

**MINUTES
ORANGEBURG COUNTY COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 4, 2013
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., Chairman
Janie Cooper-Smith, Vice Chairman
Clyde B. Livingston
Heyward H. Livingston
Willie B. Owens
Johnny Ravenell
Harry F. Wimberly**

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT:

**Harold M. Young, County Administrator
D'Anne Haydel, County Attorney
Jacqueline P. Turner, Clerk to Council**

CALL TO ORDER

Johnnie Wright, Sr., Chairman

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Moment of silence observed

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Councilwoman Cooper-Smith, seconded by Councilman Owens, to approve minutes of January 22, 2013 with corrections, if any. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

AGENDA ITEMS

Ms. Jeannette Jeffries addressed Council regarding items 2 and 5 on the agenda. With item 2 she questioned why Council was continually purchasing property, especially property which is across the street from the Orangeburg County City and Industrial Park. Chairman Wright requested Attorney Anderson address Ms. Jeffries. Attorney Anderson explained this was not a purchase of property, but an option. This ties down the property in case an industry wants it, and the price does not rise. The County will have the property certified so it can be used for industry. The option is for one year at \$100 per year, with a \$50 a year renewal cost for four years. With regard to item 5 – executive session – she is against executive sessions period. All County business should be conducted in public. Administrator Young and several Council members stated potential businesses always request confidentiality in any potential dealings with the County to protect their corporate interests.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

OTHER MATTERS

Dr. David Hutto addressed Council, inviting them to attend a Business After Hours event Thursday, February 14, 2013, 5:30 p.m., Fine Arts Center, honoring Bernice Tribble. There will also be a Whitney Houston tribute fundraiser Feb 12, 2013, Stevenson Auditorium.

1. APPOINTMENTS – BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS

Chairman Wright asked if there were any appointments to be made. The following appointments were made to The Regional Medical Center Board of Trustees: Councilman Owens nominated William Wilson as an At-Large appointee. Councilwoman Cooper-Smith, re-appointed Betty Henderson. Councilman Wimberly re-appointed Danny Covington. Councilman Ravenell re-appointed Johnny Mallard. Councilman Wimberly re-appointed Gladys Arends. Councilman Heyward Livingston re-appointed Ed Furtick. Councilman Clyde Livingston re-appointed Millie Brunson. Councilman Ravenell, re-appointed Melvin Seabrooks. Councilman Owens re-appointed Dr. Oscar Butler.

Motion by Councilman Owens, seconded by Councilman Clyde Livingston, to accept all appointments as made. Motion unanimously approved.

2. AN OFFICIAL ACTION OF THE ORANGEBURG COUNTY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING AN OPTION AGREEMENT TO PURCHASE REAL PROPERTY

Chairman Wright requested information from County Administrator Young, who called on Attorney Anderson. Attorney Anderson, and Greg Robinson, Executive Director, Orangeburg County Development Commission, both spoke on the importance of obtaining the option to purchase the 700 acres of land that will ensure potential industrial prospects the property is ready environmentally if they need it. Mr. Anderson stated the option costs \$100 for the coming year and can be renewed for additional years at \$50 per year. Mr. Robinson stated the option would not cost the County any money because Norfolk Southern Railroad is paying the option money.

Motion to approve the official action authorizing the Option Agreement to Purchase Real Property made by Councilman Wimberly, seconded by Councilman Owens. Motion passed unanimously.

**3. ORANGEBURG COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
RECOMMENDATIONS BY TITLE ONLY FOR REZONING: (1) TMS#0183-17-01-001.00 FROM F&A DISTRICT TO BI DISTRICT; (2) TMS#0270-00-07-027.000 FROM FA DISTRICT TO CG; (3)TMS#0343-00-02-033.000 FROM F&A TO RESIDENTIAL SINGLE FAMILY DISTRICT; (4) TMS#0173-07-03-006.000 FROM RESIDENTIAL GENERAL DISTRICT TO COMMERCIAL GENERAL DISTRICT**

1. TMS-0183-17-01-0001.000 2366 Charleston Highway in Councilman Wimberly's district owned by Nell S. Fogle, 65 acres. Rezone from F&A to BI. Planning commission in favor of the request. It is for a billboard to go up. An adjacent parcel has a billboard.

Motion by Councilman Clyde Livingston, seconded by Councilman Heyward Livingston, to accept recommendation of Planning Commission. Motion passed unanimously.

2. TMS-0270-00-07-027.000 – 9238 Charleston Hwy in Councilman Ravenell's district is owned by Louis Rivers. Planning Commission approves rezoning request from FA to CG.

Motion by Councilman Ravenell to delay a decision on this request due to some research being done on the request.

3. TMS-0343-00-02-033.000 – 107 My Rd, Councilman Ravenell's district, is property owned by Harold C. Gillens who has requested the property be rezoned from FA (Forest and Agriculture District) to RS (Residential Single-Family District).

Motion to approve Planning Commission request by Councilman Wimberly, seconded by Councilman Ravenell. Motion passed unanimously.

4. TMS -0173-07-03-006.000 – 146 Poplar Drive – Located in Councilwoman Cooper-Smith's district, property is owned by Archie Thomas who is requesting property be rezoned from RG (Residential General) District to CG (Commercial General) District. The owner was alleged to be selling beer and wine at the location. The Zoning Administrator investigated and sent a cease and desist order to the owner. He came to the office and presented a beer and wine license, but the location was not property zoned for beer and wine sales. The location is in a residential neighborhood located on Poplar Dr. off Chestnut Street, and is less than 500 ft from a church that has been there for over 40 years. The Planning Commission recommends denying this request.

Motion by Councilwoman Cooper-Smith, seconded by Councilman Owens to sustain the denial recommended by the Planning Commission. Motion passed unanimously.

4. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT – ROAD CLOSING REQUEST (HENRY ROAD TO HWY 321) – DISTRICT #4

Administrator Young stated the Fogle family of Neeses and Carolina Fresh Farms LLC is requesting the County stop maintenance and close Pitside Road from Henry Road to Highway 321. The road is 0.1 mile in length, used primarily by the Fogle family and Carolina Fresh Farms. Mr. Young recommended this request be referred to the Public Works Committee for review.

Motion by Councilman Heyward Livingston, seconded by Councilman Ravenell to refer the request to the Public Works Committee as recommended. Motion carried unanimously.

5. VOTE FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION –ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Motion by Councilman Owens, seconded by Councilman Heyward Livingston to vote for an executive session to discuss economic development. Motion passed unanimously.

Prior to adjournment for an executive session, Councilman Ravenell distributed a document about litter control efforts. He is going to try to initiate something with all the municipalities and citizen groups in the county to address the county-wide litter control problem. Administrator Young stated there are only two County Litter Control enforcement officers. Councilman Ravenell and other Council persons spoke about the litter problem and the need for citizen participation to make an impact on addressing the litter problem. Councilman Ravenell stated at the next Council meeting there will be a plan on paper for a litter cleanup initiative.

Motion by Councilwoman Cooper-Smith, seconded by Councilman Ravenell to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted By

Jacqueline P. Turner, Clerk

Johnnie Wright, Sr., Chairman