

**Pickens County Council**  
**Budget Work Session Report**  
**Monday, April 16, 2018**  
6:15 P.M.  
Main Conference Room  
222 McDaniel Avenue  
Pickens, SC 29671

Pickens County Council met to hold a work session and discuss the FY 2018-2019 proposed budget, immediately following the Committee of the Whole meeting. Chairman Roy Costner presided with all members in attendance. The meeting was called to order at 6:19 p.m.

Council Members in Attendance:

Roy Costner, Chairman  
Chris Bowers, Vice Chairman  
Wes Hendricks, Vice Chairman Pro-Tem  
Trey Whitehurst  
Ensley Feemster  
Carl Hudson

Staff in Attendance:

Gerald Wilson, County Administrator  
Ken Roper, County Attorney  
Crystal A. Alexander, Clerk to Council  
Ralph Guarino, Finance Director  
Sheriff Rick Clark  
Creed Hashe, Chief Deputy  
Drew Sisco, Prison Director

**Summary of Work Session for Proposed FY 2018-2019 Budget:**

- Gerald Wilson stated that he planned to discuss the questions and concerns submitted by members of council regarding the proposed budget. He recommended beginning with the Sheriff's Office and asked Council to consider entering in executive session for personnel matters related to the Sheriff's Office.
- Councilman Wes Hendricks moved to enter in executive session to discuss personnel matters pertaining to the Jail and the Stockade, as it relates to the budget, as defined by S.C. Code of Laws, Section 30-4-70 (a) (1). Motion was seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster and carried unanimously.

Chairman Roy Costner called the session back to order at 6:55 p.m.

The discussion of budgetary items included, but not limited to the following:

- Operational Costs for the Prison: Gerald Wilson will research this matter and report back to Council
- Update on "Bank Time" Options: Mr. Wilson provided another option to freeze the bank time payout rate at the current pay rate, preventing future liabilities related to cost of living adjustments. Mr. Guarino advised the only variable would be any future increases to the state retirement system, which would be paid when the employee receives the payout of the bank time.

Ralph Guarino provided Council with the below summary of employees with bank time:

Yrs to Retirement	Yrs in System	Count	Cost
18-16	10-12	16	\$ 21,999.94
15-13	13-15	34	\$ 70,518.74
12-10	16-18	24	\$ 95,442.57
9-7	19-21	27	\$ 104,313.99
6-4	22-24	15	\$ 85,753.47
3-1	25-27	14	\$ 85,967.03
Able to Retire	28-30	15	\$ 127,164.82
Able to Retire	33-34	2	\$ 10,538.06
Able to Retire	36-39	2	\$ 14,845.71
Has Retired	Retired	6	\$ 30,539.11

Councilman Trey Whitehurst asked about the legality of freezing the bank time as proposed. Ken Roper stated that as long as the action is to freeze the value at the current salary of the employee, and not attempt to revert back to a previous salary, this should not have legal implications.

- Sheriff's Office Vehicle Fleet: Mr. Wilson provided Council with a list of Sheriff's Office current vehicle fleet inventory that included 109 vehicles.
- Employee One-Time Pay: Mr. Guarino provided an updated amount for the one-time pay option proposed. The estimated cost to be a total of \$639,506.00 from the General Fund and \$145,127.51 from Other Funds, which includes the libraries, fire departments, etc. Mr. Guarino clarified that this is subject to change due to attrition and onboarding of employees prior to the one-time pay disbursements.
- Tri-County Technical College Operational Costs Funding: Mr. Guarino advised that this matter would be discussed in more detail at the upcoming meeting with TCTC on Monday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Recreation Funding: Mr. Wilson stated that an option is to fund \$300,000 one-time this year and wait for additional anticipated revenue next year.
- Library Debt Mill: Mr. Wilson stated that he confirmed since the last work session, that SWU and Clemson both allow public use of their library facilities.
- Consolidation of Services (Dispatch/Fire/EMS): Gerald Wilson stated that the Emergency Services Advisory Board has been taking comments through 04/12/18. The next step is to meet with the fire chiefs and then members of council will meet with everyone.
- Overtime for 911/Dispatch: Mr. Guarino advised that there has been an unanticipated increase in overtime costs this year. He stated that the budget needs to be adjusted by \$35,113.00 for the referenced overtime costs.

**ADJOURN:**

After more discussion, Vice Chairman Chris Bowers moved to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Councilman Wes Hendricks and carried unanimously. Pickens County Council stood adjourned at 7:59 p.m.