

Special-Called Pickens County Council Meeting

June 17, 2024

8:04 PM

County Council met in special-called session, in the Main Conference Room of the County Administration Facility, with Chairman Chris Bowers presiding. Final agendas, bearing date, time, and location of meeting were mailed to members of council and local news media on June 12, 2024.

Council Members in Attendance:

Chris Bowers, Chairman
Roy Costner, Vice Chairman
Alex Saitta, Vice Chairman Pro-Tem
Chris Lollis
C. Claiborne Linvill
Henry Wilson

Staff in Attendance:

Ken Roper, County Administrator
Les Hendricks, Contract Attorney
Meagan Nations, Clerk to Council

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Chris Bowers called the meeting of June 17, 2024, to order and welcomed those in attendance.

COMMITTEE REPORT

The Committee of the Whole met in the Main Conference Room, at the Pickens County Administration Facility, on Monday, June 17, 2024. Councilman Chris Lollis led the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Chris Bowers called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE:

The Committee of the Whole met in the Main Conference Room, at the Pickens County Administration Facility, on Monday, June 17, 2024. Councilman Chris Lollis led the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Chris Bowers called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order.

Pickens County Airport Hangers & Tax Rate on Aircraft – Log No. 236

Carlos Salinas, Airport Director, briefed Council on the Airport Operations. He presented a presentation that included:

- Pickens County Airport Updates in general
- Pickens County Airport Hangar Policy
- Pickens County Airport future plans for Hangars
- Tax Rate Information

❖ No Action Taken by the Committee.

FY24-25 Budget Work Session – Log No. 233

a) Discussion on Library Board Budget

A few members of the Library Board were present to present their updated Budget to Council. The Library Board and Council had detailed discussion on the Library Budget.

- Councilman Chris Lollis made a motion to take the Library off millage and put them back in the general budget. The motion was seconded by Councilman Alex Saitta. Discussion included:
 - Library savings and revenue/expenses
 - Library Staff vacancies
- After much more discussion, the motion failed (2-4), with Chairman Chris Bowers, Vice Chairman Roy Costner, Councilman Henry Wilson and Councilwoman Claiborne Linvill opposed.
- Councilman Henry Wilson made a motion to fund the Library with the same budget amount as last year's budget, plus 3% and with the compensation study raises. Motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers. Discussion included:
 - Discussion on 3% total increase in Library Budget, not including State Aid that the Library will also be receiving
- The motion carried (4-2), with Councilman Alex Saitta and Councilman Chris Lollis opposed.

Council Action on Log No. 233 (a): Councilman Henry Wilson made a motion to fund the Library with the same budget amount as last year's budget, plus 3% and with the compensation study raises. Motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers. Motion carried (4-2), with Councilman Alex Saitta and Councilman Chris Lollis opposed.

Chairman Bowers stated this is a recommendation from the Committee and no second is required. He asked for all those in favor to please signify by raising their hands. Motion carried (4-2), with Councilman Alex Saitta and Councilman Chris Lollis opposed.

b) Consideration of a Resolution of Intent to Participate in the South Carolina Counties Property and Liability Trust

- Mr. Roper briefed Council on this Resolution regarding the South Carolina Association of Counties offering Property and Liability Trust to Counties and will be more tuned on what we need as a County.
- Councilman Chris Lollis made a motion to approve this Resolution. Motion was seconded by Chairman Chris Bowers and carried unanimously (6-0).

Council Action on Log No. 233 (b): Councilman Chris Lollis made a motion to approve this Resolution. Motion was seconded by Chairman Chris Bowers and carried unanimously (6-0).

Chairman Bowers stated this is a recommendation from the Committee and no second is required. He asked for all those in favor to please signify by raising their hands. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

c) Consideration of a Resolution of Intent to Participate in the South Carolina Counties Workers Compensation Risk Financing and Risk Sharing Trust

- Mr. Roper briefed Council on this Resolution regarding the South Carolina Association of Counties offering Workers Compensation Risk Financing and Risk Sharing Trust.
- Councilman Chris Lollis made a motion to approve this Resolution. Motion was seconded by Chairman Chris Bowers and carried unanimously (6-0).

Council Action on Log No. 233 (c): Councilman Chris Lollis made a motion to approve this Resolution. Motion was seconded by Chairman Chris Bowers and carried unanimously (6-0).

Chairman Bowers stated this is a recommendation from the Committee and no second is required. He asked for all those in favor to please signify by raising their hands. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

ADJOURN:

Hearing no further Committee business, Chairman Chris Bowers called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Councilman Henry Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Claiborne Linvill, and carried unanimously (6-0). The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

THIRD READING OF AN ORDINANCE NO. 640 TO PROVIDE FOR ADOPTION OF A BUDGET AMENDMENT CONTAINING ESTIMATES OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE CHANGES FOR PICKENS COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2023, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2024.

Chairman Chris Bowers asked for a motion to constitute third reading of this Ordinance. Motion was made by Vice Chairman Roy Costner, seconded by Councilwoman Claiborne Linvill. Seeing no discussion, the motion carried (6-0).

THIRD READING OF AN ORDINANCE NO. 641 TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES IN PICKENS COUNTY FOR ORDINARY COUNTY PURPOSES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2024, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2025, AND TO DIRECT EXPENDITURE THEREOF.

Chairman Chris Bowers asked for a motion to constitute third reading of this Ordinance. Motion was made by Councilman Alex Saitta, seconded by Councilwoman Claiborne Linvill. Discussion included:

- Chairman Chris Bowers made a motion to amend the budget to include the additional \$64,800 for Tri-County Technical College as previously discussed at the last Budget Work Session. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Claiborne Linvill and carried unanimously (6-0).
- Other discussion included:
 - Recreation Funding amounts distributed amongst each District
 - Future for Recreation Funding
 - Future discussion on Non-Profits funding
- Councilman Henry Wilson made a motion to amend the budget to include a one mill, starting this year, for types of Recreational Activities that Council have discussed. Motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Roy Costner.
 - Councilman Henry Wilson retracted his motion.
- Vice Chairman Roy Costner made a motion to table this discussion to the next Committee of the Whole meeting. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Claiborne Linvill and carried unanimously (6-0).

Seeing no other discussion, the motion to constitute third reading carried unanimously (6-0).

ADJOURN:

Hearing no further Council business, Chairman Bowers asked for a motion to adjourn The motion was made by Councilwoman Claiborne Linvill, seconded by Councilman Chris Lollis, and carried unanimously (6-0). Pickens County Council stood adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectively Submitted:

Approved:

Meagan Nations, Clerk to Council

Chris Bowers, Chairman of County Council