

Intergovernmental Luncheon Agenda*

Friday, May 5, 2023

Lancaster County Historic Courthouse
100 North Main Street
Lancaster, SC 29720

1. **Call to Order – Steve Harper, Chair, Lancaster County Council** 12:00 p.m.
2. **Welcome and Recognition – Steve Harper, Chair, Lancaster County Council**
3. **Invocation – Honorable Eddie Boykin, Board of Trustees, Lancaster County School District**
4. **Approval of the Minutes from the February 10, 2023, Intergovernmental Luncheon Meeting – pgs. 3-8**
5. **Discussion / Action Items**
 - a. Strategic Plan Focus Group Presentation and Discussion and Update regarding Lancaster County’s Strategic Plan – Jason Gray, Managing Principal, Willdan
 - b. Legislative Update – *Honorable Brandon Newton, South Carolina State House Representative, District 45, and Delegation Chair; Honorable Cody T. Mitchell, South Carolina State House Representative, District 65; Honorable James M. “Mike” Neese, South Carolina State House Representative, District 44; Honorable Richard L. “Richie” Yow, South Carolina House District 53; Honorable Penry Gustafson, South Carolina State Senator, District 27; and Honorable Michael Johnson, South Carolina State Senator, District 16.*
 - c. Community Roundtable/Jurisdictional Update – *Chair or Administrator/Superintendent - 2-minute update for each Agency*
 - d. Announcement of next Intergovernmental Meeting Dates: (1) August 11, 2023; and (2) November 3, 2023. – *Steve Harper, Chair, Lancaster County Council*
6. **Adjournment**

*The Government Agencies being represented at the Intergovernmental Luncheon will be Lancaster County Council, Lancaster County School District Board of Trustees, Lancaster City Council, Heath Springs Town Council, Kershaw Town Council and Van Wyck Town Council

Anyone requiring special services to attend this meeting should contact 285-1565 at least 24 hours in advance of this meeting. Lancaster County Council agendas are posted at the Lancaster County Administration Building and are available on the Website:

www.mylancastersc.org



Governmental Agencies Represented

Lancaster County Council

*Lancaster County School District
Board of Trustees*

Lancaster City Council

Heath Springs Town Council

Kershaw Town Council

Van Wyck Town Council

Minutes of the Intergovernmental Luncheon Meeting

Lancaster County Historic Courthouse
100 North Main Street
Lancaster, SC 29720

Friday, February 10, 2023

Lancaster County Council Members present were Allen Blackmon, Brian Carnes, Terry Graham, and Jose Luis. Council Members Steve Harper, Charlene McGriff and Billy Mosteller were absent. Lancaster County government staff also present at the meeting were Dennis Marstall, County Administrator; John Bodner, Assistant County Administrator; Ginny Merck-Dupont, County Attorney; Brenda Thompson, Communications and Marketing Director; Sherrie Simpson, Clerk to Council; and Donna Greene, Deputy Clerk to Council. A quorum of Lancaster County Council was present for the meeting.

Lancaster County School District Board of Trustee Member Brad Small was present for the meeting. Board of Trustee Members Eddie Boykin, Casey Catoe, Tyrom Faulkner, Margaret Gamble, Courtney Green, and Melvin Stroble, Sr. were absent. Lancaster County School District Superintendent Dr. Jonathan Phipps was also present at the meeting. The Lancaster County School District Board of Trustee Members *did not* have a quorum in attendance at the meeting.

Lancaster City Council Members Tomonica Marsh, Ronnie Sowell, and Mayor T. Alston DeVenny were present for the meeting. City Council Members (Mayor Pro-Tempore) Jackie Harris, Kenny Hood, Octavia Jones, and Hazel Taylor were absent. Lancaster City staff also present at the meeting were Alize Thomas, Marketing and Development Manager, and Tracy Rabon, City Clerk. The Lancaster City Council *did not* have a quorum in attendance at the meeting.

Heath Springs Town Council Member Vincent Webb and Mayor Eddie Moore were present for the meeting. Town Council Members Peggy Bowers Hopkins, Mayor Pro-Tempore Iva Lee Drakeford, and Deborah Truesdale were absent. Heath Springs Town staff also present at the meeting were Wanda Kilpatrick, Town Administrator, and Kimberly Miller, Town Clerk. The Heath Springs Town Council *did not* have a quorum in attendance at the meeting.

There were not any Kershaw Town Council Members present for the meeting. Town Council Members John Connell, III, Michael Cook, Bobbie Faulkenberry, Harvey Truesdale, Danny Williams, and Mayor Mark Dorman were absent. There were not any Kershaw Town staff present at the meeting. The Kershaw Town Council *did not* have a quorum in attendance at the meeting.

Van Wyck Town Council Members Bob Doster, Stuart Graham and Mayor Sean Corcoran were present for the meeting. Van Wyck Council Members Xavier Kee and Cassandra Watkins were absent. Van Wyck Town staff also present at the meeting was Janice Grubbs, Treasurer. A quorum of Van Wyck Town Council was present for the meeting.

The following members of the Lancaster Delegation were present for the meeting: Honorable Brandon Newton, South Carolina House District 45; Honorable James M. "Mike" Neese, South Carolina State House Representative, District 44; and Honorable Penry Gustafson, South Carolina State Senator, District 27.

Others present for the meeting were Wes Carter, representative for the Lancaster County Water and Sewer District; Reid Wilkerson, representative for the Indian Land Chamber of Commerce; Grazier Rhea, Community Development Director, Catawba Regional Council of Governments; Katherine Farrand, Grants and Planning Associate, Catawba Regional Council of Governments; the press; and citizens.

The following press were notified of the meeting by e-mail in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act: *The Lancaster News*, *Kershaw News Era*, *The Rock Hill Herald*, Cable News 2, Channel 9, and the local Government Channel. The agenda was posted in the lobby of the County Administration Building, on the county website, and at the Historic Courthouse the required length of time.

Call to Order

Brian Carnes called the Intergovernmental Luncheon meeting to order at approximately 12:00 p.m.

Welcome And Recognition

Brian Carnes welcomed everyone to the Intergovernmental Luncheon meeting and thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

Invocation

Honorable Stuart Graham led the Invocation.

Approval of the Minutes from the November 4, 2022, Intergovernmental Luncheon Meeting

Mayor Alston DeVenny moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by Terry Graham. The minutes from the November 4, 2022, Intergovernmental Luncheon meeting were approved unanimously.

Discussion / Action Items

Commonalities for Needs Assessments for Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)

Grazier Rhea, Community Development Director with the Catawba Regional Council of Governments, provided an overview of the needs assessment process, possible Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding programs, and similar prioritized community needs for Lancaster County, the Town of Heath Springs, the Town of Kershaw, and the City of Lancaster. The similar prioritized community needs list was attached to the agenda packet, along with Prioritized Community Needs List for Lancaster County, the City of Lancaster, the Town of Heath Springs, and the Town of Kershaw. She noted that CDBG funding had to be tied to needs that benefit low to moderate income areas.

She explained that Lancaster County, the City of Lancaster, the Town of Heath Springs and the Town of Kershaw all had the following priority needs on their lists: (1) upgrade or extension of sewer services, water services, including fire protection, to low and moderate income (LMI) neighborhoods and areas; (2) demolition of vacant and dilapidated residential structures; (3) promote economic development to include extension and/or upgrade of infrastructure to expanding or new businesses in order to create jobs; and (4) activities to provide affordable housing for low and moderate income persons. She also explained that the following priority needs were on multiple lists for local governments in Lancaster but not on Lancaster County's list: (1) activities to enhance downtown areas through streetscape enhancements, including streetlights, sidewalks, landscaping, surveillance cameras, and road improvements; (2) recreational facilities including parks, trails and greenways; and (3) improved storm drainage to areas that flood during times of heavy rain.

Finally, she reviewed the income survey process and the public hearing process for the needs assessments. She explained that the public hearing notice for the needs assessment process has to be published seven days prior to the meeting; however, if there is no paper, then a flyer can be posted in various places ten days prior to the meeting.

Growth and Infrastructure

Dennis Marstall, County Administrator for Lancaster County, explained that this meeting was the one-year anniversary of holding the Intergovernmental Luncheon meetings. He thanked everyone for participating. He introduced the following new staff members: (1) John Bodner, the Assistant County Administrator; (2) Ginny Merck-Dupont as the new in-house County attorney; and (3) Brenda Thompson as the County's new Communications and Marketing Director.

He noted that the following presentation would normally have been given by Rox Burhans, the Development Services Director; however, he explained that he has left the County for other pursuits. He further noted that the County had hired an Interim Planning Director for, at least, the next six months while searching for a new Planning Director. He then reviewed a power point presentation entitled "Intergovernmental Luncheon Growth and Impact – Overriding Issue" and that power point is attached as Schedule A to the written minutes in the Clerk to Council's office.

School District Retreat Update

Brad Small, Chair for the Lancaster County School District Board of Trustees, noted that the School District was under contract to purchase a piece of land between Indian Land Elementary and Harrisburg Elementary Schools which is an area that has a lot of growth. He also explained that the School District recently held a retreat that was attended by the County officials, City officials and the local legislative delegation. He noted that the District appreciated everyone's attendance.

He further explained that the school was potentially looking to have a bond referendum; however, he explained that they did not want to raise taxes. He explained that the Board of Trustees would be discussing a potential bond with their bond counsel at an upcoming meeting. He discussed the need for additional schools in Indian Land, as well as elsewhere throughout the County. He noted that Clinton Elementary School was built in the 1940's and that the last school that was built outside of Indian Land was 1975. Finally, he discussed the importance of having a bond with no taxes raised on the millage.

Attendees asked about the school's plan for Fiscal Watch, and Brad Small explained that there was miscommunication in their audit and that they were appealing the Fiscal Watch finding. Attendees, Brad Small and Dr. Phipps discussed whether the District should go ahead and raise taxes through a bond so that the District had enough funds for the future, whether they should buy land for future schools now, additional information regarding why the school was under Fiscal Watch for a second year, and what plan B would be if the bond failed, which they indicated would be using mobiles and continued maintenance of old, aging buildings. They continued to discuss the need for additional schools in the future, having a potential bond without raising taxes, and the importance of having help and support for the bond initiative. They also noted that the District did discuss their growth plan at the retreat. Finally, attendees discussed whether there should be impact fees throughout the County and whether developers should be asked to build schools.

Legislative Update

Honorable Brandon Newton, South Carolina House District 45 and Delegation Chair, provided a legislative update. He noted that Lancaster would have a seven-member delegation after December of 2024. He explained that the legislative session had begun and that the State would, again, have a surplus of money for the year; however, he explained that the recurring revenue was lower this year. He explained that the State was likely to have a State employee pay raise, more money for public schools, and pay raises for law enforcement. He provided an update on road projects within the County.

Honorable Penry Gustafson, South Carolina State Senator, District 27, provided everyone with a handout entitled "Press Release for Immediate Release" regarding her schedule for upcoming town hall events and that handout is attached as Schedule B to the written minutes in the Clerk to Council's office. She explained that the Senate and the House were both working on budgets.

Honorable James M. "Mike" Neese, South Carolina House Representative, District 44, noted that he was excited to represent District 44 and that the delegation was working well as a team.

Community Roundtable/Jurisdictional Update

There was no update from Lancaster County, as Dennis Marstall, County Administrator, had already presented information regarding growth and infrastructure and had already updated the group on the County's recent work and projects.

There was no update from the Lancaster County School District Board of Trustees, as they had already presented information regarding their retreat.

Mayor Alston DeVenny provided a jurisdictional update for the City of Lancaster. He explained that the City was still experiencing positive growth and could handle more growth. He noted that the City was also experiencing redevelopment for older lots. He explained that the City was having more issues with homelessness. He also noted that there was interest in Main Street development.

Wanda Kilpatrick, Town Administrator, provided a jurisdictional update for the Town of Heath Springs. She explained that a new Family Dollar/Dollar Tree and a new boutique would be opening soon in Heath Springs. She noted that the Town had hired new staff and that they were working on a strategic plan. She noted that the Town's water meter project was nearing completion.

There was no jurisdictional update from the Town of Kershaw.

Mayor Sean Corcoran provided a jurisdictional update for the Town of Van Wyck. He explained that the Council did pass the Town's new Unified Development Ordinance (UDO).

Announcement of next Intergovernmental Meeting Dates for 2023

Brian Carnes announced that the next Intergovernmental meeting dates would be on May 5th, August 11th, and November 3rd. He thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

Adjournment

Allen Blackmon moved to the adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Jose Luis. The motion to adjourn passed unanimously. There being no further business, the Intergovernmental Luncheon meeting adjourned at approximately 1:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Sherrie Simpson
Clerk to Council,
Lancaster County

DRAFT