

Regular Pickens County Council Meeting
March 2, 2026
6:30 PM

County Council met in regular session, in the Auditorium of the County Administration Facility, with Chairman Alex Saitta presiding. Final agendas, bearing date, time, and location of meeting were emailed to members of council and local news media on February 26, 2026. The agenda was posted in the lobby of the County Administration Building and on the County website the required length of time.

Council Members in Attendance:

Alex Saitta, Chairman
Chris Lollis, Vice Chairman
Dale Holloway, Vice Chairman Pro-Tem
C. Claiborne Linvill
Scott Lang
Chris Bowers

Staff in Attendance:

Ken Roper, County Administrator
Meagan Nations, Clerk to Council
Destini Pratt, County Attorney

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Alex Saitta called the March 2, 2026, meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance. Chairman Alex Saitta led the invocation, and Aubree Moore, Outstanding Student at Pickens Elementary School, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Chairman Alex Saitta opened the Public Forum and requested the Clerk to call upon the citizens signed up to speak.

1. Nath Briley: Mr. Briley addressed Council regarding Family Promise.
2. Andy Blount: Mr. Blount addressed Council regarding Kay Drive Music Venue.
3. Johnnelle Raines: Ms. Raines addressed Council regarding the Library.
4. Kate Byrd: Ms. Byrd addressed Council regarding the Library.
5. Sophia Cox: Ms. Cox addressed Council regarding the Library.
6. Lori Erwin: Ms. Erwin addressed Council regarding the Library.
7. Cathy Travers: Ms. Travers addressed Council regarding the Library.
8. Virginia King: Ms. King addressed Council regarding the Library.
9. Brigit Greenberger: Ms. Greenberger addressed Council regarding the Library.
10. Barry Crawford: Mr. Crawford addressed Council regarding Hagood Mill.
11. Tom Geistler: Mr. Geistler addressed Council regarding the Library.
12. Rachel Cox: Ms. Cox addressed Council regarding the Library.
13. Patrick Fant: Mr. Fant addressed Council regarding the Greenville Pickens Speedway.
14. Connie Cepek: Ms. Cepek addressed Council regarding the Greenville Pickens Speedway.
15. Brandon Langston: Mr. Langston addressed Council regarding the Greenville Pickens Speedway.
16. Agustin Edmundson: Mr. Edmundson addressed Council regarding the Library.
17. Randy Porter: Mr. Porter addressed Council regarding the Greenville Pickens Speedway.
18. Tasha Kummer: Ms. Kummer addressed Council regarding the Greenville Pickens Speedway.
19. Randy Cox: Mr. Cox addressed Council regarding the Greenville Pickens Speedway.

20. Neil Garrick: Mr. Garrick addressed Council regarding the Greenville Pickens Speedway.
21. Josh Medlin: Mr. Medlin addressed Council regarding Veterans.
22. Craig Holcombe: Mr. Holcombe addressed Council regarding the Library.
23. Sheila Crawford: Ms. Crawford addressed Council regarding the Library.
24. Bob Brayerton: Mr. Brayerton addressed Council regarding the Library.
25. Cheryl Johnson: Ms. Johnson addressed Council regarding the Library.
26. Crystal Chappell: Ms. Chappell addressed Council regarding the Library.
27. Ty Thornhill: Mr. Thornhill addressed Council regarding the Greenville Pickens Speedway.
28. Robert Folson: Mr. Folson addressed Council regarding the Greenville Pickens Speedway.
29. Jensen Smith: Ms. Smith addressed Council regarding the Library.
30. Jackie Manley: Ms. Manley addressed Council regarding the Greenville Pickens Speedway.
31. Brittany Fowler: Ms. Fowler addressed Council regarding the Library.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Chairman Alex Saitta called for a motion to approve the following amended minutes as presented:

- February 2, 2026 – Council Meeting
- February 17, 2026 – Council Special-Called Meeting
- Motion was made by Chairman Alex Saitta and seconded by Councilman Chris Lollis to approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

ADMINISTRATORS REPORT:

County Administrator Ken Roper gave updates to Council on the following items:

- A) Food Drives: March and May
- B) Country Creek Culvert Replacement
- C) Budget Committee Update
- D) Library Update

Council members also asked questions regarding:

- Question regarding Library Funding
- Question regarding Employee Handbook
- Question regarding Electrical Updates on Mile Creek Park
- Question regarding Garvin Street Building
- Question regarding Smoking in EMS Vehicles
- Question regarding an Ordinance on County Books to make Racetrack a Historic Site
- Question regarding upgrades to HVAC in Easley Library
- Question regarding spot zoning or overlay on Racetrack

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

February 9, 2026- Roads and Bridges Ad Hoc Committee Meeting: Chairman Chris Lollis

Chairman Chris Lollis gave an update from the Roads and Bridges Ad Hoc Committee Meeting on February 9th.

COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE

Chairman Alex Saitta announced the following:

- The council will hold a Council Work Session on Monday, March 16, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. in the Main Conference Room of the Administration Building.
- The next Council meeting will be on Monday, April 6, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Administration Building.

Chairman Alex Saitta called for other council correspondence. Seeing no other correspondence, Chairman Alex Saitta announced moving to Motion Period and New Business.

MOTION PERIOD AND NEW BUSINESS:

Chairman Alex Saitta opened the floor for motion period and new business.

Seeing no discussion, Chairman Saitta closed the floor.

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING AND/OR RESOLUTIONS:

None

ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING AND/OR PUBLIC HEARING:

None

ORDINANCES FOR THIRD READING AND/OR PUBLIC HEARING:

- A) PUBLIC HEARING AND THIRD READING OF AN ORDINANCE NO. THORIZING THE ABANDONMENT AND CONVEYANCE, BY QUITCLAIM DEED, OF ANY RIGHT, TITLE, OR INTEREST PICKENS COUNTY MAY HAVE IN A CERTAIN SEWER EASEMENT AT EARLS BRIDGE ROAD. County Attorney, Destini Pratt
- Chairman Alex Saitta opened the floor for public hearing. Hearing none, the Chairman closed the floor.
 - Chairman Alex Saitta made a motion to constitute second reading of this Ordinance. Motion was seconded by Councilman Scott Lang and carried unanimously (6-0).
- B) STREAMLINING BOARD AND COMMISSIONS: PUBLIC HEARING AND THIRD READING OF AN ORDINANCE TO COMBINE STORMWATER BOARD OF APPEALS AND ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS. Clerk to Council, Meagan Nations
- Clerk to Council, Meagan Nations, gave an update to Council and the public on more information regarding this Board.
 - After some discussion between Council, Chairman Alex Saitta made a motion to constitute second reading of this Ordinance. Motion was seconded by Councilor Claiborne Linvill and carried unanimously (6-0).

OTHER AGENDA ITEMS:

A) CIVIC PLUS MEDIA ADD ON: Mrs. Jamie Burns, Director of Communications and Engagement, and Mrs. Meagan Nations, Clerk to Council

- Mrs. Nations went into discussion on how County Council recently purchased Civic Plus' agenda management software to make our agendas and minutes easier to access online. We also added the Boards and Commissions module to keep everything in one place. Chairman Saitta asked me to look into the media component, so here's a quick overview.
 - Civic Plus Media is designed to help local governments connect better with residents through live and recorded video. Since most people get their information online now, this system lets us meet them where they already are by offering high quality, accessible video content. You have a packet with details and pricing.
 - With this software, we'll be able to stream and post meetings, county events, press conferences, and other programs directly on our website—no coding or technical setup needed. Videos can be watched live or later on any device. Some of the main features include:
 - a. Instant availability of live and recorded videos
 - b. High-definition streaming
 - c. Agendas linked directly to video timestamps
 - d. Automatic recording, captions, transcription, and translation
 - e. Permanent, county owned video storage to meet FOIA and retention requirements
 - This means residents won't have to jump between Facebook and YouTube anymore. Everything—agendas, packets, minutes, and videos—will be in one place on our Civic Plus site.
 - Cost:
 - a. One time setup: \$2,550
 - b. Annual fee: \$9,350 (includes unlimited storage, unlimited users, and up to three simultaneous livestreams)
 - c. First year cost is prorated to \$7,225
 - Overall, Civic Plus Media will help us be more transparent, improve public engagement, and modernize how we share information.
- After some discussion between Council, Councilman Chris Bowers made a motion to approve this purchase. Motion was seconded by Chairman Alex Saitta and carried unanimously (6-0).

B) UPDATE ON EMS ALTERNATIVES: Chairman Alex Saitta

- Chairman Alex Saitta went into discussion on Medic 1. Medic 1 is the EMS station located in Pickens. We talked about rebuilding that station during the last work session, and since it's in my district, I want to give an update on where things stand. Right now, we're looking at two possible options for the new Medic 1 station:
 - Option 1: Build next to the rescue station on Ann Street.
 - Option 2: Build behind the library, the former Medic 1 location.
- The county is currently soliciting bids for both options, and we expect to have pricing back within the next two months. Once a plan is approved, construction should take about a year.

CONSENT AGENDA

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: S.C. Code of Laws, Section 30-4-70 (a):

Chairman Alex Saitta called for a motion to convene into Executive Session as defined by S.C. Code of Laws, Section 30-4-70 (a). Chairman Saitta further stated that each issue would be discussed as the Law provides.

Board and Commissions: Section 30-4-70 (a)(1)

- Board and Commissions Applications

Legal: Section 30-4-70 (a)(2)

- Legal Advice Regarding Proposed Boundary Change Resolution for the Dellwood Subdivision

Legal: Section 30-4-70 (a)(2)

- Proposed Settlement Agreement and Associated Revisions to Development Agreement Following Planning Commission Mediation

Legal: Section 30-4-70 (a)(2)

- Legal Advice concerning the Pickens County Library

Personnel: Section 30-4-70 (a)(1)

- Employee Performance Review
- Motion was made by Chairman Alex Saitta and seconded by Councilman Chris Bowers. The motion was carried out unanimously (6-0), to convene in executive session for the stated purposes after a ten-minute recess.

ACTION AS NEEDED VIA EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS:

Chairman Alex Saitta called the Public Session back to Order and advised the following:

Board and Commissions: Section 30-4-70 (a)(1)

- Board and Commissions Applications
 - Councilman Scott Lang nominated Ken Rogers to serve on the Board of Appeals. The motion carried (6-0).
 - Councilman Dale Holloway nominated Bob Fetterly to serve on the Board of Appeals. The motion carried (4-2), with Councilor Linvill and Councilman Bowers opposed.

Legal: Section 30-4-70 (a)(2)

- Legal Advice Regarding Proposed Boundary Change Resolution for the Dellwood Subdivision – **No Action Taken**

Legal: Section 30-4-70 (a)(2)

- Proposed Settlement Agreement and Associated Revisions to Development Agreement Following Planning Commission Mediation – **Councilman Dale Holloway made a motion to accept mediation settlement agreement. Chairman Alex Saitta seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously (6-0).**

Legal: Section 30-4-70 (a)(2)

- Legal Advice concerning the Pickens County Library – **Councilor Claiborne Linvill made a motion to remove Danny Parton from his Chair and position on the Pickens County Library Board. Councilman Bowers seconded the motion. The motion failed (2-4), with Chairman Saitta, Councilman Lang, Councilman Lollis and Councilman Holloway opposed.**

Personnel: Section 30-4-70 (a)(1)

- Employee Performance Review – **No Action Taken**

ADJOURN:

Hearing no further Council business, Councilman Chris Bowers made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilor Claiborne Linvill and carried unanimously (6-0). Pickens County Council stood adjourned at 10:33 p.m.