

## 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  
Billy Gibson, Emergency Services Director  
Richard Crowe, E-911 Technical Specialist  
Allison Fowler, Community & Tourism Development Director

**The Committee of the Whole met in Council Chambers, at the Pickens County Administration Facility, on Monday, October 17, 2022. All members of the committee were in attendance, with Chairman Chris Bowers presiding.**

### **WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Chris Bowers called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 6:07 P.M., and Chairman Bowers led the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

### **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE:**

#### **COUNTY RADIO SYSTEM – Log No. 80**

- Mr. Roper stated that Council determined in previous Committee meetings that the first priority regarding ARPA funding was to try to come up with a solution to the County radio system. He stated we engaged a consultant to come in and study our current system to make recommendations on how to move forward with a new radio system. He stated that ARPA laws are very specific to where we have to have inquire the expense by December 31, 2024, and have to have completely expended our ARPA funds by December 31, 2025.
- Council, County Staff and McGriff Staff had discussion that included, but was not limited to:
  - Discussion on the three conceptual solutions presented:
    - Project 25 UHF Standalone System
    - Project 25 800 MHz Standalone System
    - Project 25 Palmetto 800 Existing System (with additional sites)
  - Partner with other Counties
  - How much money has been allocated towards this project -- \$14,000,000
  - Advantages vs. Disadvantages of each solution
  - Council would like a “cheat sheet” of pros vs. cons of each solution to better understand each system
- After much more discussion, Chairman Chris Bowers made a motion to put out an RFP for either/or the Project 25 UHF Standalone System and the Project 25 800 MHz Standalone

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System. Motion was seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster and carried unanimously (6-0).

- ❖ **Chairman Chris Bowers made a motion to put out an RFP for either/or the Project 25 UHF Standalone System and the Project 25 800 MHz Standalone System. Motion was seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster and carried unanimously (6-0).**

### **COUNTY CONSTABLES AND CERTIFICATION PROCESS – Log No. 209**

- The Committee had very detailed discussion on Officer Certification for the Litter Control Officers. Discussion was included but was not limited to:
  - Review of Resolution 2021-24, *TO APPOINT CERTAIN COUNTY EMPLOYEES AS COUNTY CONSTABLES PURSUANT TO SECTION 4-9-145 OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS*
  - Staff's recommendation is for our Litter Officers and Code Enforcement Officers remain peace officers, and updating the existing litter ordinance to more closely match the state ordinance
  - Class 3 Officers vs. Constables
  - Review of Minutes from October 4, 2021 Council Meeting
  - Employee's opinions on carrying
- After much discussion between Council & Staff, Councilman Henry Wilson made a motion to table for future consideration. Motion was seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster and carried (5-1), with Councilman Alex Saitta opposed.
- ❖ **Councilman Henry Wilson made a motion to table for future consideration. Motion was seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster and carried (5-1), with Councilman Alex Saitta opposed.**

### **AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH STANDARDS AND LIMITATIONS ON FUTURE DEVELOPMENT ON THE SOUTH CAROLINA HIGHWAY 11 SCENIC BYWAY AND MATTERS RELATED THERETO – Log No. 205**

- The Committee had very detailed discussion on this Ordinance. Discussion was included but was not limited to:
  - Discussion on considerations for Council to consider (handout from the Attorney):
    - Area and Scope of Limitations
      - Name of Area: The Pickens County Natural Heritage Area name was created by staff
      - Size of Area
      - Size of Buffers
      - Exclusions from Buffers
      - Other Exclusions not in draft ordinance
    - Building and Site Design Limitations
      - Specific uses allowed
      - Specific design limitations
      - Agritourism
    - Conservation Bank
      - Council approves all grants

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- Criteria
- No eminent domain
- Discussion between Council & Staff that included, but was not limited to:
  - Conservation Bank Discussion
  - Moratorium
  - 250 ft buffer discussion
  - Commercial design discussion
  - Properties impacted by 100ft buffer, 200ft buffer, etc. on Hwy 11 and back roads off of Hwy 11
- After much discussion between Council & Staff, Councilman Trey Whitehurst made a motion for the following recommendations. Motion was seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster and carried (5-1), with Councilman Henry Wilson opposed. The recommendations are:
  - A 250ft buffer on Highway 11 (no limitation behind buffer)
  - Council to task Staff to get the total number of houses a 100ft buffer would affect on the backroads off of Highway 11
  - No industrial north of Highway 11
  - Establish a Conservation Bank (no \$)
  - Commercial design standards for anything north of Highway 11
  - To include exemptions as listed at major intersections (1, 2, and 3) for access to property behind the buffer and any private roads
- ❖ **Councilman Trey Whitehurst made a motion for the following recommendations. Motion was seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster and carried (5-1), with Councilman Henry Wilson opposed. The recommendations are:**
  - **A 250ft buffer on Highway 11 (no limitation behind buffer)**
  - **Council to task Staff to get the total number of houses a 100ft buffer would affect on the backroads off of Highway 11**
  - **No industrial north of Highway 11**
  - **Establish a Conservation Bank (no \$)**
  - **Commercial design standards for anything north of Highway 11**
  - **To include exemptions as listed at major intersections (1, 2, and 3) for access to property behind the buffer and any private roads**

### **ADJOURN:**

Hearing no further Committee business, Chairman Chris Bowers called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Vice Chairman Roy Costner, seconded by Councilman Henry Wilson and carried unanimously (6-0). Meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.