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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF LAURENS)

ORDINANCE #874

AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT MANDATORY BUILDING CODES AS ESTABLISHED BY THE BUILDING CODES COUNCIL AND REFERENCED IN SECTION 6-9-50 OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS, 1976, AS AMENDED, AS WELL AS SUCH OTHER CODES ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 6-9-60 OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS, 1976, AS AMENDED; AND TO AMEND ORDINANCE 823 WITH THIS ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, the Laurens County Council enacted Ordinance 823 for the purpose of establishing and providing regulatory matters for building and construction so as to promote and protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Laurens County; and

WHEREAS, certain changes in the statutory requirements have occurred, which necessitate an upgrade of the existing Ordinance in order to remain compliant with state and/or federal regulations.

NOW THEREFORE, the Laurens County Council, by the authority granted by the Constitution of the State of South Carolina and through the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina in Title 4 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, as amended, enacts this Ordinance as follows:

1. **PURPOSE**: The stated purposes of this Ordinance are to:
 - A. Amend Ordinance 823;
 - B. Adopt, enact, and implement all new mandatory codes, including, but not limited to, International Property Maintenance Code, Existing Building Code, and Standard Swimming Pool Code;
 - C. Improve the safety of the citizens in Laurens County;
 - D. Reduce hazards to the health and safety of Laurens County citizens; and

- E. Improve the quality of life for the citizens of Laurens County.

2. ACTIONS TAKEN:

- A. Ordinance 823 is amended as of the effective date of this Ordinance.
- B. The following Technical Codes, including all chapters, amendments, or editions as adopted by the State of South Carolina or as may be amended or adopted from time to time in the future, are hereby adopted *in toto* as though fully set forth herein by the Laurens County Council to be applicable in the unincorporated areas of Laurens County:
 - 1. International Building Code with South Carolina modifications;
 - 2. International Plumbing Code with South Carolina modifications;
 - 3. International Fuel Gas Code with South Carolina modifications;
 - 4. International Mechanical Code with South Carolina modifications;
 - 5. International Fire Code with South Carolina modifications;
 - 6. International Residential Code with South Carolina modifications;
 - 7. International Energy Code with South Carolina modifications;
 - 8. International Property Maintenance Code;
 - 9. National Electrical Code with South Carolina modifications;
 - 10. Existing Building Code; and
 - 11. Standard Swimming Pool Code.
- C. All future changes, updates, and corrections will be automatically included and applicable under the authority of this Ordinance, unless the Laurens County Council elects to amend or repeal the authority of this Ordinance.

3. AUTHORITY: This Ordinance is adopted pursuant to the authority and process set forth by the Constitution of the State of South Carolina and by the powers granted by the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, as amended as enacted by the South Carolina General Assembly. Jurisdiction shall be exclusively within the unincorporated areas of Laurens County.

4. APPLICABILITY:

- A. The provisions of this Ordinance shall apply only to the unincorporated areas of Laurens County, South Carolina.
- B. The County Building Official shall be the administrative or enforcement official for the Technical Codes listed in this section.
- C. The Planning Commission is hereby designated as the Board of Adjustments and Appeals under any Technical Codes listed in this Ordinance.
- D. Violations of the provisions of any of the Technical Codes shall be punishable in Summary Court by a fine not exceeding Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) or

imprisonment not exceeding thirty (30) days. Each day in violation shall constitute a separate offense.

- E. Any person or entity violating any provisions of the Code of the County of Laurens may be issued a Uniform Ordinance Summons. Issuance of the Uniform Ordinance Summons shall vest jurisdiction in the Summary Court to hear and dispose of the charge for which the Uniform Ordinance Summons was issued and served. The Uniform Ordinance Summons may be issued by any County Officer or any other County employees designated as Codes Enforcement Officers. The bond amount for violation shall be prescribed by the Summary Court Judge. County Officers or Code Enforcement Officers are prohibited from accepting bonds. Bonds are to be posted in the manner prescribed in the Uniform Ordinance Summons. The Uniform Ordinance Summons shall not be used to perform a custodial arrest.

5. **LANGUAGE:** The language used in this Ordinance, if used in the present tense, shall include the future tense. Words used in the singular shall include the plural and the plural the singular, unless the context clearly indicates the contrary. The use of the word “shall” is mandatory and the word “may” is permissive.

6. **EFFECTIVE DATE:** The effective date of this Ordinance shall be upon three (3) readings as required by law.

7. **SEVERABILITY:** Should any paragraph, clause, phrase, or provision of this Ordinance be judged invalid or held unconstitutional by a Court of competent jurisdiction, such declaration shall not affect the validity of any other section of the Ordinance as a whole or any part or provision thereof, other than the part so decided to be invalid or unconstitutional.

[signature page follows]

DONE, RATIFIED, AND ADOPTED this 14th day of April, 2020.

LAURENS COUNTY COUNCIL:



David A. Pitts, Chairman

ATTEST:



Jon Caime, Administrator
Laurens County, South Carolina



Betty C. Walsh, Clerk
Laurens County Council
Laurens County, South Carolina

First Reading: February 25, 2020
Second Reading: March 10, 2020
Third Reading: April 14, 2020
Public Hearing: April 14, 2020

VOTE: 7-0

FOR AGAINST ABSTAIN ABSENT

Pitts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wood	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Anderson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Patterson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
McDaniel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Younts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carroll	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>