

Pickens County Council Special-Called Meeting

January 20, 2026

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 January 15, 2026.

Council Members in Attendance:

Alex Saitta, Chairman

Chris Lollis, Vice Chairman

Claiborne Linvill

Scott Lang

Chris Bowers

Dale Holloway, Vice Chairman Pro-Tem

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 January 16, 2026, to order and welcomed those in attendance. Councilor Claiborne Linvill led the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

OTHER AGENDA ITEMS

- A) PRESENTATION OF FY2025 AUDIT: Larry J. Finney, CPA, Greene Finney Cauley, LLP.**
Mr. Finney presented Council the FY25 Audit to County Council.

B) UDSO IMPACT FEES: COUNCILOR CLAIBORNE LINVILL

- a. Councilor Linvill provided a summary of the history and status of proposed impact fees, noting the item was tabled in October 2024 and is being revisited due to changes in Council membership. Councilor Linvill explained that impact fees are initiated by the Planning Commission and require Council approval, must be spent in the geographic area impacted by development, and within three years. Councilor Linvill discussed concerns previously raised by Council regarding the feasibility of certain impact fees, particularly for roads, and provided examples of existing impact fees in Easley and Clemson. She reviewed the Planning Commission's recommendation based on a study conducted by DTA, including concerns about high funding levels for libraries and parks and the omission of the Sheriff's Office. Councilor Linvill summarized prior Council action, including a motion to table the item indefinitely and a request for additional information from DTA.
- o After much more discussion, Councilor Claiborne Linvill made a motion to ask planning commission to consider impact fees for single or double particular use, and go back to DTA for better research on the numbers they proposed. Motion was seconded by Councilman Chris Bowers.
 - Staff and Council discussion included:

- Cost of DTA Study: \$85,000+
- Task staff to reach out to DTA to get more information on updating since original document is over 2 years old
- Councilman Chris Bowers made a substitute motion to take out Planning Commission and have Administration go directly to DTA for better research on the numbers they proposed. Motion was seconded by Councilor Claiborne Linnell. The substitute motion failed (3-3), with Vice Chairman Chris Lollis, Chairman Alex Saitta and Councilman Dale Holloway opposed.

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING AND/OR RESOLUTIONS:

A) FIRST READING IN TITLE ONLY OF AN ORDINANCE NO. 678 TO ABANDON A SEWER EASEMENT AT EARLS BRIDGE ROAD.

- Attorney Destini Pratt stated that staff confirmed the sewer line adjacent to the citizens' property is abandoned and no longer part of the active system. She explained that, to address the matter, an ordinance with three readings is recommended, followed by execution of a quitclaim deed to grant an easement to the adjacent property owners. Mrs. Pratt clarified that the quitclaim deed would convey any interest the County may have in the easement without providing any warranty.
 - Chairman Alex Saitta made a motion to constitute first reading in title only. Motion was seconded by Councilman Scott Lang and carried unanimously (6-0).

ORDINANCES FOR THIRD READING AND/OR PUBLIC HEARING:

A) PUBLIC HEARING AND THIRD READING OF AN ORDINANCE NO. 677 REGARDING AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLE V OF CHAPTER 2 OF THE PICKENS COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES, PROCUREMENT AND OTHER RELATED ITEMS.

Chairman Alex Saitta called the Public Hearing to order and asked if there were any speakers. Hearing no speakers, the Chairman closed the floor.

- Ken Roper gave an overview on the proposed changes.
 - Chairman Alex Saitta made a motion to constitute third reading of this Ordinance. Motion was seconded by Councilman Chris Bowers and carried unanimously (6-0).

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.

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

- Board 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:

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

- Board and Commissions:
 - **Library Board Appointment:** Councilman Chris Bowers nominated Robert Sams to serve on the Library Board representing District 5. With no additional nominations, the Chairman closed the floor. The nomination was approved unanimously (6-0).
 - **Board of Appeals Appointments:** Chairman Alex Saitta nominated Elizabeth Howard, Erik Green, and Robert Moore to serve on the Board of Appeals. With no additional nominations, the Chairman closed the floor. The nomination was approved unanimously (6-0).

ADJOURN:

Hearing no further Council business, Councilman Chris Lollis made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Chris Bowers and carried unanimously (6-0). Pickens County Council stood adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Respectively Submitted:

Approved:

Meagan Nations, Clerk to Council

Alex Saitta, Chairman of County Council