

**MINUTES
ORANGEBURG COUNTY COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 16, 2010
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, Vice Chairman
Clyde B. Livingston
Heyward H. Livingston
Willie B. Owens
Johnny Ravenell
Harry F. Wimberly**

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT:

**Bill Clark, County Administrator
Jacqueline P. Turner, Clerk to Council**

OTHERS ABSENT:

D'Anne Haydel, County Attorney

CALL TO ORDER

Johnnie Wright, Sr., Chairman

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Moment of silence observed

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Councilwoman Cooper, seconded by Councilman Owens, to approve minutes of February 1, 2010 with corrections, if any. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

AGENDA ITEMS

NONE

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

OTHER MATTERS

NONE

**1. AN OFFICIAL ACTION OF THE ORANGEBURG COUNTY COUNCIL
AUTHORIZING ORANGEBURG COUNTY TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT TO
PURCHASE PROPERTY FROM LOUIE P. OTT, III**

Chairman Wright asked the County Administrator, Bill Clark, to comment on this issue. Mr. Clark stated he would, and then he would direct the matter to Councilman Wimberly to add comments, since the property is located within his district. Bill Clark indicated the property represented .83 of an acre, but is strategically located on the main

road into Branchville, Freedom Road, directly adjacent to an existing ball field and other community facilities, and fits in nicely with plans to upgrade some community services. The asking price is \$9,000, which is within the amount of the appraised value the County has on this property. The action before Council is an official action to authorize staff to go forward with the contract of sale to acquire this particular property for a community project. He invited Councilman Wimberly to elaborate on the property.

Councilman Wimberly indicated the proposed sale of the property is to be used in conjunction with Horton Field and the recreation area, as well as additional parking for Health Plex which is adjoining the property. The purchase is being made to expand the facility for recreation within the community, with proceeds coming from the penny sales tax under the recreation projects in District 3. Chairman Wright thanked both men for their information, and solicited questions from other Council members.

Motion by Councilman Wimberly, seconded by Councilman Clyde Livingston, authorizing the County Administrator the authority to enter into a contract to purchase property from Louis P. Ott, III in the amount of \$9,000.00. Motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Owens inquired were the funds coming from Councilman Wimberly's recreation funds. Councilman Wimberly replied yes.

Motion passed unanimously.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF BID – ROAD CONSTRUCTION – OAKLAND AND BAIR ROADS

Bill Clark indicated this is a project being funded with capital project sales tax funds for a road construction project in District 3 involving clearing, grubbing, grading and application of base material to having asphalt applied to the road for 2.4 miles on Oakland and Bair Roads, roads included as part of the capital project sales tax funding. A pre-bid conference on January 13, 2010 was attended by 20 contractors. On January 28, 2010, the 10 bids submitted were opened. The low bidder was R.T. Grading, Inc., Pelion, S.C., in the amount of \$250,000.00. The amount represents a very competitive price to do the road. He is recommending Council award the bid to R.T. Grading in the amount of \$250,000.00 to proceed with the construction of the road.

Motion by Councilman Wimberly, seconded by Councilman Heyward Livingston, to award the low bid of \$250,000 to R.T. Grading, Inc. Pelion, S.C., for the construction of 2.4 miles of Oakland and Bair roads.

With the variation in prices, from \$898,000 to \$250,000, Councilman Wimberly asked the Public Works department if the County would do inspections on the roads as they are being built regarding compaction and everything to make

certain the roads will stand up. Butch Looper replied the same specifications will be used for the inspections.

Motion passed unanimously.

3. APPOINTMENTS TO AQUATIC FACILITY ADVISORY BOARD

Chairman Wright asked whether Council members were ready to make appointments. Councilman Clyde Livingston asked if the Aquatic Facility Advisory Board and the Orangeburg County YMCA Advisory Board, responsible to the Chairman, are one and the same. The County Administrator indicated they were the same body. Chairman Wright indicated if some members were not ready to make appointments, the appointments could be carried forward. Council members Cooper and Owens indicated they were ready to make their appointments.

Councilman Owens recommended the appointment of Mrs. Dorothy Jarvis, 255 Oakridge Drive, Orangeburg, S.C. 29115 - District 7.

Council members Heyward Livingston, Johnny Ravenell, Johnny Wright, Harry Wimberly, Clyde Livingston carried their recommendations forward.

Councilwoman Cooper recommended the appointment of Reverend Samuel B. Glover, 149 Belton Drive, Orangeburg, S.C. 29118 - District 5.

Councilman Wimberly asked if the Advisory Board member appointed by each Council member would be a designated position out of that district, or can it cross district lines? His concern is does every district have a representative rather than members appointing some who are out of their district. He asked if it should be specified in the agreement that the person being appointed come from each Council district? Councilwoman Cooper said it was in the agreement. Councilman Wimberly didn't think it was. Bill Clark indicated the intent was to give each of the 7 Council persons the ability to name a person of their choice. Councilman Owens stated he would love to see each district represented since it is a county-wide facility. Bill Clark stated the contract did not require that each appointee be a resident of the district, but of course with the Council member being the one making the appointment, they can certainly factor that into their decision making. Councilwoman Cooper stated she was not going into Councilman Owens' district and appoint someone, she was staying in her district

Councilman Clyde Livingston asked what is the size of the advisory board along with who and what is the YMCA. Bill Clark stated there are 14 members, 7 appointed by County Council, 7 appointed by the YMCA, that mirrors an advisory board concept the YMCA has in place in all their facilities. There has been a local operating board of directors for the Orangeburg YMCA for a number of years, with about 10-11 members, all local residents, and his full expectation, based on what he has been told, is appointments from the YMCA will come for the existing group of individuals who have been serving on the local Orangeburg YMCA Board of Directors.

Councilwoman Cooper indicated Bill Clark had given Council members a sheet with the names addresses of the individuals serving on the YMCA Board of Directors. Councilman Owens indicated he would like to see the YMCA appoint a diverse committee and not just go within the immediate area of Orangeburg, but from around the county. Bill Clark stated the YMCA would appreciate any advice or suggestions Council would care to make to them, because Council is obviously more familiar with the local residents than they are; the ones they are familiar with are the ones who have been serving on the other board. Councilwoman Cooper indicated two of these people are from the same district. Councilman Owens spoke about diversity geographically, diversity in activities, diversity in color, diversity in interests.

Motion by Councilwoman Cooper, seconded by Councilman Owens, to accept the recommendations of Dorothy Jarvis and Reverend Glover to appointments on the Aquatic Facilities Advisory Board. Motion passed unanimously.

4. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT – REQUEST FOR ACCESS ROAD INCLUSION – COCOBELLA LANE (CORDOVA AREA)

Bill Clark stated he is recommending this request to the Public Works Committee for the second time, because it came before the Committee some time ago, but a decision was not made. Calls have been received from residents who are looking at the time the roads would have qualified. It is being referred again to the Public Works Committee to allow the members to go back and revisit the road, observe its status, and make a decision.

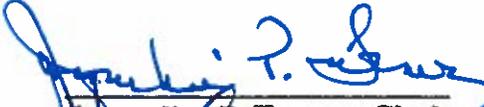
Motion by Councilman Owens, seconded by Councilman Ravenell to refer the request to the Public Works Committee for review and further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

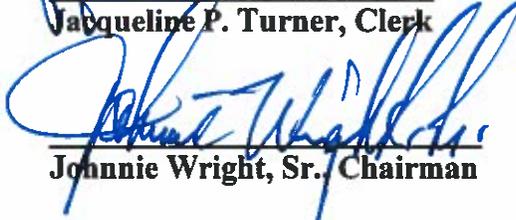
Councilman Owens stated that research he has conducted indicated 98% of the flooding problems in District 7 are the result of flooding from private property onto private property, not county property. While the County cannot spend taxpayers money on private property, he is working on trying to locate owners of the private property and see what can be done to alleviate the situation.

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

Motion by Councilwoman Cooper, seconded by Councilman Ravenell, to vote for adjournment. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.


Jacqueline P. Turner, Clerk


Jonnie Wright, Sr., Chairman