

**MINUTES OF CALHOUN COUNTY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
November 13, 2023  
5:30 P.M.**

Calhoun County Council held its regular meeting on Monday, November 13, 2023.

The following were present:

Chairman James E. Haigler, who presided  
Vice-Chairman Ken Westbury  
Councilman Richard Carson  
Councilwoman Rebecca Bonnette  
Councilman Cecil Thornton  
Administrator John McLauchlin  
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](http://calhouncounty.sc.gov).

**Call to Order**

Chairman Haigler called the meeting to order.

**Invocation**

Invocation was offered by Councilwoman Rebecca Bonnette.

Vice-Chairman Westbury asked permission to step out of the meeting temporarily.

**Approval of Agenda**

Councilman Carson made the motion to approve the November 13, 2023 meeting agenda as outlined and was seconded by Councilman Thornton. The motion passed unanimously.

**Public Comments**

None

**Public Hearing**

Development Agreement Calhoun County Replacement Class 2 Landfill Project – Chairman Haigler opened the Public Hearing on the matter. Administrator McLauchlin offered explanation of the project and the requirement of two (2) Public Hearings. There were no questions or comments; therefore, the Hearing was closed.

**Approval of Minutes**

Minutes of the October 23, 2023 regular meeting were presented for approval. Motion was made by Councilman Carson and seconded by Councilman Thornton to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes of the October 25, 2023 Council tour were presented for approval. Motion was made by Councilman Carson and seconded by Councilman Thornton to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Old Business**

None

Vice-Chairman Westbury returned.

### **New Business**

Approval – Public Works Lease Purchase Request – Administrator McLauchlin offered explanation of the items, telling that the budgeted amount of \$250,000.00 would pay for the cost of leasing the equipment listed. The items are: John Deere 6110M Side Arm Cutter, Caterpillar 430 Backhoe, Peterbilt 567 Tri-axle and two (2) Jacobsen Pre-Owned LF570. After some discussion, Councilman Thornton made a motion to approve the lease purchase request and was seconded by Vice-Chairman Westbury. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

### **Ordinances**

Ordinance 2023-19 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUILDINGS CODE AND REGULATIONS was presented for **Second Reading**. Deputy Administrator Richard Hall gave explanation of Ordinance 2023-19 and Ordinance 2023-20, as they are related. Vice-Chairman Westbury made a motion to pass Second Reading of Ordinance 2023-19. Councilwoman Bonnette seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ordinance 2023-20 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 26 OF THE CALHOUN COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES REGARDING THE DEFINITION OF A PUBLIC NUISANCE AND PROVISIONS FOR THE EMERGENCY ABATEMENT OF A PUBLIC NUISANCE was presented for **Second Reading**. Councilman Carson made a motion to pass Second Reading of Ordinance 2023-20. Vice-Chairman Westbury seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ordinance 2023-21 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 2 ARTICLE 1.SEC.2-1 OF THE CALHOUN COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES TO DESIGNATE LEGAL HOLIDAYS FOR CALHOUN COUNTY, AND FOR OBSERVANCE THEREOF was presented for **Second Reading**. Vice-Chairman Westbury made a motion to pass Second Reading of Ordinance 2023-21. Councilwoman Bonnette seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Administrator**

Administrator McLauchlin thanked everyone involved in the Veterans' Day program, held on Saturday, November 11, 2023. He reiterated the upcoming railroad closures for repair during the month of November. Administrator McLauchlin also told those in attendance about Manchester Farms and the grow houses in Calhoun County, which the company has received a \$1 million grant from the Department of Agriculture for. He highlighted that the company will invest \$3.4 million into the County

and provide 43 new jobs, without currently requesting any incentives. Lastly, the County has been awarded a \$450,000 grant to extend water service into the Chimney Swift area. The expansion will service approximately 23 homes in the subdivision.

**Executive Session**

Council went into Executive Session to discuss a Contract Matter – Economic Development, Integrity Way. Motion was made by Vice-Chairman Westbury, seconded by Councilwoman Bonnette and passed unanimously.

Vice-Chairman Westbury made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Second was made by Councilman Carson and the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting to prepare the Agenda for the next meeting will be held on Wednesday morning, instead of Thursday due to closings for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

**Adjournment**

Councilman Thornton made a motion to adjourn with second by Vice-Chairman Westbury. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

  
James E. Haigler, Chairman

  
Shayla C. Jenkins, Clerk to Council