

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
SALUDA COUNTY COUNCIL
MONDAY, AUGUST 13, 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. Gwendolyn C. Shealy

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

Absent was: Coun. D. J. Miller

B. INVOCATION

Coun. Daniel 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 July 9 and 12, 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

Coun. Shealy thanked the citizens of Saluda County for their condolences and prayers in the recent deaths of her mother, Mary Corley and her mother-in-law, Eleanor Shealy.

G. PUBLIC HEARING

1. Chm. Jones opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 06-18, "TO LEVY AND IMPOSE A ONE PERCENT SALES AND USE TAX, SUBJECT TO A REFERENDUM IN SALUDA COUNTY PURSUANT TO THE CAPITAL PROJECT SALES TAX ACT, SOUTH CAROLINA CODE ANNOTATED SECTION 4-10-300, ET SEQ.; TO DEFINE THE SPECIFIC PURPOSES AND DESIGNATE THE PROJECTS FOR WHICH THE PROCEEDS OF THE TAX MAY BE USED; TO PROVIDE THE MAXIMUM TIME FOR THE IMPOSITION AND COLLECTION OF THE TAX AND THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF NET PROCEEDS TO BE RAISED BY THE TAX; TO PROVIDE FOR A COUNTY-WIDE REFERENDUM AND TO PRESCRIBE THE CONTENTS OF THE BALLOT QUESTION IN THE REFERENDUM; TO PROVIDE CONDITIONS PRECEDENT TO THE IMPOSITION OF THE TAX AND CONDITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF THE TAX REVENUE; TO ESTABLISH THE PRIORITY IN WHICH THE NET PROCEEDS OF THE TAX ARE TO BE EXPENDED FOR THE PURPOSES AND PROJECTS STATED; TO PROVIDE FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE REFERENDUM BY THE SALUDA COUNTY BOARD OF VOTER REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS; TO PROVIDE FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE TAX; TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS, IN ONE OR MORE SERIES, TAX-EXEMPT OR TAXABLE, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED THE AGGREGATE OF \$9,400,000; AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO PRESCRIBE THE FORM AND DETAILS OF THE BONDS; PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE BONDS AND PLEDGE OF REVENUES RELATED TO THE BONDS; PROVIDING OTHERWISE FOR THE DISPOSITION OF THE PROCEEDS OF THE BONDS; PROVIDING FOR BORROWING IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF THE BONDS; PROVIDING FOR THE DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY RELATED TO THE BONDS; AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS." Chm. Jones read the following projects:

1. Saluda County Library (Saluda County)	\$125,000
2. Saluda County Animal Shelter (Saluda County)	\$125,000
3. Ridge Spring Downtown Revitalization and Economic Development (Town of Ridge Spring)	\$175,000
4. Reconstruction of Bathrooms at Brooks Royston Park (Saluda Recreation District)	\$50,000
5. Saluda County Detention Center (Saluda County)	\$8,434,304

Mr. Jack Atkinson informed Council he had provided copies to the Clerk to Council of his objections to the capital projects sales tax for the public hearing that was scheduled in the July 9th Council meeting, but the public hearing was deferred. (Copies were provided to County Council members.) Mr. Atkinson reiterated he was in objection to the sales tax and sales tax referendums.

No one else spoke and the public hearing was closed.

H. PUBLIC PRESENTATION

1. Chm. Jones recognized Ms. Amanda Corley to present ideas on Litter Control for Saluda County.

Ms. Corley suggested to add to the job description of county personnel of a county department, example Roads and Bridges, to "pick up trash" when they are performing road maintenance, or when calls are received pertaining to trash as an idea for addressing litter control in the County. Ms. Corley also informed Council she had spoken with a representative of Palmetto Pride and they would like to speak at a Council meeting on grants for small communities.

I. OLD BUSINESS

1. On motion of Coun. Shealy, seconded by Coun. Butler, and unanimously approved, Third Reading was given on Ordinance No. 06-18, "TO LEVY AND IMPOSE A ONE PERCENT SALES AND USE TAX, SUBJECT TO A REFERENDUM IN SALUDA COUNTY PURSUANT TO THE CAPITAL PROJECT SALES TAX ACT, SOUTH CAROLINA CODE ANNOTATED SECTION 4-10-300, ET SEQ.; TO DEFINE THE SPECIFIC PURPOSES AND DESIGNATE THE PROJECTS FOR WHICH THE PROCEEDS OF THE TAX MAY BE USED; TO PROVIDE THE MAXIMUM TIME FOR THE IMPOSITION AND COLLECTION OF THE TAX AND THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF NET PROCEEDS TO BE RAISED BY THE TAX; TO PROVIDE FOR A COUNTY-WIDE REFERENDUM AND TO PRESCRIBE THE CONTENTS OF THE BALLOT QUESTION IN THE REFERENDUM; TO PROVIDE CONDITIONS PRECEDENT TO THE IMPOSITION OF THE TAX AND CONDITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF THE TAX REVENUE; TO ESTABLISH THE PRIORITY IN WHICH THE NET PROCEEDS OF THE TAX ARE TO BE EXPENDED FOR THE PURPOSES AND PROJECTS STATED; TO PROVIDE FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE REFERENDUM BY THE SALUDA COUNTY BOARD OF VOTER REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS; TO PROVIDE FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE TAX; TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS, IN ONE OR MORE SERIES, TAX-EXEMPT OR TAXABLE, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED THE AGGREGATE OF \$9,400,000; AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO PRESCRIBE THE FORM AND DETAILS OF THE BONDS; PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE BONDS AND PLEDGE OF REVENUES RELATED TO THE BONDS; PROVIDING OTHERWISE FOR THE DISPOSITION OF THE PROCEEDS OF THE BONDS; PROVIDING FOR BORROWING IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF THE BONDS; PROVIDING FOR THE DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY RELATED TO THE BONDS; AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS." During discussion Chm. Jones read the projects:

1. Saluda County Library (Saluda County)	\$125,000
2. Saluda County Animal Shelter (Saluda County)	\$125,000

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| 3. Ridge Spring Downtown Revitalization and Economic Development (Town of Ridge Spring) | \$175,000 |
| 4. Reconstruction of Bathrooms at Brooks Royston Park (Saluda Recreation District) | \$50,000 |
| 5. Saluda County Detention Center (Saluda County) | \$8,434,304 |
2. On motion of Coun. Daniel, seconded by Coun. Shealy, and unanimously approved, Second Reading was given on Ordinance No. 07-18, "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, SALUDA COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, CHAPTER 6 BUILDING AND BUILDING REGULATIONS, BY ADDING SECTION 6-6 BUILDING PERMIT FEES."
 3. On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Shealy, and unanimously approved, Second Reading was given on Ordinance No. 08-18, "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, SALUDA COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, CHAPTER 16 MANUFACTURED HOMES, SECTION 16-2, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR MANUFACTURED HOMES, (c) (9) PERMIT FEES."
 4. Chm. Jones recognized Economic Development Consultant, Ed Parler to present the consideration to award the contract for the Duncan Road Waterline project to serve SC Pet Food Solutions and for additional funding.

Mr. Parler said Saluda County agreed to assist in delivering water to the new SC Pet Foods Solutions plant currently under construction and was successful in receiving a grant from the SC Rural Infrastructure Authority in the amount of \$338,663.00 which represented 75% of the construction estimate. Mr. Parler said the estimated project as submitted in the grant was \$525,200.00. Mr. Parler stated engineering and other administrative costs were not eligible for grant funding, but the Aiken Edgefield McCormick Saluda Partnership had committed \$190,000.00 and Aiken Electric Cooperative gave their approval for \$15,661.00 of remaining funds from a previous grant to Saluda to be used toward the 25% construction match as well as engineering and related costs.

Mr. Parler said Saluda County was assisted by Saluda County Water and Sewer Authority and MBD Consulting Engineers with plans, specifications and the solicitation of bids. Mr. Parler said after review of bids received, MBD Consulting Engineers recommended for Saluda County to award the contract to the lowest bidder, Palmetto Utility Group from Branchville, South Carolina in the amount of \$494,298.75. Mr. Parler informed Council that Saluda County Water and Sewer Authority would eventually be responsible for operations and maintenance of the waterline.

The revised budget for the project was: Engineering \$66,650.00 and construction \$494,298.75 for a total of \$560,948.75. Funding commitments were: RIA Grant \$338,663.00, remaining funds from a previous Aiken Electric Cooperative grant to Saluda \$15,661.00, and Aiken Edgefield McCormick Saluda Partnership \$190,000.00 for a total of \$544,324.00. The budget had a shortage of \$16,624.75. Mr. Parler informed Council the Aiken Edgefield McCormick Saluda Partnership had committed to increase their

contribution by \$10,000.00. Mr. Parler recommended that the County fund the additional \$6,624.75 from the Infrastructure Reserve account and for Council to award the construction contract to Palmetto Utility Group in the amount of \$494,298.75.

Council and Mr. Parler discussed this would be a public waterline and should be available for residential property owners to tap into the waterline as well as there would be five fire hydrants along the waterline to provide increased fire protection in the area.

On motion of Coun. Shealy, seconded by Coun. Daniel, it was unanimously approved for Saluda County to award the contract for construction of a waterline to serve SC Pet Food Solutions to Palmetto Utility Group in the amount of \$494,298.75 with the entire project cost to include engineering, acquisitions and administration for a total amount of \$560,948.75 with the full costs to complete the project to be funded from the following: SC Rural Infrastructure Authority grant \$338,663.00; the Aiken, Edgefield McCormick Saluda Partnership \$200,000.00; Saluda County grant funds from Aiken Electric Cooperative \$15,661.00; and the remaining balance needed of \$6,624.75 to be funded from the Infrastructure Reserve account.

J. NEW BUSINESS

1. On motion of Coun. Shealy, seconded by Coun. Butler, and unanimously approved, First Reading was given on Ordinance No. 09-18, "AN ORDINANCE TO GRANT AN EASEMENT ON PROPERTY OWNED BY SALUDA COUNTY LOCATED ON INDUSTRIAL PARK ROAD, SALUDA, SOUTH CAROLINA."
2. Chm. Jones recognized Jail Administrator, Janice Ergle for the replacement of the dishwasher at the Saluda County Detention Center.

Ms. Ergle requested Council to consider purchasing a new dishwasher due to the age and cost of repairs of the existing dishwasher. Ms. Ergle provided a quote from Norvell Fixture and Equipment Company for a new Hobart dishwasher in the amount of \$18,972.04, which included taxes and installation. Ms. Ergle informed Council the dishwasher room needed to be cleaned and painted before installation of the new dishwasher and stated trustees would be able to assist building maintenance staff with the project.

On motion of Coun. Shealy, seconded by Coun. Butler, it was unanimously approved to purchase a Hobart dishwasher as referenced in the agenda package from Norvell Fixture and Equipment Co. Inc. in the amount of \$18,972.04 to be funded from the Jail Renovations account. During discussion Council and Ms. Ergle discussed the warranty would be for eighteen months with the company installing the dishwasher.

3. Chm. Jones recognized Coroner Keith Turner to present the request to fill the vacant Chief Deputy Coroner position due to the hiring freeze.

Coroner Turner requested Council to allow him to fill the Chief Deputy Coroner position due to the hiring freeze.

Chm. Jones entertained a motion to grant the request to fill the vacant Chief Deputy Coroner position due to the hiring freeze. Coun. Daniel moved the motion. The motion died for lack of a second.

4. On motion of Coun. Shealy, seconded by Coun. Butler, it was unanimously approved to re-appoint Charles Gardner to represent Old Town Volunteer Fire Department on the Saluda County Fire Board with his second term expiring June 30, 2022.

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) of the South Carolina Code of Laws 1976, as amended to receive legal advice in relation to a contractual matter involving building codes, to return at the Call of the Chair.

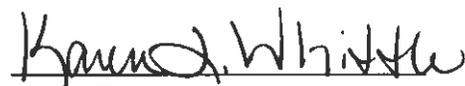
Council returned into open session at the Call of the Chair.

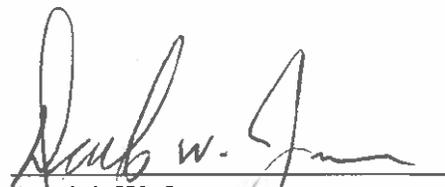
L. PUBLIC ACTION

1. On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Shealy, it was unanimously approved to enter into a contract as presented to Council with Safebuilt Carolinas, LLC for Building Official Services effective immediately.
2. On motion of Coun. Shealy, seconded by Coun. Butler, it was unanimously approved to place current employees of the Building Code Department on paid administrative leave through August 21, 2018 to allow county attorney and staff to enter negotiations to terminate their employment with Saluda County amicably.

M. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Daniel, it was unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 P.M.


Karen T. Whittle
Clerk to Council


Derrick W. Jones
Chairman

September 10, 2018
Date Approved