

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF LANCASTER) **ORDINANCE NO. 2023-1846**

AN ORDINANCE

ESTABLISHING A POLICY AND PROCEDURE FOR NAMING COUNTY-OWNED PROPERTIES OR STRUCTURES.

WHEREAS, naming opportunities for County-owned properties or structures exist to recognize extraordinary efforts, accomplishments, service, generosity, geography, history and natural elements which are valuable to Lancaster County; and

WHEREAS, naming opportunities for County-owned properties or structures are expected to reflect the history, tradition and values of Lancaster County; and

WHEREAS, Lancaster County Council has determined that it is in the best interest of the Citizens of Lancaster County for there to be a written policy and procedure for naming County-owned properties or structures to ensure that naming practices properly reflect the history, tradition and values of Lancaster County.

NOW, THEREFORE, by the power and authority granted to the Lancaster County Council by the Constitution of the State of South Carolina and the powers granted to the County by the General Assembly of the State, it is ordained and enacted that:

SECTION I. Title

Lancaster County Code of Ordinances is hereby amended to add a section entitled “Naming of County-Owned Properties or Structures” as follows:

A. Objective.

To set the policy and guidelines for official naming of County owned properties or structures.

B. Policy and Priorities.

Council may receive recommendations as to the naming of County-owned properties or structures from the public, staff and related advisory bodies. All final decisions on naming or renaming of any County owned property or structures will be made by County Council in its sole and complete discretion.

C. Guidelines.

(1) Naming:

- a) Properties or structures owned by the County may be named for an elected or appointed public official or public employee.
- b) Properties or structures owned by the County may be named for areas of geographic interest located within Lancaster County.

- c) Properties or structures owned by the County may be named for persons or events of historical or patriotic significance in the United States provided they are related to Lancaster County.
- d) Properties or structures owned by the County may be named for nature or wildlife which are indigenous to Lancaster County.
- e) Properties or structures, owned by the County may be named for individuals who, in the opinion of Council, have made exceptional contributions to the community by having met one or more of the following:
 - 1. Contribution which resulted in the long-term health and/or well being of the people of Lancaster County.
 - 2. Must not have any other property or structures named for them in the County.
 - 3. Nominated individuals must be supported by five letters of recommendation from groups, individuals or communities within the County.
 - 4. Individual must have been actively involved in Lancaster County community affairs for no less than 10 years.
 - 5. Contribution of individual must be of an exceptional quality and/or significance.
 - 6. Nominated individual must be deceased for a minimum of three (3) years.
 - 7. Efforts of individual must have made a lasting, significant contribution to the County's goals and objectives.
 - 8. Vote by County Council must be unanimous.
- f) Properties or structures owned by the County may be named for individuals or groups who have made significant donations of land, money or facilities to the County.
 - 1. Any individual or group that donates a significant amount of money or land may be eligible for naming rights to said property.
 - 2. When a property or structure is named in recognition of an honoree, that name will generally be effective for the useful life of the structure or the designated use of the area; however, the length of time that a property or structure named for the designated individual or group will be determined by County Council.
 - 3. When the proposed naming of a property or structure is in honor of an individual, the complete name of the individual must be used. The last name of the individual so honored may be used in referring informally to the facility.
 - 4. A portion of the facility, such as a meeting or conference room, or other public space may also be named in honor of such individual or group.

(2) Renaming:

- a) Renaming of a property or structure may occur when a property that has been named in honor of an individual has reached the end of its useful life and will

be replaced or substantially renovated. The replaced or renovated structure may be renamed in recognition of another honoree per the criteria set forth herein.

- b) Properties or structures may be renamed when they have been designated for another use and may be named in recognition of a different honoree.
 - c) Appropriate recognition of earlier honorees shall be included in or adjacent to the newly renovated property as well as on any redeveloped property.
 - d) County Council may make a final decision on any renaming for any reason at any time.
- (3) Nominations:
- a) Nominations for naming of County owned properties or structures may be submitted to the Clerk to County Council in writing, accompanied by a justification for the recommended honoree.
 - b) Requests will be reviewed by the County Administrator and other appropriate staff before being submitted to County Council.
- (4) Proposed name must be in good taste per local community standards and must not be insulting or derogatory.

SECTION II. Severability

If any section, subsection or clause of this Ordinance is held to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, the validity of the other sections, subsections and clauses shall not be affected.

SECTION III. Conflicting Provisions

To the extent this Ordinance contains provisions that conflict with provisions contained elsewhere in the Lancaster County Code or other County Ordinances, the provisions contained in this Ordinance supersedes all other provisions and this Ordinance is controlling.

SECTION IV. Effective Date of Ordinance

This Ordinance is effective upon passage of Third Reading.

AND IT IS SO ORDAINED

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2023.

LANCASTER COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

Steve Harper, Chair, County Council

Billy Mosteller, Secretary, County Council

ATTEST:

Sherrie Simpson, Clerk to Council

First Reading: April 11, 2023
Second Reading: April 24, 2023
Third Reading: May 8, 2023
Public Hearing: May 8, 2023

Approved as to form:

Virginia Merck-Dupont, County Attorney