



Minutes
Sumter County Council
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, October 22, 2019 -- Held at 6:00 p.m.
Sumter County Courthouse, Third Floor, Room 308
County Council's Chambers - 141 North Main Street, Sumter, SC

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COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Vice Chairman James Byrd, Artie Baker, Eugene R. Baten, Charles T. Edens, and Vivian Fleming McGhaney.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Chairman James T. McCain, Jr. (Conference); Chris Sumpter (Death In Family)

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Lorraine Dennis, Mary W. Blanding, Johnathan Bryan; Joe Perry, Keysa Rogers, Allen Dailey, and two Sheriff Deputies.

MEDIA PRESENT: The Item Newspaper

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE: Approximately sixteen members of the public attended this meeting.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Or Vice Chairman Of Sumter County Council
The Honorable James R. Byrd, Vice Chairman of Sumter County Council, called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION: Council Member, Staff Member, Or Local Citizen
Councilman Vivian Fleming McGhaney gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Everyone in attendance repeated the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Regular Meeting Tuesday, October 22, 2019
Vice Chairman Byrd called for a motion on the approval of the agenda for Council's October 22, 2019, meeting.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman Baten, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the agenda of Council's October 22, 2019, meeting as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting Tuesday, October 8, 2019
Vice Chairman Byrd called for a motion on the approval of the minutes of Council's meeting held on October 8, 2019.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baten, seconded by Councilman McGhaney, and unanimously carried by Council to approve the minutes of County Council's meeting held on October 8, 2019.

LAND USE MATTERS AND REZONING REQUESTS:
Planned Development/Rezoning Requests

- (1) OA-19-09 -- Stand-Alone Truck Parking In The Agricultural Conservation (AC) District (County) (19-910) - Second Reading/Public Hearing -- A Request To Amend Article 3 Section 3.N.3:

Agricultural Conservation District (Conditional Uses) And Exhibit 5: Permitted And Conditional Uses In The Agricultural Conservation District Of The Sumter County Zoning & Development Standards Ordinance In Order To Include Commercial Truck And Trailer Parking Lots (SIC Code 752) As A Conditional Use (C-500) In The Agricultural Conservation (AC) Zoning District. (Council Will Hold A Public Hearing On This Ordinance Amendment Prior To Action On Second Reading.)

Mr. George McGregor, the Planning Director, presented this Ordinance Amendment to Council for second reading and public hearing. He stated that this is an Ordinance Amendment request from Mr. Hampton Gardner. The purpose of the request is to amend the text of the *Sumter County Zoning & Development Standards Ordinance* (herein referred to as the Ordinance) to allow stand-alone commercial truck and trailer parking lots in the Agricultural Conservation (AC) District via Conditional Use (C-500) approval.

Mr. McGregor informed Council that the applicant originally applied to make this use a special exception in the AC district. However, after review, staff recommends that this use go forward through the Ordinance Amendment process as a Conditional Use (C-500) versus a special exception. It was also stated that if this ordinance is approved, the staff has developed the following specific ordinance conditions for this use:

1. The applicant shall follow conditional-distance requirements outlined in Article 3, Exhibit 5. Applicable distance shall be measured from the edge of the proposed improved parking lot area.
2. All conditional use criteria outlined in Article 3, Section 5.b.1.a. thru 5.b.1.f. must be met.
3. Access to the site shall only be from a paved road that is functionally classified by SCDOT as a major or minor arterial.
4. A paved transition surface from the public road to at least the security gate of the site or at least 50 ft., whichever is greater.
5. A minimum 6-ft. six foot security fence around the improved parking lot area.
6. The defined parking area must meet applicable non-residential setbacks.
7. Minimum parcel size of 2 acres.
8. Parking area surface materials must consist of either gravel, crusher run, asphalt, or concrete.
9. In addition to required landscaping outlined in Article 8, Section D, the following buffer yard plantings or equivalent shall be provided where adjacent to residential land use and/or where adjacent to a street or road:
 - a. 15 ft. minimum buffer width;
 - b. 3 canopy trees per 100 linear feet;
 - c. 8 evergreen trees per 100 linear feet;

- d. 15 tall shrubs per 100 linear feet;
- e. Plant materials shall be sufficiently large and planted in such a fashion that a year round screen at least six (ft.) in height shall be produced within three (3) growing seasons.

10. All motor vehicles parked on the site must be properly licensed, registered, operable and capable of being driven off the site.

The proposed amendments would impact the following sections:

1. Amend *Article 3: Section 3.n.3 – Conditional Uses* (Agricultural Conservation District) to include Commercial Truck & Trailer Parking (SIC Code 752) as a use subject to conditional use approval.
2. Amend *Article 3: Exhibit 5 – Permitted and Conditional Uses in the Commercial, Industrial, Agricultural, and Conservation Districts* to specifically list Commercial Truck & Trailer Parking (SIC Code 752) as a C-500 use.
3. Amend *Article 5, Section 5.b.1 Criteria for Review* to include specific conditions for Commercial Truck & Trailer Parking Lot (SIC 752).
4. Amend *Article 10: Definitions* to include a specific definition for Commercial Truck & Trailer Parking Lots.

After Mr. McGregor's presentation, the Vice Chairman convened a public hearing on this proposed Ordinance Amendment. He asked if anyone wanted to speak in favor of or opposition to the ordinance. No one spoke to this issue, therefore, the Vice Chairman closed the public hearing and Council took action on second reading.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baten, seconded by Councilman McGhaney, and unanimously carried by Council to grant second reading approval as presented.

- (2) **19-911 – Second Reading/Public Hearing -- An Ordinance Of The Sumter County Council Adopting The Sumter 2040 Comprehensive Plan. (Council Will Hold A Public Hearing On This This Ordinance Prior To Action On Second Reading.)**

Mr. McGregor also presented this Ordinance Amendment for second reading and public hearing. He stated that the 2040 Comprehensive Plan would allow for the City and County, through the work of the Planning Commission, to direct Land Use growth for Commercial, Residential, Industrial, Agricultural, and other areas throughout Sumter.

Additionally, Mr. McGregor stated that the 2040 Comprehensive Plan is more user friendly. There is information in the 2040 Plan that will allow the average citizen to be able to read and understand the information. Also, the maps that are within the plan are color coordinated with green being the more rural areas, yellow the more suburban areas both City and County, blue is the Military Protection area, and the green is the environmental conservation areas.

There are several recommendations and suggestions within the document pending directions from Sumter County Council, which include possible changes to the Zoning Ordinance, studies for housing development, concerns or recommendations for economic development, etc.

After Mr. McGregor's presentation, Vice Chairman Byrd convened a public hearing on this proposed Ordinance Amendment. He asked if anyone wanted to speak in favor of or opposition to the ordinance. No one spoke during this public hearing; therefore, the Vice Chairman closed the public hearing.

Prior to taking action on second reading, Vice Chairman Byrd asked Mr. McGregor if there have been any changes to the commercial corridor. Mr. McGregor stated that there are no recommended changes to the commercial corridor. Then the Vice Chairman called for the motion on this ordinance.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman Edens, and unanimously carried by Council to defer second reading approval and to schedule a Land Use Committee Meeting on November 12, 2019, at 4:30 p.m. in order for Committee Members and Council members to discuss this matter further.

OTHER PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- (1) 19-912 - An Ordinance Authorizing The Transfer Of Property On Wedgefield Road To Wedgefield Baptist Church. (Council Will Take Action On Second Reading Immediately After The Public Hearing Or During Old Business.)

Mr. Johnathan Bryan, the County Attorney, presented this proposed ordinance to Council for second reading approval. He stated that there are several mark-ups listed within the proposed contract. A clean copy of the contract will be ready by third reading; however, the information in this mark-up copy of the contracted needed to be available as a part of the ordinance during the public hearing. The Wedgefield Church offered to purchase the property on Wedgefield Road from the County for \$30,000.

The Vice Chairman convened a public hearing on this matter. No one spoke during public hearing; therefore, the Chairman closed the public hearing. The action on second reading is recorded under Old Business listed below.

NEW BUSINESS:

- (1) A Proclamation Proclaiming October 23-31, 2019, as Red Ribbon Week In Sumter County, South Carolina.

Mary W. Blanding, the Clerk to Council, presented this proposed proclamation to Council on behalf of the Parris Island Youth Program. One of the students, Corporal Bilby, was present and received the Proclamation on behalf of the Parris Island Young Marines Program. After the proclamation was read by the Clerk, pictures were taken with the Vice Chairman and Mayor Allen Daily from the Sheriff's Office.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman McGhaney, and unanimously carried by Council to grant approval of the proclamation, and authorized the

Chairman and the Clerk to execute and deliver the proclamation on behalf of the County.

WHEREAS, Alcohol and drug abuse in this Nation have reached epidemic stages; and

WHEREAS, It is imperative that visible, unified prevention education efforts by community members be launched to eliminate the demand for drugs; and

WHEREAS, The National Red Ribbon Campaign offers citizens the opportunity to demonstrate their commitment to drug-free lifestyles (no use of illegal drugs, no illegal use of legal drugs); and

WHEREAS, The National Red Ribbon Campaign will be celebrated in every community in America during Red Ribbon Week, October 23-31, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Business, Government, parents, law enforcement, media, medical institutions, religious institutions, schools, senior citizens, service organizations, and youth will demonstrate their commitment to healthy, drug-free lifestyles by wearing and displaying red ribbons during this week-long campaign; and

WHEREAS, The community of Sumter County further commit to work with Law Enforcement to ensure the success of the Red Ribbon Campaign;

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, We, the Members of Sumter County Council, do hereby proclaim October 23-31, 2019, as **RED RIBBON WEEK**, and encourage our citizens to participate in drug prevention education activities, not only during Red Ribbon Week, but all year long, making a visible statement that we are strongly committed to a drug-free community in Sumter County, South Carolina.*

(2) Sumter County 2020 Employees Holiday Calendar.

The Assistant County Administrator, Lorraine W. Dennis, presented this proposed Employee Calendar to Council members for action. She stated that there are no new dates; however, the additional date on the 2020 calendar is Election Day. After review of the calendar, Vice Chairman Byrd stated that he would entertain a motion for approval of the 2020 Employee Calendar.

Wednesday, January 1	New Year's Day
Monday, January 20	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Monday, February 17	President's Day
Friday, April 10	Good Friday
Monday, May 25	Memorial Day
Saturday, July 4 (Observed Friday 3)	Independence Day
Monday, September 7	Labor Day
Tuesday, November 3	Election Day
Wednesday, November 11	Veteran's Day
Thursday and Friday, November 26 and 27	Thanksgiving
Wed, Thurs and Friday, December 23, 24, and 25	Christmas
Varied	Employee Birthday

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman McGhaney, and unanimously carried by Council to grant approval of the 2020 Sumter County Employee Holiday Calendar as presented to Council.

(3) Sumter County Council 2020 Meeting Calendar.
 Approved

Month Of Meeting	First Meeting Date	Second Meeting Date
January	14 Held at 141 N. Main Street	28 Held at 141 N. Main Street
February	11 Held at 141 N. Main Street	25 Held at 141 N. Main Street
March	10 Held at 141 N. Main Street	24 Held at 141 N. Main Street
April	14 Held at 141 N. Main Street	28 Held at 141 N. Main Street
May	12 Held at 13 E. Canal Street	26 Held at 13 E. Canal Street
June	9 Held at 13 E. Canal Street	23 Held at 13 E. Canal Street
July	14 Held at 13 E. Canal Street	28 Held at 13 E. Canal Street
August	11 Held at 13 E. Canal Street	25 Held at 13 E. Canal Street
September	8 Held at 13 E. Canal Street	22 Held at 13 E. Canal Street
October	13 Held at 13 E. Canal Street	27 Held at 13 E. Canal Street
November	10 Held at 13 E. Canal Street	24 Held at 13 E. Canal Street
December	8 Held at 13 E. Canal Street	None

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman Edens, and unanimously carried by Council to grant approval of Council meeting calendar as presented.

(4) It May Be Necessary To Hold An Executive Session To Discuss An Economic Development Matter, An Employment Matter, A Legal Briefing, Or Other Matters Pertaining To An Executive Session, And Take Appropriate Actions Thereafter If Required.

None

OLD BUSINESS:

(1) 19-912 - Seconding Reading An Ordinance Authorizing The Transfer Of Property On Wedgefield Road To Wedgefield Baptist Church.

Vice Chairman James R. Byrd asked the County Attorney to present this ordinance to Council and the public. Information on this presentation is listed above under Public Hearing. After the presentation,

the Vice Chairman convened a public hearing. Once the public hearing was concluded, the Vice Chairman stated that he would entertain a motion concerning second reading for this ordinance.

ACTION: MOTION was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman Edens, and unanimously carried by Council to grant second reading approval on this proposed ordinance.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

(1) Report From Council Members On Other Meetings, Trainings, And/Or Conferences.

Councilman Baten called the attention to Council about a letter received from Sumter County Sheriff (attached to the end of these minutes) and all Council members received a copy of this letter. Councilman Baten asked that his statements that he read would be included in the minutes verbatim as listed below.

Letter (undated) from Sumter County Sheriff Anthony Dennis regarding, "Salary Adjustments for Deputies and Detention Center Officers." Sheriff Dennis related that a recent article by WIS (Kiana Miller) on October 9, 2019, referenced a study published by security.org focused on the best and worst cities for police officers in the country. Five South Carolina cities made the list.

In Sheriff Dennis' letter, he said, "I am disappointed and embarrassed that Sumter is presented this way." He further stated that his deputies' are under paid. He said he has personally attended County Council meetings and seen Council members advocate for an increase in educator's salaries but, never heard any council member speak as passionately about law enforcement salaries.

Sheriff Dennis said "And today we are dealing with much harsher criminals who are later housed at our detention center where some of them verbally abuse, threaten, attack, and throw bodily fluids on our detention officers." I am personally aware of detention center inmates' verbally abuse and threats. My daughter, Doctor Alexandria Baten, was an education instructor for the Sumter Adult Education Center and taught classes at the Sumter/Lee Detention Center. Due to under staffing and lack of security, she was repeatedly verbally abused and had her life threatened.

Therefore, I wholeheartedly agree with Sheriff Dennis when he states, "It seems County Council is neglecting its oath to do what is best for the County by neglecting our County officers." Conversely, I concur with the statements by Sheriff Dennis. This is not about policies, this is about men and women who put themselves in harm's way to serve and protect our citizens. People in uniform who make a career in law enforcement. Never knowing when they will be required to make the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.

I recommend that our Personnel Committee address this issue. However, due to past action, I will have this issue placed on the agenda for open discussion during our regular council meeting on November 12, 2019.

Councilman Edens asked to be heard on this matter as presented by Councilman Baten; the Vice Chairman allowed comments from Councilman Edens. Councilman Edens said that this is clearly a budgetary matter and it should be heard during the budget process. It is not something that Council would even consider during mid-year. Councilman Edens further stated that he would fully support Council looking at this during the budgetary process as well as conducting an overall staff analysis of

all employees and salaries. He further said that he does not believe that this should be discussed in the meeting on November 12, 2019, as suggested by Councilman Baten.

Councilman Baten further stated that he would agree that this is a budgetary item; however, what happened out at the jail did not happen during the budget time. When the Detention Center had the riot, one of the Correctional Officers was stabbed in the back; it was not during budgetary times. Therefore, Council can wait, but he, Councilman Baten, is trying to be proactive and start dealing with the issues out there. It was further stated by Councilman Baten that the County now has criminals that are more dangerous in its detention center. We should take action to make sure that they are secure. We need to make sure we have the staff; they are short staffed at the detention center; they are about 70 percent manned that creates a security problem that puts their lives in danger. We cannot wait for one of those officers to be seriously harmed or killed before we take action. We need to be proactive and not reactive.

MONTHLY REPORTS

1. Sheriff's Office
2. Chamber Retreat 2020
3. Planning Commission Monthly Report
4. Building Department Monthly Report
5. Tour Of International Paper Company, Sumter Plant
6. HYPE Program, Lights On After School Program
7. Make A Difference Day Crestwood Student
8. Economic Impact - Darla Moore School of Business

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

The County Administrator, Gary Mixon, was not at the meeting due to attending the National Association of County Administrators/City Managers. Mr. Mixon represented South Carolina as the President of the South Carolina President of the County Administrators/City Managers.

Mrs. Dennis, the Assistant County Administrator, was present. She stated she had no report for Council.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Vice Chairman Byrd stated that he would receive comments from the Public, and each person would have up to three minutes to speak to Sumter County Council.

- Bennie Webb stated that he is a retired SLED Agent, former Chief of Police, Undercover Narcotic Agent and has served over 30 years in law enforcement. Mr. Webb said that he wholeheartedly agrees with Sheriff Dennis and Councilman Baten that the officers have to make more money. He further stated that he has not seen crime as it is now in Sumter with the number of guns and the constant crimes being committed. The officers need appropriate compensation whether it is budget time or not. He stated that he admonishes Council to do something about the salaries of law enforcement officers. Mr. Webb said that if nothing is done, Sumter County would continue to lose officers to SLED, Richland County, Highway Patrol, and even Lee County. Mr. Webb also asked Council to consider an emergency meeting and an emergency ordinance to take care of this problem.
- Larry Huff, President of the Sumter County Veterans Association - Spoke to Council about the new Veterans Park. He stated that there is *one low spot* of land that needs to be build up or it could cause

problems. The location is what used to be the entrance to the park. People are still trying to use that as an entrance.

- Barbara Richburg spoke to Council about her concern for the lack of interaction with the Codes Enforcement Personnel in the Greater Turkey Creek Neighborhood. She stated there have been numerous calls during the summer; however, there is no response to the calls. If calls are received, the requests have not been handled. They were told that the codes enforcement officer for their area is hospitalized; but the needs for help is still there.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for Sumter County Council, and no additional comments from the public, the meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m. after a motion by Councilman Edens, seconded Councilman Baker, and unanimously carried by Council.

Respectfully submitted,

James T. McCain, Jr.
 Chairman or Vice Chairman
 Sumter County Council

Mary W. Blanding
 Clerk to County Council
 Sumter County Council

Approved: November 12, 2019

I certify that public and media notification of the above-mentioned meeting was given prior thereto as follows required by Freedom of Information:

- Public Notified: Yes
- Manner Notified: Agendas posted on bulletin board on first floor of the Sumter County Courthouse.
- Date Posted: October 18, 2019
- Media Notified: Yes
- Manner Notified: Agenda Information is listed on Sumter County’s Home Page, and E-mailed to The Item, The Chamber, WIS-TV, WBTW, and Time Warner Cable.
- Date Notified: October 17, 2019

Respectfully submitted,

Mary W. Blanding

**SUMTER COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE**



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To: The Honorable Sumter County Councilman Gene Baten

From: Sheriff Anthony Dennis

Re: Salary Adjustments for Deputies and Detention Officers

Dear Councilman Baten,

A recent article published by WIS regarding officer salaries has prompted me to write this letter and once again, advocate on behalf of our county deputies and detention officers for salary increases.

The article focuses on the best and worst cities for police and sheriff's patrol officers in the country and Sumter is ranked 15 out of 20 for the lowest median income. This ranking includes city officer salaries but even they are paid more than our county officers.

I am disappointed and embarrassed that Sumter is presented this way.

I have asked several times for County Council to consider raising the salaries for our deputies and detention officers as we continue to ask them to do more with less.

The detention center has brought in approximately \$2 million in revenue since it has come under my leadership in September 2017. I challenge you to reach that sum when combining the revenues at the detention center for the 10 years prior to that.

Our narcotics division is self-sufficient with the seized funds those officers obtain through their investigative efforts. Our officers, along with other local emergency responders, are also dealing with the growing opioid problem which at least one council member continuously mentions during council meetings.

And, our agency has accumulated millions of dollars' worth of technology through grants.

The Sumter County Sheriff's Office is seen as one of the top agencies in the state and that is not by luck nor favor.

It is difficult to explain to our deputies why they are not paid as much as officers at other agencies when those officers come to us for training. Sumter police officers even come to us for training.

But instead of recognition through appropriate compensation, county law enforcement officers receive words and no action.

I have personally attended council meetings and have seen council members advocate for an increase in educator salaries — and I, too, agree that they should receive an increase for their work — but I never hear any council member speak as passionately about county law enforcement salaries.

If salaries are mentioned, they are often compared to those of Sumter police officers who do not have the same duties nor the same distance of jurisdiction to cover as our county deputies. And city officers do not have any duties at the detention center other than to bring in arrestees.

I have even heard our deputies' salaries compared to the salaries of non-emergency-response county employees. During my time at the sheriff's office I have seen two Sumter County deputies make the ultimate sacrifice, as well as other officers across the state. That is what each county deputy knows they face each day they put on the uniform and come to work.

And today we are dealing with much harsher criminals who are later housed at our detention center where some of them verbally abuse, threaten, attack and throw bodily fluids on our detention officers.

For these reasons, the comparison between law enforcement and non-emergency response personnel is unacceptable.

Our officers' salaries should be compared to other county law enforcement agencies. And we are trailing behind them.

If we lose officers, it is not to the city. They leave Sumter County!

Our officers enjoy working here and many do not desire to uproot their families but that becomes something to consider when they can make more somewhere else. They should not be put in that position.

As a possible solution, I was presented with the option of increasing starting salaries which would pay a rookie officer more than some current

officers. An idea like that could only be presented without the forethought of the impact on officer morale.

We all know this is not a profession someone enters for the pay but an officer's salary must match his level of work like an employee in any career field would expect. Our officers continue to work hard despite the inadequate compensation because they have a strong sense of duty and will stay true to their oath.

It seems county council is neglecting its oath to do what is best for the county by neglecting our county officers.

While Sumter County is a place of vast economic growth, public safety is a factor in a company's choice to bring its resources here. We all want to see the county grow but our officers are still waiting for the interest of growth to extend to them.

It also seems that the sheriff's office is seen as second to the police department when the county and city have joint law enforcement projects when I am given little to no opportunity to provide input. County officers even have limited access to joint facilities.

County Council should be ashamed and embarrassed that other agencies come to our county officers for training and guidance yet are paid significantly less than those other officers.

I ask that you consider the enclosed article and salary survey that includes figures from sheriff's agencies around the state when you assess how to justly compensate our deputies and detention officers. Their salaries need to reflect the level of work they do and, financially, put them in league with their fellow county officers in this state.

Regards,

Anthony Dennis

Sheriff Anthony Dennis

5 South Carolina cities make best and worst list for police

By Kiana Miller | October 9, 2019 at 4:01 AM EDT - Updated October 9 at 9:50 AM

COLUMBIA, S.C. (WIS) - A recent study published by security.org focused on the best and worst cities for police officers in the country. Five South Carolina cities made the list.

According to the study, more than 800,000 people are employed as police officers in the country and the average police officer makes more money than the average worker among all occupations. Thus, the attractiveness of a city is very important for an officer who is beginning or continuing their career.

The rankings analyzed income, safety, employment and cost of living in 300 cities.

Sumter ranked ninth as the worst city in the country for quality of life for police officers and ranked sixth for the lowest median income in the country with \$35,410.

Florence ranked seventh with \$35,770 concerning median annual income for police officers.

Concerning total police officer employment, Sumter made the list again coming in second for the lowest amount of job availability for police officers. If police officers are basing their job search on cost of living, Sumter may be an ideal city. It placed ninth on the low end for this category with \$814 being its median monthly rent.

Charleston and Hilton Head made appearances in this report regarding median monthly rent as a percentage of police officers' median monthly income, both on the higher end of the list.

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Hilton head placed third with 45.3 % and Charleston placed fifth with 43.9 %.

Columbia placed 17th on the high end concerning police officer employment per 1,000 jobs.

According to the report, law enforcement remains third concerning approval ratings despite the percentage of people viewing police as favorable falling 7% since 2017.

To read the full report click [here](#).

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County	Starting salaries LEO	Starting salaries CO	Population	County Size	# of certified LEO
Dorchester County SO	\$41,426	\$34,782	153,773	576 sq miles	131
Richland County SO	\$40,000		409,549	772 sq miles	684
Orangeburg County SO	\$39,254	\$35,795 (16.39hr)	86,934	1128 sq miles	100
Anderson County SO	38,250 1 year exp 40,500 5yr+ exp	33,150	200,482	757 sq miles	
Kershaw County SO	38,000 (Class I) 30,000 Class III	13.45 hour	65,592	740 square miles	
Florence County SO	\$37,272	\$32,488	136,000	804 sq miles	160
Berkely County SO	\$36,354	\$31,404.57	210,898	1229 sq miles	223
Calhoun County SO	\$35,335	\$26,500	14,796	392 sq miles	32
Darlington County SO	\$34,325	\$26,797	67,234	567 sq miles	73
Lee County SO	\$33,000	SCSO(29,000)	17,635	411 sq miles	28
Sumter County SO	\$31,000	\$29,000	107,396	682 sq miles	128
Lexington County SO			290,642	758 sq miles	312

Sent an email 8/26/19 am