

MINUTES OF CALHOUN COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
March 11, 2024
5:30 P.M.

Calhoun County Council held its regular meeting on Monday, March 11, 2024.

The following were present:

Chairman James E. Haigler, who presided
Vice-Chairman Ken Westbury
Councilwoman Rebecca Bonnette
Councilman Richard Carson
Councilman Cecil Thornton
Deputy Administrator Richard Hall
Clerk to Council Shayla Jenkins

The following press was notified of the meeting by mail, electronic mail, or by fax in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act: The Calhoun Times, The Times and Democrat, and Sandy Run News. An Agenda was also posted on Calhoun County's website calhouncounty.sc.gov.

Call to Order

Chairman Haigler called the meeting to order.

Invocation

Invocation was offered by Councilwoman Bonnette.

Approval of Agenda

Councilman Carson made the motion to approve the March 11, 2024 meeting agenda as presented and was seconded by Vice-Chairman Westbury. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments

Chris Roland introduced himself to Council as a candidate for SC House of Representatives for District 93, and voiced the importance of representation for Calhoun County.

Public Hearings

Chairman Haigler opened a Public Hearing on **Ordinance 2024-1 TO AUTHORIZE AND APPROVE THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A FEE IN LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAX AGREEMENT BETWEEN LEEK HOLDINGS, LLC AND CALHOUN COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, TO PROVIDE CERTAIN SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDITS, AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.**

The following citizens commented in opposition:

Mike Roberts, Michael Milligan, Kam Arant, Cathy Beauchere, Pat Roberts, Julia D. Wolfe, Janis Breazeale, Felicia Ellis, Hugh Buyck, Meredith Buyck, Janet Echols, Lissa Peterkin, Nina Mack, Tucker Laffitte and Richard Watkins. After comments concluded, the Hearing was closed.

Third Reading of Ordinance 2024-14. Vice-Chairman Westbury made a motion to pass Third Reading of Ordinance 2024-1, and was seconded by Councilman Thornton. Council members discussed the matter, and vote was taken. Councilman Carson recused himself, due to being a solar farm land owner. The motion passed with a 3-1 vote (Haigler, Westbury and Thornton in favor; Bonnette opposed).

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the February 26, 2024 regular meeting were presented for approval. Motion was made by Councilman Thornton and seconded by Councilwoman Bonnette to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes of the October 3, 2023 regular meeting were presented for amending to change MUSC to RMC regarding appointments to the Executive Committee. Motion was made by Vice-Chairman Westbury and seconded by Councilman Thornton to approve the amendment. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

None

Appointments

Council approved the appointment of Beth Rast (Calhoun County Library) to the First Steps Local Partnership Board. The motion was made by Vice-Chairman Westbury, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and passed unanimously.

Appearances

Walter N. Bennett, III, CEO and Kathy Booker appeared to give MUSC Health updates. The rebranding with new signage will be beginning soon and Mr. Bennett outlined some of the upcoming goals for the organization.

LaKeisha Mooror, appointed Clerk of Court, gave an update on the office and the various services. She discussed statistics regarding the types of cases and cases moving to completion. She also referenced the recommendation from the SC Court Administration regarding the new gun laws and posting signage.

Resolutions

Resolution 5-2024 A RESOLUTION INDUCING AND IDENTIFYING AN INVESTMENT UNDER THE NAME OF LEEK HOLDINGS, LLC AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO was presented. Vice-Chairman Westbury made a motion to pass Resolution 5-2024 and was seconded by Councilman Thornton. Councilman Carson recused himself from the matter, due to being a solar farm land owner. The motion passed with a 3-1 vote (Haigler, Westbury and Thornton in favor; Bonnette opposed).

Resolution 6-2024 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ENLARGEMENT OF THE BOUNDARIES OF THE JOINT COUNTY INDUSTRIAL AND BUSINESS PARK ESTABLISHED BY THAT CERTAIN AGREEMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT OF JOINT COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK BY AND BETWEEN CALHOUN COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA (THE "COUNTY") AND LEXINGTON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA ("LEXINGTON COUNTY"), DATED AS OF DECEMBER 11, 1995, AS AMENDED, SUCH ENLARGEMENT AFFECTING THAT PORTION OF THE PARK GEOGRAPHICALLY LOCATED IN CALHOUN COUNTY; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO was presented. Councilman Thornton made a motion to pass Resolution 6-2024 and was seconded by Vice-Chairman Westbury. Councilman Carson recused himself from the matter, due to being a solar farm land owner. The motion passed with a 3-1 vote (Haigler, Westbury and Thornton in favor; Bonnette opposed).

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Administrator

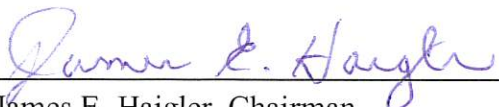
Councilwoman Bonnette inquired about the Planning Commission meeting being rescheduled due the matter being tabled. Deputy Administrator Hall told that the meeting will be held on April 18, 2024.

Chairman Haigler told of the various options for viewing council meetings and it was added that WOCS streams the meetings on Tuesdays at 9:00 am. The group mentioned the Code Red app to get notifications.

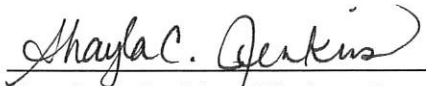
Vice-Chairman Westbury spoke about having input from the citizens, to which Deputy Administrator Hall told that comments regarding the Comprehensive Plan are still being taken.

Adjournment

Councilman Thornton made a motion to adjourn with second by Vice-Chairman Westbury. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.



James E. Haigler, Chairman



Shayla C. Jenkins, Clerk to Council