

MARCH 14, 2022

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
SALUDA COUNTY COUNCIL
MONDAY, MARCH 14, 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 6:00 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

Vice-Chairman Anderson 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 Atkinson the agenda was unanimously approved.

F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Atkinson, the minutes for February 14, 2022 were unanimously approved as submitted. Minutes for the February 24th were postponed for further review.

G. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Councilman Daniel stated that everything was blooming on the Ridge and hoped to have a good crop this year.

Councilman Atkinson commented on Congressman Duncan's newsletter regarding expanding rural broadband in South Carolina.

Councilman Bedenbaugh thanked his fellow councilmembers for the work they do. He also notified every one of the 47th Hollywood Ruritan sale at 10:00 on March 26th.

H. PUBLIC PRESENTATION

Vice-Chairman Anderson presented the family of Chairman Jerry Strawbridge with a resolution and plaque honoring his service to Saluda County. On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman, the Resolution was unanimously approved. Vice-Chairman Anderson read the Resolution.

I. NEW BUSINESS

On motion of Councilman Daniel, seconded by Councilman Atkinson first reading was unanimously approved on Ordinance No. 03-22 "AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE RECOVERY OF COST BY SERVICE CHARGES FROM USERS OF FIRE PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY SERVICES. Luke Downing, Fire Coordinator, and Josh Morton, Emergency Management Director explained the ordinance and the services goal in charging vehicle and home owner's insurance policies for general expense reimbursements. The ordinance just provides for a way to collect on someone's policy and not intended to charge an individual.

On motion of Councilman Daniel, seconded by Councilman Bedenbaugh it was unanimously approved by Resolution to appoint Vice-Chairman Anderson to the Tri-County Solid Waste Authority Board of Commissioners. Vice-Chairman Anderson read the Resolution.

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Daniel it was unanimously approved to fund the radio communications project in the amount of \$230,547.34 to start up and the yearly subscription cost of \$58,560 for the first year and \$55,200 for additional two years. \$380,000 will come from the American Rescue Plan Act and the remaining balance of \$19,507.34 will be paid from current budgeted funds. Josh Morton, Emergency Management Director explained the need to transition to this system for better communication throughout all emergency response departments.

On motion of Councilman Daniel, seconded by Councilman Bedenbaugh it was unanimously approved to apply for the Justice Assistance Grant in the amount of \$32,000 with the 10% match of \$3,200 to be paid from Contingency. Jill Warren, Grants

Coordinator, explained the itemized list of the request for K-9's, training, accessories and travel.

On motion of Vice-Chairman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Atkinson it was unanimously approved to fund the repair and replacement of the fire alarm system at the American Legion Building from the Building Repair Reserve Account not to exceed \$9,100. Josh Morton, Emergency Management Director, explained the malfunction and age of the old system and the requirements of the new one.

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Daniel it was unanimously approved to appoint Mr. James Coley to represent the Private Sector and to appoint Ms. Betty Kenner to represent the Low-Income Sector of the GLEAMNS Board. In the December 13th County Council meeting the appointments to the two GLEAMNS Board members were inverted and this motion is to correct those position appointments.

J. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Atkinson it was unanimously approved for Council to go into Executive Session pursuant to Section 30-4-70(a) (1) of the South Carolina Code of Laws 1976, as amended to discuss a personnel matter in Sheriff's Department regarding School Resource Officers and School Resource Officer Program Grants, Intergovernmental Agreements and for 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 to accept the School Resource Officer applied Equipment Grant in the amount of \$108,544.00.

K. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Vice-Chairman Anderson and unanimously approved the meeting adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

Regina H. Turner, Clerk to Council

Justin Anderson, Vice-Chairman

April 11, 2022
Date Approved