

January 20, 2009
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, January 14, 2009.

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

Donna Owen, Clerk to Council

Staff: J. Chappell Hurst, County Administrator
Olivia Vassey, Special Projects Coordinator
Ken Roper, County Attorney

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Smith called the meeting of January 20, 2009 to order and welcomed those in attendance. Chairman Smith called upon Vice Chairman Jennifer Willis to lead the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Chairman Smith called upon the Clerk to Council for a list of citizens who have signed up to speak before Council. Being none, Chairman Smith closed the Public Forum.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- December 15, 2008—Jennifer Willis moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of December 15, 2008. Motion was seconded by Randy Crenshaw. Jennifer Willis stated that the minutes needed to be clarified regarding the amendments of the Development Standards Ordinance.

First clarification --regarding the Setbacks- Mrs. Willis stated the setbacks are for all setbacks, both commercial and residential, which will be 20 feet, and if there is a road right of way that is greater the right of way will take precedence.

Second clarification—that side and rear setbacks are meant for principal buildings only, and smaller setback still remain for accessory buildings.

>>Council concurred with the clarification of the motions and the minutes were unanimously approved. Also Chairman Smith stated he would accept a motion to discuss questions regarding Article 5 of the DSO in a committee.

January 5, 2009 – Jennifer Willis moved to approve the organizational minutes of January 5, 2009. Motion was seconded by Randy Crenshaw and unanimously passed.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:

Mr. Hurst gave Council a report on the accomplishments of 2008.

- a. New Industry for the year presented 3 new businesses creating over 300 jobs.
- b. The bio-diesel program is providing low cost fuel and will save the county thousands of dollars.
- c. Recycling Department continues to win awards and is recognized as one of the best in the State for reducing solid waste.
- d. The Emergency Management Department was recognized by Duke Power and FEMA for its perfect score in the Oconee Nuclear exercise.
- e. The County in conjunction with Anderson and Oconee won the Barrett Lawrimore award for regional cooperation for erecting an 800 MHG radio system.
- f. The Finance Department for the second year in a row received the CAFRA, which is the highest award for financial reporting and excellence.
- g. Mile Creek Park has been successful in renovations at the Park with a new entrance sign, covered shed, ice machines, bait machines, and camp site improvements.
- h. The Spay and Neuter Program has been recognized as a model of other counties in and out of the State. The adoption program has become such a success that Pickens County is going toward the No Kill goal. Mr. Hurst informed Council that one of the Staff employees for the Kennedy family in Washington, DC is actually assisting in the adoption of Pickens County animals.
- i. Mr. Hurst stated he had met with members of DHEC and while they can not remove the Air Quality Monitor, Mr. Hurst stated they agreed to move it to the Administration Campus for further monitoring.

>>Council stated they did not want the monitor moved at this time. Council also stated they would be looking at contacting the EPA and DHEC regarding removal of the monitor permanently as promised.

COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE:

- a. Announcement of Committee Assignments – Chairman Smith announced the committee assignments for 2009/10.
- b. Chairman Smith also announced that Council had discussed that 6:30 PM would be a more convenient time for Council meetings. Also Chairman Smith stated that the second meeting of the month would be much more focused on work sessions and committee meetings.

MOTION PERIOD AND NEW BUSINESS:

- Jennifer Willis moved to place in the Education, Recreation, Health, Welfare, and County Planning Committee the issue of Article 5 of the Development Standards Ordinance. Motion was seconded by Tom Ponder and unanimously passed.

APPROVAL OF THE BUDGET CALENDAR:

- Motion was made by Jennifer Willis, and seconded by Tom Ponder to approve the budget calendar. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Chairman Smith reminded Council to please let the Clerk to Council know about dates to set aside for budget work sessions.

PUBLIC HEARING AND THIRD READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 416 AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A FEE IN LIEU OF TAX AGREEMENT BETWEEN PICKENS COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AND TRI TECH PROJECT PURSUANT TO TITLE 12, CHAPTER 44, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO:

Chairman Smith opened the Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 416, with no citizens speaking, Chairman Smith closed the Public Hearing and called for a motion for third reading.

- Motion was made by Jennifer Willis, seconded by Randy Crenshaw and unanimously passed that this constitutes a third and final reading of Ordinance No. 416.

PUBLIC HEARING AND THIRD READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 417 AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE BY PICKENS COUNTY OF CERTAIN LAND TO TRI TECH PROJECT; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO:

Chairman Smith opened the Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 417, with no citizens speaking, Chairman Smith closed the Public Hearing and called for a motion for third reading.

- Motion was made by Jennifer Willis, seconded by Tom Ponder and unanimously passed that this constitutes a third and final reading of Ordinance No. 417.

SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A FEE AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN PICKENS COUNTY, SC AND CHAMPION AEROSPACE LLC, ITS AFFILIATES INCENTIVE; TO PROVIDE FOR THE INCLUSION OF THE PROJECT IN A MULTI-COUNTY BUSINESS OR INDUSTRIAL PARK; AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS.

- Motion was made by Jennifer Willis, seconded by Randy Crenshaw and unanimously passed to approve that this constitutes a second reading for the Champion Aerospace project.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Jennifer Willis moved to approve the consent agenda as amended; motion was seconded by Randy Crenshaw and unanimously passed.
 - a. Update regarding budget shortfall-Administration and Finance
 - b. Mobile Home Amnesty Program- Administration and Finance
 - c. Investment Policy- Administration and Finance
 - d. Study of the Uniform Fire District Ordinance - Justice and Public Safety
 - e. Organizational Rules- Justice and Public Safety
 - f. Article 5 of the DSO- Education, Recreation, and County Planning.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- Randy Crenshaw moved to convene into executive session for the stated purposes. Motion was seconded by Tom Ponder and unanimously passed

Appointments to the Planning Commission

Appointments to the Cultural Commission
Contractual Issue
Economic Development Issue

PUBLIC SESSION RECONVENED:

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

Cultural Commission- James London moved to appoint Larisa Heimlich to fill the unexpired term of her late father, Seth Heimlich. Motion was seconded by Jennifer Willis and unanimously passed.

Planning Commission – Tom Ponder moved to re-appoint Barry Bowen to the Planning Commission. Motion was seconded by Jennifer Willis. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Chairman Smith stated no action was forthcoming regarding the contractual issue or the economic development issue.

ADJOURN:

Hearing no further business of the Council, Chairman Smith called for the adjournment. Motion was made by Jennifer Willis, seconded by Randy Crenshaw and unanimously passed. Pickens County Council stood adjourned at 6:40 PM.

Respectively Submitted:

Approved:

Donna F. Owen, Clerk to Council

G. Neil Smith, Chairman