

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
SALUDA COUNTY COUNCIL
MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2023 AT 6:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, SALUDA COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
400 WEST HIGHLAND STREET, SALUDA, SOUTH CAROLINA

A. CALL TO ORDER

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

Present were: Chairman Jim Moore
Councilman J. Frank Daniel, Sr.
Vice-Chairman Jack Atkinson
Councilman Carey Bedenbaugh
Councilman Justin Anderson

Also present were: County Administrator, Sandra G. Padget
Clerk to Council, Regina H. Turner
Attorney, Virginia Bozeman

B. INVOCATION Councilman Anderson delivered the invocation.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Chairman Moore led the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. PUBLIC INFORMATION

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

The following notice was placed at the beginning of the agenda:

Please note the council meetings are open to the public. Access to the live video is available when the meeting begins by going to the County's Facebook page (Saluda County, SC Government).

E. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Vice-Chairman Atkinson the Agenda was approved as presented.

F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Vice-Chairman Atkinson, seconded by Councilman Daniel the Minutes for March 8th, 13th and 15th 2023 were unanimously approved as submitted.

G. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilman Bedenbaugh, Anderson and Vice-Chairman Atkinson had no comments.

Councilman Daniel recognized the upcoming school district election for Aiken.

Chairman Moore stated that the county recreation department may be expanding by acquiring the Jaycee field that is strictly to be used for recreation activities. He also reminded the council members about the

Prom Promise event to be held at the High School and requested their attendance.

Councilman Moore spoke about the importance of the Planning Commission to be trained and active for future planning for the county.

H. PUBLIC HEARING

The Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 03-23, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 18, ARTICLE 1 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, SALUDA COUNTY SOUTH CAROLINA TO ADD SECTION 18-4, ANIMALS." was opened and no one signed up to speak.

I. OLD BUSINESS

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Daniel third reading was unanimously approved on Ordinance No. 03-23, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 18, ARTICLE 1 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, SALUDA COUNTY SOUTH CAROLINA TO ADD SECTION 18-4, ANIMALS." Chairman Moore stated that the fee scheduled will come as a separate document and the facility in Edgefield is on schedule to be up and running in July.

J. NEW BUSINESS

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Anderson first reading was unanimously approved on Ordinance No. 04-23, "AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2023, FOR EDUCATIONAL AND SCHOOL PURPOSES IN SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE OF SALUDA COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA: TO PROVIDE FOR LEVY OF TAXES AND THE TAXABLE PROPERTY IN SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE: TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF SAID TAXES AND OTHER REVENUES COMING INTO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT DURING THE FISCAL YEAR. Chairman Moore stated that Saluda County Council shall determine and establish a tax of sufficient millage to support \$5,500,000.00 from Ad Valorem Taxes as county funding for the appropriations and levies made herein, and shall advise the Auditor who shall fix said millage as advised by the Council. The total budget at first reading for the school is \$25,640,819.00.

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Anderson first reading was unanimously approved on Ordinance No. 05-23, "AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGETS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF SALUDA COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2023; TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES ON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY IN SALUDA COUNTY FOR ALL COUNTY PURPOSES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2023; TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF TAX REVENUES AND OTHER COUNTY FUNDS; TO PROVIDE FOR OTHER COUNTY PURPOSES; TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2023: AND TO PROVIDE FOR CERTAIN FISCAL AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING TO COUNTY GOVERNMENT.". Chairman Moore stated that the amount for First Reading for the county operating budget is \$16,462,801.00. The difference in proposed expenditures and revenues is \$1,015,030.00.

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Daniel first reading was approved on Ordinance No. 06-23, "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIMINUTION OF THE BOUNDARIES OF SALUDA COUNTY WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY, SOUTH CAROLINA; PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF THE SAID FINDINGS AND

AUTHORIZATION; AND GENERALLY APPROVING OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO.” Chairman Moore and Councilmen Daniel, Anderson and Bedenbaugh voted for and Vice-Chairman Atkinson voting against. Chairman Moore recognized the County Attorney Virginia Bozeman to explain the ordinance and the legal process needed to change boundary lines. Chairman Moore emphasized that this process would be the most economical use of taxpayer funds.

A motion by Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Daniel the Resolution calling for a Public Hearing to be held on the Diminution of the Boundaries of Saluda County Water and Sewer Authority was approved by Chairman Moore, Councilmen Daniel, Anderson and Bedenbaugh. Vice-Chairman Atkinson did not vote. Chairman Moore read the Resolution. There was discussion by Vice-Chairman Atkinson and County Attorney Bozeman regarding tax map numbers being used as legal descriptions in legal documents.

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Anderson the Resolution recognizing April as Fair Housing Month was unanimously approved. Chairman Moore read the Resolution.

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Daniel the Resolution appointing Chairman James Moore as a voting member to the Three Rivers Solid Waste Authority Board was approved with Vice-Chairman Atkinson, Councilmen Daniel, Anderson and Bedenbaugh voting for and Chairman Moore abstaining. Vice-Chairman Atkinson read the Resolution.

On motion of Vice-Chairman Atkinson, seconded by Councilman Daniel it was unanimously approved to sign and approve the cancellation of the Lease/Purchase Agreement between the county and the Town of Saluda on property located at 119 North Main Street, Saluda.

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Vice-Chairman Atkinson it was unanimously approved to award Eskola Roofing the Courthouse Roof Repair project in the amount of \$10,900.88 to be paid from the Building Repair Reserve account. Chairman Moore recognized Heather Griffin, Purchasing Coordinator to present the request. Ms. Griffin stated that Eskola Roofing was the lowest bid received and the vendor was the best choice.

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Vice-Chairman Atkinson it was unanimously approved to authorize the County Administrator to transfer funds from Contingency to balance accounts as needed.

On motion of Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Daniel it was unanimously approved to appoint Michael Mannel of Green Forrest Land and Timber to the Economic Development Partnership Board.

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On Motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Daniel it was unanimously approved for Council to go into Executive Session pursuant to Section 30-4-70(a) (2) and (5) of the South Carolina Code of Laws 1976, as amended to discuss Economic Development as related to the Commerce Park and for the purpose of receiving legal advice relating to the Commerce Park and to return at the call of the Chair.

Chairman Moore called the council meeting back to open session and there were no action coming out of Executive Session.

L. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, it was unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 P.M.

James L. Moore, Saluda County Council
Chairman

Regina H. Turner
Clerk to Council

Date Approved: May 8, 2023