



**Clarendon County Special Called Meeting  
Monday, June 16, 2025  
6:00 PM**

**Council Chambers, 411 Sunset Drive, Manning, SC 29102**

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**Those in attendance:**

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

Vice Chairman John P. Coker  
Councilman Kurtis W. Rodine  
Administrator Lynden Anthony

**Absent:** Clerk to Council, Dorothy M. Levy

**Press in attendance:** None

**Others in attendance included:**

Shirley Dozier	Annie Robinson	Deloris Moorner	Kathleen Gibson	Donald Davis
Sylvia Witherspoon	Jannett Hammett	Ceth Land	Johnny Bonaparte	Peggy H. Knox
Delaney K. Frierson	Breanna Hodge	Andrea Killman	Willie E. Bennett	Cathy Williams
Stacy B. McKenzie	Mary Cooper	RM Mitchell	Julius Adger	Debra Billie
Michell Richburg	Diane Georgia	Sade Williams	Mike Shorter	Kim Jones
Patricia Pringle	Dr. Moore	And Other County Residents		

Chairman Johnson called the Special Called Meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Councilman Frierson led the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

**1. Approval of the Agenda**

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Vice Chairman Coker, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the Agenda for the Special Called Council Meeting for June 16, 2025.

**2. Public Hearing for Ordinance 2025-09**

Ordinance 2025-09 – An Ordinance Approving the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget of the Clarendon County School District and Other Matters Relating Thereto. Chairman Johnson opened the Public Hearing at 6:05 pm.

- Auditor Patricia Pringle stated that she was asked to give information on the school millage and tax increase. She stated that the school district has a millage of 175.9 and would like to raise it to 181.1 mills, which would be a \$31.14 increase in taxes at 6% on a \$100,000 home. It would be a \$15.57 increase on vehicles weighing less than 11,000 lbs. and \$27.25 for vehicles weighing over 11,000.
- Vice Chairman Coker – stated that on pages 41 of 44, the additional earnings went from \$121,000 to \$257,500; another one went from \$33,000 to \$138,625. Can you explain what that is.
- Cathy Williams – stated that there are additional supplements for coaches. She stated that whoever put the description in, put it in as additional earnings. The system will generate the description

unless you put it in manually. She stated that coaching supplements are additional earnings and the additional earnings or coaching supplements are for all schools and all sports in Clarendon County.

- Councilman Frierson stated that it does not make sense to him because people were elected to do the job; let them do the job. Coaches come for more, not for less. You should be given two to three years to establish a pattern, and if there is a shortfall. Come to the Council and then have an oversight meeting.
- John Bonaparte – I trust that this budget is solid enough that the Council will accommodate the district. We established a budget that is minimal but will accommodate our employees and services. Going forward, I believe that the Council and the board will work hand in hand and will not tax our citizens with more than we asked for. We believe we have given you a good budget to consider.
- Chairman Johnson – the state reimbursement, what does the state reimburse us as a county?
- Cathy Williams – the reimbursement from the state is listed on page 201 in the form of an EIA, which is reimbursed from the state and transferred to the school's general fund.
- Councilman Frierson stated that he commends the school board for what they do, and we will stay out of your business unless you need us; then we will come running. We want to be a help and not a hindrance.
- Seth Land - We are a newly elected school board, but we are not new to education. We have over 137 years in Education. We work really hard to keep this budget as lean as we can. This budget increased by 1.2 million dollars, in which \$600,000 is the state mandated \$1,500 raise to certified teachers.
- Lynden Anthony – the school pays the money and then it is reimbursed from state. The County has no part of that.
- Chairman Johnson – what are the figures to give the teachers \$1,500. How much does the state reimburse? What percentage do they reimburse?
- Cathy Williams – I can't give you that figure at this moment, but I can get it back to you. We are not getting enough to cover the salary and fringe for those teachers.
- Peggy Knox – I don't have children in the school, but I am a taxpayer, and I do have a concern. The teachers and the great folks that we have in the district are leaving for higher pay, the \$1,500 is not a lot when you think about the cost of living and what they have to go through. We elected you for a purpose to represent us. We have to look at our future, our students, and to keep great teachers and coaches, and if my taxes have to go up to meet the needs of the future, I am willing. I want you to consider what they are asking for and try to find money from someone else to give them. If they came here for money for something other than the schools, would it be a question? I am speaking for myself, approve the budget and ask what else I can do.

- Chairman Johnson – we have questions, and I understand everyone’s point of view. We will get a hundred phone calls tomorrow with questions asking where their 1.59 mills will be spent, and I don’t think it would be too much to ask questions and get straight answers.
- John Bonaparte – Last year, the council gave the school board 4.4 mills, and the Legislature says that the school board can only raise the mills by 2 mills above the prior year. The Board is asking for 5.19 mills, which is less than 6.4 mills.
- Delaney K. Frierson – Clarendon County sales tax to decrease by 1%. Why are we doing this when folks come from all over the world to live here? I’m spending money when I go to these other counties, so why are we decreasing our sales tax?
- Vice Chairman Coker – That was the Legislature, that was not the County Council. It has to be put on a ballot, and the citizens have to decide.

If there are no other questions or concerns, we will close the Public Hearing. The Public Hearing closed at 6:42 pm.

### 3. Ordinance 2025-09

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Councilman Frierson, the Council voted unanimously in approval to the Second Reading of Ordinance 2025-09 - An Ordinance Approving the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget of the Clarendon County School District and Other Matters Relating Thereto.

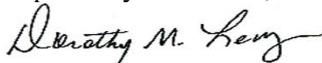
### 4. Adjourn

Chairman Johnson stated that we have exhausted our agenda, and he asked for a motion to adjourn the Special Called Meeting.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Councilman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to adjourn the Special Called Council Meeting.

The Special Called Council Meeting adjourned at 6:43 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dorothy M. Levy  
Clerk to Clarendon County Council, CCC

