

October 15, 2007
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, October 10, 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
Jennifer H. Willis

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

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Smith called the meeting of October 15, 2007 to order and welcomed those in attendance. Chairman Smith called upon Councilman Crenshaw for the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Motion was made by Ben Trotter, seconded by Tom Ponder and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of October 1, 2007.

COMMITTEE REPORT:

1. Justice and Public Safety Report - Committee Chairman Trotter gave the following report.

The Justice and Public Safety Committee met in the Main Conference Room at 5:00 PM with Committee Chairman Trotter presiding. Other Committee Member were Jim London and Randy Crenshaw.

Staff:

Chappell Hurst, County Administrator
Lynn Fisher, Assistant County Administrator
Olivia Vassey, Special Projects Coordinator
Sheriff Stone
Assistant Sheriff, Tim Morgan
Phillip Snow, Chief Magistrate

Item	Description	Referred	Action
8	Study district lines for all fire districts. Petition from citizens in Six-Mile to be made part of the Central Fire District Retained 12/04/2006	07/18/06	No action
9	Clarification regarding previous action on a fire department truck at Six-Mile	08/06/07	Committee recommends payment for the repairs and upgrade to the Six-Mile Fire District brush truck in the amount of \$12,848.40. Committee also recommended that all equipment be labeled as property of Pickens County. >>>Council unanimously approved.
10	Request for an ordinance and enforcement policy regarding illegal immigrants.	09/17/07	No action, committee held discussions about the process of illegal immigration and how training of local law enforcement would need to tie into state and federal laws. All Committee members stated a need for sensitivity when dealing with these issues.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:

1. Grants Update. Mr. Hurst gave council a list of grant awards from January 2006 through October 2007. The report indicated awards in the amount of \$2,201,806. Also reported was over 2 million that are pending grants, bringing the total to over 4 million. Mr. Hurst stated this report gave a good indication of what the strengths and the weaknesses are before hiring the recommended position of grants coordinator.

2. DSO Update. Mr. Hurst stated he realized that council was expecting a draft document for the Development Standards Ordinance, however due to the turn over in the Planning office; this will be delayed until the end of December. Mr. Hurst also stated that as of this date, the department is still seeking qualified candidates for the Planning position.

3. Springs Fire District. Mr. Hurst stated that staff was working with the Springs Fire District for an advisory election so a Board of Directors can be appointed. Mr. Hurst stated when the process is complete then council will consider the nominees.

4. Register of Deeds. Mr. Hurst asked Register of Deeds Director, Paul McGuffin to present the new software package to council as it relates to records. Mr. McGuffin explained the Deeds office will begin with electronic files dating back to 1986. Mr. McGuffin gave Council a brief overview of the website, and also informed them of a savings of over \$200,000 by going with this vendor. Also, customers will be able to utilize the several computer terminals for research.

COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE:

Chairman Smith announced the Fire Chief’s Association invitation for October 25th, 2007.

MOTION PERIOD AND NEW BUSINESS:

Chairman Smith opened the floor for any motions relating to new business. Hearing none, the floor was closed.

THIRD READING AND PUBLIC HEARING OF AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE FINANCING OF THE IMPROVEMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND EQUIPPING OF CERTAIN SEWER TREATMENT FACILITIES IN PICKENS COUNTY SOUTH CAROLINA THROUGH THE BORROWING OF NOT EXCEEDING THREE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,550,000) FROM THE STATE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL REVOLVING FUND:

- Motion was made by James London, seconded by Tom Ponder and unanimously passed to approve this as a third and final reading of Ordinance No. 397.

APPROVAL OF RECORDS RETENTION SCHEDULE:

Mr. Hurst explained that the records retention policy needed to be updated to include the department for manufactured homes.

- Motion was made by Ben Trotter and seconded by Tom Ponder to approve the records retention schedule. All council voted in the affirmative.

PROPOSED TIF DISTRICT FOR SACO LOWELL:

- Jennifer Willis moved to consider this issue being discussed at the Committee of the Whole level. Mrs. Willis stated she wanted more time to discuss the issues regarding all the funding that has already been discussed for this project.

Councilman Trotter stated he would be in favor of acting on this issue now unless there was new information.

Chairman Smith stated he agreed with Mrs. Willis regarding needing to determine information about the various funding sources.

James London seconded the motion, and stated he would be in favor of hearing from the city officials. Chairman Smith stated the appropriate place would be the committee of the whole

- Motion passed with a unanimous vote. Chairman Smith stated he would advise Council of the meeting and stated it could take place as early as prior to the November 5th, 2007 regular meeting.

ADJOURN:

Hearing no further business, Chairman Smith called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Ben Trotter, seconded by Jennifer Willis and unanimously passed. Pickens County Council stood adjourned at 6:35 PM.

Respectively Submitted:

Approved:

Donna F. Owen, Clerk to Council

G. Neil Smith, Chairman