

City of Pickens
Special Budget Work Session
June 3, 2026
1:03 PM

The Mayor and City Council convened at Pickens City Hall, 219 Pendleton Street, Pickens, S.C. for a Budget Work Session. Agendas were posted and sent to media on June 2, 2026.

Council Members in Attendance:

- Mayor, Isaiah Scipio
- Allie Winter, Mayor Pro-Tem
- Council Member Danny Adams
- Council Member Jonathan Baker
- Council Member Cameron Rivers
- Council Member Floyd Rogers
- Council Member Ray Wilson

Staff:

- Tim O'Briant, Administrator
- Donna Owen, City Clerk
- Matt Chappell, Codes Enforcement
- Mandy Hess, Finance Director
- Jonathan Morris, Recreation Director
- Trey Adams, Public Works Director/Utility

(The minutes are a synopsis of the meeting, and they are not a verbatim discussion. Full viewing and recording of the meeting is available on the City of Pickens Web-page and Facebook. Also, the full agenda packet with all departmental reports is available in the City Clerk's office.)

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Scipio called the Budget Work Session to order and further gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENTS FROM MAYOR SCIPIO: NONE

DISCUSSION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2026/2027 BUDGET ORDINANCE NO. 2026-01:

Council held open and in-depth discussions with departments from Code Enforcement, Police, Municipal Judge, Recreation, Fire, and Public Works. Each Department went over expenditures, revenues, personnel, equipment, and other needs for the coming year.

Items of more discussion and documentation will be as follows:

- Stormwater Revenue and Expenditures

- Capital Expenditure Review:
 - Fire Department Turnout Gear
 - Central Square Public Safety Software
 - Taser/Body Camera System Obligation
 - Police Emergency Response Team Equipment
 - Discussion on Police Vehicle Technology
 - Discussion on Soccer Fields Rehabilitation
 - Discussion on Information Technology Services
 - Discussion on replacing SmartFusion system

- Hospitality Fund Projects
 - Discussion on Recreation Center HVAC Replacement
 - Amphitheater Improvements and Restroom Project
 - Charters of Freedom Monument
 - Restroom Trailer

- Utility Fund Capital Projects
 - Water Meter Replacement Program
 - Margaret Street Water Line Project
 - SCADA System Completion
 - Solid Waste Equipment
 - Pump Station Improvements

- Councilmember Ray Wilson made a motion to take a ten-minute recess. Mayor Pro-Tem Allie Winter seconded the motion and carried unanimously at 2:14pm. Councilmember Danny Adams left the meeting early due to a doctor's appointment and did not return to the meeting.

- Councilmember Floyd Rogers made a motion to reconvene. Councilmember Ray Wilson seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

- The budget discussion continued and discussion included, but was not limited to:
 - Administration Budget
 - Council Training Budget
 - Sponsorships and Donations
 - Council consensus to increase this budget allocation to \$8,000
 - Accounting/Auditing
 - Mayor and Council Expenses
 - Staff were directed to provide detailed expenditure reports and supporting documentation for further review prior to budget adoption.

- Fire Department Budget
 - Discussion of line item re: Fire station Site Study or Storage Shed - \$50,000
 - Future Fire Station Facility Planning

- Planning and Codes Compliance Division
 - Nuisance Abatement Program
 - New Planner Position
 - Discussion of hiring another person who would oversee Planning Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals, issue permits for zoning/appliance, review all annexations or business zoning requests
 - Discussion of reaching out to ACOG to see what they can provide at what cost

- Discussion on Cherry Bekaert Proposal

- Hospitality Budget
 - Salaries
 - Doodle WI-FI Connection
 - Entertainment / Chamber Events – move to \$40,000
 - Increase Christmas decoration – move to \$11,000
 - Hospitality Tax Public Safety Levy

- Budget Totals

- Mayor Pro-Tem Allie Winter made a motion to take a ten-minute recess. Councilmember Floyd Rivers seconded the motion and carried unanimously (6-0).

- Councilmember Ray Wilson made a motion to reconvene from the ten-minute recess. Councilmember Floyd Rivers seconded the motion and carried unanimously (6-0).

- Council and Staff had discussion regarding the readings of the Budget Ordinance. Council agreed to hold the First Reading of the budget on June 22, and the Second Reading and Public Hearing on June 30.

CONVENE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- Motion to go into executive session was made by Councilmember Allie Winter, seconded by Councilmember Floyd Rogers and unanimously approved to convene into executive session for the stated purposes:

1. Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements and proposed sale or purchase of property, Section 30-4-70(a)(2): 120 W. Main Street, Pendleton/Liberty, and lease or sale of other city owned property

RECONVENE INTO PUBLIC SESSION:

- Motion was made by Councilmember Ray Wilson, seconded by Councilmember Allie Winter, and unanimously passed to reconvene in public session.

ACTION AS IT RELATES TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- Councilmember Floyd Rogers made a motion to authorize the Administrator to negotiate the discussed amount for 120 W Main Street. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Ray Wilson and carried unanimously.
- Councilmember Floyd Rivers made a motion to authorize the Administrator to negotiate property on Pendleton Street with the amount discussed. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Ray Wilson and carried unanimously.
- Mayor Pro-Tem Allie Winterr made a motion to offer the now vacant city-owned home at Red Hill Road to an employee lottery that will be left open for 30 days, and the new rental rate will be \$850 a month, for 1 year lease. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Floyd Rivers and carried unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS: NONE

ADJOURNMENT:

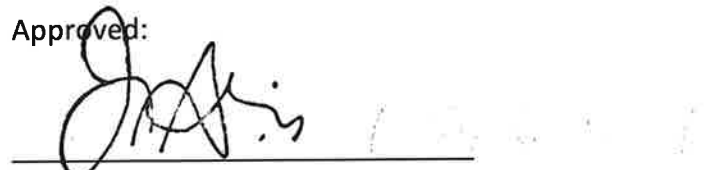
Hearing no further business, Mayor Scipio called for the motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Councilmember Allie Winter, seconded by Councilmember Floyd Rogers and unanimously passed. City of Pickens Council stood adjourned at 4:59 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Meagan Nations, City Clerk

Approved:



Mayor, Isaiah Scipio