

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
SALUDA COUNTY COUNCIL
MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2023 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
Councilman J. Frank Daniel, Sr.
Vice-Chairman Jack Atkinson
Councilman Carey Bedenbaugh

Absent was: Councilman Justin Anderson

Also present were: County Administrator, Sandra G. Padgett
Clerk to Council, Regina H. Turner
Attorney, Virginia Bozeman

B. INVOCATION Vice-Chairman Atkinson 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 the council meetings are open to the public. Access to the live video is available when the meeting begins by going to the County's Facebook page (Saluda County, SC Government).

E. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Daniel the Agenda was approved as presented.

F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Councilman Daniel, seconded by Vice-Chairman Atkinson the Minutes for February 13, 2023 were unanimously approved as submitted.

G. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilman Bedenbaugh thanked Newberry County, Newberry County Council and Christ Central for the help in distributing dog food to citizens of Saluda County.

Vice-Chairman Atkinson said that he had been getting nice compliments on the condition of the recreation ball fields.

Councilman Daniel apologized for missing opening day at the ball field.

Chairman Moore said that he attended opening day and that the fields did really look in good shape and there were a lot of people in attendance. Chairman Moore asked Councilman Bedenbaugh about where to advertise the dog food distribution dates and times. Councilman Bedenbaugh said that residents could contact Christ Central and it was being advertised on Saluda Now. The Chairman asked that all Councilmembers review their Boards and Commissions list and get them updated with valid appointments.

Councilman Moore stated that Council had a good meeting with the Financial Advisors and reminded everyone of the Council Retreat on Wednesday the 15th.

H. PUBLIC HEARING

The Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 01-23, "AN ORDINANCE APPROVING SALE OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 117 & 119 NORTH MAIN STREET IN SALUDA COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA TO "C. F. TATHAM, JR. was opened and no one signed up to speak.

I. OLD BUSINESS

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Vice-Chairman Atkinson second reading was unanimously approved on Ordinance No. 01-23, "AN ORDINANCE APPROVING SALE OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 117 & 119 NORTH MAIN STREET IN SALUDA COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA TO "C. F. TATHAM, JR. "

J. NEW BUSINESS

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Daniel second reading was unanimously approved on Ordinance No. 03-23, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 18, ARTICLE 1 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, SALUDA COUNTY SOUTH CAROLINA TO ADD SECTION 18-4, ANIMALS."

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Vice-Chairman Atkinson it was unanimously approved to authorize staff to issue a bid for a local Animal Shelter using the Capital Project Sales Tax funds. Chairman Moore stated that this would be constructed using the \$125,000 we already have from the penny sales tax which has to be used within the County. The facility will not impact the agreement with Edgefield County for Animal Control.

A motion was made by Councilman Daniel, seconded by Vice-Chairman Atkinson to set the pay grade for the Animal/Litter Control Officer approved in the prior meeting at a Grade 17 or 18. Council discussed the grades and recognized Sheriff Price to seek his opinion. Sheriff Price recommended a pay grade 18 due to the responsibilities and requirements. Councilman Bedenbaugh made a motion to amended the motion to set the pay grade of the Animal/Litter Control officer at pay grade 18. It was seconded by Vice-Chairman Atkinson and all voted in favor of the amendment. On motion of Councilman Daniel, seconded by Councilman Bedenbaugh it was unanimously approved to set the pay grade for the Animal/Litter Control Officer approved in the prior meeting at a grade 18.

On motion of Councilman Daniel, seconded by Councilman Bedenbaugh the Standard Operating Guidelines for EMS was unanimously approved. Chairman Moore recognized Jacob Starnes, EMS Director to go over the annual update of the procedures. Starnes also replied to Council's questions regarding equipment, vehicles and staffing.

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Vice-Chairman Atkinson it was unanimously approved to sign a lease to purchase a Loader through the Caterpillar Financial Lease Program to be funded through the Heavy Equipment Reserve Account. Chairman Moore recognized Andy Coleman, Roads and Bridges Superintendent, to explain problems with the current 29-year-old loader and the options to repair or replace it. Coleman recommend the lease program as our best option.

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On Motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Vice-Chairman Atkinson 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 Economic Development, and for the purpose of receiving legal advice and to return at the call of Chair.

Chairman Moore called the council meeting back to open session and there were no motions coming out of Executive Session.

L. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, it was unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 7:04 P.M.

James L. Moore, Saluda County Council
Chairman

Regina H. Turner
Clerk to Council

Date Approved: April 10, 2023