

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 12, 2025
6:00 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 (via video conference), 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; Allison Hardin; Development Services Director; April Williams, Planning Director; Chris Clouden; Parks and Recreation Director; Tracy Rabon, Procurement Director; Dr. April Williams, Library Director; Monique Beasley, Accounting Supervisor; Darren Player, Fire Service Director; Clay Catoe, Emergency Medical Services 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 Regular Meeting - Chairman Brian Carnes

Chairman Brian Carnes called the Lancaster County Council meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m.

Welcome and Recognition - Chairman Brian Carnes

Chairman Brian Carnes welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation - Council Member Billy Mosteller

Billy Mosteller 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. A roll call vote was taken. The motion Passed by a vote of 7-0; Ayes: Harper, Neal, Carnes, Mosteller, McGriff,

Luis, Graham.

Citizens Comments

The following citizens signed up for and spoke during Citizen Comments:

1. George Kirlin, Indian Land, SC, spoke regarding an advertisement the Lancaster County Library Board published in *The Lancaster News*, and requested Council postpone the Library Board appointments so the applicants could be interviewed.
2. Hal Crenshaw, Lancaster, SC, spoke regarding various challenges the Airport Advisory Commission was experiencing and requested changes to the Commission's authority. A copy of Mr. Crenshaw's proposal summary is attached as Schedule A to the minutes.
3. Brian Elliot, Kershaw, SC, spoke regarding various challenges the Airport Advisory Commission was experiencing and requested that change be made to the Commission's authority.
4. Bruce Cohen, Indian Land, SC, spoke regarding the water line project for Rise Lane in the Indian Land area of the County.

The following citizens submitted electronic, written comments for Citizen Comments, of which Council received a physical copy at their seats and which was acknowledged during the meeting by Sherrie Simpson, Clerk to Council:

1. Nicholas Pasquine, Lancaster, SC, wrote in regarding his opinion of specific budget item requests to which Council should say no. A copy of his comments is attached as Schedule B to the minutes.

Special Presentations

a. Recognition of the Andrew Jackson Girls Basketball Team for Winning the State Championship - Presented by Brian Carnes and Bryant Neal

Brian Carnes and Bryant Neal recognized the Andrew Jackson Girl Basketball Team for winning the State Championship. Each player received a Proclamation acknowledging the team's success during their 2024-2025 season.

b. Recognition of Lancaster County Fire Rescue Students For Receiving Top Honors at the 2025 SkillsUSA Firefighting Competition - Presented by Sam Plyler, Instructor

Sam Plyler recognized three Lancaster County Fire Rescue students for receiving Top Honors at the 2025 SkillsUSA Firefighting Competition. Mr. Plyler thanked Council for starting the Fire Rescue program in 2011 because it was a very successful program for Lancaster County students.

Consent Agenda

Billy Mosteller moved to approve Consent Agenda Item **7a.**, **7b.**, **7c.**, **7d.**, **7e.**, and **7f.** [which are the same as Item **a.**, **b.**, **c.**, **d.**, **e.**, and **f.** listed below]. Seconded by Charlene McGriff. There was no discussion from Council. Ginny Merck-Dupont explained that Council was operating under their new Rules of Procedure, so even though Jose Luis was attending the Council meeting via video conference, a roll call vote was not necessary as long as Mr. Luis could be seen raising his hand for a vote. The motion Passed by a vote of 7-0.

- a. **Approval of Minutes from the April 15, 2025, County Council and Lancaster City Council Joint Meeting**
- b. **Approval of Minutes from the April 16, 2025, County Council Committee of the Whole Budget Workshop Meeting**
- c. **Approval of Minutes from the April 28, 2025, County Council Regular Meeting**
- d. **3rd Reading of Ordinance 2025-1962**
Ordinance Title: An Ordinance To Amend The Official Zoning Map Of Lancaster County To Rezone Approximately 0.488 Acres Of A Parcel (Identified As TM# 0086D-0C-001.00), Which Is Located Behind 1831 Great Falls Hwy, From The Medium Density Residential (MDR) District To The General Business (GB) District For The Purpose Of Combining Properties Under Unified Ownership. - *Planning Department Case Number: RZ-2025-0072. The Planning Commission recommended approval by unanimous vote and the Planning staff also recommended approval of the rezoning request. Passed 7-0 at the April 14, 2025, County Council Meeting. Passed 7-0 at the April 28, 2025, County Council Meeting. - April Williams*
- e. **3rd Reading of Ordinance 2025-1963**
Ordinance Title: An Ordinance To Amend The Official Zoning Map Of Lancaster County To Rezone Approximately 0.73 Acres (TM# 0086C-0M-003.00), Which Is Located At 1754 Old Carter St, From The Manufactured Home (MH) District To The Medium Density Residential (MDR) District For The Purpose Of Building Single-Family Homes. - *Planning Department Case Number: RZ-2025-0191. The Planning Commission recommended approval by unanimous vote and the Planning staff also recommended approval of the rezoning request. Passed 7-0 at the April 14, 2025, County Council Meeting. Passed 7-0 at the April 28, 2025, County Council Meeting. - April Williams*
- f. **2nd Reading of Ordinance 2025-1964**
Ordinance Title: An Ordinance To Authorize And Approve The Execution And Delivery Of A Fee In Lieu Of Tax And Incentive Agreement Between Lancaster County, South Carolina And Project Janus Providing For The Payment Of A Fee-In-Lieu Of Taxes And The Provision Of Special Source Revenue Credits; To Express The Intention Of Council To Provide Monies To The Economic Development Fund; And To Provide For Other Matters Related Thereto. - *Passed 7-0 at the April 28, 2025, County Council Meeting. - Brian Fulk*

Non-Consent Agenda

- a. **Public Hearing and 1st Reading of Ordinance 2025-1965**
Ordinance Title: An Ordinance To Amend The Official Zoning Map Of Lancaster County To Rezone Approximately 3.221 Acres (TM# 0058-00-009.03), Which Is Located Near The Intersection Of Tabernacle And North Rocky River Roads, From The Rural Residential (RR) District To The Institutional (IN) District, For The Purpose Of Expanding Buford High School Athletic Fields. - *Planning Department Case Number: RZ-2024-0448. The Planning Commission recommended approval by unanimous vote and the Planning staff also recommended approval. - April Williams*

April Williams reviewed the rezoning request via the County's PowerPoint presentation and explained that the intent of the rezoning was to combine the property to expand Buford High

School's athletic fields.

Brian Carnes opened the Public Hearing for Ordinance 2025-1965 at approximately 6:28 p.m. He noted that no one signed up to speak at the Public Hearing for the Ordinance. There were approximately 30 citizens, including staff members, in attendance during the Public Hearing for this Ordinance. The following speakers came forward to make comments or sent in written comments regarding the Ordinance: None. Brian Carnes closed the Public Hearing at approximately 6:28 p.m.

Steve Harper moved to approve the 1st Reading of Ordinance 2025-1965. Seconded by Charlene McGriff. There was no discussion from Council. The 1st Reading of Ordinance 2025-1965 Passed by a vote of 7-0.

b. 1st Reading of Ordinance 2025-1968

Ordinance Title: An Ordinance To Amend Ordinance No. 2025-1949, Relating To The Appropriation Of Funds And The Approval Of A Detailed Budget For Lancaster County For The Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2024, And Ending June 30, 2025 (FY 2024-2025), To Further Provide For Revenues And Expenditures During The Fiscal Year; And To Provide For Matters Related Thereto. - *Jamie Privuznak*

Charlene McGriff moved to approve the 1st Reading of Ordinance 2025-1968. Seconded by Bryant Neal.

Jamie Privuznak reviewed the budget amendment and explained that the request was to re-purpose \$115,000 from the Capital Replacement Fund, for which the original purpose was for the gym wall padding at Springdale Recreation Center, and also appropriate \$155,000 of unassigned General Fund - Fund Balance for the replacement of the Springdale Recreation Center's roof that was damaged during Hurricanes Debby and Helene in the fall of 2024.

There was no discussion from Council. The 1st Reading of Ordinance 2025-1968 Passed by a vote of 7-0.

Discussion and Action Items

a. Receive Information and Take Desired Action Regarding Appointments to Various Boards and Commissions - *Sherrie Simpson*

1. Appointment(s) to the Library Board for one of two At-large positions where the applicant will be filling an unexpired term ending on 06/30/2027 and one position for District 7 that will be effective 07/01/2025 and be a four-year term ending on 06/30/2029. We have 10 applications for these two positions.

2. Current Board/Commission Vacancies

3. Upcoming Board/Commission Expirations

1. Sherrie Simpson explained that staff had received 10 applications for two positions on the Library Board: District 7 and an At-Large position. Brian Carnes moved to appoint Brittany Gargano-Smith as the District 7 representative. Seconded by Charlene McGriff. The motion Passed by a vote of 7-0. Bryant Neal moved to appoint Ann Tillman to the At-Large position. Seconded by Steve Harper. The motion Passed by a vote of 7-0.
2. Sherrie Simpson explained that the current list of Board and Commission vacancies was

included in the agenda packet.

3. Sherrie Simpson explained that the list of upcoming Board and Commission expirations was included in the agenda packet.

b. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Update - Monique Beasley

Monique Beasley provided Council with an update on the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) via the County's PowerPoint presentation. Council requested an update on the homeless shelter and requested a report on the remaining funds for the shelter.

c. Regional Park Update and Discussion on Park Valuation and Potential Sponsorship - Stephany Snowden

Stephany Snowden reviewed the Regional Park update via the County's PowerPoint presentation. Chris Clouden reviewed naming rights via the County's PowerPoint presentation. Council and staff discussed different sponsorship opportunities and Ginny Merck-Dupont explained that the sponsorship policy documents were still in the works. Mr. Clouden explained that since the park was so new, staff was looking into a 3-5 year sponsorship package to begin with, and then possibly extending the package deals. Council and staff discussed how sponsorship opportunities would be valued, and that the sponsorship would be a targeted amount, not a bid. Ms. Snowden noted that the most valuable asset is the overall park name.

Status of Items Tabled, Recommitted, Deferred or Held

There was no discussion regarding the status of any tabled, recommitted, deferred or held items.

Executive Session

a. Five Items:

- 1. Receipt of legal advice subject to the attorney-client privilege regarding the status of pending litigation related to the Zoning Department.***
- 2. Receipt of legal advice subject to the attorney-client privilege regarding a class action lawsuit related to Ultra Processed Foods.***
- 3. Receipt of legal advice subject to the attorney-client privilege regarding Impact Fees.***
- 4. Receipt of legal advice subject to the attorney-client privilege regarding the Transportation Sales Tax Referendum.***
- 5. Receipt of legal advice subject to the attorney-client privilege regarding a contractual matter for an outside audit of the Stormwater Department.***

Brian Carnes stated that he needed a motion to go into Executive Session in regards to five items: (1) for the receipt of legal advice subject to the attorney-client privilege regarding the status of pending litigation related to the Zoning Department; (2) for the receipt of legal advice subject to the attorney-client privilege regarding a class action lawsuit related to Ultra Processed Foods; (3) for the receipt of legal advice subject to the attorney-client privilege regarding impact fees; (4) for the receipt of legal advice subject to the attorney-client privilege

regarding the Transportation Sales Tax Referendum; and (5) for the receipt of legal advice subject to the attorney-client privilege regarding a contractual matter for an outside audit of the Stormwater Department and to invite Smith Robinson law firm and the Development Services Director in to discuss the first item; Elrod Pope in to discuss the second item; and the Development Services Director and Finance Director in, as needed, to discuss the fifth item. Charlene McGriff stated that she so moved. Seconded by Jose Luis. The motion to go into Executive Session Passed by a vote of 7-0. At approximately 6:58 p.m., Council went into Executive Session.

Items Requiring a Vote Following Executive Session

Council came out of Executive Session and Brian Carnes called the Council meeting back to order at approximately 8:42 p.m. Charlene McGriff moved to come out of Executive Session. Seconded by Jose Luis. The motion to come out of Executive Session Passed by a vote of 7-0.

Upon returning to open session, Ginny Merck-Dupont stated that Council met in Executive Session in regard to five items: (1) for the receipt of legal advice subject to the attorney-client privilege regarding the status of pending litigation related to the Zoning Department; (2) for the receipt of legal advice subject to the attorney-client privilege regarding a class action lawsuit related to Ultra Processed Foods; (3) for the receipt of legal advice subject to the attorney-client privilege regarding impact fees; (4) for the receipt of legal advice subject to the attorney-client privilege regarding the Transportation Sales Tax Referendum; and (5) for the receipt of legal advice subject to the attorney-client privilege regarding a contractual matter for an outside audit of the Stormwater Department. She stated that during Executive Session, no motions were made, and no votes were taken.

Charlene McGriff moved to authorize the County Administrator to execute documents to approve the settlement related to the Zoning Department litigation contingent upon the other factors discussed in Executive Session. Seconded by Steve Harper. There was no discussion from Council. The motion Passed by a vote of 7-0.

Adjournment

Charlene McGriff moved to adjourn the Council meeting.

There being no further business to discuss, the regular meeting of Council adjourned at approximately 8:44 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

Lancaster County Airport Advisory Committee – Proposal Summary

Presented to Lancaster County Council

Objective:

To revise the structure of the Lancaster County Airport Advisory Committee so that it reports directly to Lancaster County Council, rather than to the airport manager.

Why This Change Matters:

- **Public Accountability:** The airport is a county-owned public asset. Advisory input should reach the elected body responsible for oversight and funding.
- **Greater Transparency:** Direct reporting ensures the Council — and the public — have better visibility into airport-related concerns, plans, and developments.
- **Strategic Oversight:** Council will benefit from expert and community-informed recommendations on long-term airport planning, zoning, safety, and economic impact.
- **Community Trust:** Residents and stakeholders are more likely to participate when they know their input goes to County leadership, not just management staff.

Proposed Committee Role:

Advise Lancaster County Council on:

- Airport development and master planning
- Land use compatibility and zoning
- Environmental and community impact
- Safety and emergency preparedness
- Grant opportunities and capital improvement plans
- Help advise County Council on how to make it more thriving and economic benefit to Lancaster County

Continue coordination with airport staff for operational insight, but prioritize Council-directed guidance.

Suggested Committee Composition:

- Aviation professionals (pilots, engineers, or FAA-related)
- Local business and economic development representatives
- Emergency services representative
- Planning or zoning official
- Community-at-large members (2 or more)

Next Steps:

1. Review current advisory committee structure and charter (if formalized).

2. Draft and approve a revised resolution designating Council as the primary advisory recipient.
3. Outline committee responsibilities, membership selection, and meeting procedures.

Final Thought:

This small but meaningful shift gives Lancaster County Council the insight it needs to guide airport growth responsibly, while reinforcing public trust and strategic governance.

Sherrie Simpson

Schedule B

From:
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 3:09 PM
To: Sherrie Simpson
Subject: [Spam] Forward to County Council

THIS IS AN EXTERNAL E-MAIL — Use caution when clicking on links as they could open malicious websites.
—IT Helpdesk, lancastersc.supportsystem.com

To County Council:

Looking at the recent articles in The Lancaster News regarding County budget requests and tax plans my initial reaction is somebody here needs a visit from DOGE due to what seems to be insatiable monetary demands.

I guess the same comment could be made for the SC Senate. Democrats claiming a Recession is right around the corner and Legislators acting like Happy Days are here again.

I recognize an increasing County population requires additional needs. I also recognize additional population means additional tax revenues.

Planning and Zoning requesting +167%: All in one place is nice but not necessary right now. Certainly phones and computers can suffice for people being together for at least another year. EMS ONE new response vehicle, one new ambulance and 3 additional employees maximum. Revisit next year after assessing results.

Stormwater: NO new manager.

Animal Control: NO additional administrative assistant. 2 Technicians only.

Coroner: Is there an upswing in deaths to justify more payroll?

Finance NO grant co-ordinator. If anything grants should be reduced in this economic climate. Can revisit next year.

Economic Development: Be nice if we finally saw some business development closer to the City of Lancaster. Almost nothing for years.

Sheriffs Office: The request should be cut in half and the other half put in for next year.

And finally, put the transportation tax on the ballot again and rest assured we will vote it down again, The 8% sales tax is already bad enough.

We previously approved a multi year increase in the gas tax for roads Where is that money? Were we sold a Bill of goods? The biggest problem at the North end of Re.521 is not the number of lanes. It is the number of stoplights.

I am hoping that County Council knows this is NOT the year to be adding double digit spending after the past 4 years of double digit price hikes and higher interest rates that have affected you and all of us taxpayers..

Sincerely,
Nichlas C Pasquine
Lancaster County