



GREENVILLE COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes
Regular Meeting
May 19, 2026
6:01 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

None

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*
Julie Wallace, *Administrative Assistant*
Bob Mihalic, *Governmental Affairs Officer*
Terrence Galloway, *Information Systems*

Others Present

None

Call to Order

Council Members Remote Participation

Dan Tripp, *Council District 28*

Hesha Gamble, *Assistant County Administrator*
Ronald Hollister, *Assistant County Administrator*
Nick Ragsdale, *Emergency Medical Services*
Nicole Miglionico, *Deputy Director Public Works*
Dakota Sanders, *Planning Department*
Mary Lou Plumley, *Planning Department*

Chairman Blount

Chairman Blount stated a number of people had signed up to speak about the 287(g) Agreement, which was not within the jurisdiction of Greenville County or Greenville County Council. He cited County Council Rule 3.F. as follows: "No matter shall be entered on the agenda or be heard by Council, unless it is within Council's authority or jurisdiction." The matter concerned a federal program regarding the delegation of immigration authority. Mr. Blount stated the Sheriff was an elected official who was not under Council's authority. In both cases, the matter fell outside Council's jurisdiction and would not be entertained as an item open to public comment.

Invocation

Councilor McGahhey

Pledge of Allegiance

Item (4) Approval of Minutes

a. May 5, 2026 – Regular County Council Meeting

Action: Chairwoman Pro Tem Seman moved to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2026, Regular County Council Meeting.

Motion carried.

Item (5) Proclamations

a. Honoring Hesha Gamble – APWA Top Ten Public Works Leader of the Year Award

Jeffery Brown, Director of APWA Region III, presented a plaque to Hesha Gamble honoring her being named a finalist in the Top Ten Public Works Leader of the Year Award. The award was given to individuals exemplifying public works performance. He stated the purpose of the award was to inspire excellence and dedication to public service by recognizing the outstanding achievements of public works professionals.

b. Garden Hero Award for the State of South Carolina

Heather Harley presented the Garden Club of South Carolina Hero Award to Councilor Steve Shaw for his invaluable contributions to the renovation and beautification of the Blue Star Memorial Garden at Herdklotz Park.

c. Recognizing Greenville Women Giving / 20th Anniversary

Chairwoman Pro Tem Seman presented a proclamation to *Greenville Women Giving* in recognition of their 20th Anniversary. The organization has awarded 166 grants totaling \$9.5 million in the areas of arts, education, environment, health, and human services.

d. Emergency Medical Services Week

Councilor Collins presented a proclamation to Greenville County Emergency Medical Services in honor of Emergency Medical Services Week. He stated Greenville County EMS provided a vital public service, delivering emergency care 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, and is the sole provider for medical 9-1-1 calls.

Item (6)

Appearances – Current Agenda Items

- **Susan Frantz** - appeared regarding Item 11.c. County of Greenville FY2027 Budget Ordinance
- **Brenda Buchik** - appeared regarding Item 11.b. Mountain Creek Overlay Ordinance

Item (7)

Consent Agenda

- a. **Proposed 2026 Greenville County Grievance Committee Pool List**
- b. **Community Project Application / Pleasant Valley Connection – Security Cameras \$6,000**
- c. **Community Project Application / South Tyger River Greenway Trail Sign and Flower Garden \$5000**

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

Motion carried.

Item (8)

Resolutions

- a. **Greenville County Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Action: Vice-Chairman Bradley moved for adoption a resolution approving an update to the Greenville County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Motion carried.

- b. **Project Augusta Arbor II / Inducement Revolution**

Action: Councilor Collins moved for adoption a resolution authorizing the execution and delivery of an inducement agreement by and between Greenville County, South Carolina and Project Augusta Arbor II whereby, under certain conditions, Greenville County would execute a fee in lieu of tax agreement with respect to a project in the County whereby the project would be subject to payment of certain fees in lieu of taxes; and providing for related matters.

Motion carried by a roll call vote of eight (Russo, Blount, McGahhey, Farmer, Mitchell, Seman, Fant, Bradley) in favor, three (Long, Shaw, Collins) in opposition, one (Tripp) did not vote.

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

a. Zoning Ordinances

- i. 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.

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

Motion carried by a roll call vote of eight (Russo, Blount, Farmer, Mitchell, Seman, Fant, Bradley, Tripp) in favor, four (Long, Shaw, McGahhey, Collins) in opposition.

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

a. Zoning Ordinances

- i. CZ-2026-017,** Property of Frances Bishop, located at 102 Boling Road, requesting rezoning from R-S to R-7.5. The Planning Commission recommended denial and the Committee recommended approval as amended to R-12.

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

Action: Vice-Chairman Bradley moved to amend the request to R-12.

Motion to amend carried.

Action: Vice-Chairman Bradley moved approval of the ordinance as amended.

Motion carried.

- ii. CZ-2026-018,** Property of Poinsett Development Partners, located at 25 Goldsmith Street, Poinsett Highway, and Hammett Street Ext., requesting rezoning from I-1 to S-1. The Planning Commission and Committee recommended approval.

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

Motion carried.

- iii. **CZ-2026-019,** Property of Jordi Viveros and Yudy Toro, located at 106 Riverside Drive, requesting rezoning from R-20 to R-7.5. The Planning Commission and Committee recommended approval.

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

Motion carried.

- iv. **CZ-2026-020,** Property of Samuel J. Francis, located at 75 Crestview Drive, requesting rezoning from R-M20 to R-S. 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.

- v. **CZ-2026-021,** Property of Jonathan E. Chaney, located at 2513 Poinsett Highway, Woodland Drive and Tindal Road, requesting rezoning from C-1 to C-3. The Planning Commission and Committee recommended approval.

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

Motion carried.

- vi. **CZ-2026-022,** Property of Augusta Grove-Greenville LLC, located on Old Grove Road and Bracken Road, requesting rezoning from I-2 to I-1. 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 by a roll call vote of nine (Russo, Blount, Farmer, Mitchell, Seman, Fant, Bradley, Collins, Tripp) in favor and three (Long, Shaw, McGahhey) in opposition.

- vii. **CZ-2026-023,** Property of Francis Bishop, located at 102 Boling Road, requesting rezoning from R-S to R-12. The Planning Commission and Committee recommended approval.

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

Motion carried.

b. Piedmont Public Services District – Property Transfer for Parks

Action: Councilor McGahhey moved for approval at second 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.

Councilor McGahhey asked Mr. Kernell if the County had the right of first refusal if Piedmont Public Service District decided to sell it.

Mr. Kernell answered in the affirmative.

Vice-Chairman Bradley stated the site was in a floodplain; therefore, nothing could be built on it.

Motion as presented carried.

Item (11) Ordinances – First Reading

a. Zoning Ordinances

Vice-Chairman Bradley presented for first reading Zoning Dockets **CZ-2026-024** through **CZ-2026-028**.

Chairman Blount referred the items to the Planning and Development Committee.

b. Mountain Creek Overlay Ordinance

Vice-Chairman Bradley presented for first reading an ordinance to amend the Greenville County Zoning Ordinance to add Article 8, Section 13, Special Purpose and Review District Regulations to establish the Mountain Creek Community District as shown on the map labeled “Exhibit A” attached hereto.

Chairman Blount stated the item would remain on the floor.

c. County of Greenville FY2027 Budget Ordinance

Vice-Chairman Bradley presented for first reading an ordinance adopting the County of Greenville FY2027 Budget.

Chairman Blount stated the item would remain on the floor.

d. Greenville County Library / FY2027 Budget Millage

Councilor Collins presented for first reading an ordinance to approve the appropriation of funds for the Greenville County Library System for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027; and to authorize the annual ad valorem property tax millage levy for library purposes.

Chairman Blount stated the item would remain on the floor.

e. Old Mill Estates Special Tax District / Millage Request

Councilor Collins presented for first reading an ordinance to approve the Old Mill Estates Special Tax District Commissioners' request for an increase to its current ad valorem property tax millage levy.

Chairman Blount stated the item would remain on the floor.

f. Project Augusta Arbor II / Fee in Lieu of Tax Agreement

Councilor Collins presented for first reading an ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee in lieu of tax agreement by and between Greenville County, South Carolina and a company known to the County at this time as Project Augusta Arbor II, with respect to certain economic development property in the County, whereby such property would be subject to certain payments in lieu of taxes; and other matters related thereto.

Chairman Blount stated the item would remain on the floor.

Item (12) **Committee Reports**

a. Committee of the Whole

No report.

b. Committee on Finance

No report.

c. Committee on Communications and Governmental Affairs

No report.

d. Committee on Planning and Development

Vice-Chairman Bradley stated the cluster ordinance was close to being in final draft form. The committee planned to meet the following week to finish the process and send it to the appropriate committee.

e. Roads, Infrastructure and Public Works Committee

Councilor McGahhey stated Senate Bill 866, known as the Municipal Tax Relief Act, had passed the previous week. The act authorized municipalities, without a capital sales tax or transportation tax, to authorize their own. Mr. McGahhey stated if Greenville County was unable to pass a transportation tax, the municipalities could pass their own. There were only three (3) counties in South Carolina without a “penny tax”: Greenville, Oconee, and McCormick.

f. Committee on Public Safety and Human Services

Councilor Collins recognized the City of Greenville police officers who were involved in a tragic accident the previous week; he asked everyone to keep law enforcement in their prayers. He thanked EMS for their service; it was a life-saving profession.

g. Oversight Ad Hoc Committee

Councilor Long stated the County received 11 bids for the audit. The top six companies would be interviewed during the first week of June. It had been a slow but strategic process; she looked forward to interviews and choosing which company would perform the audit.

h. Short-Term Rentals Ad Hoc Committee

Chairwoman Pro Tem Seman stated the committee had met the previous day. They received additional data from *Visit Greenville* and heard from Katie Ashley with Airbnb. The next meeting was scheduled for June 15 at 4 pm.

Item (13)

Public Comments

- **Dianne Vreeland** – appeared regarding County Administrator’s Replacement Search
- **Jeff Lawson** – appeared regarding Greenlink Support
- **Brooks Bryant** – appeared regarding Greenlink Support
- **Peter Hoffman** – appeared regarding Noise Pollution

Item (14)

Administrator’s Report

This item was not heard.

Item (15)

Requests and Motions by Council Members

This item was not heard.

Item (16)

Adjournment

Action:

Due to unforeseen circumstances, Chairwoman Pro Tem Seman moved to adjourn without hearing Item 14 and Item 15.

The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Regina McCaskill
Clerk to Council