

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
SALUDA COUNTY COUNCIL  
MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2021 AT 6:00 P.M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF SALUDA COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
400 WEST HIGHLAND STREET, SALUDA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29138

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Jerry Strawbridge called the regular meeting of Saluda County Council to order at 6:00 P.M.

Present were: Chairman Jerry Strawbridge  
Councilman J. Frank Daniel, Sr.  
Councilman Jack Atkinson  
Councilman Justin Anderson  
Councilman Carey Bedenbaugh

Also present were: County Director, Sandra G. Padget  
Clerk to Council, Regina H. Turner  
Attorney, G.P. Callison

B. INVOCATION

Councilman Daniel delivered the invocation.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Strawbridge led the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion of Councilman Daniel, seconded by Councilman Jack Atkinson, the agenda was unanimously amended to accept the resignation from Moore Taylor law firm as the county attorneys for Saluda County as the first item that was added and the second was a motion to hire G. P. Callison at the rate of \$200 per hour as interim Saluda County attorney until a firm is selected as of a result of the upcoming Request for Proposal.

1. On motion of Councilman Atkinson, second by Councilman Bedenbaugh, Council accepted the resignation from Moore, Taylor Law Firm, P.A., as the County Attorneys for Saluda County. (Voting in Favor: Chm. Strawbridge, Councilmen Atkinson, Bedenbaugh and Daniel). (Opposed: Councilman Anderson).
2. On motion of Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Bedenbaugh, Council unanimously approved to hire G.P. Callison at the rate of \$200 per hour as interim Saluda County Attorney until a firm is selected as a result of the upcoming Request for Proposal.

E. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Chairman Strawbridge opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chairman of Saluda County Council for 2021-2022. Councilman Anderson was nominated by Councilman Daniel and was unanimously approved as Vice Chairman.

F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Atkinson, the minutes for December 9 and 14, 2020 were unanimously approved as submitted.

G. PUBLIC INFORMATION

It is noted by the Clerk herein that in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, notice of meeting and agenda were given to the local news media and properly posted, to include the county website.

Due to COVID-19, the following notice was placed at the beginning of the agenda:

**Please note the council meetings are open to the public, but seating will be limited for social distancing in response to COVID-19. Temporarily we were unable to live stream the meeting but a recording was made for upload to the web site.**

H. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS

1. Councilman Daniel welcomed everyone to the first council meeting of the year.
2. Councilman Atkinson stated that he was proud to serve the citizens of the county and encouraged the public to communicate their needs.
3. Councilman Anderson thanked the council for entrusting in him to serve as Vice Chairman.
4. Councilman Bedenbaugh thanked the Sheriff and everyone for attending the meeting and expressed his willingness to work with everyone in the county.

I. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

Chairman Strawbridge distributed a newsletter for Council members to review regarding filing ethics statements.

J. OLD BUSINESS

1. On motion of Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Bedenbaugh, and unanimously approved, Third Reading was given on Ordinance No. 08-20, “AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING (1) THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A FEE IN LIEU OF TAX AND INCENTIVE AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN SALUDA COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA (THE “COUNTY”) AND MAYSON SOLAR LLC, A COMPANY PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED AS PROJECT MAYSON, ACTING FOR ITSELF, ONE OR MORE AFFILIATES, AND/OR OTHER PROJECT SPONSORS (COLLECTIVELY, THE “COMPANY”), PURSUANT TO WHICH THE COUNTY SHALL COVENANT TO ACCEPT CERTAIN NEGOTIATED FEES IN LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES WITH RESPECT TO THE ESTABLISHMENT AND/OR EXPANSION OF CERTAIN FACILITIES IN THE COUNTY (THE “PROJECT”); (2) THE BENEFITS OF A MULTI-COUNTY INDUSTRIAL OR BUSINESS PARK TO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE COMPANY AND THE PROJECT; (3) CERTAIN SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDITS IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROJECT; AND (4) OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO.”
2. On motion of Councilman Daniel, seconded by Councilman Bedenbaugh, and unanimously approved, Third Reading was given on Ordinance No. 09-20, “AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING: (1) THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A JOINT COUNTY INDUSTRIAL AND BUSINESS PARK PURSUANT TO SECTION 4-1-170 OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS 1976, AS AMENDED, TO BE KNOWN AS THE SALUDA COUNTY PROJECT MAYSON JOINT COUNTY INDUSTRIAL AND BUSINESS PARK (THE “PARK”), IN CONJUNCTION WITH EDGEFIELD COUNTY, SUCH PARK TO BE GEOGRAPHICALLY LOCATED IN SALUDA COUNTY; (2) THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A WRITTEN PARK AGREEMENT WITH EDGEFIELD COUNTY AS TO THE REQUIREMENT OF PAYMENTS OF FEE IN LIEU OF *AD VALOREM* TAXES WITH RESPECT TO PARK PROPERTY AND THE SHARING OF THE REVENUES AND EXPENSES OF THE PARK; (3) TO PROVIDE FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF REVENUES FROM THE PARK WITHIN SALUDA COUNTY; AND (4) OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.”
3. On motion of Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Atkinson, and approved, Second Reading was given on Ordinance No. 12-20, “AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL ORDINANCE NO. 3-77, PROHIBITING NEPOTISM OR THE HIRING OF RELATIVES BY SALUDA COUNTY.” (Voting in Favor: Chairman Strawbridge, Councilmen Anderson, Atkinson, Daniel). (Opposed: Councilman Bedenbaugh). During discussion Chairman Strawbridge noted the new nepotism policy was within the adopted Saluda County Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual; therefore the Nepotism Ordinance needed to be repealed.

4. On motion of Councilman Daniel, seconded by Councilman Anderson, it was unanimously approved to ratify the resolution for Karen T. Whittle recognizing her for her retirement with Saluda County. Chairman Strawbridge stated Ms. Whittle retired after 34 years of service to Saluda County. (A copy of the resolution is on file in the Clerk to Council's office.)

K. NEW BUSINESS

1. On motion of Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Bedenbaugh, and unanimously approved for First reading on Ordinance No. 01-21 "TO AMEND THE MULTI-COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK AGREEMENT BETWEEN SALUDA COUNTY AND AIKEN COUNTY ATTACHED AS SCHEDULE I OF ORDINANCE NO. 13-13; TO ADD OTHER PROPERTIES REQUESTED TO BE PLACED IN THE MULTI-COUNTY PARK; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO".
2. On motion of Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Bedenbaugh, and unanimously approved by Council to adopt A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING AND APPROVING A SPONSOR AFFILIATE IN SATISFACTION OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF TITLE 12, CHAPTER 44 OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE, SO AS TO ALLOW THE SPONSOR AFFILIATE TO QUALIFY FOR BENEFITS PURSUANT TO AN EXISTING FEE-IN-LIEU OF *AD VALOREM* TAXES ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN SALUDA COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AND BEULAH SOLAR, LLC; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.
3. Chairman Strawbridge read into record the Chairman's appointed County Council Committees for 2021 and 2022.

(A detailed list is on file in the Clerk to Council's office).

**Administration and Finance** – Chairman and Full Council

**Public Safety** – Chairman and Coun. Daniel

**Health & Welfare** – Coun. Bedenbaugh as Chairman and Coun. Atkinson

**County Planning** – Coun. Anderson as Chairman and Coun. Bedenbaugh

**Economic Development** – Chairman and Coun. Atkinson

**Public Works I** (Solid Waste) – Coun. Daniel as Chairman and Chm. Strawbridge

**Public Works II** (Roads & Bridges) – Coun. Daniel as Chairman and Chm. Strawbridge

**Education** – Chairman and Full Council

**Justice** – Coun. Anderson as Chairman and Coun. Bedenbaugh

**Agriculture, Forestry and Military Affairs** – Coun. Bedenbaugh as Chairman and Coun. Anderson

**County Owned Property** – Coun. Atkinson as Chairman and Coun. Daniel

**Quality of Life** – Coun. Atkinson as Chairman and Coun. Anderson

**County Owned Vehicles and Equipment** – Chairman and Coun. Atkinson

4. On motion of Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Bedenbaugh, and unanimously approved to accept the County Director's recommendation to transfer from contingency \$20,000 to pay the employer's portion of increase for employees' health insurance effective January 1, 2021.
5. On motion of Councilman Daniel, seconded by Councilman Atkinson, it was unanimously approved to re-appoint Paul J. Potts of 504 West Eutaw Street, Saluda to the Saluda Airport Commission with his second term expiring 10-11-2024.
6. On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Anderson, it was unanimously approved to re-appoint Gerry M. Spragg of 126 Scooter Bridge Road, Batesburg to the Saluda Airport Commission with his second term expiring 06-13-2025.
7. On motion of Councilman Daniel, seconded by Councilman Atkinson, it was unanimously approved to appoint Doris L. Hicks of 213 Stevens Road, Saluda to the Saluda Nursing Center Board with her first term expiring 1-12-24.

L. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Councilman Anderson it was unanimously approved for Council to go into Executive Session pursuant to Section 30-4-70(a) (1) and (2) and (5) of the South Carolina Code of Laws 1976, as amended to discuss a personnel matter in the Public Buildings Maintenance department, and to receive legal advice on Economic Development Project Bobsled.

On motion of Councilman Anderson, it was unanimously approved to come out of Executive Session. (No action came out of Executive Session)

M. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Council Anderson, seconded by Bedenbaugh it was unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 P.M.

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Regina H Turner  
Clerk to Council

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Jerry Strawbridge  
Chairman

February 8, 2021  
Date Approved