

MINUTES OF CALLED MEETING
SALUDA COUNTY COUNCIL
MONDAY, JUNE 20, 2024 at 6:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, SALUDA COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
400 WEST HIGHLAND STREET, SALUDA, SOUTH CAROLINA

A. CALL TO ORDER

The Called Meeting of Saluda County Council was called to order by Chairman Moore at 6:00 P.M.

Present were:	Chairman Jim Moore Councilman Frank Daniel Vice-Chairman Jack Atkinson
Absent were:	Councilman Carey Bedenbaugh Councilman Justin Anderson
Also present were:	Clerk to Council, Regina Turner County Administrator, Sandra G. Padget

B. INVOCATION Vice-Chairman Atkinson delivered the invocation.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Chairman Moore led the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion of Councilman Daniel, seconded by Vice-Chairman Atkinson the agenda was unanimously approved as presented.

E. PUBLIC INFORMATION

It is noted by the Clerk herein that in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the called meeting and agenda were 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 by going to the County’s Facebook page (Saluda County, SC Government)**

F. OLD BUSINESS

On motion of Vice-Chairman Atkinson, seconded by Councilman Daniel, Third Reading was unanimously approved on Ordinance No. 05-24 “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.” Chairman Moore stated that the amount of the Operating Budget is \$17,252,800 and this budget includes an approximate 1 Mill tax increase.

On motion of Vice-Chairman Atkinson, seconded by Councilman Daniel, Second 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 to answer any questions. She introduced Tyler Flom to the Council and he explained some of the work that he will be doing.

G. NEW BUSINESS

On motion of Councilman Daniel, seconded by Vice-Chairman Atkinson it was unanimously approved to transfer year-end roll funds to Capital Project Reserve funds as recommended. Chairman Moore explained that the county estimates that we should have a balance of around \$720,000 to roll.

- \$200,000 in the Heavy Equipment Reserve to cover lease payments on motor graders, tractors and backhoe loaders and to purchase the Roller Packer as requested in the amount of \$41,371.34 from Blanchard.
- \$310,000 to Ambulance Reserve for Ambulances on Order
- \$50,000 to County Building Reserve
- \$160,000 to Building Improvement Reserve for Repairs need at the Ag. Building, Magistrate, Administration, Courthouse and Recreation

Chairman Moore recognized, Auditor, Memmus Forrest to explain the current changes in the Manufactures Reimbursement received from the State. Mr. Forrest explained that the state changed the tax structure for business coming into the state. The rate had always been 10.5% which was not competitive with surrounding states so they lowered the rate to 6%. For this to not decrease funding to the Counties, the state supplemented it through the Property Evaluation Exemption Fund. This gave our county more money than we expected. Mr. Forrest said that he contacted DOR to make sure this would be recurring and they said it would.

Vice-Chairman Atkinson reminded everyone that the updates and repairs to the Ag. Building was agreed on when we signed the new contract for the lease.

On motion of Councilman Daniel, seconded by Vice-Chairman Atkinson, council unanimously approved to appoint Randell Maffett to the Fire Board with Dudley Rushton being the alternate representing the Mayson Fire Department with their terms expiring June 30, 2028.

H. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Councilman Daniel, it was unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 PM. Vice-Chairman Atkinson announced that his wife has an upcoming Birthday and she would be 90.

Regina H. Turner
Clerk to Council

James L. Moore, Chairman

Date Approved: July 8, 2024