

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
SALUDA COUNTY COUNCIL  
MONDAY, JUNE 14, 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: Vice-Chairman Justin Anderson

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

B. INVOCATION

Councilman Atkinson delivered the invocation.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Strawbridge led the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh the agenda was unanimously approved.

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Atkinson, the minutes for April 14, April 15, April 22, May 4, May 10, and May 17, 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. Access to the live video is available when the meeting begins by going to the County's Facebook page (Saluda County, SC Government).**

G. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS

1. Councilman Daniel stated that the peach season is in and invited everyone to come out to the Ridge Spring Farmers Market.
2. Councilman Atkinson commented on road improvements in his area.
3. Councilman Bedenbaugh welcomed everyone who attended the meeting.

H. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

Chairman Strawbridge recognized our new attorney Virginia Bozeman and welcomed her to Saluda and commented on the traffic. The Chairman stated that the Council had their last Budget Workshop today and there will be an article in the paper soon about some good information for the County.

I. PUBLIC PRESENTATION

Chairman Strawbridge stated that Warren and Almastine Butler were to make a presentation but were not in attendance for the meeting.

J. PUBLIC HEARING

1. Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 04-21, "AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2021, 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."

Chairman Strawbridge stated that the total school budget for 21-22 at third reading is \$20,799,529.00. Saluda County Council shall determine and establish a tax of sufficient millage to support \$7,822,758.00 minus revenues and credits reflected on the tax receipt from Fee-in-Lieu, Property Tax Relief, Homestead Exemption, Tier 3 Property Tax Relief, Merchant Inventory, Manufacturer's Depreciation and Motor Carrier, for a net amount of \$5,138,095.00 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. No one signed up to speak.

2. Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 05-21, “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, 2021; 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, 2021; 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, 2021: AND TO PROVIDE FOR CERTAIN FISCAL AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING TO COUNTY GOVERNMENT.”

Chairman Strawbridge noted that the total county budget for 21-22 at second reading is \$13,885,447.00.

No one signed up to speak.

#### K. OLD BUSINESS

1. On motion of Councilman Daniel, seconded by Councilman Bedenbaugh and unanimously approved, Third Reading was given on Ordinance No. 04-21, “AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2021, 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.
2. On motion of Councilman Atkinson, seconded by Councilman Daniel and unanimously approved, Second Reading was given on Ordinance No. 06-21 “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 SALUDA COUNTY AND ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 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.”
3. On motion of Councilman Atkinson, seconded by Councilman Daniel and unanimously approved, Second Reading was given on Ordinance No. 07-21 “AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING (1) THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A FEE IN LIEU OF TAX AND INCENTIVE AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN SALUDA COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA (THE “COUNTY”), A COMPANY KNOWN TO THE COUNTY AS PROJECT LIGHT AND ITS SUBSIDIARY, ACTING FOR ITSELF, ONE OR MORE AFFILIATES, AND/OR OTHER PROJECT SPONSORS (COLLECTIVELY, THE “COMPANY”), PURSUANT TO WHICH THE COUNTY SHALL COVENANT TO

ACCEPT CERTAIN NEGOTIATED FEES IN LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES WITH RESPECT TO THE ESTABLISHMENT AND/OR EXPANSION OF CERTAIN FACILITIES IN THE COUNTY (THE "PROJECT"); (2) THE BENEFITS OF A MULTI-COUNTY INDUSTRIAL OR BUSINESS PARK TO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE COMPANY AND THE PROJECT; (3) CERTAIN SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDITS IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROJECT; AND (4) OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO."

Councilman Bedenbaugh stated that he did abstain from the prior votes on Ordinance 6-21 and 7-21.

L. NEW BUSINESS

1. On Motion of Councilman Atkinson, seconded by Councilman Daniel it was unanimously approved to replace HVAC units at the DSS Building, Detention Center and Library in the amount of \$21,850.00 to be paid from the Building Repair Reserve Account.
2. Chairman Strawbridge read part of the SC Forestry Commission letter to request the County's support for the donation of land into their system. On Motion of Councilman Daniel, seconded by Councilman Atkinson it was unanimously approved to provide a letter of support to the SC Forestry Commission.
3. On motion of Chairman Strawbridge, seconded by Councilman Bedenbaugh, it was unanimously approved to appoint George Robert Long of 201 Saluda Island Road, Prosperity to the Saluda County Tax Appeals Board with his first term expiring 6-14-23.
4. On motion of Chairman Strawbridge, seconded by Councilman Bedenbaugh, it was unanimously approved to appoint Chad Satcher (Circle Fire Department) to the Saluda County Fire Board with his first term expiring 6-14-25.

M. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Councilman Atkinson, seconded by Councilman Bedenbaugh 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 receive legal advice on industrial park developments and project "Light".

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

N. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Council Atkinson, it was unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 6:41 P.M.

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Regina H Turner  
Clerk to Council

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Jerry Strawbridge  
Chairman

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Date Approved