

MINUTES OF CALLED MEETING
SALUDA COUNTY COUNCIL
MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2026 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 called meeting of Saluda County Council to order at 6:00 P.M.

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

Absent was:

Also Present were:	Regina Turner, Administrator Heather Griffin, Clerk to Council
--------------------	---

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------------|--|
| B. | <u>INVOCATION</u> | Councilman Justin Anderson delivered the invocation. |
| C. | <u>PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE</u> | Chairman Moore led the Pledge of Allegiance. |

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 video is available by going to the County's Facebook page (Saluda County, SC Government).

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion of Vice-Chairman Bedenbaugh and seconded by Councilman Atkinson the Agenda was unanimously approved.

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Vice-Chairman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Daniel the minutes were unanimously approved for May 11, 2026 and June 8th as written in the Agenda.

F. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilman Daniels commented that today he was elected Chairman of the Upper Savannah Council of Governments.

Vice-Chairman Bedenbaugh Welcomed Chairman Moore back and also welcomed Councilman Atkinson back from his trip. He wished everyone a happy Father's Day and thank the citizens that make positive comments about the County on Facebook.

Councilman Anderson mentioned the Palmetto Girls and Boys State as he did at the last meeting Councilman Atkinson mentioned his trip to Jacksonville and that he did not want to move back to Florida. He stated that there is too much traffic and too many data centers there.

Chairman Moore asked everyone to celebrate the 4th of July and the 250th anniversary of our Country. He stated that America is the greatest Country in the world.

Chairman Atkinson asked for the floor again and mentioned that Saluda Presbyterian would be holding a 4th of July celebration at 6:00 and asked everyone to vote at tomorrow's election.

G. NEW BUSINESS

1. On Motion of Vice-Chairman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Atkinson the changes to the Flex and Pay Policies were unanimously approved.
2. On Motion of Vice-Chairman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Atkinson the Job Descriptions were unanimously approved.
3. On Motion of Vice-Chairman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Daniel the disbursement of Reserve funds was approved.

H. OLD BUSINESS

1. On motion of Vice-Chairman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Anderson Council unanimously approved third reading on Ordinance No. 03-26, "AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2026, 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.
Dr. Coleman was recognized. She thanked Council for allowing her to use the conference room for interviewing the candidates for the Palmetto Girls State. Dr. Coleman stated that the budget had increased due to the fact that the new buildings increased the total square footage that they maintain. She also mentioned that they included a new 4K positions and some new assistant educator positions.
2. On motion of Vice-Chairman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Daniel Council unanimously approved third reading on Ordinance No. 04-26, "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, 2026; 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, 2026; 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, 2026: AND TO PROVIDE FOR CERTAIN FISCAL AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING TO COUNTY GOVERNMENT.” Chairman Moore commented that the amount for Third Reading for the county operating budget is \$19,220,838.00. In order to provide the services required to operate the County we will have to raise the mileage rate by 4 mills. The value of a home in Saluda County ranges from \$2,500 to 1,600,000 with the average being \$150,000. A 4 mill increase would increase the tax bill on a \$150,000 home about \$18.

3. On motion of Vice-Chairman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Atkinson Council unanimously approved second reading on Ordinance No. 06-26 “AN ORDINANCE PERMITTING SALUDA COUNTY TO ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH AIKEN PILOT TRAINING.”

I. 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) (6) of the South Carolina Code of Laws 1976, as amended to discuss Economic Development in regards to a proposed business expansion and to return at the call of the Chairman.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Vice-Chairman Bedenbaugh, it was approved to adjourn the meeting at 6:33 P.M.

Heather L. Griffin
Clerk to Council
Date Approved: July 13, 2026

James L. Moore, Chairman