

Council Members

District 1: Stuart Graham
District 2: Charlene McGriff
District 3: Billy Mosteller, Vice Chair
District 4: Jose Luis
District 5: Steve Harper
District 6: Bryant Neal, Secretary
District 7: Brian Carnes, Chair

**County Administrator**

Dennis E. Marstall

County Attorney

Ginny L. Merck-Dupont

Clerk to Council

Sherrie Simpson

**May 7, 2025
1:00 PM**

LANCASTER COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, COUNTY ADMINISTRATION
BUILDING, 101 NORTH MAIN STREET, LANCASTER, SC 29720

MINUTES

Council Members Present: Steve Harper, Bryant Neal, Brian Carnes, Billy Mosteller, Charlene McGriff, Jose Luis, Stuart Graham.

Staff Members/Others Present: Dennis Marstall, County Administrator; Ginny Merck-Dupont, County Attorney; Sherrie Simpson, Clerk to Council; Stephany Snowden, Deputy County Administrator; Sabrena Harris, Chief Financial Officer; Jamie Privuznak, Budget Director; Josiah Parke, Budget Analyst; Jeff Catoe, Public Works Director; Allison Hardin, Development Services Director; Chris Clouden, Parks and Recreation Director; Brad Carnes, Assessor; Clay Catoe, Emergency Medical Services Director; Karla Deese, Coroner; Sheriff Faile; Robert Purser, E-911 Communications Director; 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 Special Meeting - Chairman Brian Carnes

Chairman Brian Carnes called the Lancaster County Council Special meeting to order at approximately 1:05 p.m.

Welcome and Recognition - Chairman Brian Carnes

Chairman Brian Carnes welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation - Council Member Charlene McGriff

Charlene McGriff led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and delivered the Invocation.

Approval of the Agenda

Charlene McGriff moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Bryant Neal. The motion Passed

by a vote of 7-0.

Discussion and Action Items

a. Presentation of the County Administrator's Recommended Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 - *Dennis Marstall / Sabrena Harris / Jamie Privuznak*

Dennis Marstall thanked Council and staff for their work with the budget preparation process. Mr. Marstall reviewed the budget goals via the County's PowerPoint presentation.

Sabrena Harris highlighted the impact that growth had on the County in 2024. Jamie Privuznak reviewed the General Fund revenue via the County's PowerPoint presentation, which highlighted data regarding ad-valorem taxes, vehicle taxes, 1% Local Option revenue, building permits, interest income, ambulance charges, and the General Fund Revenue summary. Josiah Parke reviewed the proposed changes to the Fee Schedule via the County's PowerPoint presentation. Steve Harper questioned what the projected fund balance was for FY26, and Ms. Harris stated that the information was on slide 49 in the PowerPoint presentation, which could be found in the agenda packet. Council and staff discussed the 1% Local Option revenue projections. Ms. Harris reviewed the operating budget via the County's PowerPoint presentation. Steve Harper requested that the County's checkbook be put online so that citizens would be able to view how the County was spending money, and requested that staff look into the possibility to do so with a new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) software. Ms. Harris reviewed the County Administrator's recommended budget via the County's PowerPoint presentation which highlighted staff investments and position adjustments. Council and staff discussed the 2.25% state-mandated Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for Probate Judges and the proposed 5% across-the-board pay increase for County employees. Charlene McGriff stated, for the record, that a 7.25% pay increase for one employee was unfair to the rest of the County employees, who would only receive 5%. Ms. Harris also reviewed new position requests. Council and staff discussed a new Emergency Medical Services (EMS) station, response times for EMS, and the Parks and Recreation Park Ranger job duties.

The meeting live stream disconnected, so Council took a meeting break, and resumed once the live stream was back up and running. Jamie Privuznak reviewed the General Fund expenditures and external agency recommendations via the County's PowerPoint presentation. Council and staff discussed a letter from the Town of Kershaw Mayor regarding the contracted fire service and their interest in splitting the contract. A copy of the letter is attached as Schedule A to the minutes. Council and staff discussed a career ladder for the Solicitor's Office and Public Defender's Office, difficulty filling positions, and salary increase requests.

Sabrena Harris reviewed the General Fund highlights via the County's PowerPoint presentation, and reviewed the General Fund budget recommendations. Council and staff discussed wage compaction issues if the minimum wage was increased to \$15 per hour. Ms. Harris reviewed items that were recommended for fund balance appropriations via the County's PowerPoint presentation. Several Council members were in favor of funding the Lake Water algae treatment at the full requested amount. Council and staff reviewed other budget considerations, which included 24/7 medical care at the new Detention Center, the Fleet Maintenance and Voter Registration facility, and the City of Lancaster's tipping fee budget request. Ms. Harris reviewed property reassessments, rollback millage, millage value history, and millage rate history via the County's PowerPoint presentation. Jamie Privuznak reviewed the Minor Fund recommended budget via the County's PowerPoint presentation. Council and staff discussed the requested Stormwater Environmental Manager position, and Council requested a presentation from the

Stormwater Department to highlight the benefits they had provided to the County.

Ms. Privuznak reviewed the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) via the County's PowerPoint presentation and highlighted the CIP ranking results, Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) software budget request, debt service payments, and the FY26 CIP and plan revisions. There was no discussion from Council. Ms. Privuznak then reviewed the Replacement Fund (Capital Improvement Fund) via the County's PowerPoint and highlighted the Replacement Fund recommendation for FY26.

Dennis Marstall summarized the major budget recommendations via the County's PowerPoint presentation, and highlighted the next steps in the budget process. Council and staff discussed when the 1st Reading of the Budget Ordinance and Public Hearing would be scheduled. Council agreed to have the 1st Reading of the Budget Ordinance at the May 27, 2025, regular Council meeting and the Public Hearing during the 3rd Reading of the Budget Ordinance at the June 23, 2025, regular County Council meeting. Council and staff discussed department position requests from Economic Development, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Coroner's Office, Solid Waste, and a Transportation Planner.

Adjournment

Jose Luis moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Charlene McGriff.

There being no further business to discuss, the County Council Special meeting adjourned at approximately 3:57 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lauren Hill

Lauren Hill
Deputy Clerk to Council

Approved by Council on May 27, 2025.

Bryant Neal

Bryant Neal, Secretary

Schedule A



Mark Dorman
Mayor

Council Members

Bobbie Faulkenberry
District 1

Michael Cook
District 2

John S. Connell, III
District 3

Harvey Truesdale
District 4

Randy Seegars
At-Large

Danny Williams
At-Large

John Douglas
Town Administrator

Alicia DeBruhl
Town Clerk/Treasurer

Town of
Kershaw
South Carolina

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May 7, 2025

Mr. Dennis Marstall, County Administrator
Lancaster County
PO Box 1809
Lancaster, SC 29721

Dear Mr. Marstall:

The Town of Kershaw has been pleased to provide fire protection services to Lancaster County citizens and property owners both inside and outside of the corporate limits of the Town of Kershaw. In 2024, 68% of all calls answered by the Kershaw Fire Department were outside of the corporate limits (32% inside town). This percentage has been consistent for several years.

Therefore, the Town is requesting to divide the cost for three paid fire fighters equally between the Town and County. Additionally, the Town is asking that the contract state that none of the paid fire fighters may serve as Chief of the Kershaw Fire Department.

The Town appreciates the County's sincere consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark Dorman".

Mark Dorman
Mayor