

Pickens County Council
Workshop Report
Monday, November 11, 2019
6:05 PM
Hampton Memorial Library
304 Biltmore Drive
Easley, SC 29640

Pickens County Council met to hold a Council Workshop. Councilman Ensley Feemster presided with all members in attendance, with the exception of Councilman Wes Hendricks. The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Council Members in Attendance:

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

Staff in Attendance:

Ken Roper, Acting Administrator
Meagan Bradford, Clerk to Council

Council's discussion included, but not limited to the following:

- ❖ Maintain Conservative Budget
 - Analyze based on millage
 - Zero based budgeting
 - Mandatory vs. discretionary spending
 - No tax increase unless tied to an overriding need
 - Employee incentive program
 - Recognize increasing operational expenses
 - Reduce health care cost through self-insured options

- ❖ Broaden Economic Development
 - Market existing structures
 - Explore private-public partnerships for development
 - Small business events
 - Engage with Chambers of Commerce
 - Expand partnership with SDPC
 - Report on successful incentives

- ❖ Plan for Capital Expenditures
 - 5 year capital plan
 - Plan for a fixed millage
 - Standardize equipment / look for efficiencies

- ❖ Establish Sustainable Road Maintenance
 - Develop a list of projects
 - Improve maintenance schedule for roads
 - Repeal Road User Fees
 - Explore penny sales tax replacement

- ❖ Develop Comprehensive Tourism Approach
 - County-wide approach
 - Branding and marketing plan
 - Explore hospitality tax
 - Involve municipalities and Chambers of Commerce
 - “Your Natural Destination”

- ❖ Advance Unified Emergency Services
 - Incremental steps to standard funding
 - Uniform purchasing plan
 - Look for further efficiencies

ADJOURN:

Hearing no further Council business, Chairman Roy Costner called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers, seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster and carried unanimously. Pickens County Council stood adjourned at 8:31. p.m.