

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
SALUDA COUNTY COUNCIL
MONDAY, JUNE 10, 2024 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
Vice-Chairman Jack Atkinson
Councilman Carey Bedenbaugh
Councilman J. Frank Daniel, Sr.
Councilman Justin Anderson

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

B. INVOCATION Councilman Daniel 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 meetings are open to the public. Access to the live video is available by going to the County's Facebook page (Saluda County, SC Government).

E. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh seconded by Vice-Chairman Atkinson the agenda was unanimously approved.

F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Vice Chairman Atkinson, seconded by Councilman Bedenbaugh the minutes for May 6th and 13th, 2024 were unanimously approved as submitted.

G. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Chairman Moore notified every one that the county has the third lowest workers comp rating in the state that is under the SCAC Workers Compensation Trust. This impacts our insurance premiums in cost

savings of \$37,187.87. He also notified everyone of Job Openings within the Roads and Bridges Department.

Councilman Daniel said that it was good news that we can find ways to save money.

Vice-Chairman Atkinson said that he had some drawings of what the school would look like when it was finished and welcomed those in attendance to look at it at the end of the meeting. He also reminded everyone to vote.

Councilman Anderson reminded everyone to get out and vote. He also said he spent the weekend helping at the Baseball field and there are more games being played tonight. He was proud of the players and umpires that were representing the county.

Councilman Bedenbaugh informed everyone that voting hours were from 7:00AM to 7:00PM and to please get out and vote. He also commented on Nursing Home Week and there was a good crowd in attendance for the event.

H. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Chairman Moore recognized Mr. Mike Mancari to speak on online taxes. Mr. Mancari expressed his concerns about taxes collected online by Saluda County citizens being disbursed to other counties due to addresses.

Chairman Moore recognized Gail Meyer to speak about concerns. Ms. Meyer expressed concern about reaching offices by phone. She also expressed concern about the executive session on May 6th regarding personnel matters and she feels that this was a misuse of the purpose of executive session due to the motions that came after. Ms. Meyer also requested notifications be posted on the Saluda Now Facebook page because it has more followers than the Twin City newspaper has subscribers.

Ms. Meyer requested that work sessions be public and council members need to be available to constituents.

Chairman Moore recognized Matt Pierce who requested to speak about revenue solutions. He requested that Council should manage expenses better. He stated some areas that funds could be managed better such as Recreation, Delinquent Tax Collector, Travel Reimbursements, Bank of America P-Card Program, and the Employee Appreciation Christmas Lunch. Mr. Pierce suggested that any meetings and missed calls by a Council member be deducted from their salary.

I. PUBLIC HEARING

Chairman Moore opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 04-24, "AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2024, FOR EDUCATIONAL AND SCHOOL PURPOSES IN SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE OF SALUDA COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA: TO PROVIDE FOR LEVY OF TAXES AND THE TAXABLE PROPERTY IN SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE: TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF SAID TAXES AND OTHER REVENUES COMING INTO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT DURING THE FISCAL YEAR. " No one signed up to speak.

Chairman Moore opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 05-24, AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGETS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF SALUDA COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2024; TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES ON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY IN SALUDA COUNTY FOR ALL COUNTY PURPOSES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2024; TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF TAX REVENUES AND OTHER COUNTY

FUNDS; TO PROVIDE FOR OTHER COUNTY PURPOSES; TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2024: AND TO PROVIDE FOR CERTAIN FISCAL AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING TO COUNTY GOVERNMENT.” No one signed up to speak.

J. OLD BUSINESS

On motion of Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Daniel, Third Reading was unanimously approved on Ordinance No. 04-24, “AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2024, FOR EDUCATIONAL AND SCHOOL PURPOSES IN SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE OF SALUDA COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA: TO PROVIDE FOR LEVY OF TAXES AND THE TAXABLE PROPERTY IN SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE: TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF SAID TAXES AND OTHER REVENUES COMING INTO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT DURING THE FISCAL YEAR.” In discussion Chairman Moore stated that Council shall determine and establish a tax of sufficient millage to support \$6,200,000.00 from Ad Valorem taxes as county funding for the appropriations and levies made herein, and shall advise the Auditor who shall fix said millage as advised by the Council. The total budget for the school is \$27,270,466.00.

K. NEW BUSINESS

On motion of Councilman Anderson, seconded by Vice-Chairman Atkinson, First Reading was unanimously approved on Ordinance No. 07-24, “AN ORDINANCE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR A FIXED BASE OPERATOR, TYLER FLOM AT THE SALUDA COUNTY AIRPORT.” Chairman Moore recognized Jill Warren, Airport Manager for discussion. Ms. Warren stated that the County’s FBO has been in operation for the last 8 to 9 years and plans to retire.

On motion of Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Bedenbaugh, Council unanimously approved to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement for Community Development Block Grant Projects. Chairman Moore stated that our past agreement had not been updated since 1990.

On motion of Councilman Daniel, seconded by Councilman Bedenbaugh, it was unanimously approved to accept the updated Job Description for Sheriff Lieutenant-Civil Process.

On motion of Vice-Chairman Atkinson, seconded by Councilman Bedenbaugh it was unanimously approved to approve the Job Description for Part-Time Animal/Litter Control Assistant. Chairman Moore said that this part-time job was approved in the May 6th meeting.

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Vice-Chairman Atkinson, it was unanimously approved to appoint Bethany Nichole Morton to the Library Board beginning July 1, 2024 with her term expiring June 30, 2028.

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Vice-Chairman Atkinson, it was unanimously approved to re-appoint Joan E. Hipp to the Library Board with her second term expiring June 30, 2028.

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Daniel, it was unanimously approved to appoint Josh Mills to the Fire Board with Jay Crouch being the alternate representing the Hollywood Fire Department with their terms expiring June 30, 2028.

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Vice-Chairman Atkinson, it was unanimously approved to re-appoint Jennifer O. Barton to the Saluda Nursing Center Board with her second term expiring April 12, 2027.

L. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Vice-Chairman Atkinson council went into Executive Session pursuant to Section 30-4-70(a) (2) of the South Carolina Code of Laws 1976, as amended for the purpose of receiving legal advice regarding county roads and to return at the call of the Chair.

Chairman Moore called the meeting back in open session

M. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, it was unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 6:57 P.M.

James L. Moore, Saluda County Council
Chairman

Regina H. Turner
Clerk to Council
Date Approved: July 8, 2024