

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
SALUDA COUNTY COUNCIL
MONDAY, APRIL 11, 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

Councilman Bedenbaugh 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 24th, March 9th and March 14, 2022 were unanimously approved as submitted.

G. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Councilman Daniel commented on the Ward Trail Ride and welcomed new residents to the meeting.

Councilman Atkinson announced a few recent deaths in the community and stated that he had the honor and privilege to attend services with the Coroner for citizens that were unclaimed.

Councilman Bedenbaugh reminded everyone to vote on June 21st. He thanked county employees.

Vice-Chairman Anderson acknowledged Ms. Jackson and her 3rd grade math class at Hollywood Elementary for ranking top ten in the nation. He also announced that the County was hosting a Job Fair on April 21st at 9:00 to 11:00.

H. PUBLIC HEARING

Vice-Chairman Anderson opened the public hearing on Ordinance No. 02-22 “AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXPANSION OF THE BOUNDARIES OF A MULTI-COUNTY BUSINESS PARK TO INCLUDE CERTAIN PARCELS OF REAL PROPERTY COMPRISING THE PROJECT AND TO PROVIDE FOR A SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDIT AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN SALUDA COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AND BOJ OF WNC, LLC AND SC SALUDA MAIN, LLC, WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROPERTY IN THE COUNTY; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.”

No one spoke and the Public Hearing was closed.

I. OLD BUSINESS

On motion of Councilman Daniel, seconded by Councilman Atkinson third reading was unanimously approved on Ordinance No. 02-22 “AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXPANSION OF THE BOUNDARIES OF A MULTI-COUNTY BUSINESS PARK TO INCLUDE CERTAIN PARCELS OF REAL PROPERTY COMPRISING THE PROJECT AND TO PROVIDE FOR A SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDIT AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN SALUDA COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AND BOJ OF WNC, LLC AND SC SALUDA MAIN, LLC, WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROPERTY IN THE COUNTY; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.”

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Daniel second reading was approved and voting against was Councilman Atkinson on Ordinance No. 03-22 “AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE RECOVERY OF COST BY SERVICE CHARGES FROM USERS OF FIRE PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY SERVICES. Councilman Atkinson stated that he was not in favor of third-party billing.

J. NEW BUSINESS

On motion of Councilman Atkinson, seconded by Councilman Bedenbaugh first reading was unanimously approved on Ordinance No. 04-22 “AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2022, FOR EDUCATIONAL AND SCHOOL PURPOSES IN SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE OF SALUDA COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA: TO PROVIDE FOR LEVY OF TAXES AND THE TAXABLE PROPERTY IN SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE: TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF SAID TAXES AND OTHER REVENUES COMING INTO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT DURING THE FISCAL YEAR.” Vice-Chairman Anderson noted that the total school budget for 22-23 at first reading is \$23,159,456.00 and Saluda County Council shall determine and establish a tax of sufficient millage to support \$8,476,594 minus revenues and credits reflected on the tax receipt from Fee-in-Lieu, Property Tax Relief, Homestead Exemption, Tier 3 Property Tax Relief, Merchant Inventory, Manufacturer’s Depreciation and Motor Carrier, for a net amount of \$5,348,556 from Ad Valorem Taxes as county funding for the appropriations and levies made herein, and shall advise the Auditor who shall fix said millage as advised by the Council

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Atkinson first reading was unanimously approved on Ordinance No. 05-22 “AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGETS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF SALUDA COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2022; TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES ON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY IN SALUDA COUNTY FOR ALL COUNTY PURPOSES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2022; TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF TAX REVENUES AND OTHER COUNTY FUNDS; TO PROVIDE FOR OTHER COUNTY PURPOSES; TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2022: AND TO PROVIDE FOR CERTAIN FISCAL AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING TO COUNTY GOVERNMENT.” Vice- Chairman Anderson noted that the total county budget for 22-23 at first reading is \$14,868,869 and debt service on bonds is \$126,197 for a total amount of \$14,995,066. The difference in proposed expenditures and revenues is \$785,209.

On motion of Councilman Atkinson, seconded by Councilman Daniel first reading was unanimously approved on Ordinance No. 06-22 “AN ORDINANCE PERMITTING SALUDA COUNTY TO ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH SOUTHEAST AVIATION, LLC. “ Jill Warren, Airport Manager explained the request of Southeast Aviation to offer a flight school to be operated out of the Airport and those conditions.

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Daniel, The Fair Housing Resolution was unanimously approved. Vice-Chairman Anderson read the resolution.

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Daniel it was unanimously approved to ratify the Resolution for Bonnie Forrest to honor her years of service. Vice-Chairman Anderson read the resolution.

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Atkinson it was unanimously approved to authorize the County Director or Deputy Director to transfer funds as needed from Contingency to balance accounts.

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Atkinson it was unanimously approved to purchase a 2006 GMC Mini Pumper using appropriated ARPA funds not to exceed \$99,900 to replace a 1997 Ford currently at the Circle Fire Department. Luke Downing, Fire Service Coordinator explained the quote and the need for the truck and that the price was negotiable. Luke and the Circle Fire Chief will go to examine the truck before purchase.

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Atkinson it was unanimously approved to accept the Economic Development Set-aside Grant as submitted. Will Williams with the Economic Development Partnership explained that the grant from Commerce will come to the county to pay the approved industry and that no aid from the county is involved.

Ms. Ann Watkins stated that she wanted to speak but she was not put on the agenda to speak at this time. Vice-Chairman Anderson told her that he would address her issue after the meeting.

K. 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 personnel in the Roads and Bridges Department, the American Rescue Plan Act, an Election Referendum action 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.

L. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Vice-Chairman Anderson and unanimously approved the meeting adjourned at 7:51 P.M.

Regina H. Turner, Clerk to Council

Justin Anderson, Vice-Chairman

May 9, 2022
Date Approved