

May 7, 2012
Regular Council Meeting
6:30 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 on April 24, 2012.

Council Members in attendance:

Jennifer H. Willis, Chairman
G. Neil Smith, Vice Chairman
Tom Ponder, Vice Chairman Pro-tem
Jeff Martin
Trey Whitehurst
Sam Wyche

Donna Owen, Clerk to Council

Staff:

Chappell Hurst, Administrator
Ken Roper, County Attorney

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Willis called the meeting of May 7, 2012 to order and welcomed those in attendance. Councilman Tom Ponder gave the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Chairman Willis opened the Public Forum and requested the Clerk to introduce the speakers who have signed up.

- 1) Scott Stevens. Mr. Stevens wanted to come before Council to introduce the organization that he represents. Mr. Stevens stated the Children Services Council was an organization that is in Pickens County to adopt a model for Children's services. This organization is an alliance between non-profits and other agencies to guide efforts for serving children ages birth to five years old. This model will collaborate with agencies such as Social Services and Parenting Place in an effort to eliminate duplication of services, and to provide a "one stop" approach for families who need these services.
- 2) Kimberly Snide. Ms. Snide with Pickens County Seniors Unlimited, came before Council to state that Seniors Unlimited has experienced financial cut backs. Ms. Snide stated overall their budget has lost \$500,000 from State, County, less donations, and the fact that Seniors Unlimited is no longer doing Medicaid transportation. Ms. Snide stated she did not want to lose the services that Seniors Unlimited provides. Ms. Snide stated she would like Council to think about reinstating the previous \$20,000 budget amount, and to know that the organization would like to purchase County land where the Central Senior Center is located.
Mr. Whitehurst asked to see a more detailed budget.
- 3) Former Mayor John Wade and current Mayor Roy Stoddard of Six Mile. Mayors Wade and Stoddard came to Council to thank them for the helpful and courteous service the Town of Six Mile has received from Administrator Chappell Hurst and Gerald Wilson, Director of Roads and Bridges. The Mayors explained that the Town of Six Mile is very small, and has limited resources. However, the County has shown true community spirit, and has been courteous and helpful when their town has been in need. Mr. Wade stated that Mr. Hurst was not always able to provide a requested service, but he was always courteous and helpful. Mr. Stoddard also thanked

Trey Whitehurst and Staff for their help with the retirement celebration for Ronnie Duncan. Both gentleman concluded by recognizing each of the employees who participated with assisting the Town of Six Mile.

- 4) Henry Wilson- Mr. Wilson came before Council to discuss his disappointment with the State and the fact that candidates will not be on the 2012 ballot due to the recent court ruling. Mr. Wilson stated this ruling was literally taking the public's voice away from the process of electing people for office.
- 5) Weldon Clark- Mr. Clark spoke about the issues with EPA and the PCB's in the Twelve Mile River. Mr. Clark stated that EPA is measuring PCB's in aquatic life, but they are not measuring terrestrial or plant life. Regarding the election/ballot issues is a negative, but it is the fault of those who write these rules and regulations in Columbia.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Motion was made by Councilman Trey Whitehurst, seconded by Councilman Tom Ponder and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of April 2, 2012.

REMOVE FROM THE TABLE AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 19, 2012 TRANSCRIPT:

- Motion was made by Councilman Neil Smith and seconded by Chairman Willis to remove from the table. All members voted in the affirmative.
- Motion was made by Councilman Neil Smith, seconded by Councilman Tom Ponder and unanimously passed to approve the transcript from March 19, 2012.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Hurst gave reports on the following issues.

- 1) Mr. Hurst thanked Mayors Stoddard and Wade for their kind words. Also, Mr. Hurst reiterated that Gerald Wilson and his employees are always willing to assist, and are good examples of a "can do" attitude.
- 2) Exploding Targets. Mr. Hurst informed Council that more citizens are coming forward with complaints about exploding targets. As stated in a previous meeting, Mr. Hurst said the targets are legal. However, they are extremely loud and can be obstructive if used improperly. Mr. Hurst stated the Sheriff's department is continuing to work with him as citizens are becoming frustrated with these devices.
- 3) Sassafras Overlook. Mr. Hurst stated progress is being made for the tower at Sassafras Mountain. Mr. Hurst stated DNR and PRT are working on the design for the overlook.
- 4) Smithsonian New Harmonies Tour-Mr. Hurst stated he has received a final update on the tour and over 7,000 people have been at local events and exhibits. Visitors came from several SC Counties and over (9) states. Mr. Hurst stated that Helen Hockwalt with the Pickens County Museum has done an outstanding job with this project.
- 5) E911 Coordinator. Mr. Hurst stated he has recently sent Council a copy of a published article entitled "*Next Generation Isn't Just About Technology*." This article was featured in Public Safety Communications magazine, and was written by Pickens County's E911 Coordinator, Tasha Todd. Mr. Hurst stated this article is very informative as it relates to the next generation of 911 dispatchers and their knowledge of technology. Mr. Hurst also stated he was extremely proud of Tasha for this publication in a national magazine.
- 6) Vehicle Maintenance Shop- there will be a surplus vehicle sale at the Vehicle Maintenance Shop on Saturday May 12, 2012 at 10:00 AM.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Chairman Willis called for the Committee Reports.

- Committee of the Whole- Chairman Willis gave the following report:

Committee of the Whole
April 16, 2012
5:00 PM

The Committee of the Whole met on Monday April 16, 2012, at 5:00 PM in the Main Conference Room, Pickens County Administration Building 222 McDaniel Ave. Pickens SC. All council members were in attendance with the exception of Councilman Neil Smith.

Staff:

Chap Hurst, County Administrator
Donna Owen, Clerk to Council
Jim Wilkie, Planning Commission Chairman
Chris Brink, Community Development Director
Wes Hulsey, Engineer

Others:

Craig Zeller, EPA
Larry Dyck, Water and Soil Board
Roddy Gettys, Water and Soil Board
Local Media

Chairman Willis called for a motion to go into executive session for legal updates regarding item 7. Motion was made by Tom Ponder, seconded by Councilman Sam Wyche and unanimously passed.

Public Session: public session reconvened and Council took action on item 17. To approve a resolution regarding waterways in Pickens County.

Item 7- Council discussed sampling and other items with Mr. Zeller. No action was taken, and a full transcript is on record.

>>council approved.

COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE:

Chairman Willis stated to the public that Council would be announcing a summer schedule at a later date. The only date that is definite right now is the June meeting, which will be June 18th, 2012 at 6:30 PM. This will be the meeting for the public hearing on the FY 2012/2013 budget.

MOTION PERIOD AND NEW BUSINESS:

Chairman Willis opened the floor for new business.

Sam Wyche stated he would like to have a committee meeting of the Education, Recreation, Health, Welfare, and County Planning Committee on Wednesday May 16, 2012, prior to the budget work session.

APPROVAL OF PROCLAMATION FOR PEACE OFFICERS' MEMORIAL DAY:

- Motion was made by Councilman Neil Smith and seconded by Councilman Trey Whitehurst to approve the memorial proclamation. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 455 FY 2011 2012 BUDGET AMENDMENT:

- Motion was made by Councilman Tom Ponder, seconded by Councilman Jeff Martin and unanimously passed that this constitutes a second reading of Ordinance No. 455.

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 456 FY 2013 BUDGET ORDINANCE

- Motion was made by Councilman Neil Smith, seconded by Councilman Jeff Martin and unanimously passed that this constitutes a second reading of Ordinance No. 456.

REQUEST FOR LEPPARDS LANE TO BE TAKEN INTO THE MINIMUM MAINTENANCE ROAD SYSTEM:

- Motion was made by Councilman Tom Ponder, seconded by Councilman Neil Smith and unanimously passed to approve Leppards Lane in the minimum maintenance road system.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Motion was made by Councilman Trey Whitehurst, seconded by Councilman Tom Ponder and unanimously passed to approve the consent agenda as presented.

FY 2012 A-Tax Recommendations- Committee of the Whole
Hazard Mitigation Plan- Justice and Public Safety Committee
Dissemination Policy- Administration and Finance Committee
FY 2012/2013 Paving list- Public Service Committee

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- Motion was made by Councilman Neil Smith, seconded by Councilman Tom Ponder and unanimously passed to convene into executive session for the stated purposes.

Boards and Commissions
Legal Update

PUBLIC SESSION RECONVENED:

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

Council had a legal briefing with no action.

Cultural Commission:

- Councilman Neil Smith moved to appoint Peggy McClanahan to the Cultural Commission to represent District 4. Motion was seconded by Councilman Jeff Martin and unanimously passed.
- Upon consent of Council district's 1,2,3,5, and 6, Councilman Trey Whitehurst moved to re-appoint each district member to the Cultural Commission. Motion was seconded by Councilman Neil Smith and unanimously passed.

ADJOURN:

Hearing no further Council business, Chairman Willis called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Councilman Neil Smith, seconded by Councilman Jeff Martin and unanimously passed. Pickens County Council stood adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectively Submitted:

Approved:

Donna F. Owen, Clerk to Council

Jennifer H. Willis, Chairman