



**MINUTES  
ORANGEBURG COUNTY COUNCIL  
March 5, 2018  
5:30 P.M.**



**Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, the news media was notified and notice was posted on the bulletin board 24 hours prior to the meeting.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

**Johnnie Wright, Sr.  
Janie Cooper-Smith  
Johnny Ravenell  
Harry F. Wimberly  
Ray W. Sabalis  
Willie B. Owens**

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**Heyward H. Livingston**

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

**Harold M. Young, County Administrator  
D'Anne Haydel, County Attorney  
Connie N. Portee, Clerk to Council**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**Johnnie Wright, Sr. Chairman**

**On the 5<sup>th</sup> day of March 2018, Chairman Wright called to order a regular session meeting of the Orangeburg County Council at 5:32 p.m.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**February 20, 2018 (RS)**

**Chairman Wright asked for a motion on the minutes of the Orangeburg County Council on the above dates be approved as written. Vice-Chairwoman Janie Cooper-Smith made the motion. Councilman Willie Owens seconded the motion. Motion carried. (7-0-0).**

**Chairman Wright advised the citizens of the purpose of public comments agenda items and public comments of other matters.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**AGENDA ITEMS**

**NONE**

**COMMENTS:**

**OTHER MATTERS**

**NONE**

**Chairman Wright closed public comments of other matters at 5:37 p.m. and went into the regular agenda.**

## **1. ORDINANCE SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING**

**AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE PURCHASE AND ACQUISITION OF EQUIPMENT TO BE USED BY ORANGEBURG COUNTY FIRE SERVICES; AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO PRESCRIBE THE FORM AND DETAILS OF THE LEASE PURCHASE FINANCING OF THE EQUIPMENT; PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE LEASE PURCHASE FINANCING; AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS**

Chairman Wright yielded to Administrator Young to give a summary. Administrator Young advised Fire Direct and the County Fire Services see the need to purchase a new aerial truck for the Fire District. It is well needed to service the County due to the growth in our hotels and industrial parks. If you have any other questions in regards to the equipment he would refer them to Fire Chief and the West Middle Fire Chief where the equipment will be located. The aerial truck amount is \$951,222.00 and it will be purchased through a lease.

Chairman Wright asked, the Council if they had any question. There were none.

Chairman Wright entertained a motion to pass the ordinance for third and final reading. Councilman Harry Wimberly made the motion. The motion was seconded by Councilman Willie Owens. Motion carried. (6-0-0).

## **2. ORDINANCE SECOND READING**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A FEE IN LIEU OF TAX AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN ORANGEBURG COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AND AN ENTITY KNOWN FOR THE TIME BEING AS "PROJECT GLOBAL" WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROPERTY IN THE COUNTY, WHEREBY SUCH PROPERTY WILL BE SUBJECT TO CERTAIN PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES; PROVIDING FOR SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDITS IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH AGREEMENT; PROVIDING FOR THE LOCATION OF THE PROJECT IN A MULTI-COUNTY INDUSTRIAL/BUSINESS PARK; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO**

Councilman Willie Owens asked Chairman Wright did Council know which park this would be located in.

Chairman Wright advised it will be a park with Dorchester County.

Councilman Willie Owens asked will it be the St. Matthews industrial park.

Attorney Haydel advised Project Global is an extension of a manufacturing facility already here in Orangeburg County.

Chairman Wright entertained a motion to pass the ordinance for second reading. Councilman Willie Owens made the motion. The motion was seconded by Councilman Johnny Ravenell. Motion carried. (6-0-0).

**3. RESOLUTION BY PLANNING COMMISSION**

**TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM GREATER LIFE TABERNACLE CHURCH TO REZONE THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 118 BELLWOOD COURT TAX MAP #0317-00-06-005.000 FROM RC (RURAL COMMUNITY) TO CG (COMMERICAL GENERAL) TO ALLOW FOR A DIGITAL SIGN**

Chairman Wright yielded to Administrator Young to give a brief summary. Administrator Young advised the planning commission met on February 14, 2018, to discuss the request from the Greater Life Tabernacle Church to rezone the property located at 118 Bellwood Court from rural community to commercial general. The church wants to put up a digital sign and this is the only category that that would allow it. There were no opposition to the request and the planning commission voted unanimously to recommend approval to you as Council.

Chairman Wright entertained a motion to pass the resolution from the planning commission. Councilman Willie Owens made the motion. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Ray Sabalis. Motion carried. (6-0-0).

**4. ORDINANCE FIRST READING**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF ORANGEBURG COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, AMENDING THE ZONING MAP OF UNINCORPORATED ORANGEBURG COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, TO CHANGE THE ZONING DESIGNATION FOR THE REAL PROPERTY DESCRIBED AS TMS # 0317-00-06-005.000 FROM RC (RURAL COMMUNITY DISTRICT); TO CG (COMMERICAL GENERAL DISTRICT); AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

Chairman Wright entertained a motion to pass the ordinance for first reading. Councilman Harry Wimberly made the motion. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairwoman Janie Cooper-Smith. Motion carried. (6-0-0).

**5. ORDINANCE FIRST READING**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THAT CERTAIN AMENDED AND RESTATED AGREEMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT OF A JOINT COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK BETWEEN DORCHESTER COUNTY AND ORANGEBURG COUNTY SO AS TO ENLARGE THE PARK (ZEUS INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS, INC., FORMERLY PROJECT O1)**

Chairman Wright entertained a motion to pass the ordinance for first reading. Councilman Willie Owens made the motion. The motion was seconded by Councilman Johnny Ravenell carried. (6-0-0).

**6. ORDINANCE FIRST READING**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THAT CERTAIN AMENDED AND RESTATED AGREEMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT OF A JOINT COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK BETWEEN DORCHESTER COUNTY AND ORANGEBURG COUNTY SO AS TO ENLARGE THE PARK (ALLIED AIR ENTERPRISES, INC)**

Chairman Wright entertained a motion to pass the ordinance for first reading. Councilman Willie Owens made the motion. The motion was seconded by Councilman Johnny Ravenell carried. (6-0-0).

7. ORDINANCE FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING POSTPONEMENT OF 2018 REASSESSMENT OF ORANGEBURG COUNTY PROPERTIES

Chairman Wright yielded to Administrator Young to give a brief summary. Administrator Young advised as a part of the reassessment under the South Carolina Code of Laws the County has certain time frames for reassessment to be completed anytime there is any extension on that time frame Council has to approve it by authorizing an ordinance to that. At the Council's retreat that was held on January 26 at that time Council was brief on the status of the reassessment and felt at that time the County needed to do the extension to make sure the County give the proper time frame to give fair and accurate assessment to the citizens of Orangeburg County.

Councilman Harry Wimberly asked how long will it be postponed.

Administrator Young yielded to Deputy Administrator Lloyd. Deputy Administrator Lloyd advised just for one year.

Councilman Willie Owens advised he hope the County will have a complete reassessment of the properties here in the County because he has had a few complaints about what it was last year to what it is this year and it did not seem reasonable according to the people who were complaining. He understand regardless to how the County reassessment goes we will still have some complaints but he hoped the County will have very few complaints.

Councilman Johnny Ravenell asked with postponing the reassessment there is on tell of any fault involved.

Administrator Young advised no sir. It just postpone the time in which the County has to comply with the fifth year rule of doing it every five years. So once the County has finished the reassessment and finalize it they will have the same time period to look at what they were give and have sufficient time for appeal.

Vice-Chairwoman Janie Cooper-Smith asked the tax payer will not be penalize but will the County be penalized.

Administrator Young advised no ma'am.

Councilman Willie Owens advised he found one citizen who claim more than one Homestead Exemption could you please address that.

Chairman Wright advised the County had done an exemption audit and with that some people have gotten caught up in that audit, some were from out of state and he has had several people call him about it. With Homestead Exemption you can only have one home to get fully exempt on it and it has to be the home the citizen lives in, unless you are 65 years of age or disabled then a citizen can get an exemption on their primary residence.

Chairman Wright entertained a motion to pass the ordinance for first reading. Councilman Johnny Ravenell made the motion. The motion was seconded by Councilman Willie Owens carried. (6-0-0).

**8. A RESOLUTION HONORING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH**

Chairman Wright yield to Vice-Chairwoman Cooper-Smith to read the resolution in its entirety.

Chairman Wright entertained a motion to pass the resolution. Councilwoman Ray Sabalis made the motion. The motion was seconded by Councilman Willie Owens. Motion carried. (6-0-0).

**9. A RESOLUTION OF THE ORANGEBURG COUNTY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING REVISION OF THE ORANGEBURG COUNTY EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK REGARDING RECORDS RETENTION**

Chairman Wright yielded to County Attorney Haydel to give a brief summary. Attorney Haydel advised the resolution was being recommended by Curtis Williams, IT Director; Jerald Crummy, HR and Risk Management Director; Bill Addison, GIS Director; and Marion Lloyd, Deputy Administrator in this past legal review and the propose of this policy short and simple just to put in writing what the County custom has been over the past several years and also exclude from the permanent records the things the County cannot capture, such as text messages. This will help us in litigation because very few people ask for all the text messages for the last several years. We can download things like emails but text messages are a different story after about three days the carrier will say we can't get them so this is really what it recognizes.

Chairman Wright asked Council for questions.

Councilman Willie Owens asked prior to this date the text messages were included as a part of the personnel record.

Attorney Haydel advised no personnel records, but all records that the County keep. The County records according to the South Carolina State Department of Archives system the County received a grant to do that years ago and it tells you the types of subject matter you have to keep and for how long. So the question is if you send a text message on that subject matter do you somehow capture it and put it in your written record and the County has decided to exclude text messages from that process.

Chairman Wright entertained a motion to pass the resolution. Vice-Chairwoman Cooper-Smith made the motion. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Ray Sabalis. Motion carried. (6-0-0).

**10. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE TAX AND TOURISM COMMITTEE**

Chairman Wright asked County Administrator Harold Young for an explanation. Administrator Young advised that the Tax and Tourism Committee met on February 27, 2018 and submitted the following recommendations for Council's consideration:

1. **Raylrode Daze Festivul requested funds for advertising the 2018 festival which is September 28, 29, and 30. \$4,000.00**
2. **The Town of Elloree requested funds to cover all Town events. \$2,000.00**
3. **The Town of Norway requested funds for advertising for the Christmas parade. The funds will be used to apply for newspaper ads, radio ads, billboard ads, participant letter and flyers. \$1,500.00.**
4. **The Orangeburg County Fair requested funds to purchase a double sided illuminated sign for placements on the fairgrounds, to welcome visitors, allow the public to be aware of events at the fairgrounds, and the promote the fairgrounds as rental location in Orangeburg County. \$7,000.00.**
5. **New Perspective Media requested funds for marketing Orangeburg County through TV and Radio. Additionally, host weekly events and concerts for spring and fall season. The marketing reaches over 250,000 people in Orangeburg, Dorchester, Calhoun, and Lexington Counties. The concerts will produce no less than 3,000 people. \$10,000.00.**
6. **The Orangeburg County Chamber of Commerce requested funds to help with bringing in a Nashville entertainment band to the Rose Festival. Also, Blaze the trail, a 20 points of interest guidebook for outdoor recreation. The guidebook and video will help promote outdoor recreation. Another expectation is to attract local Boys and Girls Scouts troops to meet in Orangeburg. \$7,500.00.**
7. **The Sixth District/Omega Psi Phi requested funds to help host its 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Talent hunt Preliminary Competition. More than 75 high school musicians, from NC and SC, along with their parents, are expected to travel to Orangeburg for this event. \$3,500.00**
8. **The Town of Rowesville requested funds to assist in the cost of a 5K and 10K River Run and Festivities for the promotion of Orangeburg County Scenic and historic sites located in and around the Town of Rowesville. \$2,500.00**
9. **The Tri-County Regional Chamber of Commerce requested funds for operating expenses of a tourism/visitor center for Eastern Orangeburg County in Holly Hill. Refreshing of the Chamber tourism-focused website, the “entices” tourists to visit all of the town’s sites in our great County and surrounding area. \$19,500.00**

**Total Recommended Funding: \$57,500.00**

**Funds Available for Disbursement \$57,657.44**

**Chairman Wright asked Council for questions.**

**Councilman Johnny Ravenell asked did everyone who requested funds got funded.**

**Administrator Young advised not everyone that requested but he believe everyone that put in a request got something if not it was not a turn down it just wasn't the right timing. He believe the only that did receive was the Grand America Hunt and it is not the time for that because it is not until January of New Year so they chose to fund that at another cycle.**

Chairman Wright entertained a motion to pass the recommendation of the Tax & Tourism Advisory Committee. Councilman Willie Owens made the motion to accept all the recommendations. Vice-Chairwoman Cooper-Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried. (6-0-0).

Chairman Wright asked were there any comments from any council member before he asked for a vote to adjourn.

Vice-Chairwoman Cooper-Smith advised she had a County update from Marie Canty supervisor of the Litter Control Department. For the month of February 22,380 pounds of litter was picked up, 16 citations were written and taken to court, 78 case were opened and of the 78 cases that were open 48 were closed. As you can see our Litter Control Department is doing a great job but it needs the community to take pride in their community and clean it up. Litter harm our environment. There will be a County wide clean up the week of April 1<sup>st</sup> – April 7<sup>th</sup> Orangeburg County Litter Control will provide bags and will pick up the bags after they have been filled.

Councilman Harry Wimberly advised Councilman Heyward Livingston had bypass surgery last week and is still in the hospital so remember him in your prayers.

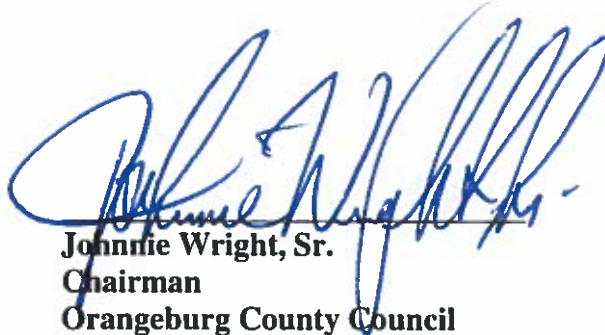
Councilman Johnny Ravenell advised that he went to visit with Councilman Heyward Livingston and he was in good spirits he is doing well.

#### 11. VOTE FOR ADJOURNMENT


Chairman Wright entertained a motion for adjournment. Vice-Chairwoman Janie Cooper-Smith motioned that the regular session of the Orangeburg County Council of March 5, 2018 stand adjourned. Councilman Johnny Ravenell seconded the motion. Motion carried. (6-0-0).

#### 12. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:58 p.m.



Johnnie Wright, Sr.  
Chairman  
Orangeburg County Council



Connie N. Portee  
Clerk to Council  
Orangeburg County Council