

City of Pickens
Work Session Meeting
August 24, 2026
6:00 p.m.

The Mayor and City Council convened at Pickens City Hall, 219 Pendleton Street, Pickens, S.C. for a Special Called Meeting. Agendas were posted and sent to media on August 21, 2026.

Council Members in Attendance:

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

Staff:

Meagan Nations, City Clerk/Human Resources Director
Chris Elrod, Fire Chief

(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 are available in the City Clerk's office.)

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Scipio called the council meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance. Mayor Scipio further gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENTS FROM MAYOR SCIPIO:

The mayor addressed the City's ongoing administrative transition, noting the indefinite suspension of the City Administrator and the vacancy in the Finance Director position. He stated that department directors and staff have collaborated effectively to maintain municipal operations, Council is exercising increased due diligence in examining financial and administrative reports directly, and specific details regarding ongoing personnel situation remain confidential due to employment law constraints to protect the City from potential legal liability.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF COURT STREET PARKING, INCLUDING ANY INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENTS AND PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

The mayor presented a draft Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Pickens and Pickens County regarding public parking along Court Street, adjacent to the Pickens County Courthouse.

>>>Councilmember Allie Winter made a motion for consideration and approval of Court Street parking intergovernmental agreement. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Floyd Rogers.

Council and Staff discussion included, but was not limited to:

- Concerns regarding 24/7 enforcement limitations and potential impacts on weekend public parking during downtown events
- Business owner's concerns
- Discussion of options to explore alternative parking sites with property owners, the County, and Courthouse representatives to address security requirements without diminishing public parking
- Clarification regarding 2-hour parking restrictions were currently under a temporary 60-day advisory/notice period before active citation issuance
- Attorney confirmed no direct state statutory precedent exists mandating municipal parking allocations to county courthouses, though safety and security considerations remain valid grounds for intergovernmental review.

>>>After much more discussion, Councilmember Jonathan Baker made an amended motion to postpone consideration of the intergovernmental agreement regarding Court Street Parking for a period of 90 days, and during said 90-day period, the city will not enforce two-hour parking limitations on all of Court Street. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Allie Winter, and carried (6-1), with Councilmember Ray Wilson opposed.

DISCUSSION OF THE CITY'S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Jennifer Vissage, ACOG, was present at the meeting to give an overview of the City's Comprehensive Plan.

Discussion of the City's Comprehensive Plan included but was not limited to:

- First Reading took place on August 10, and second reading is scheduled for September 14.
- Discussion regarding Planning Commission already had a public hearing.
- Discussion of the City doing a strategic plan
- Discussion of Benchmark Planning Master Plan

DISCUSSION OF ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS

Matt Chappell, Development Services Manager, gave an overview of updated pricing on possible installation of two electric vehicle charging stations. He reported that updated pricing would be necessary due to changes in costs and inflation. Preliminary information was presented from Optimus Energy Solutions for two charging stations with four vehicle connections. The proposed turnkey cost for two stations, including installation and related work, was \$160,686, with potential Duke Energy rebates to be explored. The project would be funded through hospitality funds.

Council discussion included, but was not limited to:

- Discussion of possibility of installing one station, rather than two and the potential reduction in cost

- Discussion on use of hospitality funds

After more discussion, Council will consider this matter at a later date.

DISCUSSION OF FORMING A CITY OF PICKENS EVENTS COMMITTEE

Bryan Owen, Marketing Director, gave an overview of City Events coming up and mentioned that Councilmember Ray Wilson asked for this item to be on the agenda to consider an events Committee. He stated the Chamber of Commerce assists the City with event planning, with funding provided through hospitality funds.

Council and Staff discussion included, but was not limited to:

- Discussion of opportunities to involve additional community volunteers and residents in event planning, and gather input on potential events and performers
- Discussion of what forming an events committee would look like – i.e.: number of citizens to serve on board, etc.
- Benefits and challenges of hosting events on Main Street and closing portions of the street, regarding parking, local businesses and attendance at the amphitheater

After much more discussion, the City will continue working with the Chamber and revisit the possibility of forming a formal Events Committee.

CONVENE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion to enter in executive session for the following items:

1. Board and Commissions – Section 30-4-70(A)(1):
 - a. Board and Commissions Appointments
2. Personnel - Section 30-4-70(A)(1):
 - a. Discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline or release of an employee, or an appointment to a public body
3. Contractual – Section 30-4-70(A)(2):
 - a. Discussion of proposed sale on Moorefield Memorial Highway (#4181-20-81-5542)

>>>Councilmember Ray Wilson moved to convene into executive session for the stated purposes. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Floyd Rogers. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

RECONVENE INTO PUBLIC SESSION:

Motion was made by Councilmember Ray Wilson to reconvene into Public Session, seconded by Councilmember Floyd Rogers and unanimously passed.

ACTION AS IT RELATES TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor Scipio stated for the record, no decisions or votes were taken during executive session.

1. Board and Commissions – Section 30-4-70(A)(1):
 - a. Board and Commissions Appointments

- i. No Action Taken
- 2. Personnel - Section 30-4-70(A)(1):
 - a. Discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline or release of an employee, or an appointment to a public body
 - i. Councilmember Floyd Rogers made a motion to authorize the City Attorney to pursue separation of employment with the City Administrator. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Allie Winter and carried unanimously (7-0).
- 3. Contractual – Section 30-4-70(A)(2):
 - a. Discussion of proposed sale on Moorefield Memorial Highway (#4181-20-81-5542)
 - i. No Action Taken

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:

No Comments from Council

ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business, Mayor Scipio called for the motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Councilmember Allie Winter, seconded by Councilmember Ray Wilson and unanimously passed. Pickens City Council stood adjourned at 9:08 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Approved:

Meagan Nations
City Clerk/Human Resources Director

Mayor, Isaiah Scipio