



**REGULAR MEETING OF FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, JULY 14, 2025 – 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, Councilman J. Lawrence Smith, II and Councilman Zach McKay

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 Shannon Tanner, Florence Fire Department; Chief Allen Heidler, Florence Police 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. Jennifer Krawiec, Director of Human Resources; 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

MEDIA PRESENT

Abby Ann Ramsey with the Post and Courier was 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 July 14, 2025 Regular meeting of Florence City Council to order at 1:02pm.

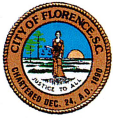
INVOCATION

Pastor Jonathan Green gave the invocation for the meeting. The pledge of allegiance to the American Flag followed the invocation.

A moment of silence was observed for those affected by the Central Texas flood and for Darlington County Deputy Devin Mason, who was killed in the line of duty.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to adopt the minutes of the June 9, 2025 Regular Meeting and Councilman McCall seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously (7-0) adopted.



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SERVICE RECOGNITIONS

Mr. Shannon Tanner, Fire Chief, recognized Donald Huggins for 15 years of service with the Florence Fire Department.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Mrs. Mindy Taylor, District Manager, Duke Energy, presented the Duke Energy Helping Emergency Response Organization (HERO) Grant to the Florence Fire Department. This is the fourth year for this grant cycle and the purpose is to partner with emergency response organizations to purchase lifesaving equipment, provide training or innovative technology. This grant will allow the Fire Department to purchase a vehicle repeater system.

APPEARANCES BEFORE COUNCIL

Pam Osbourne

Ms. Pam Osbourne appeared before Council to speak on issues and concerns created by police shortage. She emphasized that reduced patrol presence could lead to increased crime, slower emergency response times, and a greater sense of vulnerability in the community. Ms. Osbourne noted that understaffed departments are forced to prioritize emergency calls over proactive policing, potentially weakening crime prevention and community engagement efforts. She said this could damage police-community relations and contribute to officer burnout and reduced performance. She also questioned whether early-retiring officers are transferring to other departments. Finally, she spoke against negative sentiment toward police and commended officers for their service.

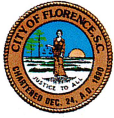
Mr. Allen Heidler, Police Chief, agreed with Ms. Osbourne's concerns, reporting 14 vacancies out of 95 positions, with additional staffing challenges due to training and medical leave. He highlighted recent investments in police technology, including FLOCK cameras and a new drone program, which are helping reduce the need for officers to respond to minor incidents. He said recruiting and retention efforts are ongoing in collaboration with Human Resources and noted most officer overtime is voluntary.

Pro tem Jebaily inquired about expanding the FLOCK camera program. Chief Heidler confirmed 36 additional cameras are being added, bringing the total to 66, and site selection is underway. He also noted Florence is among the few cities in the state advancing with an autonomous drone program.

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson asked for confirmation of current vacancies and whether the FLOCK cameras are improving response times, to which Chief Heidler responded yes on both counts.

Mayor Barnes thanked Ms. Osbourne for her input and reaffirmed the city's commitment to reducing crime.

Mr. Scotty Davis, City Manager, added that the City offers a \$1,500 sign-on bonus and a \$500 referral fee for employees, and that a retention bonus is being considered.



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ORDINANCES IN POSITION

Bill No. 2025-23 – Second Reading

An Ordinance amending the Business License Ordinance of the City of Florence, South Carolina to update documentation that may be required by the City as part of the initial registration and annual renewal of business licenses, and other matters relating thereto.

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson made a motion to adopt Bill No. 2025-23 on second reading and Councilman Braddock seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Bill No. 2025-23 was adopted.

Bill No. 2025-24 – Second Reading

A Series Ordinance providing for the issuance and sale of not exceeding fifteen million one hundred thousand dollars (\$15,100,000) Hospitality Fee Revenue Bonds of the City of Florence, South Carolina to be designated Series 2025 and other matters relating thereto.

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to adopt Bill No. 2025-24 on second reading and Councilman Smith seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Bill No. 2025-24 was adopted.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

Bill No. 2025-25 – First Reading

An ordinance to update Appendix B of the City's current Business License Ordinance as required by section 6-1-400 to 6-1-420 of the South Carolina Code of Laws.

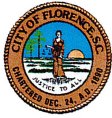
Councilman McCall made a motion to pass Bill No. 2025-25 on first reading and Councilman Braddock seconded the motion.

Mr. Glenn Bodenheimer, Interim Finance Director, explained that the proposed ordinance updates Appendix B of the city's business license class schedule to comply with Act 176 of 2020. This state law requires municipalities to adopt a standardized class schedule, based on IRS profitability data and North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes, by December 31st of every odd numbered year. The schedule, standardized by the Municipal Association of South Carolina, must be followed to avoid noncompliance and potential legal or administrative issues. The update, effective May 1, 2026, does not change business license rates, only the classification of NAICS codes within the rate schedule.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Bill No. 2025-25 was passed on first reading.

Bill No. 2025-26 – First Reading

An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 2024-14 entitled “a series Ordinance making provision for the terms and conditions of an issue of combined waterworks and sewerage system capital improvement revenue bonds of the City of Florence, SC, in one or more series, in the aggregate principal amount of not exceeding \$270,000,000 as authorized by a bond ordinance of the City of Florence, SC, adopted October 24, 1989, as amended; authorizing the issuance of bond anticipation notes; and other matters relating thereto” to add additional improvement to the City’s waterworks and sewerage system to be paid from the proceeds of bonds authorized therein and other matters relating thereto.



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Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to pass Bill No. 2025-26 on first reading and Councilman Braddock seconded the motion.

Mr. Glenn Bodenheimer, Interim Finance Director, said this ordinance is just expanding the definition of the projects that were in the original ordinance. The original ordinance included expansion of the Surface Water Treatment Plant, addressing the PFAS contamination and upgrades to the Jeffries Creek Sewer Interceptor. This ordinance will expand the definition of projects to include sewer system maintenance in East Florence, improvements to the Timmonsville-Florence Interceptor, and other general system maintenance needs.

Pro tem Jebaily and Councilman Braddock asked Mr. Scotty Davis, City Manager, for details on the specific projects included in the ordinance and how the funding will address current issues. Mr. Davis explained that the City initially planned to expand the Surface Water Treatment Plant's capacity from 10 to 20 million gallons per day, however those costs were approaching \$400 million. The current plan is to increase capacity from 10 million gallons per day to 15 million gallons per day. Other projects include \$80 million to address water quality issues, overdue improvements to the Timmonsville-Florence Interceptor, resolving Jeffries Creek sewer issues, and general water and sewer maintenance, especially in East Florence. Some work is already underway using the operating budget. The bond is expected to close by October 2025, with full project completion projected over the next five years.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Bill No. 2025-26 was passed on first reading.

Bill No. 2025-27 – First Reading

An Ordinance granting Lumos Fiber of South Carolina, LLC a franchise to use the public rights of way within the City of Florence for the purpose of constructing, installing and maintaining network facilities for telecommunications services within and through the City.

Councilman McKay made a motion to pass Bill No. 2025-27 on first reading and Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson seconded the motion.

Mr. Clint Moore, Assistant City Manager of Development, explained that the ordinance establishes a franchise agreement with Lumos Fiber, allowing the company to construct, install, and maintain infrastructure within the public right-of-way. Revenue from such agreements is collected and distributed by the Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC) to participating municipalities.

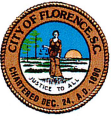
Mr. Ben Brazil, representing Lumos Fiber of South Carolina, introduced the company as a pure fiber optic broadband provider. Unlike traditional providers using copper-based infrastructure, Lumos offers end-to-end glass fiber optics, which allows for significantly faster data transmission of up to 80 times faster than copper. He noted that Lumos will add competition to the market, improving service quality and helping to keep prices competitive.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Bill No. 2025-27 was passed on first reading.

Bill No. 2025-28 – First Reading

An Ordinance to declare surplus and authorize the conveyance of real estate to the Florence Housing Authority, specifically Florence County Tax Map Parcels 90100-06-016 and 90100-06-017.

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to pass Bill No. 2025-28 on first reading and Councilman McCall seconded the motion.



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Mr. Jerry Dudley, Director of Planning, said these two parcels are located along Oakland Avenue in the vicinity of Dr. Iola Jones Park. The Housing Authority of Florence has requested the transfer of property to accommodate the construction of a facility that will include a community room, office space, outdoor meeting space and an outdoor art gallery. The facility will assist in the Housing Authority's service to residents and serve as a community resource. City staff reviewed the property and it is surplus to the city.

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson raised a point of information and questioned the City's intent behind purchasing the properties last year and whether the lots were meant for development. Mr. Scotty Davis, City Manager, explained the lots were abandoned, adjacent to the park, and bought as part of a cleanup effort. One of the properties was the former home of Dr. Iola Jones, but it was deemed beyond repair. When the Housing Authority proposed a repurposing plan that aligned with the City's goals, the transfer was brought to Council.

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson also raised concerns about potential nepotism, noting the Housing Authority's Executive Director, Dr. Alphonso Bradley, is both a County Councilmember and the Mayor's brother. She emphasized the importance of transparency and public trust.

Councilman McCall clarified that the proposal originated in 2022, before Dr. Bradley assumed his role, and expressed support for replacing a long, vacant structure with a beneficial community facility.

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson asked for clarification on whether a playground or community garden was included in the plans. Mayor Barnes clarified there would be no playground and reiterated the goal of revitalizing the area and removing blight. She stressed the city's collaboration with the Housing Authority is about community development, not personal relationships.

Pro tem Jebaily called the question, concluding the discussion

Council voted unanimously (6-1) in favor of the motion, with Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson voting against the motion. Bill No. 2025-28 was passed on first reading.

Bill No. 2025-29 – First Reading

An Ordinance to annex and zone RG-2 a lot located on Pelican Drive, identified as Florence County Tax Map Number 00522-01-026.

Councilman McKay made a motion to pass Bill No. 2025-29 on first reading and Councilman Smith seconded the motion.

Mr. Jerry Dudley, Director of Planning, said this property is located on Pelican Drive in the vicinity of Lake Oakdale. City water and sewer services are currently available and the property is proposed to be zoned General Residential-2 (RG-2), which is consistent with the adjacent zoning. There is a proposed development of a single family detached home on the property. Planning Commission voted unanimously (8-0) to recommend the annexation and zoning designation.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Bill No. 2025-29 was passed on first reading.

Bill No. 2025-30 – First Reading

An Ordinance to annex and zone AC the two lots located at 2037 and 2111 South Irby Street, identified as Florence County Tax Map Numbers 00150-01-007 and 00150-01-061.



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Councilman Braddock made a motion to pass Bill No. 2025-30 on first reading and Councilman Smith seconded the motion.

Mr. Jerry Dudley, Director of Planning, said these lots are located on South Irby Street across from Walmart and is the current site of the Salvation Army Thrift Store. The proposed zoning is Activity Center (AC), which is a commercial zoning designation. The proposed land uses are commercial, and city staff has received applications for a Scrubbies Car Wash, Chipotle, and the Salvation Army will be rebuilding a new thrift store at this location. Planning Commission voted unanimously (6-0) to recommend the annexation and zoning designation.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Bill No. 2025-30 was passed on first reading.

Bill No. 2025-31 – First Reading

An Ordinance to annex and zone NC-15 the two lots located at 922 and 926 Third Loop Road, identified as Florence County Tax Map Numbers 01511-01-037 and 01511-01-038.

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to pass Bill No. 2025-31 on first reading and Councilman McCall seconded the motion.

Mr. Jerry Dudley, Director of Planning, reported that two parcels at the corner of Third Loop Road and Hallmark Drive, currently in the County, are proposed for annexation and zoning to Neighborhood Conservation-15 (NC-15) for the development of two single-family homes. City water is available along Third Loop Road, while sewer service is only accessible from Hallmark Drive, requiring an easement. The developer is aware and responsible for utility costs. Planning Commission voted unanimously (8-0) to recommend the annexation and zoning designation.

Pro tem Jebaily asked whether the developer would be responsible for the cost of extending sewer service to the properties, and Mr. Dudley confirmed that they would.

Councilman Braddock raised concerns about traffic on Third Loop Road and whether any development plans had been approved for the site. He suggested this issue be considered during the next Penny Tax review, including the potential widening of the road. Mr. Dudley responded that only two single-family homes are planned, which would add just two driveways and have minimal traffic impact. He noted that any larger development would require a traffic study under city standards. When asked if the Department of Transportation has ever indicated if the corridor was nearing capacity, Mr. Dudley said he was not aware of any such indication.

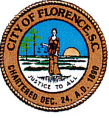
Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Bill No. 2025-31 was passed on first reading.

Bill No. 2025-32 – First Reading

An Ordinance to annex and zone IL a lot located at Jennie O'Bryan Boulevard, a portion of Florence County Tax Map Number 00122-01-042.

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to pass Bill No. 2025-32 on first reading and Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson seconded the motion.

Mr. Jerry Dudley, Director of Planning, reported the parcel, located near New Spring Church along Jennie O'Bryan Boulevard, is proposed for annexation and zoning into the city, specifically the portion north of Jennie O'Bryan Boulevard. This is part of a larger development, with adjacent land already annexed and zoned Light Industrial (IL). The owner plans to purchase and combine this parcel with the larger project,



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which would then provide access to sewer service. City water is already available. Planning Commission voted unanimously (8-0) to recommend the annexation and zoning designation.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Bill No. 2025-32 was passed on first reading.

Bill No. 2025-33 – First Reading

An Ordinance to annex and zone NC-6.3 a lot located on Westfield Drive, identified as Florence County Tax Map Number 00072-01-045.

Councilman McCall made a motion to pass Bill No. 2025-33 on first reading and Councilman Smith seconded the motion.

Mr. Jerry Dudley, Director of Planning, said this property is located near Lucy T. Davis Elementary School and is proposed to be zoned Neighborhood Conservation (NC-6.3) for the development of townhomes. City water and sewer services are available.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Bill No. 2025-33 was passed on first reading.

Bill No. 2025-34 – First Reading

An Ordinance to name a private road located in front of Florence County Tax Map Number 00099-01-212.

Councilman McCall made a motion to pass Bill No. 2025-34 on first reading and Councilman Smith seconded the motion.

Mr. Jerry Dudley, Director of Planning, said that this private road, developed in the 1990s, is situated behind Target and links Dunbarton Drive with the mall ring road. Despite its age, the road has never been named. With a proposed development on the adjacent northern parcel, the E911 system and emergency services require the road to have an official name. The owner has proposed several names, which were reviewed by Planning Commission. Planning Commission unanimously voted (8-0) to recommend the road be named T. Ed Byrd Way.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Bill No. 2025-34 was passed on first reading.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 2025-22

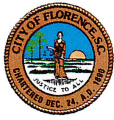
A Resolution of Recognition for Rahsaan Perry for being named the 2025 National Assistant Principal of the Year.

Mayor Barnes and Councilman Smith presented the Resolution to Mr. Rahsaan Perry. Mr. Perry thanked Council for the recognition.

Resolution No. 2025-22 was passed by unanimous consent.

Resolution No. 2025-23

A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a Stormwater Infrastructure Program subrecipient agreement between the City of Florence and the SC Office of Resilience to fund a stormwater infrastructure improvement project that will mitigate the impact of future disasters.



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Councilman McCall made a motion to pass Resolution No. 2025-23 and Pro tem Jebaily seconded the motion.

Mr. Clint Moore, Assistant City Manager of Development, said this Resolution will authorize the City Manager to execute a second amendment to the subrecipient agreement with the South Carolina Office of Resilience, increasing total grant funding for the Pennsylvania Street Infrastructure Project to \$5.1 million. The initial grant in 2023 was approximately \$2.6 million, with an additional \$300,000 awarded in 2024. After project design and bidding, the lowest bid came in at \$5.1 million, which the Office of Resilience has agreed to fund fully.

Pro tem Jebaily asked for confirmation that the Resolution pertains to the Pennsylvania Street Infrastructure Project, and Mr. Moore confirmed that the project is located in the Pennsylvania Street watershed area, northwest of the City Center. The project aims to resolve long-standing stormwater issues caused by inadequate infrastructure. It spans from North Darlington Street to Coit Street and Harmony Street. The project has involved extensive survey work, nearly a year of design, and permitting from the South Carolina Department of Transportation. The contract has been awarded, and a pre-construction meeting is scheduled for the week of July 21st, with on-site construction expected to begin in the following weeks. The project is funded through \$7 million in stormwater bonds (2021) and \$14 million in grant funding, totaling \$21 million.

Councilman Smith inquired on the estimated time of completion for the project and Mr. Moore said the project has a one year completion deadline, with anticipated completion by early 2026.

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson asked when work will begin, and Mr. Moore confirmed construction will start within a few weeks.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Resolution No. 2025-23 was passed.

Resolution No. 2025-24

A Resolution approving the disposition by the Housing Authority of the City of Florence of certain of its real properties and other matters relating thereto.

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

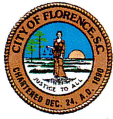
REPORT TO COUNCIL

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, emphasized the responsibility of elected officials to ensure the city operates efficiently, effectively and responsibly. He highlighted the importance of municipal government training and spoke of the Municipal Elected Officials Institute (MEOI) through the Municipal Association of South Carolina which provides 20 hours of instruction. Mr. Davis outlined topics from the Institute, including city employment, public meetings, ethics, strategic planning, and goal setting. He announced that Councilman Braddock completed the Institute and will graduate at the upcoming Municipal



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Association of South Carolina Annual Meeting. Additionally, Mr. Davis spoke on the success of the city's Fourth of July Fireworks Celebration, which drew around 6,000 attendees, and recognized key staff.

MAYORAL REPORT

Mayor Barnes said she is excited to announce the launch of Camp Carraway on Monday, July 21st. Camp Carraway is designed for boys ages 12 to 18 in need of mentoring, and is an initiative of the 5-Point Crime Plan. Mayor Barnes inquired about the number of participants expected to attend the camp. Chief Heidler said they currently have about 12 participants and are aiming for 15 to 20 participants. Mayor Barnes also shared ongoing efforts to unify the community, highlighting the upcoming “Sounds of the Pee Dee” concert series organized by Mrs. Victoria Nash. The first event will take place on Saturday, August 2nd, at Timrod Park, featuring the local band Painted Man. She encouraged community members to attend.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Business Development Committee, Chaired by Pro tem Jebaily

Pro Tem Jebaily said that although the committee did not meet this month, they received an update on Project Urban Square. The soil remediation is complete, and the general contractor plans to begin work within 30 days of the expected late July closing. Site preparation and stormwater drainage work may begin by late August.

Community Development Committee, Chaired by Mayor Barnes

Mayor Barnes said the committee did not meet for the month of June. The committee will resume meetings this month.

Finance, Audit and Budget Committee, Chaired by Councilman McCall

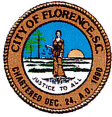
Councilman McCall said the committee reviewed and discussed Bill No. 2025-25 and Bill No. 2025-26 for first reading. The committee also discussed the city's financial overview.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Barnes said Council will be entering into Executive Session for a discussion regarding a contractual matter as notated in Bill No. 2025-27, to receive legal advice regarding Resolution No. 2025-24, for a discussion regarding appointments to city Boards and Commissions, and to receive legal advice regarding the PFAS lawsuit.

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to enter into Executive Session and Councilman McKay seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously (7-0) to enter into Executive Session at 2:27pm.

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to resume open session and Councilman Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried. Council resumed open session at 3:22pm and took action on the following items:



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Resolution No. 2025-24

A Resolution approving the disposition by the Housing Authority of the City of Florence of certain of its real properties and other matters relating thereto.

Councilman McKay made a motion to pass Resolution No. 2025-24 and Councilman Smith seconded the motion.

Mr. Jerry Dudley, Director of Planning, informed Council that the Housing Authority of Florence is seeking approval to dispose of 59 real estate properties due to high repair costs, low occupancy rates, and poor suitability for their housing program. Proceeds from the sales will be used to construct new affordable housing units in better locations. The Housing Authority has already received approval from its Board of Commissioners and now needs Council and United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) approval.

Pro tem Jebaily confirmed this is a procedural action required by HUD, which Mr. Dudley affirmed.

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson expressed concerns about displacing low-income families, especially with several affected properties located in her district. She questioned how the transition would be handled amid the local housing shortage and expressed skepticism about maintaining affordability given rising construction costs.

Councilmen Braddock and McCall asked about occupancy and continued housing support for affected residents. Dr. Alphonso Bradley, Executive Director of the Housing Authority, assured that no residents would be displaced and all would be assisted with relocation, either through housing vouchers or placements within the existing public housing system. He emphasized that the Housing Authority will hold resident meetings and provide support throughout the process, with no increased cost to residents.

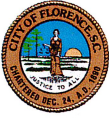
Mayor Barnes inquired whether this is the standard procedure when the Housing Authority seeks to sell or dispose of properties. Dr. Bradley confirmed that it is and stated the Housing Authority is adhering to HUD's established guidelines.

Councilman Smith asked if the Housing Authority would encourage prospective buyers to accept housing vouchers to prevent resident displacement. Dr. Bradley affirmed and said they aim to include that provision in the agreement. Councilman Smith then asked if stipulations could be added to ensure the units remain affordable, to which Dr. Bradley also responded affirmatively.

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson interjected, asking if the Housing Authority could require buyers to accept housing vouchers.

Mr. Ronald Scott, City Attorney, explained that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires a detailed, multi-step process for property disposition by Housing Authorities. The goal is to enhance affordable housing without displacing current residents. The Housing Authority of Florence's proposal will not displace anyone, and a detailed plan must be submitted to HUD for review and approval to ensure resident protection throughout the process.

Pro tem Jebaily discussed the cap on the number of properties the Housing Authority can manage and asked Mr. Scott to clarify the process. Mr. Scott explained that each Housing Authority has a set limit on public housing units, which are owned and operated by the Authority and subject to rent restrictions. To add new properties, older units must be removed through a process called disposition. This allows the Housing Authority to replace outdated units with more efficient, affordable housing while staying within



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HUD's limits. Mr. Scott emphasized that the process is entirely controlled by HUD, not the City of Florence. Council's role is primarily to provide transparency, as the Housing Authority operates independently but was established by Council resolution.

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson emphasized the importance of having a clear logistical plan in place for the process. Mr. Scott assured her that residents will be kept informed throughout and that there will be no last-minute surprises.

Mayor Barnes said that Council is focused on strengthening the community and progressing forward. She emphasized that while Council shares the community's concerns, they are committed to ensuring that every decision they make does not harm or negatively impact the community.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Resolution No. 2025-24 was passed.

Appointments to Boards and Commissions

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

Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee

Pro tem Jebailly made a motion to reappoint Steven Doulaveris to the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee and the motion carried unanimously. Steven Doulaveris was reappointed to the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2028.

Councilman McKay deferred his nomination to the Board.

Agricultural Commission

Councilman McCall deferred his nomination to the Board.

Planning Commission

Mayor Barnes deferred her nomination to the Board.

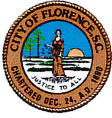
Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson made a motion to reappoint Jerry Keith to Planning and the motion carried unanimously. Jerry Keith was reappointed to the Planning Commission for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2028.

Councilman Smith deferred his nomination to the Board.

Councilman Braddock made a motion to reappoint Andrew Chapin to Planning Commission and the motion carried unanimously. Andrew Chapin was reappointed to Planning Commission for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2028.

Board of Zoning Appeals

Pro tem Jebailly made a motion to reappoint Larry Chewning to the Board of Zoning Appeals and the motion carried unanimously. Larry Chewning was reappointed to the Board of Zoning Appeals for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 20, 2028.



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Councilman McKay deferred his nomination to the Board.

Civic Center Commission

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson made a motion to reappoint Ann Scott to the Civic Center Commission and the motion carried unanimously. Ann Scott was reappointed to the Civic Center Commission for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2028.

Design Review Board

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

Councilman McCall deferred both of his nominations to the Board.

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.

Construction and Maintenance Board of Adjustments and Appeals

Mayor Barnes made a motion to reappoint Michael Henry, Jr. to the Construction and Maintenance Board of Adjustments and Appeals and the motion carried unanimously. Michael Henry, Jr. was reappointed to the Construction and Maintenance Board of Adjustments and Appeals for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2029.

Mayor Barnes deferred remaining nominations to the Board.

Housing Authority

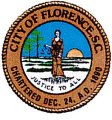
Councilman Braddock made a motion to reappoint Wanda Vereen to the Housing Authority Board and the motion carried unanimously. Wanda Vereen was reappointed to the Housing Authority Board for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2030.

Mayor Barnes made a motion to appoint Angela Lowery as the Resident Commissioner to the Housing Authority Board and the motion carried unanimously. Angela Lowery was appointed to the Housing Authority Board as the Resident Commissioner for a term to begin immediately.

Parks and Beautification Commission

Pro tem Jebailly made a motion to reappoint Scott Murphy, Jr. to Parks and Beautification Commission and the motion carried unanimously. Scott Murphy, Jr. was reappointed to Parks and Beautification Commission for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2030.

Councilman McKay deferred his nomination to the Board.



**FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING – JULY 14, 2025**

Veterans Park Committee

Councilman McCall deferred his nomination to the Board.

Resilience and Sustainability Advisory Committee

Mayor Barnes made a motion to reappoint Lyles Cooper to the Resilience and Sustainability Advisory Committee and the motion carried unanimously. Lyles Cooper was reappointed to the Resilience and Sustainability Advisory Committee for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2028.

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson made a motion to reappoint Leo Woodberry and the motion carried unanimously. Leo Woodberry was reappointed to the Resilience and Sustainability Advisory Committee for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2028.

Councilman Smith deferred his nomination to the Board.

Public Safety Citizen's Review Board

Councilman Braddock made a motion to reappoint Howard Simons to the Public Safety Citizen's Review Board and the motion carried unanimously. Howard Simons was reappointed to the Public Safety Citizen's Review Board for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2029.

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to reappoint Larry Jackson to the Public Safety Citizen's Review Board and the motion carried unanimously. Larry Jackson was reappointed to the Public Safety Citizen's Review Board for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2029.

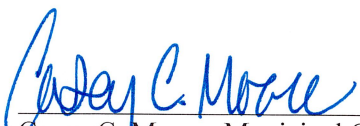
Councilman McKay deferred his nomination to the Board.

Prior to adjournment, Mayor Barnes congratulated Mr. Clint Moore, Assistant City Manager of Development, on his appointment as Chairperson of the Florence Darlington Technical College Board of Directors.

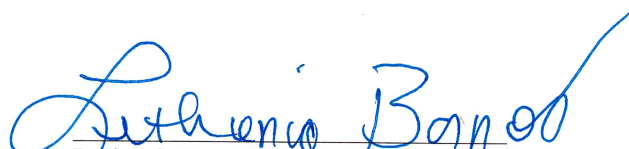
ADJOURN

Without objection, the July 14, 2025 Regular meeting of City Council was adjourned at 3:40pm.

Dated this 11th day of August 2025.



Casey C. Moore, Municipal Clerk



Lethonia Barnes, Mayor