

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
SALUDA COUNTY COUNCIL
MONDAY, JULY 13, 2026 AT 6:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, SALUDA COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
400 WEST HIGHLAND STREET, SALUDA, SOUTH CAROLINA

A. CALL TO ORDER

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

Present were:	Councilman J. Frank Daniel, Sr. Councilman Jack Atkinson Vice-Chairman Carey Bedenbaugh Councilman Justin Anderson Chairman Jim Moore
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Also Present were:	Heather Griffin, Clerk to Council Ginny Bozeman, County Attorney
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B. <u>INVOCATION</u>	Vice-Chairman Bedenbaugh delivered the invocation.
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C. <u>PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE</u>	Chairman Moore led the Pledge of Allegiance.
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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, seconded by Councilman Atkinson the agenda was unanimously approved.

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Vice-Chairman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Atkinson the minutes were unanimously approved for June 22, 2026 as written in the Agenda.

F. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilman Atkinson stated that he was grateful for the rain and he thanked everyone for coming.

Councilman Anderson recognized all of the recreation baseball and softball teams and congratulated

them on going to Mississippi to the World Series.

Vice-Chairman Bedenbaugh thanked everyone for coming out. He stated that he was thankful for the Saluda County Library and looked forward to the new Library opening. He also stated that he was thankful for the Coroner and her staff and what they do and he is thankful for all employees.

Councilman Daniel thanked everyone for coming out.

Chairman Moore stated that The County will be holding 7 meetings starting late August into early September to present information concerning the up-coming Capital Projects Sales Tax Referendum. These meetings are for information only. We will discuss the individual projects proposed by the CPST Committee and how the ballot will actually read so that the public will be informed when it comes time to vote in November on the referendum. These are the locations and dates of these meetings:

August 17th Old Town Fire Dept.

August 18th Trinity Community Center (Good Hope)

August 25th Circle Fire Dept.

August 31st Hollywood Fire Dept.

September 1st Sardis Community Center

September 8th Ridge Spring Fire Dept.

September 21st Council Chambers (this meeting will be live streamed)

Each meeting will start at 6:00pm. We encourage all citizens to participate in one of these meetings.

G. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No one signed up to comment.

H. PUBLIC HEARING

1. Chairman Moore opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance No 01-26 "AN ORDINANCE OF SALUDA COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AMENDING AND RESTATING THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF THE COUNTY; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO." Nicole Robinson was recognized to speak. Ms. Robinson stated that she is with the Manufactured Housing Institute of South Carolina which represents SC Manufactured Housing Industry. She thanked Saluda County for the work that has gone into the Comprehensive Plan. She asked that Council consider modern HUD manufactured housing be included in the plan and be recognized has part of Saluda County's housing strategy. She commented on manufactured housing's affordability and appreciation. She thanked Council for the opportunity to comment.
2. Chairman Moore opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance No 05-26 "AN ORDINANCE TO LEVY AND REIMPOSE A ONE PERCENT SALES AND USE TAX, SUBJECT TO A REFERENDUM IN SALUDA COUNTY PURSUANT TO THE CAPITAL PROJECT SALES TAX ACT, SOUTH CAROLINA CODE ANNOTATED SECTION 4-10-300, ET SEQ.; TO DEFINE THE SPECIFIC PURPOSES AND DESIGNATE THE PROJECTS FOR WHICH THE PROCEEDS OF THE TAX MAY BE USED; TO PROVIDE THE MAXIMUM TIME FOR THE REIMPOSITION AND COLLECTION OF THE TAX AND THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF NET PROCEEDS TO BE RAISED BY THE TAX; TO PROVIDE FOR A COUNTY-WIDE REFERENDUM AND TO PRESCRIBE THE CONTENTS OF THE BALLOT

QUESTION IN THE REFERENDUM; TO PROVIDE CONDITIONS PRECEDENT TO THE REIMPOSITION OF THE TAX AND CONDITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF THE TAX REVENUE; TO ESTABLISH THE PRIORITY IN WHICH THE NET PROCEEDS OF THE TAX ARE TO BE EXPENDED FOR THE PURPOSES AND PROJECTS STATED; TO PROVIDE FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE REFERENDUM BY THE SALUDA COUNTY BOARD OF VOTER REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS; TO PROVIDE FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE TAX; TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS, IN ONE OR MORE SERIES, TAX-EXEMPT OR TAXABLE, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED THE AGGREGATE OF \$18,000,000; AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO PRESCRIBE THE FORM AND DETAILS OF THE BONDS; PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE BONDS AND PLEDGE OF REVENUES RELATED TO THE BONDS; PROVIDING OTHERWISE FOR THE DISPOSITION OF THE PROCEEDS OF THE BONDS; PROVIDING FOR BORROWING IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF THE BONDS; PROVIDING FOR THE DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY RELATED TO THE BONDS; AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS.

” No one signed up to speak.

3. Chairman Moore opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance No 06-26 “AN ORDINANCE PERMITTING SALUDA COUNTY TO ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH AIKEN PILOT TRAINING.”

No one signed up to speak.

I. OLD BUSINESS

1. On motion of Vice-Chairman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Atkinson Council unanimously approved the Third Reading on Ordinance No. 05-26, “AN ORDINANCE TO LEVY AND REIMPOSE A ONE PERCENT SALES AND USE TAX, SUBJECT TO A REFERENDUM IN SALUDA COUNTY PURSUANT TO THE CAPITAL PROJECT SALES TAX ACT, SOUTH CAROLINA CODE ANNOTATED SECTION 4-10-300, ET SEQ.; TO DEFINE THE SPECIFIC PURPOSES AND DESIGNATE THE PROJECTS FOR WHICH THE PROCEEDS OF THE TAX MAY BE USED; TO PROVIDE THE MAXIMUM TIME FOR THE REIMPOSITION AND COLLECTION OF THE TAX AND THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF NET PROCEEDS TO BE RAISED BY THE TAX; TO PROVIDE FOR A COUNTY-WIDE REFERENDUM AND TO PRESCRIBE THE CONTENTS OF THE BALLOT QUESTION IN THE REFERENDUM; TO PROVIDE CONDITIONS PRECEDENT TO THE REIMPOSITION OF THE TAX AND CONDITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF THE TAX REVENUE; TO ESTABLISH THE PRIORITY IN WHICH THE NET PROCEEDS OF THE TAX ARE TO BE EXPENDED FOR THE PURPOSES AND PROJECTS STATED; TO PROVIDE FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE REFERENDUM BY THE SALUDA COUNTY BOARD OF VOTER REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS; TO PROVIDE FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE TAX; TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS, IN ONE OR MORE SERIES, TAX-EXEMPT OR TAXABLE, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED THE AGGREGATE OF \$18,000,000; AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO PRESCRIBE THE FORM AND DETAILS OF THE BONDS; PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE BONDS AND PLEDGE OF REVENUES RELATED TO THE BONDS; PROVIDING OTHERWISE FOR THE DISPOSITION OF THE PROCEEDS OF THE BONDS; PROVIDING FOR BORROWING IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF THE BONDS; PROVIDING FOR THE DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY RELATED TO THE BONDS; AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS.”

2. On motion of Vice-Chairman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Atkinson Council unanimously approved third Reading on Ordinance No. 06-26 "AN ORDINANCE PERMITTING SALUDA COUNTY TO ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH AIKEN PILOT TRAINING." Jill Warren, Airport Manager was recognized. Mrs. Warren stated that this would add a flight training school to the Airport. She stated that he is ready to start as soon as the ordinance is approved and has one student already signed up to take the course. Chairman Moore asked if we would be charging him \$170 per month and Mrs. Warren confirmed and said that the rent is standard for a T-hanger plus and additional charge for use of other rooms in the Airport.
3. On motion of Vice-Chairman Bedenbaugh, seconded by Councilman Daniel Council unanimously approved first Reading on Ordinance No. 07-26 "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE LEASE OF T-HANGARS OWNED BY SALUDA COUNTY AND LOCATED AT THE SALUDA COUNTY AIRPORT, AUTHORIZING AN INCREASE IN T-HANGAR LEASE RATES, AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO. Jill Warren, Airport Manager was recognized. Mrs. Warren stated at the April meeting of the Airport Commission they decided that they wanted to raise the rent on T-Hangers \$20 across the board. She stated that there would be six hangers that would go from \$140 to \$160 per month, one hanger that would go from \$165 to \$185, and one hanger that would go from \$145 to \$165. She stated that the changes were made to the lease agreement by the County Attorney and also some other changes to clarify the language in the lease agreement.

J. NEW BUSINESS

1. On motion of Councilman Daniel, seconded by Councilman Atkinson Council unanimously approved to Ratify the Resolution to honor the Retirement of Magistrate Judge Joyce B. Shults.
2. On motion of Councilman Anderson, seconded by Vice-Chairman Bedenbaugh Council unanimously voted to postpone the adoption of a new Building Permit Fee Schedule. Ginny Bozeman stated that the fee schedule would be better adopted by Ordinance.
3. On motion of Councilman Atkinson, seconded by Councilman Daniel Council unanimously approved to award Engineering and Planning Services for the Airport to Holt Consultants. Jill Warren, Airport Manager was recognized. Mrs. Warren stated that every five years the FFA requires the Airport Commission to put out a request for qualifications for these services. She stated that Holt Consulting has been providing these services for the past five years and that after reviewing the qualifications submitted, they chose to continue on with Holt Consulting for the services.
4. On motion of Councilman Atkinson, seconded by Councilman Daniel Council unanimously approved to transfer funds in the amount of \$6,200 from the Building Repair Reserve Account to the Building Maintenance Account for HVAC replacement at the First Steps building. Chairman Moore stated that this unit had to be replaced immediately due to the heat. It was paid for from the building maintenance account so funds will need to be transferred back to that account to cover the unexpected expense.

5. On motion of Councilman Daniel, seconded by Councilman Anderson Council unanimously approved for the Coroner's office to search for and purchase a replacement vehicle not to exceed \$16,000 to be paid for from the Vehicle Reserve Account. Angie Rita, Coroner, was recognized. Mrs. Rita stated that she would like to replace a vehicle in the Coroner's Department with another used vehicle. The current vehicle is a 2014 Ford Explorer and has a little under 200,000 miles and the paint is coming off. She said she is grateful for all the vehicles they have but they are all eight years old or older. There have been some situations where they need to transport a body and this new vehicle could do that. She stated that they would have the opportunity to save some of the transport funds that they pay now by doing this. Councilman Daniel ask if a scene has two bodies, could they transport both in this vehicle. Mrs. Rita stated that it could and that they were in the process of obtaining a stretcher for this.

K. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Councilman Anderson, it was approved to adjourn the meeting at 6:34 P.M.

Heather L. Griffin

Clerk to Council

Date Approved: August 10, 2026

James L. Moore, Chairman