

February 01, 2010
Regular Council Meeting
6:30 PM

County Council met in regular session, in the Auditorium, County Administration Facility, with Chairman Neil Smith presiding. Agendas, bearing date, time, and location of meeting were mailed to Council members and local news media, January 27, 2010.

Council Members in attendance:

G. Neil Smith, Chairman
Jennifer H. Willis, Vice Chairman
James B. London, Vice Chairman Pro-Tempore
Randy Crenshaw
Tom Ponder
Sam Wyche

Clerk to Council: Donna Owen

Staff: J. Chappell Hurst, County Administrator
Ken Roper, County Attorney

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Smith called the meeting of 02/01/2010 to order and welcomed those in attendance. Chairman Smith further gave the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Chairman Smith requested the Clerk to give the names of citizens signed up for public forum.

Weldon Clark- Mr. Clark updated Council regarding a recent meeting in which DHEC and EPA discussed the stricter revisions to stormwater and other forms of run-off. Mr. Clark advised Council to inform the Delegation and other representatives that Pickens County is not in favor of many of these bureaucratic regulations.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Motion was made by Jennifer Willis, seconded by Tom Ponder and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of January 19, 2010.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Hurst updated Council on the following issues.

Ice and snow storm- Mr. Hurst stated that Pickens County was lucky to have not received a huge impact from the storm, but some power was out and roads were icy as well as many trees down. Mr. Hurst stated he would like to thank EMS, Fire, Law-enforcement, and Rescue for all the work they do in preparation for these storms. Mr. Hurst stated crews were removing trees and assisting citizens all week-end. Mr. Hurst also stated that Red Cross opened a shelter in Pickens for the power outage.

Morgue- Mr. Hurst stated that the new morgue is complete and fully functional. Mr. Hurst asked Council to allow Kandy Kelly, County Coroner, to speak for a few moments about the morgue. Mrs. Kelly presented some pictures of the morgue and stated this was a great building for Pickens County. Mrs. Kelly stated that families need to know that exams and harvesting donor organs are being complete in a facility that is equipped and proper. Mrs. Kelly thanked Council for their vision and for thinking of a way to make sure Pickens County had such a facility.

Sign removal: Mr. Hurst stated an issue had been brought to Council about signs being placed on traffic signs, telephone poles, and other road side areas. Mr. Hurst provided Council with photos of hundreds of signs that code enforcement officials have removed. Mr. Hurst stated those types of signs need to be removed constantly.

Council Correspondence:

Chairman Smith announced the next meeting will be Tuesday, February 16, 2010, due to Monday, February 15, being a holiday.

Dacusville Boy Scouts: Mr. Ponder announced the Dacusville Troop 8 Boy Scouts were attending the council meeting. Mr. Ponder welcomed the Boy Scouts.

MOTION PERIOD AND NEW BUSINESS:

note: Chairman Smith is requesting council's consideration to bring the workers compensation and property & liability insurance out of Administration and Finance Committee, in order to work on this issue during the regular agenda.

- Motion was made by Jennifer Willis, seconded by James London to pull the above item from committee and take action.

Council reviewed memorandums and stated that staff is recommending for Pickens County to withdraw current insurances now held with South Carolina Counties Workers Compensation Trust and South Carolina Counties Property & Liability Trust, and move to Traveler's effective July 1, 2010.

Mr. Hurst stated this was a substantial savings, and if decreases from last year were factored in; it was considerably more. Jennifer Willis also noted it is about customer service and the issues of trying to lower claims. Also, when an accident happens it is crucial for the employees to be motivated and rehabilitated.

- Motion was made by Jennifer Willis, seconded by Randy Crenshaw and unanimously passed to approve staff recommendation to move workers compensation and property and liability to Traveler's July 1, 2010.

Resolution for League of Women Voters:

- James London moved to add to the agenda a resolution proclaiming February 14, 2010 as League of Women Voters Day to celebrate the 90th anniversary. Motion was seconded by Jennifer Willis and unanimously passed.

Chairman Smith allowed action to be taken and called for a motion.

- Tom Ponder moved to approve the resolution proclaiming the 90th anniversary of the League of Women Voters. Sam Wyche gave the second, and the vote was unanimous.

Requests of the Administrator:

- 1) Randy Crenshaw requested the Administrator to assist the Church in Six Mile relating to a generator for purposes of being a Red Cross Shelter. Mr. Hurst stated he would give them the needed information.
- 2) Tom Ponder requested the Administrator to study traffic issues at the intersection of Lathem and Kay Drive. Tom stated if the issue needed to go to committee after the study for the Administrator to advise, but Mr. Ponder stated this was a dangerous area, and needed to be looked at now, especially with the Highway 123 construction. Council concurred with the request.

SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS ORDINANCE:

- Sam Wyche moved that this constitute a second reading of an ordinance to amend the Development Standards Ordinance. Chairman Smith gave the second, and all members voted in the affirmative. Motion carried.

AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A LEASE PURCHASE AGREEMENT IN AN AMOUNT NOT EXCEEDING \$315,000 RELATING TO THE PURCHASE OF CERTAIN EQUIPMENT BY PICKENS COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF OTHER NECESSARY DOCUMENTS AND PAPERS; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO:

- Motion was made by Jennifer Willis, seconded by Randy Crenshaw and unanimously passed to authorize a resolution for lease purchase of a fire truck for Central fire district.

APPROVAL FOR \$30,000 AS MATCHING FUNDS FOR THE AIRPORT ENHANCEMENT GRANT:

- Motion was made by Tom Ponder, seconded by James London to authorize \$30,000 from contingency to make up the remainder needed for the airport entrance enhancement project. The vote was affirmative by all, and motion carried.

Jennifer Willis noted that this has taken much too long and unfortunately these funds must be appropriated or risk losing the grants along with the matches.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Motion was made by Jennifer Willis, seconded by Randy Crenshaw and unanimously passed to approve the consent agenda.

Administration and Finance Committee- Landfill issues/recycling cost/alternate methods.
Administration and Finance committee- Road Fee Issues

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- Motion was made by Randy Crenshaw, seconded by Jennifer Willis and unanimously passed to convene in executive session for the stated purposes.
Legal Update
Personnel Issue

PUBLIC SESSION RECONVENED:

Chairman Smith called the public session back to order and advised no action as a result of discussing a legal update and a personnel matter.

ADJOURN:

Hearing no further business, Chairman Smith called for the motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Tom Ponder, seconded by James London and unanimously passed. Pickens County Council stood adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectively Submitted:

Approved:

Donna F. Owen, Clerk to Council

G. Neil Smith, Chairman
Pickens County Council