



MINUTES
MAY 22, 2018 - 5:30 P.M.
LAURENS COUNTY COUNCIL
HISTORIC COURTHOUSE – PUBLIC SQUARE
COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

ATTENDANCE:

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: County Council Chairman Joe Wood; County Council Members: Diane B. Anderson, Stewart Jones, Garrett McDaniel and David Pitts.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Keith Tollison, Vice Chairman (work related); Councilman Ted Nash (illness).

COUNTY STAFF: - LaReus County Administrator, Jon Caime; LaReus County Clerk to Council Betty Walsh and LaReus County Attorney, Sandy Cruickshanks.

DEPARTMENT HEADS PRESENT: LaReus County Veterans Officer, Carey Bolt; LaReus County Library Director, Ann Supulski; Magistrate Judge, Leesa Inabinette; LaReus County Communications / E911 Director, Joey Avery; LaReus County Fire Service Director, Greg Lindley; LaReus County; LaReus County Finance Director, Lisa Kirk; LaReus County Parks, Recreation and Tourism Director, Andy Howard; and LaReus County Human Resources Manager, Debi Parker.

PRESS: Iva Cadmus, WLBG Radio and John Clayton, *LaReus County Advertiser*.

SCHEDULED MEETING AGENDA ITEMS – 1.) Call to Order – Chairman Wood; 2.) Invocation – Chairman Wood; 3.) Pledge of Allegiance; 4.) Approval of Agenda – May 22, 2018; 5.) Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings; a.) May 8, 2018 Regular Meeting; b.) May 8, 2018 Budget Meeting #3; Reports To Council – None; 4.) Old Business: a.) Public Hearing – Ordinance #842 - Project Yorkshire; b.) Third Reading – Ordinance #842 - Project Yorkshire; c.) Second Reading - Ordinance #848 – Local Option Sales Tax; d.) Second Reading – Ordinance #849 - Rescind of Probate Fees Ordinance #482, 1999; e.) Approval of Resolution #2018-24 - Probate Fees; 5.) New Business: a.) Animal Control Officer Swearing In; b.) Public Comment - Fifteen (15) Minute Period for Public Comment (*Required to sign in prior to the meeting*); c.) County Council Comments; d.) Executive Session - Employment Matters (2), Contractual Matter (1); e.) Adjournment.

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 bulletin boards and also posted on the County Web Site.

CALL TO ORDER – Chairman Wood called the meeting to order and invited all to stand for the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilman Jones provided the invocation.

Chairman Wood asked for all to continue keeping Council Nash in prayer.

PUBLIC COMMENT SIGN-UPS – None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – MAY 22, 2018 – Chairman Wood called for approval of the agenda with any additions or deletions. COUNCILMAN JONES made the MOTION to approve the agenda with COUNCILMAN MCDANIEL SECONDING; VOTE 5-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

a.) **MAY 8, 2018 REGULAR SESSION** - COUNCILMAN PITTS made the MOTION to approve the May 8, 2018 regular session minutes with COUNCILMAN MCDANIEL SECONDING; VOTE 5-0.

- b.) **MAY 8, 2018 BUDGET SESSION #3** - COUNCILWOMAN ANDERSON made the MOTION to approve the May 8, 2018 budget session minutes with COUNCILMAN PITTS SECONDING; VOTE 5-0.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL - None

OLD BUSINESS:

PUBLIC HEARING – ORDINANCE #842 – “PROJECT YORKSHIRE” – Chairman Wood opened the Public Hearing at 5:37 P.M.

Attorney Cruickshanks told Council that this was similar to the Joanna solar project. Representing Project Yorkshire, Mr. Vincent Shaheen thanked Council for their positive actions.

With no additional comments, Chairman Wood closed the Public Hearing at 5:38 P.M.

THIRD READING – ORDINANCE #842 – “PROJECT YORKSHIRE” - COUNCILMAN PITTS made the MOTION to approve third reading of Ordinance #842 “Project Yorkshire” with COUNCILWOMAN ANDERSON SECONDING; VOTE 5-0.

SECOND READING - ORDINANCE #848 – LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX – Attorney Cruickshanks reported that the wording has been changes as requested for up to twenty nine percent (29%). COUNCILMAN MCDANIEL made the MOTION to approve second reading of Ordinance #848, Local Option Sales Tax with COUNCILWOMAN ANDERSON SECONDING.

Councilman Pitts asked where was it noted in the Ordinance of the changes? Attorney Cruickshanks stated that he again would reword the sentence.

COUNCIL VOTED 5-0.

SECOND READING – ORDINANCE #849 - RESCIND OF PROBATE FEES ORDINANCE #482, 1999 – Attorney Cruickshanks stated that this ordinance rescinds ordinance #842 allowing for the fees to be reset by resolution. COUNCILWOMAN ANDERSON made the MOTION to approve second reading of Ordinance #842, rescinding of Probate Fees with COUNCILMAN MCDANIEL SECONDING for discussion.

Councilman Jones asked what the present fee structure was. Attorney Cruickshanks replied that they were noted in the letter provided by Judge Fridy at the last meeting.

Councilman Pitts asked what the research fee was. Attorney Cruickshanks replied that he took that from the request of Judge Fridy.

COUNCIL VOTED 3-2 (Council Members Jones and Pitts were in opposition).

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION #2018-24 - PROBATE FEES - COUNCILWOMAN ANDERSON made the MOTION to approve Resolution #2018-24 for the establishment of all Probate fees by Resolution with COUNCILMAN MCDANIEL SECONDING; COUNCIL VOTED 3-2 (Council Members Jones and Pitts were in opposition).

NEW BUSINESS:

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER SWEARING IN – Chairman Wood asked for Officer John A. Sullivan to come forward for the swearing in process.

Formal introductions was made by Public Works Director, Rob Russian as stated, “Mr. Sullivan has been working with the County as an Attendant at the Animal Shelter for the last nine (9) months. This is to be

considered a promotion within the Litter / Humane Department replacing a position recently vacated. Upon his oath he will now be approved to perform the duties of a Code Enforcement Officer”.

Attorney Cruickshanks provided the oath of office which was approved by CONSENSUS OF COUNCIL.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

COUNTY COUNCIL COMMENTS: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Chairman Wood asked for a motion at 5:55 P.M. to move into Executive Session for two (2) employment matters and one (1) contractual matter.

Council reconvened in open session at 6:30 P.M. and reported as follows:

- 1.) employment matter – no action taken
- 2.) employment matter – no action taken
- 3.) contractual matter – no action taken

ADJOURNMENT – With no further business to conduct, Chairman Wood adjourned the meeting at 6:32 P.M. so as to move forward with the budget scheduled discussions.

Respectfully Submitted,



Betty C. Walsh
Laurens County Clerk to Council