

AN ORDINANCE

TO PROVIDE FOR THE MILLAGE RATE TO BE LEVIED BY THE FOOTHILLS FIRE SERVICE AREA.

WHEREAS, Greenville County Council established the Foothills Fire Service Area (the “Service Area”) by Ordinance No. 2268, adopted in 1991, pursuant to Chapter 19 of Title 4 of the South Carolina Code of Laws; and

WHEREAS, Section 3 of Ordinance No. 2268 created the Foothills Board of Fire Control (the “Board”) as the governing body of the Service Area, consisting of five members elected by the registered voters of the Service Area since the general election of November 1993, with vacancies filled by appointment of County Council; and

WHEREAS, Section 4 of Ordinance No. 2268 delegates to the Board only the administrative powers set forth in Section 4-19-10 of the South Carolina Code and does not delegate the power to levy taxes, which power is reserved to County Council pursuant to Sections 4-19-10(l) and 4-19-20(4); and

WHEREAS, the Service Area does not operate its own fire department but receives fire protection services from the Town of Tryon, North Carolina, pursuant to a contract between Greenville County and that Town; and

WHEREAS, the Board has presented a budget and millage request to Greenville County Council requesting an increase to the Fire Service Area’s current millage rate for operations and maintenance.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY GREENVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL:

Section 1. Millage Rate and Tax Levy. Greenville County Council approves an increase in the *ad valorem* property tax for FY 2026-2027 of seven and five-tenths (7.5) mills for the Foothills Fire Service Area, which consists of a one and five-tenths (1.5) mill increase equal to the consumer price index and population growth of 4.24% in addition to the available lookback of 4.92% as allowed pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. §6-1-320(A); and an increase of six (6) mills for the continued maintenance of a reserve account as allowed under S.C. Code Ann. §6-1-320(D) to assist with the increases to the County contractual obligation to the Town of Tryon; which brings the total millage for the Foothills Fire Service Area to twenty-seven and six-tenths (27.6) mills, as requested by the Foothills Fire Service Area Board of Fire Control.

The Auditor and Tax Collector of Greenville County are hereby directed to levy and collect taxes in accordance with this Ordinance.

Section 2. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect upon the date of its adoption.

DONE IN REGULAR MEETING THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2026.

ATTEST:

Benton Blount, Chairman
Greenville County Council

Regina McCaskill
Clerk to Council

Joseph M. Kernell
County Administrator