



GREENVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes
Regular Meeting
May 5, 2026
6:02 p.m.

Council Chambers
301 University Ridge
Greenville, South Carolina

Council Members

Benton Blount, *Chairman, District 19*
Rick Bradley, *Vice-Chairman, District 26*
Liz Seman, *Chairwoman Pro Tem, District 24*
Joey Russo, *District 17*
Kelly Long, *District 18*
Stephen Shaw, *District 20*
Curt McGahhey, *District 21*
Frank Farmer, *District 22*
Alan Mitchell, *District 23*
Ennis Fant, Sr., *District 25*
Garey Collins, *District 27*
Dan Tripp, *District 28*

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting date, time, place, and agenda was posted online, at 301 University Ridge, Greenville, and made available to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations, and concerned citizens.

Council Members Absent

Curt McGahhey, *Council District 21*
Dan Tripp, *Council District 28*

Staff Present

Joe Kernell, *County Administrator*
Ted Lambrecht, *Deputy County Administrator*
Jason Martin, *Assistant County Administrator*
Chris Antley, *County Attorney*
Regina McCaskill, *Clerk to Council*
Jessica Stone, *Deputy Clerk to Council*

Others Present

None

Call to Order

Chairman Blount

Invocation

Vice-Chairman Bradley

Pledge of Allegiance

Item (4) **Approval of Minutes**

a. **April 21, 2026 – Regular County Council Meeting**

Action: Chairwoman Pro Tem Seman moved to approve the minutes of the April 21, 2026, Regular County Council Meeting.

Motion carried.

Item (5) **Proclamation**

a. **Recognizing Ace Bradley and Oscar Cariveau**

Chairman Blount and Vice-Chairman Bradley presented a proclamation to Ace Bradley and Oscar Cariveau, commending them for their outstanding research on the effects of urban sprawl and habitat destruction in Greenville County.

b. **The Fruits of Community Spirit - Remembering Carol Mongerson Gilley**

Vice-Chairman Bradley presented a proclamation to Kyle Gilley, honoring the life and legacy of his wife, Carol Gilley. Mrs. Gilley was a true pillar of the community, and her impact on Southern Greenville County was immeasurable and everlasting.

c. **Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Awareness**

Councilor Long presented a proclamation designating May 2026 as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Awareness Month in Greenville County, aiming to raise public awareness, recognize the significant impact on families, and encourage support for research to eliminate ALS.

Item (6) **Appearances – Current Agenda Items**

- **Michael Cain** - appeared regarding Item 10.a.ii. CZ-2026-0007
- **Chris Toney** - appeared regarding Item 10.a.ii. CZ-2026-0007
- **Allison Hanline** - appeared regarding Item 10.a.ii. CZ-2026-0007
- **Ron Clide** - appeared regarding Item 10.a.ii. CZ-2026-0007

Item (7) **Public Hearings**

6:23 p.m. – Chairman Blount passed the gavel to Vice-Chairman Bradley

a. **Anderson – Greenville Duke Project Multi-County Industrial Business Park Agreement Amendment / Duke Project**

A public hearing was held for the purpose of receiving comments from the public regarding an ordinance to amend an agreement for the development of a joint county industrial and business park (2010 Park) of Anderson and Greenville Counties so as to enlarge the park.

As there were no speakers, Councilor Blount declared the public hearing closed.

6:24 p.m. – Vice-Chairman Bradley returned the gavel to Chairman Blount.

- b. **Establish Car Wash Facility Standards - CANCELLED**

Item (8) **Consent Agenda**

- a. **Code Enforcement Officer Commissioning**
- b. **FY 2025 Upstate Regional WMD Hazmat Team Grant**
- c. **FY 2025 Justice Assistance Grant Program**
- d. **GCRA – Greenville County 2026 Annual Action Plan (HUD)**
- e. **FY 2027 Accommodations Tax Recommendations**
- f. **Community Project Application / City of Greenville Police Support for Artisphere \$2,500.00**
- g. **Community Project Application / Canebrake Fire Department – UTV \$5,000**
- h. **Community Project Application / Dunklin Fire District – Mobile Data Terminals \$5,000**

Action: Chairwoman Pro Tem Seman moved approval of the Consent Agenda items.

Motion carried.

Item (9) **Ordinances – Third Reading**

a. **Zoning Ordinances**

- i. **CZ-2026-011,** Property of Transit at Haywood LLC, Central Realty Holdings LLC, and WWG LLC, located at 401 and 435 Haywood Road and Transit Drive, requesting rezoning from S-1 to C-2.

Action: Vice-Chairman Bradley moved adoption of the ordinance at third reading.

Motion carried.

- ii. **CZ-2026-014,** Property of William Fincher, located at 520 S. Mountain View Road and Cogin Drive, requesting rezoning from POD to R-15.

Action: Vice-Chairman Bradley moved adoption of the ordinance at third reading.

Motion carried.

b. **Encroachment Ordinance Amendments**

Action: Councilor Seman moved for adoption at third reading an ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 3673, the Greenville County Encroachment Permit Ordinance; and Chapter 18, Article VI. Permits, of the 1976 Greenville County Code, as amended, so as to provide clarification.

Motion carried.

6:23 p.m. – Chairman Blount passed the gavel to Vice-Chairman Bradley

c. **Anderson – Greenville Duke Project Multi-County Industrial Business Park Agreement Amendment / Duke Project**

Action: Chairman Blount moved for adoption at third reading an ordinance to amend an agreement for the development of a joint county industrial and business Park (2010 Park) of Anderson and Greenville Counties so as to enlarge the park.

Motion carried.

d. **AH Magnolia Grove Holdings, LLC (formerly Project Magnolia) / Fee in Lieu of Tax Agreement**

Action: Chairman Blount moved for adoption at third reading an ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee in lieu of tax agreement by and between Greenville County, South Carolina and AH Magnolia Grove Holdings, LLC, with respect to certain economic development property in the County, whereby such property will be subject to certain payments in lieu of taxes; and other matters related thereto.

Mr. Antley stated the item required seven (7) votes in favor to pass, which was a majority of the total number of Council seats, not a majority of the members present.

Motion was denied by a roll call vote of six (Blount, Farmer, Mitchell, Seman, Fant, Bradley) in favor, two (Long, Shaw) in opposition, four (Russo, McGahhey, Tripp) absent. (Councilor Collins was present, but did not vote).

6:29 p.m. – Vice-Chairman Bradley returned the gavel to Chairman Blount.

Item (10) **Ordinances – Second Reading**

a. **Zoning Ordinances**

i. **CZ-2026-003,** Property of Hounds Brae, LLC, located at 333 Gibson Drive, requesting rezoning from R-S to R-15. The Planning Commission and Committee recommended denial.

Action: On behalf of the Committee, Vice-Chairman Bradley moved to deny the ordinance at second reading.

Motion to deny carried.

ii. **CZ-2026-007,** Property of Sarah Ann Toney, located on West Georgia Road and Rio Grande Place, requesting rezoning from R-S to R-15. The Planning Commission recommended denial and the Committee recommended approval.

Action: On behalf of the Committee, Vice-Chairman Bradley moved approval of the ordinance at second reading.

Motion carried.

b. Establish Car Wash Facility Standards

Action: Chairwoman Pro Tem Seman moved for approval at second reading an ordinance to establish minimum setback and noise standards for car wash facilities in unincorporated Greenville County to protect residential areas from excessive noise.

Action: Chairwoman Pro Tem Seman moved to hold the item until the regular meeting in July to give staff time to provide a solution, remedy the current car wash issue in the Five Forks area, and ensure the solution aligned with the County's current ordinances.

Motion to hold carried.

c. Ordinance to Amend Country Ordinance No. 2115 / Composition of the Greenville County Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee Membership

Vice-Chairman Bradley stated the item was held in the Committee of the Whole and no action was necessary.

Item (11) Ordinances – First Reading

6:31 p.m. – Chairman Blount passed the gavel to Vice-Chairman Bradley

a. Piedmont Public Services District – Property Transfer for Parks

Councilor Blount presented for first reading an ordinance to authorize the transfer of ownership of approximately 3.68 acres of real property located off Ridge Row Street and Langston Street in Greenville County to the Piedmont Public Service District, and to authorize the execution of deeds and any other documents and agreements related thereto.

Vice-Chairman Bradley stated the item would remain on the floor.

6:33 p.m. – Vice-Chairman Bradley returned the gavel to Chairman Blount.

Item (12) Committee Reports

a. Committee of the Whole

i. Board and Commission Appointment

Action: On behalf of the Committee, Vice-Chairman Bradley and Chairwoman Pro Tem Seman moved to appoint the following:

- *Troy Gilreath* to fill one of four vacancies on the **Construction Board of Appeals**.
- *Clark Gallivan, Anita Greggs, Anthony Henderson, Anne King, Tony McDade, and Joan Peters* to fill six vacancies on the **Greenville County Historic and Natural Resources Trust**.
- *Tamara Dwyer, David Edwards, and Sharan Ravishankar* to fill three vacancies on the **Parks, Recreation and Tourism Advisory Board**.

- *Paul Bracewell, James Moore, and Edward Sternberg* to fill three vacancies on the **Planning Commission**.

Motion carried.

ii. Agricultural Task Force / Open Application Period

Action: Vice-Chairman Bradley moved to open a one-month application period for the newly created Agricultural Task Force.

Motion carried.

iii. Devenger Tax District Commission / Open Special Application Period

Vice-Chairman Bradley stated at the last Committee of the Whole meeting, Councilor Farmer made a motion to appoint members to the Devenger Tax District Commission. He combined that motion with a motion to open a special application period for the board; that motion did not carry to the Council floor.

Action: On behalf of the Committee, Vice-Chairman Bradley moved to open a special application period for the Devenger Tax District Commission.

Motion carried.

b. Committee on Finance

Chairman Blount stated several good grants were recently approved for the County's public safety division. GCRA delivered a great presentation to the Finance Committee, outlining its projections for the year and how it planned to assist with housing in Greenville County.

c. Committee on Communications and Governmental Affairs

Councilor Farmer stated the next CGA Meeting had been canceled as he would be out of town for training, and the Vice-Chairman of the committee was unable to attend due to a prior engagement. Mr. Farmer stated they planned to double the number of presenters in June.

d. Committee on Planning and Development

Vice-Chairman Bradley stated the Planning and Development Committee continued to work very well, addressing several problems and ways to solve them.

e. Roads, Infrastructure and Public Works Committee

No Report.

f. Committee on Public Safety and Human Services

Councilor Farmer stated for at least the last two meetings, the committee had been unable to meet due to quorum issues. He stated there were some agenda items that needed to be voted on during the last meeting. Mr. Farmer asked his fellow committee members to try to be available so the committee could tend to business and get some good work done.

Councilor Collins stated members of the Public Safety Committee needed to show their strength and attend the meetings in person or remotely. Mr. Collins stated not showing up for meetings was “unbecoming of a representative.” He stated they would be making some changes.

g. Oversight Ad Hoc Committee

Councilor Long stated the County received 11 bids for the proposed audit. They were currently working through the applications to ensure all guidelines were met. The committee planned to meet in the next two to three weeks. The applications would be scored, and the top five or so would be selected. At that point, the committee would hear the vendor’s presentations. She stated the process would take about a month to complete. Councilor Long stated she wanted everyone to know that the committee had been very active and was working hard.

h. Short-Term Rentals Ad Hoc Committee

Chairwoman Pro Tem Seman stated the next meeting of the Short-Term Rentals Ad Hoc Committee was scheduled for Monday, May 18, at 4:00 p.m.

Item (13)

Public Comments

- **Dan Abel** – appeared regarding Wildfire Mitigation
- **Jeff Lawson** – appeared regarding Greenlink
- **Alan Dabney and Tracy Andrew** – appeared regarding Memorial Day Event
- **Robin Hall** – appeared regarding Wildfire Mitigation
- **James Sheets** – appeared regarding Paris Mountain / Wildfire Mitigation

Item (14)

Administrator’s Report

Mr. Kernell stated Spartanburg County’s new Animal Care Shelter opened on May 4. They would no longer transport animals to Greenville County, reducing intake by approximately 20%. He stated this would have a very positive effect on Greenville County.

The next session of the Citizens Academy was scheduled for Tuesday, May 12. The session would start at the Law Enforcement Center, and Sheriff Lewis would address the class. Next, they planned to tour the Detention Center and finish up with Emergency Management.

Mr. Kernell stated the Cardiac Survivor’s Ceremony was scheduled for Thursday, May 14, at 3:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church. Dr. Larry Miller and Connor Shaw would be the speakers. He stated the event was always a very moving experience.

Mr. Kernell introduced Jason Martin, the new Assistant County Administrator. Mr. Martin was previously the Assistant County Manager in Davidson County, North Carolina; he brings extensive experience as a budget management analyst and planning director. Mr. Kernell stated he was a credentialed manager with the International City County Managers Association (ICCMA).

Item (15)

Requests and Motions by Council Members

- Councilor Shaw asked Mr. Kernell if there was any training available on how to use the automatic defibrillators, which were hanging in several locations throughout the County.

Mr. Kernell stated that was a very good question. The defibrillators were very easy to use; they were actually automatic and did everything “on their own.” Anyone could grab one and use it, if necessary.

- Chairwoman Pro Tem Seman asked which standing committee should address the concerns about Paris Mountain and wildfire mitigation.

Chairman Blount replied that the Public Safety Committee would be appropriate.

Chairwoman Pro Tem Seman stated she had the chance to participate in Hands on Greenville Day the previous weekend. Ms. Seman stated that organization had merged with United Way and was working on more than 100 projects. There were approximately 2,000 volunteers across the country, with an estimated economic impact of over \$200,000, based on the current value of volunteer time.

Item (16)

Adjournment

Action: There being no further business, Vice-Chairman Bradley moved to adjourn.

The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Regina McCaskill
Clerk to Council