

July 19, 2010
Regular Council Meeting
6:30 PM

County Council met in regular session, in the Auditorium, County Administration Facility, with Chairman Neil Smith presiding. Agendas, bearing date, time, and location of meeting were mailed to Council members and local news media, July 13, 2010.

Council Members in attendance:

G. Neil Smith, Chairman
Jennifer H. Willis, Vice Chairman
James London
Randy Crenshaw
Sam Wyche

Absent: Tom Ponder

Staff: J. Chappell Hurst, County Administrator
Ken Roper, County Attorney
Donna Owen, Clerk to Council

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Smith called the meeting of July 19, 2010 to order and welcomed those in attendance. Mrs. Willis was further recognized for the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Chairman Smith advised the Clerk to Council to read the list of citizens who request to participate in Public Forum.

- 1) Ed Ninestein- Mr. Ninestein came before Council to inform them that the 2010 Census has improved in the state of South Carolina as compared to the 2000 Census. Mr. Ninestein reported South Carolina ranked 49th in response during the 2000 Census, and is currently ranking at number 24. Mr. Ninestein thanked Council for all the assistance the 2010 Census has received on a local level.
- 2) Citizens Junius Smith, Jim McDonald, Bob Fondry, Philip Smith, MaryBeth Green, Melvin Watson, and Lisa Flaughner. These citizens all spoke to Council regarding the Comprehensive Plan that is being discussed by the Pickens County Planning Commission. Many citizens informed Council about their concern that the Planning Commission is ignoring citizen input, and even stated that they were not representative of Pickens County. The citizens also explained that many of the residents are not aware of the Comprehensive Plan because it is only in libraries and on the internet, which makes it difficult for local citizens and older citizens to obtain needed information. The group also sited information about Agenda 21, the United Nations, and how the Comprehensive Plan is part of a design that will greatly limit local authority. Junius Smith made reference to State Law, Section 629-540. The group insisted that Council not pass the Comprehensive Plan.
- 3) Philip Smith- On a separate issue, Mr. Smith requested that Council place recycling cans at all City/County events such as the 4th of July celebrations, and the Azalea Festival. Mr. Smith

stated he had been a patron at several local festivals and recycling bins would be a good idea since the County promotes the recycling efforts.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Jennifer Willis moved to approve the June 21, 2010 minutes. Motion was seconded by James London and unanimously passed. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:

New Pickens County Website: Mr. Hurst asked Council to see the new website presentation. Tonya Suddeth and Brian Ritter demonstrated the new website and allowed the citizens and Council to view updated qualities. Mr. Ritter stated the website gets over 35,000 visits per month. It was pointed out that staff can maintain many items on the website without contracting the service to an outside vendor.

Recycling Stations: Lou Holder, Pickens County recycling Coordinator, explained to Council about a recent complaint at one of the recycling centers. Ms. Holder stated that when a business comes to the recycling station, they are asked to go to the landfill because the recycling centers are a service for residential household refuse only. Ms. Holder stated it was difficult when a truck comes in with business logos to discern if the debris is household or business. However, the complaints have become fewer and citizens are understanding that the recycling centers are for residents of Pickens County, and is household disposal, not commercial.

Mr. Hurst reiterated that the centers have been spot checking for out of county residents.

Public Works Department: Mr. Hurst reminded Council that many positions in the county were not being filled at the time due to economic factors. However, Mr. Hurst stated he was particularly proud of the Public Works Department as they have more than doubled the amount of current work orders (from 750 to over 1900) but have remained effective and efficient. Mr. Hurst also stated that over half of the minimum maintenance roads have been tar and graveled using the funds that Council has set aside for the minimum maintenance project.

Monitors – Mr. Hurst reported that DHEC is no longer mandating the monitoring of the wells at the landfill. Mr. Hurst stated the lists of elements that have to be monitored have decreased.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administration and Finance –Chairman Smith gave the following report.

Item	Description	Referred	Action
13	Historic building reinvestment district Retained 12/2009	05/04/09	>>Staff will bring back to committee the criteria and cost associated with a reinvestment district.
30	Security issues for buildings and parking lots	02/16/2010	

31	<u>Accommodations Tax recommendations</u>	04/19/2010	>>Committee approved the recommendations as presented. Proposal will go to full council. (a-tax file)
32	<u>Compensation/comparison study</u>	05/03/2010	>>Council recommends this item being on the agenda for presentation to full council. >>presentation on the August agenda.

COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE:

Chairman Smith noted a transportation meeting tomorrow (July 20) at 10:00 AM in the Administration building.

MOTION PERIOD AND NEW BUSINESS:

Chairman Smith opened the floor for new motions.

- Jennifer Willis moved to add a personnel issue to the executive session. Sam Wyche gave the second and the motion unanimously passed.
- Randy Crenshaw moved to add a contractual issue to the executive session, Sam Wyche gave the second and the motion unanimously passed.
- Neil Smith moved to add a personnel issue to the executive session. Randy Crenshaw gave the second and the motion unanimously passed.

Hearing no further motions, Chairman Smith closed Motion Period.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AS IT RELATES TO POWERSVILLE ROAD PROJECT AND TRI-COUNTY TECHNICAL COLLEGE:

- Motion was made by Sam Wyche, seconded by Jennifer Willis and unanimously passed to approve the MOU for the Tri County Technical College funding.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Proposed Ordinance for Pickens County- Administration and Finance
Up Yonder Road- Public Service Committee

- Motion was made by Jennifer Willis, seconded by Randy Crenshaw and unanimously passed to approve the consent agenda.

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE HIGH BID \$2,840,050.00 FOR PROPERTY KNOWN AS THE TRI-COUNTY LANDFILL PROPERTY, CURRENTLY OWNED BY ANDERSON, OCONEE, AND PICKENS COUNTIES:

- Motion was made by James London, seconded by Jennifer Willis to correct the amount in the resolution to state **\$2,845,050**. Motion was unanimously passed.
- Motion was made by Chairman Smith, seconded by Jennifer Willis and unanimously passed to approve Resolution No. 2010-06 as amended.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE CLOSING DOCUMENTS IN ORDER TO COMPLETE THE PURCHASE (PURSUANT TO THE HIGH BID OF \$2,840,050.00 AS MADE BY PICKENS COUNTY) OF THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS THE TRI-COUNTY LANDFILL PROPERTY:

- Motion was made by James London, seconded by Jennifer Willis and unanimously passed to correct the amount in the resolution to state **\$2,845,050**.
- Motion was made by Chairman Smith, seconded by Jennifer Willis and unanimously passed to approve resolution No. 2010-07 as amended.

PUBLIC HEARING AND THIRD READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 432 TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF A NOTE EXCEEDING ONE MILLION DOLLARS (\$1,000,000) GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND, SERIES 2010 OF PICKENS COUNTY SOUTH CAROLINA TO PRESCRIBE THE PURPOSES OF WHICH THE PROCEEDS SHALL BE EXPENDED TO PROVIDE FOR THE PAYMENT THEREOF AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO.

Chairman Smith opened up the public hearing and asked if any citizens request to speak regarding Ordinance No. 432.

Attorney, Lawrence Flynn explained to the public the meaning of a bond ordinance and estimated better interest rates for said bonds.

- Motion was made by Jennifer Willis, seconded by Sam Wyche and unanimously passed that this constitutes a third and final reading of Ordinance No. 432.

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 433 TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 384 RELATING TO THE INDUSTRIAL/BUSINESS PARK OF OCONEE AND PICKENS COUNTIES SO AS TO ENLARGE THE PARK:

- Motion was made by Jennifer Willis, seconded by Sam Wyche and unanimously passed that this constitutes a second reading of Ordinance No. 433.

FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A BOND ANTICIPATION NOTE IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF ONE MILLION SIX HUNDRED EIGHTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,680,000) BY PICKENS COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA IN ANTICIPATION OF THE RECEIPT OF THE PROCEEDS OF THE SALE OF A GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND OF PICKENS COUNTY, AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO.

Mr. Flynn explained this was part of the USDA funding and will be borrowed and reimbursed for the construction of the sewer plant.

- Motion was made by James London, seconded by Jennifer Willis and unanimously passed that this constitutes a first reading of a bond anticipation notice.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- Motion was made by Randy Crenshaw, seconded by Jennifer Willis and unanimously passed to convene in executive session for all items stated and amended.

Contractual Issues -(2) 1 added during motion period
 Personnel issues-(2) added during motion period
 Legal updates

Boards and Appointments –
 Board of Assessment Appeals
 Alliance Pickens
 Planning Commission

Public session reconvened:

Public session reconvened:

Chairman Smith called the public session back to order and allowed the following motions.

Pickens Alliance:

- Motion was made by Chairman Smith, seconded by Randy Crenshaw and unanimously passed to appoint Tom Strange as the District 4 representative.
- Motion was made by Jennifer Willis, seconded by Randy Crenshaw and unanimously passed to appoint Emily DeRoberts as the District 5 representative.

County Board of Assessment:

- Jennifer Willis moved to appoint Michael Thomas, Mark Patterson, Jerry Owens, Robert Pilgrim, and Allen Holloway to the Board of Assessment Appeals. Motion was seconded by James London and unanimously passed. (names will be submitted to the governor)

ADJOURN:

Hearing no further business, Chairman Smith called for the motion to adjourn. Motion was made by James London, seconded by Jennifer Willis and unanimously passed. Pickens County Council stood adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Respectively Submitted:

Approved:

Donna F. Owen Clerk to Council

G. Neil Smith, Chairman
Pickens County Council