

April 7, 2008
Regular Council Meeting
6:00 PM

County Council met in regular session, in the auditorium, County Administration Facility, with Chairman G. Neil Smith presiding. Agendas, bearing date, time, and location of meeting, were mailed to Council members and local news media, April 1, 2008.

Council Members in attendance:

G. Neil Smith, Chairman
Ben L. Trotter, Vice Chairman
Tom E. Ponder, Vice Chairman Pro-Tempore
Randy Crenshaw
James B. London

Staff: J. Chappell Hurst, County Administrator
Lynn Fisher, Assistant County Administrator
Donna Owen, Clerk to Council
Olivia Vassey, Special Projects Coordinator

Absent: Jennifer H. Willis
Ken Roper, Attorney

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Smith called the meeting of April 7, 2008 to order and welcomed those in attendance. Councilman Randy Crenshaw was recognized to give the invocation.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Chairman Smith called upon the clerk to announce the citizens who have signed up for the public forum.

1. Ben Kissam---Dr. Kissam came before Council and thanked them for their continued support with the Pickens County Beautification Committee. Dr. Kissam mentioned the good job that is done by staff and volunteers. Especially mentioned were the initiatives of Team Green and the Trash Bash.
2. Development Standard Ordinance—Weldon Clark, Sammy Nix, Lisa Flaughner, Tom Smith, and Ray Healy all spoke to council with concerns about the re-writes of the Development Standard Ordinance. Citizens spoke about issues of rebuilding homes to more stringent standards when a home is damaged by flood or fire. Also citizens were concerned about regulations that would lend to environmentalist standards, and wanted more practical. Specifically, Tom Smith stated that he could not obtain a copy of the rewrites, and he would like to view them.
3. F.M. Caddell—Mr. Caddell thanked Council for hiring Mr. Hurst. Mr. Caddell stated that the public works department had done a great job with road work and trimming the trees. Mr. Caddell stated that Mr. Hurst had always had an open door policy and was in touch with the many needs of the citizens.

With no further citizens signed up, Chairman Smith closed the Public Forum.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Motion was made by Ben Trotter, seconded by Tom Ponder and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of March 17, 2008.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Public Service Committee—Committee Chairman Ponder gave the following report:

The Public Service Committee met in the Main Conference Room on Tuesday, April 1, 2008 at 6:30 PM with Committee Chairman Tom Ponder presiding. All committee members were in attendance. Also in attendance were Councilman Crenshaw and Councilman Trotter.

Staff:

Chap Hurst, County Administrator
 Lynn Fisher, Assistant County Administrator
 Olivia Vassey, Special Projects Coordinator
 Tommy Grant, Roads and Bridges

Item	Description	Referred	
7	Sewer Issues at Quail Haven and Flooding issues Retained 12/04/06 **sewer issues still ongoing. Retained 12/31/07 <u>1/22/08</u> ---request from the Public Service Commission as it relates to Quail Haven sewer Issues	03/06/06	No action, staff informed the committee of new information as it relates to the sewer issue at Quail Haven.
8	Minimum Maintenance request for House Lane.	01/22/08	Committee recommends to full council to accept the road contingent upon the county receiving all the documentation for easements. >Approved
9	Minimum Maintenance request for Family Circle.	01/22/08	Committee recommends to full council to accept the road contingent upon the county receiving all the documentation for easements. >Approved
10	Add Pamela Drive into the County Road System	02/19/08	Committee recommends to full council to accept the road contingent upon the county receiving all the documentation for easements. >Approved
11	Resolution of support for Federal funds for sidewalks at West End to Nalley Brown Nature Park.	02/19/08	Committee instructed staff to locate the proper agencies involved with sidewalk and bike path funding. >Approved
12	Request to receive an update/progress of the Roads and Bridges department	03/17/08	Committee recommends approval of the staff recommendations, with the exception of leaving

			Edgewood on the paving list. >Approved
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ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:

1. EOC Exercise—Mr. Hurst informed council of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) exercise that was done in conjunction with Duke Energy as it relates to the nuclear power plant. Mr. Hurst stated that the law requires the county to participate in a mock exercise in which a nuclear leak has exposed the citizens to harm. Mr. Hurst stated the staff did an excellent job, and the State has viewed the exercise as a success.
2. Planning Commission Meeting. Mr. Hurst informed council of a packet he had placed in their folder that had information about an upcoming planning commission meeting.

SOUTH CAROLINA LAW ENFORCEMENT ACCREDITATION COUNCIL TO PRESENT SHERIFF STONE WITH RE-ACCREDITATION AWARD:

John Tate with the State came before council and presented Sheriff Stone with the re-accreditation award. Mr. Tate explained this process is a difficult task, and the County should be honored that the sheriff’s department was able to obtain the re-accreditation.

APPROVAL OF PROCLAMATION FOR APRIL TO BE PROCLAIMED AS BEAUTIFICATION MONTH:

- Motion was made by Tom Ponder, seconded by Ben Trotter and unanimously passed to approve the proclamation and to proclaim April as beautification month.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 400 THE FY 2008/2009 BUDGET:

- Motion was made by Ben Trotter, seconded by James London and unanimously passed to approve the first reading of FY 08/09 budget ordinance.

Mr. Hurst gave council a brief overview and stated that he has presented a budget with no tax increase.

Chairman Smith also informed Council that budget meetings will begin tomorrow night.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- Motion was made by Ben Trotter, seconded by Randy Crenshaw and unanimously passed to convene into executive session for the stated purposes.

- a. *Contractual issues*
- b. *Appalachian Council of Governments*
- c. *Personnel*

PUBLIC SESSION RECONVENED:

Chairman Smith called the public session back to order and advised the following motions.

Personnel—Chairman Smith stated the County Administrator had informed Council that he had spoken to all the county employees who were running for an elected position and

cautioned them about campaigning on county time, or the appearance of campaigning while they were acting as employees. Mr. Smith noted no action.

Contractual Issues:

Motion was made by Neil Smith, seconded by Ben Trotter and unanimously passed to purchase property on Powdersville Road for the Tri-County Technical College satellite building.

First Reading of an Ordinance authorizing the lease/purchase agreement for Crosswell fire district for the purchase of a fire truck:

- Motion was made by Tom Ponder, seconded by Randy Crenshaw and unanimously passed that this constitutes a first reading.

Appalachian Council of Governments:

Motion was made by Ben Trotter and seconded by Tom Ponder to appoint Heyward McDonald to the Appalachian Council of Governments. Motion was affirmed by Chairman Smith, Ben Trotter, Tom Ponder, and Randy Crenshaw. Motion was opposed by James London. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Ben Trotter and seconded by Tom Ponder to appoint John T. Hendricks to the Appalachian Council of Governments. Motion was affirmed by Chairman Smith, Ben Trotter, Tom Ponder, and Randy Crenshaw. Motion was opposed by James London. Motion Carried.

ADJOURN:

With there being no further business, Chairman Smith called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Ben Trotter seconded by Tom Ponder and unanimously passed. Pickens County Council stood adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectively Submitted:

Approved:

Donna F. Owen, Clerk to Council

G. Neil Smith, Chairman