

Special Called County Council Meeting

July 26, 2021

6:00 PM

County Council met in special session, with Chairman Chris Bowers presiding. Agendas, bearing date, time, and location of meeting were mailed to members of council and local news media on June 9, 2021.

Council Members in Attendance:

Chris Bowers, Chairman

Roy Costner, Vice Chairman

Ensley Feemster

Alex Saitta

Henry Wilson

Trey Whitehurst, Vice Chairman Pro-Tem (absent)

Staff in Attendance:

Ken Roper, County Administrator

Meagan Nations, Clerk to Council

Les Hendricks, Contract County Attorney (absent)

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Chris Bowers called the special-called meeting of July 26, 2021 to order and welcomed those in attendance. Chairman Chris Bowers led the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

FIRST READING IN TITLE ONLY OF AN ORDINANCE NO. 602 REPEALING ORDINANCE #s 295, 332, 365, AND 373 (THE ROAD USER FEE ORDINANCES) AND AMENDING ORDINANCE No. 599 (THE FY 22 BUDGET ORDINANCE) SO AS TO PROVIDE FOR A LEVY OF TAXES TO OFFSET THE LOSS OF REVENUE FROM THE REPEAL OF SAID ROAD USER FEE ORDINANCES, AND MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

Chairman Chris Bowers asked for a motion to constitute first reading of Ordinance No. 602.

- Motion was made by Councilman Ensley Feemster, seconded by Vice Chairman Roy Costner. Chairman Chris Bowers asked if there is any discussion.

- Councilman Alex Saitta asked if we should put the amount of money that is going to be lost in the Ordinance, which will be around \$2.3 million.
- Mr. Roper stated that is a round figure, and he would not recommend that until we have the exact figure.
- Councilman Saitta stated he feels Council should make a motion at some point that says this is how much money we are setting aside in a separate account.
- Chairman Bowers stated we are starting from scratch here, and we all have different ideas. He stated as we get closer to third reading, that's when the pencils have to be the sharpest.
- Councilman Saitta stated an estimate is a lot different than an approach. He stated he does not feel the need to give the money to the municipalities.
- More Council discussion included but was not limited to:
 - Library Millage
 - Road User Fee
 - Municipalities fixing roads
 - Transportation Committee

- Resolution to State Legislation regarding taking SC roads back to maintain
 - Municipal Association future meeting(s)
- After much more discussion between Council, Councilman Alex Saitta stated he would like the record to show that he opposes this because he opposes using county revenue and county savings from the county budget to pave city owned roads.
 - Vice Chairman Roy Costner asked staff if it was for county roads in the city limits or was it city owned roads.
 - Mr. Roper stated it was for roads that was the county maintenance responsibility when this agreement was reached.
 - Councilman Saitta stated the \$20 road user fee is all he feels the municipalities should get.
- Chairman Chris Bowers asked for a vote regarding first reading in title only of this ordinance. Motion carried (3-2), with Councilman Alex Saitta and Councilman Henry Wilson opposed.

ADJOURN:

Chairman Chris Bowers asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Vice Chairman Roy Costner, seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster and carried unanimously. Pickens County Council stood adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

Respectively Submitted:

Approved:

Meagan Nations, Clerk to Council

Chris Bowers, Chairman of County Council