

Regular called City of Pickens Council Meeting
December 12, 2022
6:00 p.m.

The Mayor Pro-Tem 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 December 8, 2022.

Council Members in attendance:

Council Member Jimmy Davis, Mayor Pro-Tempore
Council Member Patrick Lark
Council Member Robert Nealy
Council Member Lois Porter
Council Member Isaiah Scipio

Council Members Absent:

Mayor, Fletcher Perry
Council Member Donnie McKinney

Staff:

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

(The minutes are a synopsis of the meeting, and a full viewing and recording of the meeting is available on the City of Pickens Webpage and Facebook).

CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION:

Mayor Pro-Tempore, Jimmy Davis called the meeting to order and stated he would be conducting the meeting in the absence of Mayor Perry. Council Member Patrick Lark gave the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:

Mayor Pro-Tempore Davis stated he had a list of citizens who have signed up to speak and he would limit those comments to (5) minutes. Mr. Davis asked that each person be respectful in their comments.

Jeff Derrick – Mr. Derrick spoke to Council regarding the recent termination of Recreation Director, Mr. Enoch. Mr. Derrick stated he thought Mr. Enoch had made a mistake but did not think it was a cause for termination. Mr. Derrick pointed out that the citizens are upset regarding this termination and requested Ms. Carter and Council to reconsider. Mr. Derrick also requested to have more information regarding the water tower and stated that if the City can add parks and other recreational venues, he would like funds to be set aside for the water tower maintenance.

Paige Hallums – Ms. Hallums spoke to Council regarding the termination of Recreation Director, Mr. Enoch. Ms. Hallums stated that she is the Mother of (4) children and since Mr. Enoch has been the Director of Recreation, her children have genuinely enjoyed the Recreation Department. Ms. Hallums stated Mr. Enoch had equalized all sports and not just volleyball. Ms.

Hallums also stated that Mr. Enoch had brought back adult basketball which is a vital part of recreation. Ms. Hallums stated she thought it was a wrongful termination of a very educated Black man who was helping a homeless man, and that her children would not play sports at Pickens. Further stated she would place them in other recreation divisions.

Steven Smith – Mr. Smith stated he has been a resident of Pickens for 33 years and was once involved in the Recreation Department. Mr. Smith stated he thought the Council had failed the Citizens, and the decision to terminate Mr. Enoch would reflect in coming elections. Mr. Smith stated it was Council’s responsibility to hire the Administrator, and further read Administrator Carter’s resume. In conclusion, Mr. Smith stated that given the outrage regarding this termination, that Council should reconsider this wrongful termination.

Cheryl Smith – Ms. Smith, resident of 318 S. Lewis Street thanked Council for the speed limit sign. Ms. Smith also discussed water issues such as the smell of chlorine. Ms. Smith encouraged Council to keep water quality as a priority.

Edwina Lone – Ms. Lone spoke to Council regarding the termination of Recreation Director, Mr. Enoch. Ms. Lone stated she thought the termination was wrongful but more importantly she thought the Council had served an injustice to the children. Ms. Lone stated it is the responsibility of adults to set an example for the children. Ms. Lone stated she will not support the Council who did not stand for Mr. Enoch.

APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL MINUTES:

November 7, 2022, Regular Council Meeting

November 28, 2022, Special Called Meeting

>>Council Member Lois Porter moved to approve the minutes of November 7 and November 28 as presented. Motion was seconded by Council Member Patrick Lark and unanimously passed.

NEW BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED BY CITY COUNCIL:

RESOLUTIONS- First and Final Reading (Administrator Carter)

Administrator Carter gave an overview of each Resolution. All Resolutions and Ordinances are available on the City of Pickens Webpage and in the Clerks office.

RESOLUTION 2022-R7 TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF FIRE TRUCK AND EQUIPMENT:

Chief Elrod made a presentation to Council as it relates to the needs of the Fire Department.

Chief Elrod stated the purposed ladder truck is vital to the safety of businesses and citizens as Pickens continues to grow and more apartments and commercial buildings are being built.

>>Council Member Patrick Lark made the motion to approve Resolution No. 2022 R7 for the purchase of a ladder truck form the City of Clemson. Motion was seconded by Council Member Isaiah Scipio and unanimously approved. (\$250,000.00 ARPA Funds)

RESOLUTION 2022-R8 TO APPROVE THE ROLL CART REPLACEMENTS QUOTE WITH TOTER - WASTEQUIP, LLC:

>>Motion was made by Council Member Lois Porter to approve resolution 2022-R8 to approve the Roll Carts. Motion was seconded by Council Member Robert Nealy and unanimously approved. (\$105,375.00 ARPA funds)

RESOLUTION 2022-R9 TO APPROVE CONTRACTOR DIVERSIFIED SOLUTIONS BID TO DEMOLISH 201 JEWEL STREET:

>>Motion was made by Council Member Lois Porter to approve Resolution No. 2022-R9 to demolish the purchased property on Jewel street and repair the sewer lines. Motion was seconded by Council Member Patrick Lark and unanimously approved. (\$7,500.00)

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 2022-10 PURCHASING AND PROCUREMENT CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY:

Ms. Carter provided a first reading to amend the purchasing and procurement ordinance to reflect Sec. 2-194 Conflict of Interest. Ms. Carter stated this is a requirement in receiving State and Federal grants.

>>Council Member Patrick Lark made the motion to approve Ordinance No. 2022-10 to amend the Purchasing and Procurement Ordinance (2020-09). Motion was seconded by Council Member Lois Porter and unanimously approved.

ORDINANCE 2022-11 CITY COUNCIL ORDINANCE CHANGES:

Ms. Carter provided a first reading to amend the Council Meeting Ordinance to update items such as the time of the meetings are now 6:00 p.m. and not 7:00 p.m. Also, the Council does not have committees any longer but has a "committee of the whole" Ms. Carter also stated the ordinance was being amended to reflect a majority of Council Members and not the sole discretion of the Mayor as it relates to dates and time of regular and special called meetings.

During Council discussion, Council Member Isaiah Scipio stated he did not understand why this ordinance is being introduced and he did not have knowledge of these amendments.

Council Member Patrick Lark stated the amended ordinance is in the agenda packet and now was the appropriate time for discussion. Council Member Isaiah Scipio stated due to the issues of the last called meeting by Mayor Perry, that the amendments appear personal with the power being removed from the mayor's position. Council Member Isaiah Scipio stated he thought this ordinance was being introduced by a few and is not the appropriate way to change a City law. Mr. Scipio further stated he wanted to be on the record as opposing. Administrator Carter stated this is an amendment to the ordinance that is in existence and is updating the way Council operates as the elected body. Council Member Isaiah Scipio stated he thought the ordinance needs to be updated and discussed in the proper way. He strongly requested this ordinance be tabled and to have a much more detailed discussion as it relates to many topics of business.

>>Council Member Patrick Lark made a motion to table Ordinance No. 2022-11 until the next meeting. Motion was seconded by Council Member Robert Nealy and unanimously passed.

CONVENE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION: CODE OF LAWS, SECTION 30-4-70 Personnel and Contractual matters

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

RECONVENE INTO PUBLIC SESSION:

>>Motion was made by Council Member Patrick Lark, seconded by Council Member Lois Porter, and unanimously approved to reconvene into public session.

ACTION AS IT RELATES TO EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (NOVEMBER & DECEMBER)

POLICE DEPARTMENT – Chief Beach addressed Council and stated it was a daily pleasure to be working with the community and the police personnel. Chief Beach informed Council about many staffing issues and absences. Chief Beach encouraged Council to view the monthly report and ask any questions.

FIRE DEPARTMENT- Chief Elrod addressed Council and updated them about Captain Crenshaw being absent, other staff have done an excellent job filling his duties. Chief Elrod stated while captain Crenshaw was recovering from his surgery, he has been helping the water department and has been taking water payments, answering the phone and various tasks in helping with city functions. Council was updated on the completion of the (2) side by side vehicles and grant fund usage. Sunday December 18 will be the “Round the Town” Fire Dept. Christmas Parade.

ADMINISTRATION- Administrator Carter stated all the following reports are in the packet and she went over each report and called attention to items within reports. Ms. Carter advised Council of numerous items and encouraged Council to contact her with any questions or concerns.

Court report- offenses and fine payments. Continuing to work on the movement of court to the Railroad Street property.

Financial report-Service contract Manley Garvin CPA will be consulting, and a report will be forthcoming.

Public Works- Ms. Carter pointed out this report contains the number of work-orders.

Water & Sewer-Service repair contract water plant – summary of structural issues at the water plant. Work needed will be approximately \$22,000 and this will sustain for the 3 to 5 years.

Recreation-positions posted. Assistant Program Coordinator is doing a good job and Public works is helping with several projects and repairs.

Planning-Service contract for another year with Appalachian Council of Government for Planning and Zoning.

Sanitation Truck Repair:

Administrator Carter informed Council that an invoice had come in as of today for the repair of a sanitation truck in the amount of \$32, 533. Ms. Carter explained this is a total engine repair.

ADJOURNMENT:

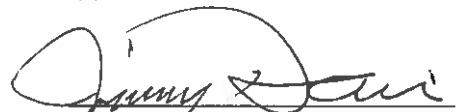
>>Motion was made by Council Member Patrick Lark, seconded Council Member Isaiah Scipio, and unanimously approved to Adjourn. Pickens City Council stood adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Donna F. Owen, City Clerk

Approved:



Mayor Pro-Tempore, Jimmy Davis