

Pickens County Council Special-Called Meeting

October 20, 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 October 17, 2025.

Council Members in Attendance:

Alex Saitta, Chairman

Chris Lollis, Vice Chairman

Claiborne Linvill

Scott Lang

Chris Bowers

Dale Holloway, Vice Chairman Pro-Tem (absent)

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.

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 led a discussion on the proposed Road Ordinance. He explained that the revision removes surplus language from the UDSO and references only the Road Ordinance moving forward. Presenters included Tye Carroll of Infrastructure Consulting and Engineering, and Rodney Robinson, Pickens County Public Works Director. Mr. Carroll went into detail and reviewed the proposed changes to the Roadway Design Standards and Policies.

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

THIRD 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.

Assistant Administrator Allison Fowler went into discussion on after review over several meetings, Council considered two definition changes under Property Conditions. The first removes the word “trash” from the definition of “junk.” The second adds a separate definition and standard for “trash and yard,” to help the public distinguish between the two and ensure consistent enforcement.

- Chairman Alex Saitta made a motion for third reading to adopt a separate definition of trash in yards as presented in Council packet. Motion was seconded by Councilman Scott Lang and carried (4-1), with Councilman Chris Lollis opposed.
- Chairman Saitta made a motion for third reading to remove the word trash from the junk definition as presented in the packet. Motion was seconded by Councilor Claiborne Linvill and carried (4-1), with Councilman Chris Lollis opposed.

FUNDING REQUEST FOR REPLACEMENT AND REPAIR OF THE INOPERABLE PORTION OF THE DETENTION CENTER CAMERA SYSTEM.

Administrator Ken Roper discussed the funding request to replace and repair 19 inoperable cameras at the Detention Center. He noted that the original request covered 18 cameras; however, one additional camera has since become inoperable, bringing the total to 19.

- Chairman Alex Saitta made a motion to allocate \$30,363.10, plus the cost of one additional camera, from the General Fund (to be reflected in the Budget Amendment). The motion was seconded by Councilman Chris Bowers and carried unanimously (5-0).

COMPREHENSIVE LITTER STRATEGY

Chairman Alex Saitta went into discussion on the Comprehensive Litter Strategy that previous Councils worked on years ago. Assistant Administrator Allison Fowler presented an update on the County's Comprehensive Litter Strategy, which included:

- Review of litter statistics from Palmetto Pride.
- 2025 Year-to-Date Environmental Enforcement summary: 24 tires removed, 290 signs removed, 40 illegal dumping's, and \$1,100 in total fines.
- Overview of the Pickens County Comprehensive Litter Approach and the Pickens Proud program's current and past initiatives.
- Information on the Code Enforcement and Litter Reporting Tool available on the County website.
- Updates on the Adopt-A-Highway Program and partnership with Pickens Proud.
- Use of the Pre-Trial Intervention Program (PTI) for litter-related offenses.
- Continued collaboration with the Solid Waste Department.
- Development of a Resource Library and Educational Marketing Campaign to raise awareness.
- Emphasis on citizen involvement, noting that litter prevention requires a community-wide effort.

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.

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

Appointments to Board and Commissions

- Motion was made by Chairman Alex Saitta and seconded by Vice Chairman Chris Lollis. The motion was carried out unanimously (5-0), 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:

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

Appointments to Board and Commissions

Bethlehem Roanoke Water Board

- The floor was opened for nominations for the Bethlehem Roanoke Water Board for three seats.
 - Chairman Alex Saitta made a nomination for Matthew Kutilek.
 - Councilor Claiborne Linnell made a nomination for Ben Mann.
- Hearing no other nominations, the Chairman closed the floor.
- Mr. Kutilek received 3 votes (Saitta, Lang, Lollis), and Mr. Mann received 2 votes (Bowers, Linnell). Mr. Matthew Kutilek was nominated for the Bethlehem Roanoke Water Board.
 - Chairman Saitta made a nomination for Austin Townsend, and a motion to waive Rule 7.1 (D). Motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Lollis and failed (3-2).
Rule 7.1(D) requires a unanimous vote.
 - Chairman Saitta made a nomination for Mike Parrott and Ben Mann to the remaining two open seats. The motion carried unanimously (5-0).

Public Service Commission

- The floor was opened for nominations for the Public Service Commission.
 - Councilman Lang made a nomination for Luke Campbell.
 - Councilor Claiborne Linnell made a nomination for Mark Osborne.
- Hearing no other nominations, the Chairman closed the floor.
- Mr. Campbell received 3 votes (Saitta, Lang, Lollis), and Mr. Osborne received 2 votes (Bowers, Linnell). Mr. Luke Campbell was appointed to the Public Service Commission in the District 4 seat.

Recreation Funding Advisory Board

- The floor was opened for nominations for the Recreation Funding Advisory Board.
 - Councilman Lang Bowers made a nomination for Roger Owens to serve in the District 5 seat.
- Hearing no other nominations, the Chairman closed the floor.
- The motion carried unanimously (5-0).

ADJOURN:

Minutes for October 29, 2025, Pickens County Council Special-Called Meeting

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 (5-0). Pickens County Council stood adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Respectively Submitted:

Approved:

Meagan Nations, Clerk to Council

Alex Saitta, Chairman of County Council