



**York County
Justice & Public Safety Committee
Minutes
August 27, 2025**

Regular Meeting

**York County Government Center
3rd Floor Conference Room
6 South Congress Street
York, South Carolina**

6:00 PM

Call to Order

Order of Business

Motion was made to amend the order of the agenda and move items #3 and #4 to the beginning of the agenda.

Passed **Yes 3, No 0, Abstained 0**

MOVANT: Tom Audette

SECOND: Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr

AYES: Tommy Adkins, Tom Audette, Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr

NAYS: None

ABSENT:

RECUSED: None

1. 10-year Fire Service Plan

Fire Services Director, Matt Davis and Assistant County Manager David Garner presented the strategic plan for fire service reform, emphasizing unification across 16 departments and 7 fire tax districts without erasing local identity. Key goals included: standard response benchmarks, unified governance and policy-setting, equitable funding, volunteer recruitment, and facility capital improvement plan.

The One York Fire initiative aims to build a countywide fire protection system with consistent standards and shared funding, while respecting the community ties of individual departments. Feedback from Chiefs and Fire Departments was discussed related to funding models, volunteer and municipal engagement, annexation impacts, and capital planning needs.

A motion was made to request that the County Council direct County staff and the Justice and Public Safety Committee to meet monthly to initiate the 1-3 year collaborative implementation plan for the One York Fire vision, with the goal of achieving the 10-year strategic plan by July 1, 2035.

Passed **Yes 3, No 0, Abstained 0**

MOVANT: Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr

SECOND:	Tom Audette
AYES:	Tommy Adkins, Tom Audette, Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	
RECUSED:	None

2. Review and discussion of the 3-year Fire Service Strategic Plan

- Fire Department Feedback

3. Hotel Ordinance Draft/Discussion

The Committee received a draft ordinance related to extended stays at hotels. Sheriff Breeden explained that the intent of the ordinance is to limit stays and establish accountability for violations. Sheriff Breeden requested an additional definition of "responsible party" (general manager or owner) to ensure the appropriate person is held accountable. Sheriff Breeden also described a 60-day education period during which the Sheriff's Office will engage with impacted businesses following which enforcement begins, potentially January 1, 2026.

No action was taken. However, a draft will be updated and will move forward with a second reading in September.

4. EMS Plan

Sheriff Breeden described meetings between law enforcement, Emergency Management, and hospital-based EMS providers to clarify roles and expectations, especially regarding scene security and priority dispatch. Further discussion by County Management addressed BLS v. ALS response, dispatch protocols, and the need to avoid placing undue burden on law enforcement due to EMS staffing shortages.

Direction was given by the Committee to bring recommendations on models aimed at increasing EMS resources and furthering county involvement in EMS response.

Executive Session

Matters for consideration following Executive Session

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn

Passed	Yes 3, No 0, Abstained 0
MOVANT:	Tom Audette
SECOND:	Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr
AYES:	Tommy Adkins, Tom Audette, Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	
RECUSED:	None

Karen M. Brogdon

Karen M. Brogdon, Clerk to Council