

Regular Pickens County Council Meeting

March 11, 2019

6:30 PM

County Council met in regular session, in the Auditorium of the County Administration Facility, with Chairman Roy Costner presiding. Agendas, bearing date, time, and location of meeting were mailed to members of council and local news media on March 8, 2019.

Council Members in Attendance:

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
Ken Roper, County Attorney
Meagan Bradford, Clerk to Council

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Roy Costner called the meeting of March 11, 2019 to order and welcomed those in attendance. Councilman Carl Hudson led the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance. Southern Wesleyan University Student Elisabeth Gibson sang the National Anthem.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Chairman Roy Costner opened the Public Forum and requested the Clerk to call upon the citizens signed up to speak. The Clerk announced that there were no speakers; and therefore, the Chairman closed the Public Forum.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Chairman Roy Costner called for a motion to approve the following minutes as presented:

- January 31, 2019 – Special-Called Meeting
- February 4, 2019
- Motion was made by Councilman Carl Hudson, seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster, and the motion was carried to approve the above minutes.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:

The County Administrator, Gerald Wilson, provided the following report:

Mr. Wilson stated he would like to remind Council that the Memorandum of Understanding is on the consent agenda for this evening’s meeting, to be discussed at the Committee of the Whole meeting next week. He stated he placed a notebook at Council’s seats to review.

Mr. Wilson stated he also placed a copy of the monthly report for February at Council’s seat to review.

Mr. Wilson asked Tyler Merck, Director of Mile Creek Park, to give an update and brief council on some of the improvements made at Mile Creek Park.

- Tyler Merck thanked Council for the opportunity to come forward to discuss Mile Creek Park this evening. He stated that Mile Creek Park is now self-sufficient and they hope to sustain this for years to come. He stated they have also seen a huge increase in revenue over the last year and a half. He stated at the end of February, they noticed in this budget year alone, they've made \$64,000 profit and anticipate by the end of the budget year, they will see \$96,000 in profit. He stated he is happy with his staff and in the increase in work. He stated the cabins are finished and citizens seem very happy with them. Mr. Merck stated they also finished the third bathhouse, and have plans to finish the other two bathhouses by next winter. Staff has done a lot of landscaping, with putting mulch down and under brushing. He stated that he believes this was all possible with the direction that Council put forward. He stated that while they are self-sufficient, he will be asking Council for money this evening for the park. Mr. Merck stated the big thing needed is docks for the park, which will also bring in revenue. They are also looking at putting in a gate system at Mile Creek Park for security for guests. He stated they are also looking at TV's for the cabins. Mr. Merck stated looking at an engineering study for the park; they have a problem with the day use area. The day use area includes day swimming, picnicking, boat ramps, etc. and it is all in one spot. He stated there is major congestion in that area. He stated they would also like to add a kayak/canoe area. Lastly, the park needs a little more landscaping. Mr. Merck stated they are requesting this money from the Local Accommodation Tax Fund. Mr. Merck stated everything he has discussed will make the experience of the park a lot better, and will be a great return on investment. After more discussion, Mr. Merck stated they are seeing a lot of people at the parks outside of Pickens County.

Mr. Wilson asked Ralph Guarino, Finance Director, to give an update and brief council with a financial statement. Mr. Wilson stated he would like to continue doing this monthly basis to keep council informed.

- Mr. Guarino presented Council gave an overview of the general fund schedule of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance, year to date totals as of January 31st, 2019 with comparative total for previous year and period ended January 31st, 2018. Mr. Guarino stated this report is on our website under "Most Popular Pages" and is updated each month.

COMMITTEE REPORT:

The Committee of the Whole met in the Main Conference Room, at the Pickens County Administration Facility, on Monday, February 25, 2019 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. Councilman Trey Whitehurst led the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE:

Chairman Roy Costner stated the first item for discussion is Request from District 3 Councilmember for Council to consider the Vineyards Fire District Proposal to purchase a new fire truck from fund balance – Log No. 116.

Request from District 3 Councilmember for Council to consider the Vineyards Fire District Proposal to purchase a new fire truck from fund balance – Log No. 116

- Administrator Gerald Wilson stated some members from the Vineyards came to Council about the possibility of purchasing a new fire truck a couple of months ago. He stated Council asked them to get a petition started from the property owners and report back. Mr. Wilson went over the Vineyards Budget, with projected revenues and expenditures for the remainder of the fiscal year along with the first 5 months of the FY 2020 budget. Mr. Wilson stated if the County decides to go with the plan that the Emergency Services Advisory Board has on the table, this request does align with the plan.
- Councilman Wes Hendricks stated he believes we should let the Vineyards Fire District purchase a new fire truck, especially since they have over 50% of signatures from the Vineyards Property Owners. He stated if

- we do not move forward with this, then Council did not stay true to their word.
- Councilman Ensley Feemster asked how much the Vineyards will be paying up front, and how much on the bond.
 - Rocky Odman stated it will be a four year bond, and he stated it will reduce the millage rate that the residents are currently paying with the existing bond that expires in a couple of months.
 - Administrator Gerald Wilson stated that Ralph Guarino, Finance Director, recommends keeping 15% of the cash flow at the lowest point in the bank. He stated our financial policy recommends keeping 10-15% of operational expenses on hand for reserves.
 - Councilman Wes Hendricks stated the Vineyards will also be giving a fire truck to Holly Springs, and Holly Springs will be giving a fire truck to Rocky Bottom.
 - Vice Chairman Chris Bowers asked what the cost of the truck is.
 - Administrator Gerald Wilson stated \$425,000. He stated this is the truck and the equipment.
 - Vice Chairman Chris Bowers asked if the millage rate stays the same, could we pay off the bond any quicker.
 - Rocky Odman stated yes, depending on how much they can take out of their reserve they can pay it off quicker.
- After more discussion, Councilman Wes Hendricks made a motion to approve the purchase of the Vineyards Fire Truck through a bond, keeping the millage rate the same or less. Motion was seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster and carried unanimously (6-0).
 - Vice Chairman Chris Bowers made a motion to remove item number 116 from the log, and advised staff to prepare documents for a 1st reading at the next council meeting. Motion was seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster and carried unanimously (6-0).
- ❖ Committee recommends removing item No. 116 from the log.

Council Action on Log No. 55:

- Chairman Costner stated the 1st reading will take place tonight; it is on the agenda as item #11.

Road Maintenance Fees – Log No. 66

- Administrator Gerald Wilson stated Attorney Ken Roper drafted an Intergovernmental Agreement for the municipalities based on the comments and feedback Council gave staff at the last Committee of the Whole meeting. He stated on an annual basis, the county evaluates all roads inside the municipalities and the county.
 - Attorney Ken Roper stated this simplifies the system to say the county is responsible for the roads in the county, and the cities are responsible for the roads in their city. He stated they get the unit mile value fee to take care of the roads. He stated there is an annual meeting they try to coordinate the paving along with the municipalities. He stated this is more of a cooperative approach that will make everything simpler within the county and municipalities.
 - After more discussion, Administrator Wilson stated the municipalities have taken the feedback back to their councils and all like the idea of where we are right now. Mr. Wilson stated at the annual meeting, they will talk about paving contracts, road mileage, and an overview.
 - Councilman Wes Hendricks asked what if the city does not maintain the county road within the city and what the repercussions are.
 - Mr. Wilson stated this is what the IGA is for. He stated the Ordinance was developed and written in order to maintain county and municipality roads.
 - Chairman Roy Costner asked if this repeals the Ordinance.
 - Mr. Wilson stated no, this is an intergovernmental agreement between Pickens County Council and the Municipalities. This agreement keeps the ordinance in place and is an agreement on how we operate. He stated moving forward, all Pickens County roads will have the county seal to identify it being a county road.
 - Councilman Whitehurst asked if anyone knew how many state roads are inside the cities.
 - Mr. Wilson stated he does not know, but the cities do. He stated they have the city and county information, but not the state. He stated this agreement is compliant to the Ordinance drafted in 2001.
- After much more discussion, Vice Chairman Chris Bowers made a motion to bring this Intergovernmental

Agreement before Council to vote, and to remove item number 66 from the log. Motion was seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster and carried unanimously (6-0).

- ❖ Committee recommends removing item No. 66 from the log.

Council Action on Log No. 66:

- Chairman Costner stated the Intergovernmental Agreement is placed at council's seat and no second is required because this comes as a recommendation from the committee. He asked for all those in favor for accepting this recommendation to please signify by raising their hands. Motion carried 6-0, and item No. 66 will be removed from the log.

Council Rules – Log No. 79

- Mr. Roper stated he revised the Council Rules with the changes they suggested from the last Committee of the Whole meeting. He went through each change to confirm with council that everything looked okay.
- Councilman Trey Whitehurst asked if we decided about forming sub-committees.
- Mr. Roper stated the language stayed the same and advised council to look at Rule 6: Committees on page 17. He stated based on council comments, the language stayed the same and the only change is that it says "may" instead of "shall".
- Councilman Wes Hendricks for an explanation on why 15.11 on page 15 are being deleted.
- Mr. Roper stated this made it mandatory that all revenue measures had to go through the Committee on County Administration and Finance. Since the committee is optional, this does not need to be mandatory.
- Seeing no other discussion, Vice Chairman Chris Bowers made a motion to remove item number 79 from the log. Motion was seconded by Councilman Carl Hudson and carried unanimously (6-0).
- ❖ Committee recommends removing item No. 79 from the log.

Council Action on Log No. 79:

- Chairman Costner stated no second is required because this comes as a recommendation from the committee. He asked for all those in favor for accepting this recommendation to please signify by raising their hands. Motion carried 6-0, and item No. 79 will be removed from the log.

Review of Fire Board and Districts – Log No. 55

- Attorney Ken Roper stated in 2008, County Council made a big change in the way fire was provided in Pickens County. He stated prior to that, the county had 13 different fire districts, with 13 different rules on how they operated; some of them operated the same, and some differently. He stated the way it was set up back then was a board of commissioners for each district was formed and appointed by county council after an advisory election. He stated the only thing in the ordinance that these fire boards were tasked with doing (other than having meetings, taking citizen input, and coming up with commissioners) was to prepare a proposed operating budget. Mr. Roper explained the budget process.
- Scott Smith, Director of Emergency Services, presented a PowerPoint to council and had detailed discussion to include, but not limited to: current board members serving on each fire district board; issues with the current board system; benefits of a unified system; three different options from the Emergency Services Advisory Board, etc. He explained the Emergency Services Advisory Board has been working in conjunction with all County Fire Chiefs, since the last time the board approached council. He stated the recommendation from the County, Fire Chiefs and Emergency Services Board is to move forward with creating one unified board for discussion.
- Councilman Trey Whitehurst stated council asked the board to break into sub-committees to bring back to council.
- After more discussion, Administrator Gerald Wilson stated their plan is ready to bring forward to Council in the April Committee of the Whole meeting if the Chairman pleases. He stated what they are asking Council tonight is to consider going to one county fire board, versus 13 different boards. Mr. Wilson stated all Fire Chiefs think this is the step in the right direction to a unified structure. He stated the Emergency Board has met numerous

times over the past 18 months and have invited council to be a part of those meetings.

- Vice Chairman Chris Bowers asked if the sub-committees consist of four members and the fire chiefs.
- Administrator Wilson stated that is correct.
- Chairman Roy Costner stated nothing will be changing as far as identity, fire fees, funding mechanisms, etc. He stated it will be easier to look at the board as a whole.
- Attorney Ken Roper stated this will require a change in the ordinance but we cannot move forward with a first reading until we know this is council's long term vision.
- Councilman Wes Hendricks stated he would like to research and talk to people in his district before making a decision. He asked what the possibility of this becoming effective is if we consolidate.
- Vice Chairman Chris Bowers stated you do not have to have a consolidated fire district for this plan to be successful.
- After much more discussion, Mr. Wilson stated he attended the Emergency Services Board Meeting on February 19th and he was impressed with how well the board and Fire Chiefs work together.
- Vice Chairman Chris Bowers stated of the 13 Fire Board Districts in Pickens County today, we have only three functioning fire boards. He stated the budget falls on the Fire Chiefs for the ten fire boards not functioning. He stated we are not talking about a consolidation or the finances; we are talking about the overall picture.
- Chairman Roy Costner stated all Fire Chiefs have a voice and it is monumental that all Chiefs agree that this is a good idea. He asked since we are three months out before it actually happens, should we begin the process. Chairman Costner stated we can stop the process at any time if needed.
- Councilman Trey Whitehurst stated he feels we are going down the correct path. He stated he would like to see the identity of how the fire boards are holding together, how we are looking at personnel issues, long term budgeting, etc.
- Vineyards Fire Chief Phil Black stated the board allowed each chief to put in a request for the sub-committee they wanted to be on and the chairman came to the chiefs with a couple of board members.
- Administrator Wilson stated he was impressed with the plan they came up with.
- Councilman Trey Whitehurst stated he would like to research and talk with people in his district before making a decision. He stated he has several rural fire districts in his district and he wants to make sure everyone is on board.
- Kenny McPeters, member of Emergency Advisory Board, stated if Pickens County would have paid the board members for all the hours they have put into this plan the past 18 months, County Council would have taken it and said money well spent. He stated since it was all volunteer, it is coming back to the board that they do not have council's support for all the work they have done. He stated he has been in public service for over 30 years in Pickens County, and this is the best of the services he has ever seen.
- Councilman Carl Hudson thanked Mr. McPeters for all he has done.
- After more discussion, the Committee recommends bringing this log item back to the next Committee of the Whole meeting in March.

❖ No action taken by committee.

Council Action on Log No. 55:

- No action taken by committee.

150th Year Celebration Timeline and Events – Log No. 96

- Motion was made by Chairman Roy Costner, seconded by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers and unanimously passed to remove item No. 96 from the log.

❖ Committee recommended removing item No. 96 from the log.

Implementation for New Federal Guidelines for Purchasing Relative to Grants – Log No. 94

- Motion was made by Councilman Ensley Feemster, seconded by Councilman Carl Hudson and unanimously passed to remove item No. 94 from the log.

❖ Committee recommended removing item No. 94 from the log.

Green Crescent Trail – Log No. 104

- Motion was made by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers, seconded by Councilman Carl Hudson and unanimously

passed to remove item No. 104 from the log.

- ❖ Committee recommended removing item No. 104 from the log.

Greer Drive – Log No. 112

- Motion was made by Councilman Carl Hudson, seconded by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers and unanimously passed to remove item No. 112 from the log.
- ❖ Committee recommended removing item No. 112 from the log.

Council Action on Log No. 96, Log No. 94, Log No. 104, Log No. 112:

- Chairman Costner stated the Committee of the Whole voted to remove several items from the log, He asked for unanimous consent that those recommend removals be approved. Seeing no objection, Chairman Costner moved forward with the last recommendation for the Committee of the Whole meeting.

Recreation Funding Requests – Log No. 88

- Administrator Gerald Wilson stated a council member requested a copy of recreation expenditures for the past five years and all of council has a copy of this report at their desk.
- Chairman Costner stated he wants council to start thinking about recreation funding requests. He stated everyone has seen the requests come through the past month. He asked council what they believe the intentions are to use the recreation funding for. He stated some of the requests that have come through are all over the place and he feels it will better serve council if we have specific guidelines on what recreation funding can be used for.
- Councilman Trey Whitehurst state he believes the guidelines that were originally set up where it is to be capital we will not be funding for operations. He stated it was to help offset some of the capital expenses. He stated in his district, it has been used for emergency situations sometimes as well. He stated growing up; recreation was run by the YMCA. He stated these municipalities got in the recreation business and have run a lot of the YMCA's out of business. He stated he does not want to create more government competition, but some of the smaller districts who are struggling, will have to come up with a partnership to make this work.
- Vice Chairman Chris Bower stated he feels this comes down to is determining if we want this to be a capital fund that we support our communities with. He stated a lot of times; we think recreation is organized sports, like football fields, soccer fields, baseball fields, etc. He stated that is where we spend our money when supporting our recreation departments. For example, light bulbs for the stadium, score boards, basketball floors, lawn mower parts, etc. Vice Chairman stated he feels this is not "recreation." He stated recreation is anything that gets you out and moving passively. He stated he feels council needs to decide if we are concerned about recreation, or about supporting capital expenditures in our communities.
- After much more discussion, Chairman Costner ended the conversation asking what the wish is from council as a whole to define recreation funding and he stated he feels asking people within the community their thoughts on how the recreation funding should work. Chairman Costner stated he would like to keep this item number on the log and bring back to the next Committee of the Whole meeting in March.
- ❖ No action taken by the committee.

Council Action on Log No. 88:

- No action taken by the 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 Wes Hendricks and carried unanimously. The Committee of the Whole stood adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE:

Chairman Roy Costner announced the following:

- Chairman Costner stated the next Committee of the Whole meeting will be on Monday, March 18th at 6:00 PM in the Main Conference Room of the Administration Facility.
- Chairman Costner stated the April Council Meeting will take place on Monday, April 1st at 6:30 PM in the Auditorium of the Administration Facility.
- Chairman Costner stated that Pickens County Council and Administration invite the public to join their anti-litter initiative by participating in our third semi-annual litter pickup. He stated it will take place the week of April 21-27. Council and staff will be removing trash from our roadways on Friday, April 26, but you can participate anytime during the week. It's a great way to celebrate Earth Day and set an example for future generations to keep our environment clean.
- Chairman Costner moved to appoint Councilman Whitehurst to head up an Ad Hoc Committee on Insurance, Broker, RFP Committee and to put this committee together with any other councilmembers/staff he deems to be fit.
 - Councilman Trey Whitehurst would like for Vice Chairman Chris Bowers to be on the committee.
- Chairman Costner moved to appoint Vice Chairman Bowers to man up an Ad Hoc Committee on Medical Control Physician RFP and also on Medical Billing. He stated he would like for him to put this committee together with any other councilmembers/staff he deems to be fit.

Chairman Roy Costner called for other council correspondence. Seeing no other correspondence, Chairman Costner announced moving to Motion Period and New Business.

MOTION PERIOD AND NEW BUSINESS:

Chairman Roy Costner opened the floor for motion period.

Hearing no other items for Motion Period, Chairman Roy Costner closed the floor.

Chairman Roy Costner opened the floor for new business.

Hearing no other items for new business, Chairman Roy Costner closed the floor.

UPDATE FROM PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE

Mr. Christopher D. Scalzo, Circuit Public Defender, presented a budget presentation for FY2020. He stated they are not asking for a significant amount of money this fiscal year. He wanted to update Council on the money they provided in the past years FY 2018-FY2019.

Mr. Scalzo presented an annual report and presented charts between FY 2018 – FY 2019 with comparison of new clients, closed clients, new clients per attorney and closed clients per attorney. He stated that new clients for FY19 are projected to increase by 5%, and closed clients for FY19 is projected to increase by 15%.

After much more discussion, Mr. Scalzo provided three steps to achieve the right results going forward over a period of time (FY20-FY21) would be making more office space, increase office efficiency and adding additional staff. After going into detailed discussion with Council regarding these three steps, Mr. Scalzo stated he will report back to Council with the statistic information they have asked to receive.

FUNDING REQUEST FOR DOCKS AT MILE CREEK PARK

Administrator Wilson stated they are asking for funding for the Mile Creek Park docks, a security gate, televisions in the cabins and traffic study. He asked if the county could use the Accommodation Tax Funds. Mr. Wilson stated there is currently \$275,000 of roll over funds in the account from previous years. He asked council to consider allowing them to use up to \$125,143 of the funding. He asked if council had any questions or concerns.

- Councilman Trey Whitehurst stated he would love to see everything they are asking for happen, and asked if the prices of renting the cabin will be higher when we have cable TV in the cabins.
 - Mile Creek Director, Tyler Merck, stated it will be a dish service boxes and they will look into increasing the price of renting the cabin. He stated the biggest part of the cost is the televisions and the installation. He stated the services are relatively cheap.
 - Councilman Whitehurst stated when we start adding TV's/equipment/etc.; we have to remember we start to have damages. He asked if there was an issue with security right now at Mile Creek Park.
 - Mr. Merck stated no; he lives on site and there is a park employee on site. He stated it is really more for the peace of mind for the citizens using the park. He stated to an extent, people are expressing concerns.
 - Administrator Wilson stated there were some situations that happened in the bathhouses about a month ago with people coming in after hours.
 - After more discussion, Mr. Wilson stated Representative Davey Hiott has secured \$147,250 of funding to go towards this project. He stated this has been approved by Duke Energy and these projects can be started anytime. He stated the docks will give 32 spaces for boat parking spaces and the campers may have access to them. He stated the security gate system will not be at the actual boat ramp. He stated it will be a key access gate only for renters. He stated that Duke Energy would like to see a traffic study for the boat ramp. He stated they have a meeting with Duke Energy in April. He stated what they are looking at for this fiscal year is to move forward with the docks, security gate access, and parking for the boat ramp. He stated these are things needed immediately.
 - Councilman Wes Hendricks asked what the rental rates were per night at the cabin right now.
 - Mr. Merck stated the bigger cabins have a rate of \$115/per night, and the smaller cabins are \$100. He stated there are tax and reservations fees included.
 - Councilman Wes Hendricks asked if there is a security deposit or do they hold a credit card on file.
 - Mr. Merck stated they currently do not have a security deposit and they do hold the credit card on file. He stated so far, they have had really well cliental.
- Seeing no other discussion, Chairman Roy Costner asked for a motion to approve the funding requests for Mile Creek Park. Motion was made by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers, seconded by Councilman Carl Hudson and carried unanimously (6-0).

FUNDING REQUEST FOR EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTER

Administrator Gerald Wilson asked Denise Kwiatek, Emergency Management Director, to step to the podium to brief council on this request. Mr. Wilson stated our currently EOC is located on Highway 183, within the 10 mile Duke Energy Emergency Planning Zone. Mr. Wilson stated should Pickens County have an emergency, we will be the first to evacuate from the EOC. Mr. Wilson stated downstairs in the Administration Building, there is an alternate EOC. Mr. Wilson stated if they can move the EOC to the Admin building permanently, the county will save around \$6,000 a year. He asked Ms. Kwiatek to please explain some of the benefits.

- Ms. Kwiatek stated the Emergency Management staff offices are already at the Administration building, and moving to the Alternate EOC downstairs will allow them the ability to have everything they need in one area if a disaster strikes and will be closer to town. She stated during the last 2 FEMA Graded Nuclear Exercises, the EOC staff simulated moving to the Alternate EOC because of potential contamination. She stated there are many benefits to moving. Ms. Kwiatek stated they are in a flood area where the current EOC is. She stated she feels the EOC downstairs in the Administration building is where she feels the permanent EOC should be.
 - Councilman Trey Whitehurst asked how much further out of the ten mile zone are we?
 - Ms. Kwiatek stated we are out around seven miles, so 17-18 miles.
 - Councilman Carl Hudson asked if we are currently maintaining both EOC's right now.
 - Administrator Wilson stated yes, and by doing this, we will only have to maintain one EOC. Mr. Wilson stated that Emergency Management received two refund checks from the Pinnacle Mountain Fire a few years ago, and funding will be used from the check.
 - Ms. Kwiatek stated that is correct, but we should begin thinking about a place we could potentially put an alternate EOC, just in case something were to happen to the Administration Building.
 - After much more discussion, Councilman Bowers stated he was able to attend one of the exercises that took place and realized there were a lot of people in the EOC. He stated if it was a real event, there probably would have been even more people in the room. He stated asked if the downstairs space is large enough in case something was to happen.
 - Ms. Kwiatek stated yes, they have grant money they receive from the state every year so they are going to use some of that money to expand. They will also make larger tables and they will be doing the EOC Concept Design which a lot of counties in the state are using. She stated they could fit around 60-70 people in the alternate EOC if they expand it.
 - After much more discussion, Administrator Wilson stated he feels this is a move in the right direction, and is efficiency for Council's vision for Pickens County.
- Seeing no other discussion, Vice Chairman Chris Bowers made a motion to move forward with the funding request of \$45,000 for the Alternate Emergency Operation Center. Motion was seconded by Councilman Carl Hudson and carried unanimously (6-0).

CONSIDERATION OF AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF A NOT EXCEEDING THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$300,000) GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND, SERIES 2019 (VINEYARDS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT) OF PICKENS COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, TO PRESCRIBE THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH THE PROCEEDS SHALL BE EXPENDED, TO PROVIDE FOR THE PAYMENT THEREOF, AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO.

- Chairman Costner asked for a motion to constitute the First Reading In Title Only of this ordinance. Motion was made by Councilman Trey Whitehurst, seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster and carried unanimously (6-0).

SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING (1) THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A FEE IN LIEU OF TAX AND INCENTIVE AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN PICKENS COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AND A COMPANY KNOWN TO THE COUNTY AT THIS TIME AS PROJECT PROVIDENCE, ACTING FOR ITSELF, ONE OR MORE SUBSIDIARIES, AFFILIATES, SUCCESSORS, ASSIGNS, LESSORS OR OTHER PROJECT SPONSORS, PURSUANT TO WHICH THE COUNTY SHALL COVENANT TO ACCEPT CERTAIN NEGOTIATED PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES WITH RESPECT

TO CERTAIN FACILITIES IN THE COUNTY; (2) THE BENEFITS OF A MULTI-COUNTY INDUSTRIAL OR BUSINESS PARK TO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE COMPANY AND THE PROJECT; AND (3) OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO.

- Chairman Costner asked for a motion to constitute the second reading of this ordinance. Motion was made by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers, seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster and carried unanimously (6-0).

CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF FAMILY PROMISE OF PICKENS COUNTY

Tammy Clark stated she was on the Board of Directors of Family Promise of Pickens County and she introduced Armilla Moore, Executive Director of Family Promise of Pickens County.

- Armilla Moore stated that Family Promise of Pickens County has been in Pickens for almost 5 years now. She stated they provide sheltering services to families who have at least one child under the age of 18, and they do this in conjunction with congregations who provide the shelter locations. She stated that Family Promises provide meals and help get families back on their feet. She stated in the last year, they served 42 families, and 27 people were children. She stated they do this with two full time staff, and two part time staff. In the last year, they provided 3,239 shelter nights, provided 6,478 meals, and served over 20,000 hours of volunteer time. She stated with the volunteers they use, and less than 2,000 in their budget, they provided over \$75,000 in services to the people who came to their shelter. This includes healthcare, childcare services, meals, clothing, transportation, etc. She stated they are non-profit and do depend on individuals, businesses and congregation to support financially. She stated they also apply for grants. Ms. Moore stated they are applying for a grant with the office of economic opportunity and they are asking for support from the county. She stated today they are asking for Pickens County Council to support Family Promise.
- Councilman Wes Hendricks asked where the clients stay in the shelter nights.
- Ms. Moore stated they stay in congregations all over the county.
- Councilman Wes Hendricks asked if they work with any homeless shelters outside the county.
- Ms. Moore stated if they are full, they will refer the families to other homeless shelters.
- Councilman Wes Hendricks asked if they work with the Dream Center, or Home with the Heart.
- Ms. Moore stated they do get referrals from the Dream Center and some families go take classes at the Dream Center. She stated they do place some families in Home of the Heart for a year or so to help get them back on their feet. She stated the churches and/or a donor with help provide the houses. She stated they work closely with United Ministries, DSS, Share, etc. She stated non-profit organizations in Pickens County try to work closely together to share resources.
- Councilman Ensley Feemster stated when Family Promise first began; he was the treasurer for four years. He stated Ms. Moore is a good friend of his, and for that reason, he will be recusing himself from voting on this agenda item this evening.
- Vice Chairman Chris Bowers stated he appreciates the work they are doing in the community. He asked for clarification purposes, in this resolution, are they just recognizing what Family Promise is doing in the county.
- Chairman Roy Costner stated yes, and read the resolution as followed:

CERTIFICATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT APPROVAL FOR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

I, Roy Costner, duly authorized to act on behalf of the County of Pickens hereby approve the following project(s) proposed by Family Promise of Pickens County which is to be located in Pickens County.

As Chairman of the Pickens County Council, I would like to confirm that I have been advised that Family Promise of Pickens County is submitting application to the South Carolina Office of Economic Opportunity for funding of its

emergency shelter program assisting homeless families in Pickens County. Family Promise is requesting funds to support a portion of its case management, transportation and Day Center operations for homeless families.

The services that Family Promise provides are very much needed in this county. We endorse their application and urge that your office provide funds for this program.

- Chairman Roy Costner asked for a motion to approve the resolution. Motion was made by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers, and seconded by Councilman Wes Hendricks. Chairman Costner asked if there was any other discussion.
 - Councilman Trey Whitehurst made a motion to amend the motion made; stating he would like for the resolution to say that it is approved and voted by full council. Motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers, and carried 5-0, with Councilman Ensley Feemster recused.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- a) Hagood Mill – *Committee of the Whole*
- b) Memorandum of Understanding – *Committee of the Whole*

- Motion was made by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers, seconded by Councilman Carl Hudson and carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda as presented.

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

Chairman Roy Costner called for a motion to convene into Executive Session as defined by S.C. Code of Laws, Section 30-4-70 (a). Chairman Roy Costner further stated that each issue would be discussed as the Law provides.

- Motion was made by Councilman Wes Hendricks, seconded by Councilman Carl Hudson and carried unanimously, to convene in executive session for the stated purposes after a five minute recess.

Personnel – Section 30-4-70 (a) (1)

- Keowee Springs Fire Department

Legal Issues – Section 30-4-70 (a) (2)

- Legal Update – Existing Litigation

Boards and Commissions – Section 30-4-70 (a) (1)

- Board and Commission Vacancies (71):
 - a) Accommodations Tax (ATAX)
 - b) Alcohol and Drug/Behavioral Health
 - c) Appalachian Council of Gov. (ACOG)
 - d) Assessment and Appeals
 - e) Beautification Committee
 - f) Bethlehem Roanoke Water
 - g) Construction Board of Appeals
 - h) Cultural Commission
 - i) Easley Central Water Board
 - j) Economic Development Alliance
 - k) Emergency Services Advisory Board
 - l) Fire District Board – Central
 - m) Fire District Board - Crosswell
 - n) Fire District Board - Dacusville

- o) Fire District Board – Easley
- p) Fire District Board – Holly Springs
- q) Fire District Board - Liberty
- r) Fire District Board - Pickens
- s) Fire District Board - Pumpkintown
- t) Fire District Board - Rocky Bottom
- u) Fire District Board - Shady Grove
- v) Fire District Board - Six Mile
- w) Fire District Board - Vineyards
- x) GPATS
- y) Library Board of Directors
- z) Pickens County Grievance Committee
- aa) Pickens, Oconee, Anderson Mental Health
- bb) Planning Commission
- cc) Public Service Commission
- dd) Sedgewood Tax District
- ee) Six Mile Rural Water
- ff) Southside Rural Water
- gg) Water Authority
- hh) Tourism Board
- ii) Worklink
- jj) Zoning and Appeals
- kk) *Hagood Mill Non-Profit Corporation Board
- ll) *Performing Arts Center Non-Profit Corporation Board
- mm) *Pickens County Museum Non-Profit Corporation Board

ACTION AS NEEDED VIA EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS:

Chairman Roy Costner called the Public Session back to Order and advised the following:

Personnel – Section 30-4-70 (a) (1)

- Keowee Springs Fire Department – **No Action Taken**

Legal Issues – Section 30-4-70 (a) (2)

- Legal Update – Existing Litigation– **No Action Taken**

Boards and Commissions – Section 30-4-70 (a) (1)

- Board and Commission Vacancies (71):
 - a) Accommodations Tax (ATAX) – **No Action**
 - b) Alcohol and Drug/Behavioral Health – **No Action**
 - c) Appalachian Council of Gov. (ACOG) – **No Action**
 - d) Assessment and Appeals – **No Action**
 - e) Beautification Committee – **No Action**
 - f) Bethlehem Roanoke Water – **No Action**
 - g) Construction Board of Appeals – **No Action**
 - h) Cultural Commission – **No Action**
 - i) Easley Central Water Board – **No Action**
 - j) Economic Development Alliance – **No Action**
 - k) Emergency Services Advisory Board – **No Action**
 - l) Fire District Board – Central – **No Action**
 - m) Fire District Board – Crosswell – **No Action**
 - n) Fire District Board – Dacusville – **No Action**

- o) Fire District Board – Easley – **No Action**
- p) Fire District Board – Liberty – **No Action**
- q) Fire District Board – Pickens – **No Action**
- r) Fire District Board – Pumpkintown – **No Action**
- s) Fire District Board – Rocky Bottom – **No Action**
- t) Fire District Board – Shady Grove – **No Action**
- u) Fire District Board – Six Mile – **No Action**
- v) Fire District Board – Springs – **No Action**
- w) Fire District Board – Vineyards – **No Action**
- x) GPATS – **No Action**
- y) Library Board of Directors – **No Action**
- z) Pickens County Grievance Committee – **No Action**
- aa) Pickens, Oconee, Anderson Mental Health – **No Action**
- bb) Planning Commission – **No Action**
- cc) Public Service Commission – **No Action**
- dd) Sedgewood Tax District – **No Action**
- ee) Six Mile Rural Water – **No Action**
- ff) Southside Rural Water – **No Action**
- gg) Water Authority – **No Action**
- hh) Tourism Board – **No Action**
- ii) Worklink – **No Action**
- jj) Zoning and Appeals – **No Action**
- kk) *Hagood Mill Non-Profit Corporation Board – **No Action**
- ll) *Performing Arts Center Non-Profit Corporation Board – **No Action**
- mm) *Pickens County Museum Non-Profit Corporation Board – **No Action**

ADJOURN:

Hearing no further Council 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. Pickens County Council stood adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Respectively Submitted:

Approved:

Meagan Bradford, Clerk to Council

Roy B. Costner, III, Chairman of County Council