



COLLETON COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

County Council Chambers, Old Jail Building
109 Benson Street, 2nd Floor Walterboro, SC 29488
Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 6:00 P.M.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance
4. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a) Regular Meeting, April 1, 2025
 - b) Special Meeting, April 12, 2025
 - c) Special Meeting, April 14, 2025
 - d) Budget Work Session, April 15, 2025
 - e) Special Meeting, April 21, 2025
5. **Awards and Recognitions**
 - a) Proclamation-Veterans of Foreign Wars “Buddy”® Poppy
6. **Appearances & Public Presentations**
 - a) South Carolina University 1890 Extension Services-Mr. Cornelius Hamilton
7. **Administrator’s Briefing**
8. **Public Hearing**
9. **Old Business**
 - a) 2nd Reading Ordinance 25-O-03, To Amend and Extend the Term of the Agreement for Development for Joint County Industrial Park (The “Park”) Between Colleton County and Hampton County, South Carolina; to Further Amend the Agreement for Development Property in Colleton County as part of The Park; and other Matters Related Thereto.
 - b) 2nd Reading Ordinance 25-O-04, Approving an Application for Preliminary Certification for Historic Rehabilitation; and Other Matters Related Thereto.
 - c) 2nd Reading Ordinance 25-O-05, By Title Only, To Provide for the Levy of Taxes in Colleton County, South Carolina, for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026

to Provide for All Other Appropriations Thereof; and to Provide for Other Matters Related Thereto

11. **New Business**

- a) Resolution 25-R-26, To Authorize Acceptance and Budgeting of Various Grants FY-25-26
- b) Resolution 25-R-27, To Declare Surplus Equipment and to Authorize the Sale or Donate in Accordance with County Policy
- c) Resolution 25-R-28, To Amend County Council Agenda Order of Business
- d) Resolution 25-R-29, To Recognize and Honor the late Miss Emma Mackenzie Lake by Naming the Intersection of Highway 15 and Pleasant Grove Road in Colleton County, South Carolina, “Emma Mackenzie Lake Intersection” and Having Erected Appropriate Markers or Signage at the Section of the Intersection Containing the Designation
- e) Resolution 25-R-30, To Endorse the 2025 Community Development Block Grant, Community Enrichment Application for the Colleton County – New Well/Well Upgrade Project and Funds for the 10% Local Match for the Grant from the City of Walterboro
- f) Resolution 25-R-31, To Approve the Purchase of a Volvo Articulated Haul Truck for the Solid Waste C&D Landfill
- g) Resolution 25-R-32, To Appoint Members to Board Vacancies

12. Items for Information and Public Record

13. Public Comments (3 minutes per person/max time 20 min.)

14. Council Time

15. **Executive Session**

- a) Contractual
- b) Real Estate

16. Items discussed in Executive Session

17. Adjournment

18. Informal Meeting of the Whole

Colleton County Council will hold a regular meeting on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 6:00 pm. The public will be able to stream the meeting from a link on the County’s home page or by going to www.colletoncounty.org/live.

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, April 1, 2025, at 5:30 P.M.

Council conducted a tour of the Colleton County Detention Center prior to the start of the meeting.

Chairman Scott Biering called the meeting to order with Council Members Steve Murdaugh, Phillip Taylor, Bubba Trippe, and Johnny Frank in attendance.

Others Included: Meagan Utsey, Sean Thornton, Jon Carpenter, Barry McRoy, Carla Harvey, Sandy Steel, Donna Lamb, Brantley Strickland, Jerome Kizer, Crawford Moore, Jr., Sharon Witkins, Jessica Williams, Martin Wright, Alana Lane, Shon Johnson, Jegadeesh Kumar, Angela Upchurch, Cythnia Williams, Queenie Crawford, Janis Blocker, Celia Price, Kimber Santorella, Tim Hamilton, Patricia Grant, Scott Lenger, Lynn Stroble, Jeffrey Jones, Johnny Bartley

Councilman Phillip Taylor gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

Regular Meeting, March 4, 2025

Councilman Taylor moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on March 4, 2025. The motion was seconded by Councilman Trippe and the motion carried unanimously.

Budget Work Session, March 6, 2025

Councilman Taylor moved to approve the minutes of the Budget Work Session held on March 6, 2025. The motion was seconded by Councilman Murdaugh and the motion carried unanimously.

Special Meeting, March 18, 2025

Councilman Trippe moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting held on March 18, 2025. The motion was seconded by Councilman Frank and the motion carried unanimously.

Awards and Recognitions

Proclamation- Colleton County Rice Festival Week

Chairman Biering read the Proclamation into the record; Councilman Taylor made a motion to approve the proclamation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Trippe and the motion carried unanimously.

Proclamation- Celia S. Price Day

Chairman Biering read the Proclamation into the record; Councilman Taylor made a motion to approve the proclamation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Trippe and motion carried unanimously.

Proclamation- Child Abuse Prevention and Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Chairman Biering read the Proclamation into the record; Councilman Taylor made a motion to approve the proclamation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Murdaugh and the motion carried unanimously.

Appearances & Public Presentations

Colleton County School District

Ms. Jessica Williams with the Colleton County School District opened the presentation by thanking Council for allowing the School District to come and speak. Ms. Williams advised that two groups would be presenting: the JAG group presented by Mr. Shon Johnson and Mr. Jegadeesh Kumar's Pre-Calculus Class. Mr. Shon Johnson presented the Colleton County JAG group. Mr. Johnson advised that JAG is a nationwide organization that started in 1978 in Delaware, and then became worldwide in the 1980's. In Colleton County the JAG program has been available for three years now. Mr. Johnson explained that the program helps students with basic soft skills, interview skills, how to present a resume, and how to walk into any room to talk to someone. This program also exposes the students to jobs while they're in high school. Over 45 years the JAG program has helped 17 million students, Mr. Johnson stated that he hopes one day Colleton County can reach 17 million students. Mr. Johnson went on to explain that the program has two big events; one is the CBC, which is the career development conference. The JAG group just went to Columbia a few weeks ago where they had a tour of the capital and they were able to meet with the governor of South Carolina, who is an advocate for the program. The governor wants to have 100 schools in the state of South Carolina with this program. Colleton County is privileged to have two separate programs for our schools one at the Colleton County High School and one at Thunderbolt Career and Technology Center. The other event is the national career development conference, this conference allows the students a chance to compete with students from all over the nation from as far as California to New York. Mr. Johnson explained that the students get to compete with other peers of their own and they compete with employability skills, resume writing, essay writing, and how to present themselves professionally. After speaking Mr. Johnson introduced some of the students that were present, and they spoke to Council on how the JAG program helped them hone in on their public speaking skills, they also shared their personal growth and future aspirations with Council.

Council commended all the students on doing an outstanding job, praising them that not many adults can get up and speak to a group of people as well as they did and that should be something they pride themselves on.

For the second part of the presentation Ms. Williams introduced Mr. Kumar.

Mr. Jegadeesh Kumar teaches math at Colleton County High School as well as the Department Chair. Mr. Kumar brought two of his precalculus students to present to Council. Mr. Kumar explained that he created a project in which the students must play the role of construction

engineers, by doing this it allows the students to see the connection between the abstract math and the actual functioning of the construction. Mr. Kumar brought two students with him to explain and share their experience. The students explained that the project connected real-life mechanisms to trigonometric functions. Their explanation was the ferris wheel moves in a circle of path in the position of a rider at any given time could be described using trigonometric functions. If a ferris wheel rotation is modeled as a circle, the horizontal position corresponds to the cosine of the angle of rotation. and a vertical position corresponds to the sine of the angle. Trigonometric functions help calculate the rider's height above the ground. The trigonometric equations can model how long it takes for a rider to reach a specific height or when they have reached the maximum or minimum height. Mr. Kumar advised by doing this project, mathematical principles like amplitude, period, and sinusoidal function shifts to help students solve real-world problems.

Council recognized Mr. Kumar and his students for the hard work and putting together an impressive showcase. They look forward to see what else they can bring to Colleton County.

Administrator's Briefing

Interim County Administrator Meagan Utsey started out by welcoming Brantley Strickland as the new Economic Alliance Director. Mrs. Utsey advised that the park grand opening will April 23rd. Mrs. Utsey also advised that the County Engineer Mrs. Carla Harvey would be available for questions in reference to Resolution 25-R-25.

Public Hearing

Councilman Taylor made a motion to open Public Hearing. Councilman Murdaugh second the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance 25-O-01, To Amend Title 2 - Administration and Personnel, Chapter 2.30 - County Council, Section 2.30.060 - Committees, Paragraph F of the Colleton County Code of Ordinances.

Councilman Biering opening the floor for the public to speak on; Ordinance 25-O-01, To Amend Title 2 - Administration and Personnel, Chapter 2.30 - County Council, Section 2.30.060 - Committees, Paragraph F of the Colleton County Code of Ordinances. No comments were made.

Ordinance 25-O-02, Authorizing a Lease-Purchase Financing Arrangement in the Amount of Not Exceeding \$1,500,000 for the Construction of a Fuel Farm at the Lowcountry Regional Airport; the Execution and Delivery of Certain Instruments, Including a Lease-Purchase Agreement by Colleton County; and Other Matters Relating Thereto.

Councilman Biering opening the floor for the public to speak on; Ordinance 25-O-02, Authorizing a Lease-Purchase Financing Arrangement in the Amount of Not Exceeding \$1,500,000 for the Construction of a Fuel Farm at the Lowcountry Regional Airport; the Execution and Delivery of

Certain Instruments, Including a Lease-Purchase Agreement by Colleton County; and Other Matters Relating Thereto. No Comments were made

Councilman Taylor made a motion to close Public Hearing. Councilman Murdaugh second the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

3rd Reading Ordinance 25-O-01, To Amend Title 2 - Administration and Personnel, Chapter 2.30 - County Council, Section 2.30.060 - Committees, Paragraph F of the Colleton County Code of Ordinances.

Councilman Trippe moved to approve 3rd Reading Ordinance 25-O-01, To Amend Title 2 - Administration and Personnel, Chapter 2.30 - County Council, Section 2.30.060 - Committees, Paragraph F of the Colleton County Code of Ordinances. The motion was seconded by Councilman Murdaugh. The motion carried unanimously.

3rd Reading Ordinance 25-O-02, Authorizing a Lease-Purchase Financing Arrangement in the Amount of Not Exceeding \$1,500,000 for the Construction of a Fuel Farm at the Lowcountry Regional Airport; the Execution and Delivery of Certain Instruments, Including a Lease-Purchase Agreement by Colleton County; and Other Matters Relating Thereto.

Councilman Taylor moved to approve 3rd Reading Ordinance 25-O-02, Authorizing a Lease-Purchase Financing Arrangement in the Amount of Not Exceeding \$1,500,000 for the Construction of a Fuel Farm at the Lowcountry Regional Airport; the Execution and Delivery of Certain Instruments, Including a Lease-Purchase Agreement by Colleton County; and Other Matters Relating Thereto. The motion was seconded by Councilman Murdaugh. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business

1st Reading Ordinance 25-O-03, To Amend and Extend the Term of the Agreement for Development for Joint County Industrial Park (The "Park") Between Colleton County and Hampton County, South Carolina; to Further Amend the Agreement for Development Property in Colleton County as part of The Park; and other Matters Related Thereto.

Councilman Trippe moved to approve 1st Reading Ordinance 25-O-03, To Amend and Extend the Term of the Agreement for Development for Joint County Industrial Park (The "Park") Between Colleton County and Hampton County, South Carolina; to Further Amend the Agreement for Development Property in Colleton County as part of The Park; and other Matters Related Thereto. The motion was seconded by Councilman Taylor. The motion carried unanimously

1st Reading Ordinance 25-O-04, Approving an Application for Preliminary Certification for Historic Rehabilitation; and Other Matters Related Thereto.

Councilman Taylor moved to approve 1st Reading Ordinance 25-O-04, Approving an Application for Preliminary Certification for Historic Rehabilitation; and Other Matters Related Thereto. The motion was seconded by Councilman Murdaugh. The motion carried unanimously.

1st Reading Ordinance 25-O-05, By Title Only, To Provide for the Levy of Taxes in Colleton County, South Carolina, for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 to Provide for All Other Appropriations Thereof; and to Provide for Other Matters Related Thereto.

Councilman Taylor moved to approve, 1st Reading Ordinance 25-O-05, By Title Only, To Provide for the Levy of Taxes in Colleton County, South Carolina, for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 to Provide for All Other Appropriations Thereof; and to Provide for Other Matters Related Thereto. The motion was seconded by Councilman Murdaugh. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 25-R-18, To Approve Amendment of the Agreement for Development for Joint County Industrial Park, by and between Charleston County, South Carolina and Colleton County, South Carolina, Providing for the Development of a Jointly Owned and Operated Industrial/Business Park, so as to include additional property in Charleston County as part of the Joint County Industrial Park.

Councilman Frank moved to approve, Resolution 25-R-18, To Approve Amendment of the Agreement for Development for Joint County Industrial Park, by and between Charleston County, South Carolina and Colleton County, South Carolina, Providing for the Development of a Jointly Owned and Operated Industrial/Business Park, so as to include additional property in Charleston County as part of the Joint County Industrial Park. The motion was seconded by Councilman Taylor. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 25-R-19, To Declare April as Fair Housing Month

Councilman Murdaugh moved to approve, Resolution 25-R-19, To Declare April as Fair Housing Month. The motion was seconded by Councilman Taylor. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 25-R-20, To Approve a Policy of Non-Discrimination on the Basis of Disability Status and to Designate an ADA Coordinator

Councilman Trippe moved to approve, Resolution 25-R-20, To Approve a Policy of Non-Discrimination on the Basis of Disability Status and to Designate an ADA Coordinator. The motion was seconded by Councilman Taylor, advising that ADA Coordinator would be Colleton County Human Resource Director Deadgrea Sadler. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 25-R-21, To Recognize and Honor the late Willie L. Brown, Jr. by Naming a Portion of Highway 61 in Colleton County, South Carolina, “Willie L. Brown, Jr. Highway” and Having Erected Appropriate Markers or Signage at the Section of the Highway Containing the Designation

Councilman Taylor moved to approve, Resolution 25-R-21, To Recognize and Honor the late Willie L. Brown, Jr. by Naming a Portion of Highway 61 in Colleton County, South Carolina, “Willie L. Brown, Jr. Highway” and Having Erected Appropriate Markers or Signage at the Section of the Highway Containing the Designation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Trippe. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 25-R-22, To Declare Surplus Equipment and to Authorize the Sale in Accordance with County Policy

Councilman Murdaugh moved to approve, Resolution 25-R-22, To Declare Surplus Equipment and to Authorize the Sale in Accordance with County Policy. The motion was seconded by Councilman Taylor. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 25-R-23, To Authorize the Council Clerk to Advertise for Board Vacancies

Councilman Taylor moved to approve, Resolution 25-R-23, To Authorize the Council Clerk to Advertise for Board Vacancies. The motion was seconded by Councilman Murdaugh. The motion carried unanimously..

Resolution 25-R-24, To Appoint Members to Board Vacancies

Councilman Murdaugh made a motion to approve the following by acclamation, the motion was seconded by Councilman Taylor; Colleton County Board of Disabilities and Special Needs; Brenda Hughes. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 25-R-25, To Award the Contract for the Northwest Walterboro Sewer Improvements

Councilman Frank moved to approve, Resolution 25-R-25, To Award the Contract for the Northwest Walterboro Sewer Improvement. The motion was seconded by Councilman Taylor. The motion carried unanimously.

Items for Information and Public Record

Councilman Biering advised there were no items for information and public record on the agenda.

Public Comments (3 minutes per person/max time 20 min.)

Jeff Jones thanked Council and all involved in getting the Veterans Park moving to the next step, and that he received all the answers to the questions he had at the last meeting.

Edisto Beach Mayor Crawford Moore addressed Council on an update on Edisto Beach's new Emergency Operations Center.

Council Time

Councilman Trippe advised that Rice Festival this year will be celebrating their 50th year.

Councilman Biering welcomed the new Economic Development Director to the Colleton County team and thanked him for coming to the meeting.

Executive Session

Councilman Trippe made a motion to move into Executive Session to discuss the following: Economic Development, Personnel-Contractual and Legal-Contractual. Councilman Frank seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Taylor made a motion to exit Executive Session. Councilman Trippe seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Biering advised that no action was taken during Executive Session.

Adjournment

Councilman Taylor moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Murdaugh seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

The full County Council meeting is available at the link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/live/L20IsFIJ5g?si=aYm9fXDGsdUoFhp>

[Signature Page to Follow]

This 1st day of April 2025.

Scott Biering, Chairman

ATTEST:

Danielle Murdaugh, Clerk to Council



**COLLETON COUNTY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
Saturday, April 12, 2025 at 8:45am**

Chairman Scott Biering called the meeting to order with Council Members Steve Murdaugh, Phillip Taylor, Bubba Trippe, and Johnny Frank in attendance.

Councilman Phillip Taylor gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Executive Session

Councilman Trippe made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss Personnel. Councilman Frank seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Taylor moved to exit Executive Session, Councilman Trippe seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

No action was taken during the Executive Session.

Adjournment

Councilman Murdaugh moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Taylor seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

This 12th day of April 2025.

Scott Biering, Chairman

ATTEST:

Danielle Murdaugh, Clerk to Council



**COLLETON COUNTY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
Monday, April 14, 2025 at 8:45am**

Chairman Scott Biering called the meeting to order with Council Members Steve Murdaugh, Phillip Taylor, Bubba Trippe, and Johnny Frank in attendance.

Councilman Phillip Taylor gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Executive Session

Councilman Taylor made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss Personnel. Councilman Frank seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Trippe moved to exit Executive Session, Councilman Frank seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

No action was taken during the Executive Session.

Adjournment

Councilman Frank moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Taylor seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

This 14th day of April 2025.

Scott Biering, Chairman

ATTEST:

Danielle Murdaugh, Clerk to Council



COLLETON COUNTY COUNCIL
BUDGET WORK SESSION MINUTES
April 15, 2025, at 1:00pm

Chairman Scott Biering called the meeting to order with Council Members Steve Murdaugh, Phillip Taylor, Bubba Trippe, and Johnny Frank in attendance.

Others Included: Meagan Utsey, Jon Carpenter

Councilman Phillip Taylor gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilman Trippe made a motion to amend the agenda to add an Executive Session item that is Personnel. The motion was seconded by Councilman Frank. The motion was carried unanimously.

Finance Director Jon Carpenter presented to Council the FY2026 Budget Presentation. The following is what was covered.

General Fund

- Total General Fund revenue is budgeted at \$37,189,039 which represents an increase of \$1.1 million or 3% from forecasted FY 2025.
- General Fund revenues can be grouped into property taxes, state revenues, fees/fines and other.
- Property taxes is the largest revenue group at \$27,389,696 or 73.7% of total revenue. It includes real, vehicle, watercraft, fee-in-lieu, part of the local option tax credit (75%) and delinquent.
- State revenues are budgeted at \$6,122,311 or 16.5% of total revenue. It includes salary support, inventory taxes, state accommodations, local government fund, part of the local option taxes (25%) and homestead.
- Fees and fines are budgeted at \$3,325,532 or 8.9% of total revenue. It includes intergovernmental revenues, planning and development fees, probate judge fees, magistrate court fees, clerk of court fees, franchise fees, museum sales and rentals and recording documents stamps.
- Other revenues are budgeted at \$351,500 or 0.9% of total revenue. It includes investment income, insurance proceeds, credit card fees and other refunds/reimbursements.

Property Taxes/Available Millage

- Property taxes are budgeted at a total of \$27,389,696– representing an increase of 2.3% from current year forecasted amounts and 73.7% of total general fund revenues.
- Includes real property taxes, vehicle taxes, watercraft taxes, fee in lieu, local option sales tax credit (75%) and delinquent tax collections/penalties/costs

- Millage increases for each year are capped at the total of the percent of CPI (2.95%) and population growth (0.56%) – for FY26 the total is 3.51%. In addition to current year increase, you can use a three year lookback if the allowable millage increases were not used. For FY 2026, our available millage, including the three year lookback, is 28.11 mills (5.8 mills is current year).
- Current value of one mill is \$223,704, so total available revenue is \$6,288,319 (current year plus 3 year lookback).
- Millage cap only applies to county operating, it does not apply to debt service, fire operating and fire debt service.
- Last county operating millage increase was in fiscal year 2024 for 3 mills – millage was to support airport (0.5 mills) and facility repairs (2.5 mills).
- Each 1.0 millage increase would equate to a \$10 tax increase on a \$250,000 owner occupied home or a \$3.38 tax increase on a \$45,000 vehicle.
- It is recommended that Council consider on a annual or bi-annual basis the use of millage to meet county operating, capital or reserve needs.

FILOT Agreements

- Project Fanatic
- Pomega

State Revenues

- State revenues are budgeted at \$6,122,311 which is 16.5% of our total general fund revenue budget. This represents a 3.6% from the forecasted amounts for FY 2025.
- State revenues include:
 - Inventory Taxes
 - Manufacturing Taxes
 - Homestead
 - Motor Carrier
 - Salary Support (Elected Offices)
 - Coroner Child Fatality
 - DPS – SRO Funding
 - State Accommodations Tax
 - Local Government Fund
 - Rural Stabilization
 - Local Option Sales Tax (25%)
- For FY 2026, the following funding increases are currently budgeted:
 - Local Government Fund – \$91,491 additional funding – equals the statutory formula amount.
 - DPS – SRO Funding – currently funds the full time hours of six of twelve current SROs (remaining are split between the school district and county general fund). Additional funding has been requested to fund an SRO at new charter school and cover salary and benefit increases for existing six officers - \$160,891. Please note that this funding is not finalized and represents the amount that has been requested.

Local Option Sales Tax

- In July 1991, Colleton County voters enacted a local option sales tax (1%).

- Local option sales tax is on all retail sales and reduces a persons property tax burden.
- State law requires a minimum of 71% of the tax collected be used to provide a property tax credit and the remaining 29% can be used for general fund purposes.
- Colleton uses 75% of the tax collected in property tax relief (green shaded area) and 25% for general fund purposes (blue shaded area).
- FY25 total collections are forecasted at \$5,117,788 and FY26 total collections are budgeted at \$5,322,498 (growth rate of 4%).

Fees/Fee Increases

- Fees/Fines total about \$3.326 million and 8.9% of the budget.
- Fees/Fines budgeted by major area are as follows:
 - Charleston County – MCIP - \$1.1m
 - Register of Deeds Recording Fees - \$475k
 - Franchise Fees - \$32.8k Comcast & \$98k PRTC
 - Coroner - \$4k – body transports
 - Probate Court - \$130k – marriage license/mental health hearings/estate court fees
 - Animal Control (adoptions/reclaim)-\$51.5k
 - Magistrate Court - \$250k
 - Clerk of Court - \$142k
 - Career Training Center - \$34.2k - \$5,550 LCOG (qtrly) & \$1k Palmetto Training (monthly)
 - Museum - \$103k – Rental \$62.5k & \$40.5 sales
 - Farmers Market- \$2k – booth rental space
 - Civic Center - \$29k - \$20k rental & \$9k tickets
 - CCSD - \$180k – funding for three of 12 SROs
 - City of Walterboro – funding support for consolidated 911 Dispatch - \$166K
 - Current Fee Structure (adopted 7/2021)
 - \$0-\$2,000=\$45
 - \$2,001-50,000=\$45+\$5 per \$1,000 to \$50,000
 - \$50,001-100,000=\$280+\$4.50 per \$1,000 to \$100,000
 - \$100,001-\$500,000=\$505+\$3.25 per \$1,000 to \$500,000
 - \$500,001-\$1,000,000=\$1,805+\$2.50 per \$1,000 to \$1,000,000
 - \$1,000,001+ = \$2.23 per \$1,000
 - Proposal 1 (included in budget)
 - \$0-\$2,000=\$69.00
 - \$2,001-40,000=\$69+\$9 per \$1,000 to \$40,000
 - \$40,001-100,000=\$410.99+\$7 per \$1,000 to \$100,000
 - \$100,001-500,000=\$830.98+\$5 per \$1,000 to \$500,000
 - \$500,000-\$1,000,000=\$2,830.97+\$3 per \$1,000 to \$1,000,000
 - \$1,000,000-\$5,000,000=\$4,330.97+
 - \$2 per \$1,000 to \$5,000,000
 - \$5,000,001+=\$12,330.97+\$1 per \$1,000
 - Additional annual revenue=\$126,165 (24.8%)
 - Proposal2 (Jasper County & ICC recommended)
 - \$0-2,000=\$69.00
 - \$2,001-40,000=\$69+\$11 per \$1,000 to \$40,000

- \$40,001-100,000=\$487+\$9 per \$1,000 to \$100,000
- \$100,001-500,000=\$1,027+\$7 per \$1,000 to \$500,000
- \$500,001-1,000,000=\$3,827+\$5 per \$1,000 to \$1,000,000
- \$1,000,001-5,000,000=\$7,327+\$3 per \$1,000 to \$5,000,000
- \$5,000,001+= \$18,327+\$1 per \$1,000
- Additional revenue generation=\$284,302(56%)
- Other Fees increases requested:
 - Electrical Service Fees-\$40/50-\$50/60
 - Residential Zoning Permit-\$40-\$60
 - Non-residential Zoning Permit-\$75-\$95
 - Demolition Permit-\$50-\$100(R)/\$200(C)
 - Gas Permit-\$50-\$75
 - Manf.Home-\$100-\$200
 - Trvl Trailer/Camper-\$100-\$200
 - Bldg/Electrical Investigation-\$50-\$75
 - Gas Pressure Test-\$50-\$75
 - Letter Fee-\$40-\$50
 - Flood Zone Review Fee-\$40-\$50
 - Construction Admin Appeals-\$150-\$200
 - Zoning Exceptions/Variances-\$200-\$250
 - Rezoning Amendments-\$200-\$250
 - Preliminary Plat -\$175-\$475
 - Final Plat-\$100-\$400
 - Letter/Legal Photocopy-\$0.25-\$0.35
 - Zoning Regulations-\$0-\$50
 - County Comprehensive Plan-\$70-\$80
- GIS Fees
 - Custom Mapping and Service
 - Increase Labor/GIS Analysis and Labor/Service from \$40 to \$60 per hour to accurately reflect current staff cost to provide this service.
- Register of Deeds
 - Copy Fees
 - Increase copy charge from \$0.50 to \$0.75 to accurately reflect supply and copier lease fees.

Debt Service

- We have 4 debt service funds:
 - General Obligation Debt
 - Fire Services Debt
 - Capital Projects Services Debt
 - Non-GO Debt (lease financings & Enterprise vehicle lease and CCIMC (railroad)revenue bonds)

- Debt Service payments are funded through collection of county debt service millage, fire debt service millage and capital projects sales tax.
- County and fire debt service millage collections are first used to satisfy general obligation and fire services bonds and then are used to fund lease financing, Enterprise vehicle leases and CCIMC revenue bonds.
- Millage rates for debt service are NOT capped in the same manner as county operating millage – based solely on amount of funds needed to satisfy annual debt service.
- Capital project sales tax collections can only be used to fund capital project sales tax bonds.
- Excess capital project sales tax collections are first applied to final year debt service and once funded, excess can be applied to existing projects to fund cost increases, fund new (allowable) projects approved by council or rolled into the next round of capital projects sales tax projects if sales tax is renewed by voters.

Debt Service – Outstanding Issuances

- GO Bonds Outstanding
- Fire Bonds Outstanding
- CPST Bond Outstanding
- Other Financings

Debt Service - Railroad Revenue Bonds

- Colleton County Intermodal Corporation was created for the purposes of promoting economic development of the County. It's only activity was the issuance of revenue bonds in 2017 in the amount of \$7.61 million to fund a loan to Palmetto RR for the acquisition of the Hampton and Branchville Railroad so that the railroad remained in service from an economic development standpoint.
- Bonds pay interest semi-annually in December and June and annual principal payments in June from 2018 through 2037 at 2.0%-4.9%. Debt service increases each year, with payment of \$583 thousand due in fiscal year 2025.
- Revenue bonds are not indebtedness of the county (does not count against 8% cap). The Deposit and Reimbursement agreement notes that project revenues (discussed below) will be used to pay the debt service. Since it is expected that project revenues will not be sufficient to make the debt service payment until enough economic development occurs along the rail line, the County will need to budget the annual debt service payment. Please note that is budgeting is at the sole discretion of Council.
- Palmetto RR pays Colleton County annually (120 days after Palmetto RR year end of 12/31) the following formula: 10% of all revenue received from rail line + 25% of net income (revenues less operating and capital costs). Annual revenue payments have been running from \$77,498.48 (2017) to \$177,704.21 (2024), though 2025 will report a loss with revenue expected at \$41,659.

Debt Service

- GO Debt – collections budgeted at \$2,533,356.74 (growth of 2.1%) – this includes \$65 thousand from Palmetto RR
- GO Debt Service - \$3,702,624 – shortage of \$1,169,267 – request to increase debt service millage of 5.25 mills
- Fire Debt – collections budgeted at \$3,075,477 (growth of 1.5%)
- Fire Debt Service - \$3,111,880 – shortage of \$36,403 can be absorbed by existing fund balance – no change in millage
- CPST – collections budgeted at \$7,383,450 (growth of 1.7%)
- CPST Debt Service - \$6,569,950 – excess collections of \$813,500

Fire Rescue Operating

- Fire Rescue operations are funded through a combination of property tax (separate millage) and collection of fees.
- Fire Rescue operations are not self-sufficient in part because fire operating millage is only assessed on the unincorporated areas of the county, even though emergency services are provided county-wide.
- For fiscal year 2024, county general funds provided \$7.742 million in support (roughly 21% of general fund budget).
- Fire Rescue operations has a total budget of \$7.359 million (excluding county operating support). This represents a 1.9% growth in revenue from the forecast FY2025.
- Property tax revenues are budgeted at \$4.626 million or 62.9% of budget. This represents a 2.3% increase from the forecast FY2025.
- State revenues (property tax relief) are budgeted at \$401,665, which is 5.5% of budget and are equal to forecast FY2025.
- Fees are budgeted at \$2.331 million or 31.6% of budget. Collections of emergency services bills represent \$2.250 million and is budgeted to increase by 2.6% over the current year forecasted amounts.
- Fire Rescue operating millage is 33.56 mills
- Millage was last raised during the FY22-23 fiscal year – millage increase was 4.0 mills.
- Value of mill is \$120,504 (54% of county operating mill since it only represents unincorporated parts of the county).
- City of Walterboro and the Town of Edisto Beach taxpayers do not pay any Fire Rescue operating millage even though these residents receive emergency services. Council could consider the addition of an emergency medical service fee (or a separate millage) to the tax bills of taxpayers in these municipalities (would not be added to unincorporated taxpayers).
- Rate/Revenue Impact (based on number of municipal taxpayers):
 - \$75 - \$447,225
 - \$100 - \$596,300
 - \$125 - \$745,375
 - \$150 - \$894,450

Local Option Taxes

- Local accommodations tax is levied against the gross proceeds derived from the rental or charges for rooms, lodgings or sleeping accommodations that are furnished within the county.

- The tax is levied at 3% within the unincorporated areas of the county, at 1.5% within the City of Walterboro (City of Walterboro levies 1.5% accommodations tax) and 1% within the Town of Edisto Beach (Town of Edisto Beach levies 2.0% accommodations tax). – Total tax rate 12% (includes 2% state accommodations, though no CPST is levied)
- Tax is budgeted to generate \$805 thousand for FY 2026 which represents 1.1% growth from the forecasted amounts for FY 2025.
- Tax compliance and collection are handled by the Treasurer's office. Tax proceeds are required to be used for tourism-related operating and capital expenses.
- Recreation revenues are derived from a combination of program fees, facility rentals & concession/merchandise sales.
- Program fees are budgeted at \$61.6 thousand and include basketball, baseball, softball and state tournament fees.
- Facility rental fees are budgeted at \$200 thousand and include gym, activity rooms and picnic shelters.
- Concession/merchandise sales are budgeted at \$140.35 thousand.
- Revenue from recreation totals \$401.95 thousand which is 1.5% lower than forecasted amounts for FY 2025 due to a decrease in number of state tournaments to be hosted.
- Dogwood Hills revenues are derived from a combination of green fees, cart fees, tournament fees, merchandise, food/beverages and restaurant rental. Total golf course revenues are budgeted at \$283,260 (excluding restaurant rental).
- Recommended rate changes (green/cart): weekday 18 holes increasing to \$30 (\$23.24), weekday 9 holes increasing to \$20 (\$13.32). Weekend 18 holes increasing to \$35 (\$27.75) and weekend 9 holes increasing to \$25 (\$19.00). This change will generate an additional \$28 thousand in annual revenue.
- Food/beverage revenues are budgeted to decrease by \$9,735 due to no longer selling beer (please remember our annual liquor liability policy was \$10,299). This decrease is being partially offset by increasing food and beverage prices which will generate additional revenue of \$3,252.
- Restaurant rental is budgeted at a total of \$47,378, which represents \$30,000 in base rent (\$2,500 monthly) and \$17,378 for utilities.

Roads and Bridges

- Roads & Bridges revenue is budgeted at a total of \$1.462 million and includes the following items:
- Road maintenance fee (\$35) will generate \$1.32 million – fee increased last budget year from \$25 to \$35, increases are only effective on a tax (calendar) year basis.
- CTC contribution to cover engineer services provided by county engineer - \$100 thousand – no change from FY2025.
- City of Walterboro contribution to cover engineer services provided by county engineer - \$31.92 thousand – no change from FY 2025.
- Citizen culvert installs – \$5.5 thousand – no change from FY2025.
- In order to fully fund contract motor grader services the following funding plan is proposed:

- Funding needed is \$380,844, which equates to roughly 320 miles at \$1,200 per mile – would request that this service is rebid if dedicated funding is approved for FY2026.
- Take the salaries and benefits associated with three vacant motor grader positions and permanently move the funds to a contract services expense - \$195,904.
- Increase road maintenance fee from \$35 to \$45 (would be effective 1/1/26) – this increase would generate \$160,000 in six month period.
- This would provide \$356 thousand which would cover 297 miles in FY2026 (based on \$1,200 per mile) and would generate over \$500 thousand in FY2027.

Solid Waste

- Solid Waste revenues are budgeted at \$3.213 million representing 6% growth from the prior year.
- Disposal fees (\$85 per taxpayer – no change in rate, rate increased from \$75 in FY2025) are budgeted at \$1.718 million which is equal to forecasted FY2025 amounts.
- Landfill tipping and recycling revenues are budgeted at \$1.492 million representing a 19.2% increase from FY2025 forecasted amounts.
- This revenue growth is due to an requested increase in our tipping fees as follows (have remained unchanged for 4 years):
 - \$45 C&D per ton to \$55 C&D per ton
 - \$55 MSW per ton to \$65 MSW per ton
- Scrap tire fees are currently limited by state law at \$150 per ton. Legislation is pending (S171) that would allow this fee to increase up to \$400 per ton. If S171 becomes law, it is our recommendation that we increase our scrap tire fees to a minimum of \$200 per ton. Currently we are paying \$190+ per ton to haul scrap tires out of the landfill.
- Abandon housing dumping fee – currently when Code Enforcement approves an abandon building for demolition, property owners are allowed to bring the C&D debris to landfill and pay no tipping fees. Consideration of capping the number of tons allowed for free is requested since several instances of 50-150 tons of debris from abandon houses have been recorded over the last fiscal year.

Recreation

- Recreation revenues are derived from a combination of program fees, facility rentals & concession/merchandise sales.
- Program fees are budgeted at \$61.6 thousand and include basketball, baseball, softball and state tournament fees.
- Facility rental fees are budgeted at \$200 thousand and include gym, activity rooms and picnic shelters.
- Concession/merchandise sales are budgeted at \$140.35 thousand.
- Revenue from recreation totals \$401.95 thousand which is 1.5% lower than forecasted amounts for FY 2025 due to a decrease in number of state tournaments to be hosted.

Dogwood Hills

- Dogwood Hills revenues are derived from a combination of green fees, cart fees, tournament fees, merchandise, food/beverages and restaurant rental. Total golf course revenues are budgeted at \$283,260 (excluding restaurant rental).
- Recommended rate changes (green/cart): weekday 18 holes increasing to \$30 (\$23.24), weekday 9 holes increasing to \$20 (\$13.32). Weekend 18 holes increasing to \$35 (\$27.75) and weekend 9 holes increasing to \$25 (\$19.00). This change will generate an additional \$28 thousand in annual revenue.
- Food/beverage revenues are budgeted to decrease by \$9,735 due to no longer selling beer (please remember our annual liquor liability policy was \$10,299). This decrease is being partially offset by increasing food and beverage prices which will generate additional revenue of \$3,252.
- Restaurant rental is budgeted at a total of \$47,378, which represents \$30,000 in base rent (\$2,500 monthly) and \$17,378 for utilities.

School District

Colleton County High School Superintendent Jessica Williams presented the Colleton County School District Financial Information to Council. Ms. Williams explained the presentation that she will be presenting to Council is concerning the School District's financial information and the School District request for assistance as they continue to educate the future of the community.

Ms. Williams discussed the following.

Vision-Colleton County School District will be a world-class school system that ensures all students achieve at their highest levels.

Mission Statement-Colleton County School District will prepare every student to graduate with a 21st-century education to be globally competitive for their chosen college and/or career path.

Core Purpose-Teaching and Learning

According to the 135th Day report, student enrollment is currently at 4,436 students; with the district employing 882 personnel.

Based on House projections, the fiscal year 2025-2026 General Fund Budget is \$57,758,282; The beginning teacher salary is \$47,000 and is lower than Beaufort (\$51,066), Charleston (\$56,146), Berkeley (\$52,450), Dorchester 2 (\$49,000).

- The district is required to pay teachers on the state minimum salary scale.
- Each cell on the teacher scale will be increased by \$1,500 which will increase from \$47,000 to \$48,500 for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.
- The state funds 75%, and the district funds 25%.
- The increase is indicated in both the House and the Senate budget projections.
- 88% of the \$57,462,474 goes to salaries and fringe benefits
- 11% pays for utilities, district insurance and other operational expenditures.

- The audited financial records from 2024 revealed a significant reduction of \$1,092,158 in state aid to classrooms due to student enrollment decline

Fiscal Authority

- General Assembly recognizes financial challenges to districts due to Act 388.
- Consumer Price Index is a formula that is developed by the State to calculate each district's inflation and growth which helps districts to offset financial loss.
- This chart recognizes those challenges by giving authority to either districts, county councils, county boards, or legislative delegations to raise millage subject to the cap of Act 388.
- In Colleton County, County Council may approve a millage increase subject to the cap under Act 388.
- State law allows for a 3 year look back.

2025-2026 Budget Includes

- The budget includes a 1500 increase for teacher salaries in each cell of the statewide minimum teacher salary scale. This would bring an beginning teacher salary from 47,000 to 48,500
- The new state salary scale collapses the teacher salary schedule into four categories (Give the 4 categories) and deletes the Bachelor's plus 18 category. Even though this category is deleted, the district must still provide funding for this category
- The new scale also includes a 2% increase for our bus drivers and a 2% increase for classified staff.

2025-2026 Budget Doesn't Include

- Ms. Williams advised that the School District is very aware of the financial situation and are being good stewards of public funds, cuts or adjustments have been made to the budget but the School District needs funding to help restore cuts or adjustments.
- The proposed budget eliminates 10 positions through attrition throughout the school year.
- The budget also does not include 42 current positions and 10 new positions that are needed throughout the district
- Cut the administrative raises of 2% and school board of trustees' salaries, along with reduced various supply accounts.

What the School District has done

- Ten positions eliminated through attrition throughout the year equals \$635,947.32
- Four of the ten positions are district office staff
- The Board has approved \$1,116,000 (includes fringe and benefits) from Fund Balance to offset the loss of certified staff
- Adjusted the budget to reflect additional loss of students due to the charter school and other options

Academic Improvement

- Increase in Graduation Rate
 - 2021-2022 = 72.8%
 - 2022-2023 = 75.9%
 - 2023-2024 = 78.2%
- No Unsatisfactory Schools
- Three Average Schools
- Removed from State Takeover
- Dual Enrollment increased by 12% from 2021-2022

Ms. Williams advised that based on the information that was provided to Council, the Colleton County School District respectfully request a millage increase on 9.77 mills to support the 2025-2026 budget. By approving the request the School District would be able to support 82.5% of the lost position, services and supplies.

Ms. Williams thanked Council for allowing the school district the opportunity to speak at the meeting today.

Executive Session

Councilman Trippe made a motion to move into Executive Session to discuss the following: Personnel. Councilman Frank seconded the motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Councilman Trippe made a motion to exit Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Frank, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Adjournment

Councilman Taylor moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Frank seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

This 15th day of April 2025.

ATTEST:

Scott Biering, Chairman

Danielle Murdaugh, Clerk to Council



**COLLETON COUNTY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
Monday, April 21, 2025 at 12:00pm**

Chairman Scott Biering called the meeting to order with Council Members Steve Murdaugh, Phillip Taylor, Bubba Trippe, and Johnny Frank in attendance.

Other Included: Meagan Utsey, Barry McRoy, KC Campbell, Thomas Higgs, Roman Cunningham, Kenny Blakey, Lynn Stroble, Sharon Witkins, Glenn Nixon, Jessica Williams, Linda Hyman.

Councilman Phillip Taylor gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Executive Session

Councilman Taylor made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss Personnel-Contractual. Councilman Trippe seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Frank moved to exit Executive Session, Councilman Taylor seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Council Frank made a motion to enter into an agreement for employment with Mr. Thomas Higgs as the Colleton County Administrator; with a start date of May 19, 2025. The motion was seconded by Councilman Trippe, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Council welcomed Mr. Thomas Higgs.

Adjournment

Councilman Taylor moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Frank seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

This 21th day of April 2025.

Scott Biering, Chairman

ATTEST:

Danielle Murdaugh, Clerk to Council



**Proclamation
Veterans of Foreign Wars “Buddy”® Poppy**

WHEREAS, The annual distribution of Buddy Poppies by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States has been officially recognized and endorsed by governmental leaders since 1922, and

WHEREAS, VFW Buddy Poppies are assembled by disabled veterans and the proceeds of this worthy fundraising campaign are used exclusively for the benefit of disabled and needy veterans and the widows and orphans of deceased veterans, and

WHEREAS, The basic purpose of the annual distribution of Buddy Poppies by the Veterans of Foreign Wars is eloquently reflected in the desire to “Honor the Dead by Helping the Living,” therefore ; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, by Colleton County Council, duly assembled, that we hereby urge the citizens of this community to recognize the merits of this cause by contributing generously to its support through your donations for Buddy Poppies whenever the VFW is conducting a distribution of these symbols of appreciation for the sacrifices of our honored dead.

Urging all patriotic citizens to wear a Buddy Poppy as mute evidence of our gratitude to the men and women of this country who have risked their lives in defense of the freedoms which we continue to enjoy as American citizens throughout the month of May and especially on Memorial Day.

Adopted the 6st day of May 2025

ATTEST: _____
Danielle Murdaugh, Clerk to Council

BY: _____
Scott Biering, Chairman

Sponsor(s) : County Council
First Reading : April 1, 2025
Committee Referral : N/A
Committee Consideration Date : N/A
Committee Recommendation : N/A
Second Reading : May 6, 2025
Public Hearing :
Third Reading :
Effective Date : Immediately

I, _____, Council Clerk,
certify that this Ordinance was
advertised for Public Hearing on
_____.

ORDINANCE NO. 25-O-03

COUNCIL-ADMINISTRATOR FORM OF GOVERNMENT FOR COLLETON COUNTY

[TO AMEND AND EXTEND THE TERM OF THE AGREEMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT FOR JOINT COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK (THE “PARK”) BETWEEN COLLETON COUNTY AND HAMPTON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA; TO FURTHER AMEND THE AGREEMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT FOR JOINT COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK SO AS TO INCLUDE ADDITIONAL PROPERTY IN COLLETON COUNTY AS PART OF THE PARK; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.]

WHEREAS, Colleton County, South Carolina (“Colleton County”) and Hampton County, South Carolina (“Hampton County”) (collectively, the “Counties” and together with any additional counties that become parties to the Agreement described below, the “Member Counties”), as authorized under Article VIII, Section 13(D) of the South Carolina Constitution and Section 4-1-170 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended (the “Act”), propose to amend and extend the term of the Agreement for Development for Joint County Industrial Park, dated _____ (the “Original Agreement”) between the Counties with respect to a Joint County Industrial and Business Park (the “Park) between the Counties; and

WHEREAS, Article VIII, Section 13(B) of the South Carolina Constitution provides that nothing in the State Constitution may be construed to prohibit any of the counties in South Carolina from agreeing to share the lawful cost, responsibility, and administration of functions with one or more governments, whether within or without the State of South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Colleton County previously authorized the establishment of the Park pursuant to Ordinance No. 07-O-29 enacted by the County Council of Colleton County on November 4, 2007, and Hampton County previously authorized the establishment of the Park pursuant to Ordinance No. _____ enacted by the County Council of Hampton County on _____, 2007; and

WHEREAS, the Original Agreement specified a term of thirty (30) years for the Agreement; and

WHEREAS, since the creation of the Park, the Counties have provided specific economic development incentives to various industries in return for the agreement of such industries to provide economic development and job creation in the Counties by expanding the

boundaries of the Park to include the sites of such industries; descriptions of such properties are set forth in Exhibits B-1 and B-2 hereto; and

WHEREAS, because the South Carolina General Assembly has extended the statutory term of a fee-in-lieu of tax incentive for companies meeting certain statutory requirements for a period of time up to fifty (50) years, the Counties desire to extend the term of the Original Agreement to fifty (50) years from the date of the extension, with a provision that would automatically extend the term further in the event that a property to be placed in the Park would be qualified to receive fee-in-lieu of tax incentives beyond the then-current remaining term of the Original Agreement as so extended, and the Counties desire to amend the Original Agreement to evidence such extension of the term; and

WHEREAS, the Counties have further determined that certain modifications of the Original Agreement are desirable in order to streamline the administration and operation of the Park by the Counties, and the Counties desire to amend the Original Agreement to evidence such modifications; and

WHEREAS, in order to promote the economic development of Colleton County and Hampton County, the Counties have agreed to include in the Park properties located in Colleton County as more particularly described in Exhibit C hereto; and

WHEREAS, the Counties have agreed to the specific terms and conditions of the arrangement to be set forth in the Amended Multi-County Park Agreement (the “Amended MCP Agreement”), the form of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COLLETON COUNTY COUNCIL AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Extension of Term of Multi-County Park; Approval of Amended MCP Agreement; Location of Park; Change of Park Boundaries.

(a) The term of the Original Agreement, set forth in Section 12 of the Original Agreement, is hereby authorized to be extended to a term of fifty (50) years from the date of execution of the Amended MCP Agreement, with a further provision that would automatically extend the term further in the event that a property to be placed in the Park during the term of the Park as so amended would be qualified to receive fee-in-lieu of tax incentives beyond the then-current remaining term of the Amended MCP Agreement, is hereby authorized.

(b) The Amended MCP Agreement is to be in substantially the form now before this meeting as Exhibit A and hereby approved, or with such changes therein as shall not materially adversely affect the rights of Colleton County thereunder and as shall be approved by the officials of Colleton County executing the same, their execution thereof to constitute conclusive evidence of their approval of any and all changes or revisions therein from the form of the Amended MCP Agreement now before this meeting. The Chairman of County Council, for and on behalf of Colleton County, is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to do any and all things necessary or proper to effect the execution and delivery of the Amended MCP Agreement

and the performance of all obligations of Colleton County under and pursuant to the Amended MCP Agreement and to carry out the transactions contemplated thereby and by this Ordinance.

(c) As of the date of enactment of this Ordinance, the Park shall consist of the property located in Colleton County more particularly described in Exhibit B and Exhibit C to the Amended MCIP Agreement. It is recognized that the Park will from time to time consist of non-contiguous properties within each or any Member County. The boundaries of the Park may be enlarged or diminished from time to time as authorized by (a) an ordinance of the Member County in which the property to be added or removed from the Park is physically located, and (b) a resolution (or comparable action) of the governing bodies of the other applicable Members.

Section 2. Payment of Fee-in-lieu of Taxes. (a) In accordance with Article VIII, Section 13(D) of the South Carolina Constitution, the area comprising the Park and all property having a situs therein is exempt from all *ad valorem* taxation. All owners and lessees of property situated in the Park will pay a fee in lieu of *ad valorem* taxes as provided for in the Amended MCP Agreement. The fee paid in lieu of *ad valorem* taxes shall be paid to the county treasurer of the county in which such property is physically located. That portion of the fee from the Park property located in a Member County and allocated pursuant to the Amended MCP Agreement to the other Member County shall be paid to the respective county treasurer (or other designated official) of the other Member County in accordance with the terms of the Amended MCP Agreement. Payments of fees in lieu of *ad valorem* taxes will be due on the due date for *ad valorem* property taxes for a particular year. Penalties for late payment will be at the same rate as for late tax payments. Any late payment beyond the due date will accrue interest at the rate of statutory judgment interest in South Carolina. The Member Counties, acting by and through the appropriate official, shall maintain all liens and rights to foreclose upon liens provided for counties in the collection of *ad valorem* taxes.

(b) Nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit any Member County from negotiating and collecting reduced fees in lieu of taxes pursuant to Title 4, Chapter 29 or Chapter 12, or Title 12, Chapter 44 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as amended, or any similar provision of South Carolina law.

Section 3. Sharing of Expenses and Revenues. Sharing of expenses and revenues of the Park by the Member Counties shall be as set forth in the Amended MCP Agreement.

Section 4. Distribution of Revenues to Taxing Entities. Revenues from the Park shall be distributed to and within the Member Counties as set forth in the Amended MCP Agreement.

Section 5. Allocation of Revenues Within Colleton County. After making provision for the appropriations provided in paragraph (a) above, all net park revenues generated by the Park shall be distributed to the applicable overlapping taxing entities in accordance with the provisions of Section 6(A) or (B) of the Amended MCP Agreement, as applicable.

Section 6. Governing Laws and Regulations. In order to avoid any conflict of laws or ordinances among the Member Counties, the ordinances or other local laws of each Member County will be the reference for such regulations or laws in connection with Park premises

located within such Member County. Nothing herein shall be taken to supersede any applicable municipal, state, or federal law or regulation. The Member County in which a parcel of Park premises is located is specifically authorized to adopt restrictive covenants and land use requirements in accordance with law for each such parcel at that Member County's sole discretion. The ordinances of a Member County shall in no way apply to Park property not located in such Member County.

Section 7. Savings Clause. If any portion of this Ordinance shall be held void or otherwise invalid, the validity and binding effect of the remaining portions shall not be affected thereby.

Section 8. General Repealer. Any prior ordinance or resolution of Charleston County Council, the terms of which are in conflict herewith, is, only to the extent of such conflict, hereby repealed.

Section 9. Effectiveness. This Ordinance shall be effective upon approval following third and final reading.

COLLETON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

By: _____
Scott Biering Chairman of County Council
Colleton County, South Carolina

ATTEST:

Daniele Murdaugh Clerk to County Council
Colleton County, South Carolina

First reading: April 1, 2025

Second reading: May 6, 2025

Public hearing: _____, 2025

Third reading: _____, 2025

EXHIBIT B-1

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION COLLETON COUNTY PROPERTY CURRENTLY IN PARK

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION FOR EACH PROPERTY CURRENTLY INCLUDED IN THE PARK.

<u>Parcels Currently in Park</u>	<u>Further Property Description</u>
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EXHIBIT B-2

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION HAMPTON COUNTY PROPERTY CURRENTLY IN PARK

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION FOR EACH PROPERTY CURRENTLY INCLUDED IN THE
PARK

<u>Parcels Currently in Park</u>	<u>Further Property Description</u>
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EXHIBIT C

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION COLLETON COUNTY ADDITIONAL PROPERTY

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION FOR EACH PROPERTY TO BE INCLUDED IN THE PARK
AND INITIAL TAX YEAR (FOR TAXES WHICH WILL BE LEVIED ON PROPERTY
OWNED ON DECEMBER 31 OF THE PRIOR CALENDAR YEAR).

<u>Parcels to be Added</u>	<u>Property Description</u>	<u>Initial Tax Year</u>
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SCHEDULE 1

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

**AMENDED AND RESTATED AGREEMENT FOR THE
DEVELOPMENT FOR JOINT COUNTY
INDUSTRIAL PARK**

THIS AMENDED AND RESTATED AGREEMENT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT FOR JOINT COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK is made and entered into and to be effective as of [_____, 2025] (this “Agreement”), by and between Colleton County, South Carolina (“Colleton County”) and Hampton County, South Carolina (“Hampton County;” Colleton County and Hampton County are collectively referred to herein as the “Counties”) (the Counties and any other counties, political subdivisions, or other governmental entities that become parties hereto are collectively referred to herein as the “Members”).

RECITALS

WHEREAS, in order to promote economic development and thus provide additional employment opportunities within each of the Counties, the County Councils of Colleton County and Hampton County previously established the Joint County Industrial Park (the “Original Park”) pursuant to Ordinance No. 07-O-29 enacted by the County Council of Colleton County on November 4, 2007, and Ordinance No. _____ enacted by the County Council of Hampton County on _____, 2007, and the Agreement for Development for Joint County Industrial Park dated _____, 2007 (the “Original Agreement”); and

WHEREAS, as a consequence of the establishment of the Original Park, the area comprising the Original Park and all property having a situs therein will be exempt from all *ad valorem* taxation, but the owners, any lessees, or any other taxpayers of such property shall pay annual fees in an amount equal to that amount for which such owner, lessee, or other taxpayer would be liable except for such exception; and

WHEREAS, the Original Agreement specified a term of thirty (30) years for the Original Agreement; and

WHEREAS, since the creation of the Park, the Counties have provided specific economic development incentives to various industries in return for the agreement of such industries to provide economic development and job creation in the Counties by expanding the boundaries of the Park to include the sites of such industries; descriptions of such properties are set forth in Exhibit A and Exhibit B hereto; and

WHEREAS, Colleton County and Hampton County have agreed to accept responsibility for the costs of infrastructure, maintenance, promotional costs, and other appropriate costs associated with the establishment and operation of the Park; and

WHEREAS, because the South Carolina General Assembly has extended the statutory term of a fee-in-lieu of tax incentive for companies meeting certain statutory requirements for a period of time up to fifty (50) years, the Counties desire to extend the term of the Original Agreement to fifty (50) years from the date hereof, with a provision that would automatically

extend the term further in the event that a property to be placed in the Park would be qualified to receive fee-in-lieu of tax incentives beyond the then-current remaining term of the Original Agreement as so extended, and the Counties desire to amend the Original Agreement to evidence such extension of the term; and

WHEREAS, the Counties have further determined that certain modifications of the Original Agreement are desirable in order to streamline the administration and operation of the Park by the Counties, and the Counties desire to amend the Original Agreement to evidence such modifications; and

WHEREAS, the Counties desire to administer the Park pursuant to this Agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual agreement, representations, and benefits contained in this Agreement and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. Binding Agreement. This Agreement serves as a written instrument setting forth the entire agreement among the Members with respect to the subject matter hereof and shall be binding on the Members, their successors and assigns.

2. Authorization. (A) Article VIII, Section 13(D) of the Constitution of South Carolina provides that counties which are contiguous to each other may jointly develop a multi-county industrial or business park within the geographical boundaries of one or more of the member counties, provided that certain conditions specified therein are met and further provided that the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina provides by law a means by which the value of property in such park will be considered for purposes of bonded indebtedness of political subdivisions and school districts and for purposes of computing the index of taxpaying ability for school districts. The Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as amended (the "Code"), and particularly Section 4-1-170 thereof, satisfies the conditions imposed by Article VIII, Section 13(D) of the Constitution of South Carolina and provides the statutory vehicle whereby a multi-county industrial or business park may be created.

(B) Article VIII, Section 13 of the South Carolina Constitution provides that nothing in the State Constitution may be construed to prohibit any of the counties, incorporated municipalities, or other political subdivisions in South Carolina from agreeing to share the lawful cost, responsibility, and administration of functions with one or more governments, whether within or outside the State of South Carolina.

3. Location of the Park.

(A) (i) As of the date of this Agreement, the Park consists of real property located in [Hampton County and] Colleton County. [The Park Property located within Hampton County is hereinafter described in Exhibit A attached hereto and the Park property located within Colleton County is hereinafter described in Exhibit B attached hereto. In the event that the Park is enlarged pursuant to the terms hereof to include additional property located in Hampton County, such property shall be identified and included in Exhibit A and attached hereto. In the event that the Park is enlarged pursuant to the terms hereof to include additional property located

in Colleton County, such property shall be identified and included in Exhibit B and attached hereto. The boundaries of the Park may be enlarged or diminished from time to time as provided in this Section 3.

(ii) The Park may at any time and from time to time consist of non-contiguous properties. Except as otherwise authorized by paragraph (D) of this Section 3, the Park may be enlarged or diminished from time to time upon completion of all of the following authorizations approving such action: (a) an ordinance of the County in which the property to be added or removed from the Park is actually located (such County is herein referred to as the “Host County”), (b) a resolution of the governing body of each of the other county or counties (such county or counties are herein referred to as the “Partner County” or “Partner Counties”), and (c) a resolution of the applicable municipality, if any (as provided in subparagraph (A)(iii) of this Section 3).

(iii) To the extent required by Section 4-1-170 of the Code, if property proposed for addition to the Park is located within the corporate limits of a municipality, then before adding such property to the Park, the Host County shall obtain such municipality's consent, by resolution of its municipal council, to the addition of such property to the Park.

(B) In the event of any enlargement or diminution of the Park, this Agreement shall be deemed amended, and the Host County shall cause to be attached to this Agreement (i) an appropriate revision of the applicable Exhibit hereto which, when read cumulatively with previous revisions, shall contain a legal description of all real property located in the Park, as enlarged or diminished, (ii) a copy of the ordinance of the Host County adding or removing the property from the Park, and (iii) copies of the resolutions of the governing bodies of the Partner County and, if applicable, the municipality or municipalities as provided in subparagraph (A)(iii) of this Section 3.

(C) So long as fee-in-lieu of tax revenues derived from the Park are pledged as security for special source revenue bonds issued by either County, that County agrees that it will not wilfully modify or terminate this Agreement unless there shall first be provided such certifications, if any, as may be required by such special source revenue bonds.

(D) (i) Prior to the enactment of an ordinance authorizing the removal of property from the Park, a public hearing shall first be held by the Host County. Notice of the public hearing shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the Host County not less than fifteen (15) days before the public hearing. At least fifteen (15) days before the public hearing, the Host County shall mail written notice of the public hearing to the owner or lessee (in the event the Host County is the owner pursuant to a negotiated fee-in-lieu-of-tax agreement under Title 4, Chapter 29 or Chapter 12 of the Code) or other taxpayer of or with respect to property that is proposed to be removed from the Park, by United States first class registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, or via facsimile transmission or reputable courier service at the address shown on the Host County's property tax records.

(ii) No action of any municipality is required for the removal of property from the Park.

(iii) Except as provided in Subsection (D)(iv) of this Section 3, for a period of five (5) years commencing with the later of the effective date of this Agreement, as amended and restated, or the effective date of the expansion of the boundaries of the Park to include such parcel, the boundaries of the Park shall not be diminished so as to exclude therefrom any parcel of real property without the consent of the owner thereof and the Counties and, if applicable, the lessee of such parcel; and this sentence of this Agreement may not be modified or deleted herefrom for a period of five (5) years commencing with the effective date hereof, except as provided in subsection (iv) below.

(iv) Notwithstanding paragraph (D)(iii) of this Section 3, but subject to Section (C) of this Section 3, a parcel previously included within the boundaries of the Park may be removed from the Park at any time if any of the following circumstances occurs:

(1) If the owner of the parcel requests in writing that the parcel be removed from the Park, then the County Administrator (or other chief administrative officer) of the Host County in which such parcel is located shall attach an appropriate revision of Exhibit A or Exhibit B removing such parcel from the Park and provide a copy of such revised Exhibit A or Exhibit B to the County Administrator (or other chief administrative officer) of the Partner County or Counties; or

(2) If the County Council of the Host County determines, after reasonable inquiry, that any condition which was represented as existing, or to exist in the future, at the time of agreement by the Host County to include such property within the boundaries of the Park, has not been reasonably met (such as, without limitation, relocation of the owner or tenant[s] which was anticipated to benefit from inclusion within the boundaries of the Park at the time of initial inclusion), then the boundaries of the Park may be diminished in accordance with the provisions of Subsection (B) above; or

(3) If the County Council of the Host County determines that the owner or tenant of the parcel to be removed from the Park has failed to provide to the Host County information which the Host County reasonably requires in order to determine (a) whether the owner or tenant(s) of the parcel complies with any condition which was represented as existing, or to exist in the future, at the time of agreement by the Host County to include such property within the boundaries of the Park; or (b) whether such owner or tenant(s) continues to benefit from such inclusion, then the boundaries of the Park may be diminished in accordance with the provisions of Subsection (B) above.

4. Fee in Lieu of Taxes. Property located in the Park shall be exempt from *ad valorem* taxation. The owners or lessees of any property situated in the Park shall pay in accordance with this Agreement an amount equivalent to the *ad valorem* property taxes or other fee-in-lieu-of-payments that would have been due and payable but for the location of such property within the Park. Such payments are herein referred to as the "Park Revenues."

5. Allocation of Park Expenses. Each County shall bear, or cause to be borne, 100% of the expenses, including, but not limited to, development, operation, maintenance, and promotion of that portion of the Park located within the boundaries of such County and the cost of providing customary public services for that portion of the Park located within the boundaries

of such County. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing herein shall be construed to prevent the applicable County from requiring the owner of privately owned property within the Park to bear any such expenses.

6. Allocation of Park Revenues.

(A) Hampton County and Colleton County shall receive an allocation of all Park Revenues, including revenues attributable to the business personal property with a situs in the Park in the following proportions:

- | | | |
|------|--|-----|
| (i) | Host County (where Park property is located) | 99% |
| (ii) | Partner County | 1% |

(B) Any payment from a Host County to the Partner County of such other County's allocable share of Park Revenues: (i) shall be made no later than ninety (90) days following the end of the calendar quarter in which the Host County receives such Park Revenues; and (ii) shall be accompanied by a statement showing the manner in which total payment and each Host County's share were calculated. If any Park Revenues are received by a Host County through payment by any owner, lessee, or other taxpayer made under protest, or otherwise as part of a dispute, then such Host County is not obligated to pay the other County more than such County's share of the undisputed portion of the Park Revenues until thirty (30) days after the final resolution of the protest or dispute.

7. Revenue Allocation Within Each of the Counties. (A) Park Revenues shall be paid to the applicable County as provided in Section 6 hereof. Such Park Revenues shall be distributed within the applicable County to the political subdivisions in such County in accordance with the applicable governing ordinance of such County in effect from time to time.

(B) Any distribution of Park Revenues must be in accordance with applicable law, including as of the date of original execution and delivery of this Agreement, Section 4-1-170 of the Code, Article VIII, Section 13(D) of the Constitution of South Carolina, and *Horry County School District v. Horry County*, 346 S.C. 621, 552 S.E.2d 737 (2001). To the extent that a school district receives Park Revenues, then the Park Revenues received by such school district shall be divided on a pro-rata basis between operational and debt service expenditures in accordance with the amount of operating and debt service millage levied by such school district or collected on behalf of such school district.

8. Negotiated Fee in Lieu of Ad Valorem Tax Arrangements. It is hereby agreed that each Member County is entitled to have heretofore entered or to hereafter enter into any one or more negotiated fee-in-lieu-of-tax agreements ("Negotiated FILOT Incentive") pursuant to Title 4, Chapter 29 or Chapter 12 of the Code, or Title 12, Chapter 44 of the Code, or any successor or comparable statutes, with respect to property located in the Park and within the boundaries of such Member County with the terms of these Negotiated FILOT Incentives being at such Member County's sole discretion. Property subject to a Negotiated FILOT Incentive is referred

to herein as “Negotiated FILOT Property.” Property that is not subject to a Negotiated FILOT Incentive is referred to herein as “Non-Negotiated FILOT Property.”

9. Assessed Valuation. For the purpose of calculating bonded indebtedness limitation and for the purpose of computing the index of taxpaying ability of school districts of Section 59-20-20(3) of the Code, allocation of the assessed value of property within the Park to each Member County shall be identical to the percentage established for the allocation of Park Revenues to each Member County pursuant to Section 7 herein.

10. Governing Laws and Regulations. In order to avoid any conflict of laws or ordinances among the Member Counties, the ordinances or other local laws of each Member County will be the reference for such regulations or laws in connection with Park premises located within such Member County. Nothing herein shall be taken to supersede any applicable municipal, state, or federal law or regulation.

11. South Carolina Law Controlling. This Agreement shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, South Carolina law.

12. Severability. In the event and to the extent (and only to the extent) that any provision or any part of a provision of this Agreement shall be held invalid or unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, such holding shall not invalidate or render unenforceable the remainder of that provision or any other provision of this Agreement.

13. Counterpart Execution. This Agreement may be executed in multiple counterparts.

14. Additional Members. This Agreement may be amended from time to time to add as Members hereto additional municipalities, other political subdivisions, or governmental entities located within either Member County, subject to any limitation contained in Article VIII, Section 13 of the Constitution of South Carolina or Title 4, Chapter 1 of the Code, by ordinances or comparable action of the governing body of each then current Member.

15. Amendments. This Agreement may not be amended, changed, modified, or altered except:

(A) to add property to or remove property from the Park solely in compliance with Section 3 hereof; or

(B) otherwise, with the written consent of all then current Members; provided, however, that so long as fee-in-lieu of tax revenues derived from the Park are pledged as security for special source revenue bonds issued by either County, that County agrees that it will not wilfully modify or terminate this Agreement unless there shall first be provided such certifications, if any, as may be required by such special source revenue bonds.

16. Term of Agreement; Withdrawal of Members.

(A) The term of this Agreement shall end on the date that is fifty (50) years from the effective date hereof; provided, however, that the term hereof shall automatically be extended in

the event that a property which has been placed in the Park qualifies to receive fee-in-lieu of tax incentives beyond the then-current remaining term of this Agreement, in which event, the term hereof shall coincide with the term of the applicable fee-in-lieu of tax incentive.

(B) The term of this Agreement may be extended by prior written agreement of two or more Counties which are at such time Members hereunder.

(C) Notwithstanding any provision of this Agreement to the contrary, Colleton County and Hampton County agree that neither Colleton County nor Hampton County may terminate this Agreement, unilaterally, for a period of fifty (50) years commencing with the effective date hereof.

(D) In the event that the Park is enlarged to include additional property in accordance with Section 3 hereof, the ordinance of the Host County and the resolutions of the other Member County and applicable municipalities that approve such enlargement of the Park may include additional limitations on the termination of this Agreement with respect to such additional property.

(E) Except as otherwise provided in Section 3 or this Section 17 of this Agreement, this Agreement may only be terminated prior to the stated termination date hereof by ordinances (or comparable action) of the governing bodies of each of the Member Counties and other Members.

(F) Any Member may terminate all of its rights hereunder and withdraw from this Agreement by providing to each other Member (i) written notice of its intention to withdraw from this Agreement at least 45 days prior to the effective date of such withdrawal and (ii) a certified copy of the ordinance (or comparable action) of its governing body terminating all of such Member's rights hereunder. The withdrawing Member agrees to pay all costs and expenses incurred by the other Members in connection with its withdrawal from this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the initial parties hereto have executed this Agreement the day and the year first above written.

HAMPTON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

By: _____
Chairman of County Council
Hampton County, South Carolina

[SEAL]

Attest:

By: _____
Clerk to County Council
Hampton County, South Carolina

COLLETON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

By: _____
Chairman of County Council
Colleton County, South Carolina

[SEAL]

Attest:

By: _____
Clerk to County Council
Colleton County, South Carolina

Sponsor(s) : County Council
First Reading : April 1, 2025
Committee Referral : N/A
Committee Consideration Date : N/A
Committee Recommendation : N/A
Second Reading : May 6, 2025
Public Hearing : June 3, 2025
Third Reading : June 3, 2025
Effective Date : Immediately

I, _____,
Council Clerk, certify that this
Ordinance was advertised
for Public Hearing on _____.

ORDINANCE NO. 25-O-04

COUNCIL-ADMINISTRATOR FORM OF GOVERNMENT FOR COLLETON COUNTY

[AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN APPLICATION FOR PRELIMINARY CERTIFICATION FOR HISTORIC REHABILITATION; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.]

WHEREAS, Colleton County, South Carolina (the “*County*”) was created as a municipal corporation under the laws of the State of South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the County is authorized pursuant to Sections 5-21-140 and 4-9-195 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as amended (collectively, the “*Bailey Bill*”), to grant special property tax assessments to real property that qualifies as a “rehabilitated historic property;” and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ordinance No. 18-O-06 dated June 26, 2018, which is codified at Article XI, Chapter 2 of the County’s code of ordinances, the County enacted the Bailey Bill. Terms used herein and not otherwise defined shall have the meanings ascribed thereto in the Bailey Bill Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, consistent with Section 2-268 of the Bailey Bill Ordinance, Scott Lockwood (the “*Petitioner*”) has submitted an Application for their property located at 227 N. Memorial Ave. (the “*Property*”) and the Application was received and has been recommended for approval by the HPC.

NOW, THEREFORE, BEING DULY ASSEMBLED, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF COLLETON COUNTY, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. All findings of fact above are ratified, confirmed and approved.

Section 2. (a) Consistent with Section 2-268(d) of the Bailey Bill Ordinance, it is hereby determined and declared that:

- (i) The Property constitutes an Eligible Property;
- (ii) The Minimum Expenditures are expected to be met; and

- (iii) The fair market value of the Property for purposes of calculating the Special Assessment and Expense Percentage is \$_____.
- (b) The Petitioner and the Property must continue to comply with the terms of the Bailey Bill Ordinance, including those provisions which govern monitoring, substantive changes and Final Certification.

Section 3. On the basis of the foregoing, the Property is granted Preliminary Certification and shall be entitled to receive the initial Special Assessment dictated under the Bailey Bill Ordinance.

Section 4. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is, for any reason, held or determined to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

Section 5. Nothing in this Ordinance hereby enacted shall be construed to affect any suit or proceeding impending in any court, or any rights acquired, or liability incurred, or any cause of causes of action acquired or existing, under any act or ordinance hereby repealed; nor shall any just or legal right or remedy of any character be lost, impaired or affected by this Ordinance.

Section 6. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent or in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of the conflict or inconsistency. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its enactment.

DONE AND ORDAINED IN COUNCIL ASSEMBLED, this 3rd day of June, 2025.

ATTEST:

SIGNED:

Danielle Murdaugh, Clerk to Council

Scott Biering, Chairman

COUNCIL VOTE:
OPPOSED:

Approved as to Form
Sean P. Thornton, County Attorney

Sponsor(s) : County Council
First Reading : April 1, 2025
Committee Referral : N/A
Committee Consideration Date : N/A
Committee Recommendation : N/A
Second Reading : May 6, 2025
Public Hearing : June 3, 2025
Third Reading : June 3, 2025
Effective Date : July 1, 2025

I, _____, Council Clerk,
certify that this Ordinance was
advertised for Public Hearing on
_____.

ORDINANCE NO. 25-O-05

COUNCIL-ADMINISTRATOR FORM OF GOVERNMENT FOR COLLETON COUNTY

[To Provide for the Levy of Taxes in Colleton County, South Carolina, for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 to Provide for All Other Appropriations Thereof; and to Provide for Other Matters Related Thereto.]

WHEREAS:

1. Colleton County Council, pursuant to state statutes, is authorized and required to adopt an annual budget for all departments, offices, and agencies (hereinafter collectively termed offices) of the County Government; and
2. Pursuant to state statutes, total funds appropriated in fiscal year 2025-2026 for the above purposes do not exceed estimated revenues and funds available for expenditure in fiscal year 2025-2026.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COLLETON COUNTY COUNCIL DULY ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATIONS

a. Procedures Compliance: The fiscal year 2025-2026 County Budget for Colleton County South Carolina and the Colleton County School District local appropriations are hereby adopted, and detailed budget appropriation documentation attached hereto is incorporated herein by reference. The Colleton County Council certifies that it has complied with all state laws and regulations regarding readings, notices, and public hearings for mills levied herein, and that it will comply in the case of mill levies, which may be adjusted by resolution based on more current information at the time of final issuance of the levies and after the adoption of this ordinance.

b. Levy Process: In all cases, all property shall be taxed unless otherwise exempt from taxation pursuant to Title 12, South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, as amended. The taxes shall be collected in the manner as provided for collection of taxes by Title 12, Chapter 45 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, as amended, and in accordance with procedures established in County enacting ordinances. All property taxes are due and payable between the twenty-ninth day of September through the sixteenth day of January after their assessment in each year. Before the tax bills are issued, the County Auditor shall provide to the County Administrator a reconciled summary by levy of all taxes billed, and the County Treasurer shall provide monthly an apportionment report with refunds (computer system printout) for all taxes collected. Additionally, the Finance Office shall be provided with "read only" access to tax computer modules for the purpose of report generation. Tax levy mill information shall be supplied to the County Auditor for purposes of preparing the tax books for Colleton County.

(1) Motor Vehicle Taxes: Taxes levied on motor vehicles shall be collected pursuant to the schedules and procedures as established by State Statute and nothing herein shall be deemed to extend or defer the time of payment for such motor vehicle taxes.

(2) Motor Vehicle Owner Responsibility for Taxes: No motor vehicle registered in the State of South Carolina and being the property of a person, a resident of the County, shall be operated on the streets and public ways of the County unless all the motor vehicle taxes and fees duly assessed against such vehicle shall have first been paid. In the event that any person violates the provisions of this Section, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to the penalties prescribed in Title 46, 1976 South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended. Nothing in this section shall preclude the collection of taxes and fees upon such motor vehicle after the prosecution of the offender for failure to pay such tax.

c. Appropriation Management:

(1) Reallocation: Unless otherwise restricted by state law or specific limitation of accounting standards, all of the appropriations hereinafter and those in the budgetary detail incorporated herein by reference are subject to adjustment and reallocation by County Council by voice motion or resolution. Any amount appropriated in this Ordinance may be discontinued at any time by appropriate action of a majority of the County Council. Expenditures from the Council's contingency in non-departmental shall typically be done by resolution or voice motion.

(2) Duplication: If any of the items, or portions thereof, for which funds are herein appropriated is taken over by the State or Federal government and appropriations therefrom be made by either or paid by either directly to a County Office, or if the same shall become available in any manner, then the amounts for said Office herein appropriated shall be reduced in the amount of said appropriation, direct payment, or other available funds or support.

(3) Direct Assistance: All agencies receiving direct assistance payments from the County shall be funded quarterly in arrears no more than twenty-five (25%) percent of their direct assistance line item except at the discretion of the County Administrator. The quarterly allotments shall be paid on the first schedule accounts payable check run of the month following the end of each quarter. The final 4th quarter funding may be withheld by the Finance Director pending the reconciliation of outstanding obligations between the County and the Agency receiving funding or in the case of grant irregularities. Agencies, boards, and commissions, which are partially funded by Colleton County Government, must provide annual audited financial statements to include a copy of the management letter and a copy of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulation Part 200 Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards report, if applicable. State funded agencies must provide an annual report or a summary of local office-specific funding. Quarterly funding may be withheld pending the County's receipt of an agency's annual audited financial statements.

d. Funds: The following funds are hereby established for the purposes set forth with appropriations/budgeted amounts where applicable. Other funds may be delineated elsewhere:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Fund Name</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Millage</u>
100	County General Fund**	\$ 37,189,039	119.31
115	Capital Fund*	\$ 0	
120	Special Revenue Fund*	\$ 1,630,615	
121	State Aid to Library Fund*	\$ 150,000	
122	Colleton County Memorial Library Fund*	\$ 931,097	
124	IV-D Sheriff Unit Costs**	\$ 4,400	
125	Solicitor Special Revenue Fund*	\$ 0	
126	IV-D Clerk of Court – Unit Costs**	\$ 131,900	
127	IV-D Clerk of Court's Fund – Incentives*	\$ 0	
128	Victim Witness Services Fund*	\$ 164,520	
130	County Debt Service Fund*	\$ 3,710,040	15.50
131	Fire Debt Service Fund*	\$ 3,085,627	22.66
134	Non-GOB Related Debt Service*	\$ 4,231,611	
135	Capital Project Sales Tax Debt Service Fund*	\$ 7,383,450	

141	Emergency Telephone Fund*	\$	289,000	
142	Infrastructure/Industrial Development Fund***	\$	139,000	
143	CPST Construction Fund*	\$	0	
144	CC 2015 \$5.4M GOB Proceeds*	\$	0	
146	Fire Bond \$6M 2018*	\$	0	
147	Fire Bond \$5M 2022*	\$	0	
150	American Rescue Plan*	\$	0	
152	Accommodations Tax Tourism Infrastructure*	\$	40,500	
153	County Hospitality Tax Fund*	\$	628,600	
155	County Accommodations Tax Fund*	\$	819,500	
156	Fire-Rescue Commission Operations Fund*	\$	13,365,900	37.56
204	Recreation Fund*	\$	1,699,586	
210	Road & Bridges Fund*	\$	2,556,500	
211	Solid Waste Fund*	\$	3,850,241	
303	CCSO Drug Enforcement Operations*	\$	0	
306	Sheriff's Special Revenue Fund*	\$	0	
308	Sheriff Federal Asset Fund*	\$	0	
446	Transportation Commission Fund*	\$	0	
457	School District Operating****	\$	XXXXX	116.42

* At the close of the fiscal year, any unexpended monies within these funds and within all capital project funds shall be carried forward with the respective fund balance for the continued established use of that fund subject to appropriations, unless specifically authorized otherwise by ordinance or directed by State law

**At the close of the fiscal year, any unexpended monies within these funds shall be turned over to the General Fund Balance.

***Industrial or Infrastructure Development Fund appropriations are hereby amended to include the prior year Fund Balance and must be adjusted by the County Administrator to include all revenues received for economic development and any other revenues designated by County Council. Such funds shall require authorization of the County Administrator or his designee prior to obligation. At the close of the fiscal year, any unexpended monies within said funds shall be carried forward within the respective fund for continued economic development use.

e. County General & Debt Service Funds: The Colleton County Auditor is authorized and directed to levy upon all taxable property in Colleton County, South Carolina, and the Colleton County Treasurer is directed to collect, taxes sufficient to meet all County General Fund appropriations directed by this Ordinance, except as provided for by other revenue sources for the operation of the County Government for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026.

The Colleton County Auditor is authorized and directed to levy upon taxable property in Colleton County, South Carolina and the Colleton County Treasurer is directed to collect taxes in the amount of \$3,646,240 to meet the Debt Service appropriation (Fund 130). To further meet the Debt Service (Fund 130) appropriation provided by this Ordinance in (d) directly above, the sum of \$63,800 is hereby appropriated from various sources and shall be collected to make a total County Debt Service (Fund 130) appropriation of \$3,710,040.

Sufficient mills to support these tax levies can be established by County Council Resolution before September 1st of this Fiscal Year, if anticipated to vary from what is set within this ordinance or if not set within this ordinance.

f. School Operations and Debt Service Funds:

****To meet the appropriation provided by this Ordinance to cover School District Operating purposes, the Colleton County Auditor is authorized and directed to levy upon all taxable property in Colleton County, South Carolina, and the Colleton County Treasurer is directed to collect millage in the amount of 116.42. Any money generated by said levy shall be provided to the School District to cover operating costs. Millage may be adjusted by County Council Resolution before September 4th of this Fiscal Year should Council deem that to be in the best interests of the County.

Pursuant to 59-71-150 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976 as amended, the Colleton County Auditor shall levy and the Colleton County Treasurer shall collect a tax, without limit, upon all taxable property in Colleton County, South Carolina, sufficient to pay the principal and interest of School Debt and to create such sinking fund as may be necessary therefore as provided by the School District to the County Auditor. Any funds accumulated for the School Debt Fund, which exceed the amounts required as provided to the County Auditor by the School District shall be carried forward in a School Debt Service Fund and shall be subject to appropriation by County Council only for School Debt Service.

(1) Debt Service Reporting/Processing: During the budget process each fiscal year, the School District shall provide to the County Treasurer and the County Finance Director a bank certified amortization listing of outstanding bond obligations and projected debt obligations. The School District shall require managing banks to directly provide to the County Treasurer and the County Finance Director all notices of payments due.

(2) Funds Transfer Requirements: The Treasurer shall notify both the School District (in the case of School District funding) and the County Administrator (in all cases) within five (5) days of receiving notification of any cuts in State or other revenues, or upon discovering any evidence of shortfall or deficit, or in the case of a decision to delay funds transfers.

g. Fire and Rescue District and Debt Service Funds: To meet the appropriation provided by this Ordinance to cover Fire and Rescue District Operating (Fund 156), the Colleton County Auditor is authorized and directed to levy upon all taxable property located in the unincorporated areas of the County and in the Towns of Cottageville, Lodge, Smoaks, Williams, and the Colleton County Treasurer is directed to collect taxes of \$4,958,125 for Fire and Rescue District Operations (Fund 156). To further meet the Operating (Fund 156) appropriation provided by this Ordinance in (d) directly above, additional revenue from various sources in the amount of \$2,400,800 shall be collected. In addition, intergovernmental transfers in the amount of \$6,006,975 for transfer into Fund 156 upon requisition by the Finance Office to make a total Fire and Rescue District Operations appropriation of \$13,365,900

To meet the appropriation provided by this Ordinance to cover Fire and Rescue District Debt Service (Fund 131), the Colleton County Auditor is authorized and directed to levy upon all taxable property located in the unincorporated areas of the County and in the Towns of Cottageville, Lodge, Smoaks, Williams, and the City of Walterboro and the Colleton County Treasurer is directed to collect taxes of \$3,014,027 To further meet the Debt Service (Fund 131) appropriation provided by this Ordinance in (d) directly above, the sum of \$71,500 is hereby appropriated from various sources and shall be collected to make a total Fire and Rescue District Debt Service (Fund 131) appropriation of \$3,085,627.

Sufficient mills to support these tax levies can be established by County Council Resolution before September 1st of this Fiscal Year, if anticipated to vary from what is set within this ordinance or if not set within this ordinance.

At the close of the fiscal year any unexpended or unobligated funds and any funds accumulated for the Fire and Rescue Operating (Fund 156) or Debt Service (Fund 131) Funds above the provided appropriation amounts or collected in prior years, shall be carried forward in the respective fund balance and shall be subject to appropriation by County Council for Fire and Rescue Operations or Fire and Rescue Debt Service only.

h. Emergency Telephone Fund: To meet the appropriations provided by this Ordinance to cover the Emergency Telephone Fund, the \$1.00 E-911 subscriber billing fee per billed access line, up to 50 lines, and the tariff on wireless communication devices are hereby continued for this purpose. These E-911 fees will be accounted for in the E-911 Tariff Fund (Fund 141) to be expended in accordance with the 1976 South Carolina Code of Laws, Chapter 47, as amended, and Colleton County Ordinance 93-O-05. At the close of the fiscal year, any unexpended funds with any other funds collected in prior years shall be carried forward within this fund and shall be subject to appropriation by County Council.

i. Roads & Bridges Maintenance Fund: To meet the appropriation provided by this Ordinance for the Roads & Bridges Fund (Fund 210), a vehicle user fee of \$35.00 per vehicle is hereby continued for road and bridge maintenance and repair. To further meet the Fund 210 appropriation provided by this Ordinance, supplemental operating transfers from Fund 100 in the total amount of \$1,094,429, are hereby appropriated for transfer into Fund 210. The Roads and Bridges Fund 210 shall be a separate accounting fund with a corresponding Treasurer's bank account to administer this fund. Collection of delinquent vehicle user fees will be in accordance with the Colleton County Code of Ordinances, as amended, and annual budget ordinances.

All appropriated interfund operating transfers shall be made during the year as required to maintain orderly operations. At the close of the fiscal year all unexpended funds will be carried forward within the fund balance of this fund and shall be subject to appropriation by County Council for current and future operating costs connected to Roads & Bridges Department activities.

j. Solid Waste Fund: To meet the appropriation provided by this Ordinance for the Solid Waste Fund (Fund 211), a Solid Waste user fee of \$85 per residential unit County-wide, a commercial Municipal Solid Waste Disposal Fee of \$65 a ton and a Construction and Debris disposal rate of \$55 a ton is hereby established. To further meet the Fund 211 appropriation provided by this Ordinance, supplemental operating transfers in the total amount of \$3,850,241 is hereby appropriated from Fund 100 for transfer into Fund 211. Fund 211, the Solid Waste Fund, shall be a separate accounting fund with a corresponding Treasurer's bank account to administer it. Collection of delinquent Solid Waste user fees shall be conducted in accordance with the Colleton County Code of Ordinances, as amended, and annual budget ordinances.

All appropriated interfund operating transfers shall be made during the year as required to maintain orderly operations. At the close of the fiscal year, all unexpended funds will be carried forward within the fund balance of this fund and shall be subject to appropriation by County Council for current and future operating costs connected to solid waste disposal including but not limited to the Landfill, Transfer Station, and Convenience Sites.

k. Recreation Fund: Rental and membership fees, concession stand revenues, sponsorships, golf course revenues, restaurant rental, donations, and program income generated by Recreation programs are hereby provided to meet the appropriation established in this Ordinance for the Recreation Fund (Fund 204). To further meet the Fund 204 appropriation provided by this Ordinance, supplemental operating transfers in the total amount of \$1,047,376 are hereby appropriated from Fund 100 and Fund 153 for transfer into Fund 204. Fund 204, the Recreation Fund, shall be a separate accounting fund with a corresponding Treasurer's bank account to administer it.

All appropriated interfund operating transfers shall be made during the year as required to maintain orderly operations. At the close of the fiscal year, all unexpended funds will be carried forward within the fund balance of this fund and shall be subject to appropriation by County Council for current and future operating costs connected to Recreation Department needs.

l. Hospitality Tax: Revenue generated by the Hospitality Tax established by Ordinance 2000-O-28 is hereby designated to meet the appropriation provided by **Section 1. Appropriations, d. Funds**, of this Budget Ordinance for the Hospitality Tax Fund. Fund 153, County Hospitality Tax Fund shall be a

separate accounting fund with corresponding Treasurer's bank account to administer it. Collection of delinquent Hospitality Taxes by the Treasurer shall be in accordance with the Colleton County Code of Ordinances, as amended. At the close of the fiscal year, any unexpended funds and collections shall be carried forward in the Hospitality Tax Fund balance for continued use as provided by the Colleton County Code of Ordinances, as amended, subject to appropriation by County Council.

m. Accommodations Tax: Revenue generated by the County Accommodations Tax established by Ordinance 2001-O-15 is hereby designated to meet the appropriation provided by **Section 1. Appropriations, d. Funds**, of this Budget Ordinance for the County Accommodations Tax Fund. Fund 155, the Accommodations Tax Fund, shall be a separate accounting fund with corresponding Treasurer's bank account to administer it. Collection of delinquent County Accommodations Taxes by the Treasurer shall be in accordance with the Colleton County Code of Ordinances, as amended. At the close of the fiscal year, any unexpended funds and collections shall be carried forward within this fund for continued use as provided by the Colleton County Code of Ordinances, as amended, subject to appropriation by County Council.

n. Special Revenue Fund: Payroll billing reimbursements from Pillars4Hope and Med-Trans (flight paramedics) are hereby provided to meet the appropriation established in this ordinance for the Special Revenue Fund (Fund 120). To further meet the Fund 120 appropriation provided by this ordinance, supplemental operating transfer in the amount of \$65,000 is hereby appropriated to cover excess cost associated with the after-school and summer feeding program.

o. Major Funds Determination: In accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) 34 and other appropriate regulations requiring Government-wide Financial Statements, major funds will be determined annually at the end of the fiscal year during the audit process.

p. Colleton County Transportation Committee: The Legislative Delegation's Colleton County Transportation Committee (CTC) is responsible for the budgeting and monitoring of expenditures related to the State "C" fund's appropriated budget (Fund 446). The Colleton County Transportation Committee Funds are considered Capital Projects Fund under Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) regulations though are not required to be appropriated by Council action.

The County Engineer is assigned by County Council the function of Clerk for the CTC. Assigned duties include responsibility for preparing CTC's minutes, authorizing invoice vouchers and requisitions for C-Funds, monitoring contracts approved by the CTC, monitoring CTC related expenses, requesting specific project accounts be set up in the County's financial management system in accordance with accounting standards, monitoring the account balances, preparing financial reports to the CTC, providing contract and transaction documentation to the County's Independent Auditors as requested, working with the Treasurer's Office to report reconciled cash balances to the CTC, preparing from records and CTC accounts the detail required for reporting expenditures, obligations, and other data which SCDOT, CTC, County Finance, independent auditors, or Council requests regularly. In addition, the County Engineer shall provide to the Finance Office annually by July 15th for the prior fiscal year and for inclusion in County record of roads, all CTC contractor certified costs and right-of-way information and documentation on the CTC's County road projects, listed by road and documenting the total improvement costs including the related engineering costs for each County road project.

Under a contractual agreement the CTC agrees to reimburse the County from "C" fund monies (Fund 446) \$100,000 for engineering and management services by the County Engineer who is to be a certified Professional Engineer necessary for CTC operations. Colleton County agrees to cover certain ancillary expenses as contained herein.

q. Grants Management:

(1) Grant Fund Balances: Notwithstanding any other provisions of this ordinance, all unexpended balances in excess of \$1,000 from previous appropriations of state and federal grant funds, any State Accommodations Tax Funds not committed to the County General Fund, State Lottery Funds, and capital improvement or special project appropriations outstanding as of June 30th in the calendar year in which this budget ordinance is effective, shall be carried forward into the subsequent fiscal year budget appropriations. Any unexpended grant monies for grants which have had no spending for the current and prior fiscal years, are to be returned the grantor or transferred to the County General Fund. All grants are to be budgeted and accounted for in a special revenue fund and authorized local match transfers will be completed by the County Finance Director based on County Council's acceptance of the grant.

(2) County Acceptance: The expenditure of funds for grant programs included in this budget shall not be authorized unless evidence that the respective grants have been approved by the grantor agency is provided to the County Administrator, and the grant has been accepted and funded by proper action of County Council. In all cases, total program expenditures shall be limited to the lesser of the total grant award(s), or the amount(s) designated in the current budget appropriations, as amended, or as approved by County Council Grant Resolutions. County Finance Director must be listed as a contact on all grant applications and awards; all correspondence must be copied to the County Finance Director.

(3) Budgeting: Grant funds requiring matching County funds not specifically budgeted shall be authorized by passage of Council Resolution approving the grant application and identifying matching expenditure funds from other previously appropriated funds. Grants not exceeding \$50,000 and requiring no new local match appropriation may be budgeted by the County Administrator or his designee. If the amount is greater than \$50,000, then the amount shall be budgeted by Council Resolution. The Finance Director is authorized to create the necessary general ledger accounts; the opening of bank accounts, when necessary, shall be executed by the County Treasurer in coordination with the Finance Director. When grant award payments are received, the Treasurer's Office or County Offices shall provide the Finance Director with copies of all checks received for the reimbursement of grant expenditures and any other related documentation determined by the Finance Director as necessary to ensure audit compliance. All grant revenues shall be credited to the appropriate revenue line item as established by the Finance Director. Grant revenues will not be applied directly to expenditure line items. All grant disbursements shall be authorized only through the Finance Office unless State or Federal law specifically provides otherwise and the County is exempt from financial reporting on those funds at both the State and Federal levels. Positions approved by County Council and supported through Grant funding, particularly where grant funding periods do not follow the County fiscal year term, may not appear in Budget detail.

(4) Federal Reporting: In accordance with Federal Part 200 Uniform Reporting Requirements related to Federal grants, all County offices, Component Units and other pass-through Organizations must report the expenditures and provide copies of grant awards and any other grant related reports to the Finance Director. Prior to the disbursement of any funds, the Finance Office must be provided with all requested documents to verify the accuracy and validity of the requested grant funds disbursement. County offices, Component Units or other pass through Organizations that do not comply with this ordinance and any other published administrative procedures necessary for complete and timely reporting of grants such that the County incurs additional independent audit costs or loses grants funds will either have these costs deducted from the Office or Component Unit's budget appropriations annually or will be forbidden to receive County sponsored grants or other funds until full recoupment has been made.

SECTION 2. FUND BALANCE MANAGEMENT

a. Compliant Fund Balance Policy: Colleton County Council utilizes a compliant fund balance methodology based on the cash-flow needs of the County to maintain sufficient reserves in order to maintain County operations. End of year fund balance estimations and associated cash flow projections

for all cash-discrete funds are developed annually in the budget process to maintain a minimum of 20% of annualized appropriations in operational funds to ensure routine operations remain uninterrupted and in sinking funds (debt service fund) balances as required to timely service all scheduled debt.

b. Tax Anticipation Note Authority: The County is hereby empowered to borrow in anticipation of tax or other revenues for County purposes any sum not exceeding the amount anticipated to be received from taxes and other revenues during the current or following fiscal year, and not only to pledge the taxes or other revenues anticipated in the current or succeeding fiscal year, but to pledge, also, the full faith and credit of Colleton County for the repayment of any sums so borrowed. Such sums shall be borrowed from any banking institution or lending agency and shall be payable at such time, upon such terms, and in such sums as may be negotiated between the County and the lender.

c. Temporary Inter-Fund Loans: Interfund cash transfers are prohibited except as noted elsewhere herein and where implementation of the budget and accounting conventions dictate. Should the Treasurer determine that a temporary inter-fund loan is required to support cash flow of any fund, the Treasurer must provide to the County Administrator documentation and a written requisition for the funds needed, to include a year-to-date, by month, cash flow analysis of the shortage, and the County Administrator is authorized to approve said short-term transfer and its reversal. Temporary inter-fund loans and transfers shall be reported to County Council.

SECTION 3. BUDGET YEAR END

a. Purchase Authority Cutoff: The budget year shall expire on June 30 of this fiscal year. No monies shall be disbursed pursuant to this Ordinance unless such funds have been obligated (i.e. an order has been placed or a contract signed for the delivery of goods or services in accordance with County procurement procedures) prior to the close of the fiscal year, which is June 30th. The County Administrator will take action to preclude all purchase order activity except business required for expedient operations and emergencies after May 29th of the fiscal year; no capital purchases other than emergencies will be initiated after May 15th of the fiscal year without the express written approval of the County Administrator. In addition, all items must be received and invoiced June 30th or earlier, or the items will be deducted from the originating office's subsequent fiscal year budget.

b. Purchase Order Liquidation: All offices are responsible for providing documentation regarding outstanding obligations for this fiscal year to the Finance Department on or before June 12th to facilitate the proper accrual of outstanding obligations of the County or the obligation(s) may be deducted from the office's budget for the subsequent fiscal year.

c. No Roll-Forward: Budget line-item balances shall under limited circumstances roll forward at the end of this fiscal year into the next fiscal year's budget, except for capital project funds, bond funds and grant funds crossing the fiscal year or as otherwise specified or appropriated within this budget ordinance.

d. Unexpended Funds: At the close of this fiscal year, any unexpended funds shall be turned over to General Fund Balance unless the County Treasurer is otherwise directed herein or specifically restricted by other County ordinances, State or Federal Law, or grant terms.

SECTION 4. NATURE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHART OF ACCOUNTS

a. Chart of Accounts: Appropriation and expenditure of the funds outlined in Section 1 above shall be by object category in the County's central accounting system as listed below:

Personal Services – Salaries & Wages	1xxx
Personal Services – Employee Benefits	2xxx
Purchased Professional & Technical Services	3xxx
Purchased-Property Services	4xxx

Other Purchased Services	5xxx
Supplies	6xxx
Property – Fixed Asset Guidelines	7xxx
Other Objects	8xxx
Colleton Transportation Committee	9xxx

b. Transfers Prohibited: Unbudgeted transfers are prohibited except as approved herein and in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

c. Overspending: Any office, which overspends its straight-line spending levels for two consecutive months, shall be reviewed by the County Administrator, who may freeze position vacancies, capital expenditures, and funds transfers, and remove sufficient personnel from the County payroll to offset fully the impending budget overrun prior to the close of the fiscal year.

d. Reallocation:

(1) Funds: The Council may transfer any appropriations by resolution. The County Administrator or his designee may authorize individual transfers as needed not to exceed \$50,000. Each fund recipient Office Head must monitor expenditures daily and exercise caution to prevent over-expenditures. Primary responsibility for monitoring expenditures rests with each such Official individually. All requests for transfers from payroll accounts must be submitted in writing with detailed explanation to the County Administrator for consideration.

(2) Functions: The County Administrator, in consultation with County Council, is hereby authorized to transfer County Government functions and allocated appropriations among the various County divisions and offices in order to combine compatible employee positions and functions, eliminate duplicate work, gain performance efficiencies, or reduce overall operating costs of the County Government.

SECTION 5. FIXED ASSETS

a. Reporting: The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend the useful life of the asset are not capitalized. The threshold for determining if an item is considered to be a fixed or capital asset is the value or the purchase price (whichever is higher) of \$5,000 or greater and the item must have a useful life of more than one year. Appropriate depreciation schedules are maintained on the straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of each asset in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). The estimated useful life is determined by guidelines developed by the State of South Carolina Office of Comptroller General, and in some cases, applicable Federal IRS regulations and/or Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) 34 implementation guidelines. Fixed Asset and Capital reporting for the County is based on the following categories:

- Land
- Buildings and Improvements
- Infrastructure or Improvements Other Than Buildings
- Vehicles
- Furniture
- Machinery and Equipment

b. Inventory Control: Each County Office is responsible for verification of all of its items required to be listed in the Fixed Asset System maintained by County Finance and for providing paperwork/documentation to the Finance Department when the asset is received.

c. Donated Assets: Each County Office is responsible for verification of all items donated to that Department and required to be listed in the Fixed Asset System (valued at \$5,000 or more). Further each

Office is responsible for providing paperwork/documentation to the Finance Department when such asset is received.

d. Insurance Proceeds: In order to comply with GASB regulations, all insurance payments will be processed by the County Finance Office and will be applied towards vehicle/equipment repairs when sufficient documentation/invoices are received from the department to justify the repair cost. If assets are considered impaired under GASB42 regulations and the impaired items will not be repaired or placed back into service, the insurance proceeds will be deposited into the Colleton Capital Fund 115 for future capital acquisitions of Colleton County unless the terms and conditions of the original funding source (Federal Asset Funds, grants, etc) require deposit of the insurance proceeds back to that particular funding source.

SECTION 6. RECEIPT, MANAGEMENT, AND REPORTING OF CASH:

a. Depositories option: The Council by resolution may elect to designate the banks to be used as checking depositories of County Funds through a bid procedure.

b. Timely deposit: All service charges, fees, fines, reimbursements, grant funds etc. received by County Offices shall be deposited with the County Treasurer as soon as possible after collection. All County Offices that collect funds on a daily basis shall reconcile receipts to funds received and submit funds to the Treasurer's Office by the following business day in the format as prescribed by the County Treasurer. Offices collecting less than \$200 on any single day may delay one business day. This policy does not apply where State law specifically provides authority for other actions to a specific official.

c. Bank Reconciliation: The Treasurer will record the County's cash receipts in accordance with the Chart of Accounts as authorized by County Council and as amended by the Finance Director. On or before the 15th day of each month, the Treasurer will provide the County Administrator's designee, the Finance Director, with the prior month's bank reconciliation recap for the County and other banking information on which revenue entries into the general ledger are to be based. These reports will be in a format as prescribed by the Finance Director and must contain sufficient detail to fully identify revenue and cash transfers for audit and reporting purposes, in accordance with State Law and GASB regulations. The Treasurer is responsible for reconciling bank accounts maintained in the Treasurer's Office in order to properly record revenues to the books of the County in accordance with the County's chart of accounts and properly allocating interest and all other funds to various funds and bank accounts as required by SC Law, and for properly segregating funds in accordance with SC Law so as to avoid any commingling of cash at all times. The Treasurer's Office is also responsible for maintaining sufficient funds on hand to cover due to/from balances from various funds to the General Fund to cover interfund transfer liabilities created during the payroll and accounts payable processes and is responsible for completing timely the transfer of funds to reimburse the General Fund, and for documenting all cash transactions in detail as required by GASB and audit standards. Significant additional costs, if any, related to bookkeeping functions within the Treasurer's Office such as bank reconciliations, revenue accruals, reversal of revenue accruals, preparation of various audit schedules and the reconciliation of due to/from account balances related to interfund transfers and tax collection transfers will be identified and billed separately by the County's Independent Auditors from the general and actual audit costs of the County.

d. Cash Accounting: As is required by SC State law, the Treasurer shall report to the County Administrator's designee, the Finance Director, by the 15th of every month, the complete and full nature of all monies, as well as all investments, tax levy distributions, and other cash movements. Such reports shall be in the form prescribed by the Finance Director and the Treasurer shall make available copies of bank reconciliations of each of the County bank accounts, copies of the monthly bank statements, copies of any brokerage account statements, and any other Treasurer's Office records which the Finance Director requires to ensure that the County's books are balanced and that transactions have been properly recorded. In addition, the County Treasurer's Office is responsible for annual external audit reporting of revenues to

the State Comptroller's Office and for providing the Finance Office and External Auditors with sufficient data to convert revenues from the cash basis of accounting to the modified accrual basis of accounting in order to ensure legal and annual audit compliance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) regulations, in particular GASB Statement No. 34 which requires revenue reporting on the modified accrual basis of accounting during the fiscal year and year-end conversion to accrual basis to produce Government-Wide Financial Statements. All monies collected by the Treasurer are designated for specific accounting funds established by this Ordinance and shall not be commingled. All interfund loans and transfers must be approved and executed in accordance with the provisions of this Ordinance.

e. NSF Check Management: All non-sufficient funds (NSF) checks related to the payment of vehicle or property taxes, which are returned to the Treasurer shall be handled timely and in accordance with State Law. Tax Receipts issued against the NSF check payment shall be voided in the County's Tax System the same day the NSF check is received, and a different receipt issued at a later date for any subsequent payment. If the funds are not redeemed in full by the taxpayer and the taxes become delinquent, that tax levy shall be immediately flagged as delinquent in the County's Tax System and, where appropriate under South Carolina Law, turned over to the Delinquent Tax Department for collection. The Treasurer is responsible for the proper handling of non-sufficient funds checks and for the proper reconciliation of NSF checks to the Colleton County Tax Levy Collection system and reports and for providing reconciled data to external auditors at the end of the fiscal year showing the proper handling of NSF checks received. All county offices will immediately void any receipts issued, so recording in any automated system tracking the payment or receipt, and proceed with collections of the amounts due and the NSF check charge established by the County. Additionally, no check may be "held" in any fashion at any time, to avoid NSF charges or receipt revocation.

f. Investments: All Funds clearly not needed for a period of ninety days or longer shall be invested by the Treasurer in accordance with SC Law in the highest yield, collateralized, interest bearing accounts, or County, State and United States short-term obligations, the SC LGIP, or any instruments specifically permitted by SC State Law, subject to maintaining sufficient cash balances to meet current and anticipated expenses and accruing obligations of the County. Interest earned by interest bearing accounts and investment income will be recorded to the applicable funds and reported monthly by the County Treasurer to the Finance Office for inclusion in the monthly financial reports. No funds will be invested in CD's whenever overnight investments are earning interest at a higher rate.

g. Title IV-D (Child Support Enforcement) Federal Funds: The County Administrator, Clerk of Court, and Sheriff are authorized to enter jointly into agreements with the South Carolina Department of Social Services for receipt of Title IV-D (Child Support Enforcement) Federal Funds. No single individual signature on these agreements will obligate the County to comply with the terms of the agreements in any manner or fashion.

h. New and Unbudgeted Revenues: In accordance with State Law, all non-budgeted revenues received during the year shall be routed through the Finance Office to be allocated to an appropriate revenue line item as determined and approved by the County Finance Director. If the dollar amount exceeds \$50,000, the budgeting of said funds will be established by Council Resolution, Ordinance or through the annual Budget Amendment Ordinance. The Finance Director will designate funds to the appropriate revenue line item and create corresponding expenditure line authorizations to enable expenditure by the designated office. Only under very limited circumstances, such as the refund for overpayment on a vendor account, reimbursements for travel, or short-term insurance claim settlements on replacements or repairs, will the Finance Director have the authority to approve the direct posting of income to an expenditure line item. (Additional grant procedures are referenced separately in this Ordinance.)

i. Delinquent Tax Collections: The Delinquent Tax Collector is responsible for reconciling monthly all bank accounts maintained by the Delinquent Tax Collector's Office in order to properly record revenues to the books of the County in accordance with the County's chart of accounts and properly allocating

interest and all other funds to various funds and bank accounts as required by SC Law, and for properly segregating funds in accordance with SC Law so as to avoid any commingling of cash at all times. Significant additional costs related to bookkeeping functions within the Delinquent Tax Collector's Office such as bank reconciliation's, revenue accruals, reversal of revenue accruals, preparation of various audit schedules and the reconciliation of delinquent tax collection transfers will be identified and billed separately by the County's Independent Auditors from the general and actual audit costs of the County. By the 15th of every month the Delinquent Tax Collector shall report to the County Administrator's designee, the Finance Director, the complete and full nature of all monies on hand, as well as all investments, tax levy distributions, and other cash transfers or movements, in the form determined by the Finance Director.

SECTION 7. DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS

a. General: All funds shall be disbursed only in accordance with appropriations herein, and in accordance with Colleton County Procurement Policies, Colleton County Financial Policies and Procedures, Colleton County Personnel Policy, Colleton County Administrative Directives and with state and federal laws and regulations. All continuing service contracts previously approved by County Council and within existing contract terms are hereby approved for vendor payment.

The County Administrator or his designee is authorized to approve Purchase Orders not to exceed the maximum amount defined by SC Code of Laws Title 11, Chapter 35 Section 11-35-1550 (1) for Small Purchases or budgeted State or GSA contracts and eligible purchases that meet or are less than the South Carolina State contract purchase amount for the current year. All purchasing limits described in the county purchasing code shall be increased by the Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index from the date of the inception of the code in January 2003 to May 2023. The Administrator may authorize designees for approval of Purchase Orders at such lower amounts as he deems appropriate.

The maintenance and repair of county facilities by the County Facilities Department will be exempt from purchasing procedures in the same manner as bridges, highways, roads, vehicle and road equipment. This exemption would apply to all maintenance and repair of county facilities that do not exceed \$50,000.

b. Warrant Required: The Treasurer shall disburse all grant and other County funds only pursuant to a warrant from the Colleton County Administrator in accordance with South Carolina State Law and this ordinance. The County Finance Director shall have checks prepared for each item listed on the warrant. The listing on the warrant will include the name of the payee, the amount of the payment, and the date of the payment. The warrant will be signed by the County Administrator or his designee and the County Finance Director, directing the Treasurer to disburse County funds pursuant to the warrant in accordance with the list therein. The Treasurer or the Treasurer's designee will sign the Finance Office copy of the warrant certifying that sufficient funds are on deposit and available to issue the checks authorized by said warrant.

c. Warrant and Check Processing: The Treasurer shall deposit sufficient authorized monies timely in each respective account to cover expenses as contained in the warrants and to cover interfund (due to/from) liabilities created through the accounts payable and payroll processes. The Treasurer shall assign the custody of the check-signing device to the Finance Director or their designee to prepare checks for each item on the warrant. The warrant cover sheet shall be made in duplicate, the original being kept by the Treasurer and the copy being kept by the Finance Office as a matter of record.

d. Payments to Vendors: The Finance Office shall deliver checks in payment of County expenditures to vendors. Vendors shall be paid by either (1) Delivery of such check by U.S. Mail or comparable postal service to the vendor, (2) County issued procurement or other virtual payment card, (3) Automated Clearing House (ACH) payment or (4) On a limited basis as in the case of many debt service payments, by wire transfer.

e. Treasurer Refunds: The Treasurer will maintain a refund account from which all property tax refunds shall be made. In addition, the Treasurer shall maintain sufficient records to provide detail regarding which taxing units should be charged for the refunds and make arrangement to recoup the funds appropriately as soon as possible.

f. Debt Service Payments: All County debt service fund payments shall be processed through the Finance Office by presentation of a warrant to the Treasurer for payment, which warrant should be initiated by the Treasurer if a payment notice is received in the Treasurer's Office. The County Treasurer is responsible for ensuring sufficient funds are on hand in appropriate accounts to maintain debt service requirements. The Treasurer is responsible for reporting the balance of debt service funds available to the County Administrator by the 15th of each month, to include any pending tax levy transfers.

g. Payments to Employees: The Finance Office shall be the only office of the county to process approved payroll, travel advances and reimbursements of travel and other approved and appropriated operating expenses to County employees on a bi-weekly basis or other basis as approved by Administration. Each payment will be processed as a distinct payment amount that is included on the employee's payroll voucher. Travel advances and reimbursements of travel and other approved and appropriated operating expense amounts will not be subject to tax or other withholding except as otherwise noted in Section 9e.

SECTION 8. ANNUAL FISCAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

a. Boards, Commissions, Agencies, and Institutions: All boards, commissions, agencies, and institutions receiving County funds shall make a full detailed annual fiscal report to the County Council at the end of the fiscal year. The County governing body, the County Administrator, or the Finance Office may require reports, estimates, and statistics from any County office as may be necessary in the preparation of annual budgets or supplemental appropriations. Prior year audits are required for acceptance of annual budget requests.

b. Alcohol & Drug Abuse Commission: In accordance with the Colleton County Code of Ordinances, as amended, the Alcohol & Drug Abuse Commission is considered a Component Unit of the County and shall be included in the Annual Audited Financial Statements of the County. In the case of the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission, Colleton County Council hereby directs the Finance Director to impose a 1% surcharge to the total outstanding payroll reimbursement due to the County, to be effective sixty (60) days after the date of the payroll billing submission from the County Finance Office to the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission. Any variances in the amount paid verses the actual billing related to payroll must be submitted in writing to the County Finance Director prior to the receipt of funds from the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission or the variance will be considered outstanding for the purposes of this Ordinance and the surcharge. This surcharge will be deducted from the Direct Aid line item on an ongoing basis, and in future budget years until paid in full.

c. Solicitor's Office: Pursuant to a Memorandum of Understanding between the Fourteenth Circuit Solicitor's Office and Colleton County, the County has agreed to process the Solicitor's Office payroll in accordance with the County's normal procedures and to act as the insurance benefits administrator for the employees of that Office. All employees of the Office are considered political appointees and are not subject to the County's policies, rules, or procedures other than those directly related to the manner of payroll processing and benefits administration. Any interest collected on said monies shall be the property of the County and shall be used to offset the administrative costs associated with the processing of payroll and benefits administration.

d. Library: Colleton County Memorial Library is considered a component unit of the County and shall be included in annual audited financial statements of the County.

e. Fire Rescue: Colleton County Fire Rescue is considered a component unit of the County and shall be included in annual audited financial statements of the County

SECTION 9. COMPENSATION AND CLASSIFICATION PLAN AND PERSONNEL

a. General: All County Departments, Offices, designated Agencies, and Component Units are included in the County Class and Compensation Plan administered by consultants. Neither the County Administrator nor any office head may establish or fund any new position without the knowledge and consent of County Council except that the County Administrator may approve temporary personnel based on County needs and available funding.

b. Compensable Accruals: When hourly employees who have accrued compensatory time leave County employment, they shall be paid for this time from the office's regular salary funds. The position the employee is vacating shall be frozen until the amount of money to be paid for the compensatory time of the terminating employee has been paid out of the budgeted funds in that Office. If sufficient funds are clearly available in the Office budget to offset the compensatory time expense and to cover future payrolls for the Office, the position need not be frozen. Neither accrued compensatory time nor any other form of leave may be used in conjunction with worker's compensation benefits except during the mandatory waiting period. In no event shall the aggregate total of compensation and annual leave payments at separation exceed the maximum legally accruable total of compensatory time.

c. Maximum Carry-Over of Leave Accruals: The maximum carry-over of vacation time and sick time calculations are based on a calendar year (December 31st) calculation date each year.

d. Effective Date of Personnel Action Requests (PARs): Personnel actions involving salary adjustments generally shall be effective the first day of the first pay period following approval by the Deputy County Administrator.

e. General Pay Adjustments: Pay adjustments for employees covered by S-1 and S-2 legislation as mandated by State law and adjustments based on position reevaluations by independent consultants or employment contract adjustments by Colleton County Council are included. In the case of rounding or other minor variances caused by calculation nuances subject to interpretation, the County Administrator shall be the final authority in determining the actual salary or hourly wage in accordance with and within appropriations of County Council. All existing and new employment agreements for all eligible staff, including all salary and benefits contained in the agreements remain in effect with the approval of this ordinance. All pay adjustments in this budget, unless specifically stated otherwise, are effective June 30, 2025 as processed and paid on July 18, 2025.

f. Travel: When employees are required to travel on official business for a duration of more than one business day and at a minimum of 60 miles from the employee's usual place of work, the County pays reasonable amounts for transportation (economy airline tickets and standard vehicle rental), meals, and lodging (standard hotel room rates) in accordance with the County's Personnel Policies, Administrative Directives, and this ordinance. When an office has County Vehicles assigned to it or a County Pool Vehicle is available, employees should utilize a County Vehicle as long as this use does not impede County Operations. If the employee's personal vehicle is utilized with prior approval of County Administration, the employee shall be reimbursed at a rate of fifty-five (.55) cents per mile traveled. Meal expenses may not exceed \$44.00 per calendar day for in-state travel or \$58.00 for out-of-state travel. Per Diem meal reimbursement is only provided when an overnight stay at the conference or business destination is required, with no per diem meal reimbursement provided on travel days. Without exception, County Policy provides no per diem for any travel within the County, including no meal reimbursements within the County.

For a Law Enforcement employee transporting a prisoner, the employee will be reimbursed at per diem rates for his own meal at any food stop mandated by statute on behalf of the prisoner. In all other cases,

Law Enforcement employees shall be required to follow the regular requirements for reimbursement of meal expenses provided for other County employees.

There is no provision for advance per diems to the individual for Hotel Reservations, Airline Tickets, Conference/Seminar registration costs or any other costs directly related to travel; all such costs will normally be paid directly to the vendor providing the service. Travel advances to the employee for meals shall not include per diem for any partial days. Travel advances to employees will not be paid more than two weeks in advance and full accounting of the funds must be sent to Finance no later than fifteen (15) days after the dates of travel or the advanced funds will be withheld from the employees next scheduled payroll check.

Requests for reimbursements must be presented within fifteen (15) days of return from the trip. Original, dated, detailed receipts must accompany all travel reimbursement requests; limited exceptions to this policy will be allowed as approved by County Administration when sufficient reason is provided. In addition to detailed receipts, documentation must be provided to substantiate the business connection as outlined in Section 12.4A(2) of the Colleton County Personnel Policy. Where exceptions are considered taxable income under IRS regulations, the reimbursed funds will be processed through the payroll system as taxable income. Under no circumstances shall the County reimburse any persons eligible for travel reimbursement by the County for alcoholic beverages, valet parking fees, first class airline tickets, personal purchases of any kind not specifically authorized in the personnel policy, or any amounts for which appropriated funds are not available or where such reimbursement would be a violation of the State Ethics Laws and regulations.

g. Credit Cards and Accounts: The Colleton County Procurement office has a purchasing/procurement card program with established controls and procedures, credit cards which obligate Colleton County are expressly not permitted. Credit accounts in the name of the County must be forwarded to the County Finance Office which is responsible for establishing credit accounts with vendors upon written approval by the County Administrator or the Finance Director. The County Finance Department is also responsible for the control and monitoring of all credit accounts in the County's name, verification of goods received and reconciling of such credit purchases to invoices received. Accounts not established in accordance with this ordinance are the sole responsibility of the initiating person, and the County shall not be liable or obligated to make payment on behalf of the initiator or the person using the account.

h. Assistance to Retirees: Persons retiring after the effective date of this ordinance may be eligible to receive for this year only, up to 50% of the cost of their individual health/dental insurance purchased through the SC State health insurance program this year provided that:

- (1) The person is employed by Colleton County at the time of his/her retirement, is at least 62 years of age, and is covered at that time under Colleton County's health/dental insurance program; and
- (2) The employee had twenty years of qualifying, full-time employment with Colleton County prior to the retirement; and
- (3) The employee is retiring under the South Carolina Retirement System or the South Carolina Police Retirement System.
- (4) The specified Council appropriation made by and within this ordinance for said assistance is sufficient to fund the full 50% of all costs of all those eligible for and receiving assistance under this provision for this fiscal year. This retiree assistance is for this year only and remains subject to appropriation by County Council.
- (5) Any person, who retires from County employment meeting all the requirements except the age requirement, will be eligible for this funded percentage of cost assistance upon reaching the age of 62.

i. County Attorney: The County Attorney may represent all agencies, boards, and officials in Colleton County that are employees of the County and subject to the budgetary controls of the County Council.

Said attorney shall not represent any other organization, agency, or individual in any matter coming before the County Council. Specialized counsel may be retained when such representation is deemed to be in the best interests of the County.

j. Fire and Rescue: Any volunteer response cost assistance program must be based on specific written procedures and criteria adopted by the Fire Commission and approved by the County Council. Appropriations for all medical and firefighting positions in Fire-Rescue are for dual-certified positions only. Non-dual-certified candidates with no prior service with Colleton County may be hired as PRN and underslotted in an open position for up to one year, during which time dual certification must be achieved to be eligible for retention and transfer into the regular position status.

k. Family Medical Leave Act: Personnel will be removed from the County payroll when the initial FMLA mandated leave period is exhausted, before the extension period begins.

l. Drug Testing: Any candidate selected for employment with Colleton County shall be drug tested prior to being placed on any payroll processed by the County. Failure to report for the initial drug test scheduled by Human Resources shall result in discontinuation of any further consideration of the candidate.

m. Position Re-evaluations: Department Heads and Elected Officials, who wish to submit positions within their department for evaluation for Council consideration during the next fiscal year's budget process, must complete and deliver to the Finance Director the job descriptions or Comprehensive Position Questionnaires no later than March 31st in order that the consultant's evaluation can be completed and recommendations presented to Council with the Final Reading of the Budget Ordinance.

n. Thirty-Year Service Recognition Awards: As provided in the Personnel Policy Manual, any regular full-time employee who achieves thirty continuous years of service in Colleton County government shall receive a \$5,000 Service Recognition Award. All such awards shall be paid contingent upon budget appropriation, and such payment shall be scheduled following the employee's thirty-year anniversary.

o. Election Commission Stipends: In accordance with IRS regulations, Election Commission Stipends will be processed through the Colleton County Payroll System quarterly in arrears based on funding received from the South Carolina Elections Commission. The Colleton County Voter Registration/Elections Office must provide to County Human Resources and Finance a detailed quarterly list with the name, address, and term in office for each Election Commissioner appointed in accordance with Section 7-5-10 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended. Each Commissioner must complete all required payroll-record paperwork through the County Human Resources Office, including forms for tax withholdings, retirement election, etc., before payments can be issued. In addition, prior to payment processing, the County Treasurer must validate receipt of stipend revenue from the State Elections Commission.

p. Furlough: In the event that the economic situation creates a revenue shortfall for the County, the County Administrator is hereby authorized to institute a furlough program in the manner and for the length of time, up to fifteen days, deemed to be in the best interest of the County. Funds from the payroll and benefits account line items unexpended as a result of such furlough may be transferred at the County Administrator's discretion to cover essential operations.

SECTION 10. INDEPENDENT AUDIT

An independent annual audit of all financial records and transactions of the County shall be made by a Certified Public Accountant or firm of public accountants with no personal interest, direct or indirect in the fiscal affairs of the government of Colleton County or any of its officers. The County Council may, without requiring competitive bids, designate such accountant or firm. Unless included in the annual

County audit, an annual audit of each county agency, board, bureau, or commission of Colleton County, funded in whole or in part by County funds, shall be made. Copies of the annual County audit shall be available on the County website and provided for Colleton County Administration and every member of the County governing body.

SECTION 11. FEES AND CHARGES

a. Disposition of Collections: All taxes, fees, charges, and assessments not otherwise allocated specifically by this ordinance with the supporting detail incorporated herein by reference or by law shall be deposited in the Colleton County general fund with other general fund revenues. All such taxes, fees, charges, and assessments shall be appropriated and allocated by the Colleton County Council in the same manner as other general revenues. No such taxes, fees, charges, or assessments shall be paid to or shall accrue to the personal benefit of any officer or employee of Colleton County. Use of fees, fines, and charges to reimburse expenditure budget line items through deposit credits is prohibited. The following fees are hereby established and continued hereafter until otherwise discontinued by action of County Council by ordinance:

b. Fee Changes: The following fee changes are included in the respective fund appropriations.

- (1) Roads and Bridges driveway culvert installation fees are budgeted at the most recent State of South Carolina contracted cost plus applicable sales tax per foot for both concrete and plastic pipes.
- (2) GIS fees for custom mapping and services sets the per hour charge of \$60.00 for GIS Analysis labor and the per hour charge of \$60.00 for labor and servicing.
- (3) Register of Deeds sets the copy charge per page at \$0.75
- (4) Planning and Development fee changes are as follows:

(5) Type of Fee	Fee beginning July 1, 2025
Building Permit Fees – Construction Valuation	
\$1.00 - \$2,000.00	\$69.00
\$2,001.00 - \$3,000.00	\$69.00-\$77.99
\$3,001.00 - \$4,000.00	\$77.99-\$86.99
\$4,001.00 - \$5,000.00	\$86.99-\$95.99
\$5,001.00 - \$6,000.00	\$95.99-\$104.99
\$6,001.00 - \$7,000.00	\$104.99-\$113.99
\$7,001.00 - \$8,000.00	\$113.99-\$122.99
\$8,001.00 - \$9,000.00	\$122.99-\$131.99
\$9,001.00 - \$10,000.00	\$131.99-\$140.99
\$10,001.00 - \$11,000.00	\$140.99-\$149.99
\$11,001.00 - \$12,000.00	\$149.99-\$158.99

\$12,001.00 - \$13,000.00	\$158.99-\$167.99
\$13,001.00 - \$14,000.00	\$167.99-\$176.99
\$14,001.00 - \$15,000.00	\$176.99-\$185.99
\$15,001.00 - \$16,000.00	\$185.99-\$194.99
\$16,001.00 - \$17,000.00	\$194.99-\$203.99
\$17,001.00 - \$18,000.00	\$203.99-\$212.99
\$18,001.00 - \$19,000.00	\$212.99-\$221.99
\$19,001.00 - \$20,000.00	\$221.99-\$230.99
\$20,001.00 - \$21,000.00	\$230.99-\$239.99
\$21,001.00 - \$22,000.00	\$239.99-\$248.99
\$22,001.00 - \$23,000.00	\$248.99-\$257.99
\$23,001.00 - \$24,000.00	\$257.99-\$266.99
\$24,001.00 - \$25,000.00	\$266.99-\$275.99
\$25,001.00 - \$26,000.00	\$275.99-\$284.99
\$26,001.00 - \$27,000.00	\$284.99-\$293.99
\$27,001.00 - \$28,000.00	\$293.99-\$302.99
\$28,001.00 - \$29,000.00	\$302.99-\$311.99
\$29,001.00 - \$30,000.00	\$311.99-\$320.99
\$30,001.00 - \$31,000.00	\$320.99-\$329.99
\$31,001.00 - \$32,000.00	\$329.99-\$338.99
\$32,001.00 - \$33,000.00	\$338.99-\$347.99
\$33,001.00 - \$34,000.00	\$347.99-\$356.99
\$34,001.00 - \$35,000.00	\$356.99-\$365.99
\$35,001.00 - \$36,000.00	\$365.99-\$374.99
\$36,001.00 - \$37,000.00	\$374.99-\$383.99
\$37,001.00 - \$38,000.00	\$383.99-\$392.99
\$38,001.00 - \$39,000.00	\$392.99-\$401.99
\$39,001.00 - \$40,000.00	\$401.99-\$410.99

\$40,001.00 - \$100,000.00	\$410.99-\$830.98
\$100,001.00 - \$500,000.00	\$830.98-\$2,830.97
\$500,001.00 - \$1,000,000.00	\$2,830.97-\$4,330.97
\$1,000,001.00 - \$5,000,000.00	\$4,330.97-\$12,330.97
\$5,000,001.00 and Over	\$12,330.97+\$1.00/\$1,000.00
Miscellaneous Permit/License Fees	
Re-inspection Fee	\$75.00
Electrical Service Fee – 100 amp/200 amp	\$50.00/\$60.00
Residential Zoning Permit Fee	\$60.00
Non-residential Zoning Permit Fee	\$95.00
Site Work only Permit Fee	Using Building Permit Valuation Factor
Sign Permit Fee (Per Sign Face)	Using Building Permit Valuation Factor
Demolition Permit Fee	\$100 Residential/\$200.00 Commercial
Gas Permit Fee	\$75.00
Manufactured Home Permit Fee	\$200.00
Travel Trailer/ Camper/ RV Initial and Annual License Fee	\$200.00
Building Investigation Fee	\$75.00
Electrical Investigation Fee	\$75.00
Gas Pressure Test Fee	\$75.00
Zoning Verification Letter	\$50.00
Manufactured Home De-title Letter and Permanent Home Status Letter	\$50.00
Flood Zone Review Fee (1 lot Residential)	\$50.00
Flood Zone Review Fee (Subdivision and Commercial)	\$50.00+\$25.00 per lot

Appeals, Variances & Zoning Amendments	
Construction Appeals	\$200.00
Zoning Special Exceptions	\$250.00
Zoning Variances	\$250.00
Rezoning Amendments	\$250.00
Subdivision Plats	
Preliminary Plat Administrative Fee	\$475.00
Final Plat Administrative Fee	\$400.00
Photocopy Fees	
Letter Size Documents/Page	\$0.75/Sht.
Legal Size Documents/Page	\$0.75/Sht.
Zoning Regulations	\$50.00
Land Development Regulations	\$50.00
County Comprehensive Plan	\$50.00

c. Payment by Credit Card: A Credit Card Convenience Charge of 2.35% is necessary to fully offset the costs to the County for credit card payments and processing, and is hereby directed to be assessed and collected by the County Treasurer in accordance with applicable State Laws, with all related collections and costs to be reported specifically to Finance to be included in the monthly financial reports.

d. Museum and Recreation Department: The Colleton County Museum, and Recreation Department are authorized to maintain cash drawers and petty cash accounts. An accounting of the monies in each account will be conducted on the last business day of each month and signed by the director or their designee attesting to the accuracy of the accounting. A copy will be forwarded to the Finance office no later than 5 calendar days of the month following. These accounts are subject to unannounced internal audits by the Finance Office, and its inclusion in the annual County external audit is required.

e. Library Petty Cash Accounts: The Colleton County Library is authorized to maintain an account for donations and petty cash of less than \$1,000. An accounting of the monies in this account, including a copy of the monthly bank reconciliation, is to be provided to the Finance Office by the 15th of each month for the prior month. This fund is subject to unannounced internal audits by the Finance Office, and its inclusion in the annual County external audit is required. The Library is responsible for the proper accounting and reconciliation of the bank account.

f. Sheriff Federal Asset Accounts: The Colleton County Sheriff's Office is authorized to maintain account(s) as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200 Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards for the accounting of Federal Asset/Seizure Funds. An accounting of the monies in this account, including a copy of the monthly bank reconciliation, is to be provided to the Finance Office by the 15th of each month for the prior month. This accounting fund is subject to unannounced internal audits by External Auditors in order to ensure compliance with Federal A-133 reporting and for inclusion of this information in the annual County external audit report as required by law. Any additional audit charges related to Federal Asset account(s) will be billed separately to the Sheriff's Office.

g. Fire and Rescue Fire Insurance Billing: The Colleton County Fire Rescue Commission is authorized to complete and submit where applicable insurance company billings following a response to a structure fire, car fire, auto accident, extrication, establishment of Helicopter Landing Zone, HazMat response, medical first response and rescue in accordance with specific written procedures developed and adopted by the Fire Commission and approved by the County Council. Insurance payments received shall be utilized for provision of fire/rescue service.

SECTION 12. DEBT COLLECTION

a. Setoff Debt: Colleton County is hereby authorized to participate in the Setoff Debt Program through the South Carolina Association of Counties on an annual basis as approved by the Colleton County Administrator, who is authorized to execute all documentation and direct all designations of personnel participating as necessary.

b. Solid Waste and Fire-Rescue Services: County Council approval is required to write off any current debt related to Fire-Rescue Services in connection with the provision of ambulance services or to Solid Waste in connection with the provision of waste disposal. The County Administrator is authorized to write off debts which are no longer collectible under SC State Law due to related statute of limitations or judicial decision. The Solid Waste Director and Fire-Rescue Services Director are responsible for providing detailed debt status information to the Finance Director before June 30th each fiscal year for inclusion in the 3rd Reading of the Annual Budget Amendment Ordinance.

SECTION 13. EDISTO AREA FIRE SERVICES CONTRACT

The Chairman of County Council is authorized to execute a contract, as appropriated herein, with the Town of Edisto Beach for the provision of fire protection services for those portions of Edisto Island falling within the unincorporated area of Colleton County or within the Town of Edisto Beach, subject to appropriations herein and/or in the annual budget of the Town of Edisto Beach and subject to the approval of the contract by the County Attorney.

SECTION 14. NO SOLICITATION ON COUNTY PROPERTY

No vendors or solicitors may display, sell, or solicit for the purpose of selling to employees or the public any goods, wares, or services within County offices or on County property unless specifically authorized by County Council or in accordance with appropriately designated uses, as in the case of the Recreation Center, the Museum/Farmers Market, and the Edisto Beach Education and Civic Center facilities. No insurance agents, including representatives from agencies providing coverage through payroll deduction, may solicit from, sell to, visit, or contact County employees in any manner during work hours or in the work place. No vendors or solicitors may post or hand out within County offices or on County property to employees or the public any materials for the purpose of selling or soliciting any goods, wares, or services unless specifically authorized by County Council or in accordance with appropriate designated uses. Anyone found guilty of violating this Section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be subject to a fine not to exceed \$500 per incident, or less than \$100 per incident. Such violators shall be ticketed

by a Sheriff's Deputy or Code Enforcement Officer and tried in Magistrate's Court. Only open enrollment meetings schedule by Human Resources and authorized in writing shall be permitted, and such meetings shall be restricted to the time, place, and date indicated by the Human Resources Manager.

SECTION 15. CONTRACTING AND FUNDS OR OTHER COMMITMENTS

Except where otherwise designated by County Council, only the County Administrator (or the County Administrator's designee) may obligate the county in any manner through signature on contracts, purchase orders, or other such agreements or documents as an authorized agent.

SECTION 16. AGRICULTURAL ASSESSMENT EXTENSION PROCESS – PRIVATE CITIZENS

A fixed Agricultural Assessment Extension Policy for private citizens is hereby authorized. Any private citizen may apply for agricultural assessment for no more than two tax years prior to the then current tax year. Businesses, including partnerships, corporations, etc., are not eligible to receive consideration under this fixed policy, but must continue to make application to Council demonstrating to Council's satisfaction that the business had reasonable cause for not filing timely. The County Administrator shall administer the program with forms and procedures as necessary in accordance with South Carolina Law.

SECTION 17. VEHICLES – OFFICIAL COUNTY FLEET RECORD

An authorized list of all County-owned vehicles providing make, model, year, serial and tag numbers, and assigned department/office shall be established as the official County Fleet Record "CFR" and shall be approved by County Council Resolution. Only vehicles included in the official County Fleet Record shall be insured and maintained by the County. The approval by Administration shall be required to place any additional vehicles in the County Fleet Record. Without such authorization, no vehicle shall be added to the CFR or to the County's insurance policies except where a currently insured vehicle is being removed from same. County owned vehicles removed from the CFR and the insurance policies must be surplus, through Council resolution if county owned and placed for sale according to County Purchasing Policy.

SECTION 18. JUROR PAY

Citizens selected for Jury duty within the Colleton County Court System shall be paid a flat rate of \$20.00 per day for those days when appearance in Court is required. No mileage or other such payment shall be made.

SECTION 19. FIRE-RESCUE, S.C. MEDICAID TRADING PARTNER AGREEMENT

The County Administrator is authorized to execute the annual contract between South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) and Colleton County on behalf of the Fire-Rescue Commission to comply with HIPAA requirements for electronic billing.

SECTION 20. ALTERATIONS TO COUNTY FACILITIES

Any county owned or maintained facility, including facilities registered on the national register of historical places cannot be altered inside or outside without submitting a detailed alteration plan to the Facilities Management Department for their consideration and approval. Facility alteration plans that are approved by the Facilities Management Department would then require approval by Administration before being undertaken. Facility alterations include painting, adding and removing walls, replacement of flooring or other built-in structures, replacing or removing window coverings and any other changes that would alter the inside or outside appearance of the facility.

SECTION 21. TRANSFER AND DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY

The property located at 3002 Lee Street in Edisto Island, South Carolina 29438, having 354-12-00-137.000 is to be transferred from Colleton County Economic Development One, Inc. to Colleton County and will be subject to sale at the convenience of the County. The transfer shall be a conveyance in fee simple for five dollars. The County Administrator is hereby authorized to sign all deeds, contracts and other documents necessary to affect this transfer and sale.

SECTION 22. FLEXIBILITY PROVISIO

Colleton County hereby provides that it may reduce its support to any outside direct assistance payments and/or State mandated programs or requirements by up to a percentage equal to the percentage of reduction in the actual amount appropriated to the Local Government Fund as compared to the amount required to be appropriated pursuant to Section 6-27-30 of the State Code of Laws, and in accordance with the State Flexibility Proviso.

SECTION 23.

All provisions in other County Ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 24.

If any provision of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of the Ordinance, which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end, the provisions of this Ordinance are severable.

SECTION 25. At the time this was passed, the following Elected Officials were in office for Colleton County:

Official	Seat
Bubba Trippe	Council Seat at Large
Scott Biering	Council Seat #2 Eastern District
Phillip M. Taylor, Sr.	Council Seat #3 Eastern District
Steven D. Murdaugh	Council Seat #4 Western District
Johnny Frank	Council Seat #5 Western District
Jeff Slocum	Auditor
Richard Harvey	Coroner
Gary Hale	Clerk of Court
Ceth Utsey	Probate Judge
Guerry Hill	Sheriff
Becky S. Hill	Treasurer

This Ordinance shall become effective on July 1, 2025.

[Signature Page to Follow]

ATTEST:

SIGNED:

Danielle Murdaugh, Council Clerk

Scott Biering, Chairman

COUNCIL VOTE:
OPPOSED:

Approved as to Form
Sean P. Thornton, County Attorney

Sponsor(s)	: County Council
Adopted	: May 6, 2024
Committee Referral	: N/A
Committee Consideration Date	: N/A
Committee Recommendation	: N/A

RESOLUTION NO. 25-R-26

COUNCIL-ADMINISTRATOR FORM OF GOVERNMENT FOR COLLETON COUNTY

[A Resolution to Authorize Acceptance and Budgeting of Various Grants FY25-26.]

WHEREAS:

1. The County Budget Ordinance requires a Resolution to record all non-budgeted revenues and non-budgeted grant revenues; and
2. Colleton County Animal Services is the Office of Primary Responsibility (OPR) related to the receipt of non-budgeted income for FY25-26 received from Petco Love's Animal Welfare Organization to be used for lifesavings purposes in the amount of \$50,000.00.
3. The Colleton County Fire-Rescue Emergency Management Division is the Office of Primary Responsibility (OPR) related to the receipt of non-budgeted income for FY25-26 received from the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division for the Colleton County Emergency Operations Center in the amount of \$637,195.00.
4. The Colleton County Economic Development Department is the Office of Primary Responsibility (OPR) related to the receipt of non-budgeted income for FY25-26 received from the Savannah River Site Litigation Settlement Fund for the Colleton County Mega Site in the amount of \$1,387,932.00

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COLLETON COUNTY COUNCIL DULY ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. County Council hereby authorizes the designation of appropriate general ledger accounts to record revenues and expenditures in the following funds for the grant and unbudgeted revenue for FY25-26 as listed:
 - a. Fund 120 – Special Revenue Fund; Petco Love's Animal Welfare Organization; Grant # G-2407-59182; \$50,000.00 for lifesaving purposes.
 - b. Fund 120 – Special Revenue Fund; South Carolina Law Enforcement Division; Grant # 24EOCGP03; \$637,195. for the Colleton County Emergency Operations Center; Fund 143-CPST Construction Fund will be the match funding.
 - c. Fund 120 – Special Revenue Fund; Savannah River Site Litigation Settlement Funds; \$1,387,932.00; Colleton County Mega Site
2. The above listed OPRs (Offices of Primary Responsibility) are responsible for preparing any external reports related to said funds, complying with grant terms and conditions, coordinating reimbursement requests with the Finance Department in addition to being the

responsible parties for providing copies of external reports to the Finance Office, grant auditors, and to external auditors at the end of FY25 as requested for this grant/non-budgeted revenue received.

ATTEST:

SIGNED:

Danielle Murdaugh, Council Clerk

Scott Biering, Chairman

COUNCIL VOTE:
OPPOSED:

Sponsor(s) : County Council
Adopted : May 6, 2025
Committee Referral : N/A
Committee Consideration Date : N/A
Committee Recommendation : N/A

RESOLUTION NO. 25-R-27

COUNCIL-ADMINISTRATOR FORM OF GOVERNMENT FOR COLLETON COUNTY

[A Resolution to Declare Surplus Equipment and to Authorize the Sale or Donate in Accordance with County Policy.]

WHEREAS:

1. The Solid Waste department has evaluated equipment, and deemed it to be no longer suitable for County operations; and
2. The Colleton County Fire-Rescue department has evaluated equipment, and deemed it to be no longer suitable for County operations due to their condition and age; and
3. It is recommended that Council declare said equipment surplus and authorize their sale or trade on upgraded equipment or contractual arrangements related to the equipment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COLLETON COUNTY COUNCIL DULY ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. The following equipment, submitted by the Solid Waste department, is hereby declared surplus to the needs of the County.

Description	Serial Number
2008 Summit Walking Floor Trailer-Fleet Unit 7103	1S8AL482280011906
Manac Walking Floor Trailer-Fleet Unit 7300	2M5321137726085708
2002 Fabrex Walking Floor Trailer-Fleet Unit 7301	2A9SWF8B2YT053131
2014 Summit Walking Floor Trailer-Fleet Unit 7310	1S8AL4826E0012584

2. The following equipment, submitted by the Colleton County Fire-Rescue department, is hereby declared surplus to the needs of the County.

Description	Serial Number
2007 International-Wheeled Coach Fleet #3412/106	1HTMNAALX7H454031
2010 International-Wheeled Coach Fleet #3416/90	1HTMNAAL9AH272425

- a) A former Colleton County Firefighter-Paramedic who is now teaching at Lawson State Community College in Birmingham, AL has expressed interest in obtaining an old ambulance to be used to educate EMT/Paramedic students at the College and the College

has a grant to transport the ambulance to Alabama for the school's use; and has requested Fleet# 3416/2010 International-Wheeled Coach.

- b) An equally aged Stryker Stretcher that has been removed from services will be included with each ambulance.
- 3. Said equipment shall be placed for sale or for trade on upgraded equipment or contractual arrangements related to the equipment.

ATTEST:

SIGNED:

Danielle Murdaugh, Council Clerk

Scott Biering, Chairman

COUNCIL VOTE:

OPPOSED:

Sponsor(s)	: County Council
Adopted	: May 6, 2025
Committee Referral	: N/A
Committee Consideration Date	: N/A
Committee Recommendation	: N/A

RESOLUTION NO. 25-R-28

COUNCIL-ADMINISTRATOR FORM OF GOVERNMENT FOR COLLETON COUNTY

[A Resolution to Amend County Council Agenda Order of Business]

WHEREAS:

1. County Council has deemed it in the best interest of the residents of Colleton County that the order of business at Colleton County Council meetings should retain more flexibility to accommodate the public in the most efficient manner possible; and
2. The Colleton County Order of Business is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - i. Call to order.
 - ii. Roll Call
 - iii. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.
 - iv. Approval of Minutes
 - v. Awards and Recognitions.
 - vi. Appearances and Public Presentations.
 - vii. Public Comments
 - viii. Administrative Briefing
 - ix. Public Hearing
 - x. Old business
 - xi. New business
 - xii. Items for information and the public record
 - xiii. Council time
 - xiv. Executive session (legal, contractual, or personnel)
 - xv. Items discussed in Executive Session
 - xvi. Adjournment
 - xvii. Informal Meeting of the Whole

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COLLETON COUNTY COUNCIL DULY ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. County Council hereby approves the change in the Order of Business going forward, shall Council decide to make an alteration a new Resolution will have to be drafted entailing the new Order of Business agreed upon by Council.

[Signature Page to Follow]

ATTEST:

SIGNED:

Danielle Murdaugh, Council Clerk

Scott Biering, Chairman

COUNCIL VOTE:
OPPOSED:

Sponsor(s)	: County Council
Adopted	: May 6, 2025
Committee Referral	: N/A
Committee Consideration Date	: N/A
Committee Recommendation	: N/A

RESOLUTION NO. 25-R-29

COUNCIL-ADMINISTRATOR FORM OF GOVERNMENT FOR COLLETON COUNTY

[To Recognize and Honor the late Miss Emma Mackenzie Lake by Naming the Intersection of Highway 15 and Pleasant Grove Road in Colleton County, South Carolina, “Emma Mackenzie Lake Intersection” and Having Erected Appropriate Markers or Signage at the Section of the Intersection Containing the Designation]

WHEREAS, Miss Emma M. Lake known to close family and friends as "Empyschwoop", the daughter of Tamara Michelle Crosby and Brantley Allan Lake and was born on the 9th day of July in 2015, in Charleston, South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Miss Emma M. Lake was a member of Great Swamp Baptist Church, where she was baptized in 2023. Emma was born with farm life in her blood, and loved every aspect of living on the farm especially her goats; and

WHEREAS, Miss Emma M. Lake loved showing her goats at goat shows with her best friend Miss Lacy Wiggins; they loved winning those first prize ribbons. Miss Lacy Wiggins was a great part of the Lake family, it was often that you would not find one without the other. Emma brought immeasurable joy, laughter, and light into the lives of all who knew her; and

WHEREAS, On September 28, 2024 on her way home from a goat show, Miss Emma M. Lake was killed by a drunk driver at the intersection of Highway 15 and Pleasant Grove Road. Emma’s passing was a devastating loss to many, her bright smile, kind heart, curious spirit touched everyone around her, her giggles could fill a room with happiness; and

WHEREAS, This dedication is not only a way to honor Miss Emma Mackenzie Lake’s legacy but also a reminder of the serious consequences of drinking and driving. By designating the intersection of Highway 15 and Pleasant Grove Road in her name, we can raise awareness about DUI laws and the impact of reckless decisions on families and communities; and

WHEREAS, it would be fitting and proper to pay tribute to a precious daughter by naming the intersection of Highway 15 and Pleasant Grove Road “Emma Mackenzie Lake Intersection” in her honor.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by Colleton County Council, duly assembled that County Council hereby recognizes and honors the late Miss Emma Mackenzie Lake by naming the intersection of Highway 15 and Pleasant Grove Road in Colleton County, South Carolina, “Emma

Mackenzie Lake Intersection” and Having Erected Appropriate Markers or Signage at the Section of the Intersection Containing the Designation.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to the Department of Transportation and the family of Miss Emma Mackenzie Lake.

ATTEST:

SIGNED:

Danielle Murdaugh, Council Clerk

Scott Biering, Chairman

COUNCIL VOTE:
OPPOSED:

Sponsor(s)	: County Council
Adopted	: May 6, 2025
Committee Referral	: N/A
Committee Consideration Date	: N/A
Committee Recommendation	: N/A

RESOLUTION NO. 25-R-30

COUNCIL-ADMINISTRATOR FORM OF GOVERNMENT FOR COLLETON COUNTY

[A Resolution to Endorse the 2025 Community Development Block Grant, Community Enrichment Application for the Colleton County – New Well/Well Upgrade Project and Funds for the 10% Local Match for the Grant from the City of Walterboro.]

WHEREAS:

1. The need to address quality of life issues for the community in Colleton County, and addressing the concerns and issues of LMI residents is a priority for Colleton County and the City of Walterboro, upgrades to the water system have been identified as a priority community need for Colleton County and the City of Walterboro; and
2. The Colleton County wishes to address this need by making application to the South Carolina Department of Commerce, Grants Administration for Community Infrastructure Funds; and
3. The completion of this project would benefit the residents in Colleton County, qualify as having low-to-moderate incomes.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COLLETON COUNTY COUNCIL DULY ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. County Council hereby endorses the New Well/Well Upgrade project because it will greatly improve the quality of life for the residents in Colleton County.
2. The Administrator shall be and is authorized to prepare and submit a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Community Enrichment Application for the Colleton County – New Well/Well Upgrade Project.
3. The City of Walterboro has agreed to provide the funds for the matching commitment in the amount of 10% of the grant as required by the Community Development Block Grant Program. This Resolution is contingent upon the approved Resolution by City of Walterboro for the matching funds needed on the New Well/Well Upgrade Project.
4. The City of Walterboro will own and operate the water system.

[Signature page to follow]

ATTEST:

SIGNED:

Danielle Murdaugh, Council Clerk

Scott Biering, Chairman

COUNCIL VOTE:
OPPOSED:

Sponsor(s)	: County Council
Adopted	: May 6, 2025
Committee Referral	: N/A
Committee Consideration Date	: N/A
Committee Recommendation	: N/A

RESOLUTION NO. 25-R-31

COUNCIL-ADMINISTRATOR FORM OF GOVERNMENT FOR COLLETON COUNTY

[A Resolution to Approve the Purchase of a Volvo Articulated Haul Truck for the Solid Waste C&D Landfill.]

WHEREAS:

1. The Solid Waste Department has located a suitable used 2020 Volvo 25 Ton Articulated Haul Truck at a cost of \$172,800.00, including sales tax, being sold by Ascendum; and
2. Staff requests that Council authorize the purchase of the 2020 Volvo 25 Ton Articulated Haul Truck, at a cost of \$172,800.00, including sales tax, from Ascendum.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COLLETON COUNTY COUNCIL DULY ASSEMBLED THAT:

1. Colleton County Council hereby approves the purchase of a used 2019 Volvo LC450H Compactor from Ascendum at a cost of \$172,800.00, including sales tax.
2. Funding for this expenditure is available through the 2024 Lease Purchase – Fund 115.

ATTEST:

SIGNED:

Danielle Murdaugh, Council Clerk

Scott Biering, Chairman

COUNCIL VOTE:
OPPOSED:

Sponsor(s) : County Council
Adopted : April 1, 2025
Committee Referral : N/A
Committee Consideration Date : N/A
Committee Recommendation : N/A

RESOLUTION NO. 25-R-32

COUNCIL-ADMINISTRATOR FORM OF GOVERNMENT FOR COLLETON COUNTY

[To Appoint Members to Board Vacancies.]

WHEREAS:

1. Colleton County Resource and Development Board has one vacancy; and
Applicant: John Givens III
2. The County Council is the appointing authority for Boards.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COLLETON COUNTY COUNCIL
DULY ASSEMBLED THAT:**

The Council hereby appoints the following:

Colleton County Resource and Development Board: John Givens III

ATTEST:

Danielle Murdaugh, Council Clerk

SIGNED:

Scott Biering, Chairman

COUNCIL VOTE:
OPPOSED: