

Intergovernmental Luncheon Agenda*

Friday, November 3, 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 – John H. Douglas, Town Administrator, Town of Kershaw**
4. **Approval of the Minutes from the August 11, 2023, Intergovernmental Luncheon Meeting – pgs. 3-7**
5. **Discussion / Action Items**
 - a. Comprehensive Plan Update – *Ashley Davis, Deputy Planning Director*
 - b. Legislative Wish List – *Dennis Marstall, County Administrator*
 - c. 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.*
 - d. Community Roundtable/Jurisdictional Update – *Chair or Administrator/Superintendent - 2-minute update for each Governing Body*
 - e. Announcement of Tentative Intergovernmental Meeting Dates for 2024: (1) February 9, 2024; (2) May 10, 2024; (3) August 9, 2024; and (4) November 8, 2024. – *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
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Lancaster County Council Members present were Allen Blackmon, Brian Carnes, Jose Luis, and Charlene McGriff. Council Members Terry Graham, Steve Harper, and Billy Mosteller were absent. Lancaster County government staff also present at the meeting were Dennis Marstall, Lancaster County Administrator; 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 Members Tyrom Faulkner and Brad Small were present for the meeting. Board of Trustee Members Eddie Boykin, Casey Catoe, Margaret Gamble, Courtney Green, and Melvin Stroble were all absent from the meeting. There were no other Lancaster County School District staff 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 (Mayor Pro-Tempore) Jackie Harris, Tomonica Marsh, and Ronnie Sowell were present for the meeting. City Council Members Kenny Hood, Octavia Jones, Hazel Taylor, and Mayor T. Alston DeVenny were absent. Lancaster City staff also present at the meeting were Steven "Flip" Hutfles, City Administrator, and Tracy Rabon, City Clerk. The City of Lancaster *did not* have a quorum in attendance at the meeting.

Heath Springs Town Mayor Eddie Moore and Town Council Member Deborah Truesdale were present for the meeting. Town Council Members Peggy Bowers Hopkins, Mayor Pro-Tempore Iva Lee Drakeford, and Vincent Webb 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. Kershaw Town staff present at the meeting was John Douglas, Town Administrator. The Kershaw Town Council *did not* have a quorum in attendance at the meeting.

Van Wyck Town Council Member Bob Doster was present for the meeting. Van Wyck Council Members Stuart Graham, Xavier Kee, Cassandra Watkins, and Van Wyck Town Mayor Sean Corcoran were absent. Van Wyck Town staff present at the meeting was Janice Grubbs, Treasurer. The Van Wyck Town Council *did not* have a quorum in attendance at the meeting.

The following members of the Lancaster Delegation were present for the meeting: Honorable Brandon Newton, South Carolina State House Representative, District 45 (Delegation Chair); 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 Brad Bucy, Manager of the Lancaster County Water and Sewer District; Randy Imler, Executive Director, Catawba Regional Council of Governments; Amy Chitwood, 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.

Invocation

Honorable Jackie Harris led the Invocation.

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Brian Carnes introduced and welcomed John Douglas, the new Kershaw Town Administrator.

Approval of the Minutes from the May 5, 2023, Intergovernmental Luncheon Meeting

Charlene McGriff moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by Jackie Harris. The minutes from the May 5, 2023, Intergovernmental Luncheon meeting were approved by unanimous vote.

Discussion / Action Items

Highlights from the draft Lancaster County Strategic Plan

Dennis Marstall, Lancaster County Administrator, reviewed and highlighted the vision, mission, values, strategic themes, objectives, and activities from the County's draft Strategic Plan. The draft Strategic Plan is attached as Schedule A to the written minutes in the Clerk to Council's office. He noted that the Strategic Plan was coming up on a Council agenda soon for adoption. He further noted that this Plan has a three-to-five-year implementation schedule. Honorable Penry Gustafson asked why the Plan was not addressing broadband expansion and Dennis Marstall explained that broadband was being addressed on the State level.

Legislative Preview

Dennis Marstall, Lancaster County Administrator, explained that in his previous jurisdictions, the elected officials came up with a legislative agenda for the delegation. He explained that the intergovernmental agencies have a good relationship with the delegation, and he asked what the timeline would be for getting issues to the delegation if these agencies had identified some items with which they needed help. One item that Dennis Marstall stated that the County needed guidance on from the State is any upcoming public safety pay increases and on road closures. He asked that the elected officials think about possible items with which their governmental agency may need help.

Legislative Update

Honorable Brandon Newton highlighted that the State budget had been finalized. He explained that the local government fund saw a good year. He further explained that the teachers had pay raises, that the County Transportation Committees (CTC) saw more money, and that the County would have a new State Park. He noted that the process for a new State Park was a multi-year process and that the first step was to purchase the land. He thanked Representative Mike Neese for his work on bringing the Park to fruition. He also noted that this opportunity was huge for the County.

Honorable Mike Neese further explained that for the first year or two, the State would be studying the property for the new State Park. He noted that he would stay involved in the process.

Honorable Penry Gustafson explained that every State employee received a \$2500.00 pay raise, including teachers. She noted that the County needed to keep up with infrastructure needs in order to effectively deal with growth. She also noted that governmental agencies need to work to retain the employees that they already have. She also agreed with the County Administrator about providing information/agendas to the delegation because that helps them know what to work on in the legislature. She noted that there were two (2) important bills from the legislature this year dealing with the following topics: (1) voter safety; and (2) fentanyl, which created a criminal statute for trafficking fentanyl.

Honorable Brandon Newton explained that the penny sales tax for roads was passed by the State. He noted that this money could be used to expand highways and to build overpasses or bypasses. He further noted that before 2019, only larger Counties could use this type of penny sales tax for roads. A discussion was held regarding the possible uses of the tax. Brian Carnes noted that the tax could be used to obtain additional grants for roads as these funds could be used as the match for other possible grants. Bob Doster asked for the process and for help to get a four-way stop installed at the dangerous intersection on Steele Hill Road.

Community Roundtable/Jurisdictional Update

Brian Carnes, Vice-Chair of Lancaster County Council, provided a jurisdictional update for the County. He explained that the County was in the process of merging two fire fee districts in Indian Land in order to have more professional fire services in that area of the County. He also explained that the County was looking at a way to fund a regional park and a new detention center. He noted that the new trend in regionalism for detention centers might be of benefit to the County.

Brad Small, Chair of the Lancaster County Board of Trustees, provided a jurisdictional update for the School Board. He noted that the County would be welcoming back to school over 2500 staff and over 15,000 students over the next two Monday's and he asked that everyone in the County be patient and safe. He also noted that the staff did receive five to nine percent raises this year, which should help with retention. He further noted that the finalists for the school superintendent should be announced by the end of the month. He explained that the proposed school bond referendum was tentatively scheduled for March of 2024 and that the bond was proposed to be for 300 million dollars but without raising any property taxes in the County. Lastly, he noted that the School District closed on a property in Indian Land for a new elementary school and was negotiating on another one hundred acres.

John Douglas, Town Administrator, provided a jurisdictional update for the Town of Kershaw. He noted that the Town had new water meters installed. He also noted that the Town was working on various grant applications and explained that one was for a streetscape project on Hampton Street. He further explained that the Town was in the process of refurbishing their welcome signs. He stated that the Town had started an annexation initiative. He noted that the Early Childhood Education Center in the old bank building downtown has been completed and opened. Lastly, he

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noted that the Town was negotiating with the YMCA to open a branch in the community center in Stevens Park.

Flip Hutfles, City Administrator, provided a jurisdictional update for the City of Lancaster. He noted that the City was working with a car dealership to open and expand. He noted that the work on the Greenway was continuing with the pedestrian bridge on Roddey Drive and the underpass on Main Street. He noted that the City was still seeing growth and that there had not been any slowdown in sales. He further noted that the City was trying to finalize their Comprehensive Plan by the end of the year and that they have budgeted for a Strategic Plan in the coming year.

Bob Doster, Council Member for the Town of Van Wyck, provided a jurisdictional update for the Town of Van Wyck. He noted that the Town was putting in a parking lot and that the playground equipment for their park would be installed in the fall.

Brad Bucy, Manager of the Lancaster County Water and Sewer District (LCWSD) provided a jurisdictional update for LCWSD. He noted that the District had received a 10 million dollar grant from the State to work on a 17 million dollar project.

Wanda Kilpatrick, Town Administrator, provided a jurisdictional update for the Town of Heath Springs. She explained that the Town was applying for grants and was working on their water and sewer infrastructure. She noted that they were working to improve the look of their Town. She also noted that the Town hosted a successful July 4th parade. Lastly, she noted that the Town had just gone through their annual audit. Mayor Eddie Moore also invited everyone to attend the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People's (NAACP) prayer vigil for schools on August 13, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. in the Lancaster High School auditorium.

Announcement of next Intergovernmental Meeting Dates for 2023

Brian Carnes thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. The next Intergovernmental meeting date was listed on the agenda as November 3rd.

Adjournment

Allen Blackmon moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Wanda Kilpatrick. The motion to adjourn passed unanimously. There being no further business, the Intergovernmental Luncheon meeting adjourned at approximately 12:54 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Sherrie Simpson
Clerk to Council,
Lancaster County

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