

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
SALUDA COUNTY COUNCIL
MONDAY, MAY 9, 2022 AT 6:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, SALUDA COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
400 WEST HIGHLAND STREET, SALUDA, SOUTH CAROLINA

A. CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairman Justin Anderson called the regular meeting of Saluda County Council to order at 6:02 P.M.

Present were:

Councilman J. Frank Daniel, Sr.
Vice-Chairman Justin Anderson
Councilman Jack Atkinson
Councilman Carey Bedenbaugh

Also present were:

County Director, Sandra G. Padget
Clerk to Council, Regina Turner
Attorney, Virginia Bozeman

B. INVOCATION

Councilman Bedenbaugh delivered the invocation.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice-Chairman Anderson 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 budget work session was 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. 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 Councilmen Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Daniel the agenda was unanimously approved.

F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Atkinson, the minutes for April 11th, 19th, and 28th 2022 were unanimously approved as submitted.

G. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Councilman Daniel notified everyone of the Peachtree 23 on the first weekend in June. Councilman Atkinson commented on the recent weather and hail in the county and expressed his appreciation of the school and emergency personnel for their response. Vice-Chairman Anderson reminded everyone of the Peachtree 23 and the upcoming Poultry Festival and expressed his hope that people can start to get back out and be able to put Covid behind us.

Councilman Bedenbaugh stated that there was some reported hail damage from recent storms and thanked our first responders.

H. PUBLIC PRESENTATION

Vice-Chairman Anderson recognized Scott Neely of Dominion Energy. Mr. Neely wanted to make the public aware of the upgrades to power stations and give notice of a planned power outage on May 22nd. He passed out a map of the coverage area that would be affected.

I. NEW BUSINESS

On motion of Councilman Atkinson, seconded by Vice -Chairman Anderson first reading was unanimously approved on Ordinance No. 07-22 “AN ORDINANCE TO CALL A PUBLIC REFERENDUM IN SALUDA COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS WISH TO KEEP THE PRESENT COUNCIL FORM OF GOVERNMENT WITH FIVE (5) COUNCIL MEMBERS OR ADOPT THE COUNCIL-ADMINISTRATOR FORM OF GOVERNMENT WITH FIVE (5) COUNCIL MEMBERS.”

J. OLD BUSINESS

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Atkinson second reading was unanimously approved on Ordinance No. 04-22 “AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2022, 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.” Vice-Chairman Anderson noted that the total school budget for 22-23 at second reading is \$23,159,456.00 and Saluda County Council shall determine and establish a tax of sufficient millage to support \$8,476,594 minus revenues and credits reflected on the tax receipt from Fee-in-Lieu,

May 9, 2022

Property Tax Relief, Homestead Exemption, Tier 3 Property Tax Relief, Merchant Inventory, Manufacturer's Depreciation and Motor Carrier, for a net amount of \$5,348,556 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.

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Atkinson second reading was unanimously approved on Ordinance No. 05-22 "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, 2022; 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, 2022; 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, 2022: AND TO PROVIDE FOR CERTAIN FISCAL AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING TO COUNTY GOVERNMENT." Vice- Chairman Anderson noted that the total county budget for 22-23 at second reading is \$14,864,036 and debt service on bonds is \$135,941 for a total amount of \$14,999,977. The budget is balanced at this time.

On motion of Councilman Daniel, seconded by Councilman Bedenbaugh, it was unanimously approved to accept the quote from Hills Machinery with the addition of hydraulic operated ramps and pay for the equipment from the Heavy Equipment Reserve account not to exceed \$37,450.

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Atkinson council staff was authorized to issue a Request for Quotes to paint the Behavioral Health Building.

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Daniel it was unanimously approved to award the RFP for Ambulance Remount to Emergency Transportation Associates in the amount of \$128,126.18 to be paid from the Ambulance Reserve Account. Jacob Starnes, EMS Director, presented this request.

The consideration of the Quick Response Vehicle replacement was postponed to the next council meeting.

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Atkinson it was unanimously approved to appoint Timothy Taylor to fill the unexpired term of Tanner Quattlebaum which expires 6-30-23 and appoint Randall Porter as the alternate member. Luke Downing, Fire Coordinator, presented this request.

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) (1) and (5) of the South Carolina Code of Laws 1976, as amended to discuss personnel in the Roads and Bridges Department, Economic Development Projects and for

May 9, 2022

the purpose of receiving legal advice.

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh and seconded by Councilman Atkinson it was unanimously approved to come out of executive session.

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Daniel it was unanimously approved for council staff to move forward with offer to candidate, recommended by the Public works committee, for Roads and Bridges supervisor following the normal hiring process.

L. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh and unanimously approved the meeting adjourned at 7: 32 P.M.

Regina H. Turner, Clerk to Council

Justin Anderson, Vice-Chairman

June 13, 2022
Date Approved