



**York County
County Council
Minutes
April 14, 2026**

Council Workshop

**York County Heckle Complex
Large Conference Room
1070 Heckle Boulevard
Rock Hill, South Carolina 29732**

6:00 PM

Call to Order

Christi Cox, Chairwoman

Chairwoman Cox called the meeting to order. All Council members were present.

County Manager, Josh Edwards, Assistant County Managers Tom Couch and David Garner and Interim Assistant County Manager, Eric Rekitt were also in attendance.

Interim County Attorney Laura Dover was present.

New Business

1. FY27 Budget Development Follow Up

Josh Edwards, County Manager, explained that on Monday, April 20, 2026, he will present the official budget to the Council and the first reading will be in May.

Josh Edwards presented the following:

Big Rocks of the Budget

- Providing Responsive & Exceptional Service
 - 3.5% merit raise
 - 22 recommended FTE's
- Protecting York County
 - Motorola
 - Law Enforcement Raises
 - Moss Justice Center/911 Tower
- Planning for the Future
 - Comp Plan Update
 - Utility Fund
- Building for the Future
 - Updated General Capital & Utility Funds CIP
 - Additional \$2M for County Roads

Assistant County Manager, Tom Couch presented the FY 2027 Strategic Investments for Planning for the Future:

- Stormwater Inventory Phase I/Assessment \$410,000 and MS4 Compliance \$275,000 (Fund Balance)
- Newport Small Area Corridor Plan \$150,000 (ED Fund)
- I-77 South Corridor Plan \$150,000(ED Fund)
- Parks Long Range Master Plan \$125,000
- Comprehensive Plan Update \$300,000 (General Fund)
- Space Needs Assessment \$1,200,000 (Fund Balance)
- Exit 90 Feasibility Study

Building Capacity

- Long Range Planning Position \$144,900 (Recurring)
- Senior Building Inspector \$120,285 (Recurring)
- Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance \$120,000 (One-Time)

Interim Assistant County Manager, Eric Rekitt presented information on Utilities, Planning for the Future

- Comprehensive System Study
- Financial Rate Study
- Capital Planning

Project Execution and Completion

County Manager, Josh Edwards, presented information on Building for the Future, Capital Projects

- Capital Projects Fund: \$38,813,636
- Catawba Bend: \$1,510,400
- Capital Maintenance: \$11,999,722
- Solid Waste Collection: \$1,331,000
- Water & Sewer: \$13,610,350
- Pennies: \$145,560,000
- Bethel LW Preservation Parks District: \$1,200,000

Addition of a Capital Projects Manager (reclass of an existing position) to ensure approximately 112 projects are delivered on schedule, on budget and in alignment with Council priorities.

Eric Rekitt provided an update on an in-house paving review which has resulted in

approximately \$3,000,000 in savings. Mr. Rekitt explained that management is suggesting a roads division reclassification which will provide a career ladder and incentivize training/certifications; suggests increasing county road funding from \$2M to \$4M.

Utilities

- Water & Sewer Rate Increases
 - 6% water volumetric per 1,000/gal
 - 10% sewer volumetric per 1,000/gal (this includes an 8% pass through from the City)
 - \$2.47 increase in water base charge
 - \$1.47 increase in sewer base charge
- Proactive tank maintenance program
- Parts inventory
- In-house rehabilitation of sewer pump stations
- Personnel requests
 - Utility Project Manager
 - Utility Accounting Manager
- Capital Projects

Assistant County Manager, David Garner, presented information on Protecting York County: Fire/EMS/Public Safety

York County Fire Service Revenues:

FY 2026: \$7,993,420

FY 2027: \$10,405,820

Proposed 1.0 mill increase FY 2027

Public Safety Capital Requests

- Moss Justice Booking Center Renovation
- Moss Justice Center HVAC Project
- Moss Justice Alert System
- coroner's Facility
- Mobile Command Post
- Design Cost
 - Fire Station
 - Multi-Agency Public Safety Center
- Security Cameras at LETC And Firing Range
- Bullock Creek Fire Station Expansion

Personnel Requests

- EMS Director
- Fire Service Staffing

- Sheriff's Office
- Public Safety Communications

Mr. Edwards presented information on the Economic Development Strategy:

- I-77 South Corridor Plan
- Newport Small Area Corridor Plan
- No GF Transfer
- Small Business Focus
- Updated Incentive Policy
- Office Space Needs

Partnership with Parks

- Parks and Recreation Positions
 - Maintenance Tech (Admin)
 - Park Ranger I (CBP)
 - Park Ranger II (CBP)

Legal

Mid-Year Legal Positions:

- Two County Attorney Positions
- One Council Attorney Position

Council Communications

- Budget Communications
- Committee Communications

Additional Budget Information

- FY 27 Millage Information
 - Value of a Mill - approximately \$2.3M
 - Unincorporated value of the mill - approximately \$1.3M
 - Mill Rate Changes:
 - Capital Maintenance - 2.9 to 3.5
 - Rural Fire - 6.6 to 7.6
 - YCSO Capital - 2 to 1.75 transfer from GF for capital
- FY 27 New Personnel
 - 22 new FTE's requested

Legislative Updates - Staff/Management is currently following each of these closely.

- Municipal Capital Project Sales Tax
- Auditor/Treasurer Qualifications
- SCDOT Reform

Revenue Update

- Watercraft Taxes - biggest impact of projected loss
- Heavy Duty Trucks - no available updated as of April 7, 2026
- Homestead Exemption - no available updates as of April 7, 2026

General Fund Revenues Summary

Accommodations Tax Summary/Requests

- Arts Council - \$50,000
- Culture and Heritage Museums - \$15,000
- Visit York County above the \$300K allocated - \$230,000
- Olde English District - \$30,000
- NAACP 2027 MLK Parade - \$10,000
- Fort Mill History Museum - \$21,000
- Anne Springs Close Greenway - \$62,620
- Narroway Productions - \$4,000
- York County - Catawba Bend Park Greenway Construction - 0
- York County - Catawba Bend Park - Fishing Rodeo Event - 0
- York County - Naked Goat Market - \$10,450
- York County Field Day Park - \$11,875
- York County - Ebenezer Park - \$3,900
- York County - Allison Creek Park - \$850
- Rock Hill Miracle Park - Capital Funding - 0

2. FY27 Agency Funding Process Update

County Manager, Josh Edwards provided a list of agency funding recommendations:

County/City Airport - \$593,681
Soil & Water Conservation - \$15,000
Keystone - \$55,750
Board of Disabilities - \$108,050
York County Council on Aging - \$88,750

Lake Wylie Marine Commission - \$25,000
Cooperative Extension Service - \$58,736
Safe Passage - \$100,000
Boys & Girls Club - \$45,000
Catawba Mental Health - \$125,000

Council would like to discuss this proposed funding in more detail at a future budget workshop.

Executive Session

Personnel Matter/Contractual Matter: Interim County Attorney

Receipt of Legal Advice: Consider Settlement in Project No. 17228-003, Tract 97

Motion to go into Executive Session

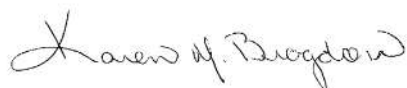
Passed	Yes 6, No 0, Abstained 0
MOVANT:	Tom Audette
SECOND:	Andy Litten
AYES:	Tom Audette, Andy Litten, Tommy Adkins, Christi Cox, Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr, Debi Cloninger
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	William Bump Roddey
RECUSED:	None

Matters for consideration/actions following Executive Session

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn.

Passed	Yes 6, No 0, Abstained 0
MOVANT:	Tom Audette
SECOND:	Andy Litten
AYES:	Tom Audette, Andy Litten, Tommy Adkins, Christi Cox, Ansel Watts Huckabee Sr, Debi Cloninger
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	William Bump Roddey
RECUSED:	None



Karen M. Brogdon, Clerk to Council