

April 2, 2007  
Regular Council Meeting  
7:00 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, March 28, 2007.

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

Absent: Jennifer H. Willis

Staff: J. Chappell Hurst, County Administrator  
Ken Roper, County Attorney  
Donna Owen, Clerk to Council  
Lynn Fisher, Assistant County Administrator  
Ralph Guarino, Finance Director  
Olivia Vassey, Research Analyst

**WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Smith called the meeting of April 2, 2007 to order and welcomed those in attendance. Chairman Smith stated Mrs. Willis would be absent. Councilman Randy Crenshaw was asked to lead the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

>>Motion was made by Ben Trotter, seconded by Tom Ponder to approve the minutes of March 19, 2007. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

1. Woodrow Blake. Mr. Blake stated he was the Pastor and founder of the *Jesus is Lord Ministries*. Mr. Blake stated he wanted to thank council for their dedication to the community and for their service. Mr. Blake stated it is his desire to introduce himself and be better informed of the issues that County Council is facing so that his congregation can do more to support Council.

**COMMITTEE REPORT:**

- Council Work Session. Chairman Smith went over the following work session of council.

**Council as a whole**  
**March 19, 2007**

Council Members met in the Main Conference Room, County Administration Facility with Chairman Neil Smith presiding. All Council Members were in attendance.

Staff:

Chap Hurst, Administrator  
Donna Owen, Clerk to Council  
Olivia Vassey, Research Analyst  
Ray Farley, Director of Economic Development  
Chris Brink, Community Development Director

Others:

Members of the Planning Commission  
C-Fund Committee, Chair Ed Martin

Chairman Smith facilitated the group by giving participants a blank map of Pickens County and different colors of pens. Chairman Smith asked the group to then use the colors to indicate road issues, parks, industrial growth, and residential. Participants were instructed on a color code for each issue.

At the conclusion of the meeting maps were generalized and discussed as follows.

**Highway Issues**

Highway 153- extension  
Highway 123 – widen  
Highway 183 – widen Greenville to Pickens  
Highway 178- widen  
Highway 8  
Highway 93

**Parks and Recreation Issues:**

Boggs Mountain  
Crosswell area  
Shady Grove area  
Holly Springs area  
Six Mile area  
Flat Rock area

With this being a work session of Council, no action was allowed and meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM.

**ADMINISTRATORS REPORT:**

Mr. Hurst provided memorandums and comments about the following subjects:

Government Day:

Pickens County elected and non-elected officials are working on a Pickens County Government Day to be held Thursday, May 17<sup>th</sup> from 3 until 7 PM. The purpose of this exhibition is to engage the public in learning about the capabilities of Pickens County Government. Equipment that has been purchased with taxpayer's dollars will be on display and individual departments will explain what they do and the various programs that are available to the taxpayers. Every department will have a booth with literature and brochures that will highlight frequently asked questions. We will schedule events with the Sheriff's Department, EMS, the County COBRA team and Fire

Departments that should be very entertaining and informative. We believe that this is a great opportunity for the public to get to know their county officials and to participate with their government officials in learning how their tax dollars are spent.

### Economic Development Spec Buildings

One of the main shortcomings of our economic development program has been the lack of product for sale. Ray Farley and I have been meeting to develop a program whereby developers could build spec buildings that could be offered for sale by Pickens County to encourage the relocation of industries to the County. We are currently seeking individuals who are interested in providing the capital for these buildings to be erected and assume responsibility for financing of these facilities. We are very close to developing a proposal that will be submitted to you in May. We would encourage any interested party to contact Ray Farley for details about this program.

#### Council Correspondence:

- **Discussion of council meeting dates.** Chairman Smith announced that he would cancel the meeting for April 16, 2007 and have the second meeting of the month on April 23, 2007 at 6:00 PM. Also regarding other Council meetings, Chairman Smith announced no meeting for July 2, 2007, and to move the meeting of September 3, 2007 to Tuesday September 4, 2007.
- **Discussion of budget work session dates.** Chairman Smith also requested dates for budget work sessions. Mr. Smith stated he knew certain dates would not suit everyone. Mr. Smith stated as far as the budget calendar went the following dates were set: April 2, 2007 first reading; May 21, 2007 second reading/public hearing; third reading would be June 4, 2007. Council agreed to meet Tuesday April 10, 2007 at 6:00 PM for budget work session, and Monday April 23, at 2:00 PM for the next work session and again on Tuesday April 24, at 2:00 PM.

#### **MOTION PERIOD AND NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Ben Trotter requested to add to the agenda for the purpose of action to allow Holly Springs Fire District to purchase a fire truck. Motion was seconded by Tom Ponder and unanimously passed. Request was added to the agenda.

#### **FIRST READING OF THE FY 2007/2008 BUDGET:**

>>Motion that this constitutes first reading was made by Randy Crenshaw, seconded by Ben Trotter.

Mr. Hurst briefed Council that the FY 2007/2008 budget is a balanced budget and imposes no tax increase. Also noted was the fact this budget projects out approximately (3) years, therefore allowing council to realize future issues further out. The current budget has the elimination of (7) positions from the General fund, and the addition of (3), with (1) of the positions being funded solely through grant. The budget also includes Capital equipment, current and future. Mr. Hurst stated he was prepared to go into the detail at Council's request.

Council thanked Mr. Hurst. Chairman Smith stated during the first work session Council would go into the details of the budget summary.

>>Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

**APPROVAL OF PROCLAMATION TO PROCLAIM APRIL 2007 AS BEAUTIFICATION PICKENS COUNTY MONTH:**

>>Motion was made by Ben Trotter, seconded by Tom Ponder and unanimously passed to approve the proclamation to proclaim April 2007 as Beautification Month.

**HOLLY SPRINGS REQUEST TO PURCHASE FIRE TRUCK:**

>>Motion was made by Ben Trotter, seconded by Tom Ponder to allow Holly Springs to purchase the requested Fire Truck. Funds are in the Holly Springs account for the needed \$40,000.00. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

>>Motion was made by Tom Ponder, seconded by Randy Crenshaw and unanimously passed to approve the Consent agenda.

- a. Council Rules to committee for the purpose of review of protocol for placing items on the agenda. Justice and Public Safety Committee
- b. Request from the Six Mile Fire District for funds regarding repair/upgrade to brush truck. Administration and Finance Committee
- c. Review of the County Junkyard Ordinance. Education, Recreation and County Planning Committee.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

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

- Appointments to Board of Zoning and Appeals
- Contractual Issues

**PUBLIC SESSION RECONVENED:**

Chairman Smith called the Public Session back to order and advised the following motions.

1. Board of Zoning and Appeals. Chairman Smith moved to appoint Mr. Bob Young to the Board of Zoning and Appeals. Motion was seconded by Ben Trotter and unanimously passed.

**ADJOURN:**

With there being no further business before the Pickens County Council, motion to adjourn was made by Tom Ponder, seconded by Randy Crenshaw and unanimously passed. Council stood adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectively Submitted:

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Donna F. Owen, Clerk to Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
G. Neil Smith, Chairman