



Clarendon County Budget Workshop
Monday, April 28, 2025
6:00 PM

Council Chambers, 411 Sunset Drive, Manning, SC 29102

Those in attendance:

Chairman John E. Johnson III
Councilman Billy G. Richardson
Administrator Lynden Anthony
Clerk to Council, Dorothy M. Levy

Vice Chairman John P. Coker
Councilman Kurtis W. Rodine
Deputy Administrator Sharmane Anderson

Absent: Councilman W. J. Frierson, Sr.

Press in attendance: None

Others in attendance included:

Shanita Brangman	Cynthia Henry	Jacqueline Blackwell	Patricia Pringle
Meesha Witherspoon	Michael A. Johnson, Jr.	George Frierson	Angel S. Reed
Mary Cooper	Fawn Pedalino	Breanna Hodge	Joe Pedalino
Sandra Killman	Leonard Lowery	And Other Clarendon County Residents	

Chairman Johnson called the Budget Workshop to order at 6:00 pm. Councilman Richardson 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 Budget Workshop for April 28, 2025.

2. Presentation – Mrs. Tammy Rodvansky, CFO

Mrs. Rodvansky began her presentation by thanking the County Council for the opportunity to present the budget requests to the Council and the citizens of Clarendon County.

Absent any specific format for this workshop, and with your permission, I'll start with the General Fund, revenue first, and then expenses.

As mentioned at first reading, the General Fund budget before you reflects a 2 mill decrease. We assume that we will experience continued growth in overall assessed values due to continued growth with Revenue and Expenses estimated at a robust 5%, a 2% assessed value growth in vehicles, and watercraft revenue reduction by 50% (S. 317). We have estimated that delinquent tax collections will decline slightly in the next fiscal year.

Our Local Option Sales Tax collection continues to grow, so we are recommending that the Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) credit be increased by \$200,000, which would take it to \$4.6 million. Essentially, reducing our tax obligations.

The State General Assembly, in its budget process thus far, has fully funded the Local Government Fund. The LGF is our largest non-tax revenue source in the General Fund. We would like to thank the General Assembly for keeping its promise to the counties and returning the much-needed funding. We have reflected the state monies to the County to help offset state-mandated services.

I anticipate some minor modifications to revenue between now and the second reading as information becomes available.

At first reading, we reflected a surplus of \$145,515; however, several elected officials had not provided their requests prior to then, and we also had several changes in other departments. As a result, our deficit this evening is (\$505,505). I need to point out; the budget process is still evolving and changing.

The 4.6% increase in health insurance costs expected in January of 2026 and the 1% increase in retirement expenses to the State are reflected in the budget before you.

Coroner’s Office	\$21,740 - Convert PT position to FT salary & Related Increases \$40,700 – Coroner Salary and Related Increase
Total of New Request: \$177,470	\$56,190 – New Position Deputy Coroner and related expenses \$45,940 – New Vehicle \$2,900 – Contractual Increase \$10,000 – Medical Services Increase

- Councilman Richardson stated that the part-time position was funded for 3 years and never filled.
- Coroner Blackwell replied by stating that she interviewed people, but no one would accept the position because the wages are too low.

Probate’s Office	\$28,860 – Software change, Current software outdated and no longer supported
Treasurer	\$12,000 – Bank Fees and Charges for fees associated with Lockbox.
Sheriff’s Office	\$16,025 – Salary and Related changes in the current year \$259,840 – Salary increases for Certified Officers
Auditor’s Office	\$4,890 – Personnel Position Change Request

Agencies

Changes for the First Reading	\$4,000 – Mental Health Increase
Behavioral Health Services	\$5,000 – Same as last year
Indigent Care	\$37,130 – A \$965 decrease from last year
Clemson Extension	\$28,800 – Same as last year
Public Defender	\$163,150 – 7% increase over last year
Solicitor’s Office	\$92,650 – over last year, 2 Part-time Paralegals, Salary Increases for Staff
Clarendon Soil and Water	\$32,000 – Same as last year
Central Carolina Tech. Co.	\$100,000

- Vice Chairman Coker stated that Central Carolina does not offer any classes in Clarendon County; you would have to go to Sumter or take courses online. He recommended reducing the asking price to \$30,000.

CCTC Scholarship Fund	\$20,000
Adult Education	\$28,000 – Same as last year
Department of Mental Health	\$15,000

With the recent changes in the voter registration board, we are going to ask them to review their request. The budget we received from Ms. Harvin had an increase requested for poll workers even though there are no federal, state, or county elections scheduled in the coming year.

- Deputy Administrator Anderson stated that the state increased all poll workers' pay, and it is fully reimbursed by the state.

In terms of those departments reporting through Administration, there are some items I would like to mention:

A \$100,000 increase from the first reading in anticipated costs for handling county waste. An increase in our meal and medical care delivery within the Detention center was more than offset by federal inmate revenues. Increases in the IT department, the bulk being Software upgrades to our current system.

Solid Waste	\$200,000 – Increase in Disposal Fees as a result of trend analysis
Recreation	(13,780) – Health Insurance decrease due to personnel change
IT	\$228,470 – Software upgrades to our current Finance, Procurement, Payroll, HR, and Utility Billing System \$20,000 – Contractual Costs for Meetings to be archived \$ 2,250 – Software purchase increased

While the general Fund has numerous non-tax revenue sources, Fire Rescue is funded primarily through ad valorem taxes and EMS collections.

Fire Rescue fund - we have prepared a balanced budget with zero growth in the millage rate.

Emergency Medical Services has been reduced by 1 mill.

Library Special Tax District - we have prepared a balanced budget with a 2-mill reduction.

The Weldon Auditorium and the Water System are submitting balanced budgets.

My staff and I will make the changes you have recommended for 2nd reading. The proposed budget will be posted on the Clarendon County Website under the Finance Dept. prior to second reading.

3. 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 Vice Chairman Coker, Council voted Unanimous Approval to adjourn the Budget Workshop.



The Budget Workshop adjourned at 7:32 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dorothy M. Levy".

Dorothy M. Levy
Clerk to Clarendon County Council, CCC