

September 20, 2010  
Regular Council Meeting  
6:30 PM

County Council met in regular session, in the Auditorium, County Administration Facility, with Chairman Neil Smith presiding. Agendas, bearing date, time, and location of meeting were mailed to Council members and local news media, September 16, 2010.

Council Members in attendance:

G. Neil Smith, Chairman  
Jennifer H. Willis, Vice Chairman  
Tom Ponder  
James London  
Randy Crenshaw  
Sam Wyche

Staff: J. Chappell Hurst, County Administrator  
Ken Roper, County Attorney  
Donna Owen, Clerk to Council

**WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Smith called the meeting of September 20, 2010 to order and welcomed those in attendance. The Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman London.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

Jim Wilkie, Dennis Reinert, and Junius Smith all came before Council with various comments regarding the Comprehensive Plan that was recently submitted to the Planning Commission. Mr. Wilkie stated that the movement for communication and open dialogue has been a way of letting interested people know they can in fact, change issues and be a part of local laws. Mr. Wilkie also stated the plan was very complicated and would need many meetings to allow the general public to be familiar with the plan. Mr. Wilkie thanked Council for the opportunity to have input, and restated that citizen input was the most important factor.

Dennis Reinert -stated that the Planning Staff has done an excellent job listening to and putting together the concepts of the Conservatives of the Upstate, and he also stated that Planning Staff has done an equally good job in submitting other concepts. Mr. Reinert stated he believed the two plans should now come together in order to have a document that was agreeable with the majority of the people. Mr. Reinert stated it was important to have balance and not extreme.

Junius Smith- Mr. Smith states the Comprehensive plan still has too much language that relates to agenda 21. Mr. Smith cautioned Council about the reality of this plan, and how the language and definitions themselves could have detrimental impacts to Pickens County.

EPA Regulations:

- Mr. Reinert stated he had recently attended a meeting where the EPA officials were teaching about the conformity of new regulations. Mr. Reinert stated he attended the meeting for the purpose of asking if anyone has realized the potential devastation of the regulations when it comes to industrial growth. Mr. Reinert informed Council that he thought more interest was being generated for this subject, and that more municipalities and counties are beginning to realize the impact to industrial growth by conforming with these regulations. Mr. Reinert concluded by

stating he hoped that at least local governments, businesses and EPA officials were beginning to communicate.

Weldon Clark- Mr. Clark stated that during the tax payer's association meeting, Jeff Duncan responded to the EPA regulations by explaining how bills and other stipulations are passed. Mr. Clark stated that it is important to be aware about how these appropriations are made within the system.

Philip Smith- Mr. Smith stated he attended a Liberty City Council meeting and he was surprised to see how issues tend to be passed without much discussion or without anyone really understanding what they are voting to do. Also, Mr. Smith stated he is trying to encourage younger people to get involved in local and state government. Mr. Smith informed Council that he and others are challenging each other to recycle, and thanked Council for all the efforts they provide in the recycling incentives.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES –**

- Motion was made by Jennifer Willis, and seconded by James London to reconsider the minutes of July 19, 2010. Motion was passed with a unanimous vote.
- Motion was made by Jennifer Willis, and seconded by Tom Ponder to correct the minutes as stated. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

#### July 19, 2010 Minutes:

Minutes were corrected to reflect the maker of the motions to approve Resolutions relating to the Tri-County Property – Minutes now state the maker of both resolution motions were James London and not Jennifer Willis.

#### Approval of the August 16, 2010 Minutes:

- Motion was made by Jennifer Willis, seconded by Sam Wyche and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of August 16, 2010.

#### **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

Mr. Hurst advised Council of the following items:

- The new Quick Jobs Center has 10 new students. The center started classes on this evening, and will be training in various real job techniques, such as medical transcript, 911 operations, welding, HVAC, and Bookkeeping. Mr. Hurst stated this was an excellent facility and will be in demand as more businesses are informed.
- Business and Industry Showcase- Mr. Hurst advised that there would be a business and industry show case on September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at Little John Coliseum. Mr. Hurst stated that over 5,000 students were expected to attend.
- Nuclear exercise of August 3, 2010. Mr. Hurst informed Council that FEMA has completed the grading of the exercise, and he stated that Pickens County had excellent remarks; indications were made to discuss Pickens County being a model for other sites in the State.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Public Service Committee- Committee Chairman Tom Ponder gave the following report.

Public Meeting Notice  
Monday September 13, 2010

11:00 AM  
Pickens County Administration  
Main Conference Room

The Public Service Committee met in the main conference room with Committee Chairman, Tom Ponder presiding. All committee members were in attendance. Also in attendance were Council Members Jennifer Willis and Sam Wyche.

**Staff:**

*Chappell Hurst, County Administrator  
Donna Owen, Clerk to Council  
Gerald Wilson, Public Works Director*

Item	Description	Action
7	Request for minimum maintenance <u>Kenemer Lane, Up the Creek, and Deer point</u>	Committee moved to approve Kenemer, Up the Creek, and Deer Point for minimum Maintenance. >>Council approved
8	Paving list for FY 2010/11	Committee recommends approval of the FY 2010/2011 paving list as amended to reflect Deer Trail being skipped due to better condition. Also Rescue Rd. and Patterson Street were determined to be private roads. >>Council approved

**report notes:**

\*\*noted that staff requested that Up Yonder Road was not ready for minimum maintenance due to right of way issues have not been resolved. (Notice should have been for Up the Creek and Deer point.)

\*\*Committee requested staff to be consistent with the master paving list, and make sure that changes, additions, or deletions come back to council for approval.

**COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE:**

Chairman Smith announced the following issues:

September 23, 11:00 AM- Committee of the Whole – Health Insurance

September 30<sup>th</sup>----- Awards dinner at the Madren Center 6:00 PM—Must RSVP by this Friday. (limited space) Barrett/Lawimore Award-

**MOTION PERIOD AND NEW BUSINESS:**

Chairman Smith opened the floor for any new business. Hearing none, the floor was closed.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- Motion was made by Jennifer Willis, seconded by Tom Ponder and unanimously passed to approve the consent agenda.
  - Administration and Finance- Building Codes Act, relating to sprinkler systems
  - Administration and Finance- Study funding for all non-county functions
  - Public Service Committee- Madden Bridge Road sewer Project
  - Public Service Committee- Encroachment policy
  - Committee of the Whole- Health Insurance

**PUBLIC HEARING AND THIRD READING OF ORDINANCE 434 AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A BOND ANTICIPATION NOTE IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF ONE MILLION SIX HUNDRED EIGHTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,680,000) BY PICKENS COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA IN ANTICIPATION OF THE RECEIPT OF**

**THE PROCEEDS OF THE SALE OF A GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND OF PICKENS COUNTY, AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO:**

Chairman Smith opened the floor for any comments regarding Ordinance 434. Chairman Smith stated this ordinance is from the grant/stimulus funding received from USDA, but procedure calls for a bond while construction is being completed of the North Plant.

Ben Trotter – stated he would like to see the public hearings of ordinances held on a second reading.

Junius Smith – asked about borrowing capacity.

While Mr. Smith’s question was answered as borrowing or debt capacity is generally 8 %. Council explained that this particular bond was set aside for funding the project of the North Plant and is already granted to the County from USDA. However, the bond must be issued in order to begin construction, and will not be paid back from Pickens County.

**APPROVAL FOR DACUSVILLE FIRE DISTRICT TO APPLY FOR SOUTH CAROLINA FORESTRY GRANT EQUIPMENT GRANT.**

Mr. Hurst stated the Dacusville Fire District is requesting permission to apply for a grant at U.S. Forest Service, and utilize \$12,000 of reserve to purchase a truck.

- Motion was made by Tom Ponder, seconded by Jennifer Willis and unanimously passed to approve the grant request.

**ESTABLISHMENT OF MILLAGE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010/2011:**

- Motion was made by Jennifer Willis, and seconded by James London to establish the millage for fiscal year 2010/2011.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

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

- Contractual Issue – (1)
- Personnel Issue – (3)
- Boards and Appointments
- Pickens Fire District

**PUBLIC SESSION RECONVENED:**

Chairman Smith called the public session back to order and advised the following motion.

Economic Development:

- Motion was made by Sam Wyche, seconded by Tom Ponder and unanimously passed to place Ben Cole on the Economic Development Board of Directors.

**ADJOURN:**

Hearing no further business, Chairman Smith called for the motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Jennifer Willis, seconded by Tom Ponder and unanimously passed. Pickens County Council stood adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectively Submitted:

Approved:

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Donna F. Owen Clerk to Council

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G. Neil Smith, Chairman  
Pickens County Council