

**Regular called City of Pickens Council Meeting
May 8, 2023
6:00 P.M.**

The Mayor and City Council met in a Regular session in the Council Chambers at City Hall 219 Pendleton Street, Pickens S.C. Agendas were posted and sent to media on May 6, 2023. (noted was the absence of Council Member Jimmy Davis, Mayor Pro-Tem.)

Council Members in attendance:

Mayor Fletcher Perry
Council Member Patrick Lark
Council Member Lois Porter
Council Member Robert Nealy
Council Member Isaiah Scipio

Council Members Absent:

Council Member Jimmy Davis, Mayor Pro-Tem

Staff:

Administrator, Charlene Carter
Police Chief, Randal
Fire Captain, Rodney Crenshaw

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:

1. Cheryl Beach- Ms. Beach spoke about the new Roll Carts that are being distributed. Ms. Beach stated that the new rules of having only one cart will not work in most situations and the problem could be resolved if citizens were allowed to utilize the carts, they already own to include the new cart.
2. Caroline Rogers – Ms. Rogers agreed with Ms. Beach and stated she would be fine if she could use her other carts as well. Ms. Rogers also asked if the citizens were paying for the new Carts. Administrator Carts stated these are not being charged and they were purchased with ARPA funds. Ms. Rogers pointed out the need to get all the ordinance sites up to date.
3. Kevin Greer – Mr. Greer wanted to know if trash will continue to be picked up for those who do not have the new carts. Mr. Greer stated he would never be able to use just one cart. Mr. Greer wanted to know if the City was recycling on Thursday. Ms. Carter stated the County does have a program and she is working with staff to continue the Thursday recycling. Mr. Greer also gave Council a photograph of the wall in front of McDonalds that is damaged. Mr. Greer gave the City a quote to fix the wall of \$1,000.00. This has been damaged for over a year.
>>Mayor Perry asked Administrator Carter to continue to take requests as it relates to the concerns of the citizens. Ms. Carter stated she is following what is already in the sanitation ordinances, also, she is requesting a quote for extra carts. In addition,

Ms. Carter's staff is not finished, and there will be problems to solve. Ms. Carter discussed the shape of the lids that need to be unpacked for awhile so that they will conform and fit better. Council was also informed that Ms. Carter is trying to make a list of disabled or elderly citizens that may need assistance with the trash pick-up.

4. Ernestine Wilson- Ms. Wilson came before Council to complain about a piece of property that is beside her property. Ms. Wilson stated it was very overgrown, has rodents, and has not been taken care of in (2) years. Chief Beach stated he was familiar with this property, and he would speak with Ms. Wilson and take care of cutting the area.
5. Pat Mulkey Mr. Mulkey stated he realized he had asked Council to change their meeting dates. He now realizes that request has interfered with the Pickens Municipal Association. Mr. Mulkey stated he would not be opposed if Council changed the dates for meeting.
6. Barbara Robinson- Ms. Robinson stated her water bill has gone up \$20.00. The other concern she has is the speed limit sign on Lewis street needs to come down, as 35 mph is too fast.
7. Geneva Robinson – Ms. Robinson asked about the recycling program. Ms. Carter stated that the recycling should be put out on Thursdays. Ms. Carter explained that she has a very limited staff at public works.

APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL MINUTES:

April 24, 2023, Regular Council and Committee of Whole Meeting-

>>Motion was made by Council Member Lois Porter, seconded by Council Member Robert Nealy, and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of 4/24/2023.

Presentation by Mr. Ray Wilson, "Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive Day" and Ms. Margaret Loffler, Gleaning House.

>> Mr. Ray Wilson thanked Council for presenting the Proclamation that will proclaim May 13th, 2023, a day that citizens can put can food near the mailbox and that food will go the Gleaning House in Pickens County. This will be the 31st year for the food drive. All the Gleaning House Board members were in attendance.

Motion to rescind FEMA request, obligation, and award for 2019 Water Plant Generator:

>>Motion was made by Council Member Patrick Lark, seconded by Council Member Lois Porter to rescind the FEMA Request, obligation of award for water plant generator.

>>During discussion of the motion, Ms. Carter explained the facts that the City is 3-5 years away from the Keowee Tap, we have Greenville Water in cases of an emergency, and the additional cost for this grant is too excessive for this project.

All Council voted in favor to rescind the grant.

Motion to rescind Council vote regarding 247 Ann Street on April 24, 2023:

Administrator Carter advised rescinding the vote regarding Ann Street due to the fact Ms. Francine Powers did not have the opportunity to come to the Council meeting when this was discussed.

>>Motion was made by Council Member Patrick Lark, seconded by Council Member Robert Nealy, and unanimously passed to rescind the vote from April 24, 2023 regarding 247 Ann Street.

Ordinance 2023-05 Re-zoning request 247 Ann Street:

Ms. Francine Powers addressed Council as it relates to 247 Ann Street rezoning. This property is zoned R12, which only allows single family residential. Ms. Powers stated this property was allowed to operate as a Day Spa for (15) years. She wants to purchase the property as a real-estate office. She will have to have it re-zoned General Business District. Ms. Powers stated this property is designed to be commercial as it does not have a full bathroom. 247 Ann Street has always had commercial fire inspections and has been given a business license to operate as a business.

>>>During Council discussion, many Council Members have had contact with residents of Ann Street, and they would like it to stay residential.

Council Member Patrick Lark stated he would move to table the request. Mr. Lark stated he would not want to open that area up to stating it a "General Business District" but would like to look at language that may be less concerning to the adjacent residential owners. Council Member Robert Nealy asked Ms. Powers if she was interested if the property is restricted to "real-estate office only" Ms. Powers stated she was fine with that restriction. Council Member Lois Porter seconded the motion to table the request to rezone. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Ordinance 2023-06 City of Pickens Code of Ordinances:

Chapter 4 Section 4-3 Keeping of Animals- Ms. Carter went over an Ordinance update as it relates to the keeping of Animals. This updates the current ordinance to allow for petting zoos for festivals and allows for the weekend Rodeo. This ordinance does not include issues with roosters/chickens. Council Member Patrick Lark stated he thinks it would be better to be vague, and if we have complaints, we could deal with it at that time.

>>>Motion was made by Council Member Lois Porter, seconded by Council Member Patrick Lark that this constitutes a first reading of Ordinance No. 2023-06. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Resolution 2023-R10 Community Festival allocation for Jeep Explosion Sponsorship:

Ms. Carter stated this Resolution is the amount Mr. Patten is asking for relating to the festival for the Jeep Explosion. The amount requested is \$3000.00. Mr. Patten received \$2500.00 last year. The \$3000.00 will make the City a full sponsor.

>>>During discussion Council had questions and would like Mr. Patten to be present. Council also expressed concern about the festival being on private property.

>>>Motion was made by Council Member Lois Porter, seconded by Council Member Robert Nealy, and unanimously passed to table Resolution 2023-R10.

Resolution 2023-R11 1999 Fire Department Tanker:

Ms. Carter stated this resolution will allow for the sale of a 1999 freightliner to River Falls Fire Department in the amount of \$40,000.00.

>>>Motion was made by Council Member Patrick Lark, seconded by Council Member Lois Porter, and unanimously passed to approve Resolution No. 2023-11

CONVENE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

CODE OF LAWS, SECTION 30-4-70 Contractual matters and Personnel

>>>Motion was made by Council Member Patrick Lark, seconded by Council Member Lois Porter, and unanimously approved to convene in executive session for the stated purposes.

RECONVENE INTO PUBLIC SESSION:

>>>Motion was made by Council Member Isaiah Scipio, seconded by Council Member Lois Porter, and unanimously approved to reconvene into Public Session.

ACTION AS IT RELATES TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Appointments for Boards and Commissions:

>>>Motion was made by Council Member Patrick Lark, seconded by Council Member Isaiah Scipio to appoint Virginia Young beginning May 12, 2023, to the Planning Commission Board. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Engineering Contract Authorization:

>>>Motion was made by Council Member Patrick Lark, seconded by Council Member Lois Porter, and unanimously approved enter into contract with Rosier group.

Administrative update:

- 1) Azalea Festival -Ms. Carter stated the Azalea festival was successful with record numbers being in Pickens.
- 2) Roll Carts- as discussed at the beginning of the meeting, distribution of Roll Carts is being worked on, Megan Anders is the office is keeping many notes, and a second purchase is being looked into. Ms. Carter asked for some patience during this procedure.
- 3) 2023/24 Budget – preliminary budget will be presented on May 22, 2023- Ms. Carter stated she has met with all departments and will be ready for a public hearing and first reading on June 12, 2023, and final reading on June 26, 2023.
- 4) Chamber Banquet- Ms. Carter reminded Council of the annual Chamber Banquet for Friday May 12,2023 at 6:00 p.m. at Smithfield in Easley.

ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business of the Council, Mayor Perry called for the motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Council Member Patrick Lark, seconded by Council Member Isaiah Scipio, and unanimously approved. Pickens City Council stood adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Donna F. Owen, City Clerk

Approved:



Mayor, Fletcher Perry