



**MINUTES
ORANGEBURG COUNTY COUNCIL
SPECIAL CALLED SESSION
June 27, 2017
09:00 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.
Janie Cooper-Smith
Johnny Ravenell
Harry F. Wimberly
Heyward H. Livingston
Willie B. Owens**

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Clyde B. Livingston

OTHERS PRESENT:

**Harold Young, County Administrator
Connie N. Portee, Clerk to Council
Sidney J. Evering, II, Special Counsel**

CALL TO ORDER

Johnnie Wright, Sr. Chairman

On the 27th day of June 2017, Chairman Wright called to order a regular session meeting of the Orangeburg County Council at 9:09 a.m.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Moment of silence observed

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

AGENDA ITEMS

NONE

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

OTHER MATTERS

NONE

1. GENERAL FUND ORDINANCE THIRD READING

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2017, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2018, FOR ORANGEBURG COUNTY BUDGET FOR ORDINARY COUNTY PURPOSES FOR WHICH THE COUNTY MAY LEVY A TAX; TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES ON ALL TAXABLE PERSONAL AND REAL ESTATE PROPERTIES

Chairman Wright advised, Mr. Dilenger, yes they would be required to have a business license.

Sheryl Jackson came before Council to offer solutions to the business license issues as she stated she was a business consultant for Carlisle and Gallagher Consulting Group before moving to Orangeburg County.

Michael Till, John Irick and Jimmy Pratt also spoke during the Public Hearing to express their concerns for the business license ordinance.

Chairman Johnnie Wright closed Public Hearing at 9:45 a.m.

Councilman Harry Wimberly made a motion to postpone second reading until Council can come together again and go over the issues that have been brought up today. The motion was seconded by Councilman Willie Owens. Motion carried. (6-0-0).

Councilman Heyward Livingston advised he listened to everyone, Council has been arguing this ordinance for five (5) to six (6) years and he had rejected it each time because it wasn't fair from where he saw it but that was the old ordinance but this ordinance is fair enough. He had given it a lot of thought, he don't like it but he is going to support this fee but it is to the point, it's either a license fee or millage fee. He is not in 100% favor of it, but he is not going to mislead anyone, if Council can't make some major changes to it, he is going to support this ordinance as it is written.

Councilman Johnny Ravenell advised he concur with what other members of Council had said. Council value their constituents' opinion and he agree that their constituents had some great ideas. He was glad Council has decided to postpone the reading so Council could go back and review the ordinance, in order to make some changes to make it better. It has come to a point now where we are looking at who is coming into the County and who is profiting off of Orangeburg County and they are not residence of the County. We have to address this sooner or later. The way things are going now he would have to support the ordinance also.

Vice-Chairwoman Cooper-Smith advised she heard everyone and Council has done everything humanly possible to do except increase the millage rate. If Council increased the millage rate there would be the same cry at the next Public Hearing maybe not from the same people but the same cry from property owners but she is in support of the business license ordinance and if Council can make it better she was in support of that also.

Administrator Young advised on behalf of the employees of the County. It needs to be said the County appreciate all of the businesses in Orangeburg County big or small but the employees of Orangeburg County have to pay these taxes too, they also spend money in the community and at some of these same businesses, so to keep it into prospective that this is a community as a whole and we are trying to make the community better. It is not an easy thing to do but at the end of the day businesses in Orangeburg County are appreciated. With all that is coming we have to be prepared and there is a cost to that preparedness.

4. PROCUREMENT

a. REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FY17-0620 ORANGEBURG COUNTY COURTHOUSE GENERATOR AND TRANSFER SWITCH EQUIPMENT

Chairman Wright yielded to Administrator Young to give a brief summary. Administrator Young advised the generator at the court house is out and for us to maintain the court house and all its duties and functions without the generator it's not possible in the event of power lost or power failure, we are proposing a replacement generator. There was a request for proposal put out to require bids. The County received four (4) proposals and the recommending the low bidder in the amount of \$115,075.00 to National Power, Raleigh, NC.

Chairman Wright asked Council if they had any questions.

Councilman Johnny Ravenell advised Administrator Young was the funding for the generator in the budget.

Administrator Young advised yes, sir it was a part of the fund the County was using to do the renovation over at the court house.

Chairman Wright entertained a motion to accept the recommendations. Vice-Chairwoman Cooper-Smith made the motion. The motion was seconded by Councilman Johnny Ravenell. Motion carried. (6-0-0).

b. REQUEST CONTRACT FOR TRMC

Chairman Wright yielded to Administrator Young to give a brief summary. Administrator Young advised TRMC had reached out to Orangeburg County. There are a lot of situations that happens at the hospital were the Sheriff's department would have to intervene such as Mental Health issues that may arise that require individuals to be transported from the hospital to Mental Health agencies and other places. The Sheriff's department in conjunction with the hospital felt it would be better for all parties involved to place a Sheriff Deputy in the area as apart of security detail for the hospital to help deal with a lot of those issues. This is a partnership way to provide additional funding for that Deputy through the hospital to be able to help streamline the services and make it safer for the citizens, doctors and nurses at the hospital.

Chairman Wright asked Administrator Young, would the hospital be responsible for the cost?

Administrator Young advised Chairman Wright, yes.

Councilman Harry Wimberly asked Administrator Young, would the hospital reimburse the County for the total cost portion? Will the hospital pay for gas, the vehicle, and everything? There would be no more expense to the County budget?

Administrator Young advised Councilman Wimberly the hospital will pay the entire cost.

Councilman Harry Wimberly asked, would the funds come back to the general fund or the Sheriff's department fund?

Administrator Young advised it would come back to the general fund.

Chairman Wright entertained a motion to pass the request for contract. Councilman Willie Owens made the motion. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairwoman Cooper-Smith. Motion carried. (6-0-0).

5. VOTE FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Wright read the items for executive session and entertained a motion. Vice-Chairwoman Janie Cooper-Smith made the motion. Councilman Johnny Ravenell seconded the motion. Motion carried. (6-0-0).

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

a. PROJECT HALO

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 THE AREA SERVED BY THE PUBLIC BODY)

2. CONTRACTUAL MATTERS TRMC

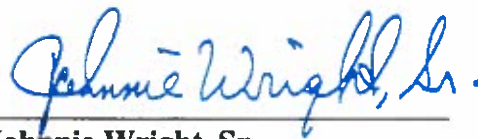
LEGAL BASIS - FOIA EXEMPTION S.C. CODE 30-4 70(a)(2)(DISCUSSION OF NEGOTIATIONS INCIDENT TO PROPOSED CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT)

7. VOTE FOR ADJOURNMENT

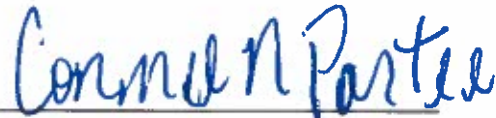
Chairman Wright entertained a motion for adjournment. Councilman Heyward Livingston motioned that the regular session of the Orangeburg County Council of June 27, 2017 stand adjourned. Vice-Chairwoman Janie Cooper-Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried. (6-0-0).

8. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 10:27 p.m.



Johnnie Wright, Sr.
Chairman
Orangeburg County Council



Connie N. Portee
Clerk to Council
Orangeburg County Council