



**York County
Economic Development Committee
Minutes
September 16, 2025**

Regular Meeting

**Eastern Maintenance Facility
177 Central Carolina Parkway
Fort Mill, South Carolina**

5:00 PM

Call to Order

Chairman, Watts Huckabee

Council members Tom Audette, Christi Cox and Watts Huckabee were present.

Also present were Assistant County Manager, Tom Couch, County Manager, Josh Edwards, Economic Development Director, Mitch Miller and Clerk to Council, Karen Brogdon.

Order of Business

1. Committee to approve the minutes from the August 28, 2025 Economic Development Committee meeting.

Motion to approve

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

MOVANT: Tom Audette

SECOND: Christi Cox

AYES: Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr, Christi Cox, Tom Audette

NAYS: None

ABSENT:

RECUSED: None

2. Staff to provide an update on Economic Development marketing and communications.

Mitch Miller, Economic Development Director, introduced Caroline Floyd, Marketing Director of Economic Development, provided information on how Economic Development communicates, etc. Currently, the focus is on business recruitment and expansion, talent alignment and partnerships, people-centered, and transparent communication that drives people.

Community and Quality of Place — York County invests in place, mobility, and people

Business and Talent — Highlight right-fit company growth and talent alignment

Entrepreneurship and Innovation — Elevate founder/small business stories and connect them to support networks

Agriculture and Local Food — Tie local food and farms to economy, quality of place, and identity.

Multimedia — Resonate and educate with engaging and transparent content
Partnership — shared voice, different strengths. Together we amplify York County's story.
Digital Front Door — updated website
Leadership Voice in Action — progress moves forward through relationships, community engagement and authenticity.

Economic Development's focus moving forward:

- Clear and relatable — Economic development made understandable
- Authentic & People Centered Trust built through real stories
- Consistent, Sustainable and Aligned — One voice across partners and platforms.

3. Small Area Plan Discussion

Assistant County Manager, Tom Couch, presented information on Advancing Small Area Plans.

Mr. Couch stated that the next steps for the committee should be the following:

- Define boundaries
- Refine scope, deliverables and cost mitigation with SMART goals approach.
- consultant selection
- Launch
- Needed Charge: Appropriate funds

A motion was made to recommend to the full council that Council refers the Newport Commons area for study and the follow-up will go to the Economic Development Committee and the Planning & Zoning Committee for further study and recommendations.

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

A motion was made to recommend to the full council that the council refer the study of the Southside area to the Economic Development Board.

Passed	Yes 3, No 0, Abstained 0
MOVANT:	Christi Cox
SECOND:	Tom Audette
AYES:	Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr, Christi Cox, Tom Audette

NAYS: None

ABSENT:

RECUSED: None

Executive Session

Contractual Matter: Project Sample

Motion was made to go into Executive Session

Passed Yes 3, No 0, Abstained 0

MOVANT: Christi Cox

SECOND: Tom Audette

AYES: Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr, Christi Cox, Tom Audette

NAYS: None

ABSENT:

RECUSED: None

Matters for consideration following Executive Session

Motion to refer Project Sample to full council.

Passed Yes 2, No 0, Abstained 0

MOVANT: Tom Audette

SECOND: Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr

AYES: Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr, Tom Audette

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Christi Cox

RECUSED: None

Adjourn

(7:45pm) Motion to adjourn

Passed Yes 2, No 0, Abstained 0

MOVANT: Tom Audette

SECOND: Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr

AYES: Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr, Tom Audette

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Christi Cox

RECUSED: None



Karen M. Brogdon, Clerk to Council