

AN ORDINANCE

TO AMEND GREENVILLE COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 527, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. 3680, TO ESTABLISH CORE GOVERNMENTAL FUNCTIONS AS THE PRIORITY FOR ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS, TO REQUIRE SEPARATE AFFIRMATIVE COUNCIL VOTES ON NON-CORE APPROPRIATIONS, AND TO MAKE CONFORMING CHANGES BEGINNING WITH THE 2027-2028 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET.

WHEREAS, Greenville County (“County”) has an interest in the periodic review of its budget policies to assure that County funds are appropriated to the highest priority functions of County government; and

WHEREAS, Greenville County Council (“County Council”) finds that identifying core governmental functions before the annual budget process and prioritizing the funding of those functions will assist the County in delivering essential services to its residents; and

WHEREAS, County Council further finds that each appropriation of County funds to functions other than core governmental functions warrants individual consideration by Council and a separate affirmative vote of Council members; and

WHEREAS, County Council finds that these amendments to the County’s Budget Policies serve the general health, safety, and welfare of Greenville County and its residents.

BE IT ORDAINED by the County Council of Greenville County, South Carolina:

Section 1. Amend County Budget Policies Section II, B (“Budget Requirements - Budget Preparation” (Ord. No. 527)) to add Core Governmental Functions and require priority funding.

County Council amends Section II, B of the Budget Policies Ordinance to read as follows:

B. Budget Preparation

(1) The County Council shall identify by separate ordinance, adopted no later than the last regular meeting of February in each calendar year, the Core Governmental Functions of County government for the budget for the next succeeding fiscal year. The Council shall identify, by department, program, and line-item appropriation, the specific functions included within the Core Governmental Functions for that fiscal year, and these Core Governmental Functions shall set the

priority for funding for the preparation of the budget. The county administrator shall, then, prepare a proposed operating and capital budget based on this Core Governmental Functions policy and, at such time as the Council determines, shall submit a proposed budget for the next succeeding fiscal year that funds the Core Governmental Functions identified by Council at the level necessary to meet statutory, contractual, and operational obligations of the County before allocating any County funds to non-core appropriation requests. to the Council. At the time of submitting the proposed Core Governmental Functions budget, the County Administrator shall submit to the Council a statement describing the important features of the proposed budgets, including all sources of anticipated revenue of the County government and the amount of tax revenue required to meet the financial requirements of the County's Core Governmental Functions. All funding requests other than for Core Governmental Functions shall be excluded from the County Administrator's proposed budget.

(2) The County Administrator shall submit "Non-Core Governmental Functions appropriation requests" (defined as all appropriation requests that are not deemed Core Governmental Functions, as determined by County Council vote pursuant to Section II, B of the Ordinance 527, as amended by this Ordinance) to Council in a separate schedule, itemized by department, program, and line-item appropriation, along with a statement describing the important features of the proposed budgets, including all sources of anticipated revenue of the County government and the amount of tax revenue required to meet the financial requirements of the County if the Council were to adopt each non-core appropriation request.

Section 2. Amend County Budget Policies Section III, A ("General Fund & Revenue Sharing Budgets - Appropriations" (Ord. No. 527)) to address Budget Requests for Non-Core Governmental Functions as determined by the Council.

County Council amends Section III, A of the Budget Policies Ordinance to read as follows:

III. GENERAL FUND & REVENUE SHARING BUDGETS

A. Appropriations

(1) Appropriation of funds shall be made only by County Council to departments and agencies to provide public services to Greenville County citizens. Appropriation of funds to private, non-profit organizations and institutions to provide services is prohibited.

(2) Requests for County funds will be submitted to Council for review during the regular county budget process and appropriations will be made only for specific line-item purposes. As required by Section 14-3711, the annual report from departments and agencies to Council shall verify that funds were expended in accordance with the purposes for which they were allocated.

(3) Proposed Appropriations for Non-Core Governmental Functions. No appropriation request for a Non-Core Governmental Function shall be approved unless County Council votes to approve and add the request to the approved Budget ordinance. Each appropriation request for a Non-Core Governmental Function shall be funded only upon a separate affirmative vote of a simple majority of County Council members present at the Regular or Special County Council meeting at which the request appears on County Council's meeting agenda. County Council shall begin consideration of Non-Core Governmental Function appropriation requests no later than the first regular Council meeting in March of each year.

(4) County funds will be disbursed to departments and agencies in one of the following ways:

- a. Departments and agencies funded 100% with county funds
Departments and agencies are required to conform with the accounting, purchasing and personnel policies of the county. The General Services Department will be responsible for all fund disbursement through the county's accounting system.
- b. Departments or agencies funded less than 100% by county funds.
Agencies will be subject to the county's Purchasing and Personnel policies if comparable policies do not exist. If feasible, the department or agency will receive county funds through the county's accounting system. If not feasible, departments or agencies will receive funds "in accordance with a schedule prepared by the County Administrator to include the following:
 - (1) The Agency will estimate its first month's expense. The General Services Department will issue a check to the agency for this amount.
 - (2) Subsequent payments will be made on an estimated basis predicated on actual expenditures."

Section 3. Severability. If any section, paragraph, clause, phrase, or provision of this Ordinance is adjudged invalid or held unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, that declaration shall not affect the validity of this Ordinance as a whole

or any other part or provision of it, other than the part so decided to be invalid or unconstitutional.

Section 4. Repeal. Any ordinance, resolution, or order, the terms of which conflict with this Ordinance, is, only to the extent of that conflict, repealed.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect upon adoption and shall first apply to the budget process for Fiscal Year 2027-2028 (the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2027).

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

Benton Blount, Chairman
Greenville County Council

ATTEST:

Regina McCaskill
Clerk to Council

Joseph M. Kernell
County Administrator