

Regular Pickens County Council Meeting

May 13, 2019

6:30 PM

County Council met in regular session, in the Auditorium of the County Administration Facility, with Chairman Roy Costner presiding. Agendas, bearing date, time, and location of meeting were mailed to members of council and local news media on May 7th, 2019.

Council Members in Attendance:

Roy Costner, Chairman

Chris Bowers, Vice Chairman

Wes Hendricks, Vice Chairman Pro-Tem

Trey Whitehurst

Ensley Feemster

Carl Hudson

Staff in Attendance:

Gerald Wilson, County Administrator

Ken Roper, County Attorney

Lisa Bryant, Acting Clerk to Council

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Roy Costner called the meeting of May 13, 2019 to order and welcomed those in attendance. Councilman Ensley Feemster led the Invocation.

Councilman Feemster's stated before praying, he knew there would be a crowd this evening and would like to read some scripture. The scripture Councilman Feemster read is below:

“Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted. Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. If anyone thinks they are something when they are not, they deceive themselves. Each one should test their own actions. Then they can take pride in themselves alone, without comparing themselves to someone else, for each one should carry their own load.” Galatians 6:1-5

Councilman Feemster stated in verse 1 & 2, we are cautioned to gently correct those around us, and to help them with their load. He stated that is a major part of teamwork and it is something we all need to work on. He stated in verse 3 & 4, we are cautioned not to think too highly of ourselves. Councilman Feemster advised he was taught in the military to make sure that the men in his unit were feed before he was. He stated in verse 5, it speaks of a backpack type of load. He stated a more modern example would be a woman's purse.

Councilman Feemster asked everyone to please join him in prayer. Councilman Feemster stated, “Our father, we pray that our leaders in Washington see that they are accomplishing little. I also pray for our officials at the state level, may they seek your guidance also. Father, help us to address our differences here in Pickens County. I pray this in Jesus Holy Name, Amen.”

Councilman Ensley Feemster led the Pledge of Allegiance. Southern Wesleyan University Student Vivian Ewart sang the National Anthem.

Chairman Costner stated in the essence of time and with Council's permission, he would like to start with agenda item #8 this evening to recognize Mr. Joshua Hill, Easley High School State Champion in Wrestling. Hearing no objections, Chairman Costner moved forward with this agenda item first.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 2019-09 CONGRATULATING THE EASLEY HIGH SCHOOL'S JOSHUA HILL FOR WINNING THE AAAAA STATE WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIP

Chairman Costner asked for a motion to consider Resolution 2019-09 congratulating the Easley High School's Joshua Hill for winning the AAAAA State Wrestling Championship. Motion was made by Councilman Wes Hendricks, seconded by Councilman Carl Hudson and carried unanimously (6-0).

Chairman Costner asked Mr. Joshua Hill and Easley High School Wrestling Coach, Randy Merchant, to please step forward and he read the resolution as presented:

A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THE EASLEY HIGH SCHOOL'S JOSHUA HILL FOR WINNING THE AAAAA STATE WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIP.

WHEREAS, Pickens County is the home of Easley High School, a public secondary school offering excellent education and training to our citizens; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Principal Gary Culler and Athletic Director Gill Payne, Easley High School has established an excellent athletic program, including a wrestling program led by Coach Randy Merchant; and

WHEREAS, At the South Carolina High School Wrestling Championship 5A Competition, held at the Anderson Civic Center on Saturday, February 23, 2019, Easley High Wrestling team member Joshua Hill defeated a wrestler from Byrnes High School to capture the 195 pound State Championship, the first state wrestling championship in school history; and

WHEREAS, Pickens County recognizes the hard work and exemplary performance of Joshua Hill in his historic victory, and is appreciative of the fine representation the he and the entire Easley wrestling team made for all of Pickens County;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that Pickens County Council, in recognition of outstanding achievement that brings honor to our county as well as Easley High School, does hereby congratulate Joshua Hill for winning the 2019 State 5A Wrestling Championship.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Chairman Costner stated per council rules 4.4, the public forum is limited to 30 minutes total, and 3 minutes per speaker. Chairman Costner stated to use time more efficiently; he would like to address a few issues in advance that may arise during this evening's public forum. He stated County Council has no authority over hiring and firing decisions made by the County Administrator or any day to day operations of any department. He stated Council should not be involved in negotiations of any kind and they are here to make decisions on ordinances, cast a vision for the county, and improve in operational budget. Chairman Costner stated Council are advised over the recent termination of a county employee, and the employee has filed a grievance, as that is the employees right. He stated in fairness to the employee and so the employees due process can be given, neither Council nor the Administrator will make any further comment on that situation this evening. Chairman Costner stated as for the recent social media rumors about the operation of Hagood Mill and the Hagood Mill Foundation, he would like to let everyone know that there are no plans for any substantial changes at all to the Mill. He stated that the 3rd Saturday events, as well as all the time, honor, and traditions at the Mill will continue as planned. He stated he knows he speaks for all of Council when he says he cherishes and respects the Mill, what it means to local culture, and what it means to history. Chairman Costner stated to be assured; Council is open to any and all ideas, volunteers, and potential sources of funding that may be available. He advised that county staff has spoken to one such possible donor multiple times in the past few days, Mr. David Hosea. Chairman Costner stated with that being said, in the spirit of openness and fairness, and mindful of our duty of decency and respect that we all owe each other as folks who share a love for Pickens County, he stated he would like to open the public forum.

Chairman Roy Costner opened the Public Forum and requested the Clerk to call upon the citizens signed up to speak. The Clerk called on the following speaker:

1. Pat Mulkey: Mr. Mulkey stated this past week, he reached out to Mr. Davey Hiott, who is a local representative and a friend of the Mill and who has been supportive of the Mill. He stated they both agreed everyone needs to sit down calmly and get both sides talking. Mr. Mulkey introduced Ms. Betty McDaniel. He stated that Gerald Wilson, Davey Hiott, Betty McDaniel and himself sat down to discuss Hagood Mill last week in the picnic shelter at Hagood Mill. He stated everyone talked calmly, and discussed many ideas. He stated they also went over a few problems that everyone is discussing on social media that are misleading facts. He stated that Council will not be tearing down the Mill and the focus is to try and move forward. Mr. Mulkey advised they did come up with a possible plan and Mr. Wilson immediately reached out to Mr. David Hosea. He stated there has been too much “mud-slinging” and we need to come back together as friends, workers, volunteers, and council for the Mill. Mr. Mulkey stated he believes they have a great possible plan and it will be up to Council to seriously look at it. He stated he feels it is the only way this Mill can move forward positively, with the support from the public and board members. Mr. Mulkey stated the Mill belongs to the citizens of Pickens County and Council represents and works for the citizens of Pickens County. He stated he is pleading and asking Council to have an open mind. He stated they are confident everything will iron out and Billy will receive a fair grievance hearing. After more discussion, Mr. Mulkey stated there is a lot of support at the meeting this evening not only for Billy Crawford, but for Hagood Mill. He stated there is a plan to move forward and he encourages everyone to support it.
2. Jason Barlet: Mr. Barlet stated he has been in touch with principals, hospitals, fire departments, cops, narcotic agents, etc. all across Pickens County these past few weeks and he has not run across anyone who has not been affected by the drug epidemic we have. He stated that Pickens County is the worst in the state. He stated that Pickens County distributes more narcan than any other county in the state. Mr. Barlet advised it is an extreme circumstance. He stated he has talked with some of the cops that work in the schools and they are screaming for drug education for our kids, as low as the 3rd grade. He stated if we sit down to talk with these kids, they do not know what you think they know. Mr. Barlet stated we need to move forward with educating our children to make them aware. He stated we have the same size drug task force in Easley that we had in 1990, as far as undercover agents. He stated there are a lot of common sense things we can do. He stated the cops have been stripped away from a lot of the tools they used to be able to combat. He stated every officer needs appreciation showed because they are doing all they can do. After more discussion, Mr. Barlet stated he sat down with a couple last week and the couple told him this is a drug house. He named the individual and stated he has over 30 offenses of some sort against Pickens County. He stated that he is out on house arrest and dealing drugs again. Mr. Barlet explained the drug deal went bad and shots were fired. After more discussion, Mr. Barlet stated Pickens County is about to have a new jail and is working to make things better. He stated he has asked the judges why these individuals are getting out of jail and their responses are that the jail is too full. He stated there are a lot of things we can do and he appreciates Council’s time.
3. H Dean Watson: Mr. Watson stated he appreciated Council for letting him speak. Mr. Watson introduced himself and stated he is a heritage tourism consultant and has been a part of Hagood Mill management team for close to 20 years. He stated he started the event as an Appalachian Music Festival and they grew it to many Saturdays where they had 3500 visitors. Mr. Watson stated since then, there have been dark times or “dark days” at Hagood Mill, as he stated he has been referencing on his social media posts. He stated furthermore, there are dark days in Pickens County and he stated the whole county knows it. Mr. Watson stated he raised \$500,000 for Hagood Mill and he has a vested interest. He stated two years ago, Ms. Helen Hockwalt, a

cracker-jack management person from one of the bell companies, was pushed aside and the people who came in took a decided turn and things began to go south when the newspaper came out about the county being in financial trouble. He stated there is a \$2.3 million dollar deficit. Mr. Watson stated it has been two long, sad years in his experience seeing the corruption, the ineptitude, cronyism, and it is called the Liberty Mafia. He stated nepotism, which is friends or family getting preferential hiring, outright bullying, and intimidation of employees. He asked Mr. Wilson if he remembered Ralph Kelley, who was the store manager. Mr. Watson closed by stating he is a heritage tourism consultant with a lot of connections. He stated two weeks ago, he wrote all six councilmembers a letter and offered to meet with Council at no charge to the county to discuss solutions to the problems at the Mill. He stated his wife will give everyone a copy of this letter in case they missed it. He stated he has a lot more to say, but he cannot possibly say everything within the three minutes given. He stated he will be posting on his social media within the given months, as he feels things need to be corrected and Council is the ones to correct it.

4. Mike Ellison: Dr. Mike Ellison stated he was a faculty member at Clemson for 30 years. He stated that his partner and he have a farm outside of Six Mile. He stated when he is not professing, he is a fiddle player and stated Hagood Mill is very important to him. He stated one thing he has noticed in recent times under the guidance of his dear friend, Billy Crawford, things have improved even more beyond what Dean Watson set up. Dr. Ellison stated he was shocked and dismayed to learn that he had been fired. He stated he does not know why, but one of the rumors is that he had financial mismanagement. He stated it compelled him to look into the county budget and he stated the county budget is in a mess. He stated the county budget is on the county website for the public to view and all of the funds are in the red. Dr. Ellison stated this is fiscal irresponsibility and it is not okay. He stated as a faculty member, he was responsible for budgets and if he or any other employee ran a deficit, they were fired. He stated Council was elected and they can be unelected. He stated he would like to spend his last 30 seconds on a positive note. He stated he is in support for what Council has done and he has been a resident of Pickens County since 1984. He stated the things that were done here regarding the new schools; he applauds council's efforts in that way. He stated things right now are in a mess and needs to be fixed. Dr. Ellison closed with saying that firing Billy Crawford was a big "shoot yourself in the foot" moment.
5. Jimmy Gillespie: Mr. Gillespie stated he was there to speak about Ordinance 297. He stated his old pick-up truck has been sitting in the yard for five years but does not have a tag. He stated the truck runs but he guesses it is an "eye sore" because it is not a safety hazard, health hazard, etc. He stated he feels a neighbor drove by and stated they could not look at the truck because it hurts their eyes. He stated the truck looks better than what he is driving every day. Mr. Gillespie stated a violation was issued because of a complaint from three people on Chastain Road. He stated there were at least four properties on Chastain Road that looked bad. After more discussion, he feels the violations are issued randomly. He stated when the violation is issued; the neighbors name should go on the violation as well. He stated he filed a FOIA request and the county refused to give him the name. He stated this law turns against the 14th amendment. He stated Council needs to take another look at the ordinance, or they can ignore it, but he will be back if it is ignored.
6. Danielle Yother: Ms. Yother stated she is grateful to the county leaders for valuing her opportunities, but to see the hurt in the Hagood Mill community is gut-wrenching. She stated when reality TV felt too big for her, that Chairman Costner was the voice who believed in her and let her believe a little in herself. She stated Ms. Betty McDaniel is her teacher, mentor, adopted grandmother, and friend. She stated Billy's sacrificed weekends and sweat-drenched days for the Mill cannot be understood if you've never sat in a circle with a tan, wrinkled 80 year old man

shuffling to music, which he played with his father. Ms. Yother stated you may not be able to count that child's memory in dollars, but you have bought for her a spark that money can not afford. She stated Hagood's raw wood stage would soon turn into America's Got Talent and American Idol for her. She advised most importantly, because of raggedy, old, barely hanging on non-profits like YAMS and Hagood Mill, Ms. Yother stated she has Dan and Norma Hendricks, Betty and Ed McDaniel, and she has Roy Costner. She stated now, some little girls have her as a teacher. After more discussion, Ms. Yother stated because the older generation at Hagood Mill took time to invest in her generation, shared their music without price, played in the creek with them despite their age, and applauded their squeakiest performances despite their ears, and because they gave so much, Ms. Yother stated they have more to give. She stated now the Pickens County Schools are filled with teenage music teachers who are already pouring life into the next generation. Ms. Yother stated Hagood's Appalachian Community is raising up leaders who look out for the person on their left, and for the person to their right. The churches, student government, and charitable organizations are saturated with young adults who are first given the opportunity to serve on the Mill's stages. She stated top schools like WestPoint, and the Governors of Arts are knocking the doors of Hagood's young musicians because they know the most valuable asset of their organization – the people. Ms. Yother stated do not just hear her, please listen. Hagood Mill is a fraction of the percent of the whole county budget. She stated the question is not whether we can afford to invest in our community. She stated it is whether we can afford not to.

7. Helen Dodgens: Ms. Dodgens stated she still has tears in her eyes from Danielle Yother's presentation so it may be a little hard for her not to hold this back. Ms. Dodgens stated that Hagood Mill means a lot to her and they pass the road every time they go to town/go back home. Ms. Dodgens stated at one time, it was called Reece Town. She stated her first memory of Hagood Mill was when her husband took her there one day to visit an old lady who was sick. She stated she would like to ask council to leave the Hagood Mill site with the Mill in tack. She stated the parking lot could be more than it is today. She stated it could have a campground for people who brought their campers in to bring in some income, and the building that's there now is not feasible because it has no sides on it. She stated she sees where they are putting concrete around the building now which is a good step, but there needs to be restrooms, handicap assessable restrooms, etc. She stated she does believe Hagood Mill could take a turn and make a profit. Ms. Dodgens stated as you can tell from her speech, she is a real Appalachian lady who came from the mountains in North Carolina. She stated her grandfather's brother had the Winchester mill just a few miles up highway 178. She stated the mill is still there but all of the Winchesters had corn mills and saw mills. She stated a corn mill is important to her because her husband and she use Hagood Mill for cornbread. Ms. Dodgens stated that Betty McDaniel has been her neighbor and friend for many years, and the Crawford family has been her friend for over 52 years. She stated she has worked with Ms. McDaniel at the Senior Center and when Ms. McDaniel resigns a position that tells her that something is going very wrong. She stated she loves the McDaniel and Crawford family, and she wishes there was some way this could be worked out.
8. Kade Herrick: Mr. Herrick stated he is the tourism director at Clemson and he wanted to address council regarding Hagood Mill and the rowing program. He stated last year was the first year they ever made money on their rowing program. He stated this is not what the Mill is about. He stated it is not about making money; it is about bringing people to town. He stated he has heard people have moved to Pickens County after visiting the Mill, falling in love with the area and bringing tax dollars in. He stated it is not just a budgetary item on the Mill itself; it asking what else they are bringing to town. Mr. Herrick stated from a tourism aspect, a lot of tourism and each individual event do not bring money in. He gave council an example using the rowing teams that come to town. He stated their economic impact was over \$2.5 million dollars that was brought in

to the local economy. After more discussion, he stated he wasn't necessarily prepared to speak on the Mill, but that is where his support is. Mr. Herrick stated every time they have done any work with Billy, has always been topnotch. He stated he cannot think of a better person to run the Mill and budgetary wise, there is a lot more to it and other factors that come into play.

9. Harry Carson: Mr. Carson thanked Council for the opportunity to speak. He stated he would like to talk about the county fixing to vote to take over the rural fire departments. Mr. Carson discussed how the county ran two public notices in the newspapers for two different meeting dates, since the May 3, 2019 council meeting was moved to May 13, 2019. He stated the public forum will now be on the third reading on June 3, 2019. Mr. Carson asked Council why mess with something not broken. He stated he lives in the Easley area fire district and asked how the county could provide him with better fire protection than he is getting for his \$81.00. He asked what the county could do better than the City of Easley. He stated a fee by state law can only be used for what it is collected for, and the county will do away with the fire fees and go to millage is what will happen. He stated this is a back door tax increase and when the City of Easley sees where the county will be collecting \$150 instead of \$81, they are going to need more money and know where to get it. Mr. Carson asked how many fire stations it will take to cover Easley area fire district and if it was legal for the county to take over the fire departments. Mr. Carson stated Dacusville Fire Department is incorporated and the county will be taking over a corporation. Closing, Mr. Carson asked what will be happening next and thanked Council.
10. Marianne Hoynes: Ms. Hoynes introduced herself and stated her background is in international business. She stated she was a small business owner until she retired and moved to South Carolina. She stated she started volunteering at Hagood Mill around a year ago. She stated she made a lot of friends and was very impressed on how the Mill was being ran, impressed with the choice and quality of musicians, and impressed with the demonstrators that demonstrate the old ways. Ms. Hoynes stated it was hard whenever Billy's boss would come around how denigrating he was to Billy, and how he was talked down too in front of his volunteers. She stated the volunteers put in a lot of hours and there were weeks where she was there 5 days a week trying to get ready for an event. She stated she loves the elderly and disabled people who come to the mill regularly, and a lot of times this is the only time they get out of their homes. She stated the complaint to her understanding was profit and she stated Hagood Mill has not been marketed for two years that she knows of. No cards in the visitors center in the state, no cards in North Carolina in areas that are very well marketed, etc. She stated she volunteered to do the cards and put them in the visitor centers, but was turned down. She stated she feels extremely torn because she loves Hagood Mill and loves volunteering, but she does not want to be disloyal to the Hagood Mill family, who has become her family.
- Councilman Trey Whitehurst made a motion to extend the Public Forum during this evening's council meeting for two more speakers. Motion was seconded by Chairman Costner and carried unanimously (6-0).
11. Alex Saitta: Concerning what is going on at Hagood Mill, Mr. Saitta stated that Council has the responsibility to ask questions and take action. Mr. Saitta stated they need to ensure that employees are treated fairly and be on lookout for bogus that aim the frustrated employees that get them to quit and when that doesn't work, pushing the employee out unfairly. He stated when an employer terminates an employee for cause; means the employer is claiming a gross error in judgment or misconduct by the employee. He stated this is Councilman Wes Hendrick's district and asked if he agreed with the Administration. He stated if not, he should be arguing now to reinstate the employee. Mr. Saitta asked if the employees are being ordered by the administration not to contact their councilman and are volunteers being pressured not to speak publicly to

express their frustrations. Mr. Saitta addressed Councilman Ensley Feemster, stating he needs to sit down with the attorney and ask him for a legal, written opinion asking if the administration has the right to do this. He asked why Hagood Mill was being singled out and stated he went to the show on Saturday at the Liberty Auditorium, and stated there was less than 10% of the capacity there. Mr. Saitta asked if the auditorium is leading red ink, why the manager at that facility isn't being singled out as well. He asked Vice Chairman Chris Bowers to ask for the financial statements and determine if the auditorium is losing money. Mr. Saitta asked if there are capable people with tourism experience running the effort, do they have experience in this county, know the culture and what the people want. He stated those above Highway 183 want grassroots tourism supported by local volunteers, with the purpose of preserving the mountain heritage, community and tradition. He stated they do not want Chairman Costner's brand of slick, modern day/anything goes commercialism, wrapped around a mill that goes back to their grandfather's grandfather, nor do they want to see locals pushed out, whose families have been up there 150 years. Mr. Saitta addressed Councilman Hendricks, stating this is his district and he needs to step up, tell the Chairman, County Administrator, and everyone else on the board publicly that this is the wrong direction. Closing, Mr. Saitta stated there is a difference between communication and self-promotion. He stated when leaders communicate with the public, they talk about the positives and the negatives, step up to clarify issues, make sure questions are answered, and publicly defend employees who are treated unfairly. He stated when leaders promote themselves, they talk about the positives only, and when things go wrong/conversation gets tough, they do not engage the public and hide behind lawyer written pressed releases. He stated Council was elected to lead, so lead.

12. Becky Stovall: Ms. Stovall stated she appreciates the opportunity to speak to Council this evening. She stated she has been working at Hagood Mill with Billy, and his entire family who come out as volunteers, helping Pickens County to become the best it can be. She stated everone loved Eddie Bolt, and he did a great job at Hagood Mill, but Billy Crawford came out and improved many aspects of the Mill. She stated she understands he is going through a grievance process, and they will allow this to move forward to see what happens there. Ms. Stovall stated another concern she has is moving forward with Hagood Mill. She stated she has been volunteering at the Mill as the programming coordinator and she is hearing that we are moving forward, but not one employee from the "new team" has contacted her. She stated that she has hired people to come play music for events and they are stuck with wondering what is going to happen next. She stated the volunteers are hearing that everything is going to go on as normal, but they are not seeing that these processes are in place or moving forward. Ms. Stovall stated they are wondering what is happening and everyone is hearing two different things. For example, Ms. Stovall stated there is a watermelon crawl on the same days as the banjo extravaganza. She stated there are things planned less than a week from now and no one has called people who have coordinated the events. She stated the state of South Carolina has put in their hands the fiddling championship and while that may not sound like a big deal to everyone, it is a huge deal. She stated the state of South Carolina depends on Hagood Mill to have a good and appropriate event for this. She stated without the plan moving forward, we will not have those players and look like fools in our State, not just the county. She stated she is concerned, hurt and very disappointed not only in the employment of how Billy was taken down, but also the way this has been handled since then.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Chairman Roy Costner called for a motion to approve the following minutes as presented:

- April 1, 2019
- April 8, 2019 Special-Called Meeting
- April 9, 2019 Budget Work Session

- Motion was made by Councilman Ensley Feemster, and seconded by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers. Chairman Roy Costner asked if there was any discussion.
 - Councilman Wes Hendricks moved to amend the April 1st, 2019 minutes, stating under the consent agenda, he voted against the topics for the consent agenda and the motion should have been 5-1, not carried unanimously.
- Seeing no other discussion, motion carried unanimously (6-0).

Chairman Costner called for a motion to approve the following minutes as presented

- April 24, 2019 Special-Called Meeting (Alliance Pickens)

- Motion was made by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers, seconded by Councilman Wes Hendricks, and carried (5-1), with Councilman Trey Whitehurst abstaining, as he was not present at this meeting.

Chairman Costner called for a motion to approve the following minutes as presented

- April 29, 2019 Budget Work Session

- Motion was made by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers, seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster, and carried (5-1), with Councilman Wes Hendricks abstaining, as he was not present at this meeting.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Chairman Costner stated he would like for the Administrator to answer a few questions Council have regarding Public Forum before he starts his report. The County Administrator, Gerald Wilson, asked Ralph Guarino, Finance Director, to please step to the podium in case there are any finance questions as well.

- Chairman Costner asked Mr. Guarino what is the \$2.3 million dollars deficit where we are in financial trouble.
 - Mr. Guarino stated we do not have a \$2.3 million dollar deficit. He stated we have taken money out of fund balance for things that Council has approved, and he went over this list two months ago. He stated he is not sure what the news reports, but he can tell everyone based on the audited financial statement by a third party agency, we had \$27 million dollars at the end of June 30, 2018 in general fund. He stated there are other funds that vary based on each individual fund and how much money they have.
- Administrator Wilson stated there was a question from the floor stating they look at all of our financial statements online and all accounts are in the red. He asked Mr. Guarino to please address this question.
 - Mr. Guarino stated he is not aware all of our financials are in the red and he needs more information regarding which account. He stated council has before them the financial statement he posted on the county website today.
- Administrator Wilson asked Mr. Guarino to please go over the financial statements and take Council through to explain all balances on all accounts.

- Mr. Guarino stated Council has before them the General Fund Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance Year to Date Totals as of April 30th, 2019. He stated this is the main fund and he will be discussing the Year to Date Actuals, which is highlighted yellow. He advised that this schedule also has the amended budget, year to date projection, pro-rated budget, variance/available budget, year to date FY 2018 and FY 2018. Mr. Guarino discussed this financial statement with Council, explaining the revenues and expenditures in detail. Mr. Guarino stated if Council has any questions, he will be glad to answer.
- Vice Chairman Chris Bowers stated there was some concern about the county spending money at the auditorium and asked Mr. Guarino if the county is putting on the shows at the auditorium and is that coming out of the general fund.
 - Mr. Guarino stated the only money being used at the PAC is what council has approved. He stated we did the 150th year celebration, the PAC rebranding, and the Mark Woods production.
- Vice Chairman Chris Bowers asked Mr. Guarino where the money came from for the Jason Crabb concert in April, and the other shows that happened this month at the PAC.
 - Mr. Guarino stated it is his understanding that the money for events comes from the Performing Arts Center Foundation Board, it did not come from the general fund.
- Administrator Gerald Wilson stated Mr. Gillespie asked some questions during Public Forum regarding his truck on Chastain Road. He stated Mr. Phillip Trotter, who works in Pickens County Building Codes, will step up to the podium to address this complaint.
 - Mr. Trotter went over a summary for the procedure they use in the building codes department. He stated they are not a pro-active code enforcement office. He stated if they do have a general complaint that comes in the immediate vicinity; the code enforcement officer will address the issues within the immediate vicinity. He stated he would like to stress that no type of ticket was issued; it was simply a notice of violation requesting compliance.
- Administrator Gerald Wilson stated Mr. Gillespie has filed a FOIA request per county council ordinance 519. He stated any FOIA request has a fee, and administration is awaiting his payment for the information he has requested.
- Administrator Wilson stated he has met with Mr. David Hosea, and they are scheduling a meeting to meet with Council to go over ideas regarding Hagood Mill.
- Chairman Roy Costner asked Mr. Wilson regarding Ms. Yothers speech during public forum, if there was enough money in the budget to fund Hagood Mill.
 - Administrator Wilson stated currently there is \$110,000 for Hagood Mill. He stated staff has been working over the past few weeks on the funding for 3rd Saturday events and as council may recall, the fund 50 is set to be exhausted by this fiscal year. He stated as far as the budget for the next fiscal year, we will need to add funds in and that is what was discussed at the last budget meeting.
- Chairman Costner asked regarding the question on the millage of fees for the fire districts that council will be voting on this evening (agenda item #17), we are not voting on any fees/millage, we are voting on something completely different.
 - Attorney Ken Roper stated that is correct, the ordinance that is front of council this evening would allow the county to make that decision in different areas of the county as

they saw fit in the future. He stated it is not changing anything in the fee or millage structure.

- Chairman Costner stated the point he would like for the public to know is that they are voting for one emergency services board, instead of 13 different fire district boards, and it is an efficiently problem for these people to be able to work together. He stated all fire chiefs across the districts are on board as he understands.
 - Mr. Roper stated yes, as he understands this has been studied by the current emergency services board for many months. He stated the public hearing and third reading will be on June 3rd, and this will simply combine the boards to one board. He stated this is the big change in this ordinance and there will not be any other noticeably changes to the public or county operations.
- Vice Chairman Chris Bowers stated he missed the conversation regarding the three Easley fire districts it would take to take over the Easley Rural and asked if this has been spoken to by the Emergency Services Board. He stated he has not heard the warning to pull that contract.
- Administrator Gerald Wilson asked Mr. Scott Smith, Emergency Services Director, to please step to the podium to answer this question.
 - Mr. Smith stated there has been no talk about pulling out the Easley Rural District under the county or moving it out from under the City of Easley. He stated right now it is financially responsible and feasible to keep it right where it is at. He stated there has been no discussion about that and they are just looking to better utilize our resources and get the most bang for our buck county wide.
- Councilman Carl Hudson stated he would like for everyone to understand to go to a millage would require a separate ordinance other than what is done this evening. He stated in other words, we would have to change the funding mechanism to go to a millage.
 - Attorney Ken Roper stated that is correct, to change the funding mechanism the county would have to go through three readings and a public ordinance. He stated this is not what this ordinance is.
- Councilman Wes Hendricks stated he would like to address the volunteer issue at Hagood Mill. He stated last month, he had a meeting with the volunteers at Hagood Mill and not near as many people showed up. He stated he certainly hopes everyone will show up on the 3rd Saturday events to support the Mill. He stated everyone in this room was the Mill to be successful. Councilman Hendricks advised he has been in conversation with the Hagood descendants, via phone calls and email with the Hagood family. He stated he can assure everyone that this council here will not harm the integrity of the Mill or jeopardize the authenticity of the Mill. He stated for whatever rumors are out there, that will not happen. Councilman Hendricks stated he has requested some financial records on the Mill. He stated while looking through everything, he looked at the MAU temporary employees, contract employees, invoices, etc. and stated some people were paid to do stuff around the Mill. He stated he thinks about volunteers and asks what a volunteer is. Councilman Hendricks stated the definition of a volunteer is someone who freely offers to take part in an enterprise. He stated to him, if you volunteer, you work for free. He asked why some people get paid to do something, when the other people there are doing the same thing and not making money. He stated he also looks at a servant's heart. Councilman Hendricks stated if you are volunteer, you have a servant's heart. He stated in Philippians 2:5-11, it says "But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men." He stated we all serve the Mill in one way or another and we should all consider ourselves volunteers. He stated if we are that concerned about this, we should all be working for free at Hagood Mill. He stated he feels we should be working for free and not charging money.
- Chairman Roy Costner asked Councilman Wes Hendricks if there was anything else he would like to address.

- Councilman Wes Hendricks stated one thing he would like to express is to look for the greatest good for the Mill. He stated not for self-promotion, and not for financial gain.
- Chairman Roy Costner asked Administrator Wilson a question, stating there were comments about contacting all volunteers and asked if we have been able to contact all volunteers.
 - Administrator Wilson stated after tonight, he feels not all volunteers have been contacted. He stated Mr. Jay Pitts, Tourism Director, is out of town due to a prior engagement and was unable to be here this evening.

Chairman Roy Costner asked Administrator Wilson if there is anything else in his report. Administrator Wilson stated no, that is all for this evening.

COMMITTEE REPORT:

The Committee of the Whole met in the Main Conference Room, at the Pickens County Administration Facility, on Monday, April 8 at 6:15 p.m, after the Special-Called Meeting. All members of the committee were in attendance, with Chairman Roy Costner presiding.

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Roy Costner called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order. Vice Chairman Chris Bowers led the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE:

Chairman Roy Costner stated we will be moving around the order of the Committee of the Whole agenda this evening and start with *Log No. 118 – Hagood Mill*.

Hagood Mill – Log No. 118

- Administrator Gerald Wilson stated the revenue stream is not what they anticipated this year for Hagood Mill and he would like the Finance Director, Ralph Guarino, to update Council on the finances for Hagood Mill.
- Finance Director Ralph Guarino presented council with a finance spreadsheet with revenue and expenses from Hagood Mill from 2016-2019. He went into detail on FY 2016, FY 2017, FY 2018 and FY 2019 Actuals.
- After Mr. Guarino’s discussion, Mr. Wilson stated our costs are down by 2/3, and we need to figure out a way to balance those costs a little better. He stated there are a couple options on how to fix this. He stated the Hagood Mill Board is in the process of making a business plan, with Jay Pitts and Billy Crawford’s help. He stated in his opinion, one of the places they have failed over the years for Hagood Mill is we had no plan for continuity. He stated they did not prepare for this day and they did a great job years ago saving money and applying for grants, but he feels that has fell off over the last 5-7 years. He stated he feels they have made a lot of progress discussing the last few weeks, but they aren’t where they need to be. He stated they followed the county’s financial policy and immediately froze all unnecessary spending. He stated they have also eliminated the need for any MAU Employees until we get additional funding in place.
- Betty McDaniel, Chairman of Hagood Mill Foundation Board, presented some of her notes to Council for a new business plan and new responsibilities for Hagood Mill. She stated Council was kind enough to give the board some money to start off, and for that they are thankful, but they have felt they have had no direction on how to manage the money. Some of her discussion included, but was not limited to: responsibility for Hagood Mill between the County and Hagood Mill Foundation Board, funding options, 3rd Saturday events, volunteers, field trips at Hagood Mill, etc.
- Councilman Wes Hendricks stated he would like to brag on Ms. McDaniel for the job she is doing. He stated it has not been easy dealing with the situations she has dealt with. He thanked Ms. McDaniel for the great job she is doing.

- Councilman Ensley Feemster stated maybe Ms. McDaniel could talk with some of the general stores on Highway 11 for advertising purposes.
 - Councilman Trey Whitehurst asked Mr. Guarino how long the 501-C3 boards have been in existence. He also asked Mr. Guarino if he has financial numbers prior to 2016. After some discussion, Councilman Whitehurst stated he is looking at a financial spreadsheet of profit loss. He stated revenues have gone down since the board has been in place, and costs have sky rocketed. He asked Ms. McDaniel and Billy Crawford, Hagood Mill Director, how much money they have in their account.
 - Mr. Crawford stated around \$31,000.
 - Councilman Whitehurst stated the whole reason for creating the 501-C3 boards were to give independence and guidance. He stated he is hearing from them that they want the county to give them the facility, and the board the facility. He stated his problem is the track record doesn't tell him that as an investor of county tax dollars, they are not a good investment.
 - Mr. Pitts stated they have not been in existence for a full year yet. He stated the board is starting to come together since the past year. He stated they did not see this coming.
 - Vice Chairman Chris Bowers stated when he thinks of Foundation, for example the Hospital Foundation Board or Tri-County Foundation Board, he thinks of foundation in his mind is a fundraising arm of an organization and he believes that was his intent of setting up this Hagood Mill Foundation Board. He stated the board should be raising money to offset the cost that has doubled in the years. He stated he appreciates the passion, but he feels the volunteers and the HMF Board are being combined and there is no separation. He stated the HMF Board wants to act as the arm of the organization but Mr. Jay Pitts, the Tourism Director, is in charge of running Hagood Mill.
 - After much more discussion between Council, Hagood Mill staff, Finance Director Ralph Guarino and Administrator Wilson, Mr. Wilson stated that Hagood Mill is an asset to Pickens County and we need to find a way to make this work. He stated that staff will be receiving a business plan in the next few weeks from Hagood Mill staff and will forward to council.
- ❖ No action taken by Committee.

Council Action on Log No. 118- No Action Taken by the Committee.

E911 – Log No. 105

- Mr. Wilson stated Ms. Tasha Todd, E911 Coordinator, and Rick Clark, Sheriff, are with us this evening to discuss the updates to E911. He stated he has been forwarding the EMD monthly summary report to Council each month with the progress that the dispatchers are making. He stated last month, they achieved a 99% rate.
- Sheriff Clark stated the cooperation between the Sheriff's Department and E911 has been great. He stated Mr. Chase Campbell, EMD Manager, has been great to work with and Chase's emails he sends out are very professional. As an overall view, Sheriff Clark stated it has been a success and it all came down to teamwork and cooperation.
- Ms. Todd stated at the beginning, in order for them to keep the certification, they had to have an EMD manager to monitor the quality control calls and that is where they saw an issue because they were not doing that at all. She stated when it came to the forefront, they spent around \$5,000 and everyone except one is certified now. She stated everyone will have to recertify in two years, and must have a certain number of training hours to recertify. Ms. Todd stated there are ten requirements for the EMD protocol as far as quality control and that is how they get their percentage rate each month. After scored, they meet with every tele-communicator to discuss what they have done well and what they need to work on. She stated they are working with EMS on some of the cards to make it more precise. She stated before she leaves, one of the things they need to get together is the CAD Vendor is riding the interface with the EMD that Pickens County uses. She stated when they bring up a call, if it is an EMD call, there will be a button that will launch the automated process. She stated the feedback they are getting back from EMS is because they are asking all the questions, there is a lot of information that they have before they get there. She stated the biggest place they see this is with pediatric patients because the medicine is different, etc. She stated they are able to do a lot on the way and get a lot of information. Ms. Todd stated they have had zero complaints from the people in the seats and they work very hard every month. She stated they have seen improvement in the fast-paced environment they work in. After much more discussion, Ms. Todd stated she believes Pickens County is going in the right direction and that is because of the people in the seats.

- Councilman Trey Whitehurst asked if there was a way to prevent the admin calls from coming in with the 911 calls.
 - Ms. Todd stated if someone is on the phone with an admin call and a 911 call comes in, they absolutely put the admin call on hold to answer the 911 call. She stated the problem is they need a couple of full time positions to get to where they would like to be. She stated 70% of the calls are admin calls, which are non-emergency.
 - Councilman Trey Whitehurst asked Ms. Todd if there was one thing she could change or do before she leaves the county, what would she do.
 - Ms. Todd stated she would like to see a 911 center only handle 911 calls, which means that every call they take, it is emergency only.
 - After much more discussion, Councilman Whitehurst asked if it was possible to do this.
 - Ms. Todd stated yes, if they had more employees. They went into discussion on other ways this could happen and how it could happen.
 - After more discussion with Council, Sheriff Clark, Tasha Todd, Creed Hashe, Scott Smith and Administrator Wilson, Mr. Wilson stated that one of the requests Ms. Todd had was to leave this Log Item on the COW Log for future discussion in a few months.
 - Vice Chairman Chris Bowers thanked the Sheriff's Office, dispatchers, and Ms. Todd for all their work. He stated he is very grateful that in the last four months, they have come this far and it is very exciting for the citizens of Pickens County.
- ❖ No Action Taken by Committee.

Council Action on Log No. 105- No Action Taken by the Committee.

Recreation Funding Requests – Log No. 88

- Chairman Roy Costner stated the Recreation Advisory Board have their last meeting this evening to finish up their recommendations for the recreation funding. He stated the funding requests that will be discussed have to do with the budgeting process from last year. Going forward, as they start to discuss the budget process, they do need to talk about Recreation Funding.
- Vice Chairman Chris Bowers stated he would like to talk about an idea for Recreation in Pickens County. He stated around a month ago, Council discussed what recreation funding needs to look like and how the different recreation departments/parks need to spend the money. He stated he would like for Council to think about doing a program called Moby Rec (Mobile Rec) in Pickens County. Vice Chairman Bowers stated this is a program funded by cities and counties across the Country. He stated it is where recreation departments or government agencies take a van/trailer of recreation equipment (basketball goals, footballs, baseballs, etc.) around different areas of the community. He stated not everyone lives close to a recreation center, which means some kids cannot participate. He stated obesity, heart disease and cardiovascular disease is a big issue in our county and activity is one way to prevent these diseases. He stated the Moby Rec goes out on weekends, when school is out throughout the week, during festivals, etc. and sets up a mobile play area/play ground in that community. He stated he has been looking at preliminary costs and different ways to fund this program. Vice Chairman Bowers stated he reached out to some of the recreation departments and there have been rec. departments willing to donate some equipment. He stated it will not cost much financially, and if all districts put some money from their recreation funding in it, it will not be much. After much more discussion, Vice Chairman stated Leadership Greenville started a Moby Rec in Greenville County through their recreation department and they do have more information on their county website. Vice Chairman Bowers stated he feels recreation is much more than just recreation departments.
- Councilman Wes Hendricks asked if he has done a civilian survey and interest in the Moby Rec.
- Vice Chairman Bowers stated he has spoken to people he has known, and he did reach out to his recreation department to see what feedback he could get. He stated his recreation department in Easley sees great availability to resource this to people who cannot afford to let their children play recreation sports through the recreation department. He stated he has spoken to teacher groups, parents/teachers while on a field trip, and some people who attend his church. He stated in the minimal he has asked and has received very positive feedback. He stated he would like for our recreation departments in the county to utilize and use this as well.

- Councilman Hendricks asked what the preliminary cost would be.
- Vice Chairman Bowers stated he feels that \$10,000 is a high number but somewhere around there would be a good place to start. He stated this is for equipment only, and this does not include personnel. He stated he feels a lot of the equipment is already here and we do not realize it.
- After much more discussion between Council, Vice Chairman Bowers advised staff to look into what it would cost to start up this program and report back to council.

❖ No action taken from Committee.

Council Action on Log No. 88- No Action Taken by the Committee.

Fiscal Year 2020 Budget – Log No. 120

- Administrator Wilson stated Council received an email last week outlining the Budget. He stated the following highlights regarding the FY2020 Budget:
 - Balanced budget with no tax increase
 - All citizens will see a small tax decrease around 1/10 of a mill – jail bond
 - Unincorporated areas of Pickens County will see a decrease due to retirement of sewer bond. He stated staff is still calculating, but hope to be close to ½ of a mill
 - Recreation Funding to be included in the budget
 - Built in a re-occurring capital fund of
 - 2% COLA for Employees
 - Anticipating property, liability and health insurance to be a flat renewal
 - Upstate Alliance
 - Crosswell Fire District board recommending raising their fee by \$10 per household
 - Etc.
- After more discussion regarding the budget, Chairman Costner announced that there is a budget work session scheduled for Tuesday, April 9, 2019 and council will be going into more discussion with the budget then.

❖ No action taken from Committee.

Council Action on Log No. 120- No Action Taken by the Committee.

- *Chairman Roy Costner called for a two-minute recess.*

Memorandum of Understanding – Log No. 119

- Chairman Roy Costner asked for motion to convene into Executive Session as defined by S.C. Code of Laws, Section 30-4-70 (a), to discuss the proposed contracts. Motion was made by Councilman Carl Hudson, seconded by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers and carried unanimously (6-0).
- Chairman Costner called the Committee of the Whole meeting back to Order and asked for a motion to make a recommendation to instruct staff to move forward with the following MOU proposed contracts: #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #6, #7 and #9. Motion was made by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers, seconded by Councilman Carl Hudson, and carried unanimously (6-0).

Council Action on Log No. 119- The committee recommended instructing staff to move forward with the following MOU Proposed Contracts:

- #1
- #2
- #3
- #4
- #5

- #6
 - #7
 - #9
- Chairman Costner stated no second is required because this comes as a recommendation from the committee. I would ask for all those in favor for accepting this recommendation to please signify by raising your hands. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

ADJOURN:

Hearing no further Committee business, Chairman Roy Costner called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers, seconded by Councilman Carl Hudson and carried unanimously (6-0). The Committee of the Whole stood adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE:

Chairman Roy Costner announced the following:

- Chairman Costner stated the next Committee of the Whole meeting will be on Monday, May 20th at 6:00 PM in the Main Conference Room of the Administration Facility.
- Chairman Costner stated the April Council Meeting will take place on Monday, June 3rd at 6:30 PM in the Auditorium of the Administration Facility.
- Chairman Costner stated that Pickens County Council and Administration invite the public to join their anti-litter initiative by participating in our third semi-annual litter pickup. He stated it will take place on Friday, May 24th. Council and staff will be removing trash from our roadways on this day, but you can participate anytime during the week.
- Chairman Costner stated Pickens County Council will take a recess during the month of July and there will be no county council meetings, as of right now, during the month of July.

Chairman Roy Costner called for other council correspondence.

- Vice Chairman Chris Bowers stated he spoke with some people working on the COPE Program. He stated they look forward to trying to get on the June council meeting agenda to speak regarding this program.

Seeing no other correspondence, Chairman Costner announced moving to Motion Period and New Business.

MOTION PERIOD AND NEW BUSINESS:

Chairman Roy Costner opened the floor for motion period.

- Chairman Roy Costner made a motion to figure out a date and hold a town hall meeting specifically on Hagood Mill, so we can listen to all concerns and look for ideas/opportunities to where we can work together to not only educate, but find common grounds on preserving the significance and Appalachian culture. Motion was seconded by Councilman Hendricks and carried unanimously (6-0).
- Vice Chairman Chris Bowers made a motion to move Ordinance 514, in regards to outdoor ranges, to the Committee of the Whole log for discussion. Motion was seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster. Chairman Roy Costner asked if there was any discussion.
 - Councilman Trey Whitehurst asked if there was a specific reason we are looking at.

- Vice Chairman Chris Bowers stated he had some questions regarding this ordinance and he would like to be able to discuss it in Committee. He stated he has had some phone calls about and he would like to discuss.
- Seeing no other discussion, motion carried unanimously (6-0).

Hearing no other items for Motion Period, Chairman Roy Costner closed the floor.

Chairman Roy Costner opened the floor for new business.

Hearing no other items for new business, Chairman Roy Costner closed the floor.

CONSIDERATION OF PROCLAMATION NO. 2019-10 TO SUPPORT THE GOALS OF THE SAFE BOATING CAMPAIGN AND DECLARE MAY 18-24, 2019 AS NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK IN PICKENS COUNTY.

Chairman Roy Costner asked for motion to consider this Proclamation No. 2019-10.

- Motion was made by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers, seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster, and carried unanimously (6-0).

CONSIDERATION OF PROCLAMATION NO. 2019-11 TO DECLARE MAY 15, 2019 AS PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY IN PICKENS COUNTY.

- Councilman Carl Hudson made a motion to consider this Proclamation 2019-11. Motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers and carried unanimously (6-0).

Chairman Roy Costner read the Proclamation as followed:

Whereas, the Congress and President of the United States have designated May 15 as Peace Officers Memorial Day; and

Whereas, the members of the Pickens County Sheriff's Office play an essential role in safeguarding the rights and freedoms of the citizens of our community; and

Whereas, it is important that all citizens know and understand the duties, responsibilities, hazards and sacrifices of their law enforcement officers, and that law enforcement officers recognize their duty to serve the people of this County, by protecting them against violence and disorder; and

Whereas, the law enforcement officers of the Pickens County Sheriff's Office unceasingly provide a vital public service;

Now, Therefore, that the County Council of the County of Pickens directs that all flags on County buildings be flown at half-staff on May 15, 2019, in recognition of Peace Officers Memorial Day and in memory of those law enforcement officers, who through their courageous deeds, have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their communities or have become disabled in the performance of duty, and to honor those law enforcement officers presently serving all communities.

CONSIDERATION OF PROCLAMATION NO. 2019-12 TO DECLARE THE WEEK OF MAY 19-25, 2019 AS EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK IN PICKENS COUNTY.

- Vice Chairman Chris Bowers made a motion to consider this Proclamation 2019-12. Motion was seconded by Councilman Carl Hudson and carried unanimously (6-0).

Vice Chairman Chris Bowers read the Proclamation as followed:

Whereas, emergency medical services is a vital public service; and

Whereas, the members of emergency medical services teams are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

Whereas, access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

Whereas, emergency medical services has grown to fill a gap by providing important, out of hospital care, including preventative medicine, follow-up care, and access to telemedicine; and

Whereas, the emergency medical services system consists of first responders, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, emergency medical dispatchers, firefighters, police officers, educators, administrators, pre-hospital nurses, emergency nurses, emergency physicians, trained members of the public, and other out of hospital medical care providers; and

Whereas, the members of emergency medical services teams, whether career or volunteer, engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and

Whereas, it is appropriate to recognize the value and the accomplishments of emergency medical services providers by designating Emergency Medical Services Week; now

Therefore, I, Roy B. Costner, III, in recognition of this event do hereby proclaim the week of May 19-25, 2019, as: EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK

With the theme, EMS Strong: Stronger Together, I encourage the community to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities.

SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE NO. 570 TO PROVIDE FOR ADOPTION OF A BUDGET AMENDMENT CONTAINING ESTIMATES OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE CHANGES FOR PICKENS COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2018 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2019.

- Chairman Costner asked for a motion to constitute the second reading of Ordinance 570. Motion was made by Councilman Ensley Feemster, seconded by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers and carried unanimously (6-0).

SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE NO. 569 TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES IN PICKENS COUNTY FOR ORDINARY COUNTY PURPOSES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2019, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2020, AND TO DIRECT EXPENDITURE THEREOF.

- Chairman Costner asked for a motion to constitute the second reading of Ordinance 569. Motion was made by Councilman Ensley Feemster, seconded by Councilman Carl Hudson and carried unanimously (6-0).

SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE NO. 568 TO DEVELOP A JOINTLY OWNED AND OPERATED INDUSTRIAL/BUSINESS PARK IN CONJUNCTION WITH OCONEE COUNTY, SUCH INDUSTRIAL/BUSINESS PARK TO BE GEOGRAPHICALLY LOCATED IN OCONEE COUNTY AND ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS 1976, SECTION 4-1-170 ET SEQ., AS AMENDED; TO PROVIDE FOR A WRITTEN AGREEMENT WITH OCONEE COUNTY PROVIDING FOR THE EXPENSES OF THE PARK, THE PERCENTAGE OF REVENUE APPLICATION, AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF FEES IN LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAX; AND MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

- Chairman Costner asked for a motion to constitute the second reading of Ordinance 568. Motion was made by Vice Chairman Bowers, seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster and carried unanimously (6-0).

SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE NO. 573 ESTABLISHING A TRUST FUND FOR INDIGENT MEDICAL TREATMENT IN PICKENS COUNTY PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE MEDICAL INDIGENT ASSISTANCE ACT; TO FURTHER DEFINE REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES FOR DISBURSEMENT FROM THE TRUST FUND; AND MATTER RELATED THERETO.

- Chairman Costner asked for a motion to constitute the second reading of Ordinance 573. Motion was made by Vice Chairman Bowers, and seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster. Chairman Roy Costner asked if there was any discussion.
 - Councilman Trey Whitehurst asked Vice Chairman Chris Bowers if this was the topic talking about the way we pay the money to the state, and is this something we would like to move to Committee to discuss.
 - Vice Chairman Chris Bowers made a motion we move Ordinance 573 to Committee of the Whole for discussion. Motion was seconded by Councilman Trey Whitehurst and carried unanimously (6-0) to move this Ordinance to the Committee for further discussion.
- Seeing no other discussion, motion to constitute the second reading of Ordinance 573 was carried unanimously (6-0).

SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE NO. 572 AMENDING ARTICLE I OF CHAPTER 34 OF THE PICKENS COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES SO AS TO PROVIDE REMEDIES AND PENALTIES FOR ILLEGAL LITTER AND DUMPING IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF PICKENS COUNTY, AND MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

- Chairman Costner asked for a motion to constitute the second reading of Ordinance 572. Motion was made by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers, and seconded by Councilman Carl Hudson. Chairman Roy Costner asked if there was any discussion.
 - Councilman Wes Hendricks had a question regarding Section 34-3, stating when he takes his trash to the recycling center, the bags are covered and there is nothing loose to where it would blow out of the truck. He asked if this falls in the law of 34-3-A, or is he violating the law.
 - Councilman Trey Whitehurst made a motion we move Ordinance 572 to Committee of the Whole for discussion. Motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers and carried unanimously (6-0) to move this Ordinance to the Committee for further discussion.
- Seeing no other discussion, motion to constitute the second reading of Ordinance 572 was carried unanimously (6-0).

SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE NO. 571 AMENDING THE UNIFORM ORDINANCE FOR FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICTS (AS PREVIOUSLY ENACTED BY ORDINANCE NO. 404, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. 405) TO ABOLISH THE GOVERNING BOARDS FOR EACH OF THE FIRE SERVICE DISTRICTS AND TO PROVIDE THAT EACH OF THE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICTS SHALL BE OPERATED AS AN ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION OF PICKENS COUNTY; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO.

- Chairman Roy Costner asked for a motion to constitute the second reading of Ordinance 571. Motion was made by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers, seconded by Councilman Wes Hendricks and carried unanimously (6-0).

THIRD READING OF AN ORDINANCE NO. 567 TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF A NOT EXCEEDING THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$300,000) GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND, SERIES 2019 (VINEYARDS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT) OF PICKENS COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, TO PRESCRIBE THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH THE PROCEEDS SHALL BE EXPENDED, TO PROVIDE FOR THE PAYMENT THEREOF, AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO.

- Chairman Roy Costner asked for a motion to constitute the third reading of Ordinance 567. Motion was made by Councilman Hendricks, seconded by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers and carried unanimously (6-0).

PUBLIC HEARING AND THIRD READING OF AN ORDINANCE NO. 566 DECLARING CERTAIN LOTS WITHIN THE QUAIL HAVEN SUBDIVISION AS SURPLUS, PLACING THEREON RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS, AND AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE OF SAID LOTS, AND MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

Chairman Roy Costner opened the public hearing for comments regarding Ordinance No. 566. Seeing none, Chairman Costner closed the public hearing.

- Chairman Roy Costner asked for a motion to constitute the third reading of Ordinance 566. Motion was made by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers, seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster and carried unanimously (6-0).

EXECUTIVE SESSION: S.C. Code of Laws, Section 30-4-70 (a):

Chairman Roy Costner called for a motion to convene into Executive Session as defined by S.C. Code of Laws, Section 30-4-70 (a). Chairman Roy Costner further stated that each issue would be discussed as the Law provides.

- Motion was made by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers, seconded by Councilman Carl Hudson and carried unanimously, to convene in executive session for the stated purposes after a five minute recess.

Personnel – Section 30-4-70 (a) (1)

- HR Request
- Employee Retention

Contractual Issues – Section 30-4-70 (a) (2)

- Memorandum of Understanding
- Contractual Issue

Legal Issues – Section 30-4-70 (a) (2)

- Insurance Committee Contracts

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

- Board and Commission Vacancies (80):
 - a) Accommodations Tax (ATAX)
 - b) Alcohol and Drug/Behavioral Health
 - c) Anderson, Oconee, Pickens Mental Health

- d) Appalachian Council of Gov. (ACOG)
- e) Assessment and Appeals
- f) Beautification Committee
- g) Bethlehem Roanoke Water
- h) Construction Board of Appeals
- i) Cultural Commission
- j) Easley Central Water Board
- k) Economic Development Alliance
- l) Emergency Services Advisory Board
- m) GPATS
- n) Library Board of Directors
- o) Pickens County Grievance Committee
- p) Pickens, Oconee, Anderson Mental Health
- q) Planning Commission
- r) Public Service Commission
- s) Sedgewood Tax District
- t) Six Mile Rural Water
- u) Southside Rural Water
- v) Water Authority
- w) Tourism Board
- x) Worklink
- y) Zoning and Appeals
- z) *Hagood Mill Non-Profit Corporation Board
- aa) *Performing Arts Center Non-Profit Corporation Board
- bb) *Pickens County Museum Non-Profit Corporation Board

ACTION AS NEEDED VIA EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS:

Chairman Roy Costner called the Public Session back to Order and advised the following:

Personnel – Section 30-4-70 (a) (1)

- HR Request – **No Action Taken**
- Employee Retention – **No Action Taken**

Contractual Issues – Section 30-4-70 (a) (2)

- Memorandum of Understanding – **No Action Taken**
- Contractual Issue – **No Action Taken**

Legal Issues – Section 30-4-70 (a) (2)

- Insurance Committee Contracts – **No Action Taken**

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

- Board and Commission Vacancies (80):
 - a) Accommodations Tax (ATAX) – **No Action**
 - b) Alcohol and Drug/Behavioral Health – **No Action**
 - c) Anderson, Oconee, Pickens Mental Health – **Moved to recommend Lisa Carpenter, and Bob Nash to serving on the Anderson, Oconee, Pickens**

Mental Health Board.

- d) Appalachian Council of Gov. (ACOG) – **No Action**
- e) Assessment and Appeals – **No Action**
- f) Beautification Committee – **No Action**
- g) Bethlehem Roanoke Water – **No Action**
- h) Construction Board of Appeals – **Moved to appoint Chris Elrod, and Phillip Greer to the Construction Board of Appeals**
- i) Cultural Commission – **No Action**
- j) Easley Central Water Board – **No Action**
- k) Economic Development Alliance – **No Action**
- l) Emergency Services Advisory Board – **No Action**
- m) GPATS – **No Action**
- n) Library Board of Directors – **No Action**
- o) Pickens County Grievance Committee – **No Action**
- p) Pickens, Oconee, Anderson Mental Health – **No Action**
- q) Planning Commission – **No Action**
- r) Public Service Commission – **No Action**
- s) Sedgewood Tax District – **No Action**
- t) Six Mile Rural Water – **No Action**
- u) Southside Rural Water – **No Action**
- v) Water Authority – **No Action**
- w) Tourism Board – **No Action**
- x) Worklink – **No Action**
- y) Zoning and Appeals – **No Action**
- z) *Hagood Mill Non-Profit Corporation Board – **No Action**
- aa) *Performing Arts Center Non-Profit Corporation Board – **No Action**
- bb) *Pickens County Museum Non-Profit Corporation Board – **No Action**

- o Chairman Roy Costner asked for a motion to appoint the following people to these boards. Motion was made by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers, seconded by Councilman Carl Hudson and carried unanimously (6-0).

ADJOURN:

Hearing no further Council business, Chairman Roy Costner called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers, seconded by Councilman Wes Hendricks and carried unanimously (6-0). Pickens County Council stood adjourned at 9:52 p.m.

Respectively Submitted:

Approved:

Meagan Bradford, Clerk to Council

Roy B. Costner, III, Chairman of County Council