



Clarendon County Regular Council Meeting Monday, December 8, 2025 6:00 PM

Council Chambers, 411 Sunset Drive, Manning, SC 29102

Those in attendance:

Chairman John E. Johnson III
Councilman Billy G. Richardson
Councilman W.J. Frierson, Sr.
Interim Administrator Sharmane Y. Anderson

Vice Chairman John P. Coker
Councilman Kurtis W. Rodine
Administrator Walt Ackerman
Clerk to Council, Dorothy M. Levy

Absent: None

Press in attendance: The Manning Times, Melissa McCoy

Others in attendance included:

George Frierson	Tammy Hicks	Diane Georgia	Johnny Wilson	Julius Dukes, Jr.
Jane Powell	Whitney Phillips	Legear McCabe	Terry Streath	Mike Streath
Kathleen Gibson	Melissa McCoy	Blake Johnson	Lee Mahoney	Jose Calvo
Clayton Pack	Jacqueline Blackwell	Tara Barrineau	Kimberly Herbert	David Woods, Jr.
Sylvia Witherspoon	Stephanie Hughes	Susie Murray	Debra Billie	Michael Richburg
Patricia Pringle	John Thompson	Nate Dyson	Michael A. Johnson, Jr.	
Franklin D. Colclough, Jr.		And other Clarendon County Residents		

Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm by welcoming everyone. The Lord's Prayer and The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

1. Approval of the Agenda

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Councilman Frierson, the Council voted unanimously to approve the Agenda for the Regular Scheduled Council Meeting for December 8, 2025.

2. Approval of Minutes

On motion by Councilman Rodine and seconded by Councilman Richardson, the Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the Regular Council Meeting, which was held on November 10, 2025.

3. Special Recognition

Prior to the Service Awards, the Council recognized the winner of the Holiday Cards contest from the Parks and Recreation Department. This year's winner was 8-year-old Darcy Barrineau.

4. Service Awards

Prior to the business session of the Regular Council meeting, Thomasina Hall, Benefits Administrator, Chairman Johnson, and Administrator Ackerman presented service awards to 7 employees for November:

Quanyai H. Terrell	5 years	Linda L. Martin-Smith	15 years
Birtes Dennis	5 years	Kenneth Clark	15 years
Garriet Q. Bozier	5 years	Michael Johnson	25 years
Jonathan Johnson	10 years		

Chairman Johnson thanked everyone for their years of service to Clarendon County.

5. Public Comments:

George Frierson stated that he has been receiving a lot of phone calls since the special-called meeting on October 2, 2025, when Mr. Ackerman was hired. He stated that he is a historian, and he went back and did a little digging. He continued by stating that the Council needs to go back and look at that decision. He stated that when outside people come into the County, they bring their baggage with them, and we need to make sure that we are very vigilant because you are responsible for those who elected you.

Johnny Wilson – stated that he wants to show the Council something. He stated that he keeps a calendar in every room of his house just in case he’s stuck in that room. He stated that the calendar is marked for every time he had to call for noise disturbance. He asked if there was a law on disturbing the peace in Clarendon County. He continued by stating that when he calls, he’s told that the Noise Ordinance stops at 10 P.M., but the noise is still going on at 2 A.M. He concluded by stating that he does not smoke, drink, or snort coke, but if you find him on the side of the road dead in his car, someone killed him.

Clayton Pack – stated that he was coming to the Council as a squeaking wheel. He stated that Barnwell Street needs to be fixed. He said that we need help, please help get this road fixed.

6. Requests

- On motion by Vice Chairman Coker and seconded by Councilman Rodine, the Council voted unanimously approving the 2026 Regular Council Meeting Schedule.
- On motion by Vice Chairman Coker and seconded by Councilman Richardson, the Council voted unanimously to approve the 2026 Holiday Closing Schedule.
- On motion by Vice Chairman Coker and seconded by Councilman Richardson, the Council voted unanimously approving the Accommodations Tax Committee requests for funding of the Fountain Operation - \$75,000, Santee Cooper - \$12,500, and SC and Waterfowl Assn Birdfest - \$5,000.
- On motion by Councilman Rodine and seconded by Vice Chairman Coker, the Council voted unanimously approving the promotion commission request from the Hospitality Fund requested by the Santee Cooper Counties. Requesting a total of \$54,950 for the following: \$32,750 for the 2026 Bassmaster College Series Fishing Tournament, \$9,750 for the 2026 Bassmaster Jr. High/High School Fishing Tournament, and \$12,500 for Santee Cooper Country.

7. Board Appointments

- On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Councilman Frierson, the Council voted unanimously approving the re-appointment of Christopher Durant and the appointment of Cynthia M. Harvin to the Clarendon County Behavioral Health and Services Commission.
- On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Councilman Frierson, the Council voted unanimously approving the re-appointments of Stacey R. McInnis, Bon Gardner, and Julie Rickenbaker to the Clarendon County Assessment Appeals Board to serve another term.

8. Lease Agreement

Administrator Ackerson presented the Council with a Capital Lease Agreement (In Lieu of a Purchase Order) for new equipment for the new EOC/911 Facility. He stated that this agreement will lock in the price of \$1,274,000 and the County would be able to pay off the equipment before the interest is added on.

On motion by Vice Chairman Coker and seconded by Councilman Rodine, the Council voted unanimously in approval of the Lease Agreement presented by Administrator Ackerson for new equipment for the new EOC/911 Facility.

9. A Resolution of Clarendon County, South Carolina

Mr. George Kosinski, Development Board Director, presented the Council with a Resolution Confirming and Clarifying the Description of Property Designated as an Amendment to the Master Agreement Governing the Sumter-Clarendon Industrial Park. He stated that this is for Project Buon Giorno, a company that will be investing \$250,000,000 and providing 300 jobs.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Councilman Frierson, the Council voted unanimously approving the Resolution of Clarendon County, South Carolina, clarifying the Description of Property Designated as an Amendment to the Master Agreement Governing the Sumter-Clarendon Industrial Park.

10. Resolution 2025-07

On motion by Vice Chairman Coker and seconded by Councilman Richardson, the Council voted unanimously in approval to Table Resolution 2025-07 – A Resolution approving a First Amended and Restated Regional Wastewater System Participation Agreement and other Matters Related Thereto. Vice Chairman Coker stated that we need to go over a few things before we approve this.

11. Ordinance 2025-13

On motion by Vice Chairman Coker and seconded by Councilman Rodine, the County voted unanimously to approve the Third and Final Reading of Ordinance 2025-13, An Ordinance Amending Tipping Fees and Policies with Respect to the Acceptance of Waste Tires at the County Solid Waste Facilities.

12. Ordinance 2025-14

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Councilman Rodine, the County voted unanimously to approve the Third and Final Reading of Ordinance 2025-14, an Ordinance Providing Approval for Certain Incentives to Induce Project Unity, acting for itself, One or More current or Future Affiliates and Other Project Sponsors to establish or Expand Certain Facilities in Clarendon County, South Carolina, including (1) A Negotiated Fee in Lieu of Ad Valorem Tax Arrangement; (2) Certain Special Source Credits to be Applied Against Fees in Lieu of Ad Valorem Taxes; (3) Designation of the Project Site as subject to a Multi-County Industrial or Business Park Arrangement; and Providing for Other Related Matters.

13. Public Hearing – Ordinance 2025-15

Chairman Johnson stated that the Public Hearing for Ordinance 2025-15-An Ordinance Authorizing the First Amendment of that Certain Fee In Lieu of Tax and Incentive Agreement by and Between Clarendon County, South Carolina, and Santee Electric Cooperative, Inc., relating to, without limitation, the Provision of Special Source Revenue Credits; and providing for other related matters is now open. The Public Hearing opened at 6:30 pm.

Chairman Johnson asked if there were any comments; hearing none, the Public Hearing closed at 6:31 pm.

14. Ordinance 2025-15

On motion by Councilman Rodine and seconded by Vice Chairman Coker, the Council voted unanimously to the Second Reading of Ordinance 2025-15 – an Ordinance Authorizing the First Amendment of that Certain Fee In Lieu of Tax and Incentive Agreement by and Between Clarendon County, South Carolina, and Santee Electric Cooperative, Inc., relating to, without limitation, the Provision of Special Source Revenue Credits; and providing for other related matters.

15. Ordinance 2025-16

Ms. Tabitha Hanna, Planning Director, presented the Council with Ordinance 2025-16, an Ordinance of the County Council of Clarendon County, South Carolina, to Amend the County’s Official Zoning Map Designation for Tax Map Parcel #140-00-04-002-00 Agriculture II (AG-II) to General Commercial (GC) and Providing an Effective Date. She stated that Mr. Thompson is requesting this zoning amendment to permit the placement of a recreational vehicle sales lot. Ms. Hanna continued by stating that this parcel is approximately 2.0 acres.

16. Finance Report

Mrs. Tammy Rodvansky, CFO, began her report by stating the following:

- **The General Fund** expenses were 48% of the Budget. We had Expenditures of \$2,097,606, and Revenue was not available as of November 30, 2025.

- **Weldon Auditorium** – there were no reports for the Weldon because the Weldon is being renovated.
- **Water and Sewer Department** had a total Revenue of \$673,578 for the month ending November 30, 2025, and total Expenses were \$394,895. After Depreciation, Bond Interest Expense, and Interest Income, the Water and Sewer Department ended the month of November 2025 with a Net Utility Loss of \$30,556.
- **The C-Fund Program** - for the month ending November 30, 2025, The C-Fund program had a Cash Balance of \$8,713,736, of which \$4,834,021 has been committed to remaining local paving projects and State Proviso Funds. She stated that the C-Fund Program had an Uncommitted Balance of \$3,808,899 as of the end of November 2025.
- **Fire Rescue** – expenses were 39% of the Budget. We had Expenditures of \$609,943, and Revenue was not available as of November 30, 2025.

17. Administrator’s Report

Administrator Ackerman began his report by giving the Council an update on the following:

✓ **Facilities:**

- **EOC/Communication Center:** Pyramid has begun clearing and grubbing, and we have sent the intent to Award to Pyramid Contracting for the \$9,044,848 base bid.
- **Public Works, Fleet Maintenance, Animal Control:** Hawkins and Kolb have the Public Works building framed, roofing and siding complete.
- **Turbeville Library:** Chamber & Associates has a base bid of \$2,750,000. Discussion for a start date will be based upon the SCDES permit and the County permit.
- **North Shore Summerton Wastewater Development Project:** Barwick Plumb has installed the wet well. Waiting on electrical components. Pumps for the North Shore and KOA pump stations have been delivered and installed.
- **Clarendon Community Comple Renovations** – Exterior Building Services has started work on the exterior of the building. EBS is working on the north side with tuck point.
- **Newman Branch Restoration Projects:** We received \$950,000 for this project. The project has been awarded to Ecological Associates, Inc. They have removed 82 beavers and have a total of 33 dams. They have identified about 6-7 Dams and plan to bring in equipment to remove the Dams.
- **Fire Station on MW Rickenbaker Road, Station #10:** -Hawkins and Kolb are working on electrical insulation, fans, and interior wall panels.
- **2025 Legislative Funding Targets for Capital Projects:** JC Britton Park is adding a Skate/BMX park and enlarging the Building JC Britton.
- **Sheriff’s Building at Manning Firing Range** – The one-time appropriation of \$373,819 allowed for protective riot gear, a moving target system, and a new building. Currently, the riot gear and moving target systems are complete. This leaves an estimated balance of \$178,233 for the building.
- **Drainage Projects** – Hudson Road and Deal Street need to obtain easements, and Padgett Highway, David Chalmers Road; the smaller projects are ready for bid.

18. Chairman’s Report

Chairman Johnson stated that this is his 12th meeting, and it's been a lot of ups and downs, and this has been a really big learning process. He stated that this was absolutely nothing like he thought it would be. Chairman Johnson continued by stating that we can’t make everybody happy, but if you can make a few people happy, that’s better than everybody hating you. He continued by stating that Lowe’s is hiring, so if you have friends or family who are looking for a job, Lowe’s would be a good opportunity.

19. Executive Session

Chairman Johnson asked for a motion to go into Executive Session for Personnel Matters.

On motion by Councilman Rodine and seconded by Vice Chairman Coker, the Council voted unanimously to go into Executive Session for personnel matters.

The Executive Session began at 6:44 pm.

20. Open Session

On motion by Councilman Frierson and seconded by Councilman Richardson, the Council voted unanimously to come out of Executive Session and back into Open Session.

The Executive Session ended at 7:25 pm.

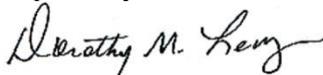
- Chairman Johnson stated that no action will be taken out of Executive Session.
- Chairman Johnson stated that he will go back and finish his Chairman's report by yielding the floor to Fire Chief Michael Johnson.
 - Chief Johnson began by stating that he was going to tell everything that was said in Executive Session. He stated that he wants to thank the County Council for trusting him to run the Organization of Fire Rescue and for supporting them. I have been here for 25 years, and on January 2, 2026, will be my last day working for Clarendon County. He continued by stating that this has been the hardest job that he has ever done in his life, and the most rewarding. He said he watched the crews everyday deal with traumatic situations, and sometimes they're not so traumatic. So tonight, I just want to say thank you for trusting me.
 - Chairman Johnson stated that while in Executive Session, another holiday card winner came in. He stated that we would like to recognize Young Christian Elmore.

21. Adjourn

On motion by Councilman Rodine and seconded by Councilman Richardson, the Council voted Unanimous Approval to adjourn the Regularly scheduled Council Meeting.

The Council Meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dorothy M. Levy
Clerk to Clarendon County Council, CCC