



**MINUTES
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
ORANGEBURG COUNTY COUNCIL
JUNE 24th, 2015
9:00 A.M.**

**COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ADMINISTRATIVE CENTRE
1437 AMELIA ST.
ORANGEBURG, SC 29115**

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.
Harry Wimberly
Heyward H. Livingston
Willie B. Owens
Johnny Ravenell
Janie Cooper-Smith
Clyde Livingston**

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT:

Harold Young, County Administrator

Faith E Carter, Clerk to Council

CALL TO ORDER

Johnnie Wright, Sr. Chairman

On the 24th day of June, 2015, Chairman Wright called to order a special session of the Orangeburg County Council at 9:06 am.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Moment of silence observed

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 15, 2015

Chairman Wright asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2015 regular session of the Orangeburg County Council as written. Councilwoman Cooper-Smith motioned to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Councilman Clyde Livingston. Motion carried. (7-0-0).

1. ORDINANCE THIRD READING

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2015, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2016, 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 IN SUFFICIENT TAXES TO PAY FOR THE PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST ON THE OUTSTANDING INDEBTEDNESS OF ORANGEBURG COUNTY MATURING DURING THE FISCAL YEAR; TO PROVIDE FOR MATTERS RELATING TO ORANGEBURG COUNTY; AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF TAXES AND OTHER REVENUES COMING TO THE COUNTY DURING THE FISCAL YEAR.

Chairman Wright advised that this is third and final reading on the budget ordinance inclusive of budget provisos which reflects the final budget for the general fund of Orangeburg County. Chairman Wright recognized Councilman Clyde Livingston. Councilman Clyde Livingston asked if there is a millage increase. Chairman Wright asked for an explanation from County Administrator, Harold Young. Administrator Young advised that this budget does reflect a millage increase of two (2) mills each for the indebtedness fund and the special education fund. Chairman Wright clarified that those increases are not part of the general fund (i.e. agenda item number 1). Councilman Clyde Livingston asked if those mills would be finalized sometime this fall. Chairman Wright advised that the mills would be finalized in the fall. County Administrator Harold Young advised that this would take place sometime in October.

Chairman Wright recognized County Administrator Harold Young. Administrator Young advised that the legislature is still in the process of finalizing the surplus funds which means that the County may be allotted additional funds. Administrator Young advised that if the County does receive additional state funds it could lessen the need for additional millage but the County is not aware of any additional funds at this time so the County must plan accordingly. Administrator Young advised the legislature did pass the body camera bill which is accompanied by funding. However, the amount of funding has not been specified and the County must also prepare for that accordingly.

Chairman Wright recognized Councilwoman Cooper-Smith. Councilwoman Cooper-Smith asked about the possibility of an increase related to the general fund after the budget is

passed. County Administrator Harold Young advised that the only bill in the legislature at this moment that would affect the general fund, after the fact, would be the roads bill that is currently be considering.

Chairman Wright asked if that impact would be a plus for the County if they receive additional state funding. County Administrator Harold Young advised that this was correct. Administrator Young advised that the Conference Committee has the Local Government Fund getting the same amount as last year but the state economic advisors have stated that the \$200 million surplus is reoccurring monies instead of a one-time amount. Administrator Young advised that this may change the way the legislature views the expending of those monies.

Chairman Wright recognized Councilman Ravenell. Councilman Ravenell advised that this is not the first time that the state has had a surplus in funds. Councilman Ravenell asked how these surpluses have benefited the County historically. County Administrator Harold Young advised that the legislature did give the County a small increase in the Local Government Fund two years ago. Administrator Young advised that this was a one-time event and that most of the reoccurring monies have gone to the School Districts which is a valid cause.

Chairman Wright thanked the Council for their hard work on the budget. Chairman Wright advised that despite the Council's best efforts there will be some winners and some losers. Chairman Wright advised that he appreciates all of the Counties employees and thanked them for their service.

Chairman Wright asked for a motion and second on third and final reading. Councilman Owens motioned that agenda item number one be approved. Councilman Heyward Livingston seconded the motion. Motion carried. (7-0-0).

2. ORDINANCE THIRD READING

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2015, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2016, FOR ORANGEBURG-CALHOUN TECHNICAL COLLEGE, THE ORANGEBURG COUNTY DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS BOARD, VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION, AND FOR OTHER PUBLIC AND SPECIAL EDUCATION; TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES AND OTHER REVENUES TO THE COUNTY DURING THE FISCAL YEAR FOR SUCH PURPOSES

Chairman Wright advised that this is the public and special education budget for

Orangeburg County. Chairman Wright asked for a motion to approve agenda item number two in third and final reading. Councilman Ravenell motioned that agenda item number two (2) be approved. The motion was seconded by Councilman Owens. Motion carried. (7-0-0).

3. ORDINANCE THIRD READING

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF ORANGEBURG COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, AMENDING THE ZONING MAP OF UNINCORPORATED ORANGEBURG COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA TO CHANGE THE ZONING DESIGNATION FOR REAL PROPERTY FROM RG (RESIDENTIAL GENERAL DISTRICT) TO RC (RURAL COMMUNITY DISTRICT) DESCRIBED AS TAX MAP NUMBER: 0183-00-04-011.000, 0183-00-04-010.000, 0183-04-009.000, 0183-00-04-008.000, 0183-00-04-007.000, 0183-00-04-006.000, 0183-00-04-005.000, 0183-00-04-012.000, 0183-00-04-013.000, 0183-00-04-014.000, 0183-00-04-023.000, 0183-00-04-016.000, 0183-00-04-004.000.

Chairman Wright asked an explanation from County Administrator Harold Young. Administrator Young advised that the residents who own property in that specific area requested that the entire area be re-zoned. Administrator Young advised that the Planning Commission heard the request and approved the change.

Chairman Wright asked for a motion to approved agenda item number three (3). Councilwoman Cooper-Smith motioned that agenda item number three (3) be approved. The motion was seconded by Councilman Ravenell. Motion carried. (7-0-0).

4. ORDINANCE SECOND READING

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF ORANBEBURG COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, INCREASING THE TELEPHONE E-911 SUBSCRIBER FEE FROM .92 TO .99 CENTS, AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Chairman Wright asked County Administrator Harold Young for an explanation. Administrator Young advised that the County is allowed by the State to impose a surcharge for 911 services. Administrator Young advised that the fee of .92 cents has not been changed in the last 19 years. Administrator Young advised that the County needs to move a third generation 911 system and implement additional upgrades therefore the County is proposing to move from a fee of .92 cents to a fee of .99 cents which is an increase

of .07 cents. Administrator Young advised that the fee increase has been approved by the State and the County is asking for approval from the Council.

Chairman Wright recognized Councilman Ravenell. Councilman Ravenell asked how the fee increase directly affects the citizens of Orangeburg County. Administrator Young advised that any person who has a telephone there is an E-911 fee associated with that telephone and the bill for that line reflects a fee of .92 cents. Administrator Young advised that this would increase the fee from .92 cents to .99 cents.

Chairman Wright recognized Councilman Wimberly. Councilman Wimberly asked if the fee applies to cellular phones. Administrator Young advised that he would need to look into that and report back to the Councilman with that information.

Chairman Wright recognized Councilman Clyde Livingston. Councilman Clyde Livingston asked if that charge was an annual or monthly charge. Administrator Young advised that the charge is monthly. Councilman Clyde Livingston asked if the amount of the telephone bill mattered when assessing the fee. Administrator Young advised that the fee was assessed per line. Administrator Young advised that the County expects that the fee increase will bring approximately \$200,000 per year. Councilman Clyde Livingston asked why the County did not bring the fee up to an even \$1.00. Administrator Young advised that the State creates the fee schedule which outlines what the County is allowed to charge for services.

Chairman Wright asked for a motion to approve agenda item number four (4). Councilwoman Cooper-Smith motioned that agenda item number four (4) be approved. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wimberly. Motion carried. (7-0-0).

5. RESOLUTION TO APPROVE TRANSIT GRANT APPLICATION FOR FY 2015-2016 FUNDING

Chairman Wright asked for an explanation from County Administrator Harold Young. Administrator Young advised that the County is required to provide a resolution to comply with the Federal Transit Authority (FTA) and South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) program for statues and regulations to receive funding for the Cross County Connections Program. Administrator Young advised that the County applies for a variety of grants; some of which are related to mass transit, door to door service for special needs, etc. Administrator Young advised that the Council will be seeing a request for the purchase of a new bus under this grant in order to establish a new workforce route. Administrator Young advised that the ridership numbers are continuing to increase. Administrator Young advised that the Veterans is doing very well and they are averaging 12 to 13 riders every week. Administrator Young advised that they now have an additional

day; one day is for operations and the other day is for appointments. Administrator Young advised that the Veterans are very pleased and that Council should be commended because our Veterans are the talk of the region. Administrator Young advised that the Veterans are being treated first class through this program because they receive priority in their appointments with Veterans Affairs (VA) for utilizing mass transit to attend their appointments. Administrator Young advised that the appointments are made in blocks and they have been returning home by 2:00 pm as a benefit of using public transportation. Administrator Young advised that this is a definite benefit to the citizens of Orangeburg County.

Chairman Wright asked where the Veteran meets. Administrator Young advised that the Veterans meet at the Transit Center and are taken to the VA Hospital in Columbia.

Chairman Wright recognized Councilwoman Cooper-Smith. Councilwoman Cooper-Smith asked what happens when and if the funding were to fall through. Administrator Young advised that once the County has passed through the first phase the money is then reoccurring. Administrator Young advised that the County has moved through the first phase and will receive the funding. Councilwoman Cooper-Smith asked if this would require re-application on an annual basis. Administrator Young advised that this was correct.

Chairman Wright recognized Councilman Ravenell. Councilman Ravenell asked if this item pertains to Santee-Wateree. Councilman Ravenell also asked for clarification on how the citizens become involved in these services. County Administrator Harold Young advised that the citizens can call the Santee-Wateree offices or contact Lower Savannah for the ones in Councilman Ravenell's district to schedule appointments and services. Administrator Young advised that the more matching money that is placed into the system the more programs become available to the County. Administrator Young advised that a pilot was attempted in the Santee-Elloree area which did not go very well, however the County has receive recent petitions asking for that service to be reinstated.

Chairman Wright recognized Councilman Clyde Livingston. Councilman Clyde Livingston asked about the number of buses. Administrator Young advised that the County owns two buses then the County contracts with Santee-Wateree for the additional services. Councilman Clyde Livingston asked how many miles are on the buses. Administrator Young advised that the current buses are high mileage because they were acquired from Santee-Wateree. Administrator Young that it is necessary to purchase another bus as the workforce route will run every day and meet the demands of going to all work locations as well as being on time. Administrator Young yielded to Deputy Administrator for Public Services, Mr. Henry Summers. Mr. Summers advised that the buses are in the range of 200,000 miles

Chairman Wright recognized Councilman Clyde Livingston. Councilman Livingston asked what the life expectancy of those buses would be. Deputy Administrator for Public Services, Henry Summers responded that one of the buses has a gas engine and the other a diesel engine. Mr. Summers advised that the department has done extensive work on the

buses. Mr. Summers advised that the buses are making 13 trips to Columbia a week and have had some small issues but overall, the buses are doing well.

After some further discussion of the buses, their capability, uses, and costs Chairman Wright asked for a motion to approve the resolution. Councilwoman Cooper-Smith motioned that the resolution be approved. Councilman Ravenell seconded the motion. Motion carried. (7-0-0).

6. ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDS FOR RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE FUND GRANT #C-14-2383-ORANGEBURG COUNTY, SIGMATEX CARBON TEXTILE SOLUTIONS, INC.

Chairman Wright asked for an explanation from County Administrator Harold Young. Administrator Young advised that this is the approval of a grant request for funding from the state in regards to Sigmatex in the amount of \$500,000. Administrator Young advised that agenda item number seven (7) is a request for the approval of grant funding in the amount of \$150,000 for Bimbo Bakeries, USA formerly SaraLee.

Chairman Wright asked for a motion that agenda items six (6) and seven (7) be approved. Councilman Wimberly moved that agenda items six (6) and seven (7) be approved. Councilman Owens seconded the motion. Motion carried. (7-0-0).

7. ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDS FOR RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE FUND GRANT #C-15-2490 – ORANGEBURG COUNTY, BIMBO BAKERIES, USA

Chairman Wright asked for an explanation from County Administrator Harold Young. Administrator Young advised that this is the approval of a grant request for funding from the state in regards to Sigmatex in the amount of \$500,000. Administrator Young advised that agenda item number seven (7) is a request for the approval of grant funding in the amount of \$150,000 for Bimbo Bakeries, USA formerly SaraLee.

Chairman Wright asked for a motion that agenda items six (6) and seven (7) be approved. Councilman Wimberly moved that agenda items six (6) and seven (7) be approved. Councilman Owens seconded the motion. Motion carried. (7-0-0).

8. VOTE FOR ADJOURNMENT

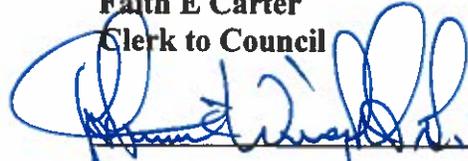
Chairman Wright asked for a motion that this Special Session of the Orangeburg County Council stand adjourned. Councilwoman Cooper-Smith motioned that the special session

of the Orangeburg County Council of June 24, 2015 be adjourned. Councilman Clyde Livingston seconded the motion. Motion carried. (7-0-0).

9. ADJOURNMENT



**Faith E Carter
Clerk to Council**



**Johnnie Wright, Sr.
Chairman, County Council**