

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
SALUDA COUNTY COUNCIL  
MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2021 AT 6:00 P.M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF SALUDA COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
400 WEST HIGHLAND STREET, SALUDA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29138

A. CALL TO ORDER

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

Present were: Chairman Jerry Strawbridge  
Councilman J. Frank Daniel, Sr.  
Councilman Jack Atkinson  
Councilman Carey Bedenbaugh

Absent was: Councilman Justin Anderson

Also present were: County Director, Sandra G. Padgett  
Clerk to Council, Regina H. Turner  
Attorney, James Knox

B. INVOCATION

Councilman Daniel delivered the invocation.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Strawbridge led the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion of Councilman Atkinson and seconded by Councilman Bedenbaugh, the agenda was unanimously approved.

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Councilman Atkinson, seconded by Councilman Bedenbaugh, the minutes for February 8, 2021 were unanimously approved as submitted.

F. PUBLIC INFORMATION

It is noted by the Clerk herein that in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, notice of meeting and agenda were 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. Temporarily we were unable to live stream the meeting but a recording was made for upload to the web site.**

G. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS

1. Councilman Daniel encouraged everyone of the importance of getting the COVID vaccine.
2. Councilman Atkinson stated that vaccine appointments are available at Self Memorial Hospital in Greenwood and easy to sign up for. He also noted that two older churches have combined congregations (Mt. Pleasant Lutheran and Saluda Presbyterian) for continued operation.
3. Councilman Bedenbaugh stated the importance of everyone taking precautions for the virus. He also recognized the Saluda High Girls Basketball Team as the State Champions with a 15-0 season and what an honor that is for our school. Councilman Bedenbaugh thanked County employees for their continued service through this difficult time.

H. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

Chairman Strawbridge stated how phenomenal team member Hills performance was during the State Championship game scoring 34 points with 20 rebounds in a 61-41 game against Silver Bluff. Chairman Strawbridge express his congratulations to Ms. Hill for her astounding talent and spirt and wished her well wherever she goes to school.

I. PUBLIC HEARING

Chairman Strawbridge opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 01-21 “TO AMEND THE MULTI-COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK AGREEMENT BETWEEN SALUDA COUNTY AND AIKEN COUNTY ATTACHED AS SCHEDULE I OF ORDINANCE NO. 13-13; TO ADD OTHER PROPERTIES REQUESTED TO BE PLACED IN THE MULTI-COUNTY PARK; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO”. No one spoke on this ordinance and the Public Hearing was closed.

J. PUBLIC PRESENTATION

Chairman Strawbridge reconized Dean Sinatra to present his request from American Land Holdings regarding Palmetto Point. Mr. Sinatra updated council on the progress at the development site and requested changing from a Letter of Credit for the road warranty to a Surety Bond.

Councilman Atkinson asked if this covers only the road or if it included other infrastructure such as sidewalks, water or sewer. Sinatra acknowledged that it is for the road and anything in the right of way in the development area.

Councilman Bedenbaugh questioned who the local contractors were and Mr. Sinatra verified those company names.

Chairman Strawbridge made the new council members aware of the background on the prior Bond changing to a Line of Credit and his observance of the current cracks and condition of the asphalt. The Chairman stated his interest to plan a date in April to review the area conditions.

K. OLD BUSINESS

1. On motion of Councilman Danial, seconded by Councilman Atkinson, and unanimously approved, Third reading was given on Ordinance No. 01-21 "TO AMEND THE MULTI-COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK AGREEMENT BETWEEN SALUDA COUNTY AND AIKEN COUNTY ATTACHED AS SCHEDULE I OF ORDINANCE NO. 13-13; TO ADD OTHER PROPERTIES REQUESTED TO BE PLACED IN THE MULTI-COUNTY PARK; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO".

2. On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Atkinson it was unanimously approved for Second Reading on Ordinance No. 02-21 "AN ORDINANCE TO LEASE THE QUONSET HUT OWNED BY SALUDA COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, LOCATED AT THE SALUDA COUNTY AIRPORT".

Councilman Daniel asked Jill Warren if someone was ready to move into the space and she indicated that she did have someone interested.

L. NEW BUSINESS

1. On motion of Councilman Daniel, seconded by Councilman Bedenbaugh and unanimously approved, First Reading was given on Ordinance No. 03-21 "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A JOINTLY OWNED AND OPERATED INDUSTRIAL/BUSINESS PARK IN CONJUNCTION WITH AIKEN COUNTY, SUCH INDUSTRIAL/BUSINESS PARK TO BE GEOGRAPHICALLY LOCATED IN AIKEN COUNTY AND ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SEC. 4-1-170 OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, AS AMENDED; TO PROVIDE FOR A WRITTEN AGREEMENT WITH AIKEN COUNTY TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXPENSES OF THE PARK, THE PERCENTAGE OF REVENUE APPLICATION, AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF FEES IN LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXATION; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

2. Chairman Strawbridge recognized Heather Griffin, Financial Services Coordinator, to present the rating committee's recommendation to award the Request for Proposal for Annual Auditing Services to Rish and Enzastiga in the amount of \$13,750 which will be in the budget for the 2021-2022 Budget year.

A Motion was made by Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Daniel and unanimously approved to award request for Annual Auditing Services to Rish and Enzastiga.

3. Chairman Strawbridge stated the need to replace HVAC units in several county buildings and possible funding could come from the Contingency account with a current balance of \$205,000, the Building Reserve with a balance of \$111,000, or his recommendation of the Building Repair Reserve at \$88,000 which this account is specifically intended.

On Motion of Councilman Atkinson, seconded by Councilman Bedenbaugh it was unanimously approved to fund the Replacement of HVAC Units in five County Facilities in the amount of \$25,550 from the Building Repair Reserve account.

Councilman Bedenbaugh questioned whether these units have been repaired or if they could be and Councilman Atkinson questioned if a local contractor would be handling the work. The Chairman stated that our Maintenance Supervisor, John Oscar Perry had checked these units out and that Edwards Heating and Air would be installing the replacements.

4. Chairman Strawbridge recognized Jacob Schumpert, Solid Waste Coordinator to present request for the Replacement of Roofs at the seven (7) Convenience Centers. Schumpert stated that all of the sites were in need of roof repair and the quotes received were for metal replacements which would last longer than the current shingle roofs.

On motion of Councilman Daniel, seconded by Councilman Bedenbaugh it was unanimously approved to accept the quote for the Roof Replacements by Heritage Construction at the Convenience Centers to be funded from the Solid Waste Special Revenue fund in the amount of \$16,270.

5. On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Daniel, it was unanimously approved to accept the Letter of Engagement from Turner, Padgett, Graham & Laney, P.A. for County Attorney and Legal Services.
6. Chairman Strawbridge recognized Jill Warren, Grants Coordinator, to present two grant requests for the Sheriff's Office through the Justice Assistance Grant Program.

The first grant is for Investigative Equipment and PPE and the list of items was presented for review at a total amount of \$12,826.70.

The second grant includes Boat (on State Contract), Motor, Trailer and associated Equipment. A list and pictures were presented to Council for review and the total amount of the second grant is \$30,480.00.

Council and Sheriff Price discussed details regarding the boat and cases in which it would be used and how it is needed. There was discussion on a prior boat that the Sheriff's office had used that was returned to Lexington County.

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Atkinson and unanimously approved, council instructed Ms. Warren to apply for the Justice Assistance Grants with the 10% match to be paid from Contingency for application (#1) \$1,282.67 and (#2) \$3,048.50 with the total match amount of \$4,331.17.

M. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Councilman Daniel it was unanimously approved for Council to go into Executive Session pursuant to Section 30-4-70(a) (2) and (5) of the South Carolina Code of Laws 1976, as amended to discuss contracts and American Land Holdings line of credit and surety bond, a property dispute, the Election and Registration Department and on industrial park developments and project “Shamrock”.

On motion of Councilman Daniel, it was unanimously approved to come out of Executive Session.

There was no action to come out of Executive Session regarding the Maintenance Bond from American Land Holdings.

Council directs the County Attorney to answer the complaint of Jan H. Bryan vs. Saluda County Council, et al.

N. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Council Atkinson, it was unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 P.M.

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Regina H Turner  
Clerk to Council

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Jerry Strawbridge  
Chairman

April 12, 2021  
Date Approved