

MINUTES OF CALHOUN COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
May 12, 2025
5:30 P.M.

Calhoun County Council held its regular meeting on Monday, May 12, 2025.

The following were present:

Chairman James E. Haigler, who presided
Vice-Chairman Cecil Thornton
Councilwoman Rebecca Bonnette
Councilman Richard Carson
Councilman Ken Westbury
Administrator John McLauchlin
Deputy Administrator Richard Hall
Clerk to Council Shayla Jenkins
Human Resource Director Brandy Roberson

The following press was notified of the meeting by mail, electronic mail, or by fax in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act: The Calhoun Times, The Times and Democrat, and Sandy Run News. An Agenda was also posted on Calhoun County's website calhouncounty.sc.gov.

The swearing in ceremony for Alicia Scott, Calhoun County Treasurer, was held prior to the meeting. After a prayer by Pastor Cooper, the swearing in was performed by Judge Bloom.

Call to Order

Chairman Haigler called the meeting to order.

Approval of Agenda

Councilman Carson made the motion to approve the May 12, 2025 meeting agenda as presented and was seconded by Councilman Westbury. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments

Richard Watkins spoke regarding the proclamation on the agenda, and reported on the event held in Fort Motte by the SC 250 Committee, honoring Rebecca Motte and Founding Mothers.

Dennis Spilde inquired about the Sandy Run Fire Department and reconsideration meeting that took place on May 1. He also commented regarding division in the county.

Public Hearings

Chairman Haigler opened a Public Hearing on **Ordinance 2025-7** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 6:11 OF THE CALHOUN COUNTY SIGN ORDINANCE. With there being no comments, the Hearing was closed.

Third Reading of Ordinance 2025-7. Councilman Carson made a motion to pass Third Reading of Ordinance 2025-7, and was seconded by Councilwoman Bonnette. Deputy Administrator Richard Hall provided explanation of the ordinance. The motion to adopt 2025-7 passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the April 28, 2025 regular meeting were presented for approval. Motion was made by Councilwoman Bonnette and seconded by Councilman Westbury to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes of the May 1, 2025 special called meeting were presented for approval. Motion was made by Vice-Chairman Thornton and seconded by Councilman Carson to approve the minutes as presented. Dennis Spilde asked for clarification, which Richard Hall provided, and told that Sandy Run was not left unprotected with fire services. The motion to adopt the May 1 minutes passed unanimously.

Proclamations

Administrator McLauchlin read the proclamation Recognizing May 12 as Rebecca Motte Day. Motion to approve was made by Vice-Chairman Thornton, seconded by Councilwoman Bonnette and passed unanimously.

New Business

RFP 2506 Agricultural Building Roofing – There were six bids submitted. Councilman Westbury made a motion to approve the contract for Reliable Roofing in the amount of \$28,875.00, and was seconded by Councilman Carson. The motion passed unanimously.

Motorola contract proposal – Chief Deputy Matt Trentham briefed Council on the deal offered by Motorola for all-in-one radio, microphone and body camera. The cost is \$351,000 for the total upgrade instead of \$61,000 yearly leasing cost, and without budget increase. Motion to approve was made by Councilman Carson, seconded by Councilman Westbury and passed unanimously.

Ordinances

Ordinance 2025-8 AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS AND THE LEVY OF TAXES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 FOR THE OPERATION, DEBT SERVICE, BUILDING FUND AND FOOD SERVICE OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF CALHOUN COUNTY, THE ORANGEBURG-CALHOUN TECHNICAL COLLEGE, AND THE CALHOUN COUNTY DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS BOARD (INCLUDING THE L. MARION GRESSETTE CENTER); TO PROVIDE FOR DEPOSIT AND DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS AND TO PROVIDE OTHERWISE FOR THE AFFAIRS OF PUBLIC EDUCATION IN CALHOUN COUNTY was presented for **Second Reading**. Vice-Chairman Thornton made a motion to pass Second Reading of Ordinance 2025-8 and was seconded by Councilman Carson. The motion passed unanimously.

Ordinance 2025-9 AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND DEBT SERVICE FOR CALHOUN COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2025, AND FOR THE EXPENDITURE THEREOF AND OTHER FUNDS, AND TO PROVIDE OTHERWISE FOR THE AFFAIRS OF THE COUNTY was presented for **Second Reading**. Councilman Carson made a motion to pass Second Reading of Ordinance 2025-9 and was seconded by Councilman Westbury. The motion passed unanimously.

Ordinance 2025-10 AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE FEES FOR COUNTY PURPOSES FOR CALHOUN COUNTY TO OPERATE AND MAINTAIN WATER AND WASTEWATER FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2025, FOR THE EXPENDITURES THEREOF AND OTHER FUNDS, AND TO PROVIDE OTHERWISE FOR THE AFFAIRS OF THE COUNTY was presented for **Second Reading**. Councilwoman Bonnette made a motion to pass Second Reading of Ordinance 2025-10 and was seconded by Vice-Chairman Thornton. The motion passed unanimously.

Ordinance 2025-11 AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE FEES FOR COUNTY PURPOSES FOR CALHOUN COUNTY TO OPERATE AND MAINTAIN CALHOUN HILLS GOLF COMPLEX FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2025, FOR THE EXPENDITURES THEREOF AND OTHER FUNDS, AND TO PROVIDE OTHERWISE FOR THE AFFAIRS OF CALHOUN HILLS GOLF COMPLEX was presented for **Second Reading**. Councilman Carson made a motion to pass Second Reading of Ordinance 2025-11 and was seconded by Councilman Westbury. The motion passed with 4-1 vote (Carson, Westbury, Thornton and Haigler in favor; Bonnette opposed).

Ordinance 2025-12 AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE AND AUTHORIZE FUNDS TO OPERATE AND MAINTAIN THE CALHOUN COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2025, FOR THE EXPENDITURES THEREOF AND OTHER FUNDS, AND TO PROVIDE OTHERWISE FOR THE AFFAIRS OF THE CALHOUN COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT was presented for **Second Reading**. Councilman Carson made a motion to pass Second Reading of Ordinance 2025-12 and was seconded by Councilwoman Bonnette. The motion passed unanimously.

Ordinance 2025-13 AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES FOR COUNTY PURPOSES FOR CALHOUN COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2025, AND FOR THE EXPENDITURES THEREOF AND OTHER FUNDS, AND TO PROVIDE OTHERWISE FOR THE AFFAIRS OF THE COUNTY was presented for **Second Reading**. Vice-Chairman Thornton made a motion to pass Second Reading of Ordinance 2025-13 and was seconded by Councilman Carson. The motion passed unanimously.

Administrator

Administrator McLauchlin thanked all involved in the Blanchard Machinery Groundbreaking and reminded of the upcoming Ag & Art Tour.

Councilwoman Bonnette pointed out that the next meeting will be held on June 9th, as the fourth Monday in May is Memorial Day.

Adjournment

Councilman Carson made a motion to adjourn with second by Councilman Westbury. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 5:57 p.m.


James E. Haigler, Chairman


Shayla C. Jenkins, Clerk to Council

