the town was the fourth recommendation listed. The billboards are located on I-95 North and I-95 South. The recommended funding was \$7,500. A request from the Epsilon Chapter of Omega Psi Phi in the amount of \$5000 to assist with the organization's first council meeting to be held September 13-15, 2013. The recommended amount was \$0. The total amount of funds recommended was \$42,031 with an unobligated balance of 36,342.17. Chairman Wright asked for a motion to accept the recommendations from the committee. Motion made by Councilman Livingston and seconded by Councilman Wimberly to accept the recommendations of the Tax & Tourism Advisory Committee as read. Motion carried.

8. VOTE FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Councilwoman Cooper-Smith and seconded by Councilman Ravenell to go into executive session for personnel matter discussion. Motion carried.

**9. EXECUTIVE SESSION
(1) PERSONNEL MATTER**

10. VOTE FOR ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Councilman Owens and seconded by Councilwoman Cooper-Smith to adjourn.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned.

Interim Clerk

Johnnie Wright, Sr., Chairman