

MINUTES OF CALLED MEETING
SALUDA COUNTY COUNCIL
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2020 at 12:00 NOON
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 Jerry Strawbridge at 12:00 Noon.

Present were:

Chm. Jerry Strawbridge
Coun. Justin Anderson
Coun. Jones P. Butler
Coun. J. Frank Daniel, Sr.
Coun. Wayne Grice

Also present were:

County Director, Sandra G. Padget
Clerk to Council, Karen T. Whittle

B. INVOCATION

Coun. Daniel delivered the invocation.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chm. 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 called 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. You may also access the live stream of the meeting by going to the county's website at www.saludacounty.sc.gov, click on the you tube box in the top right hand corner and click on the September 3, 2020 video.

E. COUNCIL CHAIRMAN REPORT

Chm. Strawbridge reminded Council the Clerk to Council provided a list in their agenda package each month of their board and commission appointments or re-appointments. Chm. Strawbridge stressed the importance and responsibility of Council to fill the board and commission positions.

F. COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORTS

Coun. Daniel reminded the citizens of the importance to complete their census forms and that federal funding Saluda County would receive was dependent on the census response.

G. OLD BUSINESS

1. On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Anderson, the Emergency Ordinance for COVID-19 Amendment No. 4, "AN ORDINANCE EXTENDING A STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR SALUDA COUNTY DUE TO THE THREATS POSED BY THE 2019 NOVEL CORONAVIRUS ("COVID-19")" was unanimously approved.

H. NEW BUSINESS

1. Chm. Strawbridge stated under new business was consideration to rescind a vote that was taken in the July 13, 2020 council meeting approving to fund approximately \$28,000.00 from the Economic Development Millage account to extend the waterline to the Saluda County Commerce Park-West on Highway 378.

Chm. Strawbridge informed Council that the complete design for the Commerce Park entrance project, which costs approximately \$500,000.00 did not include a waterline. Chm. Strawbridge said shrubbery was planted and in order to get irrigation to the shrubbery, a waterline needed to be extended from existing water infrastructure which was going to cost the County additional funds of \$28,000.00 along with an additional quote of \$14,000.00 received the morning of September 3rd for a meter pit if the waterline was installed. Chm. Strawbridge recommended to Council that they rescind the vote of July 13th for the \$28,000.00 and then he would address how much money the County would save by not putting the line in. Chm. Strawbridge informed Council that the Public Buildings Superintendent, John Oscar Perry had installed a waterline at the entrance, which cost the County very little.

On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Anderson, it was unanimously approved to rescind the vote of July 13th which approved the funding of approximately \$28,000.00 from the Economic Development Millage to extend the waterline to the Saluda County Commerce Park. During discussion, Coun. Grice questioned if the existing waterline would service the entire park if it were ever developed. Chm. Strawbridge stated it would not, but informed Council there was a 10-inch waterline pipe owned by the Commission of Public Works in the right-of-way on Bouknight Ferry Road which connected to the park. Chm. Strawbridge said there was also a waterline on the backside of the property, as well as a waterline on the other side of the creek which could be used and was what \$67,000.00 had been allocated for. Chm. Strawbridge said if a business wanted to locate at the park, water was available and it would take very little time to get water to the business.

I. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Coun. Grice, seconded by Coun. Anderson, it was unanimously approved for Council to go into Executive Session pursuant to Section 30-4-70(a)(1) of the South Carolina Code of Laws 1976, as amended to discuss personnel in the Probate Court Office and the restructuring of positions and job descriptions in the County Council Office. Chm. Strawbridge stated possible action may come out of Executive Session in the Probate Court Office and in the County Council Office.

On motion of Coun. Anderson, seconded by Coun. Butler, it was unanimously approved for Council to come out of Executive Session.

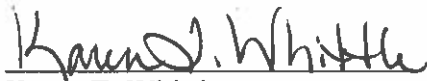
J. PUBLIC ACTION

1. On motion of Coun. Daniel, seconded by Coun. Grice, it was unanimously approved to allow the Probate Judge to fill the position of Associate Probate Judge and advertise according to county policy.
2. On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Grice, it was unanimously approved to allow the Probate Judge to fill the position of Probate Court Clerk and advertise according to county policy.
3. On motion of Coun. Grice, seconded by Coun. Butler, it was unanimously approved to adopt the revised job description for the Financial and Human Resources Coordinator.
4. On motion of Coun. Anderson, seconded by Coun. Daniel, it was unanimously approved to adopt the title and job description for the Financial and Purchasing Coordinator. Chm. Strawbridge stated this was replacing the Financial Services Coordinator title and job description.

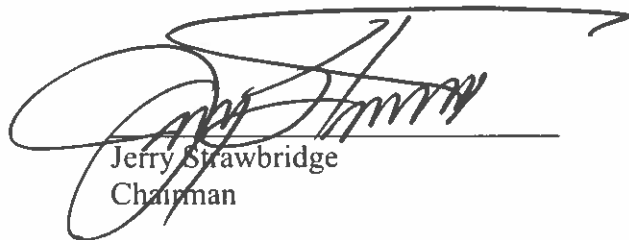
5. On motion of Coun. Anderson, seconded by Coun. Butler, it was unanimously approved to fill the position of Financial and Purchasing Coordinator and advertise according to county policy.

K. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Daniel, it was unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 12:42 P.M.



Karen T. Whittle
Clerk to Council



Jerry Strawbridge
Chairman

October 12, 2020

Date Approved