

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO MAINTAIN SERVICES IN THE RIVER FALLS FIRE DISTRICT.

BE IT ORDAINED BY GREENVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL:

Section 1. River Falls Fire District. The Greenville County Council has established a system of fire protection in the unincorporated areas of Greenville County (“County”) under authorization from the Home Rule Act and other applicable state statutes including, but not limited to, Title 4, Chapter 19 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, as amended. In 1984, Greenville County Council created the River Falls Fire District (“District”) pursuant to Ordinance No. 1333, as amended, which formed the boundaries, duties, governance, and financing for the operation of fire protection services in the River Falls area.

Section 2. Emergency Finding. Greenville County Council is required to act in the best interest of the life, health, and safety of those citizens in the River Falls Fire District in the provision of fire protection services. The River Falls Fire District is facing various difficulties operating under the current fire service framework which is impacting the ability of the District to perform its duties. County Council finds that continuation of the present River Falls Fire District service arrangement will have an adverse impact on the delivery of fire protection services and overall mission of the District. County Council finds that it is in the best interest of the citizens and property in the River Falls Fire District that the County Administrator be authorized to act on the County’s behalf to preserve and improve fire services in the District until a permanent solution can be enacted.

Section 3. County Administrator Authorized. In order to address concerns and ensure the delivery of fire services to citizens, County Council hereby authorizes the County Administrator to take all necessary actions concerning fire protection services in the River Falls Fire District. The County Administrator’s authorization includes, but is not limited to: contracting with area fire districts to provide fire service in the River Falls Fire District; the receipt and custody of District documents, accounts, facilities, and equipment; and any other action necessary to operate a system of fire protection in the District, pursuant to the authority granted the County under Section 4-19-10 of Code of Laws of South Carolina, as amended.

Section 4. Severability. Severability is intended throughout and within the provisions of this ordinance. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this ordinance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, then that decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

Section 5. **Effective Date.** This ordinance shall take effect upon its adoption.

DONE IN REGULAR MEETING THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2017.

GREENVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL

Herman G. Kirven, Jr., Chairman
Greenville County Council

ATTEST:

Theresa B. Kizer
Clerk to Council

Joseph M. Kernell
County Administrator