

Regular Pickens County Council Meeting

July 7, 2022

6:00 PM

County Council met in regular session, in the Auditorium 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 July 5, 2022

Council Members in Attendance:

Chris Bowers, Chairman

Roy Costner, Vice Chairman

Trey Whitehurst, Vice Chairman Pro-Tem

Alex Saitta

Ensley Feemster

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 July 7, 2022 to order and welcomed those in attendance. Councilman Trey Whitehurst led the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC FORUM:

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

1. Rick Synkowski: Mr. Synkowski addressed Council regarding the Highway 11 Ordinance.
2. Polly Keller: Ms. Keller addressed Council regarding the Highway 11 Ordinance.
3. Kevin Keller: Mr. Keller addressed Council regarding the Highway 11 Ordinance.
4. Liz Meyers: Ms. Meyers addressed Council regarding the Highway 11 Ordinance.
5. Rhonda Billingsley: Ms. Billingsley addressed Council regarding the Highway 11 Ordinance.
6. Beth Mabbitt: Ms. Mabbitt addressed Council regarding the Highway 11 Ordinance.
7. Karen Martinez: Ms. Martinez addressed Council regarding the Highway 11 Ordinance.
8. Steve Smith: Mr. Smith addressed Council regarding the Highway 11 Ordinance.
9. Allan Quinn: Mr. Quinn addressed Council regarding taxes.

10. Pat Mulkey: Mr. Mulkey addressed Council regarding the search for a missing man in Pickens County.

Chairman Bowers addressed the public regarding the Highway 11 Ordinance. He thanked everyone for coming out to show their support.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Chairman Chris Bowers called for a motion to approve the following minutes as presented:

- June 6, 2022 Regular-Called Council Meeting
- June 13, 2022 Special-Called Meeting

- Motion was made by Councilman Ensley Feemster, and seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster. Chairman Bowers asked if there was any discussion.
 - Councilman Saitta stated he would like to amend the June 13, 2022 meeting minutes, to add the following on the motion regarding the Library Budget, that the extra \$270,000 in savings will be allocated to the 1% pay raise.
- After some misunderstanding on the motion between members of Council, Councilman Trey Whitehurst made a motion to remove the June 13, 2022 Meeting Minutes from the vote to be discussed and reviewed until the next Council meeting in August. Motion was seconded by Chairman Chris Bowers and carried unanimously (6-0).
- Seeing no other discussion, Councilman Alex Saitta made a motion to approve the June 6, 2022 Meeting Minutes. Motion was seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster and carried unanimously (6-0).

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

SC7 Expedition – Sunset at Sassafras

Mr. Roper updated Council on the Sunset at Sassafras Event with the SC7 Expedition.

Kicking Asphalt – 2022-23 Road Reclamation Project

Mr. Roper updated Council on the 2022-23 Road Reclamation Project, stating the budget for this project would be in the range of \$2.4 million. The following roads are being considered:

Mulligan Ford Hill Road
Eddo Road
Phoenix Road
Carrick Creek Road
Cassell Road
Hunter Road
Cove Creek Road
Hollingsworth Drive

Hiring Heroes

Mr. Roper updated Council on the Hiring Heroes marketing campaign happening in Pickens County.

Council asked Mr. Roper questions that included, but was not limited to:

- Hiring Heroes Resources, Equipment, etc.
- Tax Notice

COMMITTEE REPORT: None

COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE:

Chairman Chris Bowers announced the following:

- There will be a Council Work Session & Committee of the Whole meeting immediately following this evening's meeting in the Main Conference Room of the Administration Building.
- The next Council Meeting will be held on Monday, August 8, 2022 at 6:30 PM in Council Chambers of the Administration Building.

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

MOTION PERIOD AND NEW BUSINESS:

Chairman Chris Bowers opened the floor for motion period and new business.

Chairman Chris Bowers made a motion to remove Executive Session from this evening's agenda. Motion was seconded by Councilman Henry Wilson and carried unanimously (6-0).

Seeing no discussion, Chairman Bowers closed the floor.

CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING COUNTY COUNCIL'S SUPPORT FOR UPCOUNTRY FIBER'S INTENT TO APPLY FOR MULTIPLE GRANTS FROM THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) THROUGH THE SOUTH CAROLINA OFFICE OF REGULATORY STAFF (ORS) AS PART OF THE GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS TO SERVE PRIORITY UNSERVED AREAS IN PICKENS COUNTY AND THE UPSTATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA TO ADDRESS THE DIGITAL DIVIDE.

Chairman Chris Bowers asked for a motion to consider this resolution

- Motion was made by Councilman Henry Wilson, seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster. The motion carried unanimously (6-0).

ADJOURN:

Hearing no further Council business, Chairman Chris Bowers called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Councilman Henry Wilson, seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster and carried unanimously (6-0). Pickens County Council stood adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Respectively Submitted:

Approved:

Meagan Nations, Clerk to Council

Chris Bowers, Chairman of County Council

Minutes for July 7, 2022 Pickens County Council Meeting