

**MINUTES
ORANGEBURG COUNTY COUNCIL
MARCH 5, 2012
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:

**Marion Lloyd, Senior Deputy Administrator
D'Anne Haydel, County Attorney
Jacqueline P. Turner, Clerk to Council**

OTHERS ABSENT:

Bill Clark, County Administrator

CALL TO ORDER

Johnnie Wright, Sr., Chairman

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Moment of silence observed

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Councilman Owens, seconded by Councilman Ravenell, to approve minutes of February 21, 2012 and February 27, 2012 with corrections, if any. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

AGENDA ITEMS

NO COMMENTS

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

OTHER MATTERS

NO COMMENTS

1. RESOLUTION – HONORING NATIONAL WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH

Councilwoman Cooper spoke about the origin of National Women’s History Month and read the Resolution.

Motion by Councilman Heyward Livingston, seconded by Councilman Wimberly, to adopt Resolution as read by Councilwoman Cooper. Motion carried.

2. RECOGNITION OF MARCH AS NATIONAL PEANUT MONTH – HARRY WIMBERLY

Councilman Wimberly presented a history on the peanut and its importance to the agricultural community and economy of Orangeburg County. He explained his method of dry peanut farming. Councilman Heyward Livingston also spoke about peanut crops and his method of wet peanut farming. Chairman Wright thanked both Councilmen for educating the public on the importance of peanuts to the diversity of the agricultural community in Orangeburg County.

3. ACCEPTANCE OF LEASE PROPOSAL – MAILING SYSTEM

Chairman Wright asked Mr. Lloyd to summarize the lease proposal before Council. Mr. Lloyd stated the current mail/postage machine in use was purchased in 2007, has become unreliable and needs to be replaced. The Purchasing Agent, Jannella Shuler researched lease replacement options under State Contract and she, along with Marion Lloyd and Andrea Bidwell, formed a three member committee and have identified the Connect+3000 Mailing System from Pitney Bowes as best meeting the County's needs.

The proposed lease is for \$828 per month for a total cost of \$9,936.00 annually for a term of 51 months. It is projected the technology features available with this system will generate annual savings in excess of the cost of the lease.

Motion by Councilwoman Cooper, seconded by Councilman Clyde Livingston, to accept the lease proposed by Pitney Bowes for the mailing system. Motion carried.

4. ACCEPTANCE OF BID – C-FUND ROAD CONSTRUCTION

Chairman Wright asked Mr. Lloyd to summarize the acceptance of this bid. Mr. Lloyd stated Earl Whalen, Deputy Administrator for Public Works, solicited bids for C-Fund road construction to include grading, drainage, base preparation, and dressing of shoulders for five unpaved roads totaling 2.08 miles identified as Flake Road, Larkspur Road, Monterey Trail, New Wolfe Road, and Sierra Drive.

Bids were opened February 29, 2012 with five bidders responding. The low bidder was J&H Grading and Paving, LLC of Aiken, S.C. in the amount of \$249,674.75. The funding for the construction contract has been previously approved by the County Transportation Committee. No County funds are required.

Motion by Councilman Heyward Livingston, seconded by Councilman Owens, to accept the law bid submitted by J&H Grading and Paving, LLC, Aiken, S.C. in the amount of \$249,674.75 to pave Flake Road, Larkspur Road, Monterey Trail, New Wolfe Road and Sierra Drive at not cost to Orangeburg County. Motion carried.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE TAX AND TOURISM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chairman Wright asked Mr. Lloyd to summarize the recommendations of the Tax and Tourism Advisory Committee. Mr. Lloyd individually summarized the seven recommendations made by the Advisory Committee as follows: (1) Santee Birding and Nature Festival – recommended to receive \$1,000.00. (2) Raylrode Daze Festivul to advertise 2012 event \$3,900.00. (3) Grand American Hunt for funds to assist with utilities and rent for the 2013 event \$7,000.00. (4) Advance to Claflin University for a nine team softball tournament \$3,000.00. The County is advancing the funds to Claflin who were late in submitting their application for funding. The Tax & Tourism Advisory Committee will repay the \$3,000.00 to the County. (5) The Town of Woodford’s Hummingbird Festival received \$2,500.00 for advertising, printing, porta-johns, lighting, and bands. (6) The Town of Eutawville received \$2,500.00 to renew the Eutaw Village Festival planned for Labor Day weekend. (7) The Town of Springfield received \$3,000.00 to continue the 2012 Governor’s Frog

Total amount of requests recommended to County Council for funding is \$22,900.00. Funds available for disbursement total \$35,452.95, leaving an unobligated balance of \$12,552.95.

Motion by Councilman Owens, seconded by Councilwoman Cooper, to approve the amount of \$22,900.00 as recommended by the Tax & Tourism Advisory Committee. Motion carried.

6. ASSIGNMENT OF VARIOUS PERSONNEL MATTERS TO COMMITTEE – EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK REVISIONS, GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Chairman Wright requested Mr. Lloyd or County Attorney Haydel to summarize this agenda item. Ms. Haydel indicated small, put important updated revisions are needed in sections within the Orangeburg County Employee Handbook. There are also several appointments needing to be made to the Employee Grievance Committee because some holdover employees are now in upper management. Both issues would need to be referred to the Administrative Committee. In the

discussion that followed, it was the consensus of opinion to refer the matter to the Orangeburg County Council Committee As A Whole for review.

Motion by Councilman Heyward Livingston, seconded by Councilman Owens, to refer the issue to the Orangeburg County Committee As A Whole for review. Motion carried.

7. VOTE FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Motion by Councilwoman Cooper, seconded by Councilman Wimberly to vote for an executive session to discuss economic development. Motion carried.

Motion for adjournment made by Councilman Ravenell, seconded by Councilman Owens. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Jacqueline P. Turner, Clerk

Johnnie Wright, Sr., Chairman