



AGENDA

**Council Chambers
300 Wall Street, Fountain Inn, SC 29644**

FORMAL MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL

Thursday, February 13, 2025 - 6:00 p.m.

Citizens may access the meeting at the following YouTube address:

<https://www.youtube.com/@cityoffountaininn3536>

1. Call to Order
2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance
3. Introduce New Employees
 - a. Jacob Thomason- Gas Tech I
 - b. Mary Wasson- GIS Technician
4. Presentations
 - a. FBI-LEEDA Agency Trilogy Award, presented by Executive Director, Jacques Battiste
 - b. Black History Month Proclamation
5. Public Forum - Persons wishing to speak may signup 15 minutes prior to the meeting. Signups will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Your remarks will be limited to 3 minutes.
6. Consent Agenda - There will be no discussion of Consent Agenda items unless a Councilmember so requests in which event the item in question will be considered separately.
 - a. Minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Council Meeting January 9, 2025
 - b. Minutes of the Annual Council Retreat February 8, 2025
7. City Administrator's Report - Shawn M. Bell
 - a. Departmental Reports

Council may enter executive session to discuss any item on the agenda as permitted by S.C. Code Ann. § 30-4-70.

8. Unfinished Business
9. New Business
 - a. Resolution 2025-1, Safety Statement
 - b. Request for the approval of the appointment for the Director of Public Works, Brison Taylor
10. Executive Session -After coming out of executive session, Council may vote on items discussed during executive session.
11. Adjourn

Council may enter executive session to discuss any item on the agenda as permitted by S.C. Code Ann. § 30-4-70.

FOIA Compliance – Public notification of this meeting has been published, posted, and distributed in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act and the City of Fountain Inn's requirements.



PROCLAMATION

Fountain Inn City Council recognizes **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

WHEREAS, The principles of inclusivity guide the City of Fountain Inn in its commitment to help improve the lives of all individuals in the diverse community we serve; and

WHEREAS, Fountain Inn recognizes the importance of exploring historical issues which have shaped race relations in America and consequently impact the health and wellness of our Black community members; and

WHEREAS, African American history is the chronicle of the men and women who prevailed with extraordinary courage and faith during their struggles for freedom and equality in our state and nation; and

WHEREAS, In 1926, Carter G. Woodson and the organization he founded, the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, initiated Black History Week; and

WHEREAS, The second week of February was chosen to coincide with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. The event inspired schools and communities nationwide to organize local celebrations, establish history clubs and host performances and lectures; and

WHEREAS, President Gerald Ford officially recognized Black History Month in 1976, calling upon the public to “seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history”; and

WHEREAS, Across the generations, countless Black Americans have demonstrated profound moral courage and resilience to help shape our Nation for the better. Today, Black Americans lead industries and movements for change, serve our communities and our Nation at every level, and advance every field across the board, including arts and sciences, business and law, health, and education, and many more. In the face of wounds and obstacles older than our Nation itself, Black Americans can be seen in every part of our society today, strengthening and uplifting all of America; and

WHEREAS, As we celebrate National Black History Month, let us all recommit ourselves to reach for that founding promise that Black History is American History. Let us continue to fight for the equity, opportunity, and dignity to which every American is due in equal measure.

NOW, THEREFORE, I George Patrick McLeer, Jr., Mayor of the City of Fountain Inn, South Carolina, do hereby proclaim the month of February 2025 as Black History Month and encourage all our citizens to recognize this opportunity to honor and celebrate the contributions of Black Americans in all facets of endeavor in our community and to continue to work toward the ideals of equality, freedom, and opportunity that the City of Fountain Inn represents.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused this
seal to be affixed

George Patrick McLeer, Jr.
Mayor

Witness

February 13, 2025
Date



MINUTES
FORMAL MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL
Thursday, January 9, 2025 at 6 p.m.

1. Call to Order

Mayor McLeer called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

The following members of City Council were in attendance: GP McLeer, Phil Clemmer, Mack Blackstone, Jason Sanders, John Don, and Joey Garrett. Mr. Thomason was absent.

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

3. Recognitions

Chief Alexander and Mayor McLeer presented Jon Pittman with his retirement gift from Fountain Inn City Council.

a. Retirement of Jon Pittman, Fire Department

4. Introduce New Employees

Chief Fortenberry presented his newest employees.

a. Kerrigan Robertson, Records Technician
Joshua Beach, UPO
Braeden Cox, UPO
Hector Zapata, SRO

5. Public Forum - Persons wishing to speak may signup 15 minutes prior to the meeting. Signups will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Your remarks will be limited to 3 minutes.

a. Marnie Schwartz-Hanley- Fountain Inn Chamber of Commerce Update

The Chamber President announced the following information: H-Tax money, 65 new members, launched Foundation, joint Main Street and Chamber breakfast event scheduled at the end of the month- Eggs and

Analytics, April 15, 2025 Annual Chamber event, the first annual golf cart parade is being rescheduled to the end of May, Oct 4, 2025 is the annual Aunt Het Festival, Christmas parade is scheduled for December 3, 2025.

6. Consent Agenda- There will be no discussion of Consent Agenda items unless a Council member so requests in which event the item in question will be considered separately.

Motion by Councilman Clemmer, second by Councilman Garrett to approve the Consent Agenda.

The motion carried unanimously 6/0.

a. Minutes from the regularly scheduled Council meeting on December 12, 2024

7. City Administrator's Report- Shawn M. Bell

Russ Slatton, Assistant City Administrator, covered the following items: Woodside Connector project is close to completion, on December 11 Co Trans Co opened bids to the Main Street Streetscape project- AOS won the bid at \$4,701,749, Daddy Daughter Dance- A Royal Night is scheduled for February 15, 19th Annual Mac Arnold on April 12, April 26 is the Italian Heritage Festival. Christmas Inn Our Town 2024 had over 118,000 visitors, an increase of 10%. The Fire Department had 2371 calls in 2024, 5% decrease from 2023 and working on fire station III project. Human Resources- posted 42 jobs and processed over 1,700 applications. Fountain Inn Natural Gas- 7.6 miles of new service lines, 20 miles of new main lines, added 768 new customers and brought the new total to 12,478 customers. Planning and Development- 614 permits issued, 6% higher than 2023, 24% increase, 1500 inspections were conducted, 479 certificates of occupancy. Police Department- In 2024 calls for service was 18,918, decrease in 911 calls by 2%, 24% increase citations, decrease in violent crimes by 40%. Recreation- Jr. Fury champions, in 2024 we offered 9 recreation programs with 1600 participates, and 1,150 senior participants.

Councilman Clemmer asked about communication plan for the streetscape, Mr. Slatton assured Council the City will be contacting merchants frequently.

a. Department Reports

8. Unfinished Business

a. Second and final reading of Ordinance PZ-2024-06 to amend the official zoning map of Fountain Inn, said amendment for the purpose of changing the zoning classification of the properties described in this ordinance.

Motion by Councilman Clemmer, second by Councilman Blackstone to approve the second and final reading of Ordinance PZ-2024-06 to amend the official zoning map of Fountain Inn, said amendment for the purpose of changing the zoning classification of the properties described in this ordinance.

The motion carried unanimously 6/0.

9. New Business

a. Request for approval of the appointment for the Director of Community Relations, Amanda Benfield

Motion by Mayor McLeer, second by Councilman Garrett for approval of the appointment for the Director of Community Relations, Amanda Benfield.

The motion carried unanimously 6/0.

10. Executive Session -After coming out of executive session, Council may vote on items discussed during executive session.

No executive session was needed.

a. Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements relating to a franchise agreement.

11. Adjourn

Motion by Mr. Sanders, seconded by Mr. Don to Adjourn.

The motion carried unanimously 6/0.



MINUTES
Annual Council Retreat

Saturday, February 8, 2025 at 9 a.m.
425 E. Curtis Street, Simpsonville, SC

1. Welcome

Mayor McLeer called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

The following members of City Council were in attendance: GP McLeer, Jay Thomason, Phil Clemmer, Mack Blackstone, Jason Sanders, John Don, and Joey Garrett.

2. Departmental Updates

Presented by Shawn Bell and Russ Slatton

3. Project Updates

Presented by Shawn Bell and Russ Slatton

4. Executive Session -After coming out of executive session, Council may vote on items discussed during executive session.

Mayor McLeer made a motion to enter into Executive Session. Mr. Blackstone seconded the motion.

- a. Discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline, or release of an employee of an employee Public Works Department**
- b. Discussion of matters relating to the proposed location, expansion, or the provision of services encouraging location or expansion of industries or other businesses related to an update on economic development project updates throughout the City of Fountain Inn.**

5. Adjourn

Mayor McLeer adjourned the Council Retreat at 2:30 p.m.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT



Agenda Date: February 13, 2025

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Shawn M. Bell, ICMA-CM
City Administrator

Administration

- Woodside Streetscape and Connector Projects
 - A punch list walkthrough was conducted on January 31st
 - Only minor items remaining
- Main Street Streetscape
 - A pre-construction meeting was held on February 4th
 - A community meeting for affected businesses and residents is scheduled for February 18th at 5:00 p.m. at the Activities Center

Community Relations

- Upcoming Events
 - A Royal Knight (Daddy-Daughter dance) on February 15th from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. at the Activities Center
 - 19th Annual Mac Arnold Cornbread & Collard Greens Blues Festival on April 12th from 12:00 - 6:00 p.m.
 - Italian American Heritage Festival on April 26th from 12:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Human Resources

- Fire
 - Battalion Chief - Three vacancies; posted, accepting applications
- Planning & Development
 - Code Enforcement Officer - One vacancy; offer extended
- Police
 - Animal Control - One vacancy; offer accepted, post-offer screenings
 - Community Police Officer - One vacancy; offer accepted, post-offer screenings
 - Dispatch - One vacancy; candidate selected, pre-offer screenings
- Public Works
 - Sewer/Stormwater - Two vacancies; posted, accepting applications
- Recreation
 - Part-time positions - posted, accepting applications

Judicial

- January 2025
 - 251 total cases
 - 54 criminal and 197 traffic
 - 174 pending cases
 - 33 cases disposed
- Jury trials:
 - April 28th - May 2nd

Natural Gas

- Gas Supply
 - Deliveries for January 2025
 - Gas volume of 255,027 Dekatherms
 - All-time consumption high for any month
 - Four consecutive daily consumption records
 - Gas consumption for January 2025 was 17% higher than January 2024 and 12% higher than the January three-year average
 - All-time consumption high for December
- Gas Prices/Rates
 - The price of natural gas for February 2025 settled at \$3.535 per Dekatherm, representing a \$0.021 increase from January's price
- Operations
 - January 2025 Key Indicators
 - 17,750 feet of new main lines installed
 - 2,763 feet of new service lines installed (47)
 - 12,543 active customers

Planning & Development

- Building & Codes
 - January 2025
 - 27 permits issued with a total valuation of \$9,242,422
 - 183 inspections
 - 18 residential plan reviews and one commercial plan review
 - 19 certificates of occupancy issued

Police

- Citizen's Police Academy
 - February 26th - May 14th
 - Every Wednesday from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

- Annual Autism Superhero 5K
 - April 26th from 8:00 - 11:00 a.m.
 - To register: <https://runsignup.com/Race/SC/FountainInn/PoliceSuperhero>
- Key Indicators for January 2025
 - 1,697 calls for service
 - 463 inbound 911 calls
 - 198 citations issued
 - 214 warnings issued
 - 35 collisions

Recreation

- Activities Center - Fitness Room
 - Old equipment was removed on February 7th; repainting began on February 10th; new mirrors will be installed on February 18th; new flooring and equipment arriving on February 24th
 - The remodeled fitness room is expected to reopen by the second week of March
- 2025 Spring Baseball/Softball
 - Registration through February 13th
 - Evaluations/Draft:
 - February 17th: 8U at 6:00 p.m. and 12U at 7:00 p.m.
 - February 18th: 10U at 6:00 p.m. and 15U at 7:00 p.m.
 - February 20th: Softball - 8U/10U at 6:00 p.m. and 12U/15U at 7:00 p.m.
 - Practices begin on February 24th
 - Opening Day: March 29th
 - Games begin: March 31st
- 2024 Basketball
 - Playoffs began on February 6th and All-Stars begin on February 28th
 - Western District Tournaments are on February 28th and March 1st
 - State Basketball Tournaments are on March 8th and 9th
- 2024 Wrestling
 - Season ended on February 9th
- 55+
 - Valentine's Tea on February 13th

Younts Center for Performing Arts

- Uplift: A Gospel Concert from 2/7 - 2/16
- The SpongeBob Musical (Youth Edition) from 3/7 - 3/22
- His Life, The Musical from 4/4 - 4/19

Fountain Inn Chamber of Commerce

- Annual Membership Dinner on April 15 from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. at the Activities Center

January 2025 Council Report

Downtown in January



Visits

#94.8K

Visitors

#46.5K

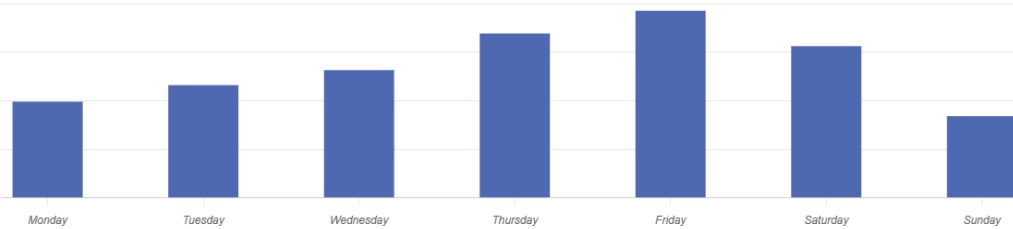
Visit Frequency

2.04 Visits

Visitor Information

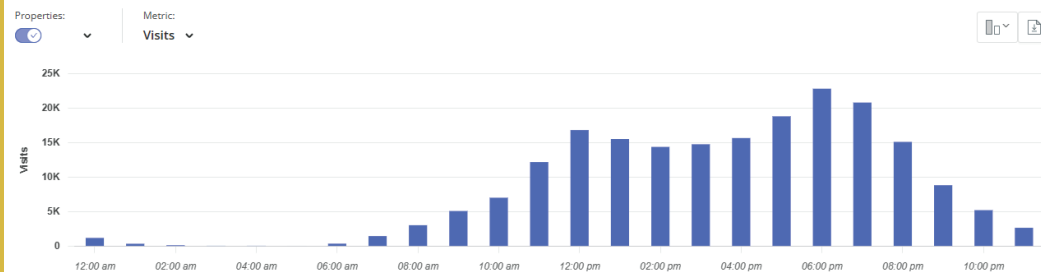
Daily Visits - January 2025

Metric:
Visits



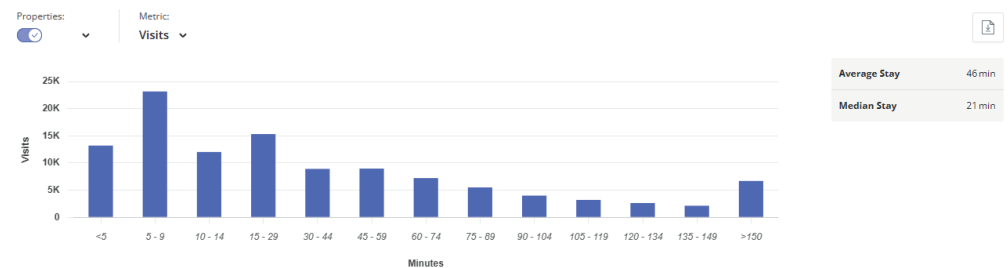
Hourly Visits - January 2025

Hourly Visits



Length of Stay - January 2025

Visit Duration



Average Stay 46 min
Median Stay 21 min

Visit Trend - January 2025

Visits Trend



No events in January



Monthly

Facebook

Views

#44.3K

Link Clicks

#1.1K

Interactions

#514

Followers

#7.8K



Instagram

Views

#440

Followers

#198

Link Clicks

#0

Reach

#96



Search Queries - January 2025

Organic Google Search query ▾	Organic Google Search clicks	Organic Google Search impressions	Organic Google Search click through rate	Organic Google Search average position
	178 100% of total	17,087 100% of total	1.04% Avg 0%	19.20 100% of total
fountain inn sc	9	2,728	0.33%	11.11
fountain inn	7	2,531	0.28%	8.92
fountain inn south carolina	4	715	0.56%	11.00
fountain inn restaurants	1	382	0.26%	6.78
city of fountain inn	0	302	0%	8.45
tips for small business owners	0	275	0%	42.45
fountain inn market	4	193	2.07%	3.02
fountain inn activity center	2	190	1.05%	11.65
wingnutz fountain inn	0	187	0%	15.06
fountain inn, south carolina	1	182	0.55%	10.96

Pageviews - January 2025

Page title and screen class ▾	Views	Active users	Views per active user	Average engagement time per active user
	3,166 100% of total	914 100% of total	3.46 Avg 0%	57s Avg 0%
1 Events Main Street Fountain	643	271	2.37	32s
2 Main Street Fountain Inn	535	264	2.03	27s
3 Mac Arnold Blues Fest Main Street Fountain	303	157	1.93	46s
4 things to do Main Street Fountain	240	67	3.58	38s
5 Daddy Daughter Dance Main Street Fountain	175	109	1.61	48s
6 Eat & Drink Main Street Fountain	140	90	1.56	54s
7 Fountain Inn Farmers Market Main Street Fountain	102	72	1.42	35s
8 Mac Arnold Blues Fest	89	14	6.36	35s
9 Christmas Inn Our Town Main Street Fountain	73	48	1.52	15s
10 about Main Street Fountain	65	25	2.60	35s

User Acquisition - January 2025

Session primary...Channel Group) ▾	Total users	New users	Returning users
Total	930 100% of total	791 100% of total	142 100% of total
Organic Search	477	400	76
Referral	233	177	45
Direct	166	149	22
Organic Social	70	62	2
Unassigned	5	3	2

FINANCE – ACCOUNTING DIVISION DEPARTMENT SUMMARY

Division Highlights

Faith Scruggs started as our new Accounting Manager on February 3rd. She joins us from a neighboring municipality, where she worked in various permitting and finance roles over a 14-year period. We are very excited to have her join the Finance team.

Business License renewal season has started. All businesses operating within the City limits is required to obtain a business license for 2025 – 2026 before April 30, 2025. Finance is mailing renewal letters to all resident and non-resident businesses who held a 2024-2025 license.

Annual Audit

Finance is working with our auditors, Mauldin & Jenkins, to complete the FY24 annual audit. It is expected to wrap up in the next couple of weeks and the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) is expected to be reported to council at the March meeting.

FY2025-2026 Budget

The FY2026 Budget timeline is being finalized and will be presented to department heads shortly. Key dates are highlighted below.

December

- ✓ Department Heads meet with HR to prepare personnel budget requests and justifications

February

- ✓ Finance completes FY25 normal operating expenditure estimates Senior Staff Budget Module Training
- ✓ Finance completed FY26 revenue projections
- ✓ Budget requests, fee schedules and related worksheets are prepared and submitted to Finance by each department
- ✓ Finance prepares recommended operating budget for Administration review
- ✓ Meetings to discuss budgets occur between each Department Head, Finance Director, and Administrators

March

- ✓ Administrator notifies department heads of recommended budget
- ✓ Finance staff prepares budget book, fee schedules and ordinance

April

- ✓ Proposed budget document made available to elected officials
- ✓ Budget workshop sessions conducted to review all aspects of recommended budget
- ✓ Proposed budget made available to public

May

- ✓ Work Session as needed
- ✓ First Reading of the budget

June

- ✓ Public hearing and FY2025-2026 Budget Adopted

Statistics

Business License

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	CURRENT	Y-T-D	PRIOR YEAR
TOTAL BUSINESS LICENSES ISSUED	43	278	1,174
TOTAL BUSINESS LICENSE REVENUE	\$23,424	\$257,061	\$1,588,588
HDL – COLLECTED REVENUE	*N/A	\$10,560	\$59,517

**HDL revenue report not available until the 15th of every month*

Hospitality

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	CURRENT	Y-T-D	PRIOR YEAR
TOTAL COMPANIES/FOOD TRUCKS	52	61	60
TOTAL HOSPITALITY TAX REVENUE	*\$74,590	*\$419,399	\$670,354

**Revenue is collected in subsequent month. Revenue reported is for transactions through 11/30/2024.*

FINANCE – UTILITY BILLING DIVISION

Service Lines	Current	YTD	Prior Year
New Service Line Applications	43	352	1,062
Service Lines Completed	47	404	906
Total Amount Billed	Current	YTD	Prior Year
Total Gas Billed	\$759,597	\$1,518,669	\$11,209,147
Aging 30 days	\$44	N/A	\$799
Aging 60 days	\$933	N/A	\$7,818
Aging 90 days	\$1,102	N/A	\$-15,083
Aging 120+ days	\$361,542	N/A	\$372,323
New Applications	Current	YTD	Prior Year

New Customer Applications	179	1,293	2,457
Customer Service Statistics	Current	YTD	Prior Year
Incoming Phone Calls	1,334	8,923	24,162
Credit Card Payments	8,108	53,148	88,132
ACH Payments	1,267	9,416	18,182
Cash & Check Payments	11,294	56,403	121,691

(-) A/R balances include unapplied overpayments for customers who take advantage of budget billing



Police Department *January 2025 Monthly Report*



SRO Zapata
Swearing-In Ceremony

Officer Boice Graduation
from the SCCJA





Miriam Foundation Dinner for Dispatchers





Uniform Patrol Division Patrol Rifle Training





February 26th thru May 14th

Each Wednesday from
6 pm to 8 pm

For More Information Contact:

Sgt. McBride at 864-531-0626



Autism Super Hero 5K

Saturday
April 26th
8:00 - 11:00 am

\$35 if you register
before 2/20

Proceeds from this event will benefit Friends of the Little White House and their efforts to provide services to children and adults on the Autism Spectrum.

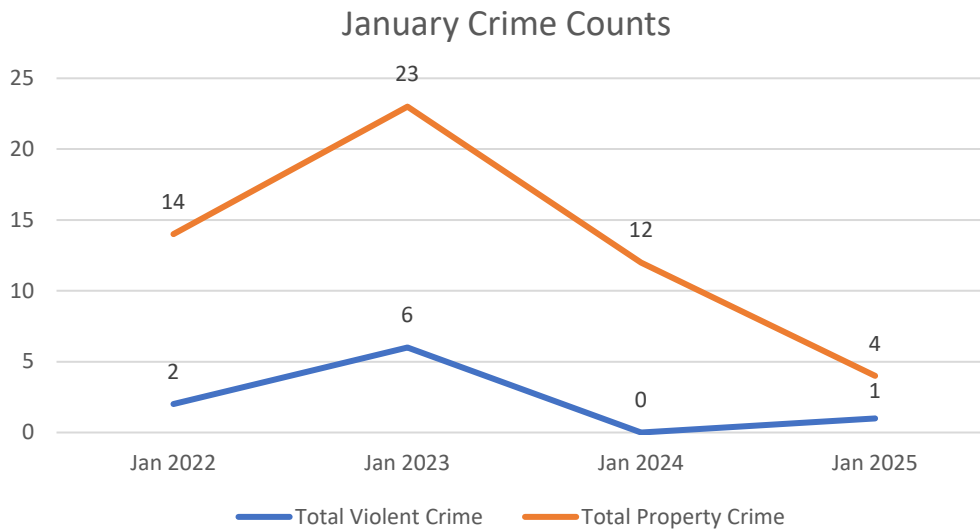
REGISTER HERE:

<https://runsignup.com/Race/SC/FountainInn/PoliceSuperHero>



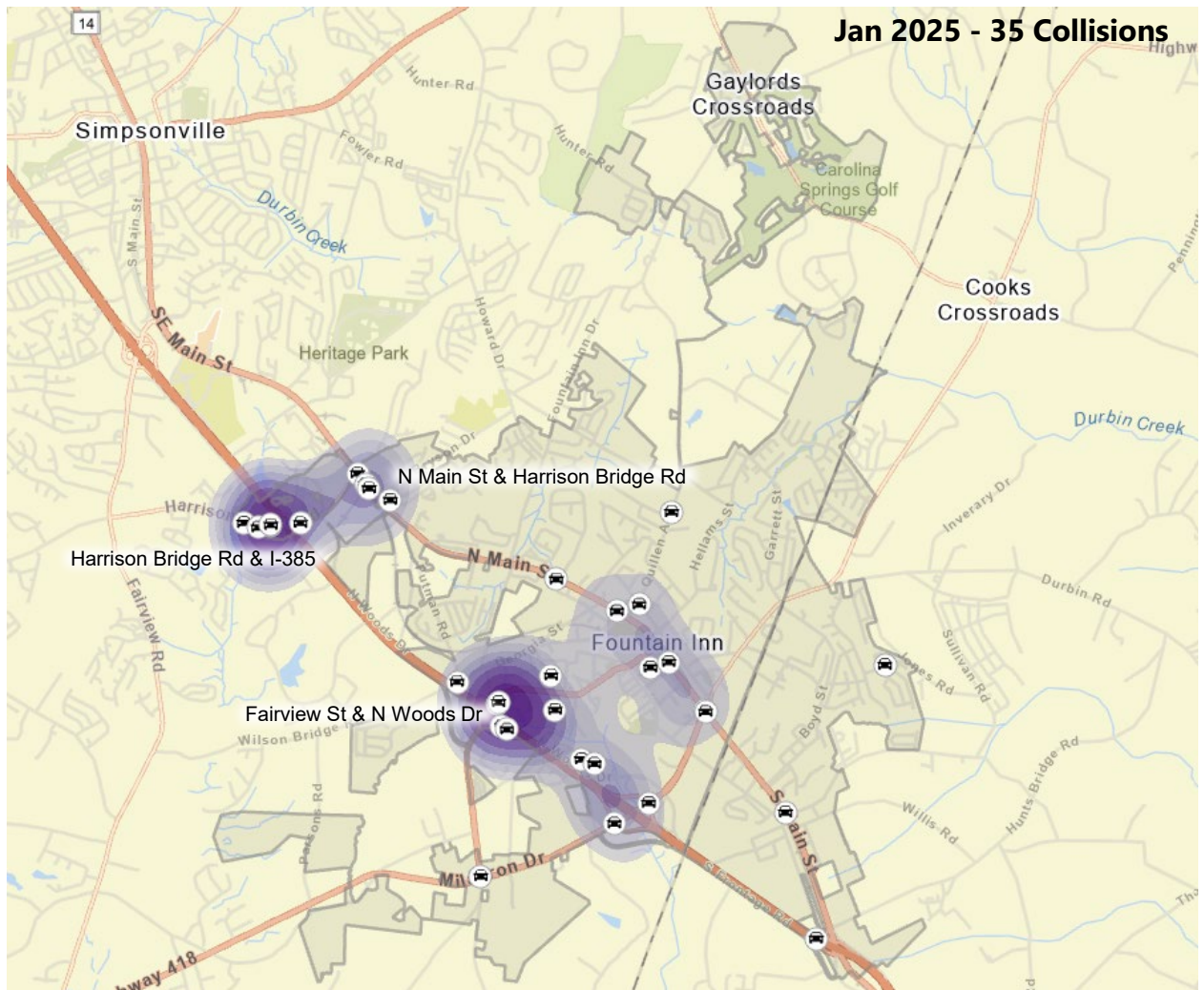
Violent Crime					
Crime Type	Jan 2022	Jan 2023	Jan 2024	Jan 2025	Difference
Murder/Non-negligent manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual Assault	0	1	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	2	3	0	1	1
Aggravated Assault - Domestic Violence	0	2	0	0	0
Total Violent Crime	2	6	0	1	1
Property Crime					
Crime Type	Jan 2022	Jan 2023	Jan 2024	Jan 2025	Difference
Burglary	2	12	1	0	-1
Motor Vehicle Theft	3	2	1	1	0
Autobreaking	2	3	1	2	1
Larceny	7	6	9	1	-8
Arson	0	0	0	0	0
Total Property Crime	14	23	12	4	-8
Total Part I Crime	16	29	12	5	-7

Unfounded Cases Removed / Source: Vconnect

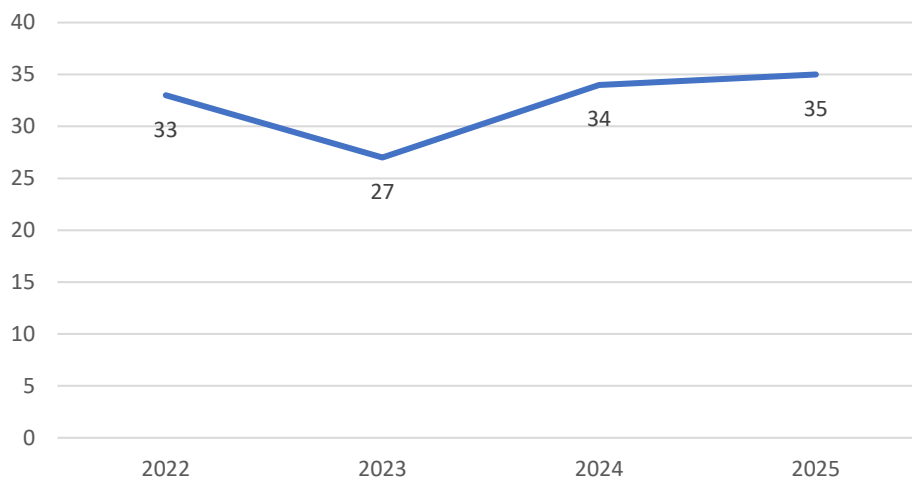




Collisions	Jan 2022	Jan 2023	Jan 2024	Jan 2025	Difference
Count	33	27	34	35	1



January Collision Counts





January 2024 Collisions by Day of Week and Hour								
Hour	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Grand Total
1 AM							1	1
5 AM				1				1
6 AM						1		1
7 AM				1		1		2
8 AM				1	2			3
10 AM						1	1	2
11 AM			1					1
12 PM			1	1	1			3
1 PM	1			1				2
3 PM		2	3		1			6
4 PM		1	1				1	3
5 PM				1	1			2
6 PM			1		1	1		3
7 PM		1					1	2
8 PM		1						1
9 PM		1			1			2
Grand Total	1	6	7	6	7	4	4	35

Hot Days for Collisions in January
 Tuesdays/Thursdays – 7 collisions
 Hot Time Range for Collisions in January
 1500-1559 – 6 collisions

Primary Contributing Factor	Count
Followed Too Closely	11
Failed to Yield Right of Way	10
Distracted / Inattention	3
Driving Too Fast for Conditions	2
Under the Influence	1
Unknown (driver)	1
Made an Improper Turn	1
Grand Total	29

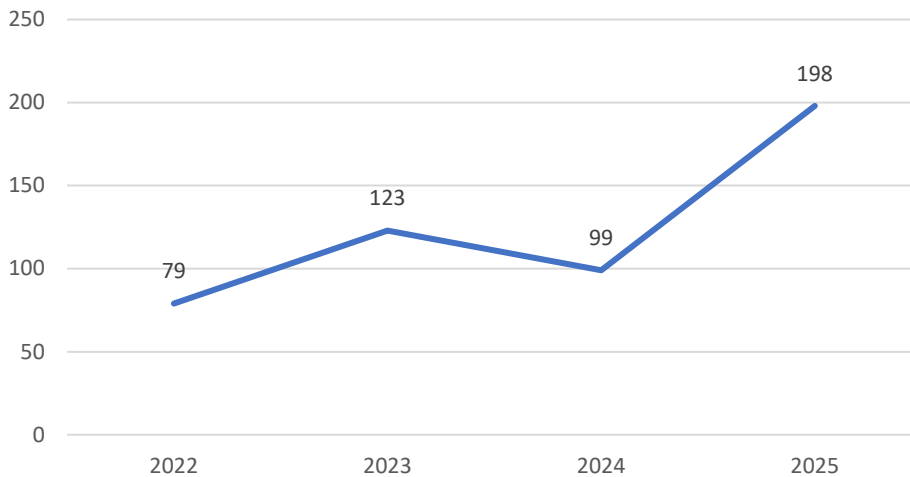
**Does not include 6 private property collisions*



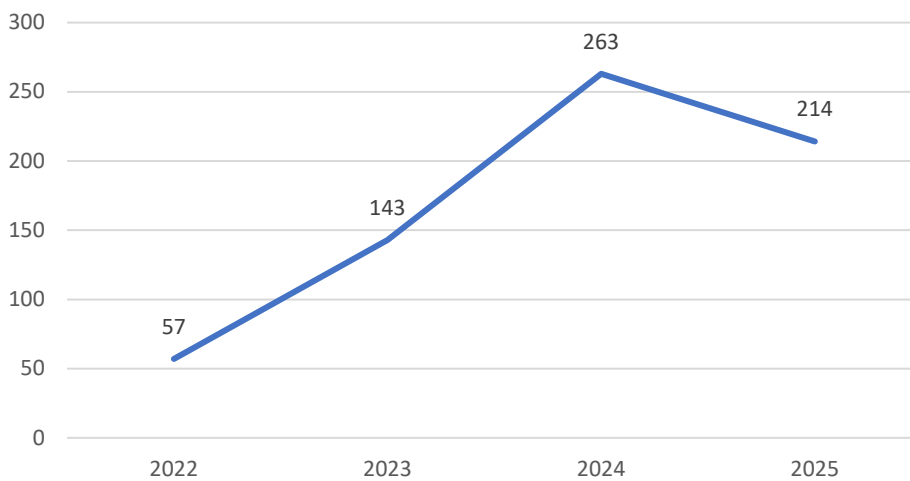
Citation/Warning Statistics

Contact Type	Jan 2022	Jan 2023	Jan 2024	Jan 2025	Difference
Citations	79	106	194	198	4
Warnings	57	143	263	214	-49

January Citation Counts

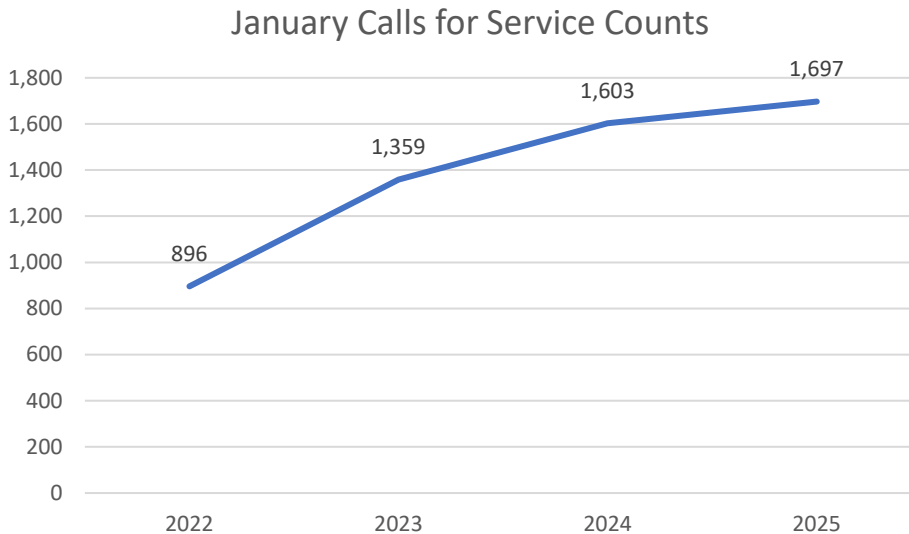


January Warning Counts





Calls for Service Comparison				
Jan 2022	Jan 2023	Jan 2024	Jan 2025	Difference
896	1,359	1,603	1,697	94



Communications Call Summary Report

January Call Summary				
Call Type		Jan 2024	Jan 2025	% Change
911	Inbound	261	463	77.4%
	Inbound	1,437	1,383	-3.8%
	Outbound	528	694	31.4%

FIRE – FIRE DEPARTMENT SUMMARY

Summary of Monthly Events

- 242 calls for January
- Multiple trainings completed
- 37 Overlapping calls. January 1 we had 5 calls overlapping each other
- Tyler Barrett passed his NREMT Basic
- Multiple members participated in the Annual Improvement Conference

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

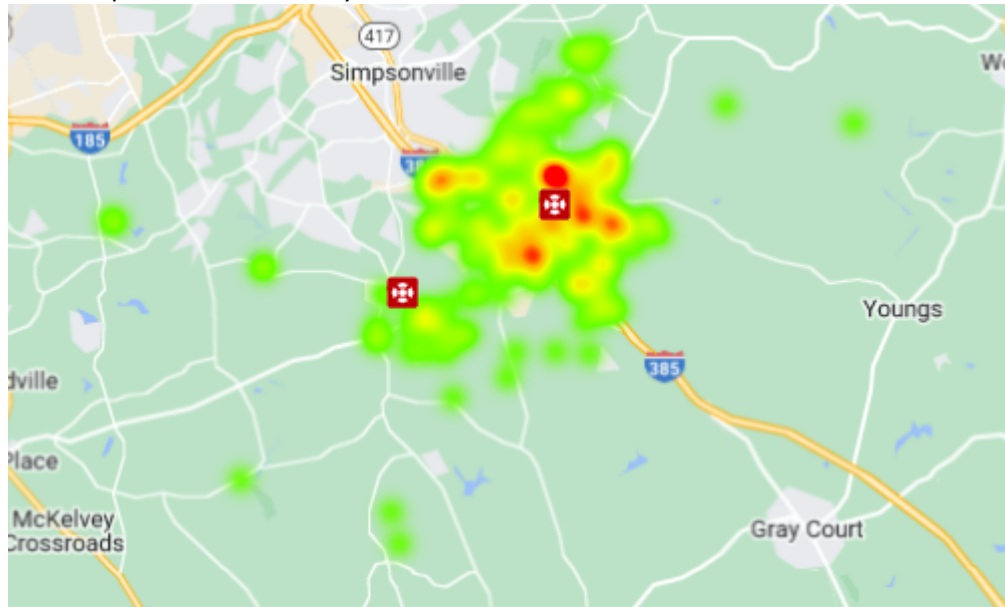
Current Projects

- Crews are working to find a replacement engine
- Multiple plan reviews and building surveys are being completed

Upcoming

- SCBA scheduled for June 16 ship date
- Hydrant Maintenance and Annual Inspections continue. Greenville Water is in the area testing hydrants
- FDIC

Heat Map of calls for January



Monthly Total

	NUMBER OF FIRES
Private Dwellings (1 or 2 family), Including mobile homes	1
Apartments (3 or more families)	1
Hotels and Motels	0
All Other Residential (dormitories, boarding houses, tents, etc.)	0
TOTAL RESIDENTIAL FIRES	2
Public Assembly (church, restaurant, clubs, etc.)	0
Schools And Colleges	0
Health Care And Penal Institutions (hospitals, nursing homes, prisons, etc.)	0
Stores And Offices	0
Industry, Utility, Defense, Laboratories, Manufacturing	0
Storage In Structures (barns, vehicle storage garages, general storage, etc.)	0
Other Structures (outbuildings, bridges, etc.)	2
TOTALS FOR STRUCTURE FIRES	4
Fires In Highway Vehicles (autos, trucks, buses, etc.)	4
Fires In Other Vehicles (planes, trains, ships, construction or farm vehicles, etc.)	1
Fires outside of Structures with Value involved, but Not Vehicles (outside storage, crops, timber, etc.)	1
Fires in Brush, Grass, Wildland (excluding crops and timber), with no value involved	4
Fires in Rubbish, Including Dumpsters (outside of structures), with no value involved	2
All Other Fires	1
TOTALS FOR FIRES	17
Rescue, Emergency Medical Responses (ambulance, EMS, rescue)	135
False Alarm Responses (malicious or unintentional false calls, malfunctions, bomb scares)	22
Mutual Aid Responses Given	17
Hazardous Materials Responses	2
Other Hazardous Responses (arcing wires, bomb removal, power line down, etc.)	2
All Other Responses (smoke scares, lock-outs, animal rescue, etc.)	44
TOTAL FOR ALL INCIDENTS	242



City of Fountain Inn - Human Resources Monthly Report - January 2025

Home Department**	December Headcount	January Hires / Transfers In	January Terms	January Transfers Out	January Headcount	DIVERSITY					
						Asian	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino	White	Pacific Islander	One or More
000411 / Administration	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0
000412 / Judicial	5	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	4	1	0
000413 / Council	8	0	0	0	8	0	0	1	7	0	0
000414 / Community Relations	4	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	4	0	0
000416 / Finance	10	0	0	0	10	0	3	0	7	0	0
000417 / Human Resources	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	1	0	0
000421 / Police	42	1	0	0	43	0	3	5	34	0	1
000422 / Fire	31	0	1	0	30	0	1	1	28	0	0
000424 / Public Works	3	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	2	0	0
000425 / Planning & Development	3	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3	0	0
000431 / Parks/Grounds Maintenance	7	0	0	0	7	0	1	0	6	0	0
000432 / Sanitation	10	0	0	0	10	0	4	0	6	0	0
000434 / Sewer	4	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	4	0	0
000451 / Recreation	30	2	2	0	30	0	10	1	19	0	0
000453 / Facilities Maintenance	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	1	0	0
000510 / Gas Field	18	2	0	0	20	0	0	1	19	0	0
Totals:	181	5	3	0	183	0	23	11	147	1	1

**Based on Home Departments

FULL TIME 149 / PART TIME 34

Recruitment Status for Open Positions - AS OF 2/7/2025

421 Police: Animal Control (1) Vacancy; offer accepted, post offer screenings

421 Police: Community Police Officer (1) Vacancy; offer accepted, post offer screenings

421/422 Dispatch: Dispatcher (1) Vacancy; candidate chosen, pre-offer screenings

422 Fire: Battalion Chief (3) Vacancies; posted, accepting applications

425 P&D: Codes Enforcement Officer (1) Vacancy; interviews completed, reviewing candidates

434 Sewer/Stormwater: Tech I (2) Vacancies; posted, accepting applications

451 Recreation: Part Time & Officiants - posted, accepting applications

JANUARY NEW HIRES

Department	Title
000421	SRO
000451	Recreation Support Staff
000451	Sports Official
000510	Gas Technician I
000510	GIS Technician

Offers Accepted as of 2/7/2025

414 Community Relations Director - Starting 2/24/25

416 Accounting Manager - Started 2/3/2025

424 Public Works Director - Start Date TBD

431 Parks Maintenance Tech II - Starting 2/12/25

JUDICIAL DIVISION DEPARTMENT SUMMARY

January Case Status

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	CRIMINAL	TRAFFIC	TOTALS
CASE TOTALS	54	197	251
TRANSFERRED CASES	32	12	44
DISPOSED CASES	3	30	33
PENDING CASES	19	155	174

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Current Projects:

- Jury trials for the second quarter of 2025 scheduled for the week of April 28th through May 2nd, 2025.

Fountain Inn Natural Gas

GAS SUPPLY

Gas Volume and Consumption:

- January 2025 was a notably cold month in South Carolina. Here's a summary of what made it so cold:
 - **Coldest January in 25 years:** For many parts of South Carolina, January 2025 was the coldest January in 25 years.
 - **Arctic blast:** An Arctic blast plunged into the southeastern United States in the second week of January, bringing the coldest stretch of the year.
 - **Winter storm:** A winter storm hit the southern United States from January 9-11, 2025, bringing freezing rain and snow to the Carolinas.
 - **Below-average temperatures:** Daytime highs were unseasonably cold for most of January.
- **January Gas Volume:** 255,027 Dths (All time consumption high for any month), in addition we had 4 consecutive daily consumption records.
- **January Consumption:** 17% higher than January 2024 and 12% higher than the 3-year average for January.
- **Natural Gas Pricing:**
 - **February Gas Price:** \$3.535 per Dekatherm
 - **Change from January:** Increased by \$0.021 per Dekatherm.
 - Note: This price reflects the commodity cost only. The final "Cost of Gas" includes additional factors such as transportation which affect FING's monthly billing.

GAS OPERATIONS

- **Installation Pace:** Due to very cold temperatures, we experienced a slowdown in main and service installations. We currently serve 12,543 active customers. See key indicators below.
- The engineering design work has been completed for the installation of over 14,000 feet of 6" high pressure steel in order to improve delivery pressure at the far north end of our gas system. The work will be bid in early February, and bids will be opened February 25th.

- **Williams/Transco City Gate:** The existing FING city gate, where we currently purchase our gas, is outdated and no longer sufficient to meet the demands of our significant growth over the past decade. Williams has formally requested our assistance with three key initiatives:
 - Expanding the capacity of the pipeline supplying gas to the FING city gate.
 - Replacing the existing meter station with a larger, more modern facility.
 - Transferring gas pressure control to FING.

This rebuild is a complex project that will require careful planning and a substantial financial investment from FING. We are currently evaluating the costs associated with this project and expect to have preliminary figures available in the coming weeks. The tentative schedule for the replacement of the station is spring/summer 2026.

KEY INDICATORS

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	CURRENT	Y-T-D
NEW MAIN LINES INSTALLED	17,750 ft.	17,750 ft.
NEW SERVICE LINES INSTALLED	47 SL; 2,763 ft.	47 SL; 2,763 ft.
AVERAGE HOURS OF EMPLOYEE TRAINING		n/a

SC/NC RESIDENCIAL GAS RATES

Below are the names and rates of other gas providers in South Carolinas for a comparison. Please note that every company has a completely different rate structure, fixed costs, and other factors that make it challenging to make an exact comparison.

SOUTH CAROLINA GAS RATE COMPARISONS					
For January 2025 Gas Rates					
COMPANY	SERVICE CLASS	METER CHARGE PER MONTH	AVEWRAGE RATE PER THERM	AVG. USAGE THERMS	TOTAL COST PER MONTH
GREER CPW, SC	Residential	\$10.00	\$0.93700	200.00	\$197.40
FOUNTAIN INN, SC	Residential	\$10.00	\$0.94140	200.00	\$198.28
FORT HILL NATURAL GAS, SC	Residential	\$10.00	\$1.05000	200.00	\$220.00
CLINTON-NEWBERRY, SC	Residential	\$12.15	\$1.07160	200.00	\$242.32
PIEDMONT, SC	Residential	\$8.00	\$1.15083	200.00	\$238.17
YORK NATURAL GAS, SC	Residential	\$9.25	\$1.15005	200.00	\$239.26
CITY OF ORANGEBURG, SC	Residential	\$11.50	\$1.13882	200.00	\$239.26
LANCASTER COUNTY, SC	Residential	\$5.00	\$1.20000	200.00	\$245.00
CHESTER COUNTY, SC	Residential	\$6.50	\$1.31012	200.00	\$268.52
DOMINION, SC	Residential	\$10.90	\$1.59353	200.00	\$329.61
GREENWOOD CPW, SC	Residential	\$10.00	n/a	n/a	#VALUE!

PLANNING & ZONING

Zoning Ordinance & Land Development Regulations Rewrite

- Staff have been having bi-weekly meetings with the consultants.
- Three draft articles have been submitted for review & comment.
- A complete draft document is expected by the end of February.

Boards & Commissions

Planning Commission

- No applications were submitted, and the meeting was canceled.

Board of Zoning Appeals

- No applications were submitted, and the meeting was canceled.

BUILDING AND CODES

INSPECTIONS	JANUARY	DECEMBER
ALL CONSTRUCTION	183	213
REINSPECTIONS	1	0
TOTAL INSPECTIONS	183	213
PERMITS ISSUED	27	21
SUBMITTED PERMITS	52	32
NEW SINGLE FAMILY	24	12
NEW MULTI-FAMILY (UNITS)	0	0
NEW COMMERCIAL	0	0
CERTIFICATES OF OCCUPANCY-ISSUED	19	25
REMODEL/ADD. RESIDENTIAL	1	2
REMODEL/ADD. COMMERCIAL	2	0
SIGN/ROOFING/SOLAR/MISC TRADE	23	18
COMMERCIAL PLAN REVIEWS	1	1
RESIDENTIAL PLAN REVIEWS	18	10

CODE COMPLIANCE

BUILDING CODE COMPLAINTS	JANUARY	DECEMBER
VEHICLES/OTHER	4	2
BUILDING – UNSAFE CONDITIONS	3	0
PROPERTY MAINTENANCE	3	0
TOTAL COMPLAINTS	10	2

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

FINANCIAL STATISTICS	JANUARY	DECEMBER
TOTAL VALUATION	\$9,242,422	\$5,641,612
TOTAL PERMIT FEES COLLECTED	\$68,542.50	\$12,892
TOTAL PLAN REVIEW REVENUE	\$33,550	\$5,920

City of Fountain Inn

Safety Committee

COMMITMENT TO SAFETY STATEMENT

The City is committed to promoting a safe and healthy work environment and to encourage safe employee work habits and practices as well as healthy lifestyles. Safety and health in our business must be a part of every operation. Without question it is every employee's responsibility at all levels.

It is the intent of City of Fountain Inn to comply with all laws. We depend on our employees to:

1. Become familiar with and comply with all safety rules and procedures for their work activity.
2. Promptly report any job-related injury, illness, or property damage to their supervisor.
3. Promptly report to their supervisors all unsafe/unhealthy practices and conditions they observe.
4. Cooperate/assist in investigations of accidents to identify causes and correctable measures.
5. Actively support and participate in safety/health promotional and educational measures.

The personal safety and health of each employee of City of Fountain Inn is of primary importance. The prevention of injuries and illnesses is of such consequence that it will be given precedence over operating productivity whenever necessary. To the greatest degree possible, management will provide all mechanical and physical facilities required for personal safety and health in keeping with the highest standards.

The City of Fountain Inn is committed to doing all in its power to make its safety and loss control program a success and expects all employees to assist in this effort by contributing expertise and by following all established rules and procedures.

Safety Committee:

The Safety Committee is to be comprised of City employees representing all departments. The Human Resources Director will chair the committee and will be responsible in matters related to the development, administration, and management of the city's safety and health program. Members of the committee can be recommended by the Department Head and will be appointed by the committee. The Safety Committee shall establish a loss control program, review losses and loss trends, make recommendations for prevention and assign other safety responsibilities as needed. Recognizing that each City Department may already have in place a safety or loss review committee, the Safety Committee appointed pursuant to this policy shall coordinate its efforts with those of departmental committees.

ADOPTED: February 13, 2025

Mayor George Patrick McLeer, Jr

ATTEST:

Elizabeth Adams
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Michael Kozlarek
City Attorney