

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
SALUDA COUNTY COUNCIL
MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2024 AT 6:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, SALUDA COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
400 WEST HIGHLAND STREET, SALUDA, SOUTH CAROLINA

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Jim Moore called the regular meeting of Saluda County Council to order at 6:00 P.M.

Present were:

Chairman Jim Moore
Vice-Chairman Jack Atkinson
Councilman J. Frank Daniel, Sr.
Councilman Justin Anderson

Also present was:

Regina H. Turner, Clerk to Council

Absent:

Councilman Carey Bedenbaugh

B. INVOCATION

Chairman Moore delivered the invocation.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Moore 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 regular meeting was given to the local news media and properly posted, to include the county website.

The following notice was placed at the beginning of the agenda:

Please note meetings are open to the public. Access to the live video is available by going to the County's Facebook page (Saluda County, SC Government).

E. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion of Councilman Anderson seconded by Councilman Daniel the agenda was unanimously approved.

F. STORM UPDATE

Mr. Scott Neely representing Dominion reported on how the utilities responded to the storm. Mr. Neely stated that in the assessments of our geographic area the majority of residents and business were without power. In the Dominion territory there were 2000 poles down along with the span of lines and 88 transmission lines that had to be repaired before power could be restored. With the help from teams from all over the U.S. power for most points were restored within two weeks. Debris efforts are still going on.

G. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilman Anderson, Vice-Chairman Atkinson and Councilman Daniel wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Chairman Moore thanked everyone involved in the successful county and town Christmas celebration with fireworks this past weekend. He offered congratulations to Treasurer, Tiffany Shaw and her husband Andrew on the birth of their daughter. Chairman Moore announced the award of the Community Development Block Grant that was applied for the Library. He also announced that FEMA has extended the recovery assistance time through another month for debris removal.

Chairman Moore again addressed the issue with road signs being stolen and the cost to the taxpayers being around \$16,000. He asked that signs be returned to the Multi-Complex building.

H. OLD BUSINESS

On motion of Councilman Anderson, seconded by Vice Chairman Atkinson, Second Reading was unanimously approved on Ordinance No. 10-24, "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE FIRST AMENDMENT OF THAT CERTAIN AMENDED AND RESTATED FEE AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN SALUDA COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AND CATALINA SOLAR, LLC, RELATING TO, WITHOUT LIMITATION, THE INCLUSION OF ADDITIONAL CERTAIN PARCELS OF REAL PROPERTY TO THE PROJECT; AUTHORIZING THE EXPANSION OF THE BOUNDARIES OF A MULTI-COUNTY BUSINESS PARK TO INCLUDE CERTAIN PARCELS OF REAL PROPERTY COMPRISING THE PROJECT, AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS".

I. NEW BUSINESS

On motion of Councilman Daniel, seconded by Vice-Chairman Atkinson, Council unanimously approved the request to apply for a grant through the SC Aeronautics Commission to replace the security system with the 30% match to be funded from contingency. Chairman Moore recognized Jill Warren, Airport Manager, to explain the request. Ms. Warren told council that the current system was damaged by a lighting strike but the value of the equipment was under our deductible amount. She is currently getting quotes and would prefer a more professional system if the price is reasonable and will submit the grant in January.

On motion of Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Daniel, it was unanimously approved to appoint current alternate, Phil Hodgens to the Airport Commission with his first term expiring December 9, 2029. Chairman Moore stated that a current member resigned due to health issues.

J. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Councilman Daniel, seconded by Councilman Anderson, Council unanimously agreed 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 issue in the Coroner's Office and to return at the call of the Chair.

Chairman Moore called Council back into open session and asked if there were any motions.

On motion of Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Daniel, Council unanimously accepted the job description of Deputy Coroner and position at a grade 16 and funded the full-time position from contingency starting January 27, 2025. Vice-Chairman Atkinson ask if it would be funded through the Budget for the coming year and the Chairman confirmed.

K. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Vice Chairman Atkinson, it was unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 P.M.

Regina H. Turner
Clerk to Council
Date Approved: January 13, 2025

James L. Moore, Saluda County Council
Chairman