

**Pickens County Council Meeting**  
**Regular Meeting**

Items Before the Pickens County Council on

**Monday, August 1, 2005**

**7:00 PM**

August 1, 2005

\*\*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.

August 1, 2005  
Regular Meeting  
7:00 PM

County Council met in regular session, in the auditorium, County Administration Facility, with Vice Chairman G. Neil Smith presiding. Agendas, bearing date, time, and location of meeting, were mailed to Council members and local news media on July 25, 2005.

Council Members in attendance:

G. Neil Smith, Vice Chairman  
C. Roy Collins  
Tom E. Ponder  
Ben L. Trotter

Absent: Jennifer H. Willis, Chairman  
James B. London, Vice Chairman Pro Tempore

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

**Agenda Corrections:**

Mr. Smith advised the Committee reports should be on the agenda, and also placed the minutes on the agenda in accordance with Council Rules.

**Approved**

**MINUTES OF JULY 18, 2005:**

**Approved**

**COMMITTEE REPORT:**

1. **Administration and Finance.** Mr. Smith gave the following report:  
Report date of July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2005.

162	Consideration of a Veterans Holiday		No action, Committee will look at further information.
163	Pickens County Leave Policy for further study.		<p>Committee revised the leave policy to allow previous full time service with Pickens County reduced by actual time away from the county to be included in calculating an accrual rate in the event an employee returns to work.</p> <p>Also employees that retire under the State Retirement Systems and return to work with the County and those that participate in the TERI plan will be treated as new employees and their accrual rates will be the same of those as a new employee and they will receive payment for their accrued vacation when they terminate employment.</p> <p>Committee also request opinion from the County Attorney regarding accrual rates for employees who are currently in the TERI plan or retired and have returned to work.</p> <p>~~~~~</p> <p>&gt;&gt;Council amended to include that any unused vacation would be paid to the employees estate in the event of death.</p> <p>&gt;&gt;After much discussion, Mr. Smith advised no action and for these issues to be revisited and to get more input from the Attorney. Motion was made by Ben Trotter, seconded by Tom Ponder and unanimously passed for this to stay in committee with no action.</p> <p><b><u>Approved</u></b></p>
164	Consideration to put the ordinance that governs the Pickens County Aeronautics Commission in committee for review and update.		No Action.
165	Consideration to renew agreement between Pickens County and the Foothills Humane Society for animal care and adoption services.		Committee request staff to develop agreement and bring back to Committee.
168	Study of funding the Museum request using set aside contingency and other tourism funds.		<p>Committee request that staff look into funding sources from last year's budget and bring back to Council.</p> <p>&gt;&gt;Motion to take \$80,000 out of the accommodations reserve from last fiscal year, and to restore to the general fund in order to fund the Preparator and Care Taker for the Museum. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.</p> <p>&gt;&gt;Motion was made by Tom Ponder, seconded by Ben Trotter and unanimously passed to amend the motion to state that all accommodations will fund Pickens County projects and not outside of the County.</p> <p><b><u>Approved</u></b></p>
169	Consideration of a request from FOLKS (Friends of Lake Keowee) for \$5000.00 to help fund new equipment for their water-monitoring program.		No action.

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

### **Motions for additions to agenda:**

- Tom Ponder moved to add a personnel issue to Executive Session, motion was seconded by Ben Trotter and unanimously passed.

#### **Approved**

- Ben Trotter moved to add to the agenda that all out of State travel would be approved by County Council. Motion was seconded by Tom Ponder and unanimously passed.

#### **Approved**

- Neil Smith moved to add a legal matter to Executive Session. Seconded by Ben Trotter and unanimously passed.

#### **Approved**

- Neil Smith stated there was an issue to add to the agenda consideration of removing the Road User Fee from the Council as a whole and placing it into the Administration and Finance Committee.

*\*\*Upon discussion of this issue, Council concurred to leave the Road User Fee in the Council Work Session.*

Vice Chairman Smith advised discussion of the added items at the end of the regular agenda.

### **Motions for Committee:**

- Ben Trotter moved to add to the agenda that only Pickens County contractors would be considered when bidding out jobs. Mr. Trotter stated he would only favor outside bids when it was not feasible to consider bids from Pickens County. Tom Ponder seconded the motion.

Mr. Smith encouraged this may be an issue that should go to committee for study in order to comply with all procurement laws and other State laws. The maker of the motion and the second both concurred. Procurement issues were sent to the Administration and Finance Committee.

#### **Approved**

- Neil Smith moved to add to the agenda a courteous first reading of an ordinance to amend the FY 2005/05 Budget for the purpose to adjust sewer fees due to changes in the intergovernmental agreement and further send to Administration and Finance Committee.

#### **Approved**

- Motion was made by Neil Smith, seconded by Roy Collins and unanimously passed to refer the issue of developing a policy regarding funding during the fiscal year from outside agencies. Issue was referred to the Administration and Finance Committee.

#### **Approved**

- Motion was made by Neil Smith, seconded by Ben Trotter and unanimously passed to refer to the Justice and Public Safety Committee the issue of housing State Inmates.

**Approved**

**Announcements:**

Mr. Smith advised that the first Monday in September would be on Labor Day, and County offices would be closed. Mr. Smith recommended the Council Meeting be moved to Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>. All Council concurred.

Mr. Smith also asked Council to look at their calendars and see when a work session could take place, due to the urgency of the Cramer relocation, Roper upgrade, and review of Eighteen Mile Creek.

**PRESENTATION OF CHECK BY REPRESENTATIVE OF SOUTH CAROLINA FORESTRY COMMISSION:**

Don Robinson with the Forestry Commission came to present Council a check for \$11,141.12, which represents 25% of Revenues from Poe Creek State Forest.

**Approved**

**RECEIVE INFORMATION FROM DR. DEWITT STONE REGARDING THE REVIEW OF THE DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS ORDINANCE BY THE PICKENS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION:**

Dr. Stone, Chairman of the Planning Commission came before Council to discuss the fact that the Development Standard Ordinance has been sent back to the Planning Commission. Dr. Stone asked Council specifically what they wanted to see revised. Dr. Stone stated the ordinance was a lengthy document and it would make the job much easier if Council Members could write some notes and give to the commission, or if Council Members could call their respective representatives and give them some feedback.

**THIRD READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 362, AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY OF PICKENS COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA TO THE TOWN OF CENTRAL, SOUTH CAROLINA:**

**Approved**

**CONSIDERATION TO ACCEPT GRANT AWARD OF \$500,000 FOR THE ARIAL MILL VILLAGE SEWER PROJECT. PICKENS COUNTY HAS BEEN AWARDED A \$500,000 CDBG (COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT) TO UPGRADE A PORTION OF THE SEWER LINES IN THE ARIAL MILL VILLAGE.** Easley Combined Utilities is the service provider and requested the County's assistance in applying for the grant since the community is in the unincorporated area of the county. If the grant is accepted it will be administered by the Appalachian Council of Governments.

**Approved**

**OUT OF STATE TRAVEL:**

Motion was made by Ben Trotter, seconded by Tom Ponder and unanimously passed to send out of State training requests to the Administration and Finance Committee for approval.

**Approved**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- a. Consideration of a feasibility study that has been completed on the Old Easley Library. Pazdan Smith Architects have completed a study on the feasibility of locating county offices in the Old Easley Library, which includes preliminary cost information. It is requested that this matter be referred to the Administration and Finance Committee.

**Approved**

- b. Consideration of a request from the County Building Official to reduce the current fee for a moving permit from \$100 to \$50. It is requested that this matter be referred to the Administration and Finance Committee.

**Approved**

\*Mr. Trotter requested the item (b) issue be removed for discussion. Tom Ponder seconded the motion. Motion carried with a unanimous vote. Mr. Trotter requested that the fee stay the same, and further stated opposition to the change.

Council members stated they would like to see the detail behind the request and further stated they thought it should stay at the committee level in order to study the request. Mr. Trotter agreed to discuss at the committee level and he withdrew the motion, as did Mr. Ponder.

**Approved**

- c. Consideration of a request from the Vineyards Fire District to amend their fiscal year 2006 budget to reduce the revenue collected from taxes by \$50,000 and to appropriate \$50,000 from the fire district's fund balance. It is requested that this matter be referred to the Administration and Finance Committee.

**Approved**

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**Approved**

Appointments to Boards and Commissions, Planning Commission

**Approved**

Added executive session from Motion Period:

Discussion of a Personnel Issue

Discussion of a Legal Issue

#### **PLANNING COMMISSION:**

**Appointment made for Ron King.**

**Approved**

#### **ADJOURN:**

Council adjourned at 9:50 PM.