

Pickens County Council Work Session

September 15, 2025

6:30 p.m.

County Council met in a work session, in the Main Conference Room of the County Administration Facility, with Councilman Alex Saitta presiding. Final agendas, bearing date, time, and location of meeting were emailed to members of council and local news media on September 11, 2025

Council Members in Attendance:

Alex Saitta, Chairman

Chris Lollis, Vice Chairman

Dale Holloway, Vice Chairman Pro-Tem

Claiborne Linvill

Chris Bowers

Council Members Attending Remotely:

Scott Lang

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 work session of September 15, 2025, to order and welcomed those in attendance. Chairman Saitta led the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION TO AMEND COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL RULES REGARDING BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS AND MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

Council discussed Rule 7 from the Council Organizational Rules, on Boards and Commissions.

- Chairman Alex Saitta made a motion to change Section 7.1(a) to say, “*Individuals interested in serving on a county board or commission may apply online or obtain application information by contacting the Clerk to Council.*” Motion was seconded by Councilman Chris Bowers and carried unanimously (6-0).
- Chairman Alex Saitta made a motion to approve Section 7.1(c) as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilman Dale Holloway and carried unanimously (6-0).
- Chairman Alex Saitta made a motion to change Section 7.1(d) to say, “If a person has served 12 or more consecutive years on the same board or commission, that individual is ineligible for reappointment to the same board or commission. However, the individual may immediately be considered for appointment to any other board or commission.” Motion was seconded by Councilman Chris Lollis.
 - Chairman Alex Saitta made a substitute motion to also add, “This can be waived by a unanimous vote of County Council. Motion was seconded by Councilman Chris Lollis. The motion carried (4-2), with Councilman Chris Bowers and Councilor Claiborne Linvill opposed.
- Councilman Chris Bowers made a motion to strike Section 7.1(E). Motion was seconded by Chairman Alex Saitta and carried unanimously (6-0).

- Councilman Chris Bowers made a motion to approve Section 7.2(a)(IV) as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilor Claiborne Linvill and carried unanimously (6-0).
- Councilman Chris Bowers made a motion to approve Section 7.2(b) as presented, but the letter B is not supposed to be struck. Motion was seconded by Chairman Alex Saitta and carried unanimously (6-0).
- Councilman Chris Bowers made a motion to add the word, misconduct, to item 4 in Section 7.2 (C). Motion was seconded by Chairman Alex Saitta and carried unanimously (6-0).
- Chairman Alex Saitta made a motion to approve Section 7.2 (D) as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilman Chris Bowers and carried unanimously (6-0).
- Chairman Alex Saitta made a motion to approve Section 7.3 as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilman Chris Lollis and carried unanimously (6-0).
- Chairman Saitta made a motion to approve Section 7.4, with the grammatical updates. Motion was seconded by Councilor Claiborne Linvill and carried unanimously (6-0).

Chairman Alex Saitta stated the Clerk to Council will update the rules with these changes to be presented at the October Council Meeting.

SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CERTAIN AMENDMENTS TO PICKENS COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATED TO THE EFFICIENT, SAFE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE COUNTY ROAD SYSTEM AND MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

Administrator Ken Roper went into discussion on the proposed road ordinance. He stated the update removes duplicate and conflicting road standards from the UDSO, instead referring users to the main section of the code for road regulations; it also formally establishes the county's authority over whether new roads can connect to county roads. Additionally, it addresses the suspended minimum maintenance road program (paused around 2017–2018), clarifying that while the county will continue maintaining roads already in the system, the process for adding new ones is being eliminated as an outdated policy. A placeholder section is included for future technical adjustments to the road ordinance, which will be reviewed in a future work session once council members have time to consider the proposed technical changes in detail.

- Chairman Alex Saitta made a motion for second reading of this ordinance as presented in the packet. Motion was seconded by Councilman Bowers. The motion carried unanimously (6-0).

SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE FOR AMENDMENTS TO PICKENS COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATED TO UNSAFE PROPERTY CONDITIONS AND FURTHER CONSOLIDATE SAID AMENDED ORDINANCES FOR MORE EFFICIENT REFERENCE AND ENFORCEMENT AND MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

Chairman Alex Saitta made a motion to divide the questions to vote on separately. Motion was seconded by Councilor Claiborne Linvill and carried unanimously (6-0).

Discussion included, but was not limited to:

❖ **Abandoned Pools:**

- Mrs. Pratt went into discussion regarding pool safety requirements, noting a revised section that clarifies in-ground pools must be drained and securely covered to prevent accidental entry, while above-ground pools must simply be covered, since they need water to maintain their structure.

❖ **Abandoned Vehicles:** No changes

❖ **Trash in Yards:**

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- Chairman Saitta made a motion to accept a separate definition of trash in Section 19-35. Motion was seconded by Councilor Linvill. Discussion included:
 - Vice Chairman Chris Lollis asked for the purpose of this change, and Chairman Saitta went into discussion.
- The motion carried (5-1), with Vice Chairman Chris Lollis opposed.

❖ **Junk Definition:**

- Chairman Saitta moved to amend the definition of “Junk” in Section 10-73 by removing the word “trash” and adding it to Section 19-36, as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Claiborne Linvill.
 - Councilman Chris Bowers made a substitute motion that we adopt Section 19-36 (A), (B), (C) and (D) as presented in this evening’s packet. Motion was seconded by Chairman Alex Saitta. After some discussion, Councilman Bowers withdrew his motion.
 - Chairman Alex Saitta made a substitute motion to take the word “trash” out of the Junk definition in Section 10-73. Motion was seconded by Councilor Claiborne Linvill and carried (4-2), with Councilman Chris Lollis and Councilman Chris Bowers opposed.

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.

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

Proposed Contractual Agreement regarding Real Property regarding EMS.

- Motion was made by Chairman Alex Saitta and seconded by Vice Chairman Chris Lollis. 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:

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

Proposed Contractual Agreement regarding Real Property regarding EMS – **No Action Taken**

ADJOURN:

Hearing no further Council business, Chairman Alex Saitta made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Chris Lollis and carried unanimously (6-0). Pickens County Council stood adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Respectively Submitted:

Approved:

Meagan Nations, Clerk to Council

Alex Saitta, Chairman of County Council