

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 14, 2025

1:00 PM

LANCASTER COUNTY COUNCIL**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

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 Microsoft Teams), 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; Jeff Catoe, Public Works Director; Clay Catoe, Emergency Medical Services Director; Darren Player, Fire Service Director; Sheriff Faile; 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 Committee of the Whole meeting to order at approximately 1:00 p.m.

Welcome and Recognition - Chairman Brian Carnes

Chairman Brian Carnes welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation - Council Member Stuart Graham

Stuart Graham 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 Stuart Graham. 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: None.

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

Discussion and Action Items

a. Discussion of Administrator's Recommended Budget - *Dennis Marstall / Sabrena Harris*

Dennis Marstall stated that County Council had requested follow-up information from the Stormwater Department regarding their requested budget. Terrance Barr reviewed the County's PowerPoint presentation, which highlighted the purpose of the Department, the type of work they do, the purpose of the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s), their goals and initiatives, and the staff makeup of the Department. Brian Carnes expressed concern that the Department was not up-to-date on their reporting measures, and questioned what their plan was to address those issues.

Allison Hardin provided an update on the status of the Carolina Heelsplitter program via the County's PowerPoint presentation. Ms. Hardin explained the program's use of "credits" and the increasing cost of them. Steve Harper requested a copy of the agreements and related documents for the Carolina Heelsplitter program. Council and staff discussed possible warranties to hold developers accountable for the infrastructure that they put in place. Council and staff also discussed how the County's Stormwater fees were set.

The County's YouTube live-stream video was disconnected at approximately 1:40 p.m., so Council took a meeting break. The meeting resumed at approximately 1:59 p.m. once the YouTube live-stream was reconnected.

Sabrena Harris reviewed the changes made to the proposed budget since the Administrator's Recommended Budget presentation at the May 7, 2025, County Council Special Meeting, via the County's PowerPoint presentation. The presentation highlighted the estimated new revenue, General Fund Revenue summary, position adjustments, and new positions. Steve Harper requested that Council consider adding another Emergency Medical Services (EMS) vehicle to the Panhandle region of the County to reduce emergency response times. Mr. Harper also requested that Council consider committing additional funds to cover the cost of cameras for the Sheriff's Office to ensure the safety of the citizens. Clay Catoe explained how the requested EMS positions would be used, and requested that the Accreditation Officer position title be changed to Equipment Manager, but the salary and fringe benefits would be the same. Council and staff discussed budget items that Mr. Catoe had requested that were not included in the Administrator's recommended budget, and also discussed salary compression and needed salary adjustments. Ms. Harris reviewed the external agency requests via the County's PowerPoint presentation, and highlighted the budget request for the Town of Kershaw fire service budget request regarding the 50/50 split for three contracted fire service positions. The Town of Kershaw's request is attached as Schedule A to the minutes. Sheriff Faile and Council discussed purchasing 35 flock cameras, which would total approximately \$105,000, plus a one-time installation fee. Council and staff discussed ways to address salary compression if the County's minimum hourly wage was increased, and the 4.6% health insurance cost increase.

Sabrena Harris summarized the changes that were made to the budget since the Administrator's Recommended Budget presentation at the May 7, 2025, County Council Special Meeting. Council and staff had an in-depth discussion regarding position requests and what changes Council wanted to make before the 1st Reading of the Budget Ordinance. Dennis Marstall explained that due to reassessment, the overall millage will decrease.

Adjournment

Billy Mosteller moved to adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting. Seconded by Bryant Neal.

There being no further business to discuss, the Council Committee of the Whole meeting adjourned at approximately 3:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lauren Hill

Lauren Hill
Deputy Clerk to Council

Approved by Council on June 9, 2025

Bryant Neal

Bryant Neal, Secretary

D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	P
Act Line	Position	Base Salary	Merit	Total	FICA	Health Insurance	Retirement	Worker's Comp	Total		
			5%		7.65%	\$ 17,628.00	21.24%	5.86%			
142 Captain		72,758	3,638	76,396	5,844	17,628	16,227	4,477	120,572		
142 Firefighter		46,946	2,347	49,293	3,771	17,628	10,470	2,889	84,050		
144 Lieutenant		62,192	3,110	65,302	4,996	17,628	13,870	3,827	105,622		
		181,896			14,611	52,884	40,566	11,192			
	Kershaw								310,244		
									2.00	Divide in half	
									155,122	What we pay for in personnel	
142 OT									12,798		
142 PTE									10,000		
142 Supplies									3,000		
142 Clothing									2,000		
142 Telephone									700		
									28,498		
									183,620	Darren Player is fine w/ this!	
									241,961		
									58,341	For slide	