



MINUTES
ORANGEBURG COUNTY COUNCIL
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
January 17, 2017
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
4:00 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.
Johnny Ravenell
Harry F. Wimberly
Heyward H. Livingston
Willie B. Owens
Janie Cooper-Smith

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT:

Henry Summers, Public Works Director
D'Anne Haydel, County Attorney
Connie Portee, Clerk to Council

CALL TO ORDER

Johnny Ravenell, Chairman

Chairman Johnny Ravenell called to order a special session of the Orangeburg County Public Works Committee on January 17, at 4:16 p.m.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Moment of silence observed

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

December 5, 2016

Chairman Johnny Ravenell asked for a motion on the minutes. Councilman Heyward Livingston motioned that the minutes of the sessions of the Orangeburg County Council on the above dates be approved as written. Chairman Johnny Ravenell seconded the motion. Motion carried. (6-0-0).

1. TRIPLE ROAD CLOSING

Chairman Johnny Ravenell advised the committee of the agenda items. Chairman Johnny Ravenell also advised the County does not close roads, the only thing the County does is abandon maintenance on a road. There are other procedures to take in order to close a road. Chairman Johnny Ravenell yielded to Mr. Henry Summers for a summary of his findings.

Mr. Henry Summers advised Triple Road has been given attention to abandon maintenance on it. Public works put out two signs and a counter, in the process the counter has been damaged so public works had to remove the counter from the road. This is a through road, a school bus travels the road, the mail carrier travel the road, and the fire department, etc travel the road. The public works department does not feel the road need to be closed.

Chairman Ravenall advised there are citizens present that share an interest on the road. The committee will hear why they want to abandon maintenance on the road.

Robert Fogle, Nancy Cheeks, Chico Cheeks, Barbara D. Fogle, Trinity Herndon, and Dustin Fogle all came before the Public Works Committee to voice their concerns and reasons why Triple Road needed to be closed. All the citizens' concerns were: the loads of trash being dumped on Triple Road, vandalism, and how narrow Triple Road is.

Councilwoman Janie Cooper-Smith advised after speaking with a citizen in the area, she was advised a school bus travels down Triple Road.

Councilman Willie Owens advised if a school bus goes down Triple Road it got to be approve by the school and school district to be an approve route for the bus. If it is an approved route for the bus, it should be safe for the bus to go down, at least a two lane traffic road.

The citizens advised that Triple Road was not, a car had to pull off of the road in order for the bus to get by.

Councilman Willie Owens advised to check with the Director of Transportation with Orangeburg School District Five.

Councilman Heyward Livingston asked, if you closed the road are you still going to use Triple Road for your family to get out, if so how would you keep other cars from coming in and going through.

Robert Fogle advised yes his family would still use Triple Road to get out and once people see the road is closed they would just turn around and go another way.

Councilwoman Janie Cooper-Smith advised a lot of citizens are using Triple Road to get to Shillings Bridge Road because it is more convenient for them.

Chairman Johnny Ravenell asked Henry Summers although the counter was damaged but in his option on a daily average how many cars travel on Triple Road?

Henry Summers advised from the time the counter was put down the counter was eighty-four (84) before it got damage and it was there for three (3) days.

Councilman Willie Owens advised the committee should do further study, he does not doubt what the citizens are stating, it seems to be a problem. He advised the counter should go back on Triple Road, a camera should be placed on the road, contact the Sheriff's Office to give that area some attention.

Chairman Johnny Ravenell advised once a right of way is there, it is then a deeded right of way. The public works committee will continue to do our study on Triple Road and we want you to understand the County does not close roads, the County only abandon maintenance on roads.

Councilman Wimberly advised again the County does not close roads we abandon maintenance on it but you would have to go through the court system in order to close the road.

Councilman Heyward Livingston made the motion for the committee to restudy the road with the counter on the road, with a camera, keep the sign posted up about the road, and then call another meeting. Councilman Harry Wimberly second the motion.

2. VOTE FOR ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Ravenell asked for a motion for adjournment. Councilman Harry Wimberly motioned that Orangeburg County Council Public Works Committee of January 17, 2017 be adjourned. Motion carried (6-0-0).

3. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:59 p.m.



**Connie N. Portee
Clerk to Council**



**Johnny Ravenell
Chairman
Public Works Committee**