

Special-Called Pickens County Council Meeting

September 30, 2024

10:16 a.m.

County Council met in special-called session, at the County Administration Building in the Main Conference Room, 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 September 26, 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 (absent)
Meagan Nations, Clerk to Council
Les Hendricks, Contract Attorney (absent)

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Chris Bowers called the meeting of September 30, 2024 to order and welcomed those in attendance. Chairman Chris Bowers led the Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

HELENE STORM UPDATE FROM PICKENS COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Council and Emergency Management officials met in special-session to discuss Hurricane Helene and provide an update.

Discussion included, but was not limited to:

- A Special Administrative Report from the Administrator:
 - Updates on the following departments:
 - Public Information Officer Update
 - Building Maintenance Update
 - Public Service Commission Update
 - Solid Waste Update
 - Vehicle Maintenance Update
 - No damage to county vehicles or equipment except one EMS
 - Airport Update
 - Airport is fully operational and serving fuel, landing and parking aircraft
 - Building Codes Update
 - Anticipate a lot of Codes calls coming in the next few weeks
 - Environmental Enforcement Update
 - Repurposed our officers to the recycling centers for a limited time
 - Parks, Recreation & Tourism Update
 - Mile Creek Park received some damage, fallen trees
 - Parks were back open on Saturday, Sept. 28 in the afternoon
 - Some damage at Cateechee Park
 - Stormwater Update

Minutes for September 30, 2024 Special-Called Pickens County Council Meeting

- Allowances for people doing stabilization after a natural disaster
- Public Works Update
 - 110 roads were impacted/closed in the last four days
 - As of today, we are down to 30 roads still closed, and 19 of those roads are due to powerlines still down
- E911 Update
- Assessor Office Update
 - Will begin damage assessments beginning next week
- Councilman Chris Lollis made a motion to adjourn the meeting to go downstairs in the Emergency Operations Center to sit in on the Pickens County Storm Briefing Call. Motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Roy Costner and carried unanimously (5-0), with Councilman Henry Wilson not present at the meeting.

Council walked downstairs to the EOC at 6:50 p.m.

Chairman Bowers called the meeting back in order at 7:19 p.m.

- United Way Relief Fund Website: www.uwpickens.org/hurricane-relief
- Helene Storm Update from Pickens County Emergency Management
- Incident Management Team – Dorchester County EMD
 - Discussion on Pickens County Situation Report: Hurricane Helene #1
- Questions from Council:
 - Debris – put on roadside and county will pick up when can, if can transport now it is better
 - Call Center Phone Number 864-774-9743
 - Discussion on the Clemson University Football Game
 - Discussion on areas of improvement and how to prepare for when this happens again
 - Update on new Radio System equipment
 - FEMA/State Assistance
- Chairman Chris Bowers made a motion to extend the State of Emergency in Pickens County for an additional 30 days. Motion was seconded by Councilman Chris Lollis and carried unanimously (6-0).

ADJOURN:

Hearing no further Council business, Council adjourned the meeting. Motion was made by Chairman Chris Bowers, seconded by Councilman Chris Lollis and carried unanimously (6-0). Pickens County Council stood adjourned at 7:48 pm.

Respectively Submitted:

Approved:

Meagan Nations, Clerk to Council

Chris Bowers, Chairman of County Council