



**MINUTES
ORANGEBURG COUNTY COUNCIL
January 17, 2017
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
Johnny Ravenell
Harry F. Wimberly
Heyward H. Livingston
Willie B. Owens
Clyde B. Livingston**

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT:

**Harold Young, County Administrator
D'Anne Haydel, County Attorney
Connie N. Portee, Clerk to Council**

CALL TO ORDER

Johnnie Wright, Sr. Chairman

On the 17th day of January 2017, Chairman Wright called to order a regular session meeting of the Orangeburg County Council at 5:32 p.m.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Moment of silence observed

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

January 3, 2017 (RS)

Chairman Wright asked for a motion on the minutes. Councilman Johnny Ravenell motioned that the minutes of the sessions of the Orangeburg County Council on the above dates be approved as written. Councilman Harry Wimberly seconded the motion. Motion carried. (7-0-0).

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

AGENDA ITEMS

NONE

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

OTHER MATTERS

Jimmy Padgett, Patti Padgett, Bruce Wiles, Janice Wiles, Jessica Wiles, Rev. Andrew Robinson, and other members of the local community all came before County Council to express their strong disapproval about the Yonder Field development that is taken place off of Log Cabin road.

William Boes asked Council why wasn't the community informed earlier by our elected representatives that something like this was in the works? How could you not ask the people who elected you and you represent about something that is going to change their community so enormously and we had to find out through facebook?

Chairman Wright advised some of us had to find out through facebook too, somethings people don't have to ask Council if it's not under regulation.

Councilman Harry Wimberly advised for the record, nobody had ever approach this Council about this project. This project have never approach Council and still haven't approach Council.

Council Willie Owens advised we are concerned as you were, but let me remind you that all of you anticipate the worse from this project, none of you anticipate the best and he lived in that world for years. Years ago when Walt-Disney wanted to come to Santee the greatest concern of that was we don't want no amusement center in South Carolina, now how many of you have been down to Walt-Disney World in Florida, how much money do you spend going down there to that amusement park in Florida. Councilman Owens advised he was not criticizing, but asked the citizens how many of you go to Clemson games and sit in the stadium with eighty thousand people, at the Carolina games have over eighty thousand? He stated, he would anticipate that if such a project came to this County that they would make the necessary arrangements to take care of the problems that may exist but County Council can be a part to see if it does come that the necessary things that need to be taken care of they are taken care of, he stand strongly with that. He is not sure what the end result going to be because Council had not been properly notified yet, as Councilman Wimberly had stated but the Council is a part of Orangeburg County and we are just as concerned as any person that live next door to the project.

Councilman Johnny Ravenell advised he shared the concerns of the citizens that he represent and the project will be (if it comes) in the district that he represent, he assured that it is within Orangeburg County Council power and as their representative that barriers be in place and their interest is heard during the tenure of the project, not saying that it is coming but if it does the citizens will be well informed.

Harvey Elwood executive producer of 93.7 FM came before Council to advise that he supported the concerns of the citizens as it pertain to the facility. One of the area his organization will be venturing into is concerts, we will be doing concerts in and around the Orangeburg County unfortunately the type of concerts they would like to do that would raise a lot of revenue for the County can't happen here because we don't have the type of facilities we need to hold not less than three thousand people. This is a money making venture for the County and it is something we really need to consider for growth and development. An outdoor facility is fine but the likely hood of inclement weather often times will make those events cancel out. So we need Council to look to the future, right now we have to take our concerts to Richland County and Charleston County and they make

thousands of dollars in revenue and taxable receivables for the counties. He suggested Orangeburg County to invest into a building that would pay for itself.

Chairman Wright closed the public comments at 6:01 p.m. and began the first item on the agenda.

1. RESOLUTION HONORING WALLACE C. BETHEA, ORANGEBURG COUNTY BUSINESS HALL OF FAME 2016 INDUCTEE AND LAUREATE

Chairman Wright yield to Councilman Willie Owens to read the resolution in it's entirely. Chairman Wright entertained a motion to pass the resolution. Councilman Willie Owens made the motion. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairwoman Cooper-Smith. Motion carried. (7-0-0).

2. RESOLUTION HONORING DEWALL WATERS, ORANGEBURG COUNTY BUSINESS HALL OF FAME 2016 INDUCTEE AND LAUREATE

Chairman Wright read the resolution in it's entirely. Chairman Wright entertained a motion to pass the resolution. Councilman Johnny Ravenell made the motion. The motion was seconded by Councilman Clyde Livingston. Motion carried. (7-0-0).

3. RESOLUTION HONORING CHARLIE WAY, ORANGEBURG COUNTY BUSINESS HALL OF FAME 2016 INDUCTEE AND LAUREATE

Chairman Wright read the resolution in it's entirely. Chairman Wright entertained a motion to pass the resolution. Councilman Willie Owens made the motion. The motion was seconded by Clyde Livingston. Motion carried. (7-0-0).

4. RESOLUTION HONORING THE HONORABLE EARL MIDDLETON, RECIPIENT OF THE ORANGEBURG COUNTY BUSINESS HALL OF FAME 2016 LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Chairman Wright yield to Vice-Chairwoman Cooper-Smith to read the resolution in it's entirely. Chairman Wright entertained a motion to pass the resolution. Councilman Clyde Livingston made the motion. The motion was seconded by Councilman Johnny Ravenell. Motion carried. (7-0-0).

5. RESOLUTION HONORING THE HONORABLE MARSHALL WILLIAMS, RECIPIENT OF THE ORANGEBURG COUNTY BUSINESS HALL OF FAME 2016 LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Chairman Wright read the resolution in it's entirely. Chairman Wright entertained a motion to pass the resolution. Councilman Clyde Livingston made the motion. The motion was seconded by Councilman Harry Wimberly. Motion carried. (7-0-0).

6. PRESENTATION BY SHERIFF LEROY RAVENELL; ORANGEBURG COUNTY SHERIFF OFFICE

Chairman Wright yielded to Sheriff Ravenell. Sheriff Ravenell thanked Council for allowing him to come before them. Sheriff Ravenell advised that he took an oath to protect the County and the men and women that came with him are concerned about law enforcement in the County. The Sheriff Office cover over 11,000 square miles over 90,000 people. Last year our dispatched took over 47,000 calls and we wrote over 9,000 reports with eight (8) men per shift then we have to worry about investigating our calls. Sheriff Ravenell advised he was not complaining but he was concerned about the safety of the County, everywhere he looked the criminals from Charleston to Columbia are working together getting smarter and we are still working with the same thing we had twenty years ago. Law enforcement has to move up and it has to be a priority. The amount of money these deputies can make other places and there are more deputies in here with bachelor's degree, master's degree, one doctorate degree that we don't pay them for, these deputies can go ten miles up the road and make double what they make herein Orangeburg. Sheriff Ravenell thanked his deputies for their dedication, County Council, and Administrator Young.

Chairman Wright thanked the Sheriff and all the deputies for all they do for Orangeburg County.

Administrator Young advised that the State of South Carolina has not fully funded the Local Government Fund with in the last six years even though the State of South Carolina has had a surplus during that time every year. This is a big piece to why Council has not been able to do more or as much as we need to do.

7. ORDINANCE FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION PUBLIC HEARING & THIRD READING -LEGAL BASIS- FOIA EXEMPTION SC CODE 30-4-70(A)(2) (DISCUSSION OF NEGOTIATIONS INCIDENT TO PROPOSED CONTRACTUAL NEGOTIATIONS) AND SC CODE 30-4-70(A)(5) (DISCUSSION OF MATTERS RELATING TO THE ENCOURAGING LOCATION OR EXPANSION IN INDUSTRIES OR OTHER BUSINESSES IN ORANGEBURG COUNTY)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING PURSUANT TO TITLE 12, CHAPTER 44 OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA 1976, AS AMENDED, THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A FEE-IN-LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES AGREEMENT, BY AND BETWEEN ORANGEBURG COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AND PROJECT PALMETTO PLAINS, AS SPONSOR, AND ONE OR MORE SPONSOR AFFILIATES TO PROVIDE FOR A FEE-IN-LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES INCENTIVE AND CERTAIN SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDITS; TO PROVIDE FOR ONE OR MORE SPONSOR AFFILIATES, TO AMEND THE EXISTING AMENDED AND RESTATED AGREEMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT OF JOINT COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK BY AND BETWEEN ORANGEBURG COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AND DORCHESTER COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA TO ENLARGE THE BOUNDARIES OF THE INDUSTRIAL PARK TO INCLUDE CERTAIN

PROPERTY LOCATED IN ORANGEBURG COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA NOW OR TO BE HEREAFTER OWNED AND/OR OPERATED BY THE COMPANY PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED AS PROJECT PALMETTO PLAINS, OR ONE OR MORE COMPANIES RELATED THERETO; AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS.

Chairman Wright read the ordinance in it's entirety. Chairman Wright entertained a motion to go into a brief executive session. Councilman Harry Wimberly made the motion for a fifteen minute executive session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Willie Owens. Motion carried. (7-0-0).

Chairman Wright open the floor for public hearing questions. There were none.

Chairman Wright entertained a motion to pass the ordinance for third and final reading. Councilman Harry Wimberly made the motion. The motion was seconded by Councilman Clyde Livingston. Motion carried. (7-0-0).

Attorney Jerrod Anderson advised that project palmetto plains was a code name but since this is third reading we are announcing the prospect is Tradewind Energy.

8. PROCUREMENT

a. STATE CONTRACT PURCHASE – VEHICLES FOR FIRE SERVICES

Chairman Wright entertained a motion to approve the state contract purchase for vehicles for fire services as recommended Councilman Harry Wimberly made the motion. The motion was seconded by Councilman Heyward Livingston. Motion carried. (7-0-0).

b. REQUEST FOR PROCUREMENT EXEMPTION – UPGRADE OF SOFTWARE/HARDWARE FOR PUBLIC SAFETY/JUSTICE DEPARTMENTS

Chairman Wright entertained a motion to approve the request for procurement exemption upgrade of software/hardware for public safety/justice departments as recommended Councilman Harry Wimberly made the motion. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairwoman Janie Cooper-Smith. Motion carried. (7-0-0).

c. REQUEST TO MODIFY AWARD REGARDING INMATE HEALTH CARE SERVICES (DETENTION CENTER)

Chairman Wright entertained a motion to approve the request to modify award regarding inmate health care services (detention center) as recommended Councilman Johnny Ravenell made the motion. The motion was seconded by Councilman Heyward Livingston. Motion carried. (7-0-0).

9. APPOINTMENT TO THE ORANGEBURG FIRE COMMISSION

Chairman Wright yielded to Councilman Heyward Livingston, District #4 Councilman Heyward Livingston made a motion to appoint David "Rusty" Russell to the Orangeburg County Fire Commission. The motion was seconded by Councilman Clyde Livingston. Motion carried. (7-0-0).

10. APPOINTMENT TO THE TAX EQUALIZATION BOARD

Chairman Wright yielded to Councilman Heyward Livingston, District #4 Councilman Heyward Livingston made a motion to appoint Kenneth L. Glenton to the Tax Equalization Board. The motion was seconded by Councilman Johnny Ravenell. Motion carried. (7-0-0).

11. VOTE FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Wright read the item for executive session and entertained a motion. Councilman Heyward Livingston made the motion. Vice-Chairwoman Cooper-Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried. (7-0-0).

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

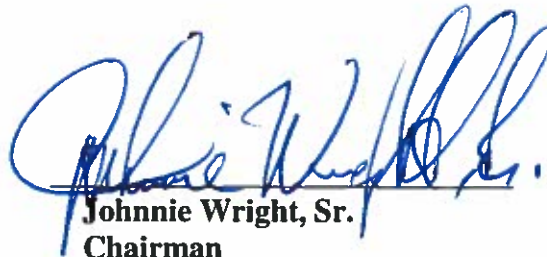
- a. PERSONNEL
- b. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

13. VOTE FOR ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Harry Wimberly recognized Sean Reed a fourth grader Boy Scout who attends Orangeburg Preparatory School.

Chairman Wright entertained a motion for adjournment. Councilman Clyde B. Livingston motioned that the regular session of the Orangeburg County Council of January 17, 2017 stand adjourned. Councilman Harry Wimberly seconded the motion. Motion carried. (7-0-0).

14. ADJOURNMENT



Johnnie Wright, Sr.
Chairman

Orangeburg County Council



Corinne N. Porter
Clerk to Council
Orangeburg County Council