

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
Ken Roper, County Attorney
Crystal A. Alexander, Clerk to Council
Ralph Guarino, Finance Director
Mike Hayes, Risk Manager
Sheriff Rick Clark
Creed Hashe, Chief Deputy
Drew Sisco, Prison Director

Guests in Attendance:

The Committee of the Whole met in the Main Conference Room, at the Pickens County Administration Facility, on Monday, April 16, 2018 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:

Project United – Log No. 75

- Gerald Wilson stated that the property referenced is the TTI property that was recently deeded to Anderson County. Mr. Wilson clarified that he had a conversation with Mr. Burns; and he stated that he'd be open to a discussion if there was any future interest. Mr. Wilson advised that staff recommends removing this item from the log.
- Vice Chairman Chris Bowers moved to recommend removing this item from the log. The motion was seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster and carried unanimously.
- ❖ Committee recommends removing item number 75 from the log.

Open Burning – Log No. 76

- Gerald Wilson deferred to Mike Hayes to provide an overview of opening burning laws.
- Mr. Hayes provided the following overview:
“Outdoor burning is regulated by the South Carolina State Forestry. They allow outdoor burning for agricultural and home clean-up of materials that can grow naturally or falls in the yard. There is a permit that you have to obtain to do outdoor burning. Pickens County residents’ number is 1-800-517-9637. This permit does not include items that burn with a thick black smoke with a strong odor, such as tires, plastic or trash. When a Pickens County citizen obtains this burning permit from the SC Forestry Department, they recommend that you notify your local Fire Department of the controlled burn. If the burn is not permitted, the jurisdiction falls under the SC Forestry Department to enforce and investigate that action. Whether an outdoor burn is in compliance of the SC Forestry burning permit or not, and the burning is in violation of having thick black smoke that give off a strong odor from trash, tires and or plastic; this violation is enforced and investigated by SC DHEC under Section 62.2 (Burning).”

“There is a separate permit that is issued by SC Forestry for prescribed burns. That contact number is 1-800-777-FIRE. This is designed for agricultural controlled burns and Timber Corporation burns for the benefit of proper management of the land. This burn is also important to control hazardous areas from

forest fires to minimize the damages. The SC Forestry not only issues the permit, but helps with the Smoke Management Guidelines regulated by SC DHEC before the burn.”

“Fires that don’t require a permit are camp fires. If the fire is used for warmth or cooking, it does not have to have a SC Forestry burn permit. Size is not relevant in this issue. Bonfires do not require a permit, if it’s used for warmth or marshmallows.”

- Mr. Wilson advised that staff is recommending to remove this item from the log and communicate this information to the public via social media, the county website, flyers at the Recycling Center, etc.
- After further discussion, Councilman Trey Whitehurst moved to recommend removing this item from the log and instructing staff to communicate the information as follows: place flyers at the recycling centers; place flyers at festivals; publicize the referenced information on social media sites; and provide the information on the county website, where it is easily accessible to the public, to include links to relative external sources. Motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Chris Bowers and carried unanimously.
- ❖ Committee recommends removing item number 76 from the log and instructing staff to communicate this information to the public as follows: place flyers at the recycling centers; place flyers at upcoming festivals; publicize the referenced information on social media sites; and provide the information on the county website, where it is easily accessible to the public, to include links to relative external sources.

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

- Gerald Wilson advised that staff is still receiving information on this matter. He recommended deferring this item to the next Committee of the Whole meeting in May.
- This item will remain on the log to be discussed at a future meeting.

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 Carl Hudson and carried unanimously. The Committee of the Whole stood adjourned at 6:19 p.m.