

PUBLIC Hearing -6:00 P.M.
City Council Committee Meeting
June 26, 2023
6:00 P.M.

Mayor Perry and City Council met for the Council Committee of the whole in the Council Chambers at City Hall 219 Pendleton Street, Pickens S.C. Agendas were posted and sent to media on June 22, 2023. (noted Council Member Patrick Lark was present on zoom)

Council Members in attendance:

Mayor Fletcher Perry
Council Member Jimmy Davis, Mayor Pro-Tem
Council Member Lois Porter
Council Member Robert Nealy
Council Member Isaiah Scipio
Council Member Patrick Lark (Zoom)

Staff:

Administrator, Charlene Carter
Police Chief, Randal Beach
Fire Chief, Chris Elrod
Finance Director, Mandy Hess
Jonathan Morris, Recreation Director
Drew Langston, CWS Project Manager

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Perry called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance. Chief Randal Beach gave the Invocation and followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:

- 1) Pat Mulky – Mr. Mulky had concerns about the closures and detours for the July 1, 2023, celebrations, and the former President Trump Rally. Mayor Perry stated those directives will be forthcoming from Chief Beach.
- 2) Caroline Rogers- Ms. Rogers communicated concerns regarding the plans in place for the safety of the community as it relates to the July celebrations and Trump rally. Ms. Rogers also asked about the clean-up plans when the rally is over. Ms. Rogers asked if citizens would need a business license if they were going to charge a fee for parking on personal property. (no business license will be required)
Ms. Rogers pointed out there are reports of former Trump Rallies where the town is not paid for related costs. Is there a plan to protect Pickens and stated expenses? In addition, are businesses going to be compensated for forced closure, if so, who will be the personnel responsible for assisting.
--Mayor Perry stated Chief Beach and other personnel are meeting twice daily and final plans are not concrete to date. However, Mayor Perry stated public announcements are going out, and Chief Beach will be able to address most of these concerns.
- 3) Barbara Robinson – Ms. Robinson voiced similar concerns as voiced by Ms. Rogers as it relates to the Trump Rally. And questioned if Pickens could handle a massive crowd. Ms. Robinson stated she has been to City Hall on several occasions to speak with the Administrator, and she

has been unable to do so. Ms. Robinson is concerned about the low water pressure on Lee Street. Other concerns were about trash pick-up, and the cost of extra trash containers.

PUBLIC HEARING OF THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES:

Mayor Perry declared the following ordinances were open for Public Hearing and any comments were welcome. Public Hearing was opened at 6:00 P.M. and closed at 6:13 P.M. with (1) comment relating to Ordinance No. 2023-09.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-07- FY 2023-2024 CITY OF PICKENS BUDGET ORDINANCE:

No comments for Public Hearing.

>>Motion was made by Council Member Jimmy Davis, seconded by Council Member Lois Porter, and unanimously passed that this constitutes the second and final reading of Ordinance No. 2023-07 FY 2023-2024 Budget Ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-08 CITY OF PICKENS LOCAL REVENUE SERVICE PROGRAMS:

>>Motion was made by Council Member Jimmy Davis, seconded by Council Member Isaiah Scipio, and unanimously approved that this constitutes a second and final reading of Ordinance No. 2023-08 Local Revenue Programs.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-09- TEMPORARY SIGN ADDITIONS TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE:

1) Pat Mulky stated during public hearing that there has always been a \$5.00 fee for temporary signs. This fee needs to be enforced.

>>Motion was made by Council Member Lois Porter, seconded by Council Member Isaiah Scipio, and unanimously approved that this constitutes a second and final reading of Ordinance No. 2023-09.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-10 BAKER STREET REZONING:

>>Motion was made by Council Member Lois Porter, seconded by Council Member Jimmy Davis, and unanimously approved that this constitutes a first reading of Ordinance No. 2023-10.

CITY AND DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS AND UPDATES:

(reports are distributed in full and can be found on the City Website and Facebook page. Citizens may also view video)

- Administrative, Planning, Court, Public Works – Ms. Carter went over her report and highlighted the efforts for cutting grass, brush pick-up, weed eating, and decorating for the July celebration.
- Fire – Chief Elrod informed Council of a water leak in the department under the bay floor and thanked the water department for a quick response. Chief Elrod addressed that plans from the EMS and Fire Department are in place for the July 1st Holiday celebration as well as preparing for large numbers of people that will be in Pickens for the Trump Rally. There will be multiple authorities assisting. There will also be preparations for cooling rooms and extra medical staffing. Preparations are also in place to be able to route emergency vehicles. In addition, there will be a burning ban from 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 1, 2023.
- Police- Chief Beach informed Council of the planning and procedures that were evolving as the City prepares for the July 1st celebrations and Trump Rally. Chief Beach gave credit that the City is more prepared for these events due to their annual Azalea Festival planning, and other Main Street events. Also, the experience in the community from the

Fire, EMS, and Sherriff's department are tremendous assets. Council and Citizens were informed that the community and business owners are working well with law enforcement to ensure adequate parking. Preparations are underway regarding the details of handicapped parking and assisting pedestrian traffic. Chief Beach also agreed with Chief Elrod that the planning for this event has multiple entities involved such as DNR, SLED, and various neighboring Counties. Chief Beach thought the planning and efforts involved with this event are highly professional and he is confident in the resources, and the community. Council and Citizens were informed about the details of road closures, secure zones, and the periods of time for these closures.


- Recreation – Director Morris gave his report in full and highlighted goals of National Accreditation. Council and Citizens were informed about repairs at Hooper Field, partnerships regarding more wildflowers for pollination, and beautification. Director Morris covered updates regarding Parks, Recreation uniform orders, and Library programs.
- Utility-Project Manager Drew Langston gave his full report and highlighted the request for proposals for meter replacement has been submitted, DHEC reports have been submitted for the WWTP lab inspection. Training and planning for preventative maintenance are ongoing.

>>In closing, Administrator Carter stated Pickens County has given funds for the July 1st events as well as resources. Ms. Carter gave accolades to Local, State and Federal offices for assistance. Ms. Carter praised the Pickens employees who have dedicated countless hours to this event and will also be present and working tirelessly through Friday and into Saturday night. In addition, Ms. Carter informed Council and Citizens about the many donations of water and food from local businesses.

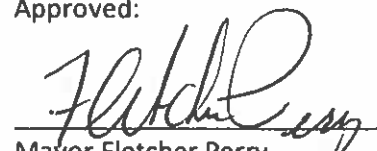
ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business, Mayor Perry called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Council Member Lois Porter, seconded by Council Member Jimmy Davis, and unanimously passed. Pickens City Council stood adjourned at 7:14 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted:


Donna F. Owen, City Clerk

Approved:


Mayor Fletcher Perry