

**Regular called City of Pickens Council Meeting
March 6, 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 March 2, 2023.

Council Members in attendance:

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

Council Members Absent:

Council Member Robert Nealy
Council Member Jimmy Davis

Staff:

Administrator, Charlene Carter
Police Chief, Randal Beach

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Perry called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance. Mayor Perry further noted the absence of Council Members Nealy and Davis. Mayor Perry requested special prayers for the Nealy family. Council Member Isaiah Scipio gave the Invocation and followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:

1. Tony Kobach. Mr. Kobach owns Tony's Restaurant and lives next door. Mr. Kobach requested Council to enforce the City's ordinance as it relates to junkyards/and or abandoned cars as well as dilapidated buildings. He also explained this attracts rodents. In conclusion, he asked for the Council to seek the advice of an attorney and look into how to enforce the ordinance.

APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL MINUTES:

February 27, 2023, Regular Council and Committee of Whole Meeting.
>>Motion was made by Council Member Isaiah Scipio, seconded by Council Member Lois Porter, and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of 2/27/2023.

ORDINANCES- Second Reading

**Ordinance 2023-03 Article II Mayor and City Council
(updated 2023 meeting schedule)**

>>Motion was made by Council Member Patrick Lark, seconded by Council Member Isaiah Scipio, and unanimously passed that this constitutes a second and final reading of Ordinance No. 2023-03.

NEW BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED BY CITY COUNCIL:

Discussion – City of Pickens Code of Ordinance, Chapter 4 Section 4-3 Keeping of Animals

Administrator Carter stated during the Council Meeting of February 27, 2023, there was discussion regarding the Rodeo property and business license. Ms. Carter clarified that the Treadway Rodeo has only been issued (1) business license and that was issued once the property they were using was annexed into the City limits. Ms. Carter provided the annexation to Council and stated that in her study of the Code of Ordinances no one thought about annexing the property with an established Rodeo, there would need to be an amendment to the code as it relates to animals that are not considered domestic. Section 4-3 states “It shall be unlawful for any person to keep any animal except household pets on any premises within the City.” Ms. Carter stated if roosters, chickens, and rodeo animals are in the City, she will need Council’s guidance on how they would like the ordinances amended for this to be legal.

During Council discussion, Council Member Lois Porter stated she has never experienced anything negative about the rodeo animals being in the City and she thinks as long as they are keeping their business license she would like to see the ordinance amended to allow the rodeo to stay in the City limits. Ms. Carter stated the rodeo animals are coming in on Friday and after the week-end event, they are removed. Ms. Carter also stated some festivals may bring animals for petting zoos and she believes this could possibly be handled with special permitting. However, there are other animals such as roosters and chickens that are in the City and the Ordinance will need to be amended to cover issues as it relates in a non-commercial setting. Council Member Isaiah Scipio liked the idea of special event permitting to make it clear about non-domestic animals. Council also discussed that it could be that non-domestic animals are only allowed for a certain time frame. Council Member Lark stated it is obvious the ordinance needs to be updated. Council advised looking at other municipalities, legal consultation, and knowledge of what citizens want. Council concurred they wanted the ordinance to allow for the rodeo to stay in Pickens but understands the balance of commercial versus residential.

Administrative update:

Azalea Festival – Ms. Carter stated she wanted to communicate with Council that she understands there has been dialogue from the Azalea Festival committee to move the Azalea Festival out of the City of Pickens due to the road clean-up. Events Coordinator with the Chamber, Debbie Gravely concurred that she has also heard the committee is actively trying to seek another place outside of Pickens. Ms. Gravely stated a merchant has offered to pay for the road clean-up for the festival to remain in Pickens. Chief Beach stated that he has talked with Mr. Costner and other members of the committee regarding a request for police assistance to safely clean the roads without utilizing a permit to close the road. Chief Beach stated a tentative date of March 27th-28th that he will commit those resources for the necessary clean-up with the approval of the City Administrator. This clean-up would be done during the times of

midnight -4:30 a.m. It was determined in the next few days there needs to be a meeting with the Administrator, Police Chief and Mr. Costner.

ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business, Mayor Perry called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Council Member Patrick Lark and seconded by Council Member Lois Porter. Pickens City Council stood adjourned at 6:35 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted:



Donna F. Owen, City Clerk

Approved:



Mayor Fletcher Perry