

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
SALUDA COUNTY COUNCIL
MONDAY, AUGUST 9, 2021 AT 6:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, SALUDA COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
400 WEST HIGHLAND STREET, SALUDA, SOUTH CAROLINA

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 Justin Anderson
Councilman Jack Atkinson
Councilman Carey Bedenbaugh

Also present were:

County Director, Sandra G. Padgett
Clerk to Council, Regina Turner
Attorney, Virginia Bozeman

B. INVOCATION

Councilman Anderson delivered the invocation.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Strawbridge 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 budget work session was 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).

E. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion of Councilman Anderson, the agenda was unanimously approved.

F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Atkinson, the minutes for July 12, 2021 and July 16, 2021 were unanimously approved as submitted.

G. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Councilman Anderson expressed his congratulations to the Recreation Softball and Baseball teams that advanced to the District, State and those that progressed to the Dixie League World Series events.

Councilman Bedenbaugh also congratulated the Recreation sports teams in their achievements and thanked everyone who was able to make it to the meeting.

Councilman Daniel had nothing to report.

Councilman Atkinson commented on the teams' accomplishments and the hot weather in Mississippi.

Chairman Strawbridge spoke about the fundraiser and meeting the team members and families.

H. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Chairman Strawbridge recognized Mr. Shawn Howard to present his information to council regarding the road fee. Mr. Howard spoke for his allotted 7 minutes and Chairman Strawbridge requested that he submit to council staff any additional information that he thought Council needed to know.

Chairman Strawbridge addressed the ruling on a particular Greenville County Road Fee ordinance and how that pertains to other counties throughout the state.

I. OLD BUSINESS

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh and Seconded by Council Anderson, and unanimously approved, Second Reading was given to Ordinance No. 08-21 "AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A COUNTY PROHIBITION ON THE INFRINGEMENT OF THE RIGHT TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS AND DESIGNATING SALUDA COUNTY AS A SECOND AMENDMENT SANCTUARY. "

J. NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Strawbridge recognized Luke Downing, Assistant Fire Service Coordinator to present information on the construction of a new fire station at Old Town Fire Department. On motion of Council Daniel, Seconded by Council Bedenbaugh it was unanimously approved to move forward with specifications for a bid to be published for the clearing, grading and construction of a new fire station.

Chairman Strawbridge recognized Hardee Horne, Risk Manager, to present the COVID-19 Policy for Employees. Hardee read and explained the need of the policy. On motion of Councilman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Bedenbaugh it was unanimously approved to accept the leave policy as written.

Chairman Strawbridge recognized Jacob Starnes, EMS Director to present his request regarding the stretchers for the new ambulances. Jacob made the request to defer this subject to the next meeting.

On motion of Councilman Anderson and seconded by Councilman Atkinson it was unanimously approved to change the Travel Allowance for mileage and meals to the Federal GSA rates which are updated each year by the Federal Government.

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Councilman Daniel, Council moved into Executive Session pursuant to Section 30-4-70(a) (2) of the South Carolina Code of Laws 1976, as amended to discuss personnel in the Emergency Management department.

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh it was approved to come out of executive session.

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh, Seconded by Councilman Daniel it was unanimously approved to create the position of Fire Service Coordinator in the Emergency Management Department and accept the job description as provided with the additional funds to be paid from contingency.

L. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Councilman Bedenbaugh and unanimously approved, the meeting adjourned at 7:11 P.M.

Regina H. Turner, Clerk to Council

Raymond G. Strawbridge, Chairman

Date Approved