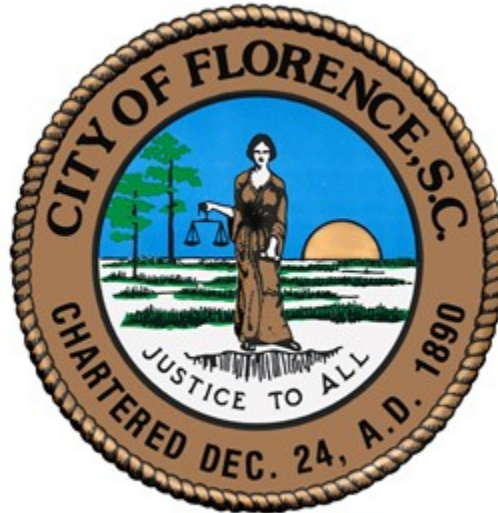


**REGULAR MEETING
OF
FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL**



**COUNCIL CHAMBERS
324 W. EVANS STREET
FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA**

**MONDAY
DECEMBER 9, 2024
1:00 P.M.**



**REGULAR MEETING OF FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2024 – 1:00PM
CITY CENTER – COUNCIL CHAMBERS
324 WEST EVANS STREET
FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA**

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. INVOCATION

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

November 12, 2024 – Swearing-in Ceremony

November 18, 2024 – Regular Meeting

IV. HONORS AND RECOGNITIONS

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Rob Hill – USTA Tennis Professional of the Year

V. APPEARANCES BEFORE COUNCIL

a. Dr. Reverend Damon Cabbagestalk, Jr.

To speak to Council regarding neighborhood clean-up and lighting efforts.

b. Lakesha Jones

To speak to Council regarding concerns with the Recreation Department.

c. Bryan and Jody Ransom

To speak to Council regarding the second annual One Table Florence.

Note: Each person who gives notice to speak may be limited to a five (5) minute presentation at the discretion of the presiding officer, City of Florence Code of Ordinances, Section 2-24(h).

VI. ORDINANCES IN POSITION

a. Bill No. 2024-20 – Second Reading

An Ordinance to amend the budget for the City of Florence, South Carolina for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025.

b. Bill No. 2024-21 – Second Reading

An Ordinance to amend the due dates in Section 20 of the City of Florence Code of Ordinances to align with the city’s Business License renewal dates.

c. Bill No. 2024-22 – Second Reading

An Ordinance to amend Article I Chapter 3 of the City of Florence Code of Ordinances to add provisions related to prohibiting ownership or keeping of livestock and wild animals and other matters related thereto.

d. Bill No. 2024-23 – Second Reading

An Ordinance to annex and zone NC-15 2499 West Edgefield Road, identified as Florence County Tax Map Number 01221-01-140.

e. Bill No. 2024-24 – Second Reading

An Ordinance to repeal Division 4 of Article 3, Chapter 2 of the City of Florence Code of Ordinances entitled “Aesthetics Advisory Committee.”

VII. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

a. Bill No. 2024-25 – First Reading

An Ordinance to annex and zone RG-3 the property located at 2501 Alligator Road, identified as Florence County Tax Map Number 00125-01-004.

VIII. INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

a. Resolution No. 2024-43

A Resolution encouraging staff to implement the 5-point crime plan.

b. Resolution No. 2024-44

A Resolution to amend a Conditional Grant and Development Agreement for a property located in an overlay district.

(Note: This item may be discussed in Executive Session.)

IX. REPORT TO COUNCIL

a. Appointments to Boards and Commissions

(Note: This item may be discussed in Executive Session.)

X. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

XI. MAYORAL REPORT

XII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Business Development Committee

b. Community Development Committee

c. Finance, Audit and Budget Committee

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a. For a discussion regarding an Economic Development Project [30-4-70(a)(5)].
- b. For a discussion regarding appointments to Boards and Commissions [30-4-70(a)(1)].
- c. For a discussion regarding an Economic Development Project [30-4-70(a)(5)].
- d. Personnel matter [30-4-70(a)(1)].

After returning to open session, Council may take action on matters discussed during Executive Session.

XIV. ADJOURN



**INVESTITURE CEREMONY
NOVEMBER 12, 2024 – 6:00 P.M.
FRANCIS MARION UNIVERSITY
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA**

The Honorable Marcus Woodson presided over the November 12, 2024 Investiture Ceremony for Chaquez T. McCall and Lethonia Barnes. Reverend Mary Mappus Finklea provided the Opening Prayer for the ceremony. The Pledge of Allegiance followed the prayer.

Chaquez T. McCall was sworn in as a Councilman representing At-Large on November 12, 2024 in the Francis Marion University Performing Arts Center. The Honorable Alesha Lewis administered the oath of office to Councilman Chaquez T. McCall. Assisting with the swearing in was Adriane McCall, Amiyah McCall, Chaquez McCall, II and Ava McCall.

Lethonia Barnes was sworn in as a Mayor on November 12, 2024 in the Francis Marion University Performing Arts Center. Reverend Dr. Ralph W. Canty, Sr. administered the oath of office to Mayor Lethonia Barnes. Assisting with the swearing in was John K. Barnes, John K. Barnes, Jr., Brittany Barnes and Autumn Lacey.

Dated this 9th day of December 2024.

Casey C. Moore, Municipal Clerk

Lethonia Barnes, Mayor



**REGULAR MEETING OF FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2024 – 1:00 P.M.
CITY CENTER – COUNCIL CHAMBERS
324 WEST EVANS STREET
FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Lethonia Barnes, Mayor Pro Tempore George Jebaily, Councilman Chaquez T. McCall, Councilman Bryan A. Braddock, Councilwoman LaShonda NeSmith-Jackson and Councilman J. Lawrence Smith, II

ALSO PRESENT

Mr. Scotty Davis, City Manager; Mr. Ronald Scott, City Attorney; Mrs. Casey Moore, Municipal Clerk; Mr. Clint Moore, Assistant City Manager of Development; Chief Allen Heidler, Florence Police Department; Chief Shannon Tanner, Florence Fire Department; Mr. Michael Hemingway, Director of Utility Planning and Economic Development; Mr. Jerry Dudley, Director of Planning; Mr. Adam Swindler, Director of Public Works; Mrs. Amanda Pope, Director of Marketing/Communications and Municipal Services; Mr. Joshua Whittington, Director of Utilities; Mrs. Victoria Nash, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Sports Tourism; Mr. Glenn Bodenheimer, Interim Finance Director and Ms. Patrice Rankin, Administrative Coordinator

MEDIA PRESENT

Mr. Seth Taylor with the Post and Courier and Ms. Shawnia Butler with WPDE News Channel 15 were present for the meeting.

Notices of this regular meeting of City Council were provided to the media and individuals requesting a copy of the agenda informing them of the date, location, and time of the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Barnes called the November 18, 2024 regular meeting of Florence City Council to order at 1:01pm.

Mayor Barnes acknowledged the passing of Retired Colonel Barringer Wingard, Jr. Colonel Wingard served as Chairman of the Veterans Park Committee and was instrumental in organizing the annual Veterans Day Ceremony at Veterans Park. A moment of silence was held in memory of Colonel Wingard. Mayor Barnes also acknowledged his family who was present at the meeting.

INVOCATION

Pastor Kelsey Goodson gave the invocation for the meeting. (Councilman McCall arrived at 1:07pm.) The pledge of allegiance to the American Flag followed the invocation and was led by Rev. Dr. Calvin Robinson. Mayor Barnes said that the invocation for each meeting will be done by the faith-based community and the Pledge of Allegiance for each meeting will be led by community veterans.



**FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING – NOVEMBER 18, 2024**

ADDENDUM TO THE AGENDA:

Bill No. 2024-24 – First Reading

An Ordinance to repeal Division 4 of Article 3, Chapter 2 of the City of Florence Code of Ordinances entitled “Aesthetics Advisory Committee.”

Resolution No. 2024-42

A Resolution to reduce the Board of Commissioners of the Florence Housing Authority from seven Commissioners to five Commissioners pursuant to Section 31-3-340 of the South Carolina Code of Laws.

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to add these items to the November 18, 2024 regular meeting and agenda and Councilman Braddock seconded the motion. The items were added to the agenda by unanimous vote (6-0).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman McCall made a motion to adopt the minutes of the October 14, 2024 Regular Meeting and Councilman Smith seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously (6-0) adopted.

SERVICE RECOGNITIONS

Mr. Glenn Bodenheimer, Interim Finance Director, presented Lynwood Givens with a certificate of recognition for 25 years of service with the City of Florence.

Mr. Allen Heidler, Police Chief, presented Terrance Ford with a certificate of recognition for 25 years of service with the Florence Police Department.

Chief Heidler presented Sheldon Shelley with a certificate of recognition for 15 years of service with the Florence Police Department.

Mrs. Amanda Pope, Director of Marketing/Communications and Municipal Services presented Erica Thomas with a certificate of recognition for 10 years of service with the City of Florence.

FALL 2024 CITY UNIVERSITY GRADUATION

Mrs. Amanda Pope, Director of Marketing/Communications and Municipal Services and Mayor Barnes presented the Fall 2024 City University participants with their certificates of completion. City University was established in 2023 and is held in the spring and fall of each year. The Fall 2024 session was seven weeks and participants had the opportunity to learn about city operations and visit different city facilities.

ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO TEMPORE

Mayor Barnes nominated Councilman Jebaily to serve as Mayor Pro Tempore and Councilman McCall seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously (6-0) for Councilman Jebaily to serve as Mayor Pro Tempore. Councilman Jebaily was appointed to serve as Mayor Pro Tempore for the next two years.



APPEARANCES BEFORE COUNCIL

Barbara Martin Moses and Carla Lynch Eaddy

Barbara Martin Moses and Carla Lynch Eaddy appeared before Council to speak on the removal of campaign signs by city staff. Mrs. Moses said that she previously ran for a school board seat and was informed by a neighbor that her campaign signs were being removed by city staff. She said that her signs were on a private lot and were also removed from a friend's yard as well. Mrs. Moses spoke of her frustration with her signs being removed, while other campaign signs were allowed to stay in place. She questioned why the signs were removed and asked where the signs were taken after they were removed. Mrs. Eaddy also said that she experienced her campaign signs being removed and shared the same frustration as to why only certain signs were being removed from private property and not all signs.

Several councilmembers shared a similar experience during their campaigns with the removal of their campaign signs as well that were placed in the right-of-way. Council said that all signs, including marketing, real estate, and more, are taken to the city's Public Works facility on McCurdy Road. Councilman Smith asked Mr. Scotty Davis, City Manager, to address the city's ordinance on signage.

Mr. Scotty Davis, City Manager, said the city has staff that is assigned to remove signs that are in the public right-of-way. Mr. Davis explained that the public right-of-way can extend 5 feet to 20 feet or further from the edge of pavement. Utility poles and water meters are good guidelines to show where the right-of-way is located. City staff is empowered to remove signs or materials that are in the right-of-way, and they are taken to the Public Works facility. In previous years, city staff has meet with the chairpersons for the two major political parties to discuss and review the city's sign ordinance so that the political parties are aware of the ordinance.

Key Ardrey

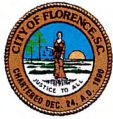
Mr. Key Ardrey appeared before Council to speak on a proposed demonstration building and development project of workforce housing. Mr. Ardrey said he represents a company, USA Alliance Hub, that connects with youth and community leaders to train and develop workforce housing and safe and secure communities. USA Alliance Hub works with support services to achieve affordable housing. They are currently working on a demonstration project that consist of four lots and would like to develop a partnership with the City of Florence to make this project a success. Mr. Ardrey thanked Council and city staff for their communication and assistance thus far.

Elder James Williams, Pastor Calvin Quick, Blondie Gordon

Elder James Williams, Pastor Calvin Quick, Blondie Gordon, and other representatives of the Meadow Prong Community appeared before Council to speak on water issues. Each representative shared their concerns and frustrations with the poor water quality of the well water in their community. The group expressed that the are experiencing low water pressure and excessive amounts of rust in the water. They shared that they have reached out to Florence County regarding their concerns, and they were directed to the City because the City maintains the water system.

Pro tem Jebaily asked for clarification if the group is referring to issues with well water. Elder Williams responded yes.

The group expressed their concerns with County residents having to pay higher water rates and tap fees. The city and county residents should have access to clean and quality water. The group shared that the



**FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING – NOVEMBER 18, 2024**

wells are drying up in their community and they are inquiring on how the city and county can resolve their water issues.

Mayor Barnes asked Mr. Scotty Davis, City Manager, to address some of the concerns shared by the group. Mr. Davis shared that the water system is an enterprise system, which is based on user fees. When a municipality owns a water system, the fees generated pay for the water system, not taxes. In 1985, the City created a service area with the County, and, since then, the service area has increased. In 2002, the City purchased the County's water system, with the understanding that the city would run water in areas if it is economically feasible. When there is a request to extend a water line, an economic feasibility analysis is completed which must show that the service fees will pay back the cost of the service lines over a 20-year period. If the analysis shows that the cost will not be paid back over the 20-year period, the City can turn down the request or provide the information to Florence County and the County can choose to use their infrastructure money to run the service lines. The City meets with Florence County on a regular basis to discuss these requests. Mr. Davis said it is true that County residents pay more in rates and fees than City residents. This is due to the density in the City being much higher than in the County. The City has an ordinance that required city residents to tap on to water and sewer lines. When running a service line in the County, county residents have the option to tap in or not to tap in to the service line. When the City purchased the County's water system in 2002, it was determined that county residents would have higher costs than city residents. Mr. Davis said city engineers have looked at the Meadow Prong area and the cost to install service lines in the area is approximately \$260,000 for 8-10 residents. It would not be economically feasible due to only around \$28,000 going towards the initial cost over a 20-year period. This information was presented to Florence County on February 21, 2024.

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson asked the group to reach out to their County Council representative to share their concerns so that they can advocate for them as well.

Councilman Smith said infrastructure funding can be obtained from Florence County and said the City-County Council Committee could discuss these issues at the next committee meeting.

ORDINANCES IN POSITION

Bill No. 2024-16 – Second Reading

An Ordinance to abandon the unopened right-of-way between 913 and 1003 Chestnut Street, identified as Florence County Tax Map Numbers 90063-01-011 and 90063-01-010.

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to adopt Bill No. 2024-16 on second reading and Councilman Smith seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously (6-0) in favor of the motion. Bill No. 2024-16 was adopted.

Bill No. 2024-17 – Second Reading

An Ordinance to rezone four parcels from PD to NC-6.3, identified as Florence County Tax Map Numbers 90103-01-002, 90103-01-003, 90103-01-004, and 90103-01-005.

Councilman Smith made a motion to adopt Bill No. 2024-17 on second reading and Councilman McCall seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously (6-0) in favor of the motion. Bill No. 2024-17 was adopted.



FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING – NOVEMBER 18, 2024

Bill No. 2024-18 – Second Reading

An Ordinance to annex and zone CG 551 and 597 West Lucas Street, identified as Florence County Tax Map Numbers 90070-01-025 and 90070-01-028.

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to adopt Bill No. 2024-18 on second reading and Councilman Smith seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously (6-0) in favor of the motion. Bill No. 2024-18 was adopted.

Bill No. 2024-19 – Second Reading

An Ordinance to amend Article I of Chapter 8 of the City of Florence Code of Ordinances to add provisions related to open burning and to amend Article I of Chapter 10 of said city code to add provisions relating to nuisance smoke and other matters related thereto.

Councilman McCall made a motion to adopt Bill No. 2024-19 on second reading and Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously (6-0) in favor of the motion. Bill No. 2024-19 was adopted.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

Bill No. 2024-20 - First Reading

An Ordinance to amend the budget for the City of Florence, South Carolina for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025.

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to pass Bill No. 2024-20 on first reading and Councilman McCall seconded the motion.

Mr. Glenn Bodenheimer, Interim Finance Director, said this is the city's annual budget carryforward amendment. These are not new appropriations to the budget but are expenditures and expenses that were previously budgeted in the FY 2023-2024 budget. Due to issues such as supply chain, bidding and re bidding of projects and general completion of construction times, the expenditures were not completed by June 20, 2024. These expenditures are rolling over into the current year budget for completion. The budget amendment was presented to the Finance, Audit, and Budget Committee and the committee has made a recommendation for approval.

Council voted unanimously (6-0) in favor of the motion. Bill No. 2024-20 was passed on first reading.

Bill No. 2024-21 - First Reading

An Ordinance to amend the due dates in Section 20 of the City of Florence Code of Ordinances to align with the city's Business License renewal dates.

Councilman McCall made a motion to pass Bill No. 2024-21 on first reading and Councilman Smith seconded the motion.

Mr. Glenn Bodenheimer, Interim Finance Director, said this ordinance will change due dates in the city's vehicle for hire ordinance, known as the taxicab ordinance. In 2020, Act No. 176 standardized the business license year for the state of South Carolina to begin on May 1st and end on April 30th of the following year. This ordinance will realign the due dates for proof of liability insurance, expiration of



**FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING – NOVEMBER 18, 2024**

taxicab licenses and expiration of taxicab drivers permits that are due on June 30th of every year, to now have the same renewal date as the city's business license year.

Council voted unanimously (6-0) in favor of the motion. Bill No. 2024-21 was passed on first reading.

Bill No. 2024-22 - First Reading

An Ordinance to amend Article I Chapter 3 of the City of Florence Code of Ordinances to add provisions related to prohibiting ownership or keeping of livestock and wild animals and other matters related thereto.

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to pass Bill No. 2024-22 on first reading and Councilman McCall seconded the motion.

Mr. Allen Heidler, Police Chief, said the purpose of this ordinance is to ensure the safety and health of citizens of Florence by regulating the ownership of livestock, wild, unspayed or unneutered feral and dangerous animals within the City limits. Chief Heidler said if Council passes this ordinance on first reading, city staff will need to make a few changes to the ordinance. The ordinance does not address some of the conditions that allow for certain animals to be in certain settings, according to the Unified Development Ordinance. In residential zoning districts, animals are limited to chicken, ducks, rabbits, and similar animals and no more than one animal is permitted per 1,000 square feet of lot area.

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson asked if the city would be enforcing regular fines and penalties for those in violation of this ordinance. Mr. Ron Scott, City Attorney, said standard penalties for violations of city ordinances will apply. Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson asked if there was any way to add additional penalties and fees. Mr. Scott responded no. Standard penalties for ordinance violations will apply.

Pro tem Jebaily asked for clarification on whether the ordinance addresses large, dangerous or potentially invasive constrictive snakes, venomous and poisonous reptiles and serpents. Chief Heidler responded yes.

Council voted unanimously (6-0) in favor of the motion. Bill No. 2024-22 was passed on first reading.

Bill No. 2024-23 - First Reading

An Ordinance to annex and zone NC-15 2499 West Edgefield Road, identified as Florence County Tax Map Number 01221-01 -140.

Councilman McCall made a motion to pass Bill No. 2024-23 on first reading and Councilman Smith seconded the motion.

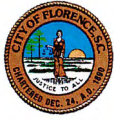
Mr. Jerry Dudley, Planning Director, said this property is located in the Windsor Forest subdivision. The lot is adjacent to property that is zoned NC-15 and has a single-family residence on it. All city water and sewer services are currently available to the property. Planning Commission voted unanimously (5-0) to recommend the zoning request.

Council voted unanimously (6-0) in favor of the motion. Bill No. 2024-23 was passed on first reading.

Bill No. 2024-24 – First Reading

An Ordinance to repeal Division 4 of Article 3, Chapter 2 of the City of Florence Code of Ordinances entitled “Aesthetics Advisory Committee.”

Action on this item was taken during the Business Development Committee report.



INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 2024-39

A Resolution to proclaim Friday, December 6, 2024 as Arbor Day in the City of Florence.

Councilman McCall made a motion to pass Resolution No. 2024-39 and Councilman Smith seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously (6-0) in favor of the motion. Resolution No. 2024-39 was passed.

Resolution No. 2024-40

A Resolution to declare the Town of Spruce Pine as a Sister City to the City of Florence.

Councilman McCall made a motion to pass Resolution No. 2024-40 and Councilman Smith seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously (6-0) in favor of the motion. Resolution No. 2024-40 was passed.

Resolution No. 2024-41

A Resolution of City Council approving Downtown Redevelopment Grants for Third Quarter, Fiscal Year 2024.

Mayor Barnes said this item may be discussed in Executive Session. Without objection, this item will be discussed in Executive Session.

Resolution No. 2024-42

A Resolution to reduce the Board of Commissioners of the Florence Housing Authority from seven Commissioners to five Commissioners pursuant to Section 31-3-340 of the South Carolina Code of Laws.

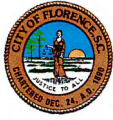
Action on this item was taken during the Business Development Committee report.

REPORT TO COUNCIL

Appropriation of Accommodations Tax funds for Fiscal Year 2024/25.

Mr. Glenn Bodenheimer, Interim Finance Director, said the accommodation taxes are collected by hotels and lodging within the City of Florence. The purpose of collecting these taxes is to promote tourism and advertising to bring overnight guests to the City of Florence. The Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee is appointed to make recommendations on how the accommodation tax money is spent, with the goal being to fund the events that will bring in the most tourism for the city. The recommendations were previously presented to the Finance, Audit, and Budget Committee of City Council.

Mr. Tim Norwood, Chairman of the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee, presented on behalf of the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee and provided the recommendation of the Committee for distribution of Accommodations Tax funds for FY 2024-2025. The committee received proposals from 25 organizations, with funding requests totaling \$1.5 million. The committee was able to fund \$830,000 of the requests between the 25 organizations and is confident the allocations recommended are the most appropriate to increase tourism and investments in the community.



**FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING – NOVEMBER 18, 2024**

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to accept the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee's recommendation of the FY 2024-2025 distribution of Accommodations Tax funds and Councilman Smith seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously (6-0) in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

Appointments to Boards and Commissions

Mayor Barnes said this item may be discussed in Executive Session. Without objection, this item will be discussed in Executive Session.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Scotty Davis, City Manager, said he was asked to look at how the city handles resolutions. Mr. Davis said a resolution is an administrative act taken by Council to agree on city business and transactions. It may be used to express the Council's policy, direct administrative or legal action, or to make a public statement from Council. A proclamation is a ceremonial document, generally issued by the Mayor, that may be used to recognize certain events, causes, groups, or people. Proclamations are generally used to recognize and celebrate extraordinary achievements of city residents. Mr. Davis provided a summary on the number of resolutions adopted by Council per year since year 2000. Last year, 50 resolutions were adopted by Council and to date, 37 resolutions have been adopted. If Council wishes to reduce the number of resolutions, achievements and recognitions can be done as a proclamation.

MAYORAL REPORT

Mayor Barnes commended staff for their work in organizing the "Stronger Together" community video. She concluded the Mayoral Report by showcasing the "Stronger Together" community video.

[Break from 2:43pm-2:48pm]

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Business Development Committee, Chaired by Pro tem Jebaily

Pro tem Jebaily referenced the special called meeting the committee held prior to the Council meeting on this day and said the committee discussed proposed Bill No. 2024-24 and Resolution No. 2024-42 and voted to recommend both to City Council for approval. He asked Mr. Davis to discuss the letter received from the Housing Authority and the Resolution that will accompany it.

Mr. Scotty Davis, City Manager said he received a letter from the Housing Authority on November 5, 2024 requesting that Council revert the Housing Authority Board of Commissioners back to a five seat board instead of a seven seat board. In 2018, the previous Executive Director submitted a letter to then Mayor Wukela and asked that Council increase the board seats from five seats to seven seats.

Pro tem Jebaily asked for clarification that the Board was established in 1968 and the Board consisted of five seats until 2018. Mr. Davis responded yes.

Councilman Braddock introduced Resolution No. 2024-42 and Ordinance No. 2024-24.



**FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING – NOVEMBER 18, 2024**

Resolution No. 2024-42

A Resolution to reduce the Board of Commissioners of the Florence Housing Authority from seven Commissioners to five Commissioners pursuant to Section 31-3-340 of the South Carolina Code of Laws.

Councilman Braddock made a motion to pass Resolution No. 2024-42 and Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson seconded the motion.

Councilman McCall said Dr. Bradley has expressed that the Board has had difficulty in maintaining seven board members and currently has two vacancies. He asked Mr. Davis if the Board has also been having issues with establishing quorum. Mr. Davis said that is his understanding.

Councilman Braddock said the Housing Authority did not specify or reference why the Housing Authority requested the two additional seats.

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson asked if the quorum number would change with the Board reverting back to five seats and inquired on the Board's by laws. Mayor Barnes said Council can only accept or reject the request.

Council voted unanimously (6-0) in favor of the motion. Resolution No. 2024-42 was passed.

Bill No. 2024-24 – First Reading

An Ordinance to repeal Division 4 of Article 3, Chapter 2 of the City of Florence Code of Ordinances entitled “Aesthetics Advisory Committee.”

Councilman Braddock said there was some overlap with the Aesthetics Advisory Committee with some other city boards and commission. Councilman Braddock made a motion to pass Bill No. 2024-24 on first reading and Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously (6-0) in favor of the motion. Bill No. 2024-24 was passed on first reading.

Community Development Committee, Chaired by Councilwoman Barnes

Councilwoman Barnes introduced Ms. Michele Morgan, Executive Director of Building Florence Together, to provide a report on Building Florence Together.

Ms. Morgan said the goal of Building Florence Together is to provide access to appropriate housing, revitalize neighborhoods, and empower residents and small businesses through education and workforce development partnerships. Building Florence Together purchased a 114-year-old home located at 320 South Gaillard Street and transformed it into a modern and energy efficient home. The home was under development for six months and went on the market on September 13, 2024. The organization received a full price offer for the home on September 16, 2024. The organization is continuing to work to build more affordable homes in the community.

Councilman Braddock congratulated Building Florence Together on the sale of their first home and asked for the price of the renovation and the listing price. Ms. Morgan said the renovation cost was \$130,000 and the listing price was \$219,000. The city provided \$20,000 down payment assistance and Building Florence Together was able to net \$73,000 from the sale of the home.

Councilman McCall thanked Ms. Morgan for her work with Building Florence Together.



**FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING – NOVEMBER 18, 2024**

Mr. Scotty Davis, City Manager, briefly shared the city's partnership with Building Florence Together. The City of Florence provided \$80,000 for the renovation, in addition to the \$20,000 down payment assistance. Building Florence Together is working through the Community Services and Planning Departments to negotiate premium lots from the city.

Pro tem Jebaily spoke in favor of rebuilding new homes as well as the rehabilitation of historical homes in the community.

Councilman Smith asked Mr. Davis if there are plans to build additional homes in the area. Mr. Davis said yes, there are about 7-8 lots that the city is looking to build on.

Marketing and Public Relations Committee, Chaired by Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson said the Fall 2024 session of City University is complete. She shared her experience at the National League of Cities in Tampa, Florida, and also encouraged residents to sign up to receive notifications from "Cy."

Finance, Audit and Budget Committee, Chaired by Councilman McCall

Councilman McCall said the committee reviewed the monthly financial reports for September 2024. The committee also reviewed the budget carryforward ordinance and the vehicle for hire ordinance. Lastly, the committee received an update on the opioid funding.

Appointments to Council Committees

Councilman Braddock said that Council has to reappoint ad hoc committees after each election. Councilman Braddock made a motion to appoint Mayor Barnes as the chair of the Community Development Committee, Pro tem Jebaily as the chair of the Business Development Committee, and Councilman McCall as the chair of the Finance, Audit, and Budget Committee. Pro tem Jebaily seconded the motion.

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson raised a point of information and asked for clarification on the appointments to council committees and said that she assumed that the appointments would take place after the Special Election. Mayor Barnes said ad hoc committees have an expiration date and they must be appointed after the General Election. Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson questioned why the Marketing and Public Relations Committee was not included in the appointments to council committees. Councilman Braddock said that after launching "Cy", there was not a need for additional staff support for the Marketing and Public Relations Committee.

Councilman McCall asked if this recommendation came from the Business Development Committee. Mayor Barnes responded yes.

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson expressed that she does not think only a few councilmembers should be making decisions that effect the entire Council.

Council voted (5-1) in favor of the motion, with Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson voting in opposition. The motion passed.

Mayor Barnes said that the Committee Chairpersons will appoint committee members at next month's Council meeting.



**FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING – NOVEMBER 18, 2024**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Barnes said Council will be entering into Executive Session for a discussion of matters related to an Economic Development Project, a discussion regarding appointments to Boards and Commissions, and for a personnel matter.

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to enter into Executive Session and Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously (6-0) to enter into Executive Session at 3:28pm.

Council resumed open session at 4:13pm and took action on the following items:

Resolution No. 2024-41

A Resolution of City Council approving Downtown Redevelopment Grants for Third Quarter, Fiscal Year 2024.

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to pass Resolution No. 2024-41 and Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously (6-0) in favor of the motion. Resolution No. 2024-41 was passed.

Appointments to Boards and Commissions

Mr. Davis presented the packet of appointments to Boards and Commissions to Council.

Mr. Davis informed Mayor Barnes that there are five appointments assigned to the At-Large seat previously held by Mayor Barnes. Mayor Barnes made a motion to defer the appointments assigned to the vacant at-large seat until the Business Development Committee makes a recommendation to Council and Pro tem Jebaily seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously (6-0) in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee

Councilman McCall made a motion to reappoint Quentin Williams to the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee and the motion carried unanimously. Quentin Williams was reappointed to the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2027.

Mayor Barnes made a motion to reappoint Tim Norwood to the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee and the motion carried unanimously. Tim Norwood was reappointed to the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2027.

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson deferred her nomination to the Board.

Councilman Smith deferred his nomination to the Board.

Planning Commission

Councilman Braddock made a motion to reappoint Mark Lawhon to Planning Commission and the motion carried unanimously. Mark Lawhon was reappointed to Planning Commission for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2027.



**FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING – NOVEMBER 18, 2024**

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to reappoint Bryant Moses to Planning Commission and the motion carried unanimously. Bryant Moses was reappointed to Planning Commission for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2027.

Board of Zoning Appeals

Councilman McCall made a motion to reappoint Nathaniel Poston to the Board of Zoning Appeals and the motion carried unanimously. Nathaniel Poston was reappointed to the Board of Zoning Appeals for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2027.

Civic Center Commission

Mayor Barnes deferred her nomination to the Board.

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson deferred her nomination to the Board.

Councilman Smith deferred his nomination to the Board.

Design Review Board

Councilman Braddock made a motion to reappoint David Tedder to the Design Review Board and the motion carried unanimously. David Tedder was reappointed to the Design Review Board for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2028.

Pro tem Jebaily deferred his nomination to the Board.

Councilman McCall deferred his nomination to the Board.

Construction & Maintenance Board of Adjustments and Appeals

Mayor Barnes deferred all nominations to the Board.

Parks and Beautification Commission

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to appoint Vanessa Murray to the Parks and Beautification Commission and the motion carried unanimously. Vanessa Murray was appointed to the Parks and Beautification Commission for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2029.

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson made a motion to reappoint Itisa Harley Williams to the Parks and Beautification Commission and the motion carried unanimously. Itisa Harley Williams was reappointed to the Parks and Beautification Commission for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2029. Councilman Smith deferred his nomination to the Board.

Councilman Braddock made a motion to appoint Wesley Snow to the Parks and Beautification Commission and the motion carried unanimously. Wesley Snow was appointed to the Parks and Beautification Commission for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2028.

Councilman Smith deferred his nomination to the Board.



**FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING – NOVEMBER 18, 2024**

Pee Dee Regional Airport Authority

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to appoint Mike Miller to the Pee Dee Regional Airport Authority and the motion carried unanimously. Mike Miller was appointed to the Pee Dee Regional Airport Authority for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2027.

Veterans Park Committee

Councilman McCall deferred his nomination to the Board.

Mayor Barnes deferred her nomination to the Board.

Councilman Braddock made a recommendation to hold Barry Wingard's expired seat posthumously. Council agreed unanimously (6-0) to defer an appointment to Barry Wingard's expired seat.

Resilience & Sustainability Advisory Committee

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to reappoint Mindy Taylor to the Resilience & Sustainability Advisory Committee and the motion carried unanimously. Mindy Taylor was reappointed to the Resilience & Sustainability Advisory Committee for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2027.

Public Safety Citizen's Review Board

Councilman McCall deferred his nomination to the Board.

Mayor Barnes deferred her nomination to the Board.

Councilman McCall raised a point of information and asked if applicants for this board must complete a physical training. Mr. Davis responded yes.

Personnel Matter

Councilman McCall made a motion to authorize the City Attorney to enter into negotiations to present a contract with Council's approval to appoint Scotty Davis as permanent City Manager and Councilman Smith seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously (6-0) in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

ADJOURN

Without objection, the November 18, 2024 Regular meeting of City Council was adjourned at 4:30pm.

Dated this 9th day of December 2024.

Casey C. Moore, Municipal Clerk

Lethonia Barnes, Mayor

FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: November 18, 2024
AGENDA ITEM: An ordinance amending the FY 2024-25 Budget
DEPARTMENT/DIVISION: Finance

I. ISSUE UNDER CONSIDERATION

For City Council consideration is an ordinance to amend the FY 2024-25 City of Florence Budget.

II. CURRENT STATUS/PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN

No previous action has been taken on this ordinance.

III. POINTS TO CONSIDER

1. The objective of the proposed ordinance is to align budgeted amounts more closely with actual revenues and expenditures thereby eliminating or reducing significant variances between budgeted and actual amounts in both revenue and expenditure categories.
2. Funds are being re-appropriated from fiscal year 2023-24 to provide funding from Unappropriated Reserves for FY 2024-25 in the General Fund, the Water & Sewer Utilities Fund, the Water and Sewer Equipment Replacement Fund, and the Water & Sewer Construction Fund to complete projects and purchases which were not finalized at the end of fiscal year 2023-24.

IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

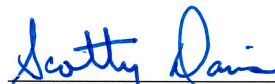
Approve and adopt the proposed ordinance.

V. ATTACHMENTS

A copy of the proposed ordinance is attached.



Glenn A. Bodenheimer
Interim Finance Director



Scotty Davis
City Manager

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2024, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2025

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Florence, South Carolina, in a meeting duly assembled and by the authority thereof that the budget for the City of Florence, South Carolina, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025, is hereby amended as follows:

Section 1. That the category of revenues of the General Fund in said budget is hereby amended by the additional appropriations as follows:

100375-435010 From Unappropriated Reserve is increased in the amount of \$5,895,056 from Assigned Fund Balance to re-appropriate monies for the completion of projects and purchases which were not finalized at the end of FY 2023-24.

Section 2. That the category of expenditures of the General Fund in said budget is hereby amended by the additional appropriations as follows:

10041000-531000 Professional Services is increased in the amount of \$75,000* to pay for the costs of the Recodification of the City Code.

10041300-580050 Facility Improvements is increased \$40,000* to pay for parking improvements at the City Center Market that were not completed during FY 2023-2024.

10041300-560070 Marketing and Promotions is increased \$10,000 to pay for the continuation of the development of the City's new chatbot, Cypress.

10042100-537000 Vehicle Repair & Maintenance (Police) is increased in the amount of \$24,190 for the repair of a wrecked police vehicle during FY 2023-2024. Insurance proceeds were received in FY 2023-2024 but ability to schedule repairs was not made until FY 2024-2025.

10042200-534070 Building Maintenance (Fire) is increased in the amount of \$12,596 to fund an ongoing major roof repair at Station #1.

10042200-537000 Vehicle Repair and Maintenance (Fire) is increased in the amount of \$72,161* for the ongoing refurbishment of two Pierce engines and the repair of Engine 141, which is still awaiting parts for work to be completed.

10042200-580040 Auto Equipment (Fire) is increased in the amount of \$3,003,884 for the purchase of one pumper truck, (\$988,207*) and one ladder fire apparatus with equipment (\$2,015,677*). The pumper truck was paid for during FY 2023-2024, but is not scheduled to be delivered until September 2024. The prepayment is currently recognized as a prepaid asset on the City's financial statements.

FY 2023-2024 Budget Amendment Ordinance (continued)

- 10042200-580060 Other Equipment (Fire) is increased in the amount of \$4,688 to fund the remainder of the expenditures for the Duke Energy Grant awarded and received in FY 2023-2024.
- 10043020-531000 Professional Services (Beautification & Facilities) is increased in the amount of \$27,000 to purchase equipment and services from of ExecuTime Payroll/Munis Management, which is an ongoing project.
- 10043020-580050 Facility Improvements (Beautification & Facilities) is increased in the amount of \$10,000 for renovation costs for the bathroom at the Public Works building.
- 10043022-531000 Professional Services (Sanitation) is increased in the amount of \$6,500 for payments relating to ExecuTime implementation and training, which is an ongoing project.
- 10043022-580060 Other Equipment (Sanitation) is funded in the amount of \$20,000 to provide for the purchase of a recycling trailer.
- 10043023-580050 Facility Improvements (Equipment Maintenance) is funded in the amount of \$10,000 for renovations costs for the bathroom at the Public Works building.
- 10043500-580010 Building & Fixed Equipment (Parks, Recreation and Sports Tourism) is funded in the amount of \$23,500 to provide upgrades for Barnes Street Activity Center.
- 10043500-580040 Auto Equipment (Parks, Recreation and Sports Tourism) is funded in the amount of \$7,300 to purchase of a new trailer. The trailer was ordered in FY 2023-2024 but were not invoiced and delivered until FY 2024-2025.
- 10043500-580050 Facility Improvements (Parks, Recreation and Sports Tourism) is increased in the amount of \$1,780,000 to provide for construction of three dog parks (\$200,000*), construction of lola Jones Amphitheater (\$250,000*), gymnastics lobby renovation (\$30,000), and the Freedom Florence Light Project (\$1,300,000*).
- 10046300-531000 Professional Services (Planning) is increased in the amount of \$564,500 to fund a housing study (\$200,000*), a Redevelopment Study (\$200,000*), developing design guidelines (\$97,500) and to rewrite the City's sign ordinance (\$67,000). The design guidelines development began in the fourth quarter of FY 2023-2024 and in being continued in to FY 2024-2025. The rewrite of the sign ordinance will be completed in FY 2024-2025.
- 10046400-531000 Professional Services (Building) is increased in the amount of \$50,000 to pay for projected fees for plans for review and inspections for the Urban Square Project provided by Safebuilt.

FY 2023-2024 Budget Amendment Ordinance (continued)

- 10049300-594070 IT Hardware/Software Support (Non-Departmental) is increased in the amount of \$113,759 to provide funding for SaaS charges related to new Permitting and Licensing implementation.
- 10049300-594101 Recreation Facilities (Non-Departmental) is funded in the amount of \$22,000 to provide for funding Levy Park and Timrod Park upgrades.
- 10049300-594103 High Hill Creek Bike/Run Park (Non-Departmental) is funded in the amount of \$10,000 to provide for the expansion of the High Hill Creek Bike/Run Park. This was a grant from Naturally Outdoors.
- 10049300-598040 Downtown Promotions (Non-Departmental) is increased in the amount of \$7,978 to provide carry-over funding the refurbishing of the light display features in the Christmas light show and purchase of pump for downtown splash pad.

Section 3. That the category of revenues of the Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund in said budget is hereby amended by the additional appropriations as follows:

- 200375-435010 From Unappropriated Reserve is funded in the amount of \$787,542 from unrestricted net assets.

Section 4. That the category of expenses of the Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund in said budget is hereby amended as follows:

- 20044042-531000 Professional Services (Water Production) is increased in the amount of \$250,000 to fund the purchase of electronic solenoid valves for Otis, Marion, Lucas & SF elevated tanks.
- 20044042-531000 Professional Services (Water Production) is increased in the amount of \$375,000 to fund the purchase of Sensus Cordonel Meters (14 GWTPs).
- 20044044-550299 Other Supplies & Equipment (Distribution Operations) is increased in the amount of \$20,342 to fund a trailer replacement that was damaged and reimbursed by insurance. The trailers will not be available for delivery until FY 24-25.
- 20049300-594125 Economic Development (Non-Departmental) is increased in the amount of \$142,200 to provide funding for the construction of the parking deck associated with the economic development incentive for project "Urban Square".

Section 5. That the category of revenues of the Water and Sewer Equipment Replacement Fund in said budget is hereby amended by the additional appropriations as follows:

FY 2023-2024 Budget Amendment Ordinance (continued)

210375-435010 From Unappropriated Reserve is funded in the amount of \$395,000 from unrestricted net assets.

Section 6. That the category of expenses of the Water and Sewer Equipment Replacement Fund in said budget is hereby amended by the additional appropriations as follows:

21044042-580060 Other Equipment (Water Production Equipment) is increased in the amount of \$350,000 to provide funding for the purchase of a lawnmower (\$25,000) and upgrade for the computer operating system (\$325,000). The department is currently waiting on the engineering opinion regarding integrating with the planned future upgrades of the plant.

21044045-580060 Other Equipment (Collection Operations Equipment Replacement) is increased in the amount of \$45,000 to provide for the replacement of a trailer with sewer rod machine (\$15,000) and a trailer mounted air compressor (\$30,000) which have been delayed by the manufacturer.

Section 7. That the category of revenues of the Water and Sewer Construction Fund in said budget is hereby amended by the additional appropriations as follows:

220375-435010 From Unappropriated Reserve is funded in the amount of \$2,777,937 from unrestricted net assets.

Section 8. That the category of expenses of the Water and Sewer Construction Fund in said budget is hereby amended by the additional appropriations as follows:

22049900-586010 W0117 Middle Swamp Manhole Raising (Water and Sewer Construction Fund) is increased in the amount of \$500,000 to funding for interceptor work to address Sanitary Sewer Overflow's.

22049900-586010 W0142 E. Howe Springs Rd. Water Line Replacement (Water and Sewer Construction Fund) is increased in the amount of \$240,000 to provide for and improve utility service.

22049900-586010 W0154 Asset Management Study (Water and Sewer Construction Fund) is funded in the amount of \$33,500 to provide funding for final GIS/Munis programming for Phase II of Asset Management.

22049900-586010 W0162 Water Line Renewals/Replacements/Upsizing (Water and Sewer Construction Fund) is increased in the amount of \$963,969 to provide funding for South Carolina Infrastructure Improvement Program associated with grant.

22049900-586010 W0163 Lead and Copper Removal Rule Requirement (Water and Sewer Construction Fund) is funded in the amount of \$1,040,468 to provide for lead and copper pipe removal as required by law.

Section 9. That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict or inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency or conflict.

FY 2024-2025 Budget Amendment Ordinance (continued)

* Appropriations are a carryforward of remaining funds for the acquisition of one-time capital expenditures from the General Fund's Unassigned Fund Balance that exceeds 30% of the General Fund's Expenditures. \$6,515,000 were appropriated with Ordinance No. 2023-36.

This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its approval and adoption by the City Council of the City of Florence.

ADOPTED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2024.

Approved as to form:

Benjamin T. Zeigler
City Attorney

Lethonia Barnes
Mayor

Attest:

Casey C. Moore
Municipal Clerk

FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: November 11, 2024

AGENDA ITEM: An ordinance amending the due dates in Section 20 of the City of Florence, South Carolina Code of Ordinances align with the City's Business License renewal dates.

DEPARTMENT/DIVISION: Finance

I. ISSUE UNDER CONSIDERATION

For City Council consideration is an ordinance to repeal and reenact related sections of the City of Florence, South Carolina Code of Ordinances Chapter 20 – Vehicles for Hire, related to due dates for proof of insurance, taxicab licenses and taxicab permits.

II. CURRENT STATUS/PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN

No previous action has been taken on this ordinance.

III. POINTS TO CONSIDER

1. The objective of the proposed ordinance is to align the due dates for proof of liability insurance, expiration of taxicab licenses and expiration of taxicab driver's permits to have the same expiration dates and renewal dates as the City's business license year.
2. 2020 Act No. 176 standardized the business license year to begin on May 1st and end on April 30th of the following year. The current ordinance sections have been amended to align the dates for vehicles for hire with the dates related to the business license year.

IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

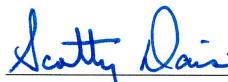
Approve and adopt the proposed ordinance.

V. ATTACHMENTS

A copy of the proposed ordinance is attached.



Glenn A. Bodenheimer
Interim Finance Director



Scotty Davis
City Manager

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL AND REENACT SECTIONS 20-21, 20-46, and 20-64 OF THE CITY OF FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF ORDINANCES TO CHANGE THE DUE DATES IN WHICH TAXICABS WILL BE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE CURRENT INSURANCE POLICIES, RENEW BUSINESS LICENSES, AND RENEW DRIVER'S PERMITS.

WHEREAS, the City of Florence (the "Municipality") is authorized by S.C. Code Section 5-7-30 and Title 6, Chapter 1, Article 3 to impose a business license tax on gross income;

WHEREAS, by Act No. 176 of 2020, known as the South Carolina Business License Tax Standardization Act and codified at S. C. Code Sections 6-1-400 to -420 (the "Standardization Act"), the South Carolina General Assembly imposed additional requirements and conditions on the administration of business license taxes;

WHEREAS, the Standardization Act requires that business licenses expire on April 30th of each year and must be renewed before May 1st of each year;

WHEREAS, Section 20-21 of the City of Florence Code of Ordinances defines the date requiring taxicab license holders to provide the current public liability insurance policy. Section 20-46 defines the business license expiration date. Section 20-64 defines the expiration date for the taxicab driver's permit.

WHEREAS, the dates were not updated when the City's current business license ordinance was adopted to comply with the Standardization Act:

NOW, THEREFORE IT BE ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Florence, South Carolina as follows:

Section 1 § 20-21, § 20-46 and § 20-64 of the City of Florence Code of Ordinances are repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

Sec. 20-21. - Liability insurance required.

(b) A public liability insurance policy must be maintained at all times with annual renewal to be effective on or before ~~June 30~~ April 30 each year.

Sec. 20-46. – Expiration Date.

Any taxicab license issued under the provisions of this article shall expire on ~~June 30~~ April 30 of each year, unless revoked prior thereto.

Business License Update (continued)

Sec. 20-64. – Expiration Date.

Taxicab driver's permits shall expire on ~~June 15~~ April 30 of each year unless revoked as provided in this chapter.

Section 2 That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict or inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby to the extent of such inconsistency or conflict.

This Ordinance shall become effective immediately following its approval and adoption by the City Council of the City of Florence.

ADOPTED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2024.

Approved as to form:

Benjamin T. Zeigler
City Attorney

Lethonia Barnes
Mayor

Casey C. Moore
Municipal Clerk

FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: December 9, 2024

AGENDA ITEM: Ordinance

DEPARTMENT/DIVISION: Police Department

I. ISSUE UNDER CONSIDERATION:

Amending Ordinance No. 2024-22 which was presented at the City Council meeting on November 18, 2024. Ordinance No. 2024-22 added provisions to the City Code related to prohibiting ownership or keeping of livestock, wild, or feral animals in Section 3-7.1 and deleted the current definition of “Wild animal” in Section 3-2.

The proposed amendments include: 1) addition of a definition of “Wild animal” in Exhibit B, 2) removal of the word “Feral” in the Ordinance, 3) provision of Unified Development Ordinance exceptions and 4) alteration of the impoundment and euthanization processes by the addition of a reasonableness standard to be applied on a case-by case basis in order to provide law enforcement better direction on how to handle certain situations.

II. CURRENT STATUS/PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

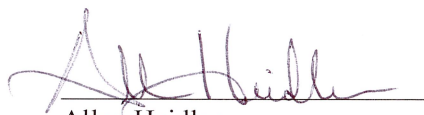
1. Ordinance No. 2024-22 deleted the definition of “Wild animals”.
2. Ordinance No. 2024-22 prohibits a broad range of potentially dangerous animals and provides an all-encompassing definition of “Wild animal”.
3. Ordinance No. 2024-22 provides law enforcement the ability to seize, impound, or humanely euthanize animals while the trial is pending and the proposed amendments will provide better clarity on the proper action law enforcement should take.

III. POINTS TO CONSIDER:

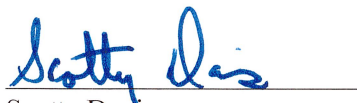
1. City staff had an issue with using the word “Feral” in the ordinance and felt that “Wild animal” was sufficient. The new definition of “Wild animal” is extensive enough to encompass all of the animals that Ordinance No. 2024-22 does not specifically list but is intended to prohibit.
2. Applying a reasonableness standard on a case-by-case basis will allow law enforcement to take into consideration a number of factors when determining if impoundment or euthanization is the proper avenue to take under the circumstances. Such factors include: 1) the degree of aggression such animal exhibits, 2) the level of threat the animal poses to the community, 3) the ability of law enforcement to transport such animal to another location safely, and 4) the animal owner’s willingness to relocate with such animal outside the City limits.
3. This Ordinance does not apply to dogs or cats.

IV. ATTACHMENTS:

1. Ordinance



Allen Heidler
Chief of Police



Scotty Davis
City Manager

ORDINANCE NO. 2024 - _____

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE I CHAPTER 3 OF THE CITY CODE OF THE CITY OF FLORENCE TO ADD PROVISIONS RELATED TO PROHIBITING OWNERSHIP OR KEEPING OF LIVESTOCK AND WILD ANIMALS AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the City of Florence; South Carolina (the “City”) seeks to protect its residents from the harmful ramifications associated with the ownership and keeping of livestock, wild, and dangerous animals;

WHEREAS, the ownership and keeping of livestock, wild, and dangerous animals present foreseeable risks and potential safety hazards within the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City (“the City Council”) desires to regulate ownership or keeping of livestock, wild, and dangerous animals within the City by adding to the Code of Ordinances within the City (“the Code”) provisions related thereto;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City in meeting duly assembled that:

- a. There is added to Article I Chapter 3 of the Code a Section 3-7.1 entitled “Prohibited Ownership or Keeping of Livestock and Wild Animals,” such section being set forth in the attached Exhibit A.
- b. The definitions of “Feral animal” and “Wild animals” in Section 3-2 of the Code are deleted.
- c. A new definition of “Wild animal” is added to Section 3-2 of the Code, such provision being set forth in the attached Exhibit B.
- c. This Ordinance shall become effective upon its approval and adoption by the City Council of the City.

ADOPTED this __ day of _____, 2024

Approved as to form:

BENJAMIN T. ZEIGLER
CITY ATTORNEY

LETHONIA BARNES
MAYOR

ATTEST:

CASEY C. MOORE
MUNICIPAL CLERK

EXHIBIT A

Section 3- 7.1 Prohibited Ownership or Keeping of Livestock and Wild Animals

1) The purpose of this ordinance is to ensure the safety, health, and welfare of the citizens of Florence by regulating and prohibiting the ownership and keeping of livestock and wild animals within the City.

Except as allowed in Article 2, Division I-2.8 of the Unified Development Ordinance

2) It shall be unlawful for any person to keep, maintain, or possess within the City any live livestock, including but not limited to the following:

- a) Any Porcine animal, including without limitation swine, pigs, and hogs;
- b) Any Equine animal, including without limitation horses, ponies, mules, and donkeys;
- c) Any Bovine animal, including without limitation cows, buffalo, bulls, calves, sheep, goats, rams, and lambs;
- d) Any Camelid animal, including without limitation camels, llamas, and alpacas.

3) It shall be unlawful for any person to have, keep, maintain, or possess within the City any wild animal, including but not limited to:

- a) Baboons, chimpanzees, gorillas, orangutans, or other non-human primates;
- b) Bears, cheetahs, leopards, lions, tigers, jaguars, pumas, or other large cats (including without limitation Servals);
- c) Wolves, coyotes, foxes, or any hybrids of these species with domestic dogs where the proportion of wild animals exceeds one-eighth;
- d) Crocodilians twelve (12) inches or larger;
- e) Constricting snakes greater than 3 feet, including, but not limited to, reticulated pythons, python reticulatus; Burmese/Indian rock pythons, python molurus; rock pythons, python sebae, and anacondas, eunectes murinus (green anacondas);
- f) Venomous/poisonous reptiles, amphibians, or serpents;
- g) Raccoons, hyenas, badgers, wolverines, skunks, weasels (not to include ferrets);
- h) Porcupines;
- i) Piranhas or other dangerous aquatic species;
- j) Nondomestic members of the family Felidae (cats);
- k) Bats;
- l) Rodents greater than 5 pounds;
- m) Members of the Cervidae family (deer).

Except as allowed in Article 2, Division 1-2.8 of the Unified Development Ordinance

4) It shall be unlawful for any person to keep, maintain, or possess within the City any large birds or waterfowl, including but not limited to the following:

- a) Ostriches;
- b) Emus;
- c) Rheas;
- d) Cassowaries;
- e) Peafowl (peacocks and peahens);
- f) Swans;
- g) Geese;
- h) Ducks;
- i) Herons;
- j) Cranes;
- k) Roosters;
- l) Penguins.

5) The following persons and entities may be exempt from the prohibitions outlined in subsections 2, 3, and 4, provided such entities are licensed by the City and all other applicable governmental or regulatory bodies, and provide to the satisfaction of the City evidence of appropriate containment and supervision:

- a) Zoos;
- b) Circuses or traveling attractions;
- c) Wildlife rehabilitation centers, including without limitation veterinarian, animal medical centers, and humane societies;
- d) Educational institutions;
- e) Licensed research facilities;
- f) Pet stores and agricultural supply stores, provided that the keeping and sale of any wild animals listed in subsection (3) above must be expressly approved by the City.

6) Any person found in violation of this ordinance shall be subject to fines, penalties, or both, as prescribed in Section 1-7 of the Code. Each day of violation constitutes a separate offense.

7) If a law enforcement agent or animal control officer has probable cause to believe that any of the aforementioned animals are being harbored or housed in violation of this section, the agent or officer may seize, impound, or humanely euthanize the animal while the trial is pending. A reasonableness standard shall be applied on a case-by-case basis by such agent or officer in determining if impoundment or euthanization is appropriate under the circumstances. Factors to take into account include, but are not limited to, the level of aggression such animal exhibits, the level of threat to the community, the ability of an agent or officer to transport such animal to another location safely, and such animal owner's willingness to relocate and establish new residence with such animal outside the City limits. If an agent or officer determines that euthanization is appropriate under the circumstances, any such euthanization may only be by order of the municipal court after not less than 5 days written notice to the owner of the animal in question, if any, to appear and contest such proposed euthanization. If said owner does not appear to contest such proposed euthanization, or if the owner appears and the municipal court orders such euthanization, such euthanization may proceed subject to the owner's right of appeal pursuant to Section 6-11 of this Code.

8) The provisions of this Section 3-7.1 shall be in addition to and not in lieu of Section 3-11 of this Code.

EXHIBIT B

Wild animal:

- 1) Any animal of wild nature or exotic disposition;
- 2) Any animal which is capable of killing, inflicting serious injury upon, or causing disease among, human beings or domestic animals and having a known propensity as a species to do so;
- 2) This definition shall not apply to dogs (*Canis lupus familiaris*) and cats (*Felis catus*).

FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: November 18, 2024

AGENDA ITEM: An Ordinance to annex and zone Neighborhood Conservation – 15 (NC-15) 2499 W. Edgefield Rd., TMN 01221-01-140.

DEPARTMENT/DIVISION: Department of Planning, Research & Development

I. ISSUE UNDER CONSIDERATION:

Request to annex property located at 2499 West Edgefield Road, Tax Map Number 01221-01-140, into the City of Florence and assign it the zoning designation of Neighborhood Conservation – 15 (NC-15). The request is being made by the property owner.

II. CURRENT STATUS/PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

On October 8, 2024, the City of Florence Planning Commission held a public hearing on this matter, and voted unanimously, 5-0, to recommend the zoning request of NC-15, Neighborhood Conservation-15.

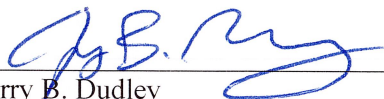
III. POINTS TO CONSIDER:

- (1) City water and sewer services are currently available; there is no cost to extend utilities.
- (2) A Public Hearing for zoning was held at the October 8, 2024 Planning Commission meeting.
- (3) City staff recommends annexation and concurs with Planning Commission's recommendation to zone the property NC-15, Neighborhood Conservation-15.

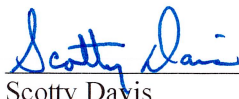
IV. PERSONAL NOTES:

V. ATTACHMENTS:

- (1) Ordinance
- (2) Vicinity Map
- (3) Annexation Petition



Jerry B. Dudley
Planning Director



Scotty Davis
City Manager

ORDINANCE NO. 2024 - _____

**AN ORDINANCE TO ANNEX AND ZONE NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION – 15 (NC-15)
2499 W. EDGEFIELD RD., TMN 01221-01-140.**

WHEREAS, a Public Hearing was held in the Council Chambers on October 8, 2024 at 6:00 P.M. before the City of Florence Planning Commission, and notice of said hearing was duly given;

WHEREAS, application by Robert L. Palmer Jr., owner of TMN 01221-01-140, was presented requesting an amendment to the City of Florence Zoning Atlas that the aforesaid property be incorporated into the City limits of the City of Florence under the provisions of Section 5-3-150(3) of the 1976 Code of Laws of South Carolina and given the zoning district classification of NC-15:

The property requesting annexation is shown more specifically on Florence County Tax Map 01221, block 01, parcel 140 (0.537913 acre).

Any portions of public rights-of-way abutting the property described above will be included in the annexation.

WHEREAS, Florence City Council concurs in the aforesaid application, findings, and recommendations:

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FLORENCE IN MEETING DULY ASSEMBLED AND BY THE AUTHORITY THEREOF:

- 1. That an Ordinance is hereby adopted annexing into the City Limits of the City of Florence the aforesaid property and amending the Zoning Atlas to the aforesaid zoning classifications.**
- 2. That this Ordinance shall become effective in seven days upon its approval and adoption by the City Council of the City of Florence and posting of this amendment in the official Zoning Atlas.**

ADOPTED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2024

Approved as to form:

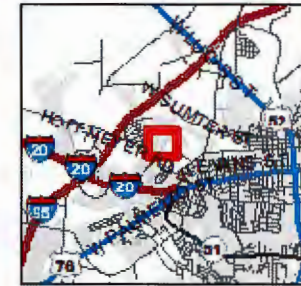
Benjamin T. Zeigler,
City Attorney

Lethonia Barnes,
Mayor

Attest:

Casey C. Moore,
Municipal Clerk

PC 2024-24
Vicinity Map - 2499 West Edgefield Road



Legend

- City Limits
- Parcels
- Proposed Parcel



DISCLAIMER:
 The City of Florence Department of Planning, Research, and Development data represented on this map is the product of compilation, as provided by others. It is provided for informational purposes only and the City of Florence makes no representation as to its accuracy, its use without field verification is at the sole risk of the user.

60 30 0 60 Feet



Date: 9/25/2024

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)

PETITION FOR ANNEXATION

COUNTY OF FLORENCE)

Petition requesting Florence City Council to enact an Ordinance annexing the area described below, that area being the same property as shown by the map prepared by the City of Florence Planning, Research, and Development Department, attached and incorporated by reference herein:

The undersigned freeholder property owner(s) hereby respectfully certifies, petitions, and requests of the City Council of Florence as follows:

1. The petitioners are the sole owner(s) of real estate in the County of Florence, State of South Carolina which property lies adjacent and contiguous to the corporate limits of the City of Florence.

2. That the petitioner(s) desires to annex the property more particularly described below:

Florence County Tax Map Number: 01221-01-140

3. Annexation is being sought for the following purposes:

City services

4. That the petitioner(s) request that the City Council of Florence annex the above described property in accordance with subsection 31 of 5-3-150(3) of the Code of Laws of South Carolina for 1976, such section allowing the annexation of an area without the necessity of an election and referendum.

To the Petitioner: The following information needs to be completed for submittal to the City of Florence and other government agencies for records prior to and after annexation.

Total Residents 4 Race AA/Non-Hispanic
Total 18 and Over 2 Total Registered to Vote 2

APPLICANT (S) (Please print or type):

Name(s): ROBERT L. PALMER JR.

Address: 2499 W EDGEFIELD DR

Telephone Numbers: 2026690092 [work] [home]

Email Address: robpalme357@gmail.com

Signature [Handwritten Signature] Date 10 SEP 24

Certification as to ownership on the date of petition: FOR OFFICAL USE ONLY
Date 9/10/24 03

FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: December 9, 2024

AGENDA ITEM: Ordinance

DEPARTMENT/DIVISION: City Council

I. ISSUE UNDER CONSIDERATION:

An Ordinance to repeal Division 4 of Article 3, Chapter 2 of the City of Florence Code of Ordinances entitled "Aesthetics Advisory Committee."

II. CURRENT STATUS/PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

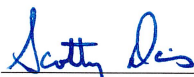
1. The Aesthetics Advisory Committee was established by Ordinance No. 2021-21 on July 12, 2021.

III. POINTS TO CONSIDER:

1. The functions of the Aesthetics Advisory Committee are redundant to the goals and objectives of other City Boards and Commissions including the Parks and Beautification Commission, the Planning Commission, and the Resilience and Sustainability Advisory Committee.
2. The continuation of the Aesthetics Advisory Committee is not necessary for the operation of the City.

IV. ATTACHMENTS:

1. Ordinance



Scotty Davis
City Manager

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-_____

AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL DIVISION 4 OF ARTICLE 3, CHAPTER 2 OF THE CITY OF FLORENCE CODE OF ORDINANCES ENTITLED “AESTHETICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.”

WHEREAS, the City of Florence has determined that Division 4 of Article 3, Chapter 2 of the City of Florence Code of Ordinances, which established the Aesthetics Advisory Committee, is no longer necessary for the operation or administration of the city; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that the continuation of the Aesthetics Advisory Committee is no longer necessary and is redundant to that of the goals and objectives of the Parks and Beautification Commission, the Planning Commission and the Resilience and Sustainability Advisory Committee; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of City Council to eliminate redundant bodies within the city government; and

WHEREAS, The Council desires to repeal the section of the City of Florence Code of Ordinances that established the Aesthetics Advisory Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA, IN MEETING DULY ASSEMBLED, AND BY THE AUTHORITY THEREOF AS FOLLOWS:

1. Chapter 2, Article 3, Division 4 of the City of Florence Code of Ordinances is hereby repealed.
2. This Ordinance shall become effective upon its approval and adoption by the City Council of the City of Florence.

Adopted this ____ day of _____, 2024.

Approved as to form:

BENJAMIN T. ZEIGLER
CITY ATTORNEY

LETHONIA BARNES
MAYOR

ATTEST:

CASEY C. MOORE
MUNICIPAL CLERK

FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: December 9, 2024

AGENDA ITEM: Ordinance to Annex and Zone 2501 Alligator Road, TMN 00125-01-004.

DEPARTMENT/DIVISION: Department of Planning, Research & Development

I. ISSUE UNDER CONSIDERATION:

A request to annex Tax Map Number 00125-01-004 into the City of Florence and assign it the zoning designation of RG-3 (Residential General-3). The request is being made by the property owner.

II. CURRENT STATUS/PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

On November 12, 2024, the Planning Commission held a public hearing regarding the annexation of this 101 acre parcel and voted unanimously, 5-0, to recommend the zoning designation of RG-3.

III. POINTS TO CONSIDER:

- (1) The property is intended to be developed as a single-family residential subdivision.
- (2) City water service is available. Sewer service is not available. The developer is required to extend sewer service to the property for development.
- (3) A Public Hearing for zoning was held at the November 12, 2024 Planning Commission meeting.
- (4) City staff recommends annexation and concurs with Planning Commission's recommendation to zone the property Residential General – 3 (RG-3).


IV. PERSONAL NOTES:

V. ATTACHMENTS:

- (1) Ordinance
- (2) Vicinity Map
- (3) Annexation Petition



Jerry B. Dudley
Planning Director



Scotty Davis
City Manager

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-_____

AN ORDINANCE TO ANNEX AND ZONE RG-3 THE PARCEL LOCATED AT 2501 ALLIGATOR ROAD, TMN 00125-01-004.

WHEREAS, a Public Hearing was held in the Council Chambers November 12, 2024 at 6:00 P.M. before the City of Florence Planning Commission, and notice of said hearing was duly given;

WHEREAS, application by C.R. Jackson Inc., owner of TMN 00125-01-004, was presented requesting an amendment to the City of Florence Zoning Atlas that the aforesaid properties be incorporated into the City limits of the City of Florence under the provisions of **Section 5-3-150(3) of the 1976 Code of Laws of South Carolina** and given the zoning district classification of **RG-3**:

The property requesting annexation is shown more specifically on Florence County Tax Map 00125, block 01, parcel 004 (101.721343 acres).

Any portions of public rights-of-way abutting the above described property will be also included in the annexation.

WHEREAS, Florence City Council concurs in the aforesaid application, findings and recommendations:

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FLORENCE IN MEETING DULY ASSEMBLED AND BY THE AUTHORITY THEREOF:

- 1. That an Ordinance is hereby adopted annexing into the City Limits of the City of Florence the aforesaid property and amending the Zoning Atlas to the aforesaid zoning classifications.**
- 2. That this Ordinance shall become effective seven days upon its approval and adoption by the City Council of the City of Florence and posting of this amendment in the official Zoning Atlas.**

ADOPTED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2024

Approved as to form:

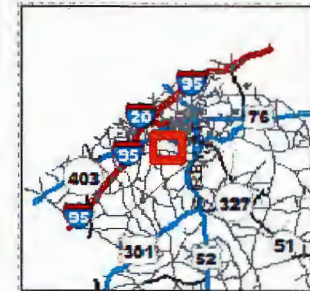
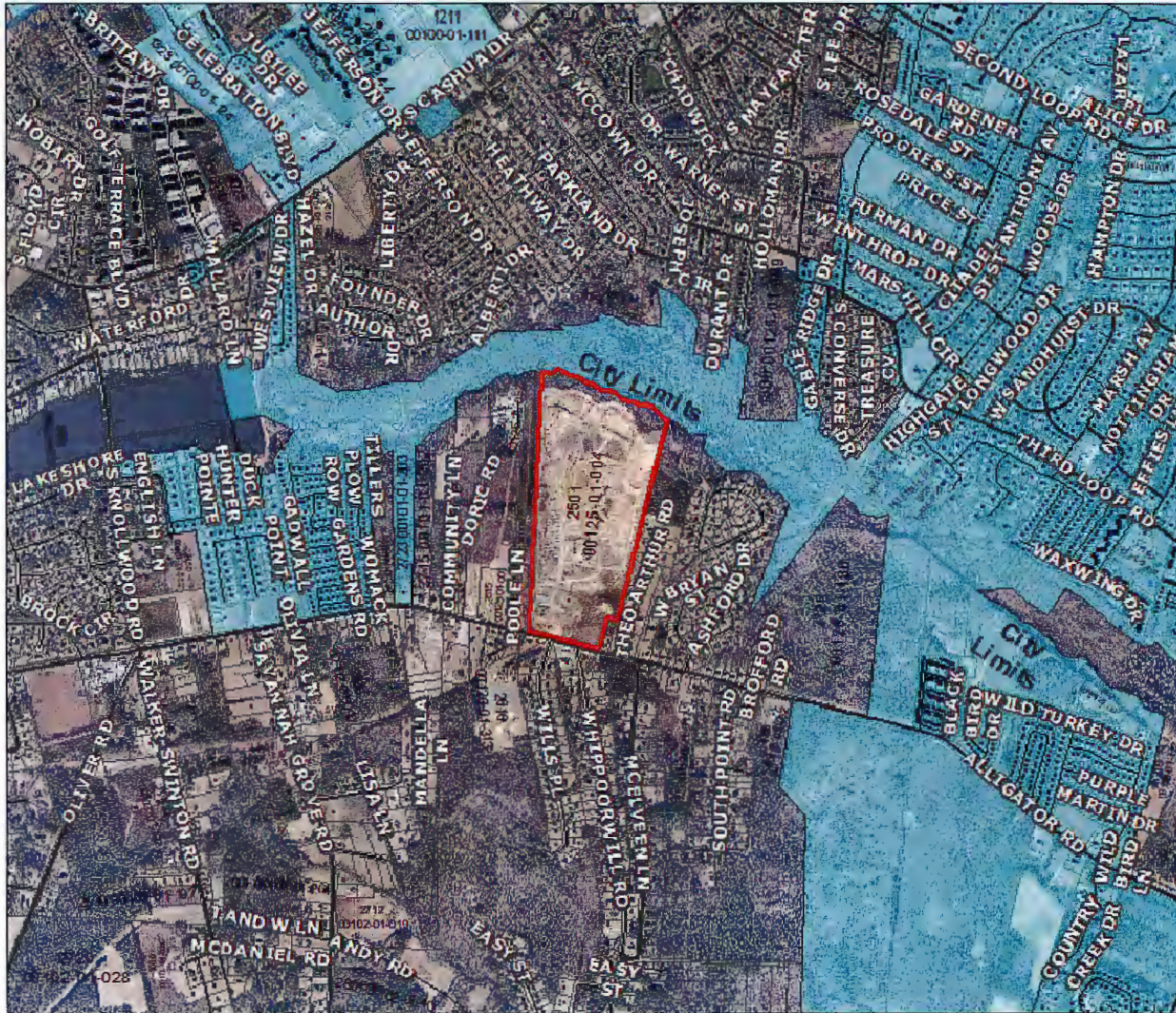
Benjamin T. Zeigler,
City Attorney

Lethonia Barnes,
Mayor

Attest:

Casey C. Moore,
Municipal Clerk

PC 2024-28
Vicinity Map 2501 Alligator Road

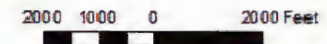


Legend

- City Limits
- Parcels
- Proposed Parcel



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Date: 10/21/2024

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)

PETITION FOR ANNEXATION

COUNTY OF FLORENCE)

Petition requesting Florence City Council to enact an Ordinance annexing the area described below, that area being the same property as shown by the map prepared by the City of Florence Planning, Research, and Development Department, attached and incorporated by reference herein:

The undersigned freeholder property owner(s) hereby respectfully certifies, petitions, and requests of the City Council of Florence as follows:

1. The petitioners are the sole owner(s) of real estate in the County of Florence, State of South Carolina which property lies adjacent and contiguous to the corporate limits of the City of Florence.
2. That the petitioner(s) desires to annex the property more particularly described below:

Florence County Tax Map Number: 00125-01-004
3. Annexation is being sought for the following purposes: Residential Subdivision
4. That the petitioner(s) request that the City Council of Florence annex the above described property in accordance with subsection 31 of 5-3-150(3) of the Code of Laws of South Carolina for 1976, such section allowing the annexation of an area without the necessity of an election and referendum.

To the Petitioner: The following information needs to be completed for submittal to the City of Florence and other government agencies for records prior to and after annexation.

Total Residents _____ Race _____
 Total 18 and Over _____ Total Registered to Vote _____

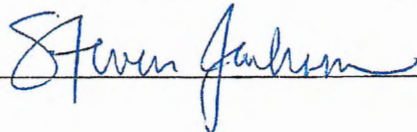
APPLICANT (S) (Please print or type):

Name(s): Steven Jackson

Address: 100 Independence Blvd. Columbia, SC 29210

Telephone Numbers: 803-750-6070 [work] _____ [home]

Email Address: sjackson@crjackson.com

Signature  Date 10/17/2024

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| Certification as to ownership on the date of petition: | FOR OFFICAL USE ONLY |
| Date <u>10/21/24</u> | <u>A3</u> |

FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: December 9, 2024

AGENDA ITEM: Resolution

DEPARTMENT/DIVISION: City Council

I. ISSUE UNDER CONSIDERATION:

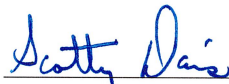
A Resolution encouraging staff to implement the 5-Point Crime Plan.

II. POINTS TO CONSIDER:

1. The 5 Point Plan on Crime aims to:
 - a. Bring back the Community Action Team (CAT) police force.
 - b. Create incentives for members of the police force to live inside high-crime neighborhoods.
 - c. Initiate a “Gun Buy-Back Program” to take guns out of high-crime neighborhoods.
 - d. Bring back Camp F.E.V.E.R., but rename it as “Camp Carraway” in memory of Sgt. Terrence Carraway.
 - e. Crack-down with strict enforcement on businesses where criminal activity is occurring with a very high incidence.

III. ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution



Scotty Davis
City Manager

(STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
()
(CITY OF FLORENCE)

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-43

A Resolution Encouraging Staff to Implement the 5-Point Crime Plan.

WHEREAS, the safety and well-being of all residents is a fundamental priority of the City of Florence; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for innovative and coordinated approaches to enhance public safety and to ensure community trust; and

WHEREAS, the proposed 5-Point Crime Plan outlines a comprehensive strategy to address crime prevention, enforcement, community engagement, resource allocation, and accountability; and

WHEREAS, the 5-Point Crime Plan includes: bringing back the Community Action Team (CAT) Police Force; creating incentives for members of the police forces to live inside high-crime neighborhoods; initiating a gun “buy-back” program to take guns out of high-crime neighborhoods; bringing back Camp F.E.V.E.R. as “Camp Carraway” in memory of Sergeant Terrence Carraway; and cracking down with strict enforcement on businesses where criminal activity is occurring with a very high incidence; and

WHEREAS, to successfully implement the 5-Point Crime Plan, a collaborative effort from city staff, law enforcement, community members, and other stakeholders is required.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Florence, South Carolina, encourages staff to implement the 5-point Crime Plan and endorses the Plan as a strategic framework for improving public safety and fostering community trust while encouraging community members, organizations, and businesses to actively participate in and support the initiatives outlined in the 5-Point Crime Plan.

AND IT IS SO RESOLVED, this 9th day of December 2024.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

BENJAMIN T. ZEIGLER
CITY ATTORNEY

LETHONIA BARNES
MAYOR

ATTEST:

CASEY C. MOORE
MUNICIPAL CLERK