

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
SALUDA COUNTY COUNCIL  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2018 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 Derrick W. Jones called the regular meeting of Saluda County Council to order at 6:00 P.M.

Present were: Chm. Derrick W. Jones  
Coun. Jones P. Butler  
Coun. J. Frank Daniel, Sr.  
Coun. D. J. Miller  
Coun. Gwendolyn C. Shealy

Also present were: County Director, Sandra G. Padget  
Clerk to Council, Karen T. Whittle  
Attorney, Ralph N. Riley, Jr.

B. INVOCATION

Coun. Butler delivered the invocation.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chm. Jones led the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Shealy, the minutes for January 8, 18, 22, 29, and 30, 2018 were unanimously approved as submitted.

E. 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.

F. REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

1. Coun. Miller thanked the organizations that attended the Accommodations Tax Work Session and thanked them for their involvement with Saluda County.

2. Coun. Shealy announced that Piedmont Council on Aging was in need of volunteers.

#### G. PUBLIC HEARING

1. Chm. Jones opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 17-17, "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING PURSUANT TO TITLE 12, CHAPTER 44 OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA 1976, AS AMENDED, THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A FEE-IN-LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES AGREEMENT, BY AND BETWEEN SALUDA COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, AND CATALINA SOLAR, LLC, AS SPONSOR, AND ONE OR MORE SPONSOR AFFILIATES TO PROVIDE FOR A FEE-IN-LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES INCENTIVE AND CERTAIN SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDITS; TO PROVIDE FOR THE INCLUSION OF THE PROJECT IN A MULTI-COUNTY BUSINESS OR INDUSTRIAL PARK; AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS."

Chm. Jones recognized Economic Development Consultant, Mr. Ed Parler.

Mr. Parler stated that Catalina Solar LLC, by their attorneys, was requesting approval and execution of a FILOT agreement for forty (40) years at a six percent assessment ratio with a special source credit and a payment of \$150,000.00 per year to Saluda County. Mr. Parler said the \$150,000.00 would be apportioned between the County and School District Three. Mr. Parler said School District Three would receive approximately \$105,000.00 and the County would receive approximately \$45,000.00. For comparison, Mr. Parler said the millage for School District Three was 342.59 versus School District One of 182.50. Mr. Parler said he erroneously reported from preliminary documents that revenue would be at \$65,000.00 based on the project being located in the Saluda school district (District One). Mr. Parler recommended Council's approval of the FILOT agreement. Mr. Parler also informed Council on these type projects there was no stress on infrastructure such as water, sewer, and roads.

Mr. Paul Ergle questioned how the determination was made for the location of the Catalina Project being in School District Three versus School District One.

Mr. Parler said the company sought the site and then presented the project to the County.

No one else spoke and the Public Hearing was closed.

#### H. PUBLIC PRESENTATION

1. Chm. Jones recognized Mr. Keith Paul, Administrator of the Saluda Nursing Center for a presentation.

Mr. Paul addressed the Fiscal Year September 30, 2017 Audit of the Saluda Nursing Center with a profit of \$1,294,267.00. Mr. Paul addressed revenue highlights that contributed to the profit: 1) additional census days yielding additional revenue; 2) a pharmacy change and pharmaceutical dispensing method resulting in improved efficiencies, fewer errors, and

additional cost savings; and 3) freezing the defined benefit plan. Other changes at the Nursing Center addressed by Mr. Paul, but not limited to, were: 1) an FHA construction loan was paid off; 2) policy and procedure manuals were updated; and 3) approximately \$440,000.00 in capital improvements and approximately \$200,000.00 in smaller refurbishments and minor equipment repairs.

Mr. Paul said the Saluda Nursing Center received a 5-Star rating, which was the highest rating given by CMS and could be seen on [CMS.gov/nursinghomecompare](http://CMS.gov/nursinghomecompare). Mr. Paul said only 10 to 12% of facilities in the Country received that status.

Mr. Paul informed everyone the Nursing Center would celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year and to look for upcoming announcements.

2. Ms. Jacqueline Rhinehart was not present for a presentation on littering on roadways in Saluda County.

#### I. OLD BUSINESS

1. On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Miller, and unanimously approved, Third Reading was given on Ordinance No. 17-17, "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING PURSUANT TO TITLE 12, CHAPTER 44 OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA 1976, AS AMENDED, THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A FEE-IN-LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES AGREEMENT, BY AND BETWEEN SALUDA COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, AND CATALINA SOLAR, LLC, AS SPONSOR, AND ONE OR MORE SPONSOR AFFILIATES TO PROVIDE FOR A FEE-IN-LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES INCENTIVE AND CERTAIN SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDITS; TO PROVIDE FOR THE INCLUSION OF THE PROJECT IN A MULTI-COUNTY BUSINESS OR INDUSTRIAL PARK; AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS."

#### J. NEW BUSINESS

1. Chm. Jones recognized IT Director, Mitchell Kneece to present the CenturyLink phone system quote.

Mr. Kneece informed Council the County's phone system was no longer operational and CenturyLink was providing the County with a used phone system to use temporarily with approximately 80% of the County phones operational.

Mr. Kneece reviewed the CenturyLink IP Office Server Edition phone system quote based on a term of three years at a monthly cost of \$2,804.67 (excluding sales tax) and at the end of the three year lease, for one dollar the County would own the system. Mr. Kneece informed Council the system would allow all the County's major facilities to be combined into one centralized phone system and some existing components of current phones systems were utilized to help offset the cost of the new system.

On motion of Coun. Shealy, seconded by Coun. Daniel, it was unanimously approved to approve the CenturyLink IP Office Server Edition phone system for a lease term of three years at a monthly cost of \$2,804.67, excluding sales tax, to be paid from the public buildings maintenance service contract account of the operating budget.

2. Chm. Jones recognized Assistant Emergency Management Director, Jill Warren to present the consideration of Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) grant request.

Ms. Warren reviewed with Council the Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) grant request from the Victims Advocate for the purchase of a new desktop computer in the amount of \$700.00, a new laptop computer for presentations at schools, churches, etc. in the amount of \$1,400.00, and informational brochures for victims in the amount of \$450.00 for a total amount of \$2,550.00 with a 20% required match from the County in the amount of \$510.00.

On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Miller, it was unanimously approved to authorize the Assistant Emergency Management Director to proceed with the Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) grant application for a desktop computer, a laptop computer, and brochures for the Victims Advocate in the amount of \$2,550.00 with the 20% required match of \$510.00 to be paid from Contingency.

3. Chm. Jones recognized Recreation Director, Paul Ergle to request funds for maintenance on ball fields at the Saluda County Recreation Complex.

Mr. Ergle requested \$2,500.00 (quote submitted from Wilson & Associates Sports Turf and included in Council's agenda package) for the preparation of the infield skin area on the softball field and to remove the pitching mounds from two ballfields. Mr. Ergle informed Council he had purchased 2 portable pitching mounds which would allow coach pitch, minors, softball, and ozone leagues to be played on two fields. Mr. Ergle said this was an effort to accommodate the number of teams for the 2018 ball season since the new ball field was not constructed. Mr. Ergle informed Council as of the meeting over 300 children had registered to play ball sports. Mr. Ergle also informed Council the reconfiguration of the ball fields would not address the problem of the number of fields needed for teams to practice and rental or lease agreements may be needed to use other organizations' fields.

On motion of Coun. Shealy, seconded by Coun. Daniel, the quote from Wilson and Associates Sports Turf in the amount of \$2,500.00 to be paid from Contingency for the preparation and maintenance of ball fields at the Saluda County Recreation Complex was unanimously approved.

4. Chm. Jones recognized Probate Judge, Brenda Griffith for the request for a new scanner in Probate Court.

Ms. Griffith requested Council's consideration to purchase a new scanner to replace a scanner approximately eight years old. Ms. Griffith informed Council of the problems with the old scanner and the lack of productivity it had caused in the scanning of all documents,

to include old documents such as wills, processed through the Probate Office. Ms. Griffith said the model of scanner had to be compatible with the ICON software used by the Probate Office and she had been given an approximate cost of \$737.00.

On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Shealy, it was unanimously approved to purchase a software compatible scanner in the amount of \$736.00 to be paid from Contingency for Probate Court.

5. Chm. Jones recognized Jail Administrator, Janice Ergle for the request for a new printer at the Saluda County Detention Center.

Ms. Ergle requested Council's consideration for a new printer in the training department and addressed the duties of the department to include various reports, documents, and sensitive information processed. Ms. Ergle said the Xerox copier could rarely be used in the multi-purpose room due to the room being used throughout the day by Judges for bond hearings, Attorney/client interviews/visits, Deputy/defendant interviews, and other types of interviews and hearings. Ms. Ergle said documents containing sensitive information could not be sent to or printed to the copier that could be removed by someone using or being interviewed in the room.

Council and Ms. Ergle discussed due to lack of space in the Detention Center the Xerox copier could not be moved.

On motion of Coun. Shealy, seconded by Coun. Butler, it was unanimously approved to purchase a Hewlett Packard printer in the amount of \$533.93 to be paid from Contingency for the Saluda County Detention Center. (A copy of the quote was included in Council's agenda package).

6. On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Daniel, it was unanimously approved to award Accommodation Tax Funds as follows:

<u>Organizations</u>	<u>Amount to be Distributed</u>
Capital City Lake Murray Country Regional Tourism Board	\$1,000.00
Friends of Ridge Spring	\$2,000.00
Palmetto Tractor Club	\$2,000.00
Richland Creek Antique Power Assoc.	\$2,000.00
Ridge Spring Harvest Festival	\$2,000.00
Saluda County Historical Society	\$2,000.00
Saluda County Chamber of Commerce	\$1,000.00
Saluda Young Farmer & Agribusiness Assoc.	\$1,000.00
Town of Ridge Spring/Art Center	\$2,000.00

7. On motion of Coun. Daniel, seconded by Coun. Shealy, it was unanimously approved to appoint William C. Rutland of 420 Hallman Road, Ward to the Saluda County Airport Commission with his first term expiring June 13, 2020.

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION

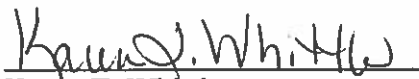
On motion of Coun. Shealy, seconded by Coun. Butler, it was unanimously approved for Council to go into Executive Session Pursuant to Section 30-4-70(a)(2) and (3) of the South Carolina Code of Laws 1976, as amended to receive legal advice and discuss security measures in relations to EMS transports.

Council returned into open session at the Call of the Chair.

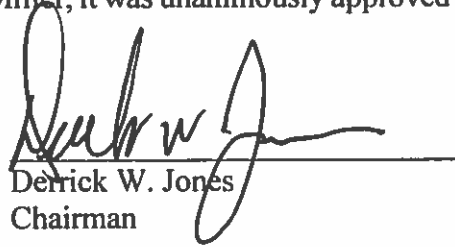
No action came out of Executive Session.

L. ADJOURNMENT

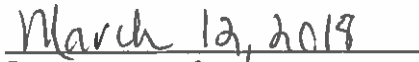
On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Miller, it was unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 P.M.



Karen T. Whittle  
Clerk to Council



Derrick W. Jones  
Chairman



Date Approved