City of Pickens
Regular Council Meeting
September 15, 2026
6:00 PM

The Mayor and City Council convened at Pickens City Hall, 219 Pendleton Street, Pickens, S.C. for a Regular Council Meeting. Agendas were posted and sent to media on September 11, 2026.

Council Members in Attendance:
Mayor, Isaiah Scipio
Council Member Danny Adams
Council Member Jonathan Baker
Council Member Cameron Rivers
Council Member Floyd Rogers
Council Member Ray Wilson

Council Members Virtual:
Mayor Pro-Tem, Allie Winter

Staff:
Meagan Nations, City Clerk/Human Resources Director
Chris Elrod, Fire Chief
Randal Beach, Police 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 special-called council meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance. Mayor Scipio further gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENTS MAYOR SCIPIO:
The City's financial position was reviewed. As of the close of business on September 11, 2026, the City's accounts had the following balances:

- Main Account: $897,152.33
- Wells Fargo Hospitality Account: $135,183.49
- Local Government Investment Pool – Reserve Fund: $650,018.27
- Local Government Investment Pool – Hospitality Fund: $330,180.01

- Local Government Investment Pool – Utility Fund: $400,410.39

It was noted that this information would be posted on the City's website for transparency.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:
Hesham Aldedher- Mr. Aldedher addressed City Council regarding the sale of legal hemp-derived products at tobacco shops within the City. The speaker requested permission to sell compliant products in accordance with South Carolina law and applicable City requirements, including THC limits, testing, labeling, packaging, and age restrictions. The speaker stated that strict age verification would be followed and products would not be sold to anyone under 21. A written statement was submitted to the City Clerk for the record.

Alex Saitta- Chairman of Pickens County Council, Alex Saitta, provided an update on several county projects, including the new EMS/911 call center, construction of a new $1.2 million EMS station in Pickens, and expanded courthouse-area parking. He also reported on recent and upcoming road improvements on Highways 183, 178, and 8. Mr. Saitta noted that the county has $30,000 available as a match for improvements at Bruce Field and provided an update on ATAX funding awarded to several local organizations and events.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:
- **Monday, August 10, 2026 – Regular Council Meeting**
- **Monday, August 24, 2026 – Special-Called Finance Work Session**
- **Monday, August 24, 2026 – Regular Work Session**
- **Thursday, August 27, 2026 – Special-Called Meeting**
- **Thursday, September 3, 2026 – Special-Called Meeting**

>>>Motion was made by Councilmember Ray Wilson, seconded by Councilmember Floyd Rogers, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes as presented. Councilmember Winter was not present during time of vote.

SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE 2026-08 TO ADOPT THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
Council discussed whether any changes had been made to the Comprehensive Plan since the first reading, including previous discussions with Jennifer Vissage and Matt Chappell. It was confirmed that no changes had been made since the first reading.

>>>Councilmember Ray Wilson made a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance 2026-08, adopting the Comprehensive Plan. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Floyd Rogers and carried unanimously (6-0). Councilmember Winter was not present during time of vote.

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 Commission 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 regarding the Administration Department

3. 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 regarding the Finance Department

4. Legal-Section 30-4-70(A)(2):
    a. Receipt of Legal Advice regarding Former City Administrator

>>>Councilmember Floyd Rogers moved to convene into executive session for the stated purposes. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Danny Adams. Motion carried unanimously.

RECONVENE INTO PUBLIC SESSION:

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

ACTION AS IT RELATES TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

1. Board and Commissions-Section 30-4-70(A)(1):
    a. Board and Commission Appointments
        i. **Councilmember Jonathan Baker nominated Martha Hannah to the Board of Architectural Review.**
        ii. **Councilmember Ray Wilson nominated Madeline Campbell to the Board of Architectural Review.**
            1. **The vote carried (4-2) to appoint Martha Hannah, with Councilmember Ray Wilson and Councilmember Floyd Rogers opposed. Councilmember Winter was not present during the time of vote.**

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 regarding the Administration Department – **Councilmember Ray Wilson made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign a service contract with ACOG regarding recruitment for an Administrator. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Floyd Rogers and carried unanimously (6-0). Councilmember Winter was not present during time of vote.**

3. 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 regarding the Finance Department – **No Action Taken.**

4. Legal-Section 30-4-70(A)(2):
    a. Receipt of Legal Advice regarding Former City Administrator – **No Action Taken.**

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Councilmember Danny Adams- Councilmember Adams stated that we need to do whatever needs to be done to get Mrs. Winters the answers she needs via her email to Council today.

Councilmember Jonathan Baker- Councilmember Baker discussed the concerns of increasing number of feral cats within the City. He shared that he had spoken with Matt Chapel about the issue and learned that there are several options available if Council decides to move forward. He asked that information be gathered on the different options and the steps the City could take to address the problem. One option discussed was TNR (Trap-Neuter-Return), which would help control the feral cat population by trapping, neutering, and releasing the cats. He noted that this would not solve the problem immediately but could be a step in the right direction. He requested that the matter be brought back to Council for further discussion.

ADJOURNMENT:
Hearing no further business, Mayor Scipio called for the motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Councilmember Danny Adams, seconded by Councilmember Ray Wilson and unanimously passed. Pickens City Council stood adjourned at 8:27 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Meagan Nations
City Clerk/Human Resources Director

Approved:

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Mayor, Isaiah Scipio