

Form of Government

The Town of Fort Mill operates under the council-manager form of government, as outlined in Title 5, Chapter 13 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended. The town council consists of seven (7) members, including a Mayor who is elected at-large every four years, and six council members who serve staggered four year terms. Of the six council members, one member is elected to represent each of the town's four wards, and two are elected at-large. Municipal elections are held in November during odd numbered years, and new council members begin their terms in January of the following year.



Fort Mill Town Council (pictured left to right): Larry Huntley (Ward 3), Nathan Blythe (Ward 1), Tom Spratt (At-Large), Guyann Savage (At-Large), Ronald Helms (Ward 2), Tom Adams (Ward 4).
Seated: Danny Funderburk (Mayor)

The Town Council serves as the policy making body for the Town of Fort Mill. The council is charged with several statutory duties, including: adopting an annual budget; setting rates for taxes and fees; appointing town officials (such as the town manager, town attorney, and municipal judge); establishing citizen and other advisory committees; entering into contracts and debt service agreements; setting general policies for the town government; and enacting regulations, resolutions, and ordinances, consistent with the authority granted by the Constitution and general laws of the state of South Carolina.

Under the council-manager form of government, the council employs a professional manager to oversee the day-to-day operations of the town. The town manager is employed solely on the basis of his or her executive and administrative qualifications. The town manager serves at the will and pleasure of the town council.

The town manager serves as the chief executive officer and head of the administrative branch of the town's government. The town manager is responsible to the town council for the proper administration of all affairs of the town, including:

- Appointing and removing officers and employees of the town;
- Fixing the salaries for officers and employees of the town;
- Preparing, submitting, and administering the annual budget;
- Providing reports to council on the financial and administrative activities of the town;
- Keeping the town council advised of the financial condition and future needs of the town;
- Ensuring the fair, consistent, and efficient application of town ordinances and policies; and
- Such other duties as may be prescribed by law or required by the town council.

Form of Government



Fort Mill Town Hall, located at 112 Confederate Street in Downtown Fort Mill.

In addition to the town manager, the council also appoints a town attorney and municipal judge. The town attorney is appointed for a two-year term concurrent with the term of the council. The town attorney acts as general counsel for the town and, when requested, may also act as prosecutor in criminal cases. The judge presides over the municipal court, and is appointed for a term fixed by council not to exceed four years.

The Fort Mill Town Council also appoints several boards, commissions, and advisory committees, each of which is made up of citizen volunteers appointed by the mayor and council. Current boards, commissions, and advisory committees include: the Planning Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals, Historic Review Board, Building Code Board of Appeals, Hall of Fame Committee, Keep Fort Mill Beautiful Committee, South Carolina Strawberry Festival Planning Committee, Stormwater Advisory Committee, Veterans Memorial Park Committee, Arts Commission, and the Parks and Recreation Commission. Additional ad hoc committees may be created by the town council on an as-needed basis.

Town of Fort Mill Organization Chart

