

Council Members

District 1: Terry Graham
District 2: Charlene McGriff
District 3: Billy Mosteller, Secretary
District 4: Jose Luis
District 5: Steve Harper, Chair
District 6: Allen Blackmon
District 7: Brian Carnes, Vice-Chair

**County Administrator**

Dennis E. Marstall

County Attorney

Ginny L. Merck-Dupont

Clerk to Council

Sherrie Simpson

December 13, 2023

4:00 PM

**101 North Main Street
Lancaster, SC 29720**

**LANCASTER COUNTY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
County Council Chambers, County Administration
Building, 101 North Main Street, Lancaster, SC 29720**

MINUTES

Council Members Present: Allen Blackmon, Brian Carnes (via conference call), Billy Mosteller, Charlene McGriff, Terry Graham, and Jose Luis.

Council Members Absent: Steve Harper.

Staff Members/Others present: Dennis Marstall, County Administrator; Ginny Merck-Dupont, County Attorney; Sherrie Simpson, Clerk to Council; Lauren Hill, Deputy Clerk to Council/Administrative Assistant; Stephany Snowden, Deputy County Administrator; Allison Hardin, Development Services Director; Veronica Thompson, Chief Financial Officer; Jamie Privuznak, Budget Director; Brenda Thompson, Communications and Marketing Director; Jeff Catoe, Public Works Director; Scott Hernandez, IT Director; Frannie Heizer, Burr Forman LLP; the press; various elected officials; various Department Heads; various employees; and citizens.

A quorum of Lancaster County Council was present for the meeting. The following press were notified of the meeting by e-mail in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act: *The Lancaster News*, *Kershaw News Era*, *The Rock Hill Herald*, Cable News 2, Channel 9 and the local government channel. The agenda was posted in the lobby of the County Administration Building and also on the County website the required length of time. The power point presentation utilized during the meeting is attached to the written minutes in the Clerk to Council's office.

Call to Order - Secretary Billy Mosteller

Secretary Billy Mosteller called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order at approximately 4:00 p.m.

Welcome and Recognition - Secretary Billy Mosteller

Secretary Billy Mosteller welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation - Council Member Allen Blackmon

Allen Blackmon led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and delivered the Invocation.

Approval of Agenda

Charlene McGriff moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Terry Graham. A roll call vote was taken. The motion Passed by a vote of 6-0. Ayes: Blackmon, Carnes, Mosteller, McGriff, Graham, Luis; Absent: Harper.

Citizens Comments

The following citizens signed up for and spoke during Citizen Comments: None.

The following citizens submitted electronic, written comments for Citizen Comments: None.

Discussion and Action Items

Lancaster County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) - Sheriff Barry Faile

Sheriff Faile presented the proposal for a grant that would create the Lancaster County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) and highlighted how it would increase efficiency in the criminal court system. Sheriff Faile discussed how members would be selected and that the program would be funded through a federal grant that was awarded. Council was in favor of the program.

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Update and Barnett Building Proposal - Dennis Marstall

Dennis Marstall introduced the County's new Budget Director, Jamie Privuznak.

Stephany Snowden provided an update, via the County PowerPoint, on the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds that the County was awarded as a COVID-19 pandemic recovery fund and how those funds have been allocated thus far. Ms. Snowden made a note that, in the future, staff will present an ARPA update to Council every three months. Dennis Marstall clarified the difference in the funds on Council's spreadsheet and the PowerPoint presentation. Mr. Marstall presented a project proposal for the Barnett Building. The building, if renovated, would house the Information Technology Department, Clemson Cooperative Extension, a limited number of Solicitor staff, and a computer/training lab. He noted that architectural plans and a cost estimation for the renovation project would be reviewed in January 2024 and then presented to Council.

Discussion of Proposed Ordinance regarding Amending Ordinance 2022-1796 regarding the State Budget Proviso and the Capital Project Sales Tax - Ginny Merck-Dupont/Frannie Heizer

Dennis Marstall presented the amendment to Council and noted that this amendment would clarify the amount of excess funds being used for projects on Capital Project Sales Tax 3. The items discussed were the Lindsay Pettus Greenway, the University of South Carolina - Lancaster pedestrian improvement project, and road projects. Frannie Heizer noted that, for ease of process, the ordinance was presented as an amended and restated ordinance as opposed to presenting two separate documents. Staff, Council and Ms. Heizer discussed, in length, the State law for Capital Project Sales Tax, the proviso that changed the State law, and the intent of the original ordinance that was adopted. Several Council members were concerned that these projects were being double funded, which was not Council's understanding or intent when the ordinance was originally adopted in March of 2022.

Funding for Kershaw Pool Partnership with Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) - Dennis Marstall

Dennis Marstall explained that the Town of Kershaw has requested that Lancaster County commit \$40,000 each year for the next three years to support a partnership between the Town of Kershaw and the YMCA. Dennis

Marshall noted that Lancaster County already shares the cost of the pool maintenance with the Town of Kershaw, and he explained that this annual \$40,000 would be in addition to the funds already provided. Several Council members were concerned that when the County was approached in the past about a partnership with different YMCA branches, those partnership opportunities were turned down. Charlene McGriff and Jose Luis requested that the partnership decision be postponed until budget time. However, it was discussed that the Town would like to use the partnership as a way to attract the YMCA and so would like a decision before that time. Council members also had questions regarding what the annual \$40,000 commitment goes towards. Dennis Marshall stated that he would work with Kershaw's Town Administrator to draft an Intergovernmental Agreement that would address the concerns of Council and outline the details of the partnership.

General Discussion regarding Grants and Fundraising for Boards and Commissions - Dennis Marshall

Dennis Marshall and Council discussed whether Council wished to allow County Boards and Commissions the ability to apply for grants. Dennis Marshall noted there has been an increase in the number of grant requests from various Boards and Commissions, but that the Health and Wellness Commission was the only group that has the official ability to apply for grants as outlined in their ordinance. Council agreed that each grant application should be presented to Council and the process should have oversight from County staff. Council was not in favor of allowing Boards and Commissions to undertake fundraising activities.

Follow-up Discussion on the Number of Times a Parcel can be Subdivided - Allison Hardin

Allison Hardin explained the definition of a subdivision found in the Unified Development Ordinance and in the South Carolina Code of Laws. Ms. Hardin also explained the three different types of subdivision reviews and their processes under the County's current Unified Development Ordinance.

Budget Calendar Discussion - Dennis Marshall

Dennis Marshall presented the draft Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget Calendar to Council. Mr. Marshall noted that the calendar was created to allow Council more time to review the detailed departmental budget requests.

Adjournment

Terry Graham moved to adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting. Seconded by Brian Carnes. A roll call vote was taken. The motion to adjourn Passed by a vote of 6-0. Ayes: Blackmon, Carnes, Mosteller, McGriff, Graham, Luis. Absent: Harper.

There being no further business to discuss, the Committee of the Whole meeting adjourned at approximately 5:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lauren Hill

Lauren Hill
Deputy Clerk to Council

Approved by Council on January 8, 2024



Billy Mosteller, Secretary