

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )  
 )  
COUNTY OF LANCASTER )

**ORDINANCE NO. 2023-1861**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING LANCASTER COUNTY TO SELL AND CONVEY COUNTY OWNED PROPERTY LOCATED AT 107 SOUTH FRENCH STREET, 208 WEST GAY STREET AND 210 WEST GAY STREET AND CONTAINING .55 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, BY DONATION, BEING SHOWN ON THE LANCASTER COUNTY TAX MAPS AS PARCEL NUMBER 0068P-0Q-009.00.**

**WHEREAS**, the County Council of Lancaster County currently owns a .55 acre, more or less, parcel of land located at 107 South French Street, 208 West Gay Street and 210 West Gay Street which was improved with a jail, library and an office building for the benefit of Lancaster County and its citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the Lancaster County Society for Historical Preservation approached Lancaster County with an interest in acquiring the property in order to restore and recast the Old Library as the Lancaster County Archives Center and the Historic Jail as a Visitor's Center; and

**WHEREAS**, Lancaster County Council has determined that the real property is surplus to the needs of Lancaster County; and

**WHEREAS**, Lancaster County Council has determined that the real property should be donated to the Lancaster County Society for Historical Preservation for the purposes of restoring and recasting both the Library and Jail facilities, but demolishing the Cooperative Extension building or using part of it as an annex for a new Archives Center, thus benefitting the County as a whole; and

**WHEREAS**, the restoration and recasting of the real property of the Old Library and Historic Jail will result in direct and indirect benefits to the County through revitalization of the aforesaid property, which is anticipated to drive further redevelopment efforts for surroundings properties, thereby creating jobs and increasing the tax base of Lancaster County; and

**WHEREAS**, Lancaster County Council has determined that the donation of the real property to the Lancaster County Society for Historical Preservation for the purpose of restoring and recasting these facilities shall include the requirement that the proposed Archives Center and Visitor's Center be made accessible, but not necessarily fully restored and recast, to the public within five (5) years of the date of the conveyance; and

**WHEREAS**, Lancaster County Council has determined that the donation of the real property to the Lancaster County Society for Historical Preservation for the purpose of restoring and recasting these facilities will allow for the demolition of the current Clemson Cooperative Extension Office Building within (4) years from the date of conveyance; and

**WHEREAS**, Lancaster County Council has determined that a condition of the property conveyance should be that if the Lancaster County Society for Historical Preservation ceases ownership of the real property at some time in the future or if the property is no longer used for a public purpose, ownership of the property shall revert to the County at no cost; and

**WHEREAS**, the County Council finds that donation of the property to the Lancaster County Society for Historical Preservation subject to the aforesaid outlined terms is an appropriate conveyance of this surplus real property and will be advantageous to the County and represents an important and necessary governmental function.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED**, by the County Council, as follows:

**Section 1.      Authorization.**

The County is authorized to:

(A) negotiate in good faith with the Lancaster County Society for Historical Preservation in hopes of consummating the conveyance subject to terms as outlined in this Ordinance;

(B) The County Council of Lancaster County hereby authorizes and directs that the Chairman of the Lancaster County Council, make, execute and deliver the deed/donation conveying the premises described herein to the Lancaster County Society for Historical Preservation, to sign all required documents and do all things necessary to complete the sale of the said property.

**Section 2.      Severability.**

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

**Section 3.      Conflicting Provisions.**

Any ordinance, resolution, or other order of the Lancaster County Council, the terms of which are in conflict with this ordinance, is, only to the extent of that conflict, repealed.

**Section 4.      Effective Date.**

This Ordinance shall take effect only after the County Council has approved it after three readings and a public hearing has been duly and timely held.

**LANCASTER COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Harper, Chairman  
Lancaster County Council

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Billy Mosteller, Secretary  
Lancaster County Council

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sherrie Simpson, Clerk to Council  
Lancaster County Council

First Reading:        July 17, 2023  
Second Reading:     August 14, 2023  
Public Hearing:       August 14, 2023  
Third Reading:       August 28, 2023

Approved as to form:

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Virginia L. Merck-Dupont, County Attorney