

October 28, 2019

MINUTES OF CALLED MEETING
SALUDA COUNTY COUNCIL
MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2019
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE WORK SESSION
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 Vice-Chairman J. Frank Daniel, Sr. at 6:20 P.M.

Present were: Vice-Chm. J. Frank Daniel, Sr.
Coun. Justin Anderson
Coun. Jones P. Butler
Coun. Wayne Grice

Also present were: County Director, Sandra G. Padget
Clerk to Council, Karen T. Whittle
County Attorney, Christian G. Spradley

Absent was: Chm. Derrick W. Jones

B. INVOCATION

Coun. Anderson delivered the invocation.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice-Chm. Daniel 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. Consideration to repair the Old Piedmont Tech Center to house the Election/Registration office.

Vice-Chm. Daniel said he and Chm. Jones (the County Owned Property Committee of Council) visited the old Piedmont Tech building to look at repairs needed in order to move the Voter Registration/Election office to the old Piedmont Tech building due to the current

office not being large enough to accommodate the office and the new voting machines. Vice-Chm. Daniel said the repairs included the replacement and repair of HVAC units; IT, surveillance and alarm system installations; and electrical repair for a total amount of \$68,531.00. Vice-Chm. Daniel said the \$68,531.00 could be funded from the public building improvement account which had a balance of \$102,966.00 or split the costs between the public building improvement account and the public building repair reserve account which had a balance of \$59,901.00 which received .50 mills per year. Vice-Chm. Daniel said staff recommended splitting the costs between the two accounts.

On motion of Coun. Anderson, seconded by Coun. Grice, it was approved to repair the old Piedmont Tech building for the Election/Registration office with the costs of the repairs as detailed in the agenda package not to exceed \$68,531.00, with one-half of the costs being funded from the Public Building Improvement account and one-half of the costs being funded from the Public Buildings Repair Reserve account. (Voting in Favor: Vice-Chm. Daniel, Coun. Butler, Grice). (Opposed: Coun. Anderson). During discussion Coun. Anderson questioned was this due to an unfunded mandate by the state. Vice-Chm. Daniel allowed Mr. Jack Atkinson, Chm. of the Saluda County Board of Voter Registration and Elections to speak. Mr. Atkinson informed Council the old voting machines were received by Saluda County in 2004 and had previously been used when they were received. Mr. Atkinson said the state decided to replace all voting machines in the state and spent \$59 million on new machines, but the counties had to store, maintain, and transport the machines to and from all precincts during elections. Mr. Atkinson said the existing Election/Voter Registration building was too small to store the new machines. Mr. Atkinson said approximately \$70,000.00 was a lot of money for repairs and suggested having a qualified contractor look at the building and perform minimum repairs needed and questioned Council had a qualified contractor looked at the building. Coun. Anderson addressed again the state spending the money for new voting machines, but the counties had to spend funds to house the new machines. Coun. Anderson expressed his opinion of the old Piedmont Tech buildings being demolished and expand the recreation complex to that area. Coun. Anderson mentioned that currently the Tax Assessor's office shared responsibilities in providing staffing for the Election/Voter Registration office and questioned was that discussed by the committee. Other buildings were discussed as to vacancy for the Election/Voter Registration office, but Vice-Chm. Daniel said the old Piedmont Tech buildings were the only buildings available and had been viewed by the Committee and the Public Buildings Superintendent.

2. Consideration to purchase an enclosed trailer to transport the voting machines to precincts.

Vice-Chm. Daniel said an enclosed trailer was needed in order to transport the voting machines to and from the precincts during elections.

On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Anderson, it was approved to purchase an enclosed trailer from the Saluda Fire Department in the amount of \$3,600.00 to be funded from Contingency to transport the voting machines to the precincts during elections. (Voting in Favor: Vice-Chm. Daniel, Coun. Butler, Grice). (Opposed: Coun. Anderson). During discussion Coun. Anderson questioned the model year of the trailer. Public

Buildings Supt., John Oscar Perry said it was a 2006 trailer that had been kept inside the fire department most of its life and the front roof vent needed to be replaced which would cost approximately \$20.00.

F. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Anderson, it was unanimously approved for Council to go into Executive Session pursuant to Section 30-4-70(a)(2) of the South Carolina Code of Laws 1976, as amended, to discuss the Moseley Architects contract and to receive legal advice on a communications contract, to return at the Call of the Vice-Chair.

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

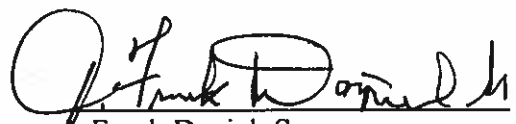
G. PUBLIC ACTION

1. On motion of Coun. Anderson, seconded by Coun. Grice, it was unanimously approved to suspend the Moseley Architect contract on the new Saluda County Detention Center.
2. Vice-Chm. Daniel reported no action came out of Executive Session on the communications contract.

H. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Grice, it was approved to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 P.M. (Voting in Favor: Vice-Chm. Daniel, Coun. Butler, Grice). (Opposed: Coun. Anderson). During discussion, before adjournment, Coun. Anderson asked if the County owned a trailer, could the vote be rescinded on purchasing a trailer. Atty. Spradley informed Coun. Anderson he could not bring the vote on the trailer back for consideration since he voted against it; only those on the winning side could bring it back up. Atty. Spradley also informed Council the motion on the floor was to adjourn and would have to be voted down if someone wanted to bring the trailer vote back for consideration.


Karen T. Whittle
Clerk to Council


J. Frank Daniel, Sr.
Vice-Chairman

November 11, 2019
Date Approved