

COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL AS A WHOLE REPORT

Council Members:

Roy Costner, Chairman
Chris Bowers, Vice Chairman
Wes Hendricks, Vice Chairman Pro-Tem
Trey Whitehurst
Ensley Feemster
Carl Hudson

Staff in Attendance:

Gerald Wilson, County Administrator
Crystal A. Alexander, Clerk to Council
Michael Hayes, Risk Manager
Ray Farley, Economic Development Director
Chris Brink, Community Development Director
Charlie Moore, Building Codes
Phillip Trotter, Building Codes
Jay Pitts, Tourism Director
Creed Hashe, Chief Deputy

Guests in Attendance:

Wes Hulsey, *Hulsey, McCormick & Wallace*
Michael Sheehan

The Committee of the Whole met in the Main Conference Room on Wednesday, October 25, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. All members of the committee were in attendance with Chairman Roy Costner presiding.

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Roy Costner called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance. Vice Chairman Chris Bowers led the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE:

Outdoor Special Events Ordinance – Log No. 72

- Chris Brink stated that discussion on the proposed ordinance began in 2013. He clarified that there have been no known issues in the past five years that the proposed ordinance would have addressed. Mr. Brink stated that his recommendation is to shelve this ordinance until issues arise in the future.
- Councilman Trey Whitehurst stated that the previous council was told there were issues with complaints, law enforcement involvement, people getting ran off of the roadway, etc. He also stated that he thought this ordinance had provisions to collect fees to offset some of the costs incurred for referenced events.
- Chief Deputy Creed Hashe responded that there may be complaints received for bicyclist on the roadway, but that is not necessarily a result of an organized event. He stated that state law allows two bicyclists to ride two abreast on the roadway.
- Chris Brink stated that there were provisions for costs in the proposed ordinance.
- After much more discussion, the Committee agreed to share their comments and concerns regarding the proposed ordinance with the Administrator. The Administrator will direct staff to incorporate any recommendations in a draft ordinance for review at a future committee meeting.

❖ No Action Taken by Committee

Executive Session: S.C. Code of Laws, Section 30-4-70 (a)

- Chairman Roy Costner moved to convene into Executive Session as defined by S.C. Code of Laws, Section 30-4-70 (a), to discuss an economic development matter related to Project United. Motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers and carried unanimously.

Economic Development - Section 30-4-70 (a) (5)

❖ **Project United** – Log No. 75

Public Session Reconvened:

Chairman Roy Costner called the Public Session back to order. He directed the County Administrator to proceed with due diligence efforts for Project United.

❖ No further action was taken on Project United

DSO Amendment - Ordinance No. 546 – Log No. 73

- Chris Brink stated that the proposed amendments to the UDSO, Article 11, Section 1105 as it pertains to flood damage prevention are mandated by the state, and required by FEMA to participate in the Flood Insurance Program. He advised that the amendments were unanimously recommended by the Planning Commission.
 - Phillip Trotter advised that the current flood maps have an effective date of April 16, 2008. He stated that the effective date of the FEMA updated maps will be December 21, 2017, once three readings of the Ordinance have occurred. Mr. Trotter advised that FEMA has taken several different steps to notify and involve the community; for example in March of 2016, there was a Seneca Watershed Public Outreach held with a 90 day appeal period. He stated that there were no appeals for Pickens County at the end of that 90 day period, and FEMA has moved forward to obtain the December 21st date.
 - Councilman Wes Hendricks asked if any floodplains were added in the update.
 - Mr. Trotter responded that there were 10-12 properties that were affected; however, those property owners were notified and, to the best of his knowledge, there were no structures added.
 - Mr. Trotter clarified that if the County does not adopt these changes, and becomes non-complaint with FEMA requirements, the County could lose the ability to offer flood insurance for citizens in Pickens County.
 - After more discussion, Chairman Roy Costner moved to recommend second reading of Ordinance 546, amending the UDSO to comply with SCDNR and FEMA requirements as it pertains to flood damage prevention.
- ❖ Committee recommends second reading of Ordinance 546, amending the UDSO to comply with SCDNR and FEMA requirements as it pertains to flood damage prevention.

Building Codes – Log No. 44

❖ No Action Taken by Committee

Mark Woods Strings Program – Log No. 69

- Jay Pitts advised that he has engaged Mark Woods and Clemson University to determine availability for a 150 year celebration event next spring. He stated that the only available dates are April 10-13, 2018. Mr. Pitts clarified that the goal would be to create a three day experience for 900-1500 students, with a concert on the third night. He stated that there would be efforts to obtain corporate sponsors and to sell tickets for the concert to recoup some or all of the expense, with any additional funds to be given as music scholarships.

Mr. Pitts stated the approximate costs would be \$68,500 for 900 children or \$80,000 for 1,500 children; plus the two day venue cost for Littlejohn Coliseum estimated to be \$25,000 per day. Mr. Pitts mentioned that Oconee County has interest in partnering with Pickens County to collectively celebrate both 150 year anniversaries. He also shared the plan to engage the School District as well.

- Councilman Wes Hendricks recommended including special needs children in this event.
- Chairman Roy Costner stated that he has been in contact with Clemson University and the Governor regarding the 150th celebration.
- Councilman Trey Whitehurst asked for clarification of how this expenditure would be funded.
 - Gerald Wilson responded that the only option is from the general fund. He clarified that approximately \$400,000 from the cost savings of health insurance remains in the general fund.
- Vice Chairman Chris Bowers moved to recommend that this item be placed on the November 6 agenda. Motion was seconded by Councilman Carl Hudson and carried unanimously.

❖ The Committee recommended that this item be placed on the November 6 council meeting agenda.

Tourism Plan – Log No. 74

❖ No Action Taken by Committee

ADJOURN:

Hearing no further Committee business, Chairman Roy Costner called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers, seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster and carried unanimously. The Committee of the Whole stood adjourned at 8:15 p.m.