

**Pickens County Council Meeting**  
**Regular Meeting**  
Items Before the Pickens County Council on

**Tuesday, January 3, 2006**  
**7:00 PM**

January 3, 2006

**\*\*These are not official minutes of the Pickens County Council meeting. This reflects the issues that were before Council and shows “Approved or “Not Approved” “No Action”, or the appropriate action taken.**

January 3, 2006  
Regular Meeting  
7:00 PM

County Council met in regular session, in the auditorium, County Administration Facility, with Chairman Jennifer H. Willis presiding. Agendas, bearing date, time, and location of meeting, were mailed to Council members and local news media, December 27, 2005.

Council Members in attendance:

Jennifer H. Willis, Chairman  
G. Neil Smith, Vice Chairman  
James B. London, Vice Chairman Pro Tempore  
C. Roy Collins  
Tom Ponder  
Ben L. Trotter

Staff: Alan M. Ours, County Administrator  
Donna F. Owen, Clerk to Council  
Ken Roper, County Attorney

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

December 5, 2005-  
December 15,

**Approved**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS.** Public Service Committee. Committee Chairman Collins gave the following report.

The Public Service Committee met in the main conference room with all committee members present.

Staff:  
 Alan Ours, County Administrator  
 Donna Owen, Clerk to Council  
 Olivia Vassey, Research Analyst  
 Troy Porter, Roads and Bridges  
 Curt Burgess, Engineer

Item	Description	Referred	Report	Action
113	Consideration of a policy to handle roads within the City of Easley and other municipalities that were once maintained by Pickens County  Retain on log 1/3/05	12/06/04		Committee recommends the following: 1. Take immediate action on roads that are acceptable. 2. Get a firm price on the other roads and bring back to council. 3. There should be agreements on all future annexations when road issues are involved.  >>Council approved
134	Consideration to approve Supplemental Agreement No. 2 with Ralph Whitehead Associates for additional contractual work on the replacement of the Old Central Road Bridge.	11/21/05		Committee recommends approval >>Approved
135	Consideration of a request from the City of Easley to pay for certain road improvements.	11/21/05		Committee recommends approval on the North D. Street project. >>Approved, with the county attorney stating he would make comments at their next committee meeting.  Committee tabled the issue of the parking project and sidewalk extension, the committee requested a legal opinion.
136	Consideration of a request from the City of Clemson to pay for certain road improvements.	11/21/05		Committee recommends approval for projects that were completed prior to the amending of the Road Fee Ordinance. Committee tabled all projects that were dated after amendments of October 3, 2005.  >>Approved with James London opposing
137	Consideration of a request from The Director of Roads and Bridges to accept Juniper Lane into the County Road system for minimum maintenance.	11/21/05		Committee recommends approval.  >>Approved

138	Issues regarding the Pickens County Airport operations.	11/21/05		Committees received update regarding Airport operations and also were informed about upcoming proposals from the Aeronautics Commission.
140	Consideration of a Request from the Director of Roads and Bridges to accept the following into the County Road System, Shady Grove Estates Drive, Dace Drive, Ede Drive and Elise Drive.	12/05/05		Committee recommends approval.  >>Approved with Mr. Trotter abstaining.
141	Arial Mill/Cobb Street issues	12/05/05		Mr. Ours provided to the committee the roads in question within the Arial Mill area were deeded to the county, and the county would begin work on the roads.

Discussion only:

Committee discussed the issue of specifics for the road user funds:

- Council to approve all spending for county and city roads to include paving, drainage issues, and bridges. Sidewalks when in the right of way.
- Municipalities should submit a list of paving needs to the Roads and Bridges Director by January 1 of each year. It will be the responsibility of the county to prioritize such request.
- No allocations will be made to any municipality.  
Remaining funds will roll into next year's road user funds.

**MOTION PERIOD AND NEW BUSINESS:**

- Discussions and approvals for committee or work session.
1. Department Heads living within the County. issue that department heads to live in Pickens County; and department heads that currently live outside of the county could be given a certain amount of time to move.

**Approved for committee**

2. Temporary Power Poles. to place in committee the issue of allowing temporary power poles. In the past citizens of mobile homes could apply for temporary power in order to build porches, but that action is no longer allowed, and serves as a hardship when the mobile home is out in a rural area.

**Approved for committee**

3. Issues regarding EMS, 911, and Fire. Councilman Smith stated he thought this issue may need to be a work session. Both Councilman London and Chairman Willis concurred. The motion rephrased for a work session of the council. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

**Approved for work session**

4. Web-Site Calendar. Mr. Trotter requested for referral to committee for all public meetings of the County Boards and Commissions to be placed on the calendar of the Pickens County Website. Motion was seconded by Roy Collins and unanimously passed.

**Approved for committee**

5. Information regarding tax exemptions. Neil Smith moved to send to committee the issue brought before council regarding information about all the tax exemptions for disabled citizens. Motion was seconded by Chairman Willis and unanimously passed.

**Approved for committee**

**CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A CONTRACT BETWEEN PICKENS COUNTY AND BLUE RIDGE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE COOPERATIVE SHARING A PORTION OF ITS INFRASTRUCTURE CREDITS WITH PICKENS COUNTY.**

The Cooperative has agreed to invest \$50,000 in infrastructure payments for sewer infrastructure in the Pickens County Commerce Park. It is recommended that Council approve the proposed contract.

**Approved**

**CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY TO PURCHASE A BLANKET FIDELITY BOND FOR COUNTY EMPLOYEES.**

On May 16, 2005 Governor Sanford signed into law an act to allow county governments to purchase a blanket fidelity bond to cover a portion or all county employees. A fidelity bond is a bond that would indemnify a county for loss due to embezzlement, larceny, or gross negligence by a county official or employee. In the past the county has only covered a select number of county employees. A blanket bond would cover all employees and provide more coverage. The current annual premium for insurance is \$4200.00 for a select group of employees. The annual premium of the fidelity blanket bond is \$7,333.00. Approval of the resolution and acceptance of the fidelity blanket bond is recommended.

**Approved**

**CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST FROM SHERIFF STONE TO PROVIDE AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY FOR A GRANT TO PURCHASE A LIVE SCAN FINGERPRINT SYSTEM.**

The proposed grant is for \$60,000.00 and would require a 25% match or \$15,000.00, which would not be due until after July 1<sup>st</sup>. The Sheriff's Office budget includes \$15,000.00 to match grants that come available during the fiscal year. Since the State Law Enforcement Division is encouraging all departments to submit electronic fingerprints, approval of the request is recommended.

**Approved**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Approved**

The following items were approved via consent.

- a. Consideration of a request from the Director of Roads and Bridges to accept Weatherstone Drive into the County road maintenance system. It is recommended that this matter be referred to the Public Service Committee.
- b. Consideration of a request from the Town of Central for funding to resurface streets in the Town of Central in the current fiscal year. It is recommended that this matter be referred to the Public Service Committee.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**Approved**

- a. Appointments to Boards and Commissions
- b. Personnel Issues

**HIRING RANGE OF DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

>>Motion was made by Neil Smith and seconded by Roy Collins to suspend the rules regarding hiring range decisions for department head positions. All members voted in favor with the exception of Ben Trotter who opposed. Motion carried.

**Approved**

**FIRE DISTRICT APPOINTMENTS:**

**Following citizens were approved for fire district appointments**

Central requests the re-appointment of Charles Head and J.K. Dotson:

Charles Head	J.K Dotson
1293 18 Mile Road	1701 Six Mile Hwy
Central, SC 29630	Central, SC 29630

Dacusville requests the re-appointment of Sid Miller and Dennis Bauknight

Sid Miller	Dennis Bauknight
1078 Freeman Bridge Rd	1967 Earls Bridge Road
Easley, SC 29640	Easley, SC 29640

Easley requests the re-appointment of Gerald Culler, and the new appointment of Randy Looper. (Mr. Looper filled the vacancy of Robert Turpin.)

Randy Looper	Gerald Culler
182 Turpin Drive	109 N. Rhome Ct
Easley, SC 29642	Easley, SC 29640

Holly Springs requests the re-appointment of Bobby Ray Cassell, and the new appointment of Kerry Rodgers. (Kerry filled the vacancy of Ramona Gravely)

Bobby Ray Cassell	Kerry Rodgers
121 R&C Drive	131 View Point Road
Sunset, SC 29685	Pickens, SC 29671

Liberty requests the re-appointment of Dean Parker, and the new appointment of Anson Powell. (Mr. Powell filled the vacancy of Frank Stegall)

Dean Parker  
862 Rices Creek Road  
Liberty, SC 29657

Anson Powell  
505 Hunter Mill Rd.  
Liberty, SC 29657

Pumpkintown Fire District requests the appointment of Rhett Leonard and Liz Myers.  
(both to replace Billy Chappell and Olin Masters)

Rhett Leonard  
757 Pleasant Grove Rd  
Pickens, SC 29671

Liz Myers  
231 Fish Hawk Rd.  
Cleveland, SC 29635

Shady Grove requests the re-appointment of David P. Jones, and the new appointment  
of John Abercrombie. (Mr. Abercrombie filled the vacancy of Perry Burns)

David P. Jones  
1945 Shady Grove Rd.  
Sunset, SC 29685

John Abercrombie  
2041 Reece Mill Road  
Pickens, SC 29671

Six Mile requests the re-appointment of E.P. Stillwell and Wesley Witcher

E.P. Stillwell  
316 Mimosa Drive  
Six Mile, SC 29682

Wesley Witcher  
1125 Old Seneca Rd.  
Six Mile, SC 29682

Vineyards request the re-appointment of Ray Steck and Roger Haenggii

Ray Steck  
602 Windflower  
Sunset, SC 29685

Roger Haenggii  
524 Ginseng Drive  
Sunset, SC 29685

**ADJOURN:**

Adjourned at 10:40 PM.