

**Regular called City of Pickens Council Meeting
November 7, 2022
6:00 p.m.**

The Mayor and City Council met in Regular Session in the Council Chambers at City Hall 219 Pendleton Street, Pickens S.C. Agendas were posted and sent to media on November 3, 2022.

Council Members in attendance:

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

Council Members Absent:

Council Member Isaiah Scipio

Staff:

Charlene Carter, City Administrator
Randal Beach, Chief of Police
Chris Elrod, Fire Chief

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Perry called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance. Mayor Perry further noted the absence of Council Member Isaiah Scipio.

Council Member Donnie McKinney gave the Invocation, and all followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:

Mayor Perry opened the floor for comments and requested that citizens hold their comments to 3 – 5 minutes.

1. Courtney Lipscomb – Ms. Lipscomb thank the council for approving the stop sign in her neighborhood and asked the time frame for placing the sign. Administrator Carter stated by Wednesday of this week was the goal.
2. Catherine Heelan, owner of Butterfly Wellness on 115 West Main Street. Ms. Heelan came before council to state that she has a unique business that does not have a main street entrance. She uses a banner so that people will know where her business entrance is located. She has been informed by the Board of Zoning to remove her banner. Ms. Heelan stated she has moved her banner 75 yards off Main Street. Ms. Heelan stated she felt targeted by this removal, and she stated that no one from planning/zoning has offered to help her or encourage her with her unique situation. In addition, she is appealing this issue to the Appeals Board. Also, it was her understanding that there would be no enforcement issues for businesses until after the first of the year. Ms. Heelan requested clarification, and to help her stay in business in Pickens. *(a full report of her statement will be kept with the minutes in the Clerks office)*

3. Jeff Derrick – Mr. Derrick asked the Mayor and City Council to accept his apology as he stated he made inappropriate comments on social media. Mr. Derrick reiterated his passion for saving the water tower and asked Council to explore every aspect of keeping the tower.
4. Collin Gilstrap and Chase Shafer – Mr. Gilstrap and Mr. Shafer came before Council as sophomores at Pickens High School who are part of approximately 30 High School aged youth that are interested in the Jaycee Park remodeling to ask Council to consider in their plans to add a place for skateboarding. The youth explained that there is no where in the City Limits to legally skateboard. In addition, Mr. Gilstrap stated a small skate park will attract other youth from around neighboring cities and counties and this encourages shopping and dining. Council was receptive to the idea and asked the youth to leave contact information with the clerk.
5. Louise Hope – Ms. Hope spoke as the owner of the building where Ms. Heelan is appealing the banner. Ms. Hope wanted to state that she has no problem with where the banner is located, and that Ms. Heelan does have a unique situation with her entrance.
6. Mr. Wilson of 719 East Cedar Rock Street. Mr. Wilson has a residence during the Halloween season that was visited by over 400 children. Mr. Wilson thanked the police department for the use of cones for safety. Also, Mr. Wilson thanked the City of Pickens for the promotion on social media. Mr. Wilson stated this was a positive and fun experience.

Hearing no further comments, the comment period was closed.

APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL MINUTES:

October 3, 2022, Regular Meeting

October 17, 2022, Work Session

>>Council Member Donnie McKinney moved to approve the minutes of October 3 and October 17 as presented. Motion was seconded by Council Member Lois Porter and unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED BY CITY COUNCIL: Resolutions- First and Final Reading (Administrator Carter)

RESOLUTION 2022-R2 TO ACCEPT THE FEMA HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT AWARD AND PROVIDE CITY GRANT MATCH IN THE AMOUNT OF \$22,025.00 FOR THE GWS PUMP STATION GENERATOR:

>>Motion was made by Council Member Patrick Lark, seconded by Council Member Jimmy Davis, and unanimously passed to approve Resolution No. 2022-R2.

RESOLUTION 2022-R3 TO APPROVE THE CLOSURE OF JAYCEE RECREATION PLAYGROUND FOR THE WINTER SEASON NOVEMBER 21, 2022-MARCH 31, 2023, FOR MAINTENANCE AND REMOVAL OF ITEMS. ALSO, THE REQUEST TO ALLOCATE \$100,000.00 OF ARPA FUNDS TO IMPROVEMENTS AT JAYCEE PARK:

>>Motion was made Council Member Donnie McKinney and seconded by Council Member Jimmy Davis to approve Resolution 2022-R3. Motion carried with a unanimous vote. >>Council Member Patrick Lark amended the motion to include in Resolution 2022-R3 the study of cost and placement for a skateboarding area. Amendment was seconded by Council Member Lois Porter and unanimously passed.

(Ms. Carter made Council aware of several sources of funding/grant opportunities that are being considered as this project moves forward. Specifically, the \$50,000.00 that has been allocated by Representative Hiott.)

RESOLUTION 2022- R4 TO APPROVE ROLL CART REPLACEMENTS FOR RESIDENTIAL SERVICE TO BE PURCHASED WITH ARPA FUND ALLOCATION:

Administrator Carter requested this item be stricken from the agenda due to the complete assessment for this project was not in at this time. This item was removed from discussion.

RESOLUTION 2022-R5 TO APPROVE A \$500.00 CONTRIBUTION FOR “ROLLING INTO TOYS TOY DRIVE”:

>>Motion was made by Council Member Patrick Lark, seconded by Council Member Lois Porter, and unanimously passed to approve Resolution 2022-R5.

RESOLUTION 2022-R6 TO APPROVE THE USE OF 2021 UTILITY SYSTEM BONDS TO REQUEST BIDS AND COMPLETE WATER LINE IMPROVEMENTS FOR ROBINSON ROAD AREA:

Administrator Carter recalled for council that citizens have been complaining about water quality issues. Meetings have been held with the water department and engineers to triangulate these areas of concern. Ms. Carter stated this will be the first project of approximately (5) concentrated areas that will be coming up over the following months. As stated in the resolution there are funds in the 2021 Utility System Bond series at this time.

>>Motion was made by Council Member Patrick Lark to approve Resolution No. 2022-R5. Motion was seconded by Council Member Donnie McKinney and unanimously passed.

REQUESTING CONSENSUS TO ALLOW OR DENY A DISCUSSION TO INSTALL A CELL TOWER AT THE CITY OF PICKENS PUBLIC WORKS LOCATION 133 RAILROAD STREET:

Administrator Carter stated she has been approached by a vendor that is requesting placing a cell tower at the Public Works property on Railroad St. Ms. Carter stated she would need direction from Council to proceed.

Upon consensus of Council Ms. Carter was given clear direction that there was no interest for a tower in that area.

CONVENE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION: CODE OF LAWS, SECTION 30-4-70 PERSONNEL MATTERS

>>Motion was made by Council Member Patrick Lark, seconded by Council Member Lois Porter to convene into executive session for the stated purpose.

RECONVENE INTO PUBLIC SESSION:

>>Motion was made by Council Member Donnie McKinney, seconded by Council Member Lois Porter, and unanimously approved to come out of executive session and convene in public session.

ACTION AS IT RELATES TO EXECUTIVE SESSION: No action was forthcoming.

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE:

Administrator Carter informed Council of the following:

Holiday events – Council had the holiday event schedule in their packet. Ms. Carter encouraged everyone to participate in the many holiday plans. Ms. Carter also thanked the Greater Chamber of Commerce for the good partnership with the events.

Photos from WP Laws regarding the flame- Ms. Carter stated photos were in the packet as it relates to the flame structure. Ms. Carter stated that has not been invoiced as of this date, and she would be studying how this may be utilized in on future projects.


Brush pick -up – Ms. Carter stated that brush pick-up continues to be worked on, and staff is working daily to compensate for many delays.

In closing Ms. Debbie Gravely requested that Council think about being in the Christmas parade.

ADJOURNMENT:

>>Motion was made by Council Member Patrick Lark, seconded by Council Member Lois Porter, and unanimously approved to Adjourn. Pickens City Council stood adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Donna F. Owen, City Clerk

Approved:



Mayor Fletcher Perry