



MINUTES
MARCH 22, 2016
LAURENS COUNTY COUNCIL
HISTORIC COURTHOUSE – PUBLIC SQUARE
COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

ATTENDANCE: **COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT-** County Council Chairman Joe Wood and Vice Chairman Keith Tollison; County Council Members: Diane Anderson, Stewart Jones, Garrett McDaniel, Ted Nash and David Pitts.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None

COUNTY STAFF: Laurens County Administrator, Ernest Segars; Laurens County Clerk to Council Betty Walsh and Laurens County Attorney, Sandy Cruickshanks.

DEPARTMENT HEADS PRESENT: Laurens County Public Works Director Rob Russian; Captain Tyson, Detention Center Administrator; Laurens County Fire Director, Gregg Lindley; Laurens County Human Resources Manager, Debi Parker; Chad Burrell, Director Laurens County Emergency Medical Services; Joey Avery, Director, Laurens County Communications and Lynn West, Director, Laurens County Registration Elections.

PRESS: Vic McDonald, *The Clinton Chronicle*; Corey Engle, *Laurens County Advertiser* and Iva Cadmus, *WLBG Radio*.

SPECIAL GUESTS – Members and Scout Masters of Laurens County Boy Scout Troop #339 and Sammy Wham, Chairman, Laurens County Airport Commission.

SCHEDULED MEETING AGENDA ITEMS –DECEMBER 8, 2015 - 1.) Call to Order Chairman Wood; **2.)** Invocation, Councilman McDaniel; **3.)** Pledge of Allegiance; **4.)** Approval of Agenda, March 22, 2016; **5.)** Approval of Minutes – February 23, 2015 (incomplete), March 8, 2015 – Called Session, March 8, 2016 – Regular Session, March 16, 2016 – Called Session; **6.)** Consolidated / Revised Laurens County Junkyard Ordinance – Kay Weeks, Laurens County Planning Commission; **7.)** Second Reading, Ordinance #812 – “An Ordinance Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of an Amended And Restated Fee in Lieu of Tax Agreement By And Among Laurens County, A Company Known For the Time Being As “Project Rain Boots”, And Faurecia Interior Systems, Incorporated, Providing For the Payment of a Fee-in-lieu of Taxes And the Provision of Special Source Revenue Credits; To Express The Commitment of Laurens County to Continue To Place Project Property In a Multi-County Park; And, To Provide For Other Matters Relating Thereto”; **8.)** Resolution #2016-08, “To Designate The Week Of April 10-16, 2016 As Telecommunicator’s Week”, Joey Avery, Director of Communications; **9.)** Second Reading, Ordinance #813 – “An Ordinance For The Acquisition Of Approximately Two (2) Acres Of Real Estate Located In The Thompson Road Area Of Laurens County For The Purposes Of Constructing A Fire Substation”; **10.)** Resolution #2016-09, “Approving SCILIN, LLC As A Sponsor Affiliate Under The Fee Agreement Between Laurens County, South Carolina and ZF Transmissions Gray Court, LLC, As Sponsor, Dated As Of August 11, 2015; And Other Related Matters; **11.)** Administrative Report - County Administrator Ernie Segars; **12.)** 6:00 P.M. Public Comments; **13.)** Comments from Council Members; **14.)** Executive Session – **A.)** Contractual Matter - Potential Purchase of Property; **B.)** One (1) Employment Matter – position of County Administrator.

MEETING NOTIFICATION – The requesting general public and Press were informed of the meeting in a timely manner. Postings of the Agenda were posted in County facilities on their bulletin boards and also posted on the County Web Site.

CALL TO ORDER – Chairman Wood called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. and invited all to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance, which was led by Laurens County Troop #339.

Councilman McDaniel provided the invocation.

PUBLIC COMMENT SIGN UP – It was declared at 5:32 P.M. by the Chairman that the following had signed in requesting time during the Public Comment session: Larry Downs, citizen of Laurens County; Sammy Wham, Chairman of the Laurens County Airport Commission; Laurens County Fire Director, Gregg Lindley; Chad Burrell, Director Laurens County Emergency Medical Services; Joey Avery, Director, Laurens County Communications; Lynn West, Director, Laurens County Registration Elections and Jan Harmon, from the Office of State Representative Jeff Duncan.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Chairman Wood called for approval of the March 22, 2016 Agenda with any additions or deletions. Chairman Wood stated that a necessary Executive Session needed to be added to the agenda to conduct a Legal Briefing concerning the proposed Administrator Contract.

COUNCILMAN PITTS made the MOTION to approve the amended agenda as presented by the Chairman to add the Executive Session; VICE CHAIRMAN TOLLISON SECONDDING; VOTE 7-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - February 23, 2016 (incomplete at this time);

- March 8, 2016 (Called meeting) COUNCILMAN JONES made the MOTION to approve the March 8, 2016 called meeting minutes as presented. COUNCILMAN NASH SECONDDING; VOTE 7-0.
- March 8, 2016 (Regular Session) COUNCILMAN PITTS made the MOTION to approve the March 8, 2016 regular session minutes as presented. COUNCILMAN MCDNIEL SECONDDING; VOTE 7-0.
- March 16, 2016 (Called meeting) VICE CHAIRMAN TOLLISON made the MOTION to approve the March 16, 2016 called meeting minutes as presented. COUNCILMAN NASH SECONDDING; VOTE 7-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – COUNCILMAN PITTS made the MOTION for Council to move into Executive Session at 5:37 P.M. to discuss an employment matter; COUNCILMAN JONES SECONDDING; VOTE 7-0.

There was a COUNCIL CONSENSUS to reconvene in open session at 6:30 P.M.

As a MOTION, VICE CHAIRMAN TOLLISON stated, “After much discussion, Council has agreed to accept Jon Caimo to fill the seat as Laurens County Administrator”. COUNCILMAN MCDANIEL SECONDDING; VOTE 6-0 (Councilman Pitts had to leave).

CONSOLIDATED / REVISED LAURENS COUNTY JUNKYARD ORDINANCE – KAY WEEKS, LAURENS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION - Mrs. Kay Weeks, Chairman of the Laurens County Planning Commission appeared before Council asking for Council approval of first reading to the revised Junkyard Ordinance.

Mrs. Weeks said, “The Laurens County Planning Commission and County Staff have worked long and hard on consolidating and revising these Ordinances for the last six (6) plus months or so. The Commission believes that it is now a proper document to be put into force for the County”.

Chairman Wood said that the only problem he had with it was the renewal fee schedule and the fact that Laurens County did not have a business license. And, Councilman Nash noted his concerns were only with the setback requirements.

Chairman Wood stated that Council would approve the revised Ordinance upon first reading tonight and asked for the Council to study the document and to be prepared to discuss in more detail at the next meeting.

COUNCILMAN JONES made the MOTION to approve the proposed revised Junkyard Ordinance (ORDINANCE #814) upon FIRST READING with VICE CHAIRMAN TOLLISON SECONDING; VOTE 6-0.

SECOND READING, ORDINANCE #812 – “AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF AN AMENDED AND RESTATED FEE IN LIEU OF TAX AGREEMENT BY AND AMONG LAURENS COUNTY, A COMPANY KNOWN FOR THE TIME BEING AS “PROJECT RAIN BOOTS”, AND FAURECIA INTERIOR SYSTEMS, INCORPORATED, PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF A FEE-IN-LIEU OF TAXES AND THE PROVISION OF SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDITS; TO EXPRESS THE COMMITMENT OF LAURENS COUNTY TO CONTINUE TO PLACE PROJECT PROPERTY IN A MULTI-COUNTY PARK; AND, TO PROVIDE FOR OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO”. – Attorney Cruickshanks stated, “This Ordinance was approved on first reading at the previous meeting of Council as an economic development project known as Project Rain Boots. This will be second reading for approval of a fee agreement and related matters and including the acquisition and expansion of an industry in an existing mutli-county park.

COUNCILWOMAN ANDERSON made the MOTION to approve Ordinance #812 upon second reading as delivered with COUNCILMAN MCDANIEL SECONDING; VOTE 6-0.

RESOLUTION #2016-08, “TO DESIGNATE THE WEEK OF APRIL 10-16, 2016 AS TELECOMMUNICATOR’S WEEK”, JOEY AVERY, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS – Mr. Avery approached Council with introductions of attending Dispatchers and noted that Angie received an award from the South Carolina Emergency Medical Services Symposium.

COUNCILMAN MCDANIEL made the MOTION to approve the requested Resolution with COUNCILWOMAN ANDERSON SECONDING; VOTE 6-0.

SECOND READING - ORDINANCE #813 - “AN ORDINANCE FOR THE ACQUISITION OF APPROXIMATELY TWO (2) ACRES OF REAL ESTATE LOCATED ON THOMPSON ROAD IN LAURENS COUNTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING A FIRE SUBSTATION” – Attorney Cruickshanks stated that this was for the purchase of approximately two (2) acres for the construction of a fire substation within Laurens County. The cost would be sixteen thousand dollars (\$16,000) and that the county would pay all of the brokerage fees involved using the Fire Bond.

COUNCILMAN JONES made the MOTION to approve Ordinance #813, as presented, with COUNCILMAN MCDANIEL SECONDING.

Councilman Nash stated that he felt this to be a very good location for the building.

COUNCIL VOTED 6-0.

RESOLUTION #2016-09, “APPROVING SCILIN, LLC AS A SPONSOR AFFILIATE UNDER THE FEE AGREEMENT BETWEEN LAURENS COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AND ZF TRANSMISSIONS GRAY COURT, LLC, AS SPONSOR, DATED AS OF AUGUST 11, 2015; AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS” – Attorney Cruickshanks stated, this Resolution permits SCILIN, LLC as an affiliate of ZF Transmissions. This company is the owner of the property that was formerly known as the spec building. Previously approved agreements with ZF allow for sponsor affiliates to be added under the current fee agreement.

COUNCILMAN JONES made the MOTION to approve Resolution #2016-09 with COUNCILMAN NASH SECONDING; COUNCIL VOTED 6-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT – Administrator Segars reminded Council of the March 30th deadline for ethics reporting and that the budget packages have been distributed to the Department Heads with a deadline of March 30th getting them back to the Finance Department. Council should approve the budget ordinance upon first reading at the next meeting so as to get the process started.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Chairman Wood opened the floor for public comment at 6:55 P.M.

- 1.) Mr. Larry Downs – Mr. Downs had left the meeting due to a lengthy Executive Session.
- 2.) Mr. Joey Avery, Director of E-911 Communications with the assistance of Mr. Chad Burrell, Director of Emergency Medical Services and Mr. Greg Lindley, Director of Fire Service, presented Mr. Segars with patches from their respective departments in a framed and signed display upon his retirement from Laurens County.
- 3.) Mrs. Lynn West Director of Registration and Elections, along with several Board Members, presented Mr. Segars with a token gift upon his retirement from Laurens County.
- 4.) Mr. Sammy Wham, Chairman of the County Airport Commission, presented Mr. Segars a plaque from the Commission upon his retirement from Laurens County.
- 5.) Mr. Jan Harmon, representing the Congressional Office of Mr. Jeff Duncan, presented Mr. Segars with a flag that had flown over the United States Capital upon his retirement from Laurens County.

Having no one else wishing to address Council, Chairman Wood closed the session at 7:05 P.M.

COUNTY COUNCIL COMMENTS:

- 1.) Vice Chairman Tollison thanked the Scouts for their assistance with the opening of the meeting with Pledge of Allegiance. And referring to Mr. Segars, that it has been a pleasure working on Council with him. Vice Chairman Tollison also asked for all to keep the young officer that was recently killed while on the job in Greenville County and that they do put their lives on the line every day
- 2.) Councilman Jones echoed the same well wishes to Mr. Segars and wished him well with his retirement.
- 3.) Councilman Nash thanked the Scouts for their attendance and thanked Mr. Segars for his many years of service to the County.
- 4.) Councilwoman Anderson thanked the Scouts for their presence and stated that she admired their integrity....thanked the Dispatchers for their work and dedication to the job and that it was always good to put a face to the voices heard when one calls for help. Addressing Mr. Segars, as always committed to the County and that she felt retirement was a good organization to belong to.
- 5.) Councilman McDaniel echoed the same sentiments towards the Scouts in attendance and stated that he was a part of them some time ago. Addressing Mr. Segars, he stated that he was not going to say goodbye.
- 6.) Chairman Wood noted all the great remarks towards Mr. Segars and thanked him for his patience while he was getting adjusted as Chairman.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – COUNCILWOMAN ANDERSON made the MOTION to move into Executive Session at 7:23 P.M. for a legal briefing. COUNCILMAN MCDANIEL SECONDING; VOTE 6-0.

BY CONSENSUS Council moved back in to open session at 7:50 P.M.

COUNCILMAN MCDANIEL made the MOTION to authorize the County Staff to further negotiate sites for the Fire Substations. COUNCILMAN JONES SECONDING; VOTE 6-0.

ADJOURNMENT – With no further action required by Council, Chairman Wood adjourned the meeting at 7:54 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Betty C. Walsh". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The first name "Betty" is written in a larger, more prominent script, followed by "C." and then "Walsh". The signature is positioned above the printed name and title.

Betty C. Walsh
Laurens County Clerk to Council



PUBLIC COMMENT
SIGN IN SHEET

DATE: 3/22/16

Limited to fifteen (15) minutes, with five (5) minutes per subject matter / topic
PLEASE PRINT INFORMATION BELOW

Name Sammy Whelan Phone 864-833-4304
Address 606 S. Adair St., Clinton, SC
E-mail gswhelan@gmail.com
Agenda Specific _____ Subject Matter: _____
Non-Agenda Specific LC Airport Subject Matter: Sugars Road
~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Name TAN HARMAN Phone 760-8586
Address 275 Dial Place, Laurens
E-mail _____
Agenda Specific Flag Presentation Subject Matter: _____
Non-Agenda Specific _____ Subject Matter: _____
~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____
E-mail _____
Agenda Specific _____ Subject Matter: _____
Non-Agenda Specific _____ Subject Matter: _____
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Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____
E-mail _____
Agenda Specific _____ Subject Matter: _____
Non-Agenda Specific _____ Subject Matter: _____

Everyone speaking before Council will be required to so in a civil manner.
Council will hear comments as information only; no dialogue by Council Members is to be expected.
Council will not tolerate personal attacks on individual Council Members, County Staff or any person or group.
Racial slurs will not be permitted. Council's priority is to conduct business for the citizens of this County.