

## Clarendon County Regular Council Meeting

Monday, September 8, 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.  
Clerk to Council, Dorothy M. Levy

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

### Absent: None

Press in attendance: Manning Times, Melissa McCoy

### Others in attendance included:

George Frierson	Diane Georgia	Alice Wearing	Barry Hatfield	Deloris Moorer
ML Witherspoon	Skippy Osborne	Shirley W. Keels	H. H. Rogers, Sr.	Larry Gamble
Valerie Velepee	Annie Robinson	Susie Murray	Wendy Housel	Sampson Pearson
Patricia Pringle	John D. Bonaparte	Melissa McCoy	Willie Briggs	Julius Adger
Sallie V. Conyers	Sylvia Witherspoon	Alfreda Langhorne	Edith Gamble	W. L. McCabe
Jacqueline Blackwell	Rev. David Woods, 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

Prior to the approval of the Agenda for September 8, 2025, Chairman Johnson asked for approval to amend the agenda and remove item #9. He stated that the reason for the amendment was due to incorrect information being given.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Councilman Frierson, the Council voted unanimously to amend the agenda and remove Item #9, which was a board appointment for Santee Lynches Council of Government – Home Consortium Board.

On motion by Vice Chairman Coker and seconded by Councilman Frierson, the Council voted unanimously to approve the Agenda for the Regular Scheduled Council Meeting for September 8, 2025.

### 2. Approval of Minutes

On motion by Vice Chairman Coker and seconded by Councilman Rodine, the Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the Regular Council Meeting, which was held on Monday, August 11, 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:

Diana T. Hipp	5 years	Dennis Owens	20 years
Corey L. Beard	5 years	Carl Matt Evans	40 years
Sonya Mellerson	20 years		

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

#### 4. Public Comments:

**George Frierson** - a historian from Clarendon County, provided the Council with some facts that occurred on this day, September 8.

- September 8, 1900 - 6,000 people died in the Galveston, Texas, Hurricane.
- September 8, 1974 - President Gerald Ford pardoned Richard Nixon
- September 8, 1997 - William Bill Parker passed away
- September 8, 2004 - Congressman Jim Clyburn announced that three heroes of the civil rights movement in South Carolina would receive Congressional Gold Medals.
- September 8, 2022 – Queen Elizabeth Died
- World War II Veteran -Willie White just celebrated his birthday; he's 102 years old.

**Harry Rodgers** – presented the Council with an unpaid invoice, dated back to 2019, from Wyboo Plantation Homeowners Association. He stated that this invoice was submitted previously and still has not been paid.

- Chairman Johnson asked Interim Anderson to look into what Harry Rodgers said about the unpaid invoice.

#### 5. Board Appointments:

Authorization to re-appoint the following members to the Zoning Board of Appeals:

Justin K. Harrington, representing District Three, Robert B. Fleming, Jr., and Johnny Wilson, representing District Two.

On motion by Vice Chairman Coker and seconded by Councilman Frierson, the Council unanimously approved the re-appointments of Justin K. Harrington, Robert B. Fleming, Jr., and Johnny Wilson to the Zoning Board to serve another 4-year term.

Authorization to appoint Jane Powell and David W. Epperson to the Zoning Board representing District One and District Two, respectively.

On motion by Councilman Rodine and seconded by Councilman Frierson, the Council unanimously approved the appointments of Jane Powell and David W. Epperson to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

#### 6. Special Recognitions and Presentations

- **Mr. Larry Gamble**, Sons of the American Revolution, Celebrating 250 years of American Freedom. Asked the Council to provide the base to install benches. He stated that in April 2024, they installed a bench in Camden at the War Center, and in March 2025, they installed a bench at the Waterfront Park in Beaufort.
- **Proclamation** – On motion by Councilman Rodine and seconded by Vice Chairman Coker, the Council voted unanimously approving a Proclamation Recognizing and Honoring the Members of the South Carolina State Guard and National Preparedness Month of September 2025.
- Chairman Johnson and Interim Administrator Anderson presented a Plaque to Ms. Shirley W. Keels for her years of service serving on the Santee Lynches Council of Government Board.
- Chairman Johnson and Interim Administrator Anderson recognized the members of the LMA 2025 Baseball Team for being chosen as members of the All-Region Team: BJ Balls, Player of the year, Peyton Price, Pitcher of the year, Brentston Rembert, Third baseman of the year, and Coach Barry Harfield, 4A coach of the year.

## **7. Public Hearing – Ordinance 2025-11**

Chairman Johnson stated that the public hearing for Ordinance 2025-11 – An Ordinance Amending Clarendon County Ordinance No. 2014-02 to amend Utility Tap Fees and to Implement Additional Updates to the Clarendon County Water and Sewer Department Code of Regulations, and Other Matters Related Thereto is open.

The Public Hearing opened at 6:22 pm

- Ms. Patricia Pringle – asked what are the amounts of the new fees.
- Interim Administrator Anderson responded by stating that the fees are as follows:
  - $\frac{3}{4}$ " Service \$2,000
  - 1" Service \$3,000
  - 1  $\frac{1}{2}$ " Service \$4,000
  - 2" Service \$5,000
  - 4" Service \$7,000
  - Irrigation Meter \$2,000

Chairman Johnson asked if there were any other comments; hearing none, he stated that the public hearing would close. The Public Hearing closed at 6:25 pm.

## **8. Ordinance 2025-11**

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Councilman Rodine, the Council voted unanimously in approval to the Third and Final Reading of Ordinance 2025-11 – An Ordinance amending Clarendon County Ordinance No. 2014-02 To Amend Utility Tap Fees and to Implement Additional Updates to the Clarendon County Water and Sewer Department Code of Regulations, and Other Matters Related Thereto.

## **9. Public Hearing – Ordinance 2025-12**

Chairman Johnson stated that the public hearing for Ordinance 2025-12 - An Ordinance Amending the Clarendon County Unified Development Code Regarding the Regulation of Mobile Food Vendors and Other Matters Related Thereto.

The Public Hearing opened at 6:26 pm

Ms. Tabitha Hanna, Planning Director, stated that this ordinance is to regulate mobile food vendors, which include Ice Cream Trucks, Mobile Food Vendors, and Mobile Food Vendor Units. She stated that all mobile food vendors doing business in the County must obtain a temporary use permit and obtain approval from the county's fire marshal. She continued by stating the following:

- No mobile food vendor unit shall be operated within 100 feet of the door of an operating restaurant unless the owner of the restaurant gives consent.
- No mobile food vendor unit shall operate within 75 feet of a resident.
- No mobile food vendor unit shall operate closer than 50 feet from flammable combustible liquid or gas.
- No mobile food vendor unit shall operate within 20 feet of any public right-of-way.
- Ice Cream trucks shall only sell, display, or offer to sell frozen prepackaged food products.
- No ice cream truck can remain stationary on a public street or right-of-way for more than 30 minutes.
- No ice cream truck, or any mobile food vendor, shall sound any device which produces an offensive or loud noise to attract customers.

- Vice Chairman Coker asked what about Private Property Use.
- Ms. Hanna stated that if the vendor was invited, no permit is needed.

Chairman Johnson asked if there were any other comments; hearing none, he said that the Public Hearing would close. The Public Hearing closed at 6:29 pm.

## 10. Ordinance 2025-12

On motion by Councilman Frierson and seconded by Councilman Richardson, the Council voted Unanimous approval to the Second 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.

## 11. Finance Report

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

- **The General Fund** expenses were 18% of the Budget. We had Expenditures of \$5,889,164, and Revenue was not available as of August 31, 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 \$278,220 for the month ending August 31, 2025, and total Expenses were \$197,852. After Depreciation, Bond Interest Expense, and Interest Income, the Water and Sewer Department ended the month of August 2025 with a Net Utility Loss of \$30,769.
- **The C-Fund Program** - for the month ending August 31, 2025, The C-Fund program had a Cash Balance of \$8,194,627, of which \$4,951,794 has been committed to remaining local paving projects and State Proviso Funds. She stated that the C-Fund Program had an Uncommitted Balance of \$3,242,833 as of the end of August 2025.
- **Fire Rescue** – expenses were 14% of the Budget. We had Expenditures of \$649,616, and Revenue was not available as of August 31, 2025.

## 12. Administrator's Report

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

✓ **Facilities:**

**EOC/Communication Center:** The project has been awarded to Pyramid Construction. We hope to be “moving dirt” by the late fall / early Winter of this year.

**Turbeville Fire Station:** We would like to thank everyone who attended our ribbon-cutting for the Turbeville Fire Station on August 21, 2025.

**Public Works, Fleet Maintenance, Animal Control:** Construction continues!

**Davis Station Well and Tank:** Drilling of a test well is completed, with final designs approved by SC DES, and we continue to move this project along briskly with pump installation, above-ground storage tank started, and pipe going in the ground for the 13-mile system expansion.

**Weldon Auditorium Renovations Status:** Renovations are moving along quicker than expected. We would like to thank the City of Manning Fire Department and Clarendon County Fire Rescue for their quick action in subduing the structure fire that occurred at Weldon at the beginning of August.

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

✓ **Other:**

**Turbeville Library:** has been officially bided out as of last week! Pre-bid meeting is Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>.

**North Shore Summerton Wastewater Development Project:** Construction continues and is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

**Law Enforcement Joint Training Facility:** The facility has been rebid, and we are excited about the interest.

**Newman Branch Restoration Projects:** We are continuing to remove beaver dams. The dams are being manually broken up, with the stream width opened to a minimum of ten (10) feet.

✓ **Fire Rescue:**

- Fire response times from dispatch to arrival on-scene (200 calls) - August 6:44
- EMS response times from dispatch to arrival on-scene (641 calls) – August 10:20

## Miscellaneous:

- As many of you are aware, we have partnered with F.E. Dubose Career Center and Central Carolina to implement a firefighter and EMS Program for the students in Clarendon County beginning in January.
- We are excited to announce great news on our first federal appropriation application with Congressman Clyburn's Office. Our JC Britton Wellness Expansion project remains in the federal budget for appropriation! Pickleball courts, tennis courts, inclusive playgrounds, and other enhancements are on the horizon!
- We are thankful to SC Dept of Commerce and Strategic Location Advisors for a very successful Strategic Planning Session with our Key stakeholders. We are looking forward to the finished project.
- Congratulations to the Renegades, our Co-Ed Softball team for winning the championship. Thank you to our Director, Joey Henry, for reviving this opportunity for our citizens. Registration for Fall Sports has ended, and the season begins September 23<sup>rd</sup>! We had over 200 registrants for Fall sports!
- We want to thank the staff for kicking off our initiative - #KeepClarendonClean#. Our litter pick-up on August 28<sup>th</sup> was very successful. We picked up a total of 1500 pounds of trash. If citizens are interested in getting involved with our next pick-up, please contact our Public Works office. We all can participate in ensuring we keep our communities clean.
- The county has partnered with United Way to collect blessing bags. These will be distributed to the homeless and underserved communities at the end of our campaign.
- At our last council meeting, we were presented with an option for a county flag. We are opening up this opportunity to our citizens who may have an interest in designing a flag. Please submit your interest by October 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Great news! The county has paid off over 2.5 million dollars in IPRB bonds, which includes the payoff of our Administration Building.
- This month is Prostate Cancer Awareness month, and we urge that our citizens are tested to remain healthy.

### **13. Chairman's Report**

Chairman Johnson stated that there will be two Special-called council meetings where we will be interviewing for the County Administrator.

### **14. Executive Session**

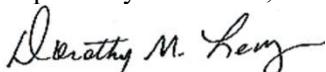
Interim Administrator Anderson stated that she received a message from the attorney and the Executive Session would need to be rescheduled.

### **15. 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 6:43 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dorothy M. Levy  
Clerk to Clarendon County Council, CCC