

## **Regular Pickens County Council Meeting**

February 3, 2020

6:34 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 January 27, 2020.

### Council Members in Attendance:

Roy Costner, Chairman

Chris Bowers, Vice Chairman

Wes Hendricks, Vice Chairman Pro-Tem

Carl Hudson

Trey Whitehurst

Ensley Feemster

### Staff in Attendance:

Ken Roper, County Acting Administrator

Meagan Bradford, Clerk to Council

Les Hendricks, Contract County Attorney

### **WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Roy Costner called the meeting of February 3, 2020 to order and welcomed those in attendance. Councilman Trey Whitehurst led the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Josh, with Southern Wesleyan University, sang the National Anthem.

### **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. Allan Quinn: Mr. Quinn thanked Council for allowing him to speak again. He stated he is speaking regarding the lack of Economic Development in Pickens County. He advised that some of Council thinks we are doing okay in Economic Development, compared to the other five counties who belong in the Appalachian Council of Government. He stated that other members of Council spoke reasons that have been passed along by Alliance Pickens, Upstate Alliance, and others. He stated one of the reasons he heard was that Pickens County land is "too hilly." He stated to an extent, this is true. Mr. Quinn advised that around Highway 11, it is pretty steep, but in the lower part of the County, this is not true. After more discussion, Mr. Quinn stated it seems that Oconee County is building their new commerce park on Highway 11. He stated it is a very mountainous land, but they are moving dirt and building. He stated the new commerce park in Anderson County on Highway 76 is on pasture land. He stated tons of dirt had to be moved whether it was industrial or residential. Mr. Quinn stated to make his point that reason has been around for many years. Mr. Quinn advised another reason given was that land was too expensive in Pickens County. He stated they did a survey of lot parcels in Pickens County, Greenville County and Anderson County. He stated Pickens County consistently came up around 25% cheaper than the other counties. He stated that land is not getting any cheaper and the future is getting ready to sky rocket. Mr. Quinn stated this is another reason to get the proactive here before Greenville covers us up with low wage, undesirable jobs. He stated the last excuse he has been hearing is the train does not stop here anymore. He stated the train does not stop anywhere. After more discussion, he stated next month at the Council meeting he will be talking about highways in Pickens County.

2. Franklin Reynolds: Mr. Reynolds stated he is there to speak on behalf of Clemson Paw Partners. He stated a couple of weeks ago, Clemson Paw Partners approached Council regarding a partnership and he is there this evening to support them. He stated what they are doing is a good thing. Mr. Reynolds introduced Gaston, his new dog. He stated a few weeks ago, they were on a hunting trip and they found Gaston and two of her siblings dumped in McCormick County. He stated they were living by an old trash pile that was dumped. Mr. Reynolds stated Gaston was the smallest, weighing 7lbs when he found her. He stated she did not have a body temperature when they carried her to the vet. He stated that she now weighs over 12lbs. Mr. Reynolds stated what Clemson Paw Partners does comes from the heart. He stated when he found these three dogs, Margaret Thompson was the first one his wife called and the only questions they asked was where do we need to meet you and what time do we need to be there. He stated we carried them to the vet and Clemson Paw Partners paid the bill. Mr. Reynolds stated he could have paid it but it would have taken a lot of his savings. He stated Clemson Paw Partners stepped up and now all three of these puppies have good homes. He stated he encourages Council to move forward with this Partnership.
  
3. Margaret Thompson: Ms. Thompson stated she would like to follow up after Mr. Reynolds. She stated she met them at Magnolia Hospital when he found the three dogs. She stated on the way down there, she was thinking how when you go to the Emergency Room Vet Hospital on the weekends, it is not cheap. Ms. Thompson stated for the three dogs, it cost Clemson Paw Partners over \$1,000, and that is not including the follow up appointments that will need to be done. She stated this same week; they had a dog who was hit by a car on Belle Shoals Road. She stated she went out there personally to pick the dog up and took it in. After a few broken bones, Ms. Thompson stated Clemson Animal Hospital let her bring the dog right in to perform the surgery. She stated the surgery would have cost them over \$10,000 if they would have taken it to Upstate Vet or Greenville. She stated Upstate vet is corporate and their prices are set by corporation. Ms. Thompson stated they are trying to establish is a low cost clinic in Pickens County where people do not have to mortgage their house or get a credit card. After more discussion, she stated there is no doubt the business will be there, as she has a stack of applications now for people waiting to make an appointment to get their animal in. She stated they charge them \$85, and that is the price for them to get spayed/neutered, one year rabies & microchip. She stated the microchip alone is \$42. Ms. Thompson stated they have had generous donors who believe in their cause and this needs to be done sooner than later. Ms. Thompson stated she would like to get out and fundraise to equip the place. She stated she does not want any handout from the county, that she can handle this herself, but we do need to move forward.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

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

- January 6, 2020
  - Motion was made by Councilman Ensley Feemster, seconded by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers and the motion carried (5-0), with Councilman Carl Hudson recused.

#### **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

##### **Update on Agenda Item #9**

Mr. Roper stated Mr. Richard Few of Parker Poe, attorney for Gibbs International, Inc., has requested by phone that the third reading be postponed to next month's Council meeting. He stated the public hearing will still take place this evening since it has been noticed in the newspaper. He stated a motion will need to be made to postpone the third reading until a later date.

#### **Director of Public Works & County Engineer**

Mr. Roper introduced D. Mack Kelley, Jr., PE, PLS, CFM to Council, stating he has been on the job for a couple weeks. He stated Mr. Kelley is the new Director of Public Works & new County Engineer, as well as over the Roads and Bridges Program, Solid Waste, & the Animal Shelter.

#### **Road User Fee**

Mr. Roper stated on the agenda this evening, there will be a presentation from Attorney C.D. Rhodes for one option regarding how Pickens County can replace the road user fee. He stated some council members have mentioned other ideas they have, and this is conversation that can have pitfalls. He stated social media has taken off with end of the process assumptions, and tonight we are going to hear a little more from the Pope Flynn staff on what that option could be.

#### **Litter Control Update**

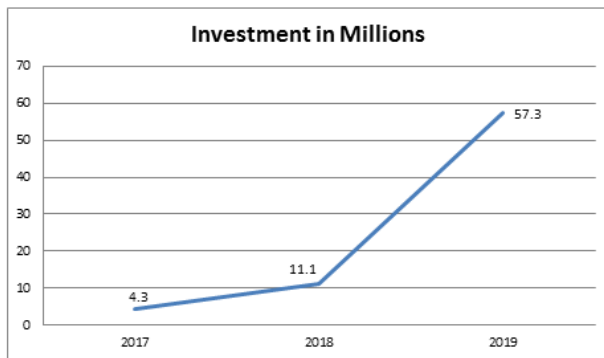
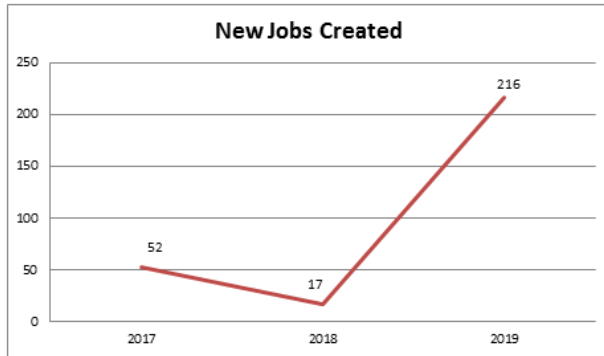
Mr. Roper stated he wanted to update Council on the Litter Control Hotline. He stated if any citizen has a concern with Litter to please call the Litter Control Hotline at (864) 898-5256. He stated you will need to leave a message, and Chris Carroll, our Litter Control officer, will figure out if it is a county or city road and follow the appropriate steps. Mr. Roper stated the funding for Mr. Carroll's position is a funding grant through Palmetto Pride, and Mr. Carroll must keep a daily log of his activities. Mr. Roper showed a few examples of Mr. Carroll's litter log. He stated the public is encouraged to continue to call in.

#### **Broaden Economic Development – Council Goals**

Mr. Roper stated this evening; we are going to receive more information on Goal #2: Broaden Economic Development. He stated a lot of this will be done tonight in executive session because it is proposed contractual issues. Mr. Roper presented a data point, stating they have looked at how Pickens County has done in 2019 according to the SC Department of Commerce. He presented two charts; one being new jobs created and the other investment in millions. He stated there are major trend lines in both of these charts from when this Council formed in 2017 to 2019.

**Pickens County Economic Development Information**

Based on Economic Development Announcements according to SC Department of Commerce



**Proposed Contractual Consulting Services**

Mr. Roper asked Council if they will consider adding to Executive Session a proposed contractual consulting services possibility.

Seeing no other discussion, Mr. Roper concluded, stating he will be happy to answer any questions from Council.

Vice Chairman Chris Bowers asked where we stand on opening up a centralized recycling center in the County on Wednesdays.

Mr. Roper stated it is important and Mr. Kelley, the new Public Works Director, has talked about it and he is looking at different avenues and will be coming back with a proposal to council soon.

Councilman Trey Whitehurst asked if staff has found out any other information regarding the Clemson Paw Partners proposal.

Mr. Roper stated he would like to fully investigate this issue, and they have a proposed location but we are doing all of our due diligence to make sure the location is workable. He stated he has discussed with Ms. Thompson and they are excited about the possibility. He stated he has a meeting on Thursday at the facility.

Chairman Roy Costner stated he will be adding to the Consent Agenda during Motion Period and New Business, but he would like to start the discussion to move forward.

Councilman Trey Whitehurst stated he would like to add on the discussion regarding paving the roads that he would like us to look into the possibility of the cost of actually having our own asphalt plan. He stated he feels there is not a lot of competition in the asphalt business in South Carolina. He stated he would like to look at what it would cost us.

Mr. Roper stated he will gather this information and give a good estimate. He stated there are no bad ideas at this point. He stated he will gather more information and report back to Council.

### **COMMITTEE REPORT:**

**The Committee of the Whole met in the Main Conference Room, at the Pickens County Administration Facility, on Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at 6:00 PM. All members of the committee were in attendance, with Chairman Roy Costner presiding.**

### **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE:**

#### **Boards and Commissions Discussion – Log No. 130**

- Ms. Meagan Bradford, Clerk to Council, started the discussion stating Vice Chairman Bowers had asked her to look into how other counties run their boards and commissions. She stated she reached out to the Greenville Clerk to Council and met with her beginning of November. Ms. Bradford stated Greenville County only does appointments twice a year. They have a spring cycle, and a fall cycle. She stated the Spring Cycle accepts applications from January 1-31<sup>st</sup>, and those terms begin on June 1<sup>st</sup>. The Fall Cycle accepts applications from July 1-31<sup>st</sup>, and those terms begin on December 1<sup>st</sup>. She stated that the Greenville Clerk updates Council on all applications received during the month they are open. Ms. Bradford also presented Council with Greenville County's website under Boards and Commissions. She stated on their website, they have each board listed, as well as a description and the roster for each board. She stated this is one of the things she has requested be on the new Pickens County website.
- Vice Chairman Chris Bowers stated he asked for this to be on the Consent Agenda so it could be discussed during Committee of the Whole. He stated one of the things we have looked into is how do we handle board members who are no longer active and whose responsibility is it to handle those individuals. He stated he wants to make sure we are keeping agenda and minutes on file, all board members rosters, attendance, etc. He stated we have a structure in place but there is no continuation for this structure. Vice Chairman Bowers stated we always meet in executive session every month during Council Meetings to discuss Boards and Commissions. He stated it feels like a constant revolving door that you never can keep up. He stated that the Clerk met with Greenville Clerk to discuss how they ran their boards and commissions, and he thinks Council should think about meeting 2 or 4 times a year during executive session to discuss. Vice Chairman Bowers stated this conversation sparked when we are trying to figure out how we handle those individuals who are not showing up to meetings, etc. He stated the Clerk also stated that every board member who is appointed goes through an orientation and receives a notebook filled with expectations of time, service, FOIA laws, etc.
- Chairman Costner asked if Greenville has run into any problems in the past only having two appointment dates per year.
- Ms. Bradford stated not that she is aware. She stated if you look on page 6 of their policy, they have a section that talks about Emergency Application Process for the boards that need members ASAP to have a quorum. She stated they open a window for 10 days to receive applications, and at the next Council Meeting following those ten days, it will be on the agenda to appoint someone to that board.
- Vice Chairman Chris Bowers stated he feels some of their process seem to be streamline and more efficient. He stated the idea is to make sure people know what board they are serving on and the expectations expected. He stated we have put people on boards and commissions who either show up once or do not show up at all.
- Chairman Costner asked if we have a policy in place to train these board members on all the information they need.
- Mr. Roper stated the new board members in the past receive a copy of the Resolution passed regarding Boards and Commission, and also, depending on the board, they receive other things from staff. Mr. Roper stated this degree of formality will serve us well in the long run.
- Councilman Whitehurst asked Mr. Roper if he put together a training program for the new members in the

past.

- Mr. Roper stated he does a bi-annual training that new members are required to go to. He stated a system like this will be more predictable and make us more proactive.
- Councilman Whitehurst stated we do spend a lot of time each meeting to discuss boards and commissions applications in executive session. He asked the Clerk if she asked Greenville if there was anything they could do differently, what would they do.
- The Clerk stated that she will email her to see if there is anything they would do differently. She stated that the Clerk in Greenville has someone who works under her, and that lady is in charge of making sure she's received all the agendas and minutes for every meeting, keeps up with all attendance, etc. She stated she feels that Kendyl, the receptionist for Administration, could help her with this.
- Mr. Roper stated some boards are better than others on sending those agendas and minutes in. He stated it is up to Meagan to continue to pester these boards to send them in.
- After more discussion, Vice Chairman Chris Bowers stated he likes the way Greenville County's website is under Boards and Commissions. He stated you can click on a board or commission and see the description, the roster and the dates their term expires.
- Chairman Costner asked how far along we are on our website before it goes live.
- Mr. Roper stated the Clerk has asked over the past few months on helping get more defined descriptions on these boards.
- Chairman Costner stated he has had a lot of people ask what boards they can serve on and it is hard to defer to the vacancy list they receive each month at council meetings.
- After more discussion, Councilman Whitehurst stated he would like to look at the new policy before moving forward.
- Councilman Hendricks asked if the expiration dates would still have staggered expiration dates so not everyone comes off the board at one time.
- Mr. Roper stated yes. He stated he feels we should bring more information before Council makes a decision.
- After more discussion, Vice Chairman Bowers stated he likes the structure behind Greenville's policy and he feels it will make things a lot easier.
- Chairman Costner stated if we had the opportunity on where we know on the date we will meet all applicants before filling positions, which would be very helpful.
- Councilman Whitehurst stated this would be showing interest on the applicant's part as well, where they will have to branch out and come meet us in an interview process.
- The Clerk stated that for example, applications would be due for upcoming expirations January 1-31, so that would give Council a couple of months to meet the applicants, call them, etc.
- Councilman Whitehurst stated we will need to do some good marketing to get this out to people so they understand this.
- Councilman Wes Hendricks asked if there are any other weaknesses noticed that has not been mentioned. He asked the clerk if there are any other things in her role that would make this go smoother and better.
- The Clerk stated she likes the thought of the receptionist help get the agenda and minutes from every board or commission meeting. She stated she would also like to ask the Greenville Clerk is there anything they would do differently and bring it back to Council.
- Vice Chairman Bowers stated he is all about structure, and this will be more structured for our staff to help them be better at their jobs. He stated you can't necessarily hold a volunteer board member accountable like you can a staff member. He stated he feels it will help them.
- After more discussion between Council, Chairman Costner asked that this Log Item be added to the February Committee of the Whole agenda. He asked staff to create a template for Council to start off of.

❖ **No Action Taken by the Committee.**

- **Council Action on Log No. 130: No Action Taken by the Committee.**

**Census Discussion – Log No. 138**

- Mr. Roper stated this is a Census Year and he discussed this a little during the Administrators Report at the last council meeting. He stated Staff has been hard at work since last November when the Census staff contacted them. He stated a lot of people do not realize this, but Census is required by the Constitution and we have to do Census every 10 years. Mr. Roper stated it is not talking about citizenship, voting rights, etc. but instead, talking

about what person happens in what area on April 1<sup>st</sup> of this year. He stated it does not matter your economic classification, all that matters is there a person in that dwelling on April 1<sup>st</sup>. He stated the Pickens County GIS Department submitted over 10,000 residential addresses this past year to the Census Cartographers, so they could update their address file. He stated this will help ensure that all citizens of Pickens County will be contacted by the Census. He stated the issues for government is making sure that all citizens are counted, because if you undercount, you are losing funding for highways, social programs, etc. He stated our own local government fund, the way this is going to be calculated in future years will be based on percentage growth. Mr. Roper stated as Pickens County is clearly growing, we are not growing as fast as Greenville, Charleston, etc. He stated we could lose too much in the local government fund if we do not count every citizen.

- After more discussion, Mr. Roper stated he was told by the Census Representative that he needed to appoint someone to head up the “Complete Count Committee.” He stated he appointed Jimmy Threatt, GIS Director, is the head of the Complete County Committee and everyday he is coming up with new ideas on how we can find people who weren’t counted last time, who will be counted this time. Mr. Roper stated he speaks Census.
- Chairman Costner asked why people do not want to be counted.
- Mr. Roper stated there is a certain amount of misunderstanding. He stated there are myths about people using the Census as a scam to try to gather people who are private. He stated they need to understand is that it is illegal for the Census department to share your information with anyone for 75 years. He stated after 75 years, this information becomes public. He stated the 1945 Census is about to be unveiled.
- After more discussion, Mr. Roper stated as their part in this, they are also trying to find Census Workers. They pay is \$15 an hour and they provide you with the training, and equipment you need. Mr. Roper stated if you live in a gated community, or even a mobile home park, they would love to have you do the Census in your community. He stated the issue we have is the under reported census tracks in the last census. He stated you will notice that Central and Clemson are two of the most unreported in Pickens County. He stated Central and Clemson have students from Clemson University and Southern Wesleyan. Mr. Roper stated he has talked to some of the members on the Complete Count Committee from Central and they are very adamant that they want to count all the student housing because it impacts their funding for road projects. Mr. Roper stated they have provided the Gleaning House with 500 flyers to be distributed in food boxes. He stated this should help with people who are hard to count. Mr. Roper stated they have also put palm cards at the front desk of Human Resources, they have put Census Signs up at each of the county recycling centers to reach citizens, and they are planning to publicize the flyers on social media. Mr. Roper stated they have a census information display at the Administration Building to catch taxpayer’s attention, which includes a looping video and a poster that focuses on the importance of the Census. Mr. Roper stated we need to remind citizens that Census will be trying to get in touch with them over the next few weeks via mail, social media, cell phone, etc.

❖ **No Action taken by the Committee.**

- **Council Action on Log No. 138: No Action Taken by the Committee.**

**Mental Health – Log No. 134**

- Mr. Roper stated Council Members and citizens have pointed out in Council Meetings that Pickens County is a highly ranked in the state in suicide rate. He stated he did not have any good policy proposals to bring to Council so he formed an adhoc committee to get together to discuss. Mr. Roper advised in the last couple of months, they have had meetings that included staff from Behavioral Health Services in Pickens County, SC Department of Mental Health, Coroner, Human Resources, Sheriff, Fire Employees, EMS and Ms. Varney acted as a Secretary. He stated they discussed some of the areas where they thought they could develop policies to bring to Council. He stated they are still in the process of this but the minutes from these meetings are including in the agenda packet. Mr. Roper stated one of the things they are working on is how we train our first responders to recognize people who may be having suicidal thoughts. He stated what we could do to follow up after our first responders have found that information. Mr. Roper stated the have a Lunch and Learn Suicide Prevention scheduled in the next few weeks at the Pickens County Administration Facility. He stated the guests who will be presenting are: Zorrina Harmon, SC Firefighters’ Association; Chelsea Neal, Med, LPC, with Behavioral Health Services of Pickens County; and Dennis Gillan, Mental Health Advocate.



- Councilman Whitehurst asked how many suicides happened in 2019 in Pickens County.
- Mr. Roper stated he does not have that data in front of him.
- Councilman Whitehurst stated he would be interested in seeing specifically where they are. He stated he knows when he was at Clemson, there were professors and students. He stated Council needs to know if it's a problem more in that area, because we do not have a lot of authority in that area. He stated are these kids going to Clemson, or regular constituents.
- Vice Chairman Bowers stated this is coming from him, but from what he has seen personally, location, age, social economic status, etc. has literally been across the board. He stated he has not seen a targeted community more than another. He stated he has seen kids, to as old as 80 year olds. He stated the Coroner would have that information.
- Mr. Roper stated the Coroner, Kandy Kelley, has been very active in these adhoc committee meetings. He stated they need to come up with a better plan for first responders. He stated he looks at it as a two part problem; the first part is what's good for the community, and the second part is our 700+ county employees. He stated we need to be worried on how they are handling this.
- Chairman Costner stated not too long ago, he put on an event called "The Awakening." He stated this event happened once a month on a Wednesday, and at one of the events, they did a suicide awareness program. He stated there were probably 30-40 kids who would come. Chairman Costner stated when they had the suicide awareness event, we thought we were targeting the kids but the room was filled with adults. He asked what if we worked to create awareness events, not only where it deals with first responders, but the public to where people can come to find these things out. Chairman Costner stated his family has been touched by this and everyone knows someone who has made that choice. He stated they think it is a solution, but it winds up being permanent. He stated he wonders if the County could do things like this with other churches in the area.
- Vice Chairman Bowers stated he is sure things go on like this already, but it is not publicized like it should be. He stated he thinks when this mental health conversation got started; it was brought to Council's attention that we are #1 in the state. He stated this is not something to be proud of. Vice Chairman Bowers stated the key is it is going to take a village and plugging in funding.
- Mr. Roper stated the COPE Program is targeted at narcans administrations and opioids. He stated in the adhoc committee meetings, they were thinking about could we find a way to make that apply to suicides as well. Mr. Roper stated we do not know if this will work, but it is an idea.
- Vice Chairman Bowers stated if you identify the reason for the opioid overdose, it wasn't because people took too many pain pills because they were in pain. If it was an intentional overdose, it is actually starting that on a smaller scale. He stated as the COPE Program grows, you will be able to measure this.
- Councilman Ensley Feemster stated he believes the more we get this out, there will be more of those folks joining together. He stated this way; we will be able to cover the situation better.
- Councilman Carl Hudson stated from the law enforcement perspective, they go on a lot of calls that EMS does not go on. He stated he can think back on all the suicides that he worked, and he can't remember a specific group. Councilman Hudson stated in all the years he worked, he can't remember a specific group.
- Councilman Whitehurst asked Vice Chairman Bowers if he has seen any correlation between the opioids and the suicides. He stated not overdose, but people who may be dealing with this that state they cannot solve it.
- Vice Chairman Bowers stated demographics, gender and age plays into what the plan is and how you are going to do it. He stated the male is not going to be as worried about a violent situation, as where a female may be more likely to overdose. He stated he thinks your plan and method changes with age and demographics. He stated what you are able to get your hands on now, is a lot different than what you were able to get your hands on ten years ago. He stated the coroner has these statistics.
- Chairman Costner stated there are signs that are true no matter what the demographic is, but it is being able to recognize it and knowing who to talk to. He stated to him, it is as much as an education to the public in how we do this.
- Vice Chairman Bowers stated the COPE Program is already set up, and even the grant that covers the COPE Program only covers certain things. He stated as this program grows, we don't have enough now to look at the data and statistics to see if we could have done an intervention because it is new. He stated this is already in place at least for the opioid portion who are trying to end their life. HE stated it is a component for the whole. Vice Chairman Bowers stated the other portion of this is the follow up.



He stated prevention is key, but even then, you have to have the resources available. He stated the mental health program in the state of South Carolina has seen cuts over the years. He stated he thinks we have to strengthen the mental health in our community. He stated it was staggering to him when he saw the chart that had Pickens #1, Oconee #2, and Anderson #3 in the State. He stated he wanted to make this clear that he is not knocking the mental health program in our county, but we all fall under the AOP (Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens Mental Health). He stated it was also staggering to him the growth of suicides in our county when Sheriff Stone took office, and when Sheriff Stone retired. He stated it makes him question does the model of the AOP work for a large area, and are they able to do what they need to do? He stated he has reached out to members of our Delegation because the last thing he wants to do is for people to think he has negativity toward the Delegation. He stated he wants to try and help them get more help and resources.

- After more discussion, Councilman Whitehurst stated if we are in the top three, then who is in the bottom three and what are they doing. He stated he would like for staff to get in touch with the bottom three to see what they are doing.
- Vice Chairman Bowers stated there is nothing official planned with the delegation as of right now, but they are looking at other areas that have a set up like ours, and areas that are doing well. He stated this is something he is very passionate about and they are looking at this before going any further.

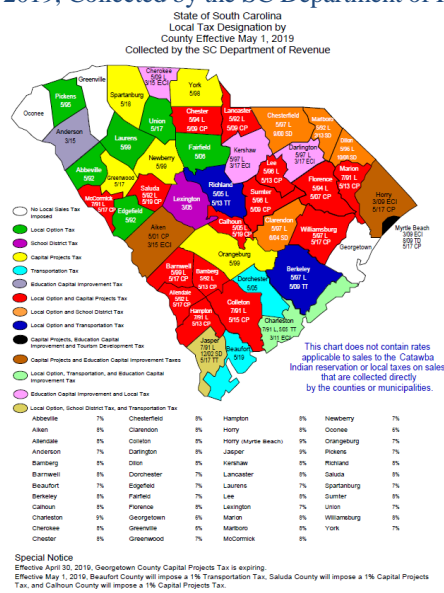
❖ **No action taken by the Committee.**

- **Council Action on Log No. 134: No Action Taken by the Committee.**

**Discussion of County Road User Fee and Alternatives – Log No. 139**

- Mr. Roper stated Council and staff discussed these six options at the council meeting on January 6, 2020:
  - Option 1 – Do nothing; continue at same pace
    - Pave 6 miles per year for a 75+ year life cycle
  - Option 2 – Increase User Fee
    - \$20 road user fee generates \$2,200,000 per year for 658 miles of County roads; County retains 75% or \$1,650,000 for roads, bridges and litter crew. 20 year life cycle would cost \$8,225,000 per year. Increase the road user fee to \$100.00 per vehicle.
  - Option 3 – Raise Property Taxes
    - Under Act 388, the County would be limited to raising taxes by population and CPI growth. First year would increase millage by 5.0 by using rollback allowance and generate about \$2,810,000. The following years would generate an additional \$843,000 per year.
  - Option 4 – Implement Capital Project Sales Tax
    - Add a 1% sales tax for capital improvement type projects. The County currently collects about \$10,000,000 per year. This amount does not include the amount of sales tax for cities. Revenue generated by the cities will be determined by the State.
  - Option 5 – Issue GO Bonds
    - Current debt capacity is \$16,000,000. Issue GO Bonds every two years to generate the \$8,225,000 needed to replace roads each year. Increase debt service millage by 29 mils. No CAP debt service millage under ACT 388.
  - Option 6 – General Fund Balance
    - June 30, 2019 unassigned fund balance is \$24 million. This would be a one-time infusion of funds that would cover 3 years' worth of paving. It would reduce investment income for operations to zero. County would have to issue debt to fund operations until taxes come in from taxpayers in December each year. *\*These are approximate numbers\**

- Mr. Roper stated the Roads and Bridges Director, Michael Clark, will be happy to answer any questions Council may have. He stated the County Transportation Committee is gas tax money that comes back to the county. He stated we do not control this, but the committee makes that decision on their own. He stated for 14.11 miles, he comes up with \$192,250 per mile. He stated that Michael Clark feels our estimate of \$250,000 per mile is a good basis to go with.
- Councilman Whitehurst stated he was wondering why the 30% buffer was added.
- Mr. Roper stated not all roads are the same, and they felt they needed a little inflation. Mr. Roper advised he wrote to the South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office to see what a penny capital sales tax would generate in Pickens County. He stated the way the penny capital sales tax would work is for just capital purchases but in the County and the cities. He stated the committee, separate from the council, would determine how the money is spent. He stated the committee would be made up of equal representation of county and city members. He stated the Department of Fiscal Affairs has estimated a penny sales tax would bring in a little over \$16 million dollars in Fiscal Year 2021-2022. Mr. Roper stated the penny sales tax would more than address that need, but the city would also have capital projects that they would want to take advantage of. He stated the way the process would work, if Council decided to go down this road, is that Council would appoint the commission. He stated the commission would develop a list of projects and the commission would have inputs on what capital items they recommend. He stated once the list is complete, then it has to go in front of the voters. He stated there is a referendum required. He stated it would be in the November 2020 Election, and it would start the penny in May of the following year. Mr. Roper stated he is prepared for the next council meeting to have someone provide more legal advice if Council would like to move forward.
- Mr. Roper presented a map of the State of South Carolina Local Tax Designation by County, Effective May 1, 2019, Collected by the SC Department of Revenue. Please see map below:



- Councilman Ensley Feemster stated he would like to see the people know what the tax is. He stated sometimes when you have the penny sales tax, unless its specified to roads, some of it can be used for other things. He stated he cannot see the road user fee jumping from \$20 a year to \$100 a year. He suggested we could increment the road user fee by \$10 each year until we get enough paving done to have it on a short cycle.
- Vice Chairman Chris Bowers stated as a business owner who owns fleet vehicles, going from a \$20 road user fee to \$100 doesn't make him happy. He stated he spoke with someone who lives in a different county that stated they would rather pay their road user fee a penny at a time, instead of writing a check for a lump. He stated that one thing a penny does, that a road user fee doesn't do, is all the students that live in Central-Clemson area that live in other counties use our roads and it is not costing them a dime to so. He stated he likes the idea of a penny tax because it does identify that it will be used for roads only, if that's what the commission decides and it is on everyone that uses it.
- Chairman Costner stated he likes the idea of the penny sales tax, but he also likes the idea of elongating the road user fee completely.

- Councilman Carl Hudson stated he likes the idea of the referendum because the people who will be paying for it has the opportunity to decide how they would like to go about this.
- Mr. Roper stated a capital project sales tax is only good for 7 years. He stated after 7 years, the voters will get to weigh in again at another referendum.
- Councilman Wes Hendricks asked what would be the amount of money needed to get caught up on the roads.
- Mr. Roper stated it is around \$8.3 million a year and it will change over time. He stated that is the target at what it would cost.
- Vice Chairman Bowers stated after seven years, if you get everything caught up and on track, it is possible you could cut it to half a penny.
- Mr. Roper stated the next time it comes up for renewal, the price tag would go down for that portion and the voters/commission could look at a different look of capital projects.
- Councilman Hendricks asked if we do the penny sales tax on the roads, would it prevent us from doing a sales tax on something else.
- Mr. Roper stated yes, because how you are going to spend it has to be on the referendum.
- After more discussion, Chairman Costner asked once we appoint the people on the commission, and they come to us with a plan we don't like, do we have to put it on the referendum.
- Councilman Carl Hudson stated he thinks it needs to be made clear to the people that go on this commission that the number one priority is to get the roads paved.
- Councilman Trey Whitehurst stated he would like to know the impact on the average person in Pickens County with a 1% increase on sales tax. He stated this is a regressive tax. He stated we are buttoned up between two counties who have a 6% sales tax. He stated when we bump to 8% that will have an effect on businesses in this county.
- Mr. Roper stated he will get this information for Council.
- After more discussion, Councilman Whitehurst stated the thing that concerns him about sales tax is it is not a long term fix. He stated if we are going to go to the voters with a plan, then he thinks we need to have a plan past the 7 years as well. Councilman Whitehurst stated he asked some citizens from his District to come speak regarding this topic.
- Vice Chairman Bowers stated if you look at areas in the state where this has worked; and it has proved it has worked with the citizens, residents, and counties trust it because they see it working, then they continue to up them every seven years because it is working. He stated if we do this right, be honest about it and people see that it is working then he feels this is a long term plan. Vice Chairman Bowers stated you always have to have an option 2.
- After more discussion, Councilman Whitehurst asked if we could do half of a penny, instead of the whole penny.
- Mr. Roper stated he does not know the answer to this question but at the next council meeting, Pope Flynn will be presenting and they will have the answer then.
- Chairman Costner asked what time constraints we are under if we want to move forward with this option.
- Mr. Roper stated the resolution that appoints the commission would have to be in the next couple of months, and after the commission develops the list of priorities, Council will need time to have three readings for an ordinance before August. He stated it is a narrow window but it is possible.
- Councilman Whitehurst asked who is on the commission.
- Mr. Roper stated the commission is appointed by Council, and the municipal appointees are developed by formula. He stated it will work out to where the biggest city gets a person; the next biggest city gets a person, etc.
- After more discussion, Mr. Roper stated under the agreement we have with the road user fee, it tells the municipalities that the roads in their city limits are their responsibilities. He stated the roads that are not in the city limits are the county's responsibility. He stated this is a huge step forward for everyone, but part of the contract says that every January, we have to sit down with the cities to count the miles. He stated he would like to talk with the cities about circumstances that we did not anticipate. Mr. Roper presented Council with a couple of maps with roads that begin in the city, and end in the city, but some parts of the roads are in the county. He stated he has meetings on January 28<sup>th</sup> with some cities and he intends to talk to these cities about this. He stated they will be going through these examples to see if there are ways they could agree on ways to analyze it.
- Seeing no other discussion, Mr. Roper stated Pope Flynn will be coming to give Council an update at the February Council meeting.

❖ **No action taken by the Committee.**

- **Council Action on Log No. 139:** No Action Taken by the Committee.

**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 Trey Whitehurst and carried unanimously (6-0).

**COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE:**

Chairman Roy Costner announced the following:

- The Committee of the Whole meeting will be on Monday, February 10, 2020 at 6:00 PM in the Main Conference Room of this facility.
- The next Council Meeting will be on Monday, March 2, 2020 at 6:30 PM in this auditorium of this facility.
- Pickens County Non-essential offices will be closed on Monday, February 17, 2020 in observance of President's Day.

Chairman Roy Costner called for other council correspondence. Seeing no other correspondence, Chairman Roy 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 add Proposed Contractual Service to Executive Session. Motion was seconded by Carl Hudson and carried unanimously (6-0).
- Chairman Roy Costner made a motion to add Clemson Paw Partners to the Consent Agenda. Motion was seconded by Councilman Carl Hudson and 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 items for new business, Chairman Roy Costner closed the floor.

**CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION 2020-01 RECOGNIZING FEBRUARY 14, 2020 AS NATIONAL DONOR DAY AND APRIL 2020 AS NATIONAL DONATE LIFE MONTH IN PICKENS COUNTY.**

Chairman Costner read the resolution as followed:

WHEREAS, upwards of 113,000 people are currently on the national transplant waiting list with a new individual added to the list every 10 minutes; and

WHEREAS, approximately 20 people die each day waiting on an organ transplant; and

WHEREAS, only 3 in 1,000 people die in a way that allows for organ donation, leaving the number of individuals needing a lifesaving transplant far greater than the number of available organs; and

WHEREAS, 95% of U. S. adults support organ donation but only 58% are actually registered as organ donors; and

WHEREAS, individuals can donate in many ways, including becoming a living organ donor or donating bone marrow or blood; and

WHEREAS, February 14<sup>th</sup> is recognized as National Donor Day, a time to focus on all types of donation – organ, eye, tissue, blood, platelets and marrow –by participating in blood/marrow drives or donor registration events, and a day to recognize our loved ones who have given the gift of donation, have received a donation, are currently waiting or did not receive an organ in time; and

WHEREAS, April is National Donate Life Month, which features an entire month of local, regional and national activities to help encourage Americans to register as organ, eye and tissue donors and to celebrate those that have saved lives through the gift of donation; and

WHEREAS, County Council wishes to honor the memories of former County Councilman, Sam Wyche, who was a heart transplant recipient and vocal organ donation advocate, and Jimmy Moore, former Easley City Councilman and organ donor.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Pickens County Council does hereby designate February 14, 2020 as National Donor Day and April 2020 as National Donate Life Month and encourages all citizens to consider giving the gift of life by becoming a donor.

Chairman Roy Costner asked for motion to approve Resolution 2020-01.

- o Motion was made by Councilman Wes Hendricks, seconded by Councilman Carl Hudson and carried unanimously (6-0).

**PUBLIC HEARING AND THIRD READING OF AN ORDINANCE NO. 579 TO CERTIFY THE AMERICAN HOUSE SPINNING MILL AS A TEXTILE MILL SITE UNDER THE SOUTH CAROLINA TEXTILES COMMUNITIES REVITALIZATION ACT, AND MATTERS RELATED THERETO.**

Chairman Roy Costner opened the public hearing for comments regarding Ordinance 579. Seeing none, Chairman Costner declared the public hearing closed.

Vice Chairman Chris Bowers made a motion to delay third reading of this ordinance to a later date. Motion was seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster and carried unanimously (6-0).

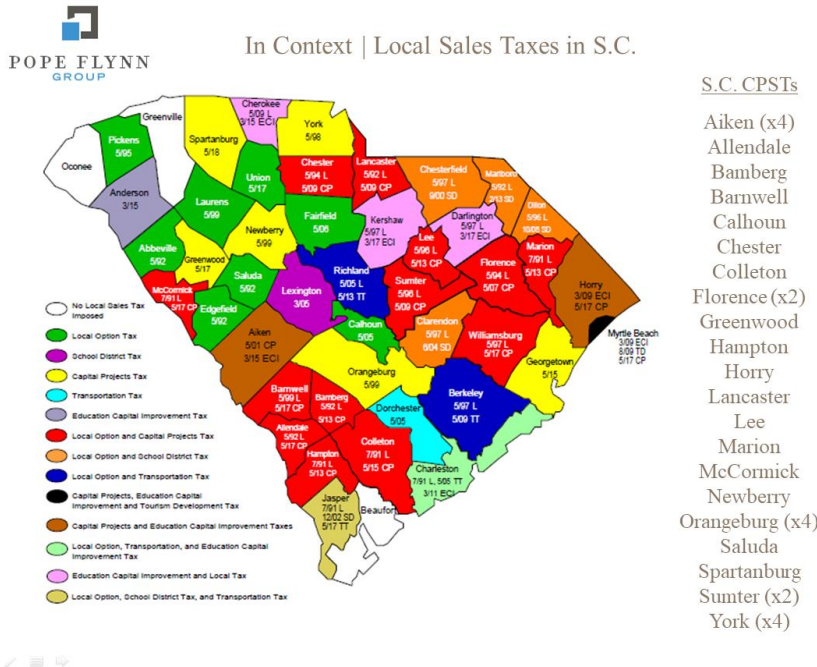
**LEGAL UPDATE ON REFERENDUM PROCESSES**

Mr. Roper recognized C.D. Rhodes, and Gary Pope, from Pope Flynn Group who will give us an update on how one of the options from the Road User Fee Discussion will work.

C.D. Rhodes thanked Council for allowing them to speak this evening. While discussing, Mr. Rhodes presented a PowerPoint presentation to Council regarding Capital Project Sales Tax. Mr. Rhodes stated to start with a little bit of background; their firm has worked on capital project sales tax initiatives in a number of counties all over the state. He stated counties see this increasingly as often one of the very few ways of funding large scale capital projects. He stated the state funds the things they fund, and pay for some portion of roads and certain buildings, but that leaves an enormous gulp of capital projects that have to be paid for by someone. He stated a lot of that burden falls upon the county to be paid for through some means or another. He stated you are pretty limited by your general obligation debt limit to increase the amount of revenue you can drive from property taxes. Mr. Rhodes stated it funds all of your operations, and funds some capital needs, but when you start talking about large, scale capital projects, often times your mileage is not going to be sufficient to meet those obligations. He stated if it were going to be sufficient, the increases would be pretty substantial. Mr. Rhodes advised that counties are increasingly looking to sales taxes to bridge that divide. He stated the capital project sales tax is one of many sales tax initiatives out there, whether they are intended to fund transportation projects, school & education projects, etc. He stated at the end of the day, they are grass root initiatives. Mr. Rhodes stated they are an opportunity for someone other than yourselves, a commission, to reach out into the community to realize what those important capital needs are. He stated at the end of the day, it's about the most democratic process that you are going to find. He stated all of these sales tax initiatives require a referendum. He stated there is a planning process where you are determining

what those certain capital are, but ultimately you have to go out there and find out what the will of the voters is. Mr. Rhodes stated the Capital Projects Sales Tax is a 1% sales tax.

Mr. Rhodes presented council with a map of all counties in the state who use a penny sales tax for one means or another. He stated there are only three in the state who do not include any sales tax at all, which is Oconee, Greenville & Beaufort Counties. He stated all other counties in the state uses a sales tax for some purpose or another. Mr. Rhodes went into more discussion on the map listed below:



Mr. Rhodes stated before you get started in a capital planning process, it is important to know what kind of money you are dealing with. He stated the first step in the process is sending a letter to the SC Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office and getting an estimate of what a 1% sales tax in the county would generate. They provided Pickens County with an estimate, showing the next three years. He stated it starts at around \$16 million and it escalates from there. Mr. Rhodes stated what they generally see is people will take a conservative estimate of what that sales tax is going to bring in in any given year. He gave an example, stating \$16 million dollars and imposes the sales tax for up to eight years. He stated you can choose any two year increment, but eight years in the maximum. Mr. Rhodes stated based upon that, you have a rough idea of what you are going to bring in over that eight year period. Mr. Rhodes stated this is the planning number, so as you start to build out your list of capital projects, in this case, a decent number to use is \$128 million dollars. He stated there are not many other revenue streams that the county has at its disposal that would renovate \$128 million dollars over an eight year period.

Mr. Rhodes presented the process of proposing capital project sales tax with some discussion:

- Step 1: County council creates CPST commission
- Step 2: County and (some) municipalities appoint commissioners
- Step 3: Commission receives proposed projects and determines which projects to fund from CPST proceeds
- Step 4: Commission formulates ballot for referendum and forwards to county council



Step 5: If County Council wishes to proceed to the referendum, County Council adopts ordinance approving the form of the ballot; determines prioritization and system of funding projects; and decides whether to authorize the issuance of bonds

Step 6: Conduct referendum

Step 7: County Council declares result by resolution

Step 8: Impose sales tax on succeeding May 1

Mr. Rhodes asked Council if they had any questions before moving forward with details.

Chairman Costner asked how long the commission has to come up with proposal to bring back to Council.

Mr. Rhodes stated the only set date that constrains Council is August 15th. He stated by August 15<sup>th</sup>, Council has to have adopted that ordinance that approves the ballot question and send it to the election commission to actual conducted the referendum. He stated it has to be at a general election.

Councilman Trey Whitehurst asked if it could be half a cent, rather than a whole cent.

Mr. Rhodes stated they are bound by one cent, and it has to be a 1% sales tax. He stated Council can vary how long it is implemented for. He stated it has to be in two year increments, and the maximum is eight years.

Mr. Rhodes moved forward discussing the creation of CPST Commission. He stated the commission must be created by a resolution of County Council. Mr. Rhodes discussed the following:

- Commission has 6 members
- County appoints 3 members
- The municipalities in the county appoint three members who must be residents of the municipalities
- Municipal representatives are appointed based upon an “Appointive Index” (see below)
- Municipalities with an Appointive Index of at least 1 may appoint members equal to that whole number
- Any remaining municipal appointments are filled by the municipal representative(s) already appointed

Appointive Index: Pickens County		
Municipality	Pop.*	Index
Easley	19,993	1.28
Clemson	13,905	0.89
Central	5,159	0.33
Liberty	3,269	0.21
Pickens	3,126	0.20
Norris	813	0.05
Six Mile	675	0.04
Sum	46,940	
Apportionate Average	15,647	
*Based upon 2010 Census		

Mr. Rhodes went into discussion the breakdown of Appointments to CPST Commission

- Pickens County Council appoints 3 members
- Easley City Council appoints 1 member



- The member appointed by Easley City Council chooses 2 members, each of which must be chosen from the residents of the remaining municipalities in Pickens County. The two members must reside in the municipality they are appointed to.
- Members of the CPST Commission are “officers” for the purpose of the State Constitution’s dual office holding prohibition—they may not already serve as an “officer” under State law (e.g., planning commission, technical college commission, hospital board).

After more discussion, Mr. Rhodes discussed the manner of project selection for the CPST Commission.

- The project list is chosen by the CPST Commission, not County Council
- There is no statutorily mandated process for reviewing and selecting projects – we recommend injecting some formality into the process
- Section 4-10-330(A)(1) provides an illustrative list of the types of capital projects that may be funded from CPST proceeds
- Projects must serve a “public purpose” but can be sponsored by a public entity (a local government) or a non-profit entity
- County Council must ultimately send the list of projects to the voters by ordinance, but County Council does not have a “line item veto”
- County Council must accept the project list of the CPST Commission as presented or reject it entirely

Mr. Rhodes presented a project selection from Newberry County in 2010, Florence County in 2007, Spartanburg County in 2017, Georgetown County in 2012, and York County in 2017.

Mr. Rhodes went into discussion on formulating the referendum question, stating:

- The CPST Commission must “formulate the referendum question”
- Ballot must list the approved projects, along with the estimated cost, and must read substantially as follows:
  - Must a special one percent sales and use tax be imposed in Pickens County for not more than [2 to 8 years] to raise the amounts specified for the following purposes?
    - (1) \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_
    - (2) \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_
    - (3) etc.
    - Yes  No
- The commission may determine other conditions or restrictions on the use of CPST proceeds
- The form of the question may not later be changed by county council except to add in an authorization to issue bonds

Additional Considerations on formulating the referendum question:

- Prioritization of Projects – County council is required to prioritize projects that are approved by the Commission in the ordinance calling for the referendum, but in order to include the priority as part of the ballot it must be done or approved by the commission.
- Issuance of Bonds – If bonds are to be issued to pay the costs of any project, the authorization to issue bonds must be added to the ballot by County Council after it is submitted by the CPST Commission.
  - CPST bonds are general obligation bonds (revenue bonds cannot be payable from “any tax or license” under the State Constitution)
  - The CPST referendum is a GO bond referendum for debt limit purposes – the bonds do not count against the county’s debt limit
  - Although GO bonds, additional millage need not be levied if CPST proceeds are sufficient to pay debt service

Mr. Rhodes stated the last step that Council has in this process is they are asked to approve this by ordinance and send it to the voters. He stated the referendum has to be held at a “general election” in either an even or odd-numbered election year. Once the election has been held, assuming the referendum passes, Council declares the results of the referendum by resolution. He stated on May 1<sup>st</sup>, the sales tax will go into place and the county starts collecting revenues. He stated you will either fund the projects on pay as you go basis, or if you have chosen to issue bonds, you can start pursuing a bond issuance.

Mr. Rhodes concluded his presentation, stating that is the process. He stated it is grass roots, exceptional democratic, and the numbers are big. He stated there is not a lot of other ways to generate \$128 million dollars over an eight year time frame. He stated he is happy to answer any other questions Council may have.

Councilman Trey Whitehurst asked Mr. Rhodes what happens if you collect more money than anticipated on projects either under or over budget.

Mr. Rhodes stated for under collection, that is when the prioritization comes in. He stated there may be projects that simply do not get funded. He stated for over collection, it is a more interesting issue. He stated there is a chance if you have been conservative that you will over collect. He stated a lot of counties will have their project list, but they will have a lot more projects on there than they actually anticipate bringing in from revenue prospective. He stated there is nothing wrong with this as long as you understand some of those projects at the end of the list are almost certainly not going to be funded, but you know if you over collect, then you know you will use every penny of those funds. For example, Mr. Rhodes stated let’s say you plan for over \$128 million in projects, and you bring in \$150 million dollars over that 8 year period, then obviously you have an enormous amount of money where you do not have a plan for where to spend it. He stated there are some arguments about your authority to spend those funds on capital projects, but the safe bet is you simply have another referendum. Mr. Rhodes stated if you choose not to re-impose it, then he thinks it is safe to say you can use those funds on any capital project the county has entered in to, but you may just have to wait until the tax has finally expired to use those funds.

Councilman Ensley Feemster stated this year; the Census will count all students at Clemson University. He asked if this will affect the ratio in the chart they presented.

Mr. Rhodes stated the Act requires you use the population figures from the last official Census. He stated in this case, it is 2010 for us, so those numbers in his table were all 2010 Census numbers. He stated this year; they are stuck with using even though they know these numbers are not correct in this year.

Chairman Costner asked if he was traveling throughout the county spending his money, what is included and what is not included for the penny sales tax.

Mr. Rhodes stated the only thing not included is unprepared food, for example, the grocery store.

Seeing no other discussion, Mr. Roper thanked Mr. Rhodes and Mr. Pope for coming to present. He stated he would like to point out that this is a difficult conversation and when we were talking about the agenda, he pointed out to the Chairman and Vice Chairman that this presentation could have been done in executive session since it is a legal presentation. He stated the Chairman and Vice Chairman thought it should be done in public to help educate, so he feels they deserve credit for being open in that regard.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

1. Discussion on Insurance Options (*Committee of the Whole*)
2. UDSO – *Committee of the Whole*

3. Discussion on Old Jail – *Committee of the Whole*
4. Clemson Paw Partners – *Committee of the Whole (as added during Motion Period and New Business)*
  - o 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 Costner further stated that each issue would be discussed as the Law provides.

- o Motion was made by Councilman Ensley Feemster, seconded by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers and carried unanimously (6-0), to convene in executive session for the stated purposes after a five minute recess.

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

- Project Arnold
- Update from Alliance Pickens
- Proposed Contractual Services (*as added during Motion Period and New Business*)

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

- MRR

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

- Library Board
- Board and Commission Vacancies (49):
  - a) Accommodations Tax Committee
  - b) Assessment and Appeals
  - c) Appalachian Council of Government
  - d) Beautification Committee
  - e) Construction Board of Appeals
  - f) Economic Development Alliance Board
  - g) Emergency Services Advisory Board
  - h) Library Board of Directors
  - i) Planning Commission
  - j) Public Service Commission
  - k) Recreation Funding Advisory Board
  - l) Sedgewood Tax District
  - m) Tri-County Board of Visitors
  - n) Water Authority
  - o) WORKLINK
  - p) Zoning and Appeals
  - q) \*Pickens County Museum Non-Profit Corporation Board
  - r) \*Pickens County Performing Arts Center 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:

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

- Project Arnold – ***No Action Taken***
- Update from Alliance Pickens – ***No Action Taken***

- Proposed Contractual Services (*as added during Motion Period and New Business*) – **No Action Taken**

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

- MRR – **No Action Taken**

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

- Library Board – **Chairman Roy Costner made a motion to accept the recommendation from the Library Board. Motion was seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster and carried unanimously (6-0).**
- Board and Commission Vacancies (49):
  - s) Accommodations Tax Committee
  - t) Assessment and Appeals – **Chairman Roy Costner made a motion to appoint Ryan Palmer to the Assessment and Appeals Board. Motion was seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster and carried unanimously (6-0)**
  - u) Appalachian Council of Government – **Chairman Roy Costner made a motion to reappoint Margaret Thompson to the ACOG Board. Motion was seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster and carried unanimously (6-0).**
  - v) Beautification Committee
  - w) Construction Board of Appeals
  - x) Economic Development Alliance Board
  - y) Emergency Services Advisory Board
  - z) Library Board of Directors
  - aa) Planning Commission
  - bb) Public Service Commission
  - cc) Recreation Funding Advisory Board – **Chairman Roy Costner made a motion to appoint Tom Childress to the Recreation Funding Advisory Board. Motion was seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster and carried unanimously (6-0).**
  - dd) Sedgewood Tax District
  - ee) Tri-County Board of Visitors
  - ff) Water Authority
  - gg) WORKLINK
  - hh) Zoning and Appeals
  - ii) \*Pickens County Museum Non-Profit Corporation Board
  - jj) \*Pickens County Performing Arts Center Non-Profit Corporation Board

**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 Carl Hudson and carried unanimously (6-0). Pickens County Council stood adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Respectively Submitted:

Approved:

---

Meagan Bradford, Clerk to Council

---

Roy Costner, Chairman of County Council