

MINUTES OF CALLED MEETING
SALUDA COUNTY COUNCIL
THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 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

The Called Meeting of Saluda County Council was called to order by Chairman Derrick W. Jones at 6:00 P.M.

Present were:

Chm. Derrick W. Jones
Coun. Jones P. Butler
Coun. J. Frank Daniel, Sr. (arrived @ 6:17)
Coun. D. J. Miller
Coun. Gwendolyn C. Shealy

Also present were:

County Director, Sandra G. Padget
Clerk to Council, Karen T. Whittle

B. INVOCATION

Coun. Butler delivered the invocation.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chm. Jones 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 called meeting and agenda were given to the local news media and properly posted, to include the county website.

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. Chm. Jones recognized Asst. Emergency Management Director, Jill Warren to present the Assistance to Firefighters Grant request for Fire Departments and EMS.

Ms. Warren informed Council of the Assistance to Firefighters Grant request to purchase P25 compliant mobile and portable radios for the new radio system for the fire departments and EMS. Ms. Warren said the request for the fire departments was 36 mobile radios at a cost of \$77,000.00 and 80 portable radios at a cost of \$175,000.00; and the request for EMS was 9 mobile radios at a cost of \$48,000.00 and 18 portable radios at a cost of \$40,000.00.

Ms. Warren said the total grant request was \$340,000.00 with a 10% required county match of \$34,000.00 to be paid from the fire board millage account.

Coun. Miller asked would the radios replace all the radios for the fire departments.

Ms. Warren said the grant request for portable radios could only be for the number of seated positions in the fire trucks, so the AFG grant would not replace all, but she could research other grant options.

Coun. Shealy asked how many more portable radios were needed.

Emergency Management Director, Josh Morton said approximately 80 more portable radios were needed.

On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Miller, it was unanimously approved of Council members present, for the Asst. Emergency Management Director to proceed with the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) application to purchase 36 P25 compliant mobile radios and 80 P25 compliant portable radios for the fire departments; and 18 P25 compliant portable radios and 9 P25 compliant mobile radios for EMS for a grant total of \$340,000.00 with the 10% required county match of \$34,000.00 to be funded from the fire board millage account. During discussion Coun. Shealy asked when the grant would be awarded. Ms. Warren said it could take approximately one year to receive notice for the AFG grant. Coun. Miller commented during discussion this grant could help offset the costs for the new radio system. (Coun. Daniel not present during vote.)

2. Chm. Jones recognized Asst. Emergency Management Director, Jill Warren to present the Justice Assistance Grant request for the Sheriff's Office.

Ms. Warren informed Council that part of the grant request was for items requested in last year's JAG grant application due to the Department of Public Safety had not received notification from the federal government as to the amount of the award to be given to the state. The state told Ms. Warren the Sheriff's department would receive something, dependent upon the amount the state received.

Ms. Warren said the FY17-18 JAG grant request was for 6 bullet proof vest to replace aging vest at a cost of \$4,000.00, 17 P25 compliant mobile radios at a cost of \$37,000.00, 15 P25 portable radios at a cost of \$33,000.00, and 7 digital in-car video camera systems at a cost of \$43,000.00, for a total grant request of \$117,000.00 with a 10% required county match of \$11,700.00. Ms. Warren said the radios and in-car video systems were requested last year and the Sheriff's department was only requesting half of the number requested last year in the event they are not awarded the full grant request from last year.

Coun. Miller asked if last year's grant request was awarded, would the FY17-18 grant request be modified.

Ms. Warren said if the full grant was awarded, they would amend the grant request for other items needed in the Sheriff's department.

Coun. Shealy asked would there be any conflict of interest by requesting the same items on two separate grants.

Ms. Warren said it should not be, but she had been unsuccessful in making contact with the Program Coordinator to verify.

On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Shealy, Council approved for the Asst. Emergency Management Director to proceed with the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) application to purchase 6 body armor (bullet proof vests), 17 mobile radios, 15 portable radios, and 7 digital in-car video camera systems for a grant total of \$117,000.00 with the 10% required county match of \$11,700.00 to be funded from Contingency. (Voting in Favor: Chm. Jones, Coun. Shealy, Butler). (Opposed: Coun. Miller-not submitted in accordance with county policy). (Coun. Daniel not present during vote).

During discussion Coun. Miller asked Ms. Warren who was responsible for submitting grant request to her from the Sheriff's Department. Ms. Warren responded either the Sheriff or Chief Deputy.

During discussion Coun. Miller addressed Chief Cockrell by reading portions of the Saluda County Grant Policy concerning the time frame for submitting known grant request applications to the Grants Coordinator (Note: Title now Asst. EM Director) three weeks prior to the application deadline for County Council to review and consider the request, as well as allowing time for the Grants Coordinator (Note: Title now Asst. EM Director) to prepare the grant application and the Purchasing Agent to develop costs estimates on the purchase of goods and services. Coun. Miller said the grant opened in November of 2017, the grant request was received by the Grants Coordinator (Note: Title now Asst. EM Director) January 12, 2018, and the deadline for the grant was January 19, 2018. Coun. Miller and Chief Deputy Cockrell discussed the time frame of the submittal of the grant request and for future grant requests to be in accordance with the grant policy.

During discussion Coun. Miller read the following statement into the record: "To all county departments, if you can't get your information in on time, do not come to me asking to approve a grant request."

3. Chm. Jones recognized Mr. Mark Knowles with Condrey & Associates, Inc. to present the Wage and Salary Report.

Mr. Knowles presented and reviewed with County Council the Job Classification and Compensation Plan for Saluda County. The Job Classification and Compensation Plan for Saluda County was distributed to all attendees in the audience at the meeting.

Council received the plan as information.

F. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Coun. Miller, seconded by Coun. Shealy, it was unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 6:39 P.M.

Karen T. Whittle

Karen T. Whittle
Clerk to Council

Derrick W. Jones

Derrick W. Jones
Chairman

February 12, 2018

Date Approved