



Clarendon County Regular Council Meeting
Monday, October 13, 2025
6:00 PM

Council Chambers, 411 Sunset Drive, Manning, SC 29102

Those in attendance:

Chairman John E. Johnson III	Vice Chairman John P. Coker
Councilman Billy G. Richardson	Councilman Kurtis W. Rodine
Councilman W.J. Frierson, Sr.	Interim Administrator Sharmane Y. Anderson
Clerk to Council, Dorothy M. Levy	

Absent: None

Press in attendance: Manning Times, Melissa McCoy, WLTX

Others in attendance included:

George Frierson	Chuck Dukes	Marie Hardy Dukes	Kim Jones	Linda Fisk
Jennifer Williamson	Sarah Nystrom	Rev. David Woods, Jr.	Brenda Elder	Clara Nelson
Patricia Pringle	Deloris Moore	Annie Robinson	Jose Calvo	Brad Packard
Cindy Packard	Ruth E. Lambert	Jacqueline Blackwell	Heidi Thomson	Cindy Snowden
Bobby Snowden	Julius Dukes, Jr.	Jenny Vohs	Mary Howard	Lucille Thomas
Legear McCabe	Melissa Meloy	Jennifer Powell	Josh Fleming	James Lee
Addison Fleming	Margi Fleming	Eleazer Carter	Hallie Conyers	Diane Georgia
Pat Goodwin	Karleigh Miller	Albert Thomas	Aliza Reid	Sadie Sekio
Caroline Buyck	Shirley Canty	Willie Briggs	Mary Cooper	Micheal Richburg
Pamela Brunson	Ruth A. Watson	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 Frierson and seconded by Vice Chairman Coker, the Council voted unanimously to approve the Agenda for the Regular Scheduled Council Meeting for October 13, 2025.

2. Approval of Minutes

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Councilman Rodine, the Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the Following Council Meetings: September 8, 2025, September 12, 2025, September 15, 2025, September 23, 2025, and October 2, 2025.

3. Service Awards

Prior to the business session of the Regular Council meeting, Leonard Lowery, HR Director, Chairman Johnson, and Interim Administrator Anderson presented service awards to 5 employees for September:

Joan Bailey	5 years	Margaret Sorrell	10 years
Sharron Haley	10 years	William Jackson	10 years
Catherine Alsbrook	10 years		

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

4. Public Comments:

Linda Fisk – being an animal lover, she is horrified by the number of cats and kittens that are found dead on the road. She stated that Beaufort County has a free program to have your animals spayed or neutered. She said that this is a community wake-up call. People get rid of cats because they do not want them anymore or can't afford them anymore. Ms. Fisk continued by stating that spaying and neutering are the only ways to eliminate the unwanted litter of kittens. It is hard to find low-cost solutions to having cats and kittens spayed or neutered. She concluded by stating that they need assurance that the community cats and kittens will be protected and not harmed.

Sarah Nystrom – stated that she lives in Turbeville and that there isn't any Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) being done. She stated that she has \$20,000 in debt, and a lot of that is for taking care of cats and kittens. She stated that something has to be done about the number of cats and kittens that are not being taken care of.

David Woods, Jr. – stated that in the past recent years, he saw things done in this County that are shameful. There are things going on in Administration that should not be going on. I want to stress how troublesome and shameful that the county chose to hire someone who is not from this county, and Ms. Anderson has been in this county all of her life. I believe that someone from outside of the county will not have the standard and tenacity to move this county forward as someone who was born and raised in this county. The comment that was made that he does not owe anybody anything in this county was a terrible thing to say when the citizens elected you all, and you all are obligated to the citizens of Clarendon County. He concluded by stating that your votes have consequences and so are your words and your actions.

- Councilman Rodine stated that since this comment was directed at him, he wants to make a comment. He stated that he said he does not owe anybody anything because he will not vote in favor of any political party. The decisions that he made, he made them for the county and not a party or any person.

5. Special Recognitions

- Chairman Johnson and Interim Administrator Anderson recognized the members of the East Clarendon 2024-2025 – State Champions – 2A Girls Softball team.

6. Resolutions 2025-03

On motion by Councilman Rodine and seconded by Councilman Richardson, the Council voted unanimously to approve certain Amendments to the Clarendon County Employee Guidelines, in reference to the attracting or feeding of wild/feral animals on county property is a public nuisance and is prohibited at all times.

7. Request – Clarendon County Chamber of Commerce

Ms. Sadie Serio, Director of Tourism, Clarendon County Chamber of Commerce, and Ms. Caroline Buyck Interim Director, presented the Council with a request for \$68,250 to aid in the Chamber's operational budget and an additional \$44,000 in Hospitality fund. She stated that these are two separate requests to aid in the growth of Clarendon County.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Councilman Frierson, the Council voted unanimously to approve the two requests from the Chambers of Commerce, for \$68,250 to aid in the operational budget and \$44,000 to Hospitality Fund.

8. Ordinance 2025-12

On motion by Councilman Rodine and seconded by Councilman Richardson, the Council voted Unanimously to approval the Third and Final Reading of Ordinance 2025-12, An Ordinance Amending the

Clarendon County Unified Development Code Regarding the Regulation of Mobile Food Vendors and Other Matters Related Thereto.

9. Ordinance 2025-13

Interim Administrator Anderson presented the Council with Ordinance 2025-13, an Ordinance Amending Tipping Fees and Policies with Respect to the Acceptance of Waste Tires at County Solid Waste Facilities. She stated that the fees will change from \$150 to \$200. She stated that any County Resident can dispose of up to six motor vehicle tires per year. County Businesses disposing of more than six motor vehicle tires per year may dispose of the tires upon the payment of the tipping fee outlined in the schedule of fees.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Councilman Frierson, the County voted unanimously to approve the First Reading of Ordinance 2025-13, An Ordinance Amending Tipping Fees and Policies with Respect to the Acceptance of Waste Tires at County Solid Waste Facilities.

10. Resolution 2025-04

Mr. George Kosinski, Development Board Director, presented the Council with a Resolution Providing Approval for Certain Incentives to Project Unity, Including a Negotiated Fee in Lieu of Ad Valorem Tax arrangement, Certain Special Source Credits, and Designation of the Project Site as Subject to a Multi-County Industrial or Business Park Arrangement; and Providing for Other Related Matters. He stated that the Company will invest \$56,200,000 and create 500 jobs with an hourly rate of \$27.

On motion by Councilman Rodine and seconded by Councilman Frierson, the County voted unanimously to approve Resolution 2025-04, 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.

11. Ordinance 2025-14

On motion by Vice Chairman Coker and seconded by Councilman Rodine, the County voted unanimously to approve the First 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.

12. Finance Report

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

- **The General Fund** expenses were 25% of the Budget. We had Expenditures of \$3,625,144, and Revenue was not available as of September 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 \$412,741 for the month ending September 30, 2025, and total Expenses were \$272,593. After Depreciation, Bond Interest Expense, and Interest Income, the Water and Sewer Department ended the month of September 2025 with a Net Utility Loss of \$33,985.
- **The C-Fund Program** - for the month ending September 30, 2025, The C-Fund program had a Cash Balance of \$8,362,606, of which \$4,998,306 has been committed to remaining local paving projects and State Proviso Funds. She stated that the C-Fund Program had an Uncommitted Balance of \$3,364,300 as of the end of September 2025.

- **Fire Rescue** – expenses were 23% of the Budget. We had Expenditures of \$883,384, and Revenue was not available as of September 30, 2025.

13. Administrator’s Report

Interim Administrator Anderson began her report by giving the Council an update on the following:

✓ **Facilities:**

EOC/Communication Center: Surveying has already begun, and all permits are in.

Public Works, Fleet Maintenance, Animal Control: Concrete slabs have been poured, and framing has begun.

Davis Station Well and Tank: Tank construction will begin in November; the well house has been bid out, and 13 miles of system expansion are nearly completed.

Weldon Auditorium Renovations Status: Renovations are moving along quicker than expected.

Fire Station on MW Rickenbaker Road, Station #10: Construction is underway for Davis Station Fire Station #10.

✓ **Other:**

Turbeville Library: Bids are in, and decisions will be made within the next week.

North Shore Summerton Wastewater Development Project: This project is wrapping up nicely, and we hope we can remove it from the list by the end of the year.

Newman Branch Restoration Projects: We are continuing to remove beaver dams. Heavier Equipment is now being used to remove additional dams and debris.

Miscellaneous:

- We are excited to announce that electricity is available at Shelters 1 & 2 in J.C. Britton Park. There is a fee associated with the use of electricity. Please contact Clarendon County Recreation for further information!
- Basketball registration begins October 11th – November 2025.
- We have a total of five teams for Co-ed Fall Softball. Volleyball also began on October 11th.
- Congratulations are to Major Cheryl Pendergrass of the Clarendon County Detention Center for receiving the award of Supervisor of the Year from the SC Jail Administrators Association!
- The county has partnered with United Way to collect blessing bags. These items were distributed to several organizations throughout the county.
- Check out the inaugural newsletter online – The Clarendon Connection – a quarterly newsletter to keep our citizens informed.
- This month is Breast Cancer Awareness month; we urge that our citizens be tested to remain healthy.
- Don’t forget the Community Safety Day on October 25, 2025, at J.C. Britton Park.

14. Chairman’s Report

Chairman Johnson stated that he is ashamed of the way the County behaves, particularly how people post negative comments about others on social media. He added that when he ran for office, he told people what he stood for, and they voted for him, and he stands by his decisions. Chairman Johnson further noted that he participated in the interviews with the candidates for the Administrator’s position and is confident that he knows who the best candidate for the role is.

Chairman Johnson asked the Officers to remove David Woods, Jr. from the Council Chambers because Mr. Woods kept speaking loudly from the audience while Chairman Johnson was trying to give his report.

15. Executive Session

Chairman Johnson asked for a motion to go into Executive Session for two items:

- Administration – Personnel Contract – Administrator

- Agreement – City of Manning and Clarendon County – Magistrate Bond Court

On motion by Councilman Rodine and seconded by Councilman Richardson, the Council voted unanimously to go into Executive Session for two items: Administration – Personnel Contract – Administrator and Agreement with the City of Manning and Clarendon County – Magistrate Bond Court.

The Executive Session began at 6:35 pm.

16. 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 7:02 pm.

- Chairman Johnson stated that no action will be taken at this time on the Agreement between the City of Manning and Clarendon County – Magistrate Bond Court.
- Chairman Johnson asked for a motion on the Administrator’s contract.

On motion by Vice Chairman Coker and seconded by Councilman Frierson, the Council voted unanimously to approve the Employment Contract for the County Administrator’s position.

Chairman Johnson asked Mr. Walt Ackerman, the candidate who was chosen to fill the position of County Administrator, to introduce himself.

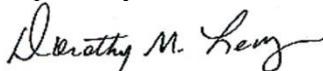
Mr. Walt Ackerson introduced himself and stated that he will be starting with Clarendon County on November 17, 2025, as the new County Administrator.

17. Adjourn

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

The Council Meeting adjourned at 7:04 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dorothy M. Levy
Clerk to Clarendon County Council, CCC