



**4MINUTES  
ORANGEBURG COUNTY COUNCIL  
January 19, 2016  
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.  
Harry F. Wimberly  
Heyward H. Livingston  
Johnny Ravenell  
Willie B. Owens  
Janie Cooper-Smith**

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**Clyde B. Livingston**

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

**Harold Young, County Administrator  
D'Anne Haydel, County Attorney  
Faith E Carter, Clerk to Council**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**Johnnie Wright, Sr. Chairman**

**On the 19<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2016, Chairman Wright called to order a regular session of the Orangeburg County Council at 5:31 pm.**

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

**Moment of silence observed**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**December 9, 2015 (SS)  
January 4, 2015 (RS)**

**Chairman Wright asked for a motion on the minutes. Vice-Chairwoman Cooper-Smith motioned that the minutes of the regular session of the Orangeburg County Council on January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016 as well as the minutes for the Orangeburg County Council special session on December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015 be approved as written. Councilman Ravenell seconded the motion. Motion carried. (6-0-0-1).**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**AGENDA ITEMS**

**NONE**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**OTHER MATTERS**

**NONE**

1. **PRESENTATION AND REPORT BY THE LITTER INITIATIVE ON THE LITTER BLITZ**

Chairman Wright recognized Louise Hughes, Chairman of the Litter Initiative. Mrs. Hughes took the podium and advised she would like to thank the Council for having the group. Mrs. Hughes advised that she represents Keep Orangeburg Beautiful and she is Chairman of Stop Litter Initiative which is being done in partnership with the Orangeburg County Soil and Water Commission. Mrs. Hughes directed the Council's attention to the power point of pictures behind them on the screen displaying pictures of the groups that participated in the event. Mrs. Hughes thanked the Council for the resolution that was passed by the Council in support of the Initiative which was sponsored by Vice-Chairwoman Cooper-Smith. Mrs. Hughes advised that the Times and Democrat has allowed the initiative to post some of the same photos on their webpage. Mrs. Hughes advised that the Initiative intends to focus their efforts in 2016 on educational projects within the school system as well as public awareness projects. Mrs. Hughes advised that this is so everyone can be aware of the real problem that litter is in Orangeburg County. Mrs. Hughes advised that due to the response that the Blitz received and the amount of participation the Initiative believes that litter is a great concern to the citizens in this county. Mrs. Hughes thanked the Council for their support and advised that she hopes that the Council will continue to allow the Initiative to be part of supporting the Council's efforts on this subject. Mrs. Hughes advised that Orangeburg County Litter Control has and continues to do an excellent job. Mrs. Hughes advised that the County is a large area for those few people to clean up. Mrs. Hughes advised that the Initiative hopes that Council will continue to speak with community groups and churches about the litter issues in the county as it takes all the citizens support on this issue. Mrs. Hughes advised that if groups want to conduct a clean-up that they can contact the Initiative or Palmetto Pride who will provide them with everything they need to conduct a clean-up in their area. Mrs. Hughes advised that people can also contact Mrs. Glenda Lewis with Soil and Water Conservation. Mrs. Hughes thanked Mrs. Lewis for her efforts. Mrs. Hughes advised that since the Initiative began in late September the group has documented over six (6) tons of litter that has been collected in Orangeburg County. Mrs. Hughes advised that the Initiative hopes to continue these types of projects.

Chairman Wright thanked Mrs. Hughes for her presentation and advised that the Council appreciates the work that the group has been doing. Chairman Wright thanked Mrs. Hughes for her leadership in this area and advised that the Initiative has collected great deal of litter. Chairman Wright advised that Orangeburg County still has a need for litter clean-up. Chairman Wright advised that the Council needs to continue to speak about the subject of litter in their churches, schools, and at community meetings. Chairman Wright advised that the Council is supportive of the Initiative.

Mrs. Hughes advised that the Initiative is thankful to have members of the Council attend the meetings on occasion and to please advise the Initiative of any suggestions that they may have for the group.

Chairman Wright recognized Vice-Chairwoman Cooper-Smith. Vice-Chairwoman Cooper-Smith congratulated the Initiative on the Blitz that was conducted in October. Vice-Chairwoman Cooper-Smith advised that she spoke with Ms. Shannon from the Department of Natural Resources who has agreed to meet with Mr. Bishop (County Litter Control) and herself. Vice-Chairwoman Cooper-Smith advised that Ms. Shannon

is over the litter bill that was passed in the State General Assembly last session. Vice-Chairwoman Cooper-Smith advised that there was a committee formed and Ms. Shannon is the Executive Director of that committee. Vice-Chairwoman Cooper-Smith advised that if the public needs assistance with litter in their area they may also contact Ms. Valerie Shannon.

Chairman Wright recognized Ms. Glenda Lewis. Ms. Lewis advised that Ms. Shannon had attended several of their meetings as well.

Chairman Wright recognized Councilman Owens. Councilman Owens advised the Litter Initiative to keep working hard.

Chairman Wright asked for any other comments. No additional comments.

Mrs. Hughes advised that she would answer any additional questions. No questions. Mrs. Hughes advised to please thank Ms. Kathy Hughes with the Times and Democrat for all her hard work on the Initiative.

Councilman Owens thanked the Times and Democrat for the green banner that was placed in the newspaper.

## 2. ORDINANCE THIRD READING

### AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ORANGEBURG COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE REGULATIONS GOVERNING OUTDOOR RECREATION AND EVENT CENTER

Chairman Wright advised that this item has been explained in previous meetings by the County Administrator, Harold Young. Chairman Wright advised that this is third and final reading on this ordinance.

Councilman Wimberly motioned that agenda item number two (2) be approved in third reading. Councilman Owens seconded the motion. Motion carried. (6-0-0-1).

## 3. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION FROM THE ORANGEBURG COUNTY COUNCIL PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Chairman Wright yielded to the Chairman of the Public Works Committee, Councilman Ravenell.

Councilman Ravenell advised that the Public Works Committee met on Ninety-Six and Babe Rd located in Council District Four (4). Councilman Ravenell motioned that the roads continue to be maintained as they have been historically. Councilman Heyward Livingston seconded the motion. Motion carried. (6-0-0-1).

After some discussion on Millwood Farms Road, Councilman Wimberly motioned that the County continue maintenance on the requested portion of Millwood Farms Road until the scheduled portion of the road is paved. Once the scheduled portion of Millwood Farms Road is paved then the County abandon maintenance on the requested portion of Millwood Farms Road. Councilman Ravenell seconded the motion. Motion carried. (6-0-0-1).

**4. MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE ORANGEBURG COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE AND THE TOWN OF BRANCHVILLE (POLICE DEPARTMENT) REGARDING THE ORANGEBURG-BRANCHVILLE BALL FIELDS.**

Chairman Wright yielded to Councilman Wimberly to advise the Council on agenda item number four (4). Councilman Wimberly advised that work on the ball fields has begun with clearing and grubbing the area. Councilman Wimberly advised that construction will begin shortly at the site and having a local law enforcement presence would minimize any theft that may occur on the site during construction. Councilman Wimberly advised that the Sheriff Department and the Town of Branchville Police Department have advised that they do not have a problem entering into an agreement for concurrent jurisdiction as the ball field is located outside the town limits.

Councilman Wimberly motioned to authorize, effective immediately, an aid agreement between the Orangeburg County Sheriff's Office and the Town of Branchville Police Department whereby Branchville Police will have concurrent jurisdiction with the Sheriff to enforce the criminal laws of the State of South Carolina on the property of the planned Orangeburg-Branchville Sports Complex which is located near, but outside of, the Town's boundaries. This motion includes authorizing the Chairman of County Council, the County Administrator, Clerk to Council, and County Attorney to take any and all action necessary to effect this aid agreement. Councilman Owens seconded the motion. Motion carried. (6-0-0-1).

**5. APPROVAL OF THE ORANGEBURG COUNTY BUDGET CALENDAR FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017**

Chairman Wright recognized County Administrator, Harold Young. Administrator Young advised that this is the budget calendar for 2017 beginning July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2017. Administrator Young advised that the calendar that is laid out before Council is the calendar that staff would like to follow in order to supervise the creation of the 2017 budget.

Chairman Wright advised that the Council has heard the explanation by the Administrator about the budget calendar. Chairman Wright advised that this is a straight forward matter and one that Council does every year. Chairman Wright asked for a motion on agenda item number five (5).

Councilman Heyward Livingston motioned that agenda item number five (5) be approved. Vice-Chairwoman Cooper-Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried. (6-0-0-1).

**6. PROCUREMENT**

**A) REQUEST TO PURCHASE A VEHICLE EMERGENCY SERVICES**

Chairman Wright recognized County Administrator Harold Young. Administrator Young advised that this vehicle will replace a 1999 Ford Pick-Up in the Emergency Services Department with a new Ford Pick-Up 4x4 extended cab in order to serve the citizens

better. Administrator Young advised that the vehicle will be purchased under state contract and with grant monies awarded to the Emergency Services Department.

Chairman Wright advised that Council has heard the explanation from the Administrator and the paperwork is in front of Council. Chairman Wright advised that this is a grant which is a plus. Chairman Wright asked for any questions or concerns from Council.

Chairman Wright recognized Vice-Chairwoman Cooper-Smith. Vice-Chairwoman Cooper-Smith advised that she had a concern in reference to the email that was received from the South Carolina Association of Counties this date in regards to Governor Haley's executive budget and her agreement with the association to keep the formula of past for funding local government. Vice-Chairman Cooper-Smith asked if this means that local government will receive funds that should have been received in the past or what does that mean?

Administrator Young advised that he met with Senator Matthews this morning and basically Governor Haley's budget is outlining full funding for the local government fund but that does not deal with any retro payments from prior years. Administrator Young advised that the County would receive what they should have gotten for this year but the legislature would have to put out a bill for the County to receive monies for prior years. Administrator Young advised that it is a plus that Governor Haley is saying fully funded because now it is up to the legislature. Administrator Young advised that our legislators would support it. Administrator Young advised that the County will not know until the legislature finishes the budget process how much money will be received however, it should be more than what was received in prior years due to the fact that parts of the formula are tied to state revenue which has increased. Administrator Young advised that the only concern is the effect it will have a specific programs. Administrator Young advised that this LPG grant came about due to additional funding being added to hazard mitigation due to the flooding. Administrator Young advised that counties lost vehicles during the flood because they did not have 4x4 capability. Administrator Young advised that the funding is to encourage Emergency Services departments to acquire vehicles that can be utilized during those situations. Administrator Young advised that, unfortunately, due to climate change the country will continue to see a pattern of heavy rain, snow, and ice consistently. Administrator Young advised that this will allow the County to be able to purchase what is needed without this coming out of the citizen's pocket.

After some additional discussion about the appropriation of the Local Government Fund, Chairman Wright recognized Councilman Wimberly.

Councilman Wimberly advised that he would like to thank the Council, the County Administrator, Public Works, and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) for successfully setting up the EMS Station in Rowesville. Councilman Wimberly advised that the station is up and running. Councilman Wimberly advised that the Station is working. Councilman Wimberly advised that there was an accident on Hwy 210 outside of Branchville last week and by the time the Branchville Fire Department got to the scene, EMS rolled up right behind them. Councilman Wimberly advised that the response time was less than 10 minutes where, prior to the new station being established, the response time would have been at least 30 minutes coming out of Orangeburg. Councilman Wimberly advised that it makes a big difference and he appreciates everyone working together to get the Station set up. Councilman Wimberly advised that it is a big plus for the community.

Chairman Wright recognized Councilman Owens. Councilman Owens advised that the Administrator had mentioned FEMA a few minutes ago. Councilman Owens advised that

he attended a meeting last week where citizens were complaining about what FEMA has not done for the citizens of Orangeburg County. Councilman Owens advised that most of the complaints had to do with referrals to the Small Business Administration. Councilman Owens asked how much capital has FEMA put out to the citizens of Orangeburg County.

County Administrator Harold Young advised that FEMA has put out millions of dollars as far as the citizens are concerned. Administrator Young advised that business are different. Administrator Young advised that business fall into the same hole that agriculture has fallen into. Administrator Young advised that the way the system is set up means that the loans and the grant monies go to residential while the small business and farmers are told to take out loans which in those cases, when a business is already suffering from the economic downturn, makes it difficult to take out loans. Administrator Young advised that HUD has put together some additional monies for homeowners and the County is still fighting to utilize some of that money for small business. Administrator Young advised that homeowners should qualify however, there is a cap on that money. Administrator Young advised that the national cap by FEMA is \$20,000.

Councilman Owens asked if FEMA would provide the County with information about who has received funding. Administrator Young advised that FEMA would provide the County with a dollar amount that has been spent in the County. Administrator Young advised that the Home Consortium is working to see about providing additional funds. Administrator Young advised that some residents were turned down because they were required to show FEMA specific damage and some homeowners did not do a good job of showing the damage. Administrator Young advised that FEMA did tell citizens to keep applying to have a case re-heard. Administrator Young advised that Orangeburg County was one of the only county's that had three disaster centers. Administrator Young advised that the County is just now about to close the disaster center in Eutawville which FEMA established at the request of the County due to the fact that it was the area hardest hit by the flooding. Administrator Young advised that the citizens did have to prove to FEMA the damage that they claimed.

After some additional discussion about the FEMA response to the flooding, Chairman Wright asked for a motion on agenda item number six (6). Councilman Wimberly motioned that agenda item number six (6) be approved. Vice-Chairwoman Cooper-Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried. (6-0-0-1).

## 7. VOTE FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Wright advised that the Council would be entering into executive session for item eight-a through eight-c (8A-8C). Chairman Wright recognized County Attorney D'Anne Haydel. Attorney Haydel advised that agenda item eight-c (8C) should read Jason Glover v. Orangeburg County. Councilman Owens motioned that the Council moved into executive session to discuss agenda items eight-a through eight-c (8A-8C).

Chairman Wright recognized Councilman Wimberly. Councilman Wimberly asked for an update on Councilman Clyde Livingston. Chairman Wright advised that the Council will continue the vote and then received an update. Chairman Wright asked for a second on Councilman Owens motion for executive session. Councilman Wimberly seconded the motion. Motion carried. (6-0-0-1).

Chairman Wright advised that he has been in contact with Councilman Clyde Livingston however, County Administrator Harold Young just spoke with him earlier today.

Chairman Wright recognized Administrator Harold Young. Administrator Young advised that Councilman Clyde Livingston has been under the weather lately and advised that he had to attend a medical appointment which ran over the allotted time. Administrator Young advised that he is fine at this time and should be in attendance at the next meeting. Administrator Young advised that he requested a medical exemption for tonight.

Chairman Wright recognized Councilman Owens. Councilman Owens advised that he received a request from a mayor in the eastern end of the county in regards to fighting crime. Councilman Owens advised it is time to reengage our citizens in the fight against crime especially in the area of gun control. Councilman Owens called his Chairwoman, Linda K. Stroman, to plan a meeting of the Crime Taskforce in the eastern part of Orangeburg County to make our citizens more aware of the fight against crime in Orangeburg County. Councilman Owens advised that it helps our Sheriff and local police departments when the citizens get involved. Councilman Owens advised that the Taskforce meeting will be scheduled sometime for the early part of February in the Holly Hill area with a focus on crime and gun control.

## 8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

### A) ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

FOIA EXEMPTION S.C. CODE §30-4-70(A)(2)(DISCUSSION OF NEGOTIATIONS INCIDENT TO PROPOSED CONTRACTUAL NEGOTIATIONS) AND S.C. CODE §30-4-70(A)(5)(DISCUSSION OF MATTERS RELATING TO THE PROPOSED LOCATION, EXPANSION, OR THE PROVISION OF SERVICES ENCOURAGING LOCATION OR EXPANSION OF INDUSTRIES OR OTHER BUSINESSES IN ORANGEBURG COUNTY)

### B) PURCHASE OF PROPERTY

FOIA EXEMPTION S.C. CODE §30-4-70(A)(2)(DISCUSSION OF NEGOTIATIONS INCIDENT TO PROPOSED CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENTS AND PROPOSED PURCHASE OF PROPERTY)

### C) JAMES GLOVER V. ORANGEBURG COUNTY, 2015-CP-38-01550

FOIA EXEMPTION S.C. CODE §30-4-70(A)(2)(RECEIPT OF LEGAL ADVICE WHERE THE LEGAL ADVICE RELATES TO A PENDING CLAIM AND OTHER MATTERS COVERED BY THE ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE)

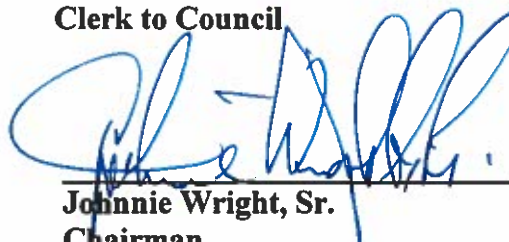
## 9. VOTE FOR ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Wright asked for a motion for adjournment. Vice-Chairwoman Cooper-Smith motioned that the Orangeburg County Council regular session of January 19, 2016 be adjourned. Councilman Ravenell seconded the motion. Motion carried. (6-0-0-1).

10. ADJOURNMENT



Faith E Carter  
Clerk to Council



Johnnie Wright, Sr.  
Chairman  
Orangeburg County Council