

**City of Pickens Regular City Council Meeting  
September 12, 2022  
6:00 P.M.**

The Mayor and City Council met for in regular session in the Council Chambers at City Hall 219 Pendleton Street, Pickens S.C. Agendas bearing the date and time were sent to media and posted on September 7, 2022.

Council Members in attendance:

Mayor Fletcher Perry  
Council Member Jimmy Davis  
Council Member Patrick Lark  
Council Member Donnie McKinney  
Council Member Robert Nealy  
Council Member Lois Porter  
Council Member Isaiah Scipio

Council Members Absent:

None

Staff:

Interim Administrator, Dennis Harmon  
Chief of Police, Randal Beach

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Perry called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. Mayor Perry welcomed those in attendance, and further called upon Council Member Isaiah Scipio to lead the invocation. All staff and citizens then participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PROCLAMATION TO DECLARE THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 17 -23, 2022 AS CONSTITUTION WEEK**

Mayor Perry presented the proclamation to the Daughters of the American Revolution and proclaimed the week of September 17<sup>th</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup> as constitution week.

**COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:**

Mayor Perry opened the floor for comments from Citizens.

1. Lisa Welch – Ms. Welch stated she was a member of the Azalea Festival committee and stated the dates for next year’s festival is April 28-29, 2023.
2. Courtney Lipscomb – Ms. Lipscomb of 144 Blacksnake Rd. reported dangerous speeding. Chief Beach stated he understood this to be problematic and he is working toward the proper signage.
3. Ed Lease – Mr. Lease stated a problem with brush on Calla Lily Court, Mr. Lease stated the brush is building up in the cul-de-sac area. Staff acknowledged this as a problem with staffing and the chipper at the county is currently down. The City did rent a chipper as a means of catching up.
4. Bruce McKinney and Ronnie Anderson – Mr. McKinny and Mr. Anderson addressed (2) issues regarding maintenance. It was stated there was some road construction on 114 S. Church Street that has not been completed, the area is approximately 10 x10; it is getting worse and is muddy. Mr. Anderson stated that he would also like the City to continue the necessary work that needs

to be completed in his yard where the drainage issue has washed. On West Lee Street there is vines that are growing into the street. The Mayor acknowledged staff is aware of the issues at 114 S. Church St. and will need engineering expertise to resolve the issue.

5. Ansel Leopard – Mr. Leopard stated a signage issue in a new sub-division at the streets of Bradley Walk and Colonial Way. Police Chief Beach will monitor the traffic in the stated areas.
6. Tausha Blake – Ms. Blake stated a problem with patching on her street at 221 Lakewood Dr. The Mayor acknowledged there is a list of all the street maintenance that needs to be completed.
7. Kenna Dillard – Ms. Dillard came before Council to seek approval of items for the remainder of the Christmas decoration funds that were budgeted for 2022/23. Ms. Dillard stated that to date \$23,203.53 has been spent out of the \$31,000.00 budget. Ms. Dillard outlined projects such as speakers at Doodle Park, Courthouse Christmas tree, electrical, and platform work, C-7 lighting for the train at Doodle Park, oversized lighting, and expenses that come up during decorating. In addition, Ms. Dillard is seeking quotes for electrical and may be able to obtain partial funds through the County. Ms. Dillard also communicated she would need direction regarding decorations at Legacy Square as it relates to that property being owned by First Baptist Church. Ms. Dillard concluded by stating she will give Mr. Harmon a list of dates she will be working, and volunteers are welcome and needed.
8. Wayne Kelley – Mr. Kelley stated he is hopeful that Council will participate in Wreaths across America which will be in December. Mr. Kelley informed Council that the flagpole for the Doodle Park has arrived and is at Public Works. Council will decide on a date for dedication. Council will also decide the location of the pole.

With no further citizen comments, the comment period was closed.

**APPROVAL TO EXPEND THE REMAINDER OF CHRISTMAS DECORATION BUDGET FOR FY 2022/2023:**

>>Council Member Patrick Lark stated due to a time sensitive issue, he moved to add to the agenda approval for the request to move forward with expending the Christmas decoration budget. Motion was seconded by Council Member Robert Nealy and unanimously approved.

>>Motion was made by Council Member Patrick Lark and seconded by Council Member Jimmy Davis to approve the remaining budget of \$5800.00 as it relates to the Christmas decoration budget for items as outlined in the presentation by Ms. Dillard. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

**APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL MINUTES:**

>>Motion was made by Council Member Donnie McKinney, seconded by Council Member Jimmy Davis, and unanimously passed to approve the minutes as presented.

August 15, 2022

August 29, 2022

August 30, 2022

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**ORDINANCE PURSUANT TO SECTION 5-3-150(3) OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA 1976, AS AMENDED, TO ANNEX PROPERTY TO THE CITY OF PICKENS, SOUTH CAROLINA – Introduction and 1<sup>st</sup> reading - Ordinance No. 2022-09 (Waffle House Site)**

>>Motion was made by Council Member Donnie McKinney, seconded by Council Member Jimmy Davis, and unanimously passed that this constitutes a first reading of Ordinance No. 2022-09.

**City Business:**

**PROPOSED CONTRACT-W.P. LAW, INC. FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A WATER FOUNTAIN AT THE AMPHITHEATER AND A SPLASHPAD AT THE DOODLE PARK**

Mr. Harmon gave Council the requested information regarding a contract to build a fountain at the Amphitheater and a splashpad at the Doodle Park. Contract cost for doing both simultaneously is \$350,125.00

>>Council Member Donnie McKinney made a motion to place the fountain/splashpad contract on the table for discussion. Motion was seconded by Council Member Jimmy Davis and unanimously approved.

Council Members held much discussion. Council Member Robert Nealy asked about the cost involved in maintaining a splashpad. Council Member Patrick Lark stated this type of fountain will not be appealing at a 360-degree angle. Also, Mr. Lark stated he would need to see a presentation and complete renderings before he could make an informed decision.

Council Member Jimmy Davis stated it was his belief that funds have already been committed to the fountain project that includes a flame design. Mr. Harmon stated he would determine the level of commitment to this project. Council Member Jimmy Davis also discussed the fact that he had promised to do as much as he could to have the current fountain in working condition.

All Council Members agreed this may not be the most efficient means of spending at this time.

Mayor Perry stated it may be innovative to get a consensus from the citizens.

In conclusion, Council Member Isaiah Scipio stated he thought it best to wait, prioritize the needs of the city and the citizens, and to be aware of the current economy.

>>Motion was made by Council Member Donnie McKinney to table the proposed contract, allow Mr. Harmon to determine what funds have been committed to the project, and to look at a presentation with renderings and cost analysis of maintenance. Motion was seconded by Council Member Isaiah Scipio and unanimously passed.

**CONVENE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION: Code of Laws, Section 30-4-70**

**Personnel Matters/Contractual Matters:**

>>Motion was made by Council Member Patrick Lark, seconded by Council Member Donnie McKinney, and unanimously passed to convene into executive session for the stated purposes.

**RECONVENE INTO PUBLIC SESSION:**

>>Motion was made by Council Member Donnie McKinney, seconded by Council Member Lois Porter, and unanimously passed to reconvene into Public Session.

**ACTION AS IT RELATES TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

- **ADDITIONAL POLICE PERSONNEL:**

>>Motion was made by Council Member Donnie McKinney, seconded by Council Member Jimmy Davis to approve an additional police officer. Council Member Patrick Lark amended to include for Mr. Harmon to factor in ways to offset associated cost. With no further discussion, motion passed with a unanimous vote.

- **EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT FOR ADMINISTRATOR:**

>>Council Member Patrick Lark moved to approve the employment contract with Charlene Carter as proposed and to include the addition that within (1) year she will live in the City of

Pickens or as close to the City limits as possible. Motion was seconded by Council Member Donnie McKinney and unanimously passed.

• **APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATOR:**

>>Motion was made Council Member Isaiah Scipio to appoint Charlene Carter as the City Administrator. Motion was seconded by Council Member Lois Porter and unanimously passed.

**OTHER MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED BY CITY COUNCIL:**

Mayor Perry called for further business. Hearing none, other business was closed.

**COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:**


Kenna Dillard – Ms. Dillard reminded Council that previously there was a proposal for a concrete pad and “common” space being built at the Amphitheater. However, Council discussions regarding a fountain have placed that project on hold.


**ADJOURNMENT:**

Hearing no further business of the Council or Citizens, Mayor Perry called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Council Member Patrick Lark, seconded by Council Member Isaiah Scipio, and unanimously passed. Pickens City Council stood adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Approved:

  
Donna F. Owen, City Clerk

  
Mayor Fletcher Perry