

MINUTES OF CALLED MEETING
SALUDA COUNTY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, MARCH 6, 2018 at 6:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF SALUDA COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
400 WEST HIGHLAND STREET, SALUDA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29138

A. CALL TO ORDER

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

Present were: Chm. Derrick W. Jones
Coun. Jones P. Butler
Coun. J. Frank Daniel, Sr.
Coun. D. J. Miller
Coun. Gwendolyn C. Shealy

Also present were: County Director, Sandra G. Padget
Clerk to Council, Karen T. Whittle
County Attorney, Christian G. Spradley

B. INVOCATION

Chm. Jones delivered the invocation.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chm. Jones 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 called meeting and agenda were given to the local news media and properly posted, to include the county website.

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. On motion of Coun. Shealy, seconded by Coun. Butler, it was unanimously approved to purchase furniture listed from S.C. Dept. of Administration, Surplus Property Office in the amount of \$1,755.00 and \$905.00 reallocated to purchase miscellaneous furniture and blinds for the mobile unit from the Public Building Repair Reserve account instead of purchasing the office furniture from Prison Industries and a chair for a total of \$2,660.00 as previously approved in the December 21, 2017 called meeting, pending the response from Prison Industries. During discussion staff informed Council Prison Industries had not responded as to whether the order could be cancelled or if there would be a restocking fee.

Chief Cockrell informed Council the Sheriff's Department would rather have the furniture from Surplus because it would furnish the entire building versus the furniture from Prison Industries would only furnish one office and if there was a restocking fee, it would be paid from the remaining \$905.00. Chief Cockrell and the Sheriff agreed they would inform Council, as requested by Coun. Shealy, of the items that would be purchased with the \$905.00, and any unused funds would remain in the Public Buildings Repair reserve account.

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Chm. Jones recognized Chief Deputy Cockrell to present consideration to purchase used vehicles from the S.C. Department of Administration Surplus Property Office for the Sheriff's Office.

Chief Cockrell informed Council the Surplus Property Office had received vehicles to sell from the Homeland Security department. Chief Cockrell said Chevrolet Tahoe's received ranged from 2008 to 2011 models with mileage ranging from 62,000 to 145,000 miles. Chief Cockrell requested Council to consider purchasing two Chevrolet Tahoe's for \$13,500.00 each, one 2010 Ford Crown Victoria with 19,438 miles for \$6,000.00 and one 2011 Ford F250 pickup with 101,212 miles for \$19,000.00 for the Sheriff Department's fleet. Chief Cockrell said the vehicles would only require radios, striping, and bulbs changed out in the light bars from red to blue, and could be paid from the Sheriff's auto operating expense account. Council and Chief Deputy Cockrell discussed the vehicles, equipment already installed in the vehicles, the Ford pickup would be used to transport the bloodhounds to scenes, and how often the bloodhounds were used.

Council and Chief Cockrell discussed the possibility of a county animal control department and the Ford pickup being used as the animal control vehicle, as well as to transport the bloodhounds. Chief Cockrell said the pickup had two separate compartments for transporting animals, one in the cab and one in the back of the pickup, but he would want to consult with the veterinarian before committing to sharing the vehicle, due to concerns of transferring diseases between dogs picked up and the bloodhounds.

Council and Chief Cockrell discussed the following: the balance in the Vehicle Reserve account, \$35,726.98; cost of the four vehicles exceeded Vehicle Reserve amount; the amount in the funds set aside for animal control and the possibility of those funds being used to purchase the pickup if it could be shared; and not using funds from Contingency to go towards the purchase of these vehicles, since Contingency would be needed to balance accounts at year end.

Chief Cockrell informed Council if these vehicles were purchased, two Ford Crown Victoria's, one 2013 Ford Explorer, all with high mileage, and the Chevrolet Suburban (current K-9 vehicle) could be sold with funds deposited into the Vehicle Reserve account. Sheriff Perry also said a Dodge Durango owned by the Sheriff's Department could be given to Council to be sold or used as needed. Council discussed the condition of these vehicles and the possibility of using them for other county departments in need of vehicles.

Coun. Miller expressed he would be in agreement for purchasing the two Chevrolet Tahoe's and the Ford Crown Victoria as long as the County could sell or use the other four vehicles at Council's discretion, but not the Ford F250 since it was the highest priced, would not be used that much, and would exceed funds available.

Chm. Jones offered a motion to purchase two Chevrolet Tahoe's for \$27,000.00, one Ford Crown Victoria for \$6,000.00 from the S.C. Department of Administration, Surplus Property Office in the amount of \$33,000.00 to be paid from the Vehicle Reserve. Coun. Miller moved the motion and Coun. Butler seconded the motion. During discussion Coun. Shealy said she understood the Sheriff's Department needed vehicles, but she was uncomfortable about purchasing these vehicles due to the low balance in Vehicle Reserve. Coun. Miller said he would like for the Sheriff's Department to research Surplus for good used vehicles when the department needed to replace vehicles. Coun. Miller questioned did the motion need to have the County getting the Durango to use and wording for the K-9 unit if it could be used for animal control and transporting the bloodhounds. County Director, Sandra Padgett recommended not putting any wording about the K-9 unit; however Council decided on the Durango; but recommended stating into the record the sale of vehicles would be deposited into the Vehicle Reserve account. County Attorney Chris Spradley suggested to make the motion contingent upon getting the Durango from the Sheriff because Council did not have control over the Durango; the Sheriff would have to offer the Durango. Attorney Spradley said the motion needed to be the purchase of the three new vehicles contingent upon receiving the four vehicles, including the Durango.

Coun. Miller made a motion for an amendment that the purchase of the two Tahoe's and Crown Victoria was contingent upon County Council receiving the three replacement vehicles and the Dodge Durango from the Sheriff's Department to use at Council's discretion. Coun. Daniel seconded the motion. Chm. Jones called for the vote on the amendment: (In Favor: Chm. Jones, Coun. Daniel, Miller, Butler); (Opposed: Coun. Shealy).

Chm. Jones stated back to the main motion, entertain a motion to purchase two Chevrolet Tahoe's for \$27,000.00, one Ford Crown Victoria for \$6,000.00 from the S.C. Department of Administration, Surplus Property Office in the amount of \$33,000.00 to be paid from the Vehicle Reserve, contingent on three replacement vehicles and the one Dodge Durango. Chm. Jones called for a motion. Coun. Daniel moved the motion. Coun. Butler seconded the motion. Chm. Jones called for the vote: (In Favor: Chm. Jones, Coun. Daniel, Miller, Butler); (Opposed: Coun. Shealy).

G. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Miller, it was unanimously approved for Council to go into Executive Session Pursuant to Section 30-4-70(a)(1) and (2) of the South Carolina Code of Laws 1976, as amended to: 1) receive information in relations to personnel matters in all departments regarding salaries; 2) receive legal advice in relation to FOIA Statues; and 3) receive legal advice in relation to lawsuit regarding pharmaceuticals, to return at the Call of the Chair.

Council returned into open session at the Call of the Chair.

H. PUBLIC ACTION

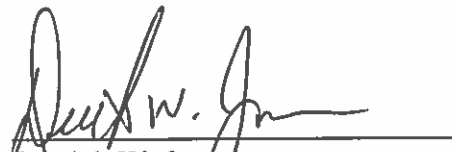
On motion of Coun. Shealy, seconded by Coun. Butler, it was unanimously approved authorize the county Attorney to move forward with the lawsuit discussed in Executive Session in regards to pharmaceuticals.

I. ADJOURNMENT


On motion of Coun. Shealy, seconded by Coun. Miller, it was unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 P.M.



Karen T. Whittle
Clerk to Council



Derrick W. Jones
Chairman



Date Approved