

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
SALUDA COUNTY COUNCIL  
MONDAY, APRIL 14, 2025 AT 6:00 P.M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, SALUDA COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
400 WEST HIGHLAND STREET, SALUDA, SOUTH CAROLINA

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Jim Moore called the regular meeting of Saluda County Council to order at 6:00 P.M.

Present were:

Chairman Jim Moore  
Vice-Chairman Carey Bedenbaugh  
Councilman J. Frank Daniel, Sr.  
Councilman Jack Atkinson  
Councilman Justin Anderson

Also present was:

Regina H. Turner, Clerk to Council  
Sandra G. Padget, Administrator  
Virginia Bozeman, County Attorney

B. INVOCATION

Chairman Moore delivered the invocation.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Moore led the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. PUBLIC INFORMATION

It is noted by the Clerk herein, that in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the regular meeting was given to the local news media and properly posted, to include the county website.

The following notice was placed at the beginning of the agenda:

**Please note meetings are open to the public. Access to the live video is available by going to the County's Facebook page (Saluda County, SC Government).**

E. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion of Vice-Chairman Bedenbaugh seconded by Councilman Anderson the agenda was unanimously approved.

F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Councilman Daniel seconded by Councilman Atkinson the minutes were unanimously approved for March 10<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

G. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilman Atkinson said that the report from Upper Savannah stated that the work on Main Street will be completed at the end of June. He also commented that he enjoyed the joint Palm Sunday services.

Councilman Anderson did not have anything to report.

Chairman Moore said that on April 4<sup>th</sup> there was a ground breaking for the Urgent Care by Self Regional Hospital. He also announced that the Saluda area celebration for SC Aviation Week will be on Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> for the Library Group to have a demonstration, tour and crafts and Saturday, May 3 the Commission will host a Fly In pancake breakfast. Chairman Moore also announced that the County Farmers Festival was to run from Thursday to Sunday. Lastly, he informed everyone about current interactions with the Saluda County Water and Sewer Authority.

Vice-Chairman Bedenbaugh said he also attended the ground breaking for the Urgent Care and hoped it would be a benefit to everyone. He also informed everyone of the bridge closure on Hwy 121. He thanked everyone that came out for the Pleasant Grove fundraiser. Vice-Chairman thanked the county employees for all they do.

Councilman Daniel asked for the public to support and help the county through the projects that we have going on now. He said that sometimes the projects get challenging but hoped they would be a blessing to all. He thanked all that came to the meeting.

#### H. PUBLIC PRESENTATION

Chairman Moore recognized Fire Service Coordinator, Mark Lybrand who presented three Fire Fighters with the Distinguished Service Pin as a token of the County's appreciation for their dedicated service. Chief Daniel Patterson and firefighters Cody Pilgrim and Brandon Bryan were pinned for their volunteer service in the Myrtle Beach area fires. Mr. Lybrand also introduced our new donated therapy canine, Hope, to the public.

#### I. PUBLIC HEARING

Chairman Moore opened the Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 01-25, "AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE SALE OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED ON HWY 178 SALUDA, SOUTH CAROLINA TO INDUSTRIAL MECHANICAL SERVICES, INC.". No one signed up to speak.

#### J. OLD BUSINESS

On motion of Councilman Daniel, seconded by Councilman Atkinson, Council unanimously approved second reading on Ordinance No. 01-25, "AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE SALE OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED ON HWY 178 SALUDA, SOUTH CAROLINA TO INDUSTRIAL MECHANICAL SERVICES, INC.".

On motion of Councilman Atkinson, seconded by Councilman Anderson, Council unanimously approved second reading on Ordinance No. 03-25, "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM THE COUNTY RESERVED FUND BALANCE TO THE BUILDING RESERVE ACCOUNT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES BUILDING." Chairman Moore reminded everyone that it was stated in a previous meeting that the EMS Building was to be funded from designated ARPA funds and the balance would come from our fund balance account.

#### K. NEW BUSINESS

On motion of Vice-Chairman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Daniel, Council unanimously approved first reading on Ordinance No. 04-25, "AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2025, FOR EDUCATIONAL AND SCHOOL PURPOSES IN SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE OF SALUDA COUNTY, SOUTH

CAROLINA: TO PROVIDE FOR LEVY OF TAXES AND THE TAXABLE PROPERTY IN SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE: TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF SAID TAXES AND OTHER REVENUES COMING INTO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT DURING THE FISCAL YEAR. Chairman Moore stated that Saluda County Council shall determine and establish a tax of sufficient millage to support \$6,390,689.00 from Ad Valorem Taxes as county funding for the appropriations and levies made herein, and shall advise the Auditor who shall fix said millage as advised by the Council. The total budget at first reading for the school is \$28,997,065.00.

On motion of Vice-Chairman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Atkinson, Council unanimously approved first reading on Ordinance No. 05-25, "AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGETS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF SALUDA COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2025; TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES ON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY IN SALUDA COUNTY FOR ALL COUNTY PURPOSES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2025; TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF TAX REVENUES AND OTHER COUNTY FUNDS; TO PROVIDE FOR OTHER COUNTY PURPOSES; TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2025: AND TO PROVIDE FOR CERTAIN FISCAL AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING TO COUNTY GOVERNMENT." Chairman Moore noted that the amount for First Reading on the county operating budget is \$18,461,032.00. The difference in proposed expenditures and revenues is \$619,376.00.

On motion of Council Atkinson, seconded by Council Anderson, Council unanimously approved first reading on Ordinance No. 06-25, "AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NUMBER 01-85 AND ORDINANCE NUMBER 05-85, TITLED "SOIL EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION CONTROL;" AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO. Under discussion, Chairman Moore stated that after attending a Soil and Water Commissioner's meeting he was made aware that the regulations in this ordinance have been found to be outdated or invalid and regulations in compliance is currently being administered by DEHC.

On motion of Vice-Chairman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Atkinson, Council unanimously approved a Resolution designating April as Fair Housing Month. Chairman Moore read the Resolution.

On motion of Vice-Chairman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Atkinson, Council unanimously approved a Resolution honoring the service of Dan Neel. Chairman Moore read and presented the Resolution to Mr. Neel and thanked him for his 49 years of service to the County. Mr. Neel thanked Council for their cooperation throughout the years.

On motion of Vice-Chairman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Atkinson, Council unanimously approved a Resolution for the proposed investment by Fairview Solar, LLC. Councilman Anderson read the resolution.

On motion of Vice-Chairman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Daniel, Council unanimously approved for council staff to issue an RFP for Website Development and Hosting. Chairman Moore reminded everyone that Council members made this recommendation at the March 31<sup>st</sup> workshop.

On motion of Vice-Chairman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Daniel, it was approved to appoint members to the Steering Committee for the Development of the Comprehensive Plan. Vice-Chairman Bedenbaugh read the list of committee members. List is on file in the office of Clerk to Council.

L. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Vice-Chairman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Daniel, Council unanimously agreed to go into Executive Session pursuant to Section 30-4-70(a) (1), (2) and (5) of the South Carolina Code of Laws 1976, as amended to discuss Personnel in the Election Office, a possible Economic Development Opportunity and to receive legal advice on the Commerce Park and to return at the call of the Chair.

Councilman Anderson left the meeting before Executive Session.

Chairman Moore called Council back into open session.

On motion of Vice-Chairman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Atkinson, Council unanimously authorized the position of Registration/Election Assistant be switched to the part time position Grade 10.

M. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Vice-Chairman Bedenbaugh it was approved to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 P.M.

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Regina H. Turner  
Clerk to Council  
Date Approved: May 12, 2025

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James L. Moore, Saluda County Council  
Chairman