

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
SALUDA COUNTY COUNCIL
MONDAY, OCTOBER 8, 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

Chairman Derrick W. Jones called the regular meeting of Saluda County Council to order 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

Coun. Daniel delivered the invocation.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chm. Jones led the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Shealy, the minutes for September 10, 2018 were unanimously approved as submitted.

E. 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.

F. REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

1. Coun. Daniel invited everyone to the Ridge Spring Harvest Festival activities beginning October 11th – 13th.
2. Council urged everyone to be prepared for Hurricane Michael later in the week.

G. PUBLIC HEARING

1. Chm. Jones opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 09-18, "AN ORDINANCE TO GRANT AN EASEMENT ON PROPERTY OWNED BY SALUDA COUNTY LOCATED ON INDUSTRIAL PARK ROAD, SALUDA, SOUTH CAROLINA." No one spoke and the public hearing was closed.
2. Chm. Jones opened the Public Hearing TO REVIEW A REQUEST BY CELLCO PARTNERSHIP D/B/A VERIZON WIRELESS FOR A SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT A NEW WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATION TOWER LOCATED AT 268 GABE ROAD, JOHNSTON IN SALUDA COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA (PID #064-00-00-023). THE PROPOSED WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATION TOWER WILL BE A 190-FOOT MONOPOLE TOWER WITH A 2-FOOT LIGHTNING ROD (TOTAL HEIGHT 192 FEET).

Chm. Jones recognized Mr. Ralph Wyngarden with Faulk and Foster representing Verizon Wireless.

Mr. Wyngarden stated he was with Faulk and Foster representing Verizon Wireless to request a special use permit to construct a 190 foot monopole cell tower at 268 Gabe Road, Johnston. Mr. Wyngarden said the tower was for capacity and coverage for the southwest area of Saluda County. Mr. Wyngarden said a balloon test was advertised and conducted for the location and a package was submitted containing information on the cell tower, as well as compliance with the county ordinance.

Mr. James Pope spoke at the public hearing and stated his property joined and was within 1500 feet of the property location for the cell tower. Mr. Pope addressed there had been a past issue with the adjoining property owner on the property line and he wanted to make sure the property line was correct before a cell tower was erected. Mr. Pope asked if the property lines had been checked and asked to be contacted concerning the property line.

Mr. Wyngarden responded that Mr. Pope was the property owner to the east of the property for the cell tower location. Mr. Wyngarden said he did not know the details of the property line issue Mr. Pope addressed, but the survey submitted for the tower was on the correct property and not over Mr. Pope's property line. Mr. Wyngarden said they would make sure not to trespass and not affect any of the utilities or anything to do with his property.

Ms. Almastine Butler spoke at the public hearing and questioned health risk and depreciation of property values with a cell tower in the area.

Ms. Jackie Hicks with the Center for Municipal Solutions said she had not seen property values depreciate because of a cell tower in an area, but she had seen values affected by no cell phone coverage in an area.

Mr. Wyngarden responded that the limits were below the FCC standards concerning the health issues and were address in item number 13 and 15 of the information package.

No one else spoke and the public hearing was closed.

H. OLD BUSINESS

1. On motion of Coun. Shealy, seconded by Coun. Butler, and unanimously approved, Third Reading was given on Ordinance No. 09-18, "AN ORDINANCE TO GRANT AN EASEMENT ON PROPERTY OWNED BY SALUDA COUNTY LOCATED ON INDUSTRIAL PARK ROAD, SALUDA, SOUTH CAROLINA."
2. Chm. Jones recognized Ms. Kathy Hendricks-Dublin for the request of Piedmont Agency on Aging for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 funding.

Ms. Dublin requested Council to reconsider funding Piedmont Agency on Aging \$6,500.00 that was eliminated for Fiscal Year 2018-2019. Ms. Dublin gave an overview of the services Piedmont Agency on Aging provided to the seniors in Saluda County, to include Meals on Wheels, senior transportation, and group dining meals at the Butler Avenue facility. Ms. Dublin said it cost approximately \$13,000.00 a year to operate at the current facility. Ms. Dublin informed Council they were looking for a different facility due to repairs needed and the federal lien on the building, which is owned by the former Saluda County Council on Aging.

On motion of Coun. Shealy, seconded by Coun. Butler, it was unanimously approved to fund Piedmont Agency on Aging \$6,500.00 for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 from Contingency. During discussion Council and Ms. Dublin discussed, but not limited to, additional sources of revenue consisted of unrestricted funds, state and federal contracts; launching a direct mail campaign for financial support from the community; re-locating due to federal lien and repairs needed on the building; and past Saluda County Council on Aging board of directors needed to initiate addressing the federal lien on the Butler Avenue building. Chm. Jones stated during budget work sessions, Council cut agencies across the board and did not single out Piedmont Agency on Aging. Chm. Jones thanked Ms. Dublin for coming and informing Council of the need for funding versus agencies that ask for funding, but do not necessarily need the funding.

Council thanked Ms. Dublin for the services Piedmont Agency was providing to the Saluda County seniors.

I. NEW BUSINESS

1. On motion of Coun. Daniel, seconded by Coun. Miller, and unanimously approved, First Reading was given on Ordinance No. 10-18, "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, SALUDA COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, CHAPTER 6 BUILDING AND BUILDING REGULATIONS, SECTION 6-7 DISTANCE AND SETBACK REQUIREMENTS." During discussion Chm. Jones read the following proposed change: No structure shall be located closer than twenty-five (25) feet to the right-of-way of a street or closer than **twenty (20) feet** from another structure. All structures

must have a minimum setback of ten (10) feet from property lines. Chm. Jones stated the current setback from a structure was 25 feet.

2. On motion of Coun. Shealy, seconded by Coun. Butler, and unanimously approved, First Reading was given on Ordinance No. 11-18, "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 06-14, TO CHANGE SECTION 5, USE OF PREMISES, OF THE T-HANGAR LEASE AGREEMENT ATTACHED TO AND MADE PART OF ORDINANCE NO. 06-14." During discussion Chm. Jones read the following proposed change to be added to section 5a: Upon signing the lease agreement the Lessee has 30 days to place an airworthy aircraft in the hangar. Extensions may be granted on a case by case basis as approved by the Airport Commission. County Council by way of County Director will be notified in writing of any extensions granted.
3. On motion of Coun. Miller, seconded by Coun. Butler, Council unanimously approved a special use permit with conditions as listed in the recommendation letter from The Center for Municipal Solutions for Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless ("Verizon Wireless") to construct a 190-foot monopole telecommunications tower with a 2-foot lightning rod (with total height of 192 feet), located at 268 Gabe Road, Johnston in Saluda County, South Carolina (PID #064-00-00-023). During discussion Chm. Jones asked were or would the property boundaries be taken care of that Mr. James Pope addressed during the public hearing. Ms. Jackie Hicks with The Center for Municipal Solutions said they would be taken care of.
4. On motion of Coun. Shealy, seconded by Coun. Daniel, the following administrative issuance and permit fees in regards to mobile/manufactured homes in accordance with Ordinance No. 08-18 were unanimously approved:

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| Mobile/Manufactured Home Permit Fee | \$200.00 (for first Mobile/Manufactured Home) |
| | \$300.00 (for each successive Mobile/Manufactured Home) |
| Decal Application Fee ONLY | \$25.00 |
| Administrative Issuance Fee | \$25.00 |
| Moving Permit | \$150.00 |
| Demolition | \$100.00 |
| Reinspection Fee | \$50.00 (must be paid prior to any rescheduling) |
| Failure to cancel a scheduled inspection or give notice of cancellation | \$50.00 |

5. Chm. Jones recognized Asst. Emergency Management Director, Jill Warren to present the Assistance to Firefighters grant request for the fire departments and EMS.

Ms. Warren requested Council's consideration to seek the Assistance to Firefighters grant to purchase P25 compliant mobile and portable radios for the fire departments and EMS. Ms. Warren informed Council the 2017 grant application was not approved. Ms. Warren

said the request for the fire departments was 36 mobile radios at a cost of \$77,000.00 and 80 portable radios at a cost of \$175,000.00; and the request for EMS was 9 mobile radios at a cost of \$48,000.00 and 18 portable radios at a cost of \$40,000.00. Ms. Warren said the total grant request was \$340,000.00 with a 10% required county match of \$34,000.00.

On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Miller, it was unanimously approved for staff to proceed with the application for the Assistance to Firefighters grant for 36 mobile radios at a cost of \$77,000.00 and 80 portable radios at a cost of \$175,000.00 for the fire departments; and 9 mobile radios at a cost of \$48,000.00 and 18 portable radios at a cost of \$40,000.00 for EMS for a total amount of \$340,000.00 with the 10% county match of \$34,000.00 to be funded from Contingency. During discussion Council and Ms. Warren discussed the following: the 2017 grant application needed more explanation of cost benefit to the county; more portable radios would be needed for fire departments, but the grant only allowed the number of radios for seated positions of all fire trucks; and the grant was a federal grant that could take six months to a year to receive award status. During discussion Emergency Management Director, Josh Morton said these radios were for the radio system selected by the committee that was sought through a Request for Proposal last year. Mr. Morton said the digital radio system would give more coverage throughout Saluda County.

6. Chm. Jones recognized Coroner Keith Turner for his request for reimbursement of expenses for the 2017-2018 Coroner's Conference and request for funding the 2018-2019 Coroner's Conference.

Coroner Turner asked for Council to reimburse him \$1,071.41 for registration, lodging, meals, and mileage for the annual 2017-2018 Coroner's Conference. Coroner Turner explained the reimbursement was denied due to the spending freeze, but his reservations were made in January of 2018.

Coroner Turner also requested Council's consideration to reinstate expenses in the amount of \$1,609.00 for registration, lodging, meals, and estimated mileage for the annual 2018-2019 Coroner's Conference. Coroner Turner said the expenses were more for the 2018-2019 conference due to change of conference location and room rates.

- a. On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Daniel, it was unanimously approved to reimburse Coroner Keith Turner \$1,071.41 for expenses for the 2017-2018 Coroner's Conference from Contingency. During discussion Chm. Jones and Coroner Turner discussed his reservations were made on January 28, 2018. Coun. Miller said after seeing when the reservations were made, he felt a mistake was made in not funding the 2017-2018 conference and asked that Council consider reservations go through the county purchasing department than employees and elected officials making their own reservations on personal cards.
- b. On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Shealy, it was unanimously approved to transfer \$1,609.00 from Contingency to line item #15 of the Coroner's county budget for the 2018-2019 Coroner's Conference. During discussion Coun. Miller said the

decision was made based on information provided to Council and asked in moving forward, that Coroner Turner bring all of his department's request to Council. Coroner Turner agreed.

J. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Shealy, 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 discuss 1) personnel in the Public Building Maintenance department; and 2) to receive legal advice on sale of county property, to return at the Call of the Chair.

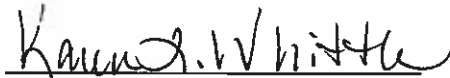
Council returned into open session at the Call of the Chair.

K. PUBLIC ACTION

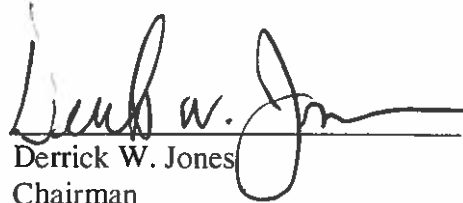
On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Shealy, it was unanimously approved to offer the Public Building Maintenance Director position to Tommy Nicholson.

L. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Miller, it was unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 P.M.



Karen T. Whittle
Clerk to Council



Derrick W. Jones
Chairman

November 12, 2018

Date Approved