

Pickens County Council Work session

March 10, 2025

6:30 p.m.

County Council met in a work 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 March 5, 2025.

Council Members in Attendance:

Alex Saitta, Chairman

Chris Lollis, Vice Chairman

Dale Holloway, Vice Chairman Pro-Tem

Claiborne Linvill

Scott Lang

Chris Bowers

Staff in Attendance:

Ken Roper, County Administrator

Les Hendricks, Contract Attorney

Meagan Nations, Clerk to Council

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Alex Saitta called the work session of March 10, 2025, to order and welcomed those in attendance. Chairman Alex Saitta led the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 535, ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR THE ALLOCATION OF PICKENS COUNTY RECREATION FUNDS

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).

COUNTY EMPLOYEE PAY, RETENTION AND TRAINING

Mr. Roper introduced the Human Resources Director, Samantha Greer, who gave a presentation on the Compensation Study overview.

Ms. Greer presented a Compensation Study Overview to Council that included, but was not limited to:

- Objectives of Compensation Study
- Assessment of Pre-Study Conditions
- Employee Engagement and Feedback
- Employee Survey
- Positive Aspect of Benefits
- Market Salary Survey
- Peer Comparison on Pay & Benefits
- Salary Plan Overview
- Next Steps and Recommendations
- Training

Council and Staff had discussion that included, but was not limited to:

- COLA in Budget

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- Education Degrees and Certifications
- History on Student Loan Repayment Program
- Discussion on Paid Family Leave
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LITTER ORDINANCE

Mr. Roper introduced the Environmental Enforcement Manager, Austin Cassell, who gave a presentation on the Litter Ordinance Proposal.

Council and Staff had detailed discussion that included, but was not limited to:

- Number of Environmental Officers
- Class III Officers

After more discussion, Chairman Alex Saitta made a motion to change the definition of litter to, “all discarded waste materials, including rubbish, garbage, trash, refuse, sand, gravel, yard clippings, limbs, leaves, slag, paper, plastic, rubber, tires, waste, building materials, bottles, glass, aluminum cans, cigarette butts and/or filters, dead animals or other materials of similar kind in description.” Motion was seconded by Councilman Scott Lang and carried (5-1), with Councilor Claiborne Linvill opposed.

Chairman Alex Saitta made a motion to add these words to Section 34-5(1), “for which he is not the owner or a person otherwise granted permission by the owner.” Motion was seconded by Councilman Chris Bowers and carried unanimously (6-0).

SEWER PLANT DISCUSSION

Mr. Roper introduced Rodney Robinson, Public Works Director, to Council. Council and staff discussed the challenges and plans for managing the county's wastewater treatment plants, particularly looking at how to strengthen the system, handle capacity issues, and prepare for future growth.

Council and staff had detailed discussion that included, but was not limited to:

- Public Service Commission recommendation
- Discussion of Sewer Plant Locations & updates on each plant
- Discussion on sewer issues in Pickens County
- Discussion on funding and expansion options
- Discussion on Intergovernmental Agreements with Central and Liberty

ADJOURN:

Hearing no further Council business, Chairman Alex Saitta made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Claiborne Linvill 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