

October 20, 2008  
Regular Council Meeting  
6:00 PM

County Council met in regular session, in the auditorium, County Administration Facility, with Chairman G. Neil Smith presiding. Agendas, bearing date, time, and location of meeting, were mailed to Council members and local news media, October 17, 2008

Council Members in attendance:

G. Neil Smith, Chairman  
Ben L. Trotter, Vice Chairman  
Tom E. Ponder, Vice Chairman Pro-Tempore  
Randy Crenshaw  
Jennifer H. Willis

Donna Owen, Clerk to Council

Absent: James B. London

Staff: J. Chappell Hurst, County Administrator  
Ken Roper, County Attorney  
Olivia Vassey, Special Project Coordinator

**WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Smith called the meeting of October 20, 2008 to order and welcomed those in attendance. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance was given by Councilman Crenshaw.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- Motion was made by Ben Trotter, seconded by Randy Crenshaw and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of October 6, 2008.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Chairman Smith gave the following report. Administration and Finance --  
The Administration and Finance Committee met in the Main Conference Room with Chairman Smith presiding. Jennifer Willis was in attendance. Tom Ponder was absent.

Council Members in attendance:

Ben Trotter  
Randy Crenshaw

Donna Owen, Clerk to Council

**Staff:**

Chap Hurst, Administrator  
Olivia Vassey, Special Projects Coordinator  
Ralph Guarino, Finance Director  
Dale Powell, Park Director  
George Bryant, Auditor

Item	Description	Referred	Report	Action
	<b><u>Tourism for Pickens County</u></b>			
45	1 <sup>st</sup> reading for an ordinance to develop a tourism bureau. 10/20/2008	02/05/07		>>Committee recommends a first reading for an Ordinance to create a tourism bureau which would be eligible to receive the 30% SCATAX funds. The membership of the board would be a 7 member board appointed by each council member and 1 at large.
59	Request to support and form a Tourism Committee Retained 12/31/2007	06/04/07		>>Council Approved the 1 <sup>st</sup> reading of said ordinance.
	Marketing and Tourism for Pickens County  (per Chairman Smith all related issues combined 4/28/07)	12/17/07		
	<b><u>New GASB rules</u></b>			
47	Clarification of Vacation policy Retained 12/31/2007	06/18/07		.....Vacation schedules have been approved and employees are aware of changes.
50	Issues with (GASB) No. 43 and 45. Retained 12/31/2007  (per Chairman Smith both items combined 04/28/07)	07/16/07		....Items regarding GASB 43 and 45 No action, staff will come back to council with options.
52	Request from the City of Liberty for the County to collect liens. Retained 12/31/2007	08/6/07		No action
58	County Investment Policy Retained 12/31/2007	10/01/07		Committee would like further study on issues of security for bank investments, security in deposit schedules, and security for employees.
64	Review camping fees for Mile creek	08/18/08		>>Committee moved to approve the camping fees as requested by the Park Director.

65	Rental Fees for the Gym in Pickens	09/15/08		>>Committee recommends that staff have the authority to set the fees for a monthly and daily rate with a deposit. Also Committee gives staff the authority to waive fees if warranted based on other government agencies or community needs.
66	Accommodation tax money	09/15/08		This issue was moved into the discussion of Tourism.
67	Long term recreation funding	09/15/08		No action
68	Automobile assessment issues	09/15/08		No action,  Auditor explained to the committee that there is an appeals board which is made up of the Treasurer, Auditor, and Tax Assessor.  Bill of Sale from the dealer of a car is acceptable and national rebates are considered, but not specialty rebates.
69	Seniors of Pickens County	09/15/08		>>Committee recommends for Council to reconsider the earmarked \$10,000 for building purchase, and to allow for capital improvements in the existing building.  Because this is a motion to reconsider a previous motion from the budget process, Ben Trotter moved to allow the Seniors of Pickens County to use the \$10,000 for capital improvements. Motion was seconded by Jennifer Willis and unanimously passed.

**ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:**

Mr. Hurst gave the following information to Council.

1. E-Waste- Mr. Hurst informed Council and the public that each recycling center in Pickens County would be disposing of computers, televisions, and all electronic equipment during the month of November. Mr. Hurst stated this is very important for the citizens as employees are onsite to ensure that cell phones and hard drives are crushed as citizens bring them in for disposal.
2. Tax Assessor Website. Mr. Hurst stated that Pickens County is being used as a national example of the way an assessor’s website should function. Mr. Hurst stated that Pickens County should be extremely proud of David Day and his department.

3. Bid information. Mr. Hurst stated that all projects and bid information is now online. Also that bids will be in on November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2008 for the T Hangars at the airport. Also the Liberty Fire Department project is currently out for bid.
4. Ground Clearing at Liberty. Mr. Hurst stated that the County was clearing land in Liberty for the fire department, and the process is almost complete.
5. Grant information. Mr. Hurst stated the county had recently been awarded \$50,000 for the COBRA team; this grant will keep equipment updated.

**MOTION PERIOD AND NEW BUSINESS:**

Chairman Smith opened the floor for any new motions; hearing none the floor was closed with no new motions forthcoming.

**PUBLIC HEARING AND THIRD READING ORDINANCE NO. 407, TO ALLOW A LOCAL WINERY TO OPEN ON SUNDAY:**

Chairman Smith opened the floor for a public hearing relating to Ordinance No. 407 as it allows a winery to open and sell wine on Sunday. Hearing no comments from the public; the floor was closed. Chairman Smith allowed motions from the Council.

- Motion was made by Jennifer Willis, seconded by Randy Crenshaw that this constitute a third reading of Ordinance No. 407.

Chairman Smith stated to the public that this ordinance only relates to a state licensed winery, and the only winery in Pickens County at the present, is Victoria Vineyards on Highway 11.

Hearing no further discussion Chairman Smith called for the vote that this constitute a third reading. Ben Trotter and Randy Crenshaw opposed, Jennifer Willis, Chairman Smith and Tom Ponder voted in favor. Motion carried.

**SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 409 TO AMEND THE JOINTLY OWNED AND OPERATED INDUSTRIAL PARK IN CONJUNCTION WITH GREENVILLE COUNTY:**

- Motion was made by Jennifer Willis and seconded by Ben Trotter that this constitutes a second reading of Ordinance No. 409 as it relates to the jointly owned park in conjunction with Greenville County.

**SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 410 TO AMEND THE JOINTLY OWNED AND OPERATED INDUSTRIAL PARK IN CONJUNCTION WITH OCONEE COUNTY:**

- Motion was made by Jennifer Willis and seconded by Ben Trotter that this constitutes a second reading Ordinance No. 410 as it relates to the jointly owned park in conjunction with Oconee County.

**SECOND READING ORDINANCE NO. 411 TO INVOKE THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 12-43-217 (B) OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS, 1976, AS AMENDED TO PROVIDE THAT REASSESSMENT OF ALL PROPERTY IN PICKENS COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA SUBJECT TO AN AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAX BE POSTPONED FOR ONE PROPERTY TAX YEAR:**

- Motion was made by Jennifer Willis, seconded by Randy Crenshaw and unanimously passed that this constitutes a second reading of Ordinance No. 411 as it relates to the postponement of reassessment for one tax year.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

- Motion was made by Jennifer Willis, seconded by Randy Crenshaw and unanimously passed to convene in executive session for the stated purposes.

Personnel and Organization Chart Issues  
Appointments to Boards and Commissions  
Beautification Committee  
Aeronautics Committee

**PUBLIC SESSION RECONVENED:**

Chairman Smith called the public session back to order and allowed the following motions.

- Beautification Committee: Jennifer Willis moved to appoint Miriam Hendricks to fill an at large seat on the Beautification Committee. Motion was seconded by Tom Ponder and unanimously passed.
- Beautification Committee: Randy Crenshaw moved to reappoint Ben Kissam to the Beautification Committee. Motion was seconded by Ben Trotter and unanimously passed.
- Aeronautics Commission. Chairman Smith moved to reappoint Alan Woods to the Aeronautics Commission. Motion was seconded by Ben Trotter and unanimously passed.

**ADJOURN:**

Hearing no further business, Chairman Smith called for the motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Jennifer Willis, seconded by Randy Crenshaw and unanimously passed. Pickens County Council stood adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Chairman Smith announced that Council would convene in a work session regarding the Development Standard Ordinance.

Respectively Submitted:

Approved:

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Donna F. Owen, Clerk to Council

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G. Neil Smith, Chairman