

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
Mike Hayes, Risk Manager
Sheriff Rick Clark
Creed Hashe, Chief Deputy
Michael Clark, Roads and Bridges Director
Clay Baldwin, Engineer

Guests in Attendance:

Wes Hulsey, *Hulsey, McCormick & Wallace*
Steve Barbian, *Hulsey, McCormick & Wallace*
Hal Morris, *Hulsey, McCormick & Wallace*
Stephen Steese, *City of Easley*
Phillip Mishoe, *Town of Central*

The Committee of the Whole met in the Main Conference Room, at the Pickens County Administration Facility, on Monday, May 21, 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. Councilman Ensley Feemster led the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE:

Chairman Roy Costner elected to discuss Log No. 66, Road Maintenance Fees, first.

Road Maintenance Fees – Log No. 66

- Clay Baldwin provided the members of the Committee with the following information: Pavement Condition Survey and Paving Alternatives. He stated that the previous study, or survey, was performed in 2007.
- After more discussion, Mr. Baldwin advised that staff recommends to approve funding for a pavement condition survey. He stated that a survey on all roads, city and county, would have an approximate cost of \$240,000.00; a survey on county roads only would have an approximate cost of \$180,000.00. He stated that the CTC would fund \$90,000.00 of the survey cost.
- Gerald Wilson advised that the current Road User Fee is \$20.00 per vehicle; the \$20.00 goes into an account that can only be used for paving of county and municipality roadways. He stated that currently the County maintains and manages county and municipal roads with the referenced funds. Mr. Wilson advised that the strategy has been to pave the worst first. He advised that the question was asked if the County should disburse funds back to the municipalities to maintain their own roads.
- Mr. Wilson advised that Rick Cotton, of the City of Clemson, stated that the City of Clemson is in favor of Council considering providing the funding back to the municipalities to maintain their own roadways.
- Phillip Mishoe, of the Town of Central, stated that he has discussed this with his council and they cannot make a decision until the County does. He stated that, at minimum, the Town of Central would like to maintain the roads that the Town owns.
- Stephen Steese, of the City of Easley, stated that the City of Easley would like to control better in regards to paving. He stated that it would be dependent upon the numbers and the timeframe.
- Councilman Carl Hudson stated that he had been advised that the County received complaints from constituents back when the cities and municipalities were receiving the funding. He further stated that those constituents were told by the city or municipality to contact the county with their complaint.
- After much more discussion, Vice Chairman Chris Bowers moved to recommend approving the expenditure of funds for a pavement condition survey for all roads, to include city roads. Motion was seconded by Councilman Carl Hudson and carried unanimously.

- ❖ Committee recommends approving the expenditure for a pavement condition survey of all roads, to include city and municipality roads.

Public Transportation Survey – Log No. 98

- Vice Chairman Chris Bowers stated that he has frequently seen needs assessments that reflect an opportunity for improvement in regards to public transportation in Pickens County. He stated that he has not seen that this has been addressed, other than stating there is a need. Vice Chairman Bowers stated that he would like to see what a public transportation system in Pickens County could or would look like, along with cost estimates. He advised that there should be resources to assist in these efforts (i.e., GPATS, SCAC, NACo, ACOG, etc.).
- Councilman Wes Hendricks stated that he had researched transportation options for Tri-County Tech and Clemson students in the past; the estimated costs were very expensive. He stated that public transportation is needed in Pickens County.
- Vice Chairman Chris Bowers advised that the County may qualify to purchase up to two buses with grants; however, he is not certain if that would be the best option for the County, as an evaluation has not been completed.
- Chairman Roy Costner asked Gerald Wilson to discuss this matter with ACOG and Keith Brockington, of GPATS, in regards to what already exists and what funding through grants may be available to help reduce costs.
- After more discussion, Vice Chairman Chris Bowers stated that he just wanted to start the conversation and research options.
- No action taken by Committee

Discuss Employee Engagement Survey – Log No. 100

- Vice Chairman Chris Bowers stated that he would like to determine what it would take to implement an engagement survey. He stated that some of the feedback the County would receive may identify opportunities for improvement that were unrealized.
- Councilman Wes Hendricks stated that his employer uses SurveyMonkey, which is a free service.
- Chairman Roy Costner stated that he agrees with Councilman Bowers. He stated that this would provide an opportunity to receive feedback.
- Councilman Trey Whitehurst stated that he would encourage Councilman Bowers to assist in these efforts since he has experience in the engagement surveys.
- Gerald Wilson advised that staff would research the engagement survey and report back to Council.
- No action taken by Committee

Review of Madden Bridge Project (Twelve Mile Rd.) – Log No. 99

- Wes Hulsey, of Hulsey, McCormick & Wallace, stated that they had discussed putting a hold on Madden Bridge Project since the April council meeting. He clarified that was because his firm received bids on behalf of the County; the total combined project cost between Catechee Beach and the Madden Bridge Project exceeds the approximate \$1.5 million in funding that the County is receiving from the Natural Resource Trustee Council. Mr. Hulsey advised that his firm has applied for ARC Grant funding on behalf of the County. He stated that the attempts to date have not been successful, primarily because of the number of projects that are being applied for; there are more projects than funding available. Mr. Hulsey stated that since the meeting with the Natural Resource Trustee Council in May of 2015, the Twelve Mile arm of Lake Hartwell has silted up substantially.
- After more discussion, Chairman Roy Costner called for a motion to convene in Executive Session to discuss property as it relates to an alternative design for Madden Bridge Road Park. Motion was made by Councilman Wes Hendricks, seconded by Councilman Carl Hudson and carried unanimously.
- Chairman Roy Costner called the meeting back to order. Chairman Costner moved to recommend moving forward with the alternate plan, option A, for the Madden Bridge Road Park using existing funds. Motion was seconded by Councilman Ensley Feemster and carried unanimously.
- ❖ Committee recommends moving forward with the alternate plan, option A, for the Madden Bridge Road Park using existing funds.

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 8:00 p.m.

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