

COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL AS A WHOLE REPORT

Council Members:

Chris Bowers, Chairman
Roy Costner, Vice Chairman
Trey Whitehurst
Alex Saitta
Henry Wilson
Ensley Feemster

Staff in Attendance:

Ken Roper, County Administrator
Meagan Nations, Clerk to Council
Les Hendricks, Contract Attorney

The Committee of the Whole met in Main Conference Room, at the Pickens County Administration Facility, on Monday, April 18, 2022. All members of the committee were in attendance with Chairman Chris Bowers presiding. Vice Chairman Roy Costner led the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Chris Bowers called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE:

RENAMING OF LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER – Log No. 199

- Mr. Carl Hudson, former Pickens County Council member, stated he would like to honor Sheriff David Stone by possibly renaming the Law Enforcement Center after Sheriff Stone. Mr. Hudson introduced Sheriff Stone's past Chief Deputies and they gave detailed information on what Sheriff Stone went through as Sheriff and why they feel this building should be named after him.
- Council and staff had detailed discussion that included, but was not limited to:
 - Policies that address renaming county building's
- ❖ **Vice Chairman Roy Costner made a motion to move forward on renaming the Law Enforcement Center based on recommendations. Motion was seconded by Councilman Alex Saitta and carried unanimously (6-0).**

DISCUSSION ON AN ORDINANCE FOR A REFERENDUM REGARDING SUNDAY ALCOHOL SALES IN PICKENS COUNTY – Log No. 181

- Attorney Hendricks stated he included the statutes that is in Council's agenda packets that set out regulations to have a referendum, as well as a draft copy of the Ordinance. Council had staff had detailed discussion that included, but was not limited to:
 - Other SC counties that have completed this referendum
 - Discussion on the two questions on the draft ordinance:
 1. *"Shall the South Carolina Department of Revenue be authorized to issue temporary permits in this county for a period not to exceed twenty-four hours to allow the possession, sale, and consumption of alcoholic liquors by the drink to bona fide nonprofit organizations and business establishments otherwise authorized to be*

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licensed for consumption-on-premises sales?"

2. *"Shall the Department of Revenue be authorized to issue temporary permits in this county for a period not to exceed twenty-four hours to allow the sale of beer and wine at permitted off-premises locations without regard to the days or hours of sales?"*

- Timeframe for Council to pass third reading of Ordinance if on the referendum in November Election; third reading must take place by August
- Discussion on this Ordinance being passed for the citizens of Pickens County to make the final decision on alcohol sales in Sunday
- Discussion on when the Elections Board need this Ordinance to be completed by

❖ **Councilman Ensley Feemster made a motion to move out of Committee for third reading. Motion was seconded by Councilman Trey Whitehurst and carried (5-1), with Councilman Alex Saitta opposed.**

2030 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN REFERRAL BY COUNCIL TO THE PICKENS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION FOR FURTHER PUBLIC INPUT AND RECOMMENDATIONS – Log No. 192

- Mr. Roper gave information to Council regarding the Comprehensive Plan, stating Council is required by state law to do a new comprehensive plan every 10 years, and update every 5 years. He stated Council received the document in their agenda packets.
- Council and Staff had detailed discussion that included, but was not limited to:
 - Changes the Planning Commission made to the comprehensive plan (*in Planning Commission February 2022 minutes*)
 - Councilman Alex Saitta reviewed page 54 with Council, stating some changes he would like made on the Goals and Objectives for the Housing Element. He stated he would like to change the Policy and Actions.
 - Members of Council had a detailed discussion on the goals and objectives for the Housing Element Page in the draft Comprehensive Plan.
 - Transportation Plan

❖ Councilman Alex Saitta made a motion to change the Policies on Page 54 to state:
“Encourage accredited organizations to improve options in quality and affordable housing, and projects that provide attractive housing options and amenities to seniors, young professionals and other population groups.”

Motion was seconded by Councilman Trey Whitehurst. Chairman Bowers asked if there was any discussion:

- Councilman Alex Saitta amended his motion, stating he would like to add back in “economic development catalyst”. Councilman Trey Whitehurst seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously (6-0). The policy will now state:
“Encourage accredited organizations to improve options in quality and affordable housing, and projects as economic development catalysts that provide attractive

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housing options and amenities to seniors, young professionals and other population groups.”

Seeing no other discussion, the motion carried unanimously (6-0).

- ❖ Councilman Alex Saitta made a motion to change the Action on Page 54 of the Comprehensive Plan. Councilman Trey Whitehurst seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously (6-0). The Action will now state:
“Create an economic and regulatory environment that is conducive to housing investment, housing quality and housing affordability.”
- ❖ Councilman Alex Saitta made a motion to accept the Planning Commission Draft Proposal, including the amendments that Council made this evening and to send out of Committee. Motion was seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster and carried unanimously (6-0).

DISCUSSION ON AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ADVANCE OF FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL FUND OF PICKENS COUNTY TO THE PICKENS COUNTY AIRPORT ENTERPRISE FUND, PROVIDING FOR THE REPAYMENT OF SAID GENERAL FUNDS BY REVENUES AND/OR GRANT FUNDING FROM OTHER SOURCES, AND MATTERS RELATED THERETO – Log No. 201

- Mr. Roper advised to Council that first reading in title only of this Ordinance took place at the April Council Meeting. Mr. Roper stated Council has already authorized a 60/40 split with the State Aeronautics to design a taxiway and further hanger space for the airport. He stated we are expecting bids back on this design in the coming weeks (Project Arnold). Mr. Roper discussed the funding from the handout, which included:
Federal - **\$4,947,800.00**
State - **\$2,052,100.00**
Pickens County - **\$1,592,100.00**
TOTAL = **\$8,592,000.00**

He stated if the County is willing to spend the \$1.5 million, the Federal and State Funding will be available to us to complete this project.

- Administrator Roper and Council had detailed discussion regarding the Budget that included, but was not limited to:
 - Questions regarding if the Airport could be advanced that money from the General Fund
 - Charge Interest (just like excepting debt payoff for consolidation of fire districts)
 - Airport Enterprise Funding
- ❖ Chairman Chris Bowers made a motion to remove the runway resurfacing and the existing taxiway, but move forward as staff recommended. Motion was seconded by Councilman Trey Whitehurst and carried unanimously (6-0).

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ADJOURN:

Hearing no further Committee business, Chairman Chris Bowers called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Councilman Henry Wilson, seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster and carried unanimously (6-0). Meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.