

City Council Minutes
September 7, 2021

Orangeburg City Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on Facebook Live via Zoom on Tuesday, September 7, 2021, at 6:00 PM with Mayor Michael C. Butler presiding.

PRESENT:

Michael C. Butler, Mayor
Dr. Kalu Kalu, Mayor Pro Tem
Bernard Haire
L. Zimmerman Keitt
Sandra P. Knotts
Richard F. Stroman

PRESENT VIRTUALLY:

Jerry Hannah

Mayor Butler opened Public Hearing #1: Consideration of an Ordinance to adopt a budget for the City of Orangeburg, SC for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2021, through September 30, 2022. There were no comments. Public Hearing #1 was closed.

Mayor Butler opened Public Hearing #2: Consideration of an Ordinance to adopt a budget for the operation of the Department of Public Utilities for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2021, through September 30, 2022. There were no comments. Public Hearing #2 was closed.

A motion was made by Councilmember Stroman, seconded by Councilmember Keitt to approve the August 24, 2021, Special Meeting minutes. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mayor Butler recognized "Respect" as the September 2021 Orangeburg County Community of Character trait. Respect is an understanding or feeling that someone or something is important.

Mayor Butler recognized the retirement of Herman J. Guinyard for his service to DPU for twenty-eight years and eleven days with a retirement date of August 10, 2021.

Mayor Butler proclaimed September as Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month.

Dr. Kassy Alia Ray, Chief Executive Officer and Founder of Serve & Connect addressed Council. She stated, "Our mission is to foster positive change through sustainable police and community partnerships. We believe that police, community organizations, and people with experience in the communities working hand in hand build safe, thriving communities. We must work together. That is the future we believe is possible. We recognize that is easier said than done. It can be tough. We focused on being that bridge builder. We begin with seeking to learn where there are the greatest needs, but also the greatest gifts and assets that can build connections and drive change. We need strong partners that are willing to be innovative and work outside the box. We believe that we have that in the City of Orangeburg. The program would focus on increasing the spread and use of community policing. It is about partnerships that help address root causes of crime. The program would use natural leaders in the community partnered with the police and organizational leadership to strengthen communities. There are three scheduled events coming up, September 24th in the Henley Street Park, October 1st in St. Paul's, and November 20th a Thanksgiving themed event."

Assistant City Administrator Singh addressed Council concerning the Third Reading of an Ordinance to Amend the Budget for the City of Orangeburg, SC for the Fiscal Year October 1, 2020, through September 30, 2021. He stated, "I wanted to take this opportunity to let the viewing public know that the Public Hearing was open to the public to attend. Also, there is a public comment email available for comments. Everything is the same as the second reading. There are no changes, I can answer any questions."

A motion was made by Councilmember Keitt, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kalu to approve the Third Reading of an Ordinance to Amend the Budget for the City of Orangeburg, SC for the Fiscal Year October 1, 2020, through September 30, 2021. The motion was unanimously approved.

City Administrator Evering addressed Council concerning the Third Reading of an Ordinance to Adopt a Budget for the City of Orangeburg, SC for the Fiscal Year October 1, 2021, through September 30, 2022. He stated, "There are no changes, it is a balanced budget with revenues and expenditures equaling \$23,880,036 which is a 9.6% increase over the current year."

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Kalu, seconded by Councilmember Knotts to approve the Third Reading of an Ordinance to Adopt a Budget for the City of Orangeburg, SC for the Fiscal Year October 1, 2021, through September 30, 2022. The motion was unanimously approved.

City Administrator Evering addressed Council concerning a Resolution designating an authorized representative and contact person for purposes of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021. He stated, "This is just to designate myself as the authorized representative and Carrie Johnson and myself as contact persons for the ARPA funds."

A motion was made by Councilmember Keitt, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kalu to approve the Resolution designating an authorized representative and contact person for purposes of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. The motion was unanimously approved.

DPU Administrative Director Nexsen addressed Council concerning the consideration of award of contract to Mauldin and Jenkins, LLC for Financial Statement Audit for FY 2021-2024. He stated, "Eight firms were solicited, and the Request for Proposal (RFP) was posted on the Department's website. We had several firms go through a Question & Answer process where they ask questions of us. Unfortunately, only one firm replied to the RFP. Several firms said they had staffing issues right now and it would be a challenge to provide the services. The proposing firm was Mauldin and Jenkins. The Mauldin and Jenkins firm has been the City's financial statement auditor over the last four years. Staff recommends that Council approve the award to enter into the engagement for another four years."

Mayor Pro Tem Kalu asked for a list of firms that DPU solicited bids from for this RFP. He requested their response as to why they did not bid.

Director Nexsen stated, "The other firms said they had staffing issues. The Mauldin and Jenkins firm was the most competitive four years ago and that may be part of the reason some of the other firms did not bid this time."

Mayor Pro Tem Kalu asked, "What were the bids last time around?"

Director Nexsen said he could provide the list of firms that were solicited.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Kalu, seconded by Councilmember Keitt to approve the award of contract to Mauldin and Jenkins, LLC for Financial Statement Audit for FY 2021-2024. The motion was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Kalu, seconded by Councilmember Knotts to approve the Third Reading of an Ordinance to Amend the budget for the Operation of the Department of Public Utilities for the Fiscal Year October 1, 2020, through September 30, 2021. The motion was unanimously approved.

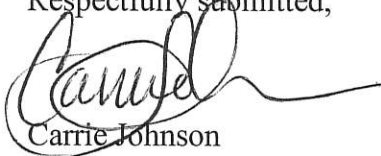
A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Kalu, seconded by Councilmember Keitt to approve the Third Reading of an Ordinance to Adopt a Budget for the Operation of the Department of Public Utilities for the Fiscal Year October 1, 2021, through September 30, 2022. The motion was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Kalu, seconded by Councilmember Keitt to approve the Resolution authorizing an Economic Development Contribution to the County of Orangeburg in an amount, not to exceed \$260,000. The motion was approved 6-0-1. Councilmember Haire abstained.

A motion was made by Councilmember Stroman, seconded by Councilmember Keitt to go into Executive Session concerning Personnel Matter, a. Discussion of employment and compensation of City Attorney. S.C. Code Sec. 30-4-70(a)(1). The motion was unanimously approved.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Carrie Johnson
City Clerk

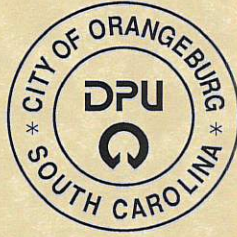
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RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Herman J. Guinyard, faithfully served the Department of Public Utilities of the City of Orangeburg for twenty-eight years and eleven days with a retirement date of August 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, he, through his long and faithful service contributed greatly to the successful operation of the City of Orangeburg; and

WHEREAS, the City Council, in recognition of the fine contribution rendered to the City of Orangeburg, wants to inscribe on the records its appreciation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Members of Council, in Council assembled, do officially recognize the faithful service rendered to the City of Orangeburg in the capacities in which he served and we take pride in commending him for a job well done.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution, in appreciation for his devotion of duty to the City of Orangeburg, be placed in the Minute Book of the City in recognition of his services.

PASSED BY the City Council of the City of Orangeburg, State of South Carolina, this 7th day of September 2021.

Michael C. Butts

Mayor

[Signature]

[Signature]

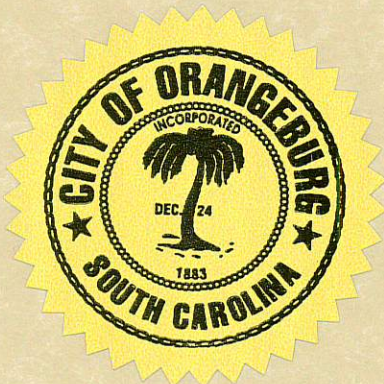
Blaine Hine

L. Zimmerman

Richard A. Stone

Darcia T. Lytle

Members of Council



ATTEST:

[Signature]

City Clerk



RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTION TO THE COUNTY OF ORANGEBURG IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWO HUNDRED SIXTY THOUSAND AND 00/100 (\$260,000.00) DOLLARS

WHEREAS, the County of Orangeburg in partnership with a private property owner is in the process of development of an industrial park located in the service area of the City's Department of Public Utilities and being identified as Project Shamrock, and

WHEREAS, the County has requested the City of Orangeburg assist it in said development by a monetary contribution for the purpose of installation of water and wastewater infrastructure servicing said park, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Utilities has funds in its Economic Development Revolving Fund set aside for said purpose, and

WHEREAS, industrial development is a "public purpose" and the City of Orangeburg has the authority to expend public funds for said purpose, and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Orangeburg finds that the development of said industrial park within the service area of its Department of Public Utilities serves a public purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council duly assembled that the Warren T. Harley, Manager of the Department of Public Utilities is hereby authorized to make a contribution not to exceed Two Hundred Sixty Thousand and 00/100 (\$260,000.00) Dollars from the Economic Development Revolving Fund of the Department of Public Utilities to the County of Orangeburg for the purpose of industrial development; specifically, for the construction of water and wastewater infrastructure serving the industrial park being developed by the County of Orangeburg and a private owner and identified as Project Shamrock.

PASSED BY the City Council of the City of Orangeburg, South Carolina, on this 7th day of September, 2021.



Attest: [Signature]
City Clerk

[Signature]
Mayor

[Signature] abstained
[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]
Members of Council



Resolution

Designating an authorized representative and contact person for purposes of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021

WHEREAS the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) appropriates \$19.53 billion to states for distribution to non-entitlement units of local government (NEUs), which are local governments typically serving a population under 50,000; and,

WHEREAS the City of Orangeburg, South Carolina (the Municipality), is a NEU for purposes of ARPA and expects to receive funding pursuant to the ARPA appropriation; and,

WHEREAS ARPA requires that the Municipality designate an Authorized Representative to approve and sign documents, make certifications required by ARPA, and otherwise act as the Municipality’s designated and lawfully appointed agent for purposes of ARPA; and,

WHEREAS ARPA further requires that the Municipality designate a Contact Person to receive official communications and notice related to ARPA.

Section 1. Mr. Sidney Evering II, the City Administrator of the Municipality, is hereby designated as the Municipality’s Authorized Representative pursuant to ARPA. The Authorized Representative is hereby authorized and directed to do all things necessary (including without limitation to sign documents, make certifications, make regular reports to council, and otherwise act on behalf of the City of Orangeburg to receive and expend funds pursuant to an appropriation by council and ARPA rules.) The Authorized Representative’s contact information is:

Mr. Sidney Evering, City Administrator
PO Drawer 387
Orangeburg SC 29116
803-533-6000
sidney.evering@orangeburg.sc.us

Section 2. Carrie W. Johnson, the Finance Director of the Municipality and Mr. Sidney Evering, City Administrator, are hereby designated as the Municipality’s Contact Persons pursuant to ARPA. The Contact Persons’ contact information is:

Carrie W. Johnson, Finance Director
PO Box 1183
Orangeburg SC 29116
803-539-3713
carrie.johnson@orangeburg.sc.us

Mr. Sidney Evering, City Administrator
PO Drawer 387
Orangeburg SC 29116
803-533-6000
sidney.evering@orangeburg.sc.us

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Members of City Council this seventh day of September 2021 in Orangeburg, South Carolina that Sidney Evering, acting in his capacity as City Administrator is hereby designated the City of Orangeburg’s Authorized Representative and is authorized and directed to do all things necessary to receive and expend funds pursuant to an appropriation by Council and ARPA rules. In addition, be it resolved, Carrie Johnson, in her capacity as Finance Director, and Sidney Evering, in his capacity as City Administrator, are hereby designated the City of Orangeburg’s contact persons pursuant to ARPA.



Michael C. Butler

Mayor
Ben Haire

Jandra DeGross

Robert Hill

Tommy Pitt

Richard F. Stone

[Signature]

Members of Council

ATTEST: *[Signature]*

City Clerk