

Jason M. Springs
District 1

Andrew T. Rodgers, Jr.
District 2

Dr. Alphonso Bradley
District 3

Jerry W. Yarborough, Jr.
District 4

Kent C. Caudle
District 5

Stoney "Toney" C. Moore
District 6

Waymon Mumford
District 7

C. William Schofield
District 8

Willard Dorriety, Jr.
District 9

AGENDA
FLORENCE COUNTY COUNCIL
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
180 NORTH IRBY STREET,
COUNTY COMPLEX
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ROOM 803
FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA
WEDNESDAY, JULY 30, 2025
8:30 A.M.

The Council meeting will be accessible via live stream at www.florenceco.org.

- I. CALL TO ORDER: C. WILLIAM SCHOFIELD, CHAIRMAN**
- II. INVOCATION: WAYMON MUMFORD, SECRETARY/CHAPLAIN**
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG:**
JERRY YARBOROUGH, JR., VICE-CHAIRMAN
- IV. WELCOME: C. WILLIAM SCHOFIELD, CHAIRMAN**
- V. REPORTS TO COUNCIL:**

A. ADMINISTRATION:

COMMITMENT LETTER

Council Is Requested To Authorize The Administrator To Sign A
Funding Commitment Letter Relative To A SC RIA SCIIP Grant-

Funded Project For The Headworks Of The City Of Lake City
Wastewater Treatment Plant, Pending County Attorney Review And
Approval.

VI. ADJOURN:

SPECIAL CALLED FLORENCE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

JULY 30, 2025

AGENDA ITEM: Reports To Council

DEPARTMENT: Administration

ISSUE UNDER CONSIDERATION:

Council Is Requested To Authorize The Administrator To Sign A Funding Commitment Letter Relative To A SC RIA SCIIP Grant-Funded Project For The Headworks Of The City Of Lake City Wastewater Treatment Plant, Pending County Attorney Review And Approval.

POINTS TO CONSIDER:

- 1) Over the past few years, the City of Lake City has spent several million dollars expanding the capacity of its wastewater treatment plant from 5,000,000 gallons per day to 10-15,000,000 gallons per day.
- 2) The City has received bids for the last phase of this project, which is to expand the headworks, or the piping, into the plant. If the headworks are not expanded, the additional plant capacity will not be able to be used effectively and efficiently.
- 3) The low bid on this portion of the project is approximately \$6,800,000; however, the SCIIP grant received from SC RIA is for only \$4,800,000, creating a \$2,000,000 funding shortfall. In addition, there is \$600,000 in unfunded engineering costs.
- 4) The City does not have sufficient funds to cover this \$2,600,000 shortfall. If the County does not commit to funding the shortfall, the City will lose the \$4,800,000 grant. As a result, future economic development in this area will be negatively impacted for the next several years.
- 5) The City is currently in discussions to issue a \$600,000 three-year general obligation bond to fund the engineering costs. Given the City's current financial condition, the County will probably have to purchase this bond. The contemplated interest rate on this bond would be at a current market rate of 4.25%
- 6) SC RIA has indicated that, if the project moves forward expeditiously, it may be willing to provide additional SCIIP grant funds in the amount of \$1,500,000.
- 7) Additionally, Santee Electric Cooperative has indicated it may be willing to also provide \$200,000 in RDA funds for this project.
- 8) Therefore, even though the attached letter commits Florence County to fund approximately \$2,600,000, the actual financial contribution by Florence County at the end of the project may be as little as \$300,000.

FUNDING FACTORS:

The \$2,600,000 funding commitment would be shared equally between CPST3A funds which Council has allocated for municipal water and sewer projects and Economic Development Fund 111.

OPTIONS:

1. (Recommended) approved as presented.
2. Provide an alternate directive.

ATTACHMENT:

1. Draft commitment letter

Abby Linden, CPM
Grants Program Manager
South Carolina Rural Infrastructure Auth
1201 Main Street
Suite 1600
Columbia, SC 29201

July 30, 2025

SCIIP Grant No.:
A-23-C111

**Funding Commitment - Lake Swamp WWTP Construction Contract for Wastewater
Improvements**

Dear Abby,

This letter represents Florence County's commitment to fund construction costs in the amount of \$2,046,674.82 and non-construction costs in the amount of \$579,174.55. These costs will be funded from a combination of capital project sales tax funds and economic development funds, both of which are currently on hand.

We also acknowledge our willingness to fund any project change orders as well as any additional project costs unable to be funded by SCIIP grant funds due to as of yet unforeseen project delays which would cause the project to be delayed past the June 1, 2026 grant expenditure deadline.

Florence County Council has approved the signing of this letter at a special called meeting on July 30, 2025.

Sincerely,

Kevin V. Yokim, CPA, CGFO, ICMA-CM
Florence County Administrator