

## **COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL AS A WHOLE REPORT**

### **Council Members:**

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

### **Staff in Attendance:**

Gerald Wilson, County Administrator  
Ken Roper, County Attorney  
Crystal A. Alexander, Clerk to Council  
Michael Hayes, Risk Manager  
Charlie Moore, Building Codes  
Phillip Trotter, Building Codes  
Jay Pitts, Tourism Director  
Chris Brink, Community Development Director

The Committee of the Whole met in the Main Conference Room on Monday, November 13, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. All members of the committee, with the exception of Councilman Trey Whitehurst, were in attendance with Chairman Roy Costner presiding.

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

Chairman Roy Costner called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance. Councilman Ensley Feemster led the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

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

#### **Tourism Board – Log No. 63**

- Ken Roper, the County Attorney, advised that staff needs clarification on the intent of previous appointments to the 501c3 boards (Performing Arts Center, Hagood Mill, and Pickens County Museum), in regards to whether these appointments were intended to be to the 501c3 boards, or to the overarching Tourism Board. Mr. Roper stated that if the intent was the overarching Tourism Board, then staff needs direction on whether to restructure the Cultural Commission or the Tour Pickens County Board.
- Chairman Roy Costner stated that when the previous appointments were made to the three 501c3 boards, his opinion was to dissolve the Cultural Commission and utilize the Tour Pickens County Board that has never been seated, to structure the overarching Tourism Board. He clarified that the overarching Tourism Board would be seated by recommendations from each of the 501c3 boards and from citizens in each district that Council appoints, to include previous members of the Cultural Commission.
  - Councilman Ensley Feemster and Councilman Carl Hudson agreed with the Chairman’s vision for the Tourism Board.
  - Councilman Wes Hendricks stated whichever direction that Council takes, the members from the Cultural Commission that have served the County, should be afforded an opportunity, in some capacity.
  - Mr. Roper responded that staff would reach out to the Cultural Commission members to determine if they would like to serve on any of the 501c3 boards or the Tourism Board.
- Mr. Pitts asked for clarification if there will be an overall executive board, where the members of the independent 501c3 boards will come together to report on their organizations.
  - Chairman Roy Costner responded “yes, that is what my hope is”.
  - After much discussion, the County Attorney stated that staff can present further information, based on the direction just provided, at the next committee meeting.
- ❖ No Action Taken by Committee

**Liberty Civic Auditorium Branding and 501c3 – Log No. 50**

- ❖ No Action Taken by Committee

**Pickens County Museum 501c3 – Log No. 51**

- ❖ No Action Taken by Committee

**Hagood Mill 501c3 and Grant for Pole Shed – Log No. 52**

- ❖ No Action Taken by Committee

**DSO Amendment – Ordinance No. 546 – Log No. 73**

- Councilman Carl Hudson asked for confirmation that all of the amendments are mandated by FEMA and if the amendments are not adopted, it may impact citizens insurance.
- Phillip Trotter responded that was correct and clarified that if Council does not adopt the amendments by December 21, 2017, the County will be suspended from the National Floodplain Insurance Program. He clarified that the citizens would not immediately lose their flood insurance, but renewals or new policies could not be issued, if the suspension occurred. Mr. Trotter further clarified that this suspension would not only affect Pickens County, but the City of Pickens and the Town of Six Mile would be affected, as they fall under the County’s jurisdiction relative to floodplain management. He stated that the City of Pickens and the Town of Six Mile have both completed their process and have provided their completed ordinances to the County.
- Vice Chairman Chris Bowers asked if there was any language added or amended, that was not required by FEMA and/or SCDNR.
  - Mr. Trotter responded no, other than the two amendments made at the last council meeting that were not specific to the floodplain amendment.
- Vice Chairman Chris Bowers moved to recommend third reading of Ordinance 546. Motion was seconded by Councilman Carl Hudson and carried unanimously (5-0).
- ❖ Committee recommends third reading of Ordinance 546.

**Building Codes – Log No. 44**

- Phillip Trotter provided an overview of the proposed building codes amendment.
- Councilman Ensley Feemster asked if the fee structure covers the cost for the services.
  - Mr. Trotter responded, yes.
- Mr. Trotter advised that the County is mandated by the South Carolina General Assembly to adopt certain building codes, every cycle that the South Carolina Building Codes Commission approves the codes. He stated that the County is not up to date; the goal is to update the Ordinance to become compliant with everyday actions in the Building Codes Department. He clarified that currently the Department is operating under the 2015 suite of codes; however, the State is starting the process for 2018.
- After much discussion, Charlie Moore shared photos as an example of the inspections that the Building Codes Department encounters.
- Councilman Wes Hendricks moved to recommend changing the language in the Ordinance, from “Official” to “Officer”. Motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers, to open discussion.
  - >During discussion, Vice Chairman Chris Bowers stated that the issue is more with the term “designee” than “official”.
- Motion to amend failed (1-4), with Councilman Wes Hendricks in favor.
- Vice Chairman Chris Bowers moved to recommend changing the language in the Ordinance from “designee” to “qualified inspector”. Motion was seconded Councilman Ensley Feemster
  - >During discussion, Councilman Carl Hudson asked the County Attorney is there is an issue with using the language “qualified”.
  - Ken Roper responded, no.
  - >Councilman Ensley Feemster stated his concern with using the language “qualified”, in regards to an increase for a possibility of a lawsuit.
- Motion carried (4-1) with Councilman Ensley Feemster opposed.
- Councilman Wes Hendricks stated that the language was not changed in Section 8-74; the term “officer” is used and should be “official”.
- After much discussion, the Chairman called for a vote.

- Vice Chairman Chris Bowers moved to recommend second reading of Ordinance 534, as amended. Motion was seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster and carried (4-1), with Councilman Wes Hendricks opposed.
- ❖ Committee recommends second reading of Ordinance 534, as amended to change the term “designee” or “designated official” to “qualified inspector” in Section 8-71.

**ADJOURN:**

Hearing no further Committee business, Chairman Roy Costner called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers, seconded by Councilman Carl Hudson and carried unanimously (5-0). The Committee of the Whole stood adjourned at 7:29 p.m.