

**MINUTES
ORANGEBURG COUNTY COUNCIL
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
November 5, 2015
9:00 a.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. (Acting Chairman)
Heyward H. Livingston
Harry F. Wimberly**

MEMBERS ABSENT:

LATE ARRIVALS:

Johnny Ravenell, Chairman (9:49 a.m.)

OTHERS PRESENT:

**Willie B. Owens, Councilman
Clyde B. Livingston, Councilman
Janie Cooper-Smith, Vice-Chairwoman
Harold M. Young, County Administrator
Sinkler Boone, Deputy County Administrator, Public Services
Henry Summers, Deputy Administrator for Public Services
D'Anne Haydel, County Attorney
John McLaughlin, County Engineer (arrived 10:25 a.m.)
Faith Carter, Clerk to Council**

CALL TO ORDER

Johnnie Wright, Sr., Acting Chairman

Acting Chairman Johnnie Wright, Sr. called to order the special session of the Orangeburg County Public Works Committee on November 5, 2015 at 9:14 a.m.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Moment of silence observed

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

August 17, 2015

Acting Chairman Johnnie Wright, Sr. asked for a motion on the approval of the minutes. Committee Member Councilman Heyward Livingston motioned that the minutes be approved as written. Committee Member Councilman Wimberly seconded the motion. Motion carried. (2-0-0-1).

1. CLOSURE REQUESTING MILLWOOD FARMS RD.

Chairman Wright asked for an explanation from Deputy Administrator Sinkler Boone. Administrator Boone advised that Millwood Farms Rd was programmed by the Orangeburg County Transportation Committee (CTC) for paving with C-Fund money. Administrator Boone advised that the petition was originally submitted to the CTC only had the families living in the homes on one side of the road sign the petition and the request was programmed based on that information. Administrator Boone advised that one individual owns the property of the other side of the road. Administrator Boone advised that this request covers approximately three-tenths (3/10) of a mile. Administrator Boone advised that this portion of the road is solely the land owner's property and dead ends into the field. Administrator Boone advised that there are no other citizens along this portion of the road. Administrator Boone advised that Raymond Road is a private road which leads to the landowner's pond and is not a public road. Administrator Boone advised that the Public Services Department posted a sign at the end of the road advising the public of the potential road closure. Administrator Boone advised that the Department did not receive any calls.

The Committee discussed the need for a turn-around at the end of the road for school bus service, emergency services, and mail delivery.

After some additional discussion, Committee Member Councilman Wimberly motioned that the committee recommend that the Council grant the road closure request however, that the County does not abandon maintenance on Millwood Farms Road prior to it being paved and the right of way secured. Committee Member Councilman Heyward Livingston seconded the motion. Motion carried. (2-0-0-1).

Chairman Wright recognized County Attorney D'Anne Haydel. Attorney Haydel advised that after the County agrees to abandon maintenance on the road the next step for the landowner is a private lawsuit requesting closure of the road itself. Attorney Haydel asked the committee if they would like to respond to the lawsuit in the event that it is filed. The committee agreed that the County will not respond to a lawsuit requesting to close that portion of Millwood Farms Road.

2. CLOSURE REQUEST NINETY SIX AND BABE ROAD

Chairman Wright recognized Deputy Administrator Sinkler Boone. Administrator Boone advised that agenda item number two (2) is a request from the Amick family in regards to Ninety-Six and Babe Road. Administrator Boone advised that this request stems from the heavy rainfall which occurred in October and washed silt into a pond on the property.

After some discussion, the Committee agreed to view the property at some point in the future to determine any further action which would address or not address the issue of the pond.

Committee Member Councilman Wimberly motioned that the Public Works Committee recommend to Council that the County abandon maintenance from Ninety-Six Road to Babe Drive (to the edge of the landowner's property line). Committee Member Councilman Heyward Livingston seconded the motion. Motion carried. (3-0-0-0).

3. CLOSURE REQUEST NASSAU RD.

Attendance for this portion of the meeting (10:23 am): Hugh Weathers, Landy Weathers, and Landrum Weathers.

Committee Chairman Johnny Ravenell advised the committee that the property in question is located in the Bowman area. Chairman Ravenell advised that the Weathers own property located on either side of Nassau Rd which is a mile or better long. Chairman Ravenell advised that a portion of Nassau Rd is on the Capital Penny Project paving list and the County is in the process of requesting easements for paving that portion of the road. Chairman Ravenell advised that the Weathers are requesting that the County abandon maintenance on the portion of Nassau Rd, on which they own property on both sides of the road, for the installation of a pivot. Chairman Ravenell advised that he is unaware of any opposition to this request from the other citizens who own property on Nassau Rd.

Chairman Ravenell recognized Landy Weathers. Mr. Weathers thanked the Committee and advised that he is also unaware of any opposition to the request from the other homeowners in the area. Mr. Weathers advised that the other homeowners are more concerned with having the road paved. Mr. Weathers advised that they are willing to grant easements for the paving of the road and request that the Council consider abandoning maintenance on their portion of the road. Mr. Weathers advised that he would be happy to answer any questions.

After some discussion, Committee Member Councilman Wimberly motioned that the County abandon maintenance on Nassau Rd. from Homestead Road to the Weathers' property line after the necessary right of way has been secured for paving and provided the County maintains the road until paving is completed. Committee Member Councilman Heyward Livingston seconded the motion. Motion carried (3-0-0-0).

Chairman Ravenell recognized Attorney D'Anne Haydel. Attorney Haydel asked if the County would wish to respond to any future lawsuit in regard to the closure of Nassau Rd. The Committee agreed that the County would not respond to a lawsuit requesting the closure of that portion of Nassau Rd.

4. VOTE FOR ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Ravenell asked for a motion for adjournment. Committee Member Councilman Wimberly motioned that the special session of the Orangeburg County Council Public Works Committee of November 5, 2015 be adjourned. Committee Member Councilman Heyward Livingston seconded the motion. Motion carried (3-0-0-0).

5. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 am.

Faith E Carter
Faith E Carter, Clerk to Council

Johnny Ravenell
Johnny Ravenell
Chairman
Public Works Committee