

**Regular called City of Pickens Council Meeting  
February 27, 2023  
6:00 P.M.**

The Mayor and City Council met in a Regular called session in the Council Chambers at City Hall 219 Pendleton Street, Pickens S.C. Agendas were posted and sent to media on February 23, 2023

**Council Members in attendance:**

Mayor Fletcher Perry  
Council Member Jimmy Davis  
Council Member Robert Nealy  
Council Member Lois Porter  
Council Member Isaiah Scipio

**Council Members Absent:**

Council Member Patrick Lark

**Staff:**

Administrator Carter  
Police Chief, Randal Beach  
Fire Chief, Chris Elrod  
Fire Captain, Rodney Crenshaw

**WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Perry called the meeting of February 27, 2023 to order and welcomed those in attendance. Mayor Perry noted the absence of Council Member Patrick Lark. Chief Beach was called upon to give the invocation. All participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:**

Mayor Perry called for the comments from Citizens who have signed up to speak.

- 1) Barry Crawford- Manager at the Market at the Mill. Mr. Crawford spoke about all the good things that are continuing to take place at the Market at the Mill. Mr. Crawford informed Council he was frustrated that Council seems to be divided and not returning phone calls. Mr. Crawford explained that he recently had an issue with trying to obtain a business license for an electrician who is doing work in the new location for the Pickens Rodeo. Mr. Crawford explained that his electrician was informed the Rodeo had to obtain a business license first. Mr. Crawford stated the Rodeo has a license even when they did not need one due to the location being in the County. Mr. Crawford stated the Rodeo has been home to Pickens for years, and if this power pole and electrician cannot move forward then the Rodeo will not be performing. Mr. Crawford urged Council to be more active with businesses and to come together for the good of Pickens.
- 2) Molly Treadway-Bryson. Ms. Bryson stated she is the daughter of the owners of Treadway and Pickens Rodeo. Ms. Bryson stated that their business was on Ann Street in Pickens for the last 12 years. The building on Ann Street sold in December and the Rodeo had to move within 30 days. Ms. Bryson stated that Mr. Hosea and Mr. Crawford have been helpful with helping them relocate. Ms. Bryson stated she wants Council to understand they are the exact same business

and family. They have simply had to relocate. Ms. Bryson stated the Rodeo is more than entertainment, this program has been a positive for youth.

- 3) David Hosea-Mr. Hosea is the owner of Market at the Mill, he came before Council to encourage more participation with businesses. Mr. Hosea spoke about the many businesses that have opened because of the Market at the Mill, and how many more were interested in coming to Pickens. Mr. Hosea discussed his successes in life and stated it is important to give back. He informed Council in his opinion it is difficult to do business in Pickens. He stated he has invested in Pickens, and the city continues to be extremely hard to work with. In conclusion he stated the State had promised him funding after the flood, and he has yet to see that funding.
- 4) Michael Keith- Mr. Keith came before Council ask them to keep the quality of water as a priority. He also stated in his opinion the water tower in town should be with a non-profit who could procure grant funding. The non-profit could then take ownership of the tower.

#### **APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL MINUTES:**

Council Member Lois Porter made the motion to approve the minutes for 01/9/2023 and 01/23/23. Motion was seconded by Council Member Robert Nealy and unanimously approved.

- January 9, 2023, Regular Council Meeting
- January 23, 2023, Committee of Whole Meeting

#### **Pickens Azalea Festival request for funds-Mr. Jeff Hogan.**

Mr. Hogan, Vice President of the Azalea Festival came before Council to request funds for this year's festival. The festival dates are April 28 -29, 2023. Mr. Hogan went over a variety of plans with an event handbook, draft action plans, and the committee's budget. The committee also provided an overview & Hospitality Tax Request. The Committee is requesting \$7500.00 for 2023.

During discussion, the committee informed Council they do intend to clean up the streets from using the wrong paint during last year's event. Administrator Carter stated she will not sign the City Event permit without the proper clean up as agreed upon by both the Administrator and Ed Hunt, S.C. D.O.T. The permit to close streets must have the approval of the D.O.T. and the organization has been clear about the paint clean up.

>>Motion was made by Council Member Isaiah Scipio to approve the \$7,500.00 contingent on the streets being cleaned and permits granted. Motion was seconded by Council Member Jimmy Davis and unanimously passed.

#### **ORDINANCES- Second Reading and Final Readings**

##### **Ordinance 2023-01 Annexation of 151 Holder Street:**

>>Motion was made by Council Member Lois Porter, seconded by Council Member Jimmy Davis that this constitutes a second and final reading of Ordinance No. 2023-01. Motion carried unanimously.

##### **Ordinance 2023-02 Annexation of 231 Holder Street:**

>> Motion was made by Council Member Lois Porter, seconded by Council Member Jimmy Davis that this constitutes a second and final reading of Ordinance No. 2023-02. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **NEW BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED BY CITY COUNCIL:**

##### **ORDINANCES (First Reading) and Resolutions (One Reading)**

##### **Ordinance 2023-03 Article II Mayor and City Council:**

Administrator Carter reminded Council they had been over the amendments to this ordinance, and she is presenting the changes as communicated. Ms. Carter stated this was a first reading and if the ordinance passes in a second reading that Council is changing their Meeting times from the first and third Monday's at 6:00 P.M. to the second and fourth Monday's at 6:00 P.M. Mayor Perry did state the fourth Monday would interfere with the County Municipal Meetings.

>>Motion was made by Council Member Isaiah Scipio, seconded by Council Member Jimmy Davis, and unanimously passed that this constitutes a first reading of Ordinance No. 2023-03 to amend Chapter 2 of the Code as it relates to rules of Council.

**Resolution 2023-R1 Handbook Grievance Policy:**

Administrator Carter stated she is presenting the Resolution for handling a grievance as the City moves forward. Council thanked Ms. Carter for resolving this issue and updating this process in the handbook.

>>Motion was made by Council Member Isaiah Scipio, seconded by Council Member Lois Porter, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution No. 2023 R1.

**Resolution 2023-R2 Senior Center allocation:**

>>Motion was made by Council Member Lois Porter, seconded by Council Member Isaiah Scipio to adopt Resolution No. 2023-R2 for allocation of funds to assist with maintenance at the Senior Center. (approximately \$5300.00)

**Resolution 2023-R3 Pickens County Meals on Wheels donation:**

>>Motion was made by Council Member Lois Porter, seconded by Council Member Jimmy Davis, and unanimously approved to sponsor Meals on Wheels at a \$500.00 sponsorship.

**Resolution 2023-R4 Jewel Street and Jones Avenue Sanitary Sewer:**

Administrator Carter reminded Council the Jewel Street property was the home purchased by the City and demolition is complete. However, she believes it would be in the best interest not to re-route this sewer line at an estimated price of \$88,325.00. Ms. Carter stated a more cost-effective plan would be to initiate grants for this project as well as other sewer projects. And for the present, the recommendation is to use the existing manhole as a "holding tank" and pump once a month, which would cost about \$600.00.

During discussion, Mayor Perry stated to watch this area closely during heavy rains. All Council agreed to not support the resolution to re-route at this time and agreed with the option of using existing manhole and pumping.

**Resolution 2023-R5 Secona Road stormwater project:**

Administrator Carter reminded Council that during the committee of the whole meeting, she discussed the Secona road issue. The recommendation to help this situation is to replace the 18" outlet pipe with drop inlet and 42" pipe. Also, this project would include regrade and seed at Secona and Allgood. The project will cost approximately \$31,657.00.

>>Motion was made by Council Member Lois Porter, seconded by Council Member Robert Nealy and unanimously passed to adopt Resolution No. 2023-R5.

**Resolution 2023-R6 City Council appointments of Regional Water Authority Board Members:**

>>Motion was made by Council Member Robert Nealy, seconded by Council Member Lois Porter, and unanimously approved to appoint Council Member Jimmy Davis to the Regional Water Authority.

**CONVENE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION: CODE OF LAWS, SECTION 30-4-70:**

**City Council will enter executive session to discuss personnel matters.**

>>Motion was made by Council Member Isaiah Scipio, seconded by Council Member Lois Porter to convene in executive session for the stated purpose of personnel matters.

**RECONVENE INTO PUBLIC SESSION:**

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

**ACTION AS IT RELATES TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

>>Motion was made by Council Member Jimmy Davis to remove Drew Nicholson from the Planning Commission effective immediately. Motion was seconded by Council Member Lois Porter and unanimously approved.

**DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE for January/February)**

**Administrative Report**

- Planning -currently working and reviewing the City limits map for discrepancies on annexations for contiguous properties. And incorrectly zoned properties.
- Public Works – made some personnel changes to improve efficiency and service. Hiring additional team for the purpose of storm water. Roll Carts estimated to be in March 27, 2023
- Recreation – Introduction of Officer Jonathan Morris as the new Recreation Director. Program Coordinator will be Samantha Baily. In addition, Thomas Whitman will be a grounds and facilities Coordinator and (2) permanent part-time positions.
- Water & Sewer-Drew Langston, CWS PM- Mr. Langston gave Council an overview as he is now the project manager. Project needs are still being assessed and discussed in order to begin a pro-active approach to managing the City’s Water, Wastewater, distribution and collection needs.
- Police Department Report – Chief Beach stated his full report is in the packet and he would entertain any questions. He noted that arrests were up, and he is trying to keep that in a decline. Chief Beach also stated he knows speeding is a problem and it is difficult to take officers off the road and place them in areas for several hours. He requested to

notify him by text or email about problem areas. Chief Beach concluded by stating he had a positive discussion with members of the Azalea Committee as it relates to cleaning the streets.

- Fire Department report – Chief Elrod stated his full report was in the packet and he would answer any questions. Council did congratulate him for the hard work he has put into the procurement of the ladder truck. Chief Elrod concluded by inviting everyone to the fire bay to see the new truck.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Hearing no further business of the City, Mayor Perry called for the motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Council Member Isaiah Scipio, seconded by Council Member Lois Porter, and unanimously passed. Pickens City Council stood adjourned at 8:45. P.M.

Respectfully Submitted:



Donna F. Owen, City Clerk

Approved:



Mayor Fletcher Perry