

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
SALUDA COUNTY COUNCIL
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2017 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 Donald E. Hancock called the regular meeting of Saluda County Council to order at 6:00 P.M.

Present were:

Chm. Donald E. Hancock
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
Attorney, Ralph Nichols Riley, Jr.

B. INVOCATION

Coun. Shealy delivered the invocation.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Donald E. Hancock led the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Coun. Daniel, seconded by Coun. Butler, the minutes for January 9, 11, 17, and 23, 2017 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. Before Executive Session, Coun. Daniel asked Chm. Hancock for a moment to express condolences to Mr. Bob Nelson on the loss of his wife. Coun. Daniel said Mr. Nelson was a board member for the Saluda County Water and Sewer Authority.
2. Coun. Butler reported EMS held a CPR course at Good Hope Baptist Church on Sunday evening, February 12th with 32 individuals attending and obtaining CPR certification. Coun. Butler thanked EMS for the training and providing awareness and the importance of CPR.
3. Coun. Shealy said she attended the CPR course at Good Hope and reported the training was educational and involved.
4. Coun. Miller expressed appreciation for being invited to the “Love Your Library” event on Monday, February 6th.
5. Chm. Hancock read the following press release: “CAB Business Development Center, a Charleston-based call center specializing in cyber-security and breach response member services is bringing over 72 jobs to Saluda in 2017. Positioned as a 24/7 call center with flexible work schedules and opportunities, CAB is poised to become one of Saluda’s premier employers this year, creating long-lasing partnerships within the community and bringing a high level of visibility from prominent clients.”

G. PUBLIC HEARING

1. Chm. Hancock read Ordinance No. 01-17, “AN ORDINANCE TO LEASE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 119 NORTH MAIN STREET, SALUDA, SOUTH CAROLINA, 29138, TMS #079-16-15-009.”

Chm. Hancock opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 01-17, “AN ORDINANCE TO LEASE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 119 NORTH MAIN STREET, SALUDA, SOUTH CAROLINA, 29138, TMS #079-16-15-009.”

No one 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. 01-17, “AN ORDINANCE TO LEASE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 119 NORTH MAIN STREET, SALUDA SOUTH CAROLINA, 29138, TMS #079-16-15-009.”

2. On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Miller, and unanimously approved, the resolution for the Saluda County Tax Assessor, Josephine D. Young was ratified. Chm. Hancock said the resolution was presented to Mrs. Young on January 18th and commended Ms. Young for her 28 years of service to Saluda County.

I. NEW BUSINESS

1. Chm. Hancock read Ordinance No. 02-17, "AN ORDINANCE TO EXECUTE A QUIT CLAIM DEED ON THE OLD EMORY SCHOOL HOUSE."

On motion of Coun. Shealy, seconded by Coun. Daniel, and unanimously approved, First Reading was given on Ordinance No. 02-17, "AN ORDINANCE TO EXECUTE A QUIT CLAIM DEED ON THE OLD EMORY SCHOOL HOUSE."

2. Chm. Hancock recognized Mr. Gerry Spragg with the Airport Commission to present consideration to reduce t-hangar lease rates at the Saluda County Airport.

Mr. Spragg presented a proposal from the Saluda County Airport Commission on reducing the t-hangar lease rates in order to attract more business at the airport and to lease the required number of t-hangars in order to receive future FAA funding. Mr. Spragg proposed the following lease rate changes: Hangar 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 7 from \$175.00 to \$100.00; Hangar 5 from \$200.00 to \$125.00; and Hangar 8 from \$187.00 to \$105.00, or \$110.00 if leased small storage room adjoining Hangar 8. Mr. Spragg said 4 of the 8 hangars were currently leased with rental income of \$6,744.00 per year, but if all 8 hangars were leased at the reduced rates the yearly rental income would be \$8,760.00, increasing the overall rental by approximately 5%. Mr. Spragg said the increased occupancy would help increase fuel sales and the extra income would help fix aesthetics of the airport. Mr. Spragg said the Commission was planning to work on an aggressive marketing plan for the hangars and airport.

Council and Mr. Spragg discussed the following: FAA funding; security deposit price of hangar coinciding with the monthly lease rate of hangar; reducing t-hangar rates to be competitive with surrounding counties; Saluda County's fuel prices were competitive with surrounding counties; potential interest of a FBO (fixed base operator) and flight school at the airport; and the marketing plan.

Chm. Hancock advised Mr. Spragg the presentation would be taken as information and if Council decided to reduce the t-hangar rates, the ordinance on the leasing of t-hangars would need to be amended.

3. Chm. Hancock recognized Emergency Management Director, Josh Morton to present consideration to adopt the new Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement for Emergency and Disaster Response/Recovery.

Mr. Morton stated in the late 1990's/early 2000's, the state created a statewide mutual aid agreement between all county emergency response entities, to include municipalities. Mr. Morton said recently the state reviewed the agreement and due to signatories of retired and deceased individuals throughout the state, the state decided to update the agreement with some minor changes. Mr. Morton said Saluda County was a current signatory of the mutual aid agreement and he was submitting the updated agreement for Council's consideration. Mr. Morton said currently all 46 counties were participants of the agreement, with some non-participating municipalities, but the state's goal was for all counties and municipalities to be participants of the new statewide mutual aid agreement. Mr. Morton informed Council the agreement had been reviewed by the County Attorney.

Coun. Miller questioned if the County had the letter of insurance from our carrier authorizing the County to provide and receive mutual aid. Mr. Morton said the insurance carriers were aware of the agreement and he would obtain a copy of the letter from the S.C. Association of Counties.

Mr. Morton provided assistance to Richland County during the 2015 flood and in 2016 to Colleton and Dillon County during Hurricane Matthew under the statewide mutual aid agreement.

On motion of Coun. Miller, seconded by Coun. Butler, it was unanimously approved to adopt the new Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement for Emergency and Disaster Response/Recovery between the State of South Carolina and Saluda County.

4. Chm. Hancock recognized Emergency Management Director, Josh Morton to present consideration for a Request for Proposal for the development of a P-25 capable Public Safety Radio System.

Mr. Morton informed Council in 2012 the FCC required all public safety entities to go through the process of narrow banding, which decreased the radio signal strength in half and caused significant coverage issues throughout Saluda County. Mr. Morton said he had worked with various companies and engineers within those companies in order to find a solution for the coverage issues. Mr. Morton said the engineers reviewed Saluda County's coverage maps and the best solution and coverage throughout Saluda County was a P25 digital system with multiple towers.

Mr. Morton requested Council's consideration to develop a Request for Proposal in order to receive proposals on the cost of a P 25 radio system. Mr. Morton said he would pursue grant funding to assist with paying a significant portion of the radio system project. Mr. Morton stated the P25 system would allow Saluda County the ability to apply for other grants because all grants now have language requiring you to be P25 capable.

On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Shealy, it was unanimously approved to authorize staff to develop a Request for Proposal for a P-25 Capable Public Safety Radio System for Saluda County. During discussion Coun. Miller and Mr. Morton discussed the RFP would require companies to develop their proposal as to the equipment needed for Saluda County to obtain the main goal of 95% handheld radio coverage throughout the County and to provide proof of the coverage.

5. Chm. Hancock recognized Training & Infectious Control Officer, James Cole to present consideration for a Request for Proposal for Emergency Medical Services pre-employment health screening.

Mr. Cole requested Council's consideration for a Request for Proposal for a medical provider to perform pre-employment health screenings on Emergency Medical Services personnel due to risk of exposure associated with EMS, not only infectious disease and illnesses, but also injury. Mr. Cole informed Council the national recommendations and guidelines for pre-employment screening were established in the National Fire Protection Association 1582 standard and the pre-employment health screening would establish a medical baseline of the employee prior to employment. Mr. Cole stated the pre-employment health screen was necessary for the health and wellbeing of EMS personnel, as well as the citizens they serve.

Council and Mr. Cole discussed plans were for EMS and the county fire service to participate in the NFPA 1582 pre-employment and annual health screenings. The county fire service already participates in the NFPA 1582 annual health screening.

On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Daniel, it was unanimously approved for staff to develop a Request for Proposal for Emergency Medical Services pre-employment health screening.

6. Chm. Hancock said Coun. Daniel and he, the County Owned Property Committee of Council, along with the County Director and the Public Buildings Supervisor recently viewed the roofs at the County Annex Building and the Clemson Extension Service (Ag Building). Due to issues the roof leaks were causing at both buildings, the Committee recommended developing a bid package to replace the roofs at both buildings instead of repair.

Council and Public Building Supervisor, Steve McAlister discussed obtaining quotes on repair along with replacement costs for comparison purposes. Mr. McAlister informed Council of the condition and age of the shingles at the Clemson Extension Service Building and the condition of the asphalt roof at the County Annex Building and issues within both buildings from leaks. Mr. McAlister said he had checked and the roofs could be repaired, but there would be no warranty and he did not recommend repairing.

On motion of Coun. Shealy, seconded by Coun. Butler, it was unanimously approved for staff to develop a bid package for roof replacement of the County Annex Building and the Clemson Extension Service (Ag Building).

7. Chm. Hancock recognized Coun. Shealy to present consideration for repair of the food pass doors at the Saluda County Detention Center.

Coun. Shealy said Coun Butler and she, the Public Safety Committee of Council, along with the County Director recently viewed problems with the door flaps of the food pass through door on 16 cell doors at the Saluda County Detention Center. Coun. Shealy said quotes had been received and to replace the 16 steel cell doors at the Detention Center would cost \$35,965.37 and to repair the 16 door flaps of the food pass through door on the cell door would cost \$8,043.20. After viewing the doors, Coun. Shealy said the Public Safety Committee recommended repairing the 16 door flaps of the food pass through door than replacing the 16 steel cell doors.

On motion of Coun. Shealy, seconded by Coun. Butler, it was unanimously approved for Georgia Detention Services to repair the door flaps of the food pass doors at the Saluda County Detention Center in the amount of \$8,043.20 to be paid from the Jail Renovations account.

8. Chm. Hancock recognized Grants Coordinator, Jill Warren to present consideration of the State Homeland Security Program Grant request for Emergency Medical Services.

Ms. Warren stated EMS would like to apply for the State Homeland Security Program Grant for tactical medical training and equipment for EMS personnel. Ms. Warren said the tactical medic training would be \$3,000.00, 2 tactical medical bullet proof vests \$1,300.00, 2 tactical helmets \$900.00, 2 googles \$150.00, 2 tactical equipment bags \$151.00, shipping and taxes \$172.00, for a total grant request of \$5,673.00. Ms. Warren stated the grant would be funded through State Homeland Security at 100%, and required no matching funds from the County.

During the presentation, Mr. James Cole informed Council that FEMA and Homeland Security had studied the results of some active shooter events (school events were referenced) and realized the need to develop a program where trained medics would enter with a SWAT team during an active shooter event, to provide medical care to sustain victim's lives until they could receive medical treatment once they were removed from the event. Mr. Cole said they were requesting the equipment and training through the grant in order to begin a joint program between EMS and the Sheriff's Office/SWAT Team.

Also during the presentation, EMS Director, Jacob Starnes informed Council EMS had been awarded a previous grant request where first aid kits would be provided in all classrooms of all public and private school buildings in Saluda County, as

well as ABC Academy and GLEAMNS Headstart. School Resource Officers also received new first aid response kits.

Council, Mr. Cole, and Mr. Starnes discussed the following for the Homeland Security Grant as well as the previously awarded grant for first aid kits: if awarded, the training would be for medical and tactical in an active shooter event; medic team would respond as requested by the Sheriff's Office/SWAT team to an active shooter event at schools or any other location; training would not be limited to 2 EMS staff members; and EMS would be providing first aid training to all teachers during the summer.

On motion of Coun. Daniel, seconded by Coun. Miller, it was unanimously approved for the Grants Coordinator to proceed with the State Homeland Security Program Grant process for Tactical Medic Training and equipment in the amount of \$5,673.00 for Emergency Medical Services, requiring no matching funds from the county.

9. Chm. Hancock recognized Grants Coordinator, Jill Warren to present consideration of the State Homeland Security Program Grant request for the Emergency Management Department.

Ms. Warren informed Council Emergency Management would like to apply for the State Homeland Security Program Grant for the purchase of an unmanned aerial system (a/k/a) a drone) to be utilized by Emergency Management, Law Enforcement and EMS in performing search and rescue missions, and county offices performing damage assessment from weather related events. Ms. Warren said the grant request for the drone was \$20,000.00 and required no matching funds from the County.

Council and Emergency Management Director, Josh Morton discussed the following: training would be provided for operating the Drone at no cost, with continued training established by Saluda County; performance and technical specifications of the drone; insurance and warranty coverage; Saluda County would assist regional partners with use of the drone with Saluda County personnel on site operating the drone; and grant obligations would not require the County to upgrade the drone.

On motion of Coun. Miller, seconded by Coun. Butler, it was unanimously approved for the Grants Coordinator to proceed with the State Homeland Security Program Grant process for a drone in the amount of \$20,000.00 for the Emergency Management Department, requiring no matching funds from the County.

10. Chm. Hancock recognized Grants Coordinator, Jill Warren to present consideration of the 2017 Healthcare Coalition Preparedness Grant request of the Coroner.

Ms. Warren informed Council that Saluda County was a member of the Midlands Healthcare Coalition through DHEC and the Coroner would like to apply for grant funds through the Coalition for 50 heavy duty body bags at \$2,250.00 and replacement filters for the evidence drying cabinet at \$750.00 for a total grant request of \$3,000.00, and required no matching funds from the County. Council and Ms. Warren discussed the durability of the heavy duty body bags versus other grades of body bags and the bags would be added to the Coroner's current inventory.

On motion of Coun. Daniel, seconded by Coun. Shealy, it was unanimously approved for the Grants Coordinator to proceed with the 2017 Healthcare Coalition Preparedness Grant process for heavy duty body bags and the evidence drying cabinet filters in the amount of \$3,000.00 for the Coroner's office, requiring no cash match, but in-kind match only.

11. Chm. Hancock recognized Grants Coordinator, Jill Warren to present consideration of the Firehouse Sub Grant request for Emergency Medical Services.

Ms. Warren informed Council Emergency Medical Services would like to apply for the Firehouse Sub grant for three LUCAS Chest Compression Systems at \$18,000.00 each for a total grant request of \$54,000.00 and required no matching funds from the County. Ms. Warren said the LUCAS device would automatically perform chest compressions versus manual CPR to a patient.

EMS Director, Jacob Starnes discussed the following with Council: the process of using the LUCAS device; the survival rates of the LUCAS device versus manual CPR; and recommendation of LUCAS brand over Auto Pulse brand due to LUCAS battery life was 30 to 35 minutes versus Auto Pulse battery life at 20 to 25 minutes in consideration of the distance in transporting patients from Saluda to surrounding county hospitals.

On motion of Coun. Shealy, seconded by Coun. Miller, it was unanimously approved for the Grants Coordinator to proceed with the Firehouse Sub Grant process for 3 LUCAS Chest Compression Systems in the amount of \$54,000.00 for Emergency Medical Services, requiring no matching funds from the County.

12. On motion of Coun. Daniel, seconded by Coun. Butler, it was unanimously approved to award Accommodation Tax Funds as follows:

| <u>Organizations</u> | <u>Amount to be Awarded</u> |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Capital City Lake Murray | \$2,000.00 |
| Friends of Ridge Spring | \$1,500.00 |
| Palmetto Tractor Club | \$1,200.00 |
| Richland Creek Antique Power Assoc. | \$1,800.00 |
| Ridge Spring Harvest Festival | \$1,500.00 |
| Saluda County Historical Society | \$1,600.00 |
| Saluda County Tourism Committee | \$2,900.00 |
| Saluda Young Farmer & Agribusiness Assoc. | \$2,500.00 |

13. On motion of Coun. Butler, seconded by Coun. Shealy, it was unanimously approved to re-appoint Joan E. Hipp of 656 Bethany School Road, Saluda to the Saluda County Library Board with her second term expiring June 30, 2018.

J. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Coun. Daniel, seconded by Coun. Butler, 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 matters in the Tax Assessor and Library offices and to receive legal advice, to return at the Call of the Chair.

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

K. PUBLIC ACTION

1. On motion of Coun. Miller, seconded by Coun. Butler, it was unanimously approved to authorize a temporary part-time Library Aide position for 15-20 hours per week, at minimum wage, for the months of June and July to be paid from funds in the Library budget, to advertise according to county policy, and adopt the updated part-time Library Aide job description.
2. On motion of Coun. Shealy, seconded by Coun. Daniel, it was unanimously approved to authorize an Apprentice Appraiser position in the Tax Assessor's office, Grade 18, to advertise according to county policy, and adopt the updated Apprentice Appraiser job description.

L. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Coun. Miller, seconded by Coun. Daniel, it was unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 P.M.

Karen T. Whittle

Karen T. Whittle
Clerk to Council

Donald E. Hancock

Donald E. Hancock
Chairman

March 13, 2017

Date Approved