

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
Minutes
September 1, 2009

The Edgefield County Council held its regular monthly meeting at 6:00 P. M. Tuesday, September 1, 2009, in the County Council Chambers, 225 Jeter St., Edgefield.

Members present

C. Monroe Kneece, Chairman
Rodney Ashcraft, Councilman
Genia Blackwell, Councilwoman
Norman Dorn, Councilman

Others present

John W. Pettigrew, Jr., County Administrator
Lynn W. Strom, Finance Manager
Michael S. Medlock, County Attorney
Barbara R. Stark, Clerk to Council
and others as per list attached

Members absent

Willie C. Bright, Vice Chairman

Chairman Kneece called the meeting to order and Rev. Melvin Gordon gave the invocation, after which the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Agenda

Motion was made by Councilman Dorn, seconded by Councilwoman Blackwell, to approve the September 1, 2009 Edgefield County Council Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes

Motion was made by Councilman Ashcraft, seconded by Councilman Dorn, to approve the August 4, 2009 Minutes of the Edgefield County Council Meeting, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports

No comments.

No Ordinances.

No Resolutions.

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New Business

Batteries (Voting Machines)

Tricia Butler, Voter Registration Director, came before council to request funding for the replacement of batteries for seventy seven (77) voting machines at \$79.95 per machine. Mrs. Butler was contacted by the state (after budget time) concerning these replacements which has to be done before the June primary. According to the state the life expectancy of these batteries is only four to five years so in the future the batteries should be a budget item. Motion was made by Councilman Dorn, seconded by Councilwoman Blackwell to fund the purchase of the batteries (approximately \$6100-\$6300) to be taken from the contingency account. Motion carried unanimously.

Proclamation

Ms. Angie Rita, Director of Juvenile Justice for McCormick, Saluda, and Edgefield Counties asked council to adopt a Proclamation proclaiming September 12, 2009 as *Community Service Day: Restoring Edgefield thru Youth Service*. This is a program that provides offenders with the opportunity to fulfill their obligation to make amends for their crime by giving service of recognized value back to the community. Motion was made by Councilman Dorn, seconded by Councilman Ashcraft, to approve the Proclamation. Motion carried unanimously.

Bleachers / Scoreboards for County Park

Motion was made by Councilwoman Blackwell, seconded by Councilman Ashcraft, to approve the purchase of bleachers and scoreboards for the County Park. Motion carried unanimously. These items will be used at the two new multi-purpose fields at the Park located at Bettis Academy.

County Line Fire Department

Tim Malcolm, County Line Fire Department Chief, explained to council that they (fire department) wish to enter into a Lease-Purchase Agreement with United Financial of North Carolina, Inc. for the purchase of a new tanker. A letter, signed by the Council Chairman, is needed to verify funding to the fire department through the tax millage and the department is meeting all of the requirements of the fire service contract. The county is not responsible for the repayment of any liabilities incurred by the individual volunteer fire departments. No vote was necessary.

Appointment of Interim Administrator

Motion was made by Councilman Dorn, seconded by Councilman Ashcraft, to appoint Barbara Stark as interim administrator beginning September 6, 2009. Motion carried unanimously. September 6th will be John Pettigrew's last day as administrator.

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Old Business

Northside Park restroom

Rev. Melvin Gordon spoke concerning restroom facilities for Northside Park. They are asking for more time to look into other available property for perk tests. The last area would not perk. Council received as information.

New bar operating hours

The chairman asked for a motion to waive the confidentiality of the Opinion submitted to council concerning Ordinance No. 08-09-608, "An Ordinance to Institute Hours of Operation for Establishments in Edgefield County Which Allow for the On-Premises Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages." The motion was made by Councilman Dorn, seconded by Councilman Ashcraft. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ron Cales again asked council to grandfather Woody's Bar & Grill concerning the closing time. The council stated that the 2:00 a.m. closing still stands. Mr. Medlock, the county attorney, explained the Opinion. The closing hour will be enforced as of September 1, 2009.

Mrs. Shirley Newby, Clerk of Court, addressed council concerning juror pay. At the present time a juror is paid \$10 per day plus mileage. This has been the standard procedure since 1976. Mrs. Newby asked that a flat rate of \$20 per day be paid to jurors which includes mileage and this would put Edgefield County in line with other counties. Motion was made by Councilman Dorn, seconded by Councilwoman Blackwell to approve the request to pay jurors a flat fee of \$20 per day which includes mileage. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Linda Anderson

The airport participated in a Marine training program the later part of last week and they presented us with a certificate and a letter of appreciation. Councilman Ashcraft read the letter to the council and citizens.

Administrator's Report

Mr. Pettigrew brought to the attention of council members the Solid Waste Management Plan in their agenda books to study. This Plan was put together by the Three Rivers Solid Waste Authority of which Edgefield County is one of the nine member counties that cooperates in developing in running a regional landfill located at the Savannah River Site. We received this last week and it will be an agenda for the October meeting. They have asked that each of the nine counties pass this so it can be adopted as a Regional Management Plan for Solid Waste.

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The county's application for some stimulus money under an Energy Efficiency Grant was approved by the Upper Savannah COG and now it goes to the State Energy Office for final approval and we should hear something from it by next month.

Football season will be in full session Saturday, September 12th. The jamboree will be held at the county park. The fall soccer season begins in a few weeks. The soccer games are held at the Edgefield soccer field.

Mr. Pettigrew thanked the council for the opportunity to serve the citizens of Edgefield County as County Administrator. He thanked the employees, elected officials and all of the citizens of Edgefield County for their cooperation. I ask that you support and cooperate with the next county administrator, and he stated that he considered it fortunate to live in Edgefield County and always wish the best for the county, and he stands ready to assist in any way.

Guests

Ms. Sarah Snell with Lindsay Graham's Columbia office offering their services to Edgefield County.

No comments from public

Claims approved as follows:

- A. **PAYROLL: 7/27/09 thru 8/9/09**
 Regular.....\$219,234.92

- B. **PAYROLL: 8/10/09 thru 8/23/09**
 Regular.....\$222,983.50

- B. **General Operating.....\$485,808.89**

No Executive Session.

There being no further business, Councilman Dorn made the motion to adjourn. The next regular council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 6th, in the County Council Chambers, 225 Jeter St., Edgefield.

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Regenia Blackwell, Councilwoman

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ATTEST

Barbara R. Stark, Clerk to Council