Regular Pickens County Council Meeting
October 6, 2025
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 October 2, 2025. 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 Anderson Pratt, County Attorney

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:
Chairman Alex Saitta called the October 2, 2025, meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance. Councilman Scott Lang led the invocation, and Mr. Andy Childs, Emergency Management Director, 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. Anita Anthony: Ms. Anthony addressed Council regarding the Pickens Senior Center.
2. Johnnelle Raines: Ms. Raines addressed Council regarding the Library Board.
3. Rebecca Turner: Ms. Turner addressed Council regarding the Library Board.

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

- September 2, 2025 – Council Meeting
- September 15, 2025 – Council Work Session

- Motion was made by Chairman Alex Saitta and seconded by Councilman Chris Bowers to approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

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

A) Administration Building Roof Repair

B) SC7 First Friday Clean Up & Make a Difference Day

C) Sustainable Routes Update

D) Grant Funding Opportunity

Council members also asked questions regarding:

- Waterline on Project Farmhouse
- EMS Update
- Update on Garvin St. Building
- Boards and Commissions procedure reporting to County Council
- Landfill Capacity for brush

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE

Chairman Alex Saitta announced the following:

- The council will hold a Special-Called Meeting on Monday, October 20, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. in the Main Conference Room of the Administration Building.
- The next Council meeting will be on Monday, November 3, 2025, 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:

A) CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION TO AMEND COUNCILS ORGANIZATIONAL RULES REGARDING BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS AND MATTERS RELATED THERETO.
   - Chairman Alex Saitta made a motion to divide the question on Council rules. Motion was seconded by Councilor Claiborne Linvill and carried unanimously (6-0).
   - Chairman Alex Saitta made a motion to approve 7(1)(C) as presented in the packet. Motion was seconded by Councilman Scott Lang and carried (4-2), with Councilman Chris Bowers and Councilor Claiborne Linvill opposed.
   - Chairman Alex Saitta made a motion to approve 7(1)(D) as presented in the packet. Motion was seconded by Councilman Chris Bowers and carried (4-2), with Councilman Chris Bowers and Councilor Claiborne Linvill opposed.

- Chairman Alex Saitta made a motion to approve the remainder of Section 7 in Council Organizational Rules. Motion was seconded by Councilman Chris Bowers and carried unanimously (6-0.

B) CONSIDERATION OF AN INDUCEMENT RESOLUTION IDENTIFYING A PROJECT TO SATISFY THE REQUIREMENTS OF TITLE 12, CHAPTER 44 OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE, SO AS TO ALLOW INVESTMENT EXPENDITURES INCURRED BY A COMPANY KNOWN TO PICKENS COUNTY AT THIS TIME AS PROJECTS HAWK AND HAWK II, ITS SPONSOR AFFILIATES, AFFILIATES, AND RELATED ENTITIES TO QUALIFY AS EXPENDITURES ELIGIBLE FOR A FEE-IN-LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES ARRANGEMENT WITH PICKENS COUNTY; PROVIDING FOR ANY OTHER NECESSARY AGREEMENTS WITH THE COMPANY TO EFFECT THE INTENT OF THIS RESOLUTION; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.
   - Chairman Alex Saitta made a motion to approve this resolution. Motion was seconded by Councilman Chris Bowers and carried unanimously (6-0).

ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING AND/OR PUBLIC HEARING:

A) SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING (1) THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF ONE OR MORE FEE IN LIEU OF TAX AND INCENTIVE AGREEMENTS BY AND BETWEEN PICKENS COUNTY, AND A COMPANY KNOWN TO THE COUNTY AT THIS TIME AS PROJECT HAWK AND PROJECT HAWK II, ACTING FOR ITSELF OR ONE OR MORE PROJECT SPONSORS, PURSUANT TO WHICH THE COUNTY WILL COVENANT TO ACCEPT CERTAIN NEGOTIATED PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES AND PROVIDE CERTAIN CREDITS WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN FACILITIES AND MACHINERY AND EQUIPEMENT WITHIN THE COUNTY; (2) THE BENEFITS OF A MULTI-COUNTY INDUSTRIAL OR BUSINESS PARK TO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE COMPANY AND THE PROJECT; AND (3) OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.
   - Chairman Alex Saitta made a motion to constitute second reading of this Ordinance. Motion was seconded by Councilman Chris Bowers and carried unanimously (6-0).

B) PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE No. 670 AUTHORIZING THE AMENDMENT OF ONE OR MORE FEE IN LIEU OF TAX AND INCENTIVE AGREEMENTS BY AND BETWEEN PICKENS COUNTY AND A COMPANY KNOWN TO THE COUNTY AT THIS TIME AS PROJECT HYDRO, ACTING FOR ITSELF OR ONE OR MORE PROJECT SPONSORS, TO ADD CERTAIN FACILITIES AND INVESTMENT TO SUCH AGREEMENTS AND MAKE PROVISIONS FOR CERTAIN CREDITS WITH RESPECT TO SUCH FACILITIES AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO.
   - 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).

ORDINANCES FOR THIRD READING AND/OR PUBLIC HEARING:

A) PUBLIC HEARING 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.
   - Chairman Saitta gaveled into Public Hearing and asked if there were any speakers. Hearing none, the Chairman closed the floor.

B) PUBLIC HEARING OF AN ORDINANCE FOR AMENDMENTS TO PICKENS COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATED TO UNSAFE PROPERTY CONDITIONS AND FUTHER CONSOLIDATE SAID AMENDED ORDINANCES FOR MORE EFFICIENT REFERENCE AND ENFORCEMENT AND MATTERS RELATED THERETO.
   - Chairman Saitta gaveled into Public Hearing and asked if there were any speakers. Hearing none, the Chairman closed the floor.

OTHER AGENDA ITEMS:

A) REQUEST FOR THE EXPENDITURE FROM THE TRI COUNTY TECHINCAL COLLEGE FUND FOR A PARTNERSHIP WITH THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PICKENS COUNTY.
   - Mr. Roper explained that Tri-County Technical College, in collaboration with the School District of Pickens County, requested to use a portion of the existing Tri-County Tech funds for a feasibility study on a new Workforce and Business Development Center. The study cost will be shared equally between the two partners, and the requested amount will cover Tri-County's portion of the expense. The total cost is $70,000, which will be split between TCTC and the School District.
   - Chairman Alex Saitta made a motion to approve as presented, which is $35,000 from the TCTC Fund. Motion was seconded by Councilor Claiborne Linvill and carried unanimously (6-0).

B) PRESENTATION FROM DWAYNE GREEN, CIVIL ENGINEER AND CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR, ON UPDATING THE COUNTY PROCUREMENT CODE.
   - Mr. Dwayne Green, Civil Engineer and Construction Contractor, presented Council information related to construction, architectural, and engineering services on the Procurement code.

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.

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

- Personnel Matter related to Pickens County Fire District
- Personnel Matter related to Employee Compensation

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

- Nomination for Appointment to First Steps Board
- Appointments to Boards and Commissions

- 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:

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

- **Personnel Matter related to Pickens County Fire District** – No Action Taken
- **Personnel Matter related to Employee Compensation –** Councilman Alex Saitta made a motion to approve surplus property incentive pay as the Administration has recommended for full time and part time employees. Motion was seconded by Councilman Chris Bowers and carried unanimously (6-0).

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

- **Nomination for Appointment to First Steps Board** – Councilor Claiborne Linvill made a motion to nominate Margaret Holder to the First Steps Board. Motion was seconded by Chairman Alex Saitta and carried unanimously (6-0).
- **Appointments to Boards and Commissions**

  Water Authority
  - Chairman Alex Saitta made a motion to nominate Darrell Cook and Jeffrey Cantrell to the Water Authority. Motion was seconded by Councilman Chris Bowers and carried unanimously (6-0).

  Six Mile Rural Water
  - Councilman Chris Lollis made a motion to nominate Dean Porter to the Six Mile Rural Water Board. Motion was seconded by Councilman Chris Bowers and carried unanimously (6-0).

  Public Service Commission
  - Chairman Alex Saitta made a motion to appoint Al Rutledge to the District 3 seat. Motion was seconded by Councilman Scott Lang and carried unanimously (6-0).

  Planning Commission
  - Councilman Scott Lang made a motion to appoint Peter Greenburger (District 4 seat) and Ronald Christian (District 3 seat) to the Planning Commission. Motion was seconded by Chairman Alex Saitta and carried unanimously (6-0).

  Grievance Committee
  - Councilman Chris Bowers made a motion to appoint Stacey Duncan, Jimmy Scruggs and Adam Tomberlin to the Grievance Committee, to replace Jamey Reynolds, Rodney Robinson and Taylor Evans. Motion was seconded by Chairman Alex Saitta and carried unanimously (6-0).

  Library Board
  - The floor was opened for nominations for the district 3 seat on the Library Board.
    - Chairman Alex Saitta nominated Danny Parton for the District 3 seat.
    - Councilor Claiborne Linvill nominated Marian Osborne Burkey for the District 3 seat.
  - Hearing no other nominations, the Chairman closed the floor.
    - The results of the vote were as follows:

        - Mr. Parton received 4 votes (Saitta, Lollis, Lang, Holloway), and Mrs. Burkey received 1 vote (Linvill). Councilman Bowers abstained from voting. Mr. Danny Parton was nominated to the Library Board in District 3 seat.

- The floor was opened for nominations for the district 6 seat on the Library Board.
    - Councilman Dale Holloway nominated David Brian Aiken to the District 6 seat.
    - Councilor Claiborne Linvill nominated Brittany Fowler to the District 6 seat.
- Hearing no other nominations, the Chairman closed the floor.
    - Mr. Aiken received 5 votes (Bowers, Saitta, Lollis, Lang, Holloway), and Ms. Fowler received 1 vote (Linvill). Mr. Brian Aiken was nominated to the Library Board in District 6 seat.

- The floor was opened for nominations for the At Large seat on the Library Board.
    - Councilman Bowers nominated Robert Sams to the At Large seat.
    - Chairman Saitta nominated Mark Kilburn to the At Large seat.
- Hearing no other nominations, the Chairman closed the floor.
    - Mr. Sams received 2 votes (Bowers, Linvill), and Mr. Kilburn received 4 votes (Saitta, Lollis, Lang, Holloway). Mr. Mark Kilburn was nominated to the Library Board in the At Large Seat.

Emergency Services Board
- Councilor Claiborne Linvill nominated Joe Burgett and William Daniel to the District 1 seats on the Emergency Services Board. The motion passed unanimously (6-0).
- Chairman Alex Saitta nominated Kenny McPeters to the District 3 seat and Rodney Herd to the At Large seat on the Emergency Services Board. The motion passed unanimously (6-0).

Economic Development Alliance Pickens
- Vice Chairman Chris Lollis made a motion to suspend rule 7.1(D) in the Council Organizational Rules to appoint David Collins, Lucas Durham, Matthew Thomas and Michael Keith to the Economic Development Alliance Board. The motion carried unanimously (6-0).

Bethlehem Roanoke Water Board
- Chairman Saitta nominated Randy Lesley to serve on the Bethlehem Roanoke Water Board. The motion carried unanimously (6-0).

ACOG
- Chairman Saitta nominated Laura Hinty and David Posner serve on the ACOG Board. The motion carried unanimously (6-0).

AOP Mental Health
- Councilman Scott Lang nominated David Lord serve on the AOP Mental Health Board. The motion carried unanimously (6-0).

Behavioral Health Board

- Chairman Saitta nominated Amanda Merchant, Eddie Talley and Rhonda Billingsly serve on the Behavioral Health Board. The motion carried unanimously (6-0).

ADJOURN:

Hearing no further Council business, Councilman Chris Bowers made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Chairman Saitta and carried unanimously (6-0). Pickens County Council stood adjourned at 9:20 p.m.