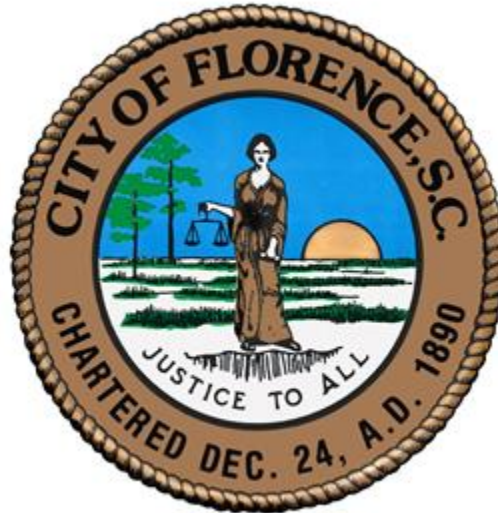


**REGULAR MEETING
OF
FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL**



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

**MONDAY
MARCH 18, 2024
1:00 P.M.**



**REGULAR MEETING OF FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, MARCH 18, 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

January 25-26, 2024 – Work Session
February 12, 2024 – Regular Meeting

IV. HONORS AND RECOGNITIONS

SERVICE RECOGNITIONS

Daniel Stone – 10 years – Fire Department
Stephen Starling – 15 years – Police Department

V. ORDINANCES IN POSITION

a. Bill No. 2024-03 – Second Reading

An Ordinance to amend the City of Florence Code of Ordinances Chapter 1.7 and add a new subsection providing that a person who violates any section of the City's Code of Ordinances with the intent to intimidate another person or persons in whole or in part because of the action or perceived race, color, creed, religion, ancestry, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental disability or national origin is guilty of the separate offense of hate intimidation.

VI. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

a. Bill No. 2024-04 – First Reading

An Ordinance to amend the budget for Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024.

b. Bill No. 2024-05 – First Reading

An Ordinance to annex and zone RG-3 3701 Bannockburn Road, identified as Florence County Tax Map Number 00152-01-025.

c. Bill No. 2024-06 – First Reading

An Ordinance to annex and zone NC-15 2506 Parsons Gate, identified as Florence County Tax Map Number 01221-01-285.

d. Bill No. 2024-07 – First Reading

An Ordinance to rezone 709 and 711 West Darlington Street from NC-6.2 to NC-6.3, identified as Florence County Tax Map Numbers 90060-11-002 and 90060-11-017.

VII. INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

a. Resolution No. 2024-10

A Resolution to adopt the Municipal Association 2024 Advocacy Initiatives.

b. Resolution No. 2024-11

A Resolution of Appreciation for Chief Administrative Judge Debbie Jackson.

VIII. REPORTS TO COUNCIL

a. Appointments to Boards and Commissions

IX. MAYORAL REPORT

X. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Business Development Committee

b. Community Development Committee

c. Marketing and Public Relations Committee

d. Finance, Audit and Budget Committee

(Note: Action may be taken during Committee Reports.)

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

a. To provide an update on an Economic Development Project [30-4-70(a)(5)].

b. For discussion of a Personnel Matter [30-4-70(a)(1)].

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

XII. ADJOURN



**FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2024 – 10:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.
AND FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 2024 – 9:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.
MARINA INN AT GRANDE DUNES
8121 AMALFI PLACE, MYRTLE BEACH, SC 29572**

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ALSO PRESENT

Mr. Scotty Davis, Deputy City Manager; Mr. Boone Aiken, 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; Mrs. Jennifer Krawiec, Director of Human Resources; Mr. Jerry Dudley, Director of Utility Operations; Mr. Josh Whittington, Director of Utility Operations; Mr. Michael Hemingway, Director of Utility Planning and Economic Development; Mrs. Amanda Pope, Director of Marketing/Communications and Municipal Services; Mr. Adam Swindler, Director of Public Works; and Kevin Rawlinson, Chief Financial Officer

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.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ervin called the Thursday, January 25, 2024 Work Session of Florence City Council to order at 10:00 a.m.

INVOCATION

Mayor Ervin gave the invocation for the meeting. The pledge of allegiance to the American Flag followed the invocation.

WORK SESSION

Mr. Scotty Davis, Deputy City Manager, began the session by asking all attendees to introduce themselves. Following introductions, Scotty moved into a discussion on the budget. He said his budget philosophy is that staff has an unwavering commitment to ensuring the city is delivering high-quality services and is responsive to the needs and concerns of our residents. How do we do this?



**FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL
WORK RETREAT – JANUARY 25-26, 2024**

1. Develop operational budgets within projected available revenues.
2. Focus on goals of Comprehensive Plan:
 - Growth Capacity
 - Land Use and Development
 - Housing and Neighborhoods
 - Transportation
 - Economic Development
 - Recreation and Amenities
3. Invest strategically in employees by providing adequate pay, benefits, training, technology resources, support, etc.
4. Balance reinvestment in the City's existing infrastructure and facilities with the creation of new opportunities for investing in the future of the City.
5. Maintain a minimum General Fund balance of at least 30% of the General Fund budget.
6. Maintain sufficient working capital in the utility funds.

Mr. Davis gave an overview of the meeting agenda:

1. FY 2025 Budget Influencers
2. FY 2022-23 Year End Financial Review
3. Human Resources
4. Police
5. Fire
6. City Manager's Office/City Center Market
7. Parks & Recreation
8. Athletics & Sports Tourism
9. Public Works
10. Growth and Development
11. Downtown Development
12. Community Services
13. Projects Update
14. Utility Planning & Economic Development
15. General Fund – Fund Balance
16. Discussions & Questions

2025 Budget Influencers

External factors influencing the budget are inflation, the labor market, improved borrowing costs, residential growth and the AESC original investment plus expansion. The average inflation rate for 2023 was 3.4%, down from 8% in 2022. The Florence County unemployment rate is 3% compared to the South Carolina unemployment rate of 2.9% and the United States unemployment rate of 3.9%. Federal interest rates are projected to reduce in 2024. Current federal rates average 5.25%-5.5% with projections of 4.6% in 2024 and 3.6% in 2025. AESC is expected to create 1,620 jobs with a total investment of \$1.62 billion.

Mr. Davis went over Fiscal Year 2024-25 revenue and expenditure assumptions. It is assumed that property tax revenue will remain stable. The city will need to continue to “backstop” the TIF bonds with water and sewer funds. Building permit revenue is down 34.7% from this time last year; however, this is being due to permits being pulled early in Fiscal Year 2023 for two major projects. Business license revenue is up 20.7%, but it is too early to determine if this trend will continue. Hospitality revenue is up 10.4%. Water revenue is up less than 1% but should continue to rise and sewer revenue is up 6.25%. Water and sewer rates will increase by 9% for inside city limit customers and 11% for outside customers



for the Fiscal Year 2025. Operational and capital costs will continue to rise as a result of wage inflation, supply chain constraints, fuel price fluctuations, materials and supply cost increases and insurance premium increases.

FY 2022-23 Year End Review

Highlights of the FY 2023 Annual Comprehensive Plan:

- For the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2023, the City’s Governmental Funds reported a combined fund balance of \$47,633,835, an increase \$52,212.
- At year end, the City’s Governmental Funds reported a total outstanding bonds and notes payable obligations of \$85,159,199 compared to \$88,840,293 last year, a decrease of 4.3%.
- For the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2023, the Water and Sewer Fund reported a total fund balance of \$150,447,526 a decrease of \$8,123,072. The unassigned fund balance decreased \$13,957,959 from \$39,700,018 to \$25,742,059. The decrease is due to economic development payments for the AESC project.
- The Water and Sewer Fund reported an outstanding bonds and notes payable of \$106,080,215 a decrease of \$12,937,643 compared to \$119,017,858 last year.

The General Fund:

The following chart illustrates the General Fund Revenues in 2023 compared to 2022. Property tax revenue, miscellaneous revenues and revenues from other funding sources are down from 2022.

General Fund Revenues

Revenues	2023	2022	% Variance
Property Tax	\$11,475,369	\$11,830,538	-3.0%
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	16,771,965	15,866,364	5.7%
Intergovernmental	5,891,532	5,020,798	17.3%
Charges for Services	3,526,939	3,170,772	11.2%
Fines and Forfeitures	262,372	230,050	14.0%
Investment Earnings	597,329	(27,399)	2,280.1%
Miscellaneous	1,329,139	8,659,852	-84.7%
Other Funding Sources	422,563	3,188,196	-86.7%
Net Transfers	12,077,902	(18,661,238)	164.7%
Total Revenues	\$52,355,110	\$29,277,933	78.8%

Mr. Davis said the City of Rock Hill completes an annual cost of public service comparison study among several South Carolina cities, to include Florence. According to the comparison, Florence has one of the lowest net property tax rates in the state. This low tax rate makes it very difficult for Florence to compete with the other cities. There was discussion on the city’s millage rate compared to other cities. State law now regulates and limits the amount of millage that can be raised annually. Some cities make it a practice to raise their millage the maximum allowed amount each year, whereas Florence went several years without raising millage at all.



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The following chart illustrated the General Fund Expenditures in 2023 compared to 2022. Total expenditures are down approximately 17%.

General Fund Expenditures

Expenditures	2023	2022	% Variance
General Government	\$ 9,022,988	\$ 9,350,314	-3.5%
Public Safety	17,768,898	15,898,182	11.8%
Public Works	7,933,708	7,371,799	7.6%
Culture and Recreation	3,858,043	3,131,383	23.2%
Community Development	380,650	-	100%
Debt Service: Principal	2,119,487	1,888,065	12.3%
Debt Service: Interest	1,541,261	1,497,992	2.9%
Capital Outlay	6,447,731	20,062,136	-67.9%
Total Expenditures	\$49,072,766	\$59,199,871	-17.1%

Water and Sewer Fund:

The following chart illustrates the Water and Sewer Fund Revenues in 2023 compared to 2022. Total Revenues have increased approximately 1%.

Water & Sewer Fund Revenues

Revenues	2023	2022	% Variance
Current Use Charges	\$40,496,498	\$39,750,584	1.9%
Service Fee	15,614	-	-
Miscellaneous	1,104,327	809,686	36.4%
Water & Sewer Tap Fees	1,114,090	1,268,873	-12.2%
Investment Earnings	1,066,719	-	-
Other Miscellaneous Revenue	129,708	69,959	85.4%
Intergovernmental	466,114	384,702	21.2%
Gain on Asset Disposal	2,782	19,039	-85.4%
Transfers In	-	1,567,323	-100.0%
Total Revenues	\$44,395,852	\$43,870,166	1.2%

The following chart illustrates the Water and Sewer Fund Expenditures in 2023 compared to 2022. Total Expenditures have increased approximately 32%.

Water & Sewer Fund Expenditures

Expenses	2023	2022	% Variance
Personnel	\$ 6,341,316	\$ 5,545,951	14.3%
Employee Benefits	3,133,569	2,113,078	48.3%
Purchase Services	7,765,958	6,794,586	14.3%



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WORK RETREAT – JANUARY 25-26, 2024**

Supplies and Materials	1,374,829	1,350,046	1.8%
Other Operating Expenses	3,529,059	2,495,388	41.4%
Depreciation and Amortization	9,385,387	9,907,147	-5.3%
Loss on Investments	-	62,313	-100.0%
Economic Development	15,841,568	6,538,323	142.3%
Interest Expense	2,562,845	3,054,638	-16.1%
Total Expenditures	\$49,934,531	\$37,861,470	31.9%

Storm Water Utility Fund:

The following chart illustrates the Storm Water Utility Fund Revenues for 2023 compared to 2022. Revenues have increased approximately 67%, most significantly due to the increase in storm water fee.

Storm Water Fund Revenues

Revenues	2023	2022	% Variance
Storm Water Service Fee	\$ 1,633,062	\$ 1,613,654	1.2%
Miscellaneous	8,934	88,915	-90.0%
Investment Earnings	245,048	18,844	1,200.4%
Intergovernmental	103,877	-	100.0%
Contributed Capital	877,094	-	100.0%
Total Revenues	\$ 2,868,015	\$ 1,721,413	66.6%

The following chart illustrates the Storm Water Utility Fund Expenses for 2023 compared to 2022. Total expenses have increased approximately 45%.

Water & Sewer Fund Expenditures

Expenses	2023	2022	% Variance
Personnel	\$ 340,025	\$ 320,047	6.2%
Employee Benefits	164,042	144,467	13.5%
Purchase Services	633,463	218,013	190.6%
Supplies and Materials	13,149	7,564	73.8%
Other Operating Expenses	(66,029)	(84,503)	-21.9%
Depreciation and Amortization	224,743	206,665	8.7%
Interest Expense	111,606	181,855	-38.6%
Transfers Out	109,628	52,237	109.9%
Total Expenses	\$ 1,530,627	\$ 1,046,345	46.3%

Outstanding Debt:

Mr. Davis went over current outstanding debt. He said it is important to know the current debt and what it means for the City of Florence. The City is analyzed by two rating agencies: Moody's and Standard and



Poors. The City has a rating of Aa2 with Moody's and a rating of AA- with Standard and Poors, meaning the City is in very good standing. Mr. Davis went over the current outstanding governmental debt and utilities debt for the City and their maturity dates. Several bonds are scheduled to mature over the next year.

Human Resources

Mr. Davis began the discussion on recruitment and retention. MIT conducts a living wage study and, according to the study, Florence County has a living wage of \$15.32 per hour. There are currently several City positions that have a starting wage below the Florence County living wage. Mr. Davis said it is his hope we are able to increase the salaries to the minimum of the living wage.

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson asked for the total amount of employees that are below the living wage. Mrs. Jennifer Krawiec, Human Resources Director, said this mostly affects employees starting out and the majority of employees are above the range due to merit and years of service increases. The desire is to raise the salary for the starting position to be above the \$15.32, which will in turn impact other positions. While she is unsure of the cost, she does think it is able to be done with this next budget. Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson inquired on the City's lowest salary and Mrs. Krawiec said the lowest is currently \$8.00 per hour for some part time positions and the lowest full-time position is \$12.48 per hour.

Mr. Davis said it is important to continue the annual cost of living and merit increases in order to keep starting salaries competitive and avoid compression. City of Florence salaries are competitive in the region and among similarly sized municipalities in the state, but it is very difficult to attract quality employees with the unemployment rate being so low in Florence County.

Mr. Davis discussed some compensation challenges the City faces. In regard to the Police Department, the City relaxed the facial hair and tattoo policy to attract more applicants and retain current employees. This year's 8% cost of living increase allowed the compensation for non-certified and certified officers to be more competitive with surrounding agencies. There was discussion on recruiting officers from larger cities outside of South Carolina. Police jobs are advertised on a variety of websites to include community sites and law enforcement specific sites.

The City does offer attractive benefits to include PEBA health insurance, state retirement, an onsite nurse practitioner, and paid retiree insurance. Health insurance is a significant cost to the City. Nationally, health insurance premiums continue to rise; however, employee costs remain low with little to no increases for employee premium contributions.

Mr. Davis said some concepts to consider to assist with recruitment and retention include expanding the Employee Wellness Clinic to include retirees, student loan repayment assistance, and a modified work schedule. Some considerations for a modified work schedule include half-day Fridays with longer hours Monday through Thursday, a four-day work week, and job sharing to keep retirees. There was discussion on a modified work schedule among Council and staff and its potential positive and negative impacts.

[Break: 12:00p.m. – 1:00p.m.]

Police Department

Mr. Allen Heidler, Chief of Police, discussed the current and upcoming needs of the Police Department. He began by providing an overview of the life expectancy of a patrol vehicle. The biggest factor in the life expectancy of a patrol vehicle is engine hours. Normal preventative maintenance is done on a vehicle



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based on driven miles; however, police vehicles sit and idle for long periods of time which isn't calculated into the wear of the vehicle. The idle time is just as taxing on a vehicle as driven miles in most cases. According to industry standard calculations, one engine hour equals thirty driven miles. The average patrol vehicle has over 3,000 engine idle hours within three years of use, which is equivalent to 90,000 driven miles.

Chief Heidler also spoke on patrol vehicle turnover. The Police Department has on average 50 vehicles that are used for daily response services and another 20-25 that are utilized by specialty units. Several vehicles will be ready to cycle out this year and be made into spares. The cost of vehicles has significantly increased since 2019 and the cost to upfit a vehicle is expected to increase as well. The best method for cycling vehicles is to purchase 5-8 vehicles per year which will allow the City to turnover approximately one quarter of the fleet every four years and cycle reliable units into the spare fleet. Chief Heidler said the vehicle request for 2024 is five vehicles. If ordered early in the fiscal year, it is expected that these vehicles will cost approximately \$55,000-60,000 and would be delivered early to mid-2025.

Chief Heidler said the City is receiving several stationary flock cameras that will monitor entrance ways and exit ways of the City. These cameras are an investigative tool and are able to read license plate tags and assist in tracking individuals and solving crimes.

Councilman McCall raised a concern with the media receiving a press release with the information on the cameras prior to Council's knowledge. Mayor Ervin asked that releases be shared with Council before being shared with the media so they are informed when residents reach out to them. Scotty said releases will be shared with Council from the City Manager's Office prior to being released to the media moving forward.

Mayor Ervin mentioned cameras that are currently located at some of the parks. Mr. Davis clarified that the cameras are located on the buildings/community centers and are only monitoring people coming and going from the buildings and to protect staff. Mayor Ervin expressed her desire to have cameras located at all parks.

There was discussion on the potential to add an armored vehicle to the fleet. Councilman Braddock requested that staff look into armored vehicles and provide Council with information on cost, design, potential storage locations, et cetera.

Chief Heidler spoke on long term and large evidence storage next. The SC Evidence Preservation Act requires evidence to be preserved. The Police Department currently leases a building for storage but due to state law requirements, the City will need to consider relocating their long-term and large evidence storage facility due to reaching capacity of the current site. Chief Heidler discussed potential sites and cost estimates. The approximate project total is \$500,000.

Fire Department

Mr. Shannon Tanner, Fire Chief, discussed the current and upcoming needs of the Fire Department. He began with an overview of the current status of the Fire Department. Chief Tanner said the Fire Department is currently running seven companies comprised of six Engine Companies and one Ladder Company, responding out of six stations. The average responses over the last few years is 4,548 calls. In order to maintain the current ISO rating of 1, Fire Department response must be in five minutes 90% of the time for the first due engine and nine minutes 90% of the time for the second due engine and first due ladder.



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Chief Tanner discussed fire apparatus replacement. Currently, the Fire Department has five first out engines, one first out ladder and one quint running as a first out engine from the stations. The last major purchase of apparatus occurred in 2010 and 2012; therefore, many of the first out apparatus, engines and ladders have age on them. Chief Tanner expressed the urgency in the necessity to purchase three engines and one ladder. Recently, at least one truck has been out of service every day and obtaining parts for repairs has become difficult. The pandemic created a major backlog on apparatus delivery as well as significant price increases. Currently, delivery times for engines are 36 months and ladders are 48 months. The current cost of a fire engine is \$1,000,000 and a ladder is \$2,000,000 which equates to a 40% increase in price over the last three years. Signing a contract to purchase new apparatus will lock in pricing and start the clock on receiving the apparatus. It will be necessary to refurbish the current first due engines and ladder until the new apparatus arrives.

Chief Tanner also discussed staff vehicle replacement. Chief Tanner requested to replace five vehicles this budget and five next budget year. Vehicle prices range from \$30,000 to \$40,000 and have a delivery time from 90 to 365 days.

Chief Tanner spoke of Fire Department facilities and growth. Recently two fire stations were built on the west side of the City and fifteen years ago a station was built on the south side of the City. Two of these were additional stations while one was a relocation. Many of the older stations are in need of upfitting and repairs. Due to annexation and continued growth, Chief Tanner discussed the need to add an additional Engine Company on the west side of the City at Station 4, an additional Battalion Chief, and an additional Fire Station on the southeast side of the City.

Councilman McCall inquired on the most critical need. For future needs, Chief Tanner said adding a ladder truck and an engine company. However, the present need is to replace existing trucks.

Mr. Davis discussed the current Building Department status. Over the last two years, the Building Department has experienced an overall increase of 42% in inspections. If this increase continues, the City will need to hire additional inspectors to keep up with the increase. Mr. Davis said the City is considering charging a re-inspection fee after the first inspection, which would require an ordinance to be passed.

City Manager's Office

Mr. Davis said the City is under a three-year contract with Citibot. Mrs. Amanda Pope, Director of Marketing, Communications and Municipal Services, said the bot has been named Cypress or "Cy". The City is still working to implement with the work order program with Citibot and the tentative launch date is in March.

Mrs. Pope said the City of Florence Municipal Code is in need of a complete recodification. Recodification will involve a full legal and thorough review of the City's code to ensure that provisions are comprehensive, lawful, and enforceable. The approximate cost for recodification is \$75,000.

Mrs. Pope provided a brief overview of the City Center Farmers Market and Commercial Kitchen. Farmers Market vendors are comprised of food producers and farmers, as well as artisans. Several events are held at the Farmers Market to include Jam Fest, Farm to School, Holiday Gift Market, Bee City Takeover, and the Cultural Garden Celebration. The Commercial Kitchen is a shared commissary-style kitchen available for rent and is a certified South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control facility. Current facility needs include a market entrance sign, parking improvements, and an additional permanent shed at a total approximate cost of \$150,000. The City owns several surrounding properties that may be able to accommodate these needs.



[Break: 3:10pm – 3:40pm]

Parks and Recreation Services Division

Mr. Davis spoke of the needs of the Parks and Recreation Services Division. He acknowledged the lack of signage in the City's parks. Interpretive signage can be very educational for residents providing insights into the history, significance, and unique feature of each location. Interpretive signs serve as outdoor graphic displays that enhance awareness, appreciation, and understanding of the environment. There is also a need to replace picnic shelters at Lester Park, Lucas Park, and Southpark.

Mr. Davis spoke of the Florence Trail System. There is a need to add wayfinding signage to the Florence Trail System. Mr. Clint Moore, Assistant City Manager of Development, spoke of the recent trail extension from the existing rail trail to the Soccer Complex and said the contract has been signed for this project. The City also received a grant to complete an extension of the trail from Naturally Outdoors as well as add a kayak slip. Mr. Davis said the Florence trail system boat launches are in need of better infrastructure to facilitate easier and safer boat launches. It is important that residents are able to enjoy outdoors and all Jeffries Creek has to offer.

There was discussion on naming some of the parks after individuals in the community to raise money for these improvements. Mr. Moore said there are already local groups and non-profits that work with the City to help with these efforts.

Mr. Davis spoke of the need to add multiple dog parks in several locations throughout the community. The establishment of dog parks will bring benefits such as community enhancement, tourist appeal and community health and well-being. Potential locations include the downtown area, Levy Park, Southpark, and McLeod Park.

The NFC Program has offered to fund \$30,000 towards the installation of a Fitness Court, which could significantly enhance our public spaces. However, the total cost is projected to cost \$175,000 – 225,000. Locations that have been approved by the program include Levy Park and could be included with the anticipated Levy Park expansion. The City is still waiting to hear back on the status of the grant; however, the City may need to plan and budget for the maintenance and upkeep of the park.

There was discussion on the addition of an amphitheater to Dr. Iola Jones Park. The estimated cost of an amphitheater and concrete pad is \$250,000.

Athletics/Sports Tourism Expansion

The City currently has four major complexes: Dr. Eddie Floyd Tennis Center, Freedom Florence Recreation Complex, Florence Soccer Complex, and the Florence Sports Complex. Mr. Davis spoke of the need to continue to emphasize sports tourism. Current athletic facility needs include new facilities such as a football complex and an addition of an arena to the Pearl Moore Basketball Gymnasium. Mr. Davis spoke of some obstacles in expanding Pearl Moore. There was discussion on the potential for eminent domain for surrounding abandoned properties and buildings. Mr. Boone Aiken, City Attorney, said the City will have to establish a legitimate public purpose for the property. There was further discussion on abandoned and dilapidated properties and the potential to add an affidavit to these properties when they are purchased to state the future purpose of the property or add a fee to abandoned buildings. Mr. Boone Aiken, City Attorney, said he will research these requests.



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Current renovation needs include a Dr. Eddie Floyd Tennis Center expansion/repair and a Freedom Florence baseball/softball light upgrade.

Total cost for all these projects is approximately \$20 million. Potential funding sources include the hospitality fund, the creation of a Tourism Improvement District, or CDBG Section 108 loan, if located within a CDBG eligible area. A Tourism Improvement District would consist of a partnership with local hotels in the area and adding a fee on hotel stays within the City of Florence with a committee group overseeing the fund usage.

ADJOURN

Without objection, the January 25, 2024 Retreat Work Session of City Council was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ervin called the Friday, January 26, 2024 Work Retreat Session of Florence City Council to order at 9:05 a.m.

INVOCATION

Mayor Ervin gave the invocation for the meeting. The pledge of allegiance to the American Flag followed the invocation.

Public Works Department

Mr. Davis said Beautification and Facilities (including the animal shelter), Equipment Maintenance, and Sanitation are the three divisions of the Public Works Department.

Mr. Adam Swindler, Public Works Director, gave an overview of future Public Works needs. Current Beautification and Facilities Division needs include additional employees; various capital equipment such as aging forklift, motor grader, backhoe, skid-steer, and tree trucks; and new housing/space for offices, equipment storage, and sign shop operations. Mr. Swindler also discussed necessary facility repairs for the animal shelter.

Current Equipment Maintenance Division needs include additional employees; an updated/new facility and amenities to meet current and future service needs; capital equipment; and other items such as a Fleet Maintenance Management Software.

Mr. Swindler spoke on the Sanitation Division next. Sanitation collects approximately 14,450 residential units per week or approximately 2890 units per day. For every 500 units added, an additional route/truck is needed. Mr. Swindler discussed the transfer fee increases over the last 5 years. The recycling fee has seen a significant increase and is now \$165.00 per ton while less than 25% of the City's residents participate in recycling. In fiscal year 2023, 525 tons of recyclable material were collected at a cost of \$86,625. Below is chart detailing the transfer fee increase over the last five years.



Transfer Fee Increase over Time (Last 5 Fiscal Years)

FY Start	FY End	Garbage Fee	Increase	Recycling Fee	Increase
July 2018	June 2019	\$45.39	\$0.84	\$78.48	\$2.58
Processing Fee Increase				\$138.48	\$60.00
July 2019	June 2020	\$48.07	\$2.68	\$140.11	\$31.63
July 2020	June 2021	\$48.18	\$0.11	\$140.43	\$0.32
July 2021	June 2022	\$51.12	\$2.94	\$151.85	\$11.42
July 2022	June 2023	\$55.55	\$4.43	\$159.06	\$7.21
July 2023	June 2024	\$60.09	\$4.54	\$165.10	\$6.04

Mr. Swindler presented needs for the Sanitation Division to include new facilities and additional trucks. Mr. Swindler discussed aging offices and buildings at the Public Works Department site. New facilities needed include offices, meeting and training rooms, lockers and bathrooms and showers. Depending on annexation numbers, it is forecast that two residential rear loader trucks will be necessary at a cost of approximately \$600,000. If the City continues the recycling program, an additional commercial front loader truck will be necessary at a cost of approximately \$400,000. Prices for sanitation trucks are expected to increase. Currently, a commercial front loader is \$400,000, basic residential rear loader is \$255,000, upgraded residential rear loader is \$315,000, a grapple loader is \$200,000 and a lift gate truck for roll cart delivery is \$65,000.

Mr. Swindler went over some issues sanitation faces with residents piling boxes, furniture, bags, et cetera at the curb for pick up and there was discussion on adopting an ordinance to establish a fine for these situations. Mr. Davis said the City Attorney can start working on an ordinance. Mr. Davis spoke on landlord evictions. In South Carolina State Code, a landlord is able to set the evicted tenant’s belongings on the curb. The City then must collect the items, but only after forty-eight hours has passed. Mr. Davis said state law does not require the landlord to notify the City when they’ve placed items out, so the forty-eight hours begins once the City is notified either by a resident or a sanitation worker.

Growth and Development

Mr. Moore said annexation, growth and development impacts every City department. Since 2018, the City has approved 3,500 new units of residential construction which can have a substantial impact. Mr. Moore discussed projected City limits growth over the next ten and twenty years and said it is based largely on utility availability. Important concepts to consider with annexation, growth and development is the direction of residential growth; the direction of commercial growth; and impacts related to the extension of water and sewer infrastructure, sanitation services, fire services, police services, recreation, and streets and stormwater. There was discussion on annexation and doughnut holes throughout the City. Mayor Ervin expressed her desire for the City to be more aggressive with doughnut hole properties and communicate with the residents the benefits of annexation. Mr. Moore said there are several mechanisms the City can implement in an attempt to control, manage and direct growth. Common strategies for municipalities include Impact Fees and Special Purpose Taxing District.

Mr. Moore provided a housing and rental outlook. The estimated population by 2030 is 47,000 residents. The recent median sales price for a home in Florence is \$250,000, up from \$159,000 in 2019. The average household income is \$52,425, which is a monthly income of \$4,300. The current cost of a new build



residential home is \$150 per square foot and current mortgage rate is 7%. Mr. Moore said the City looks at how to remain developer friendly while also protecting the environment of the current resident. Upcoming projects that will need to be addressed in the Unified Development Ordinance include an update to the sign ordinance, short term rentals, accessory dwelling units and the riparian buffer. Upcoming costs include an update to the 2020 Comprehensive Plan at \$75,000 – \$85,000, Design Guidelines at \$135,000, a Neighborhood Revitalization Plan at \$150,000, an Affordable Housing Study at \$150,000 and Corridor Studies at \$200,000 - \$300,000.

Downtown Development

Mr. Moore said downtown currently has a 6% vacancy rate, which indicates how the City should approach downtown development and how to progress downtown. Currently, downtown has property maintenance and appearance codes for the Historic District only; however, the incentive boundary was expanded. It may be beneficial to also expand the property maintenance and appearance codes to include the Irby Street Corridor and the Food, Artisan, and Warehouse District.

[Break: 10:25 – 10:40]

Community Services

Mr. Davis gave an overview of the projects in progress to include rehabilitation, weatherization, demolition, new home construction, preliminary work on the Pine Street Masterplan, and the Habitat for Humanity home. Mr. Davis provided an overview of the Pine Street Master Plan to help with homeownership in the area.

Utilities Department

Mr. Davis said the workforce for the Utilities Department is comprised of employees with technical expertise and specialized skills. Mr. Jerry Dudley, Utilities Director, provided Council with some challenges he faces with the Utilities Department. The City must compete with other government and private sector jobs as well as other geographic locations for employees in this field. Water and Wastewater Operators must obtain certification and it takes years of on-the-job experience to become a competent operator. Additional employees will be necessary due to the surface water expansion, growth of the City and the utility, and to maintain water quality. It is important to provide a livable wage to attract quality employees. Mr. Dudley spoke of the challenge of rising costs and capital expenses. These have higher upfront costs and the equipment is more technical and typically requires contractors to repair. Emergency repairs also presents a challenge because it eats up a lot of the budget and the budget for these types of repairs is small. Emergency repairs include sewer repair, water line repair, lift station repair, pump repair, repair parts, et cetera. Solutions for some of these concerns include on-call contractors, preventative maintenance contracts and capital improvement projects.

Mr. Dudley spoke on water quality and recent complaints. Most water quality complaints are due to iron in the water. Many of the groundwater plants and wells are in need of repairs and maintenance. If the City were to overhaul all the groundwater plants at once, it would cost over \$20 million. Four plants are scheduled for renovation utilizing grant funds. Mr. Dudley said a work group to focus on water quality was established with participants from various departments around the city.

Mr. Dudley discussed various specialized equipment needs to include two sewer vac-trucks at a cost of \$500,000 per truck, a valve installation machine at a cost of \$120,000, and a boring machine at a cost of \$200,000.



Projects Update

Mr. Moore provided an update on stormwater projects in relation to the \$7 million stormwater bond. Projects completed include Sandhurst West, Tarleton Estates and Phase I of St. Anthony/College Park. Current projects ready for bid include Pennsylvania Street and Cedar and McQueen Streets. Engineering has begun for the North Church and Oakland Avenue project and the Master Plan is nearing completion.

Mr. Moore provided information regarding the Penny Sales Tax. Capital Projects Sales Tax III passed by referendum in November 2020. The City received \$40,000,000 from the County and a bond was issued in summer, 2021. Approximately 170 total roadways and projects were included, and, to date, thirty-six roadways have been completed and twenty-four are under contract. Mr. Moore said the City does not have a funding mechanism for road resurfacing so the Penny Sales Tax has helped to accomplish many projects. The fourth Penny Sales Tax will go before taxpayers in November 2028 as a referendum and the City will need to soon plan for potential projects and areas of focus.

Utility Planning and Economic Development

Mr. Michael Hemingway, Utility Planning and Economic Development Director, discussed infrastructure upgrades for growth and regulatory compliance. The below chart illustrates the project and the current, estimated capital costs associated with the upgrades.

Project/Upgrade	Cost
Surface Water Treatment Plant Expansion	\$ 150,000,000
Surface Water US EPA PFAS Regulatory Requirement	+/- 50,000,000
Wastewater Management Facility Expansion	200,000,000
Jeffries Creek Sewer Interceptor Upgrade	45,000,000
Middle Swamp Sewer Interceptor Upgrade	30,000,000
West Palmetto / Timmonsville Sewer Interceptor	20,000,000
Pye Brach Sewer	8,000,000
East Palmetto Sewer Interceptor	50,000,000
South Irby Sewer Interceptor (South of Alligator Road)	?
Police Cabin Pump Station	12,000,000
Four water tanks	14,000,000
30-inch water main extension – Freedom Boulevard to Alligator Road	15,000,000
30-inch water line along I-95 and I-20 and 1-million-gallon tank	2,000,000/mile of pipe + 3,500,000 tank
Construction of new sewer and water in eastern Florence to serve growth	?

Mr. Hemingway then discussed impacts of global warming. Given the uncertainty of future weather events, effective stormwater management requires that the City develop strategies to minimize the probability of flood conditions and to mitigate the impact of other extreme weather conditions. Impacted infrastructure includes the Jeffries Creek Interceptor, Middle Swamp Interceptor, Pye Branch, High Hill Creek, Two Mile Creek Black Creek, roads and housing. The City must take proactive measures to maintain and enhance existing stormwater infrastructure for current and future development. Mr. Hemingway went into detail on several of the projects and upgrades.

Mr. Hemingway said Florence County Economic Development is working to bring several major economic development projects to the area. If these projects come to fruition, the City will need to look at starting construction of the Wastewater Facility expansion in 2026 instead of waiting until 2028 as



**FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL
WORK RETREAT – JANUARY 25-26, 2024**

originally planned. In this instance, the City will be overlapping the Surface Water and Wastewater facility expansions. Mr. Heminway said there are potential federal funding opportunities for several of these projects and they are working through the process to hopefully obtain this funding.

Mr. Davis spoke on Impact Fees. Impact Fees represent financial payments from a developer to a local government that fund their proportionate share of certain off-site capital improvements needed to accommodate future growth. Impact Fees pass construction costs onto new development rather than existing development. Impact Fees may be used for design and engineering, right-of-way acquisition, construction, utility relocation and project financing. In order to implement an Impact Fee, the City will need to prepare an Impact Fee Justification Report, prepare a capital projects list, prepare a Housing Affordability Study, and adopt an Impact Fee Ordinance. Council expressed their desire to have staff research Impact Fees.

General Fund – Fund Balance

Mr. Davis said the unassigned fund balance for the General Fund was \$21,234,879, an increase of \$9,094,144 in comparison of last year. The unassigned fund balance represents 43% of expenditures which is 13% above the 30% set as the minimum. This equates to approximately \$6.5 million. Council and staff broke into groups and discussed the biggest needs for the City and how the General Fund fund balance can be utilized to help with the needs discussed during the work retreat.

ADJOURN

Without objection, the January 26, 2024 Retreat Work Session of City Council was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Dated this 18th day of March 2024.

Casey C. Moore, Municipal Clerk

Teresa Myers Ervin, Mayor



**REGULAR MEETING OF FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2024 – 1:00 P.M.
CITY CENTER – COUNCIL CHAMBERS
324 WEST EVANS STREET
FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA**

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ALSO PRESENT

Mr. Scotty Davis, Interim City Manager; Mr. Benjamin T. Zeigler, City Attorney; 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 Utilities; Mr. Joshua Whittington, Director of Utilities; Mrs. Jennifer Krawiec, Director of Human Resources; Mrs. Amanda Pope, Director of Marketing/Communications and Municipal Services; Mr. Adam Swindler, Director of Public Works; Mr. Kevin Rawlinson, Chief Financial Officer and Ms. Patrice Rankin, Administrative Coordinator

MEDIA PRESENT

Mr. Naeem McFadden with the Florence Morning News and Mr. Seth Taylor with the Post and Courier 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 Ervin called the February 12, 2024 regular meeting of Florence City Council to order at 1:01 p.m.

INVOCATION

Mayor Ervin gave the invocation for the meeting. The pledge of allegiance to the American Flag followed the invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilwoman Barnes made a motion to adopt the minutes of the January 8, 2024 Regular Meeting and Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously adopted.



SPECIAL PRESENTATION

The City of Florence Tennis Center was recognized for receiving the USTA Southern Outstanding Parks and Recreations Department Award.

APPEARANCES BEFORE COUNCIL

Ernie James and Paul Pittman, Florence Tennis Association

Mr. Ernie James and Mr. Paul Pittman appeared before Council to speak on tennis in the City of Florence. Mr. James stated that tennis has grown significantly in Florence and nationwide for the last three decades. Mr. Pittman informed Council that the packet they received contains information regarding the 2023 Report of the state of tennis in Florence and programs presented by the Florence Tennis Association (FTA). (The packet is attached to and made a part of these minutes.) Mr. James informed Council that the FTA has agreed to coordinate a tennis program at Levy Park. The goal is to also expand tennis to the North Florence area. Mr. Jonathan Barch briefly spoke on the economic impact of tennis in the Florence area. Mr. James and Mr. Pittman thanked Council for their support of the Florence Tennis Association.

ORDINANCES IN POSITION

Bill No. 2024-01 – Second Reading

An Ordinance to annex and zone Neighborhood Conservation-15 (NC-15) 233 North Lakewood Drive, Florence County Tax Map Parcel 90008-01-003.

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to adopt Bill No. 2024-01 on second reading and Councilman McCall seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Bill No. 2024-01 was adopted.

Bill No. 2024-02 – Second Reading

An Ordinance to convey a portion of the West Vista Street right-of-way to the South Carolina Department of Transportation, specifically fifty feet west from the intersection of West Vista Street and North Irby Street.

Councilwoman Barnes made a motion to adopt Bill No. 2024-02 on second reading and Councilwoman Nesmith-Jackson seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Bill No. 2024-02 was adopted.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

Bill No. 2023-42 – First Reading

An Ordinance to rezone 1110 Oakland Avenue from NC-6.1 to NC-6.3, identified as Florence County Tax Map Number 90114-08-004.

Councilwoman Barnes made a motion to pass Bill No. 2023-42 on first reading and Councilman Smith seconded the motion.

Mr. Clint Moore, Assistant City Manager of Development, reported this rezoning request was deferred at last month's meeting. The property located to the east is zoned NC-6.3 and neighboring properties to the



**FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING – FEBRUARY 12, 2024**

north and south are zoned NC-6.1 with some commercial reuse, activity center and campus zonings as well. The applicant is requesting the rezoning to construct townhomes on the property. The current NC-6.1 zoning only allows for single family residential homes and a rezoning to NC-6.3 would allow townhomes to be constructed on the property. Mr. Moore reiterated that this is a deferred matter, and that the applicant has not provided any additional information.

Mayor Ervin asked if adjacent properties are single family homes. Mr. Moore stated that is correct. Mayor Ervin also stated that there was a public hearing with the community and the developer, and the community was not in support of the townhomes being constructed. Mr. Moore responded that there were mixed opinions regarding the construction of the townhomes.

Pro tem Jebaily stated he was hoping that Council would have received clarity from the developer, as this was the reason of the deferral from last month's meeting. This development has a look and feel of spot zoning, and he feels that the adjacent property owners may try to follow suit. He stated that he did not think this would be in the best interest of the properties along this corridor to approve this request. Having not received further clarity from the developer, Pro tem Jebaily said his concerns remain the same and he will be voting against the rezoning request.

Councilman McCall expressed his support of the rezoning request, although he wished the developer had further discussion with the community. Councilman McCall stated that new development in this part of town is always met with a lot of resistance. He stated that he understands the concerns, but he is still going to support the rezoning request.

Mayor Ervin stated that the purpose of community revitalization and neighborhood conservation is to preserve the character of traditional communities. This community is zoned for residential single family and she cannot remember an instance where Council has permitted townhomes to be built amid single family homes. She provided details regarding projects that have taken place in some of the City's catalytic areas. Mayor Ervin stated she agrees with Pro tem Jebaily and she cannot support something that may even appear to be spot zoning.

Council voted 5-2 against the motion with Mayor Ervin, Pro tem Jebaily, Councilwoman Barnes, Councilman Braddock, and Councilwoman Nesmith-Jackson voting against and Councilman Smith and Councilman McCall voting in favor of the motion. Bill No. 2023-42 was denied.

Bill No. 2024-03- First Reading

An Ordinance to amend the City of Florence Code of Ordinances Chapter 1.7 and add a new subsection providing that a person who violates any section of the City's Code of Ordinances with the intent to intimidate another person or persons in whole or in part because of the action or perceived race, color, creed, religion, ancestry, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental disability or national origin is guilty of the separate offense of hate intimidation.

Councilwoman Nesmith-Jackson made a motion to pass Bill No. 2024-03 on first reading and Mayor Pro tem Jebaily seconded the motion.

Mr. Scotty Davis, Interim City Manager, stated that a hate crime ordinance would create a separate offense and if found guilty and would be punishable by a maximum fine of \$500 or thirty (30) days in jail. South Carolina and Wyoming are the only two states without a statewide hate crime ordinance.

Councilman Braddock addressed Mr. Zeigler and asked how this bill relates to state law. Mr. Zeigler said the state has not acted on the bill yet, so local governments are able to impose their own penalties. If the



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house bill does pass and become law, he would then need to research the what status of the local enactment would be in light of the state taking action. The proposed bill will create a separate offense depending on if there is another violation of a separate city ordinance. Mr. Zeigler stated that if the ordinance violation is proved to be motivated by hate, then this can be added on as a second offense, essentially a penalty enhancement.

Councilman Braddock made a motion to defer Bill No. 2024-03 until the state has an opportunity to address this situation during the upcoming session. Councilwoman Barnes seconded the motion.

Pro tem Jebaily stated that his understanding that a deferral would only be until next month and he doesn't believe the situation in the Senate will be resolved by then. He suggested that Council move forward with the ordinance and if the state does take action with state law, the City can then revisit the City ordinance.

Mr. Zeigler stated that if the General Assembly creates a hate crime law for the state, then the question would be if a local enactment and statewide enactment can cover the same issue. Without researching the issue, he is unable to answer this question now. If the General Assembly acting invalidates the local ordinance, then Council would not need to withdraw the ordinance. It will be effective until there is a statewide enactment.

Following the explanation given by Mr. Zeigler, Pro tem Jebaily asked if Councilman Braddock would like to withdraw his motion. Following discussion, Councilman Braddock withdrew his motion to defer Bill No. 2024-03. The main motion is on the table.

Councilman McCall spoke in support of this bill and said he hopes the state can address this matter, as many hate crimes are happening all over the world and people need protection.

Mayor Ervin acknowledged that several community members asked Council to consider this matter and this bill is in response to the community's concerns. She stated she will support anything that makes the community a more inclusive society.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Bill No. 2024-03 was passed on first reading.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 2024-05

A Resolution to appoint Scotty Davis, Kevin Rawlinson and Victoria Nash as Directors of the Public Facilities Corporation.

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson made a motion to pass Resolution No. 2024-05 and Councilwoman Barnes seconded the motion.

Mr. Kevin Rawlinson, Chief Financial Officer, said this resolution is to replace the members of the Public Facilities Corporation. This is a not-for-profit corporation that was created out of the requirements of a debt service funding mechanism called Installment Purchase Revenue Bond (IPRB). Even though bonds are outstanding, the corporation still must exist. Previous members of the corporation included Randy Osterman, Kevin Yokim, and Chuck Pope and all three are no longer with the City of Florence.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) to pass Resolution No. 2024-05. Resolution No. 2024-05 was passed.



Resolution No. 2024-06

A Resolution to state the support of the City of Florence for the Clementa C. Pinckney Hate Crimes Act, H-3014, and to request approval of said Act by the South Carolina Senate.

Councilman Braddock made a motion to pass Resolution No. 2024-06 and Councilwoman Nesmith-Jackson seconded the motion.

Senator Mike Reichenbach spoke to Council to provide an update of Bill H-3014. Senator Reichenbach informed Council that Bill H-3014 has received bipartisan and full support from all nine members of the Florence County Legislative Delegation. The Senate Judiciary Committee passed the bill out of the Senate last year, so the next step is for the bill to receive “special order.” Senator Reichenbach stated that Council could help this bill come to fruition by encouraging constituents to reach out to fellow state senators that may not fully understand or support Bill H-3014. Senator Reichenbach clarified that the bill is an enhancement bill on a violent crime and that it must be shown that the crime was motivated by terror and hate.

Councilman Braddock thanked Senator Reichenbach and his wife Charisse for coming today to provide clarity on H-3014. There is a lot of confusion regarding this bill and that he is pleased that Council and the Florence County Legislative Delegation all agree that this is very important to our state and community.

Pro tem Jebaily also thanked Senator Reichenbach for shedding light on Bill H-3014. He offered his assistance with reaching out to fellow state legislators.

Councilwoman Nesmith-Jackson thanked Senator Reichenbach for coming today to share information regarding H-3014. She also offered her support with reaching out to fellow state legislators.

Councilwoman Barnes thanked Senator Reichenbach for coming to provide insight regarding H-3014.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) to pass Resolution No. 2024-06. Resolution No. 2024-06 was passed.

Resolution No. 2024-07

A Resolution and Conditional Grant and Development Agreement to provide an incentive for the development of new housing in Historic West Florence as part of the ongoing Neighborhood Redevelopment Project.

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

Resolution No. 2024-08

A Resolution to proclaim February 26 – March 1, 2024 as Montessori Education Week in the City of Florence.

Councilman Braddock made a motion to pass Resolution No. 2024-08 and Councilman McCall seconded the motion.

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson presented the Resolution to Elizabeth Kahn, Director of the Montessori School of Florence and students.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) to pass Resolution No. 2024-08. Resolution No. 2024-08 was passed.



Resolution No. 2024-09

A Resolution of Recognition for the induction of Darryl Page into the South Carolina Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

Councilman Smith presented the Resolution to Darryl Page.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) to pass Resolution No. 2024-09. Resolution No. 2024-09 was passed.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL

Appointments to Boards and Commissions

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

Design Review Board

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson made a motion to reappoint Kyle Gunter to the Design Review Board and the motion carried unanimously. Kyle Guner was reappointed to the Design Review Board for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2027.

Housing Authority

Councilman Braddock deferred his nomination to the Board.

Comprehensive Financial Report and Audited Financial Statements

Mr. Tracy Huggins of Burch, Oxner, Seale Company, CPA's, PA reported for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023. The City had budgeted revenues of \$37,887,000 and actual revenues of \$39,835,000 in the General Fund. This resulted in a positive variance of \$1,948,000. Budgeted expenditures were (\$47,417,000). Actual expenditures were (\$49,073,000) leaving a negative variance of (\$1,000,665). Budgeted operating deficiency in the general fund of revenues over expenditures was (\$9,530,000). Actual operating deficiency of revenues over expenditures was (\$9,238,000), leaving a positive budget variance of \$292,000. 55% of general fund revenue came from property tax credits, business licenses and franchise fees.

Governmental Funds: The unassigned fund balance in the General Fund is \$21,235,000 an increase of \$9,095,000 from prior year. This represents 43% of general fund expenditures for the year.

Enterprise Funds: Operating revenues last year were \$44,373,000; operating expenses were (\$32,839,000); net non-operating expenses were (\$16,502,000); capital contributions were \$2,811,000; total transfers out were (\$5,346,000); leaving a net loss of (\$7,000,504) in the enterprise fund.

Council thanked Mr. Huggins for his report.

Request to reschedule the March and November 2024 Regular Meetings of City Council

Councilwoman Barnes made a motion to reschedule the March and November 2024 Regular Meetings of City Council and Councilman Smith seconded the motion.



FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING – FEBRUARY 12, 2024

Interim City Manager Scotty Davis stated that there has been a request to reschedule the March 2024 Regular Meeting of City Council to Monday, March 18, 2024 due to several councilmembers traveling out of town for training sessions.

Mayor Ervin stated that the November 2024 Regular Meeting of City Council falls on Veterans Day and city offices will be closed. It has been requested that this meeting be rescheduled to Monday, November 18, 2024.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) to reschedule the March and November 2024 Regular Meetings of City Council to Monday, March 18, 2024 and Monday, November 18, 2024.

MAYORAL REPORT

Mayor Ervin spoke of recent awards the City has received. She also acknowledged Mr. Scotty Davis as the Interim City Manager. Mr. Davis recently led a budget retreat with council and city staff, and it went very well. Mayor Ervin encouraged citizens to utilize the city's website, as well as the city's social media accounts to communicate with city officials and staff.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Business Development Committee, Chaired by Pro tem Jebaily

Pro tem Jebaily stated the committee received information and updates regarding the III Penny Sales Tax, capital road projects and infrastructure projects. He thanked city staff for their dedication, hard work and for providing information to council each month. The committee also received an update on the city's corridors and looks to bring a corridor study to council once more information has been received.

Community Development Committee, Chaired by Councilwoman Barnes

Councilwoman Barnes stated the committee met last month and discussed a wish list that was placed on social media. She thanked those who responded to the wish list and stated that the list is being worked on. Councilwoman Barnes also said the committee met with Mr. Ben Zeigler and is looking at ways to preserve the community's history. The committee also received a report regarding community services projects.

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

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson stated the committee discussed the progress of the city's app, which will be launching soon. She stated the committee has been doing a lot of engaging and educating through the city's Facebook account with "did you know" segments and encouraged everyone to visit the city's Facebook page to receive more information.

Finance, Audit and Budget Committee, Chaired by Councilman McCall

Councilman McCall stated the committee received a presentation regarding sports tourism in the City of Florence. The committee also revisited the CARE program to address concerns received from the community.

EXECUTIVE SESSION



**FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING – FEBRUARY 12, 2024**

Mayor Ervin said Council will be entering into Executive Session for a discussion of matters related to an Economic Redevelopment Project, for a discussion of matters relating to an Economic Development Project and for a personnel matter.

Councilwoman Barmes made a motion to enter into Executive Session and Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously (7-0) to enter into Executive Session at 2:34 p.m.

Council resumed open session at 3:20 p.m. and took action on the following items:

Resolution No. 2024-07

A Resolution and Conditional Grant and Development Agreement to provide an incentive for the development of new housing in Historic West Florence as part of the ongoing Neighborhood Redevelopment Project.

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson made a motion to pass Resolution No. 2024-07 and Councilwoman Barmes seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Resolution No. 2024-07 was passed.

ADJOURN

Without objection, the February 12, 2024 Regular meeting of City Council was adjourned at 3:23 p.m.

Dated this 18th day of March 2024.

Casey C. Moore, Municipal Clerk

Teresa Myers Ervin, Mayor



PRESENTATION TO FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL

February 12, 2024

- The Florence Tennis Association (FTA) is a 501(c)3 organization with over 600 hundred volunteer members. Its mission is to grow and develop the sport of tennis in Florence and the surrounding area. We do this by using tennis to serve the community.
- We manage or support dozens of major tournaments every year—from the professional McLeod for Health Florence Open to college, high school, Southern, South Carolina and local recreational events. Last year, tourism revenues from these events amounted to \$ 6.62 Million.
- We manage year-round adult and youth leagues with thousands of players, and provide a tremendous amount of programming for the public—including low-cost beginner clinics and low-cost and free programs for underserved kids.
- Since its inception in 2021, our Ron James Youth Tennis Program has served over 800 underserved area children. This program is part of the US Tennis Association's National Junior Tennis and Learning network, which was founded to combine tennis and education to motivate young people to succeed.
- Diversity is a major theme for the USTA and the FTA. Tennis in Florence does not yet look like our population, but we are pushing it in that direction as hard and as fast as we can.

- The FTA is funded primarily by tournament entry fees, member fees, accommodations tax funding, corporate sponsorships and grants. To date, over \$300,000 in grant money has gone directly into growing local tennis.
- The FTA works closely with City and County governments and area schools to make high-quality tennis courts available to the public. It played a major role in developing the Dr. Eddie Floyd Florence Tennis Center, and has on several occasions helped County and City officials obtain funding to refurbish courts. It has constructed a hitting wall, a storage building and changeover benches at public facilities, and provided scorecards and other amenities for numerous public courts.
- The FTA was named National Community Tennis Association (CTA) of the year in 2007, Southern CTA of the year in 2007 and 2021, and SC CTA of the year four times. It has been honored for community service by the Southern and State Tennis Associations, the SC Parks and Recreation Association, and the Florence Athletic Hall of Fame. FTA leaders are highly respected tennis volunteers at the national, regional, and state levels
- Working together, the City Department of Athletics and Sports Tourism and the FTA have put Florence on the national tennis map.





Florence Tennis Association

TENNIS IN FLORENCE

2023



January 15, 2024

Florence Tennis Association

REPORT ON TENNIS IN FLORENCE - 2023

January 15, 2024

Executive Summary

- Tennis in Florence is growing at a steady rate. This is true when we look at sports tourism and the number of major events coming to the Dr. Eddie Floyd Florence Tennis Center, and when we consider the large number of recreational programs and activities held at the Tennis Center and at other venues, public and private.
- The driving forces behind the continuing success of tennis are year-round good weather, the availability of enough well-maintained courts to support large events and regular recreational activities, conscientious management by the Florence Department of Athletics and Sports Tourism, and steady support from the Florence Tennis Association and the tennis community.
- An estimated 8,800 people played tennis in Florence this past year, including a record number of local residents. Players of all ages and skill levels took part in tournaments, lessons and clinics, adult and junior leagues, outreach programs, and professional, college, high school, and social matches. A number of national and regional events were held at the Florence Tennis Center and other local venues, generating \$6.62 Million in tourism revenues.

Facilities

- The Dr. Eddie Floyd Florence Tennis Center has 30 courts. In addition, there are 11 courts at Timrod Park, 2 at Lucas Park and 2 at Levy Park.
- Florence County has 5 public courts at Ebenezer Park and has requested bids for 2 more, as well as 2 at Greenwood Park just South of the City.
- With prior coordination, event planners can use 18 public high school courts, plus 8 at Francis Marion University, 8 at the Florence Country Club and 6 at the Country Club of South Carolina.

- There are 85 hard surface public, school and club courts. With this number we can recruit mid-size tournaments, although some of the courts are spread around town or in two-court complexes, which discourages some large tournaments from coming to Florence. There are only 14 clay courts, too few for most tournaments.
- We do not have enough centrally located courts to host very large national tournaments.
- There are enough courts for recreational players, although finding places to play can be difficult when major tournaments are under way.
- The buildings at the Tennis Center are adequate, but cramped (the FTA just helped build an additional storage facility). Most other area venues have limited amenities, and some require porta-potties for big events. For major tournaments, parking overflows the lots at the Tennis Center and causes congestion at Timrod Park.

Tournaments

- Florence is becoming an important site for regional and state tournaments, and hopes to entice national events. This can be attributed primarily to our excellent facilities and the strength of our tennis community. Another vital, but intangible factor is credibility: we have always done well as tournament managers and hosts, and both the Dr. Eddie Floyd Florence Tennis Center and the Florence Tennis Association are known and respected in tennis circles nationwide.
- The City of Florence hosted 29 tournaments with 5,330 participants. An estimated 4,400 of these were visitors who were in town for several days.
- These included 2 professional tournaments, 3 college team tournaments, 2 state high school team tournaments, 2 state high school individual tournaments, 2 pre-season high school tournaments, 2 state adult league championships tournaments, 2 USTA adult tournaments, 9 USTA junior tournaments, and 3 FTA social tournaments.
- Most tournaments were managed entirely by Tennis Center staff, FTA volunteers, or both. However, in some cases, staff and volunteers supported management teams from other entities.

City Programs

- The Dr. Eddie Floyd Florence Tennis Center is staffed and equipped to provide a full complement of services to players at all levels. With four full-time employees, three of whom are teaching professionals and five part-timers, it manages 45 courts, including 15 at other locations.
- During 2023 the Tennis Center provided regular individual lessons for adult and junior players of all skill levels. In addition, there were numerous group clinics for adults and four regular clinics for juniors at different ages and skill levels, as well as an Academy for advanced junior players.
- The Center also conducted two week-long summer camps for beginner and intermediate junior players.
- Small group adaptive tennis clinics were provided for individuals with mental disabilities.
- The Tennis Center hosts quarterly Match Play opportunities for high school and junior tournament players. Average attendance is 25.
- Contract pros also teach at the Tennis Center, and can be used to supplement the permanent staff when necessary.

Florence Tennis Association Programs

- An all-volunteer non-profit organization, the FTA has almost 600 members and its programs bring the benefits of tennis to thousands of local residents and visitors. It manages a number of tournaments, the USTA Adult Leagues, and a Junior Team Tennis league. It also offers beginner programs for adults, social events, Cardio and Triples Tennis, and an outreach program for under-served youth.
- USTA Adult Leagues. Over 500 participants played in 477 team matches, which amounts to 3,340 individual play occasions on 1,603 courts. League seasons, which ran for approximately two months each, included Spring Men's and Women's Leagues, a Men's and Women's Combo League, a Mixed Doubles League, Men's and Women's Singles Leagues, and a Social League made up largely of new players.
- Junior Team Tennis. Just under 40 children took part in JTT, which is a competitive program with several age divisions for children who have a basic understanding of the game. This is a significant drop

from the previous year, and the program is expected to grow quickly in 2024.

- Adult beginner classes. There were 11 Tennis 101 classes, each 6 sessions long, during the year. They produced 87 new adult players.
- Cardio Tennis clinics. The FTA held 10 Cardio Tennis events in 2023, with 98 participants.
- Triples Tennis event. An introductory clinic was held near the end of 2023 with 27 players.
- The Ron James Youth Tennis Program. Free multiple-session clinics were provided to 480 under-served children. These included after-school programs at 5 Florence District 1 elementary schools, clinics at District 1 and City summer camps, programs at Boys and Girls Clubs and YMCAs, and Saturday Fun Days at the Tennis Center. A member of the United States Tennis Association's National Junior Tennis & Learning Network, the RJYTP targets youth who would otherwise have limited access to the sport. Its goal is to improve lives through tennis and education.

College Tennis

- The Francis Marion University Men's and Women's teams have 26 student-athletes from 13 countries. In 2023, they played in 25 matches and 3 tournaments.
- Three collegiate tournaments, including the Conference Carolinas Championships, were held in Florence in 2023.
- FMU players participate frequently in community tennis events.

High School Tennis

- All three public high schools had varsity and junior varsity boys' and girls' teams. There were approximately 40 players in each program—a total of 120 for the three schools.
- Private high schools also fielded tennis teams—boys' and girls' at Trinity, and girls' at Florence Christian, Kings Academy and All Saints—adding another 80 to 100 kids.

- Typically, high school seasons include 20 dual team matches and up to 3 tournaments. High school team matches are composed of 5 to 6 individual matches. Conservatively, local high schools played over 230 team matches and at least 1,200 individual matches in 2023.

Other Recreational Play

- The Florence Country Club maintained an active instructional and social tennis program and entered several teams in the Pee Dee Adult Leagues.
- The Country Club of South Carolina tennis program was largely dormant in 2023.
- Florence County conducted instructional and recreational tennis at several sites, including Ebenezer Park on the Western edge of Florence. Several Ebenezer teams competed in the Pee Dee Adult Leagues.
- A significant number of individuals, families and social groups played recreational tennis at public and private venues—a conservative estimate is that at least 2,000 people played recreational tennis on their own.

Economic Impact.

- Tennis generated \$6.62 Million in tourism revenues in 2023, almost half of the amount brought in by all sports.
- During 2023, the FTA received grants totaling \$25,230,51, with \$20,250 earmarked for the Ron James Youth Tennis Program. Over the past 20 years, FTA grant revenue has exceeded \$300,000, all of which has gone back into community tennis.
- Area businesses invested an over \$60,000 in sponsorship, marketing and public awareness funds in tournaments or other events, or in direct support of the FTA and its programs. Sponsorship for the McLeod for Health Florence Open women’s professional tournament added another \$32,000, and included sponsorship grants from USTA Southern, USTA South Carolina, and the FTA.
- The FTA received 2023 Accommodations Tax Awards of \$14,643.39 from the City of Florence and \$2,310.00 from Florence County.

Recognition

- Since the construction of the Dr. Eddie Floyd Florence Tennis Center, our community has gained a reputation as one of the South's tennis hot spots. The City Department of Athletics and Sports Tourism was recently honored as the USTA Southern Parks & Recreation Department of the year for 2023. Earlier, the Dr. Eddie Floyd Tennis Center was named Southern and SC Member Organization of the Year in 2014, and selected as a USTA National Outstanding Tennis Facility in 2022 and a USTA Premier Facility in 2023. It received a Ten-Year Tournament Award from the USTA Pro Circuit in 2023.
- The FTA has helped put Florence on the national tennis map. It was named USTA National Community Tennis Association of the Year in 2007, Southern CTA of the Year in 2021, and SC CTA of the Year in 2004, 2007, and 2013, and won the USTA South Carolina Cam Littlejohn Community Service Award in 2008. Its Boys and Girls High School Tournaments claimed the USTA South Carolina Jim Russell Junior Tournament of the Year Award for in 2016. In addition, the FTA has been recognized for community service by the state Recreation and Parks Association and the Florence Athletic Hall of Fame, and in 2021 the Florence City Council issued a proclamation commending the Ron James Youth Tennis Program. FTA leaders have been asked to speak on community development, diversity, and advocacy at national, Southern and state meetings and conferences.
- Florence is well known in tennis circles in part because tennis volunteers from the FTA have been exceptionally active at the national sectional and state levels for many years. In the past ten years, the FTA has produced 2 USTA committee members; 2 USTA Southern Section Board members and 7 committee chairs or members; 2 USTA South Carolina Presidents, 8 Board members and 29 committee chairs or members. There have also been 3 Southern Tennis Foundation Board members, 2 South Carolina Tennis Patrons Foundation Chairs and 5 Board members, and 3 Florence Area Sports Council Chairs. In addition, FTA volunteers have won every volunteer leadership and service award available at the Southern and state levels. The South Carolina Tennis Hall of Fame contains 2 Florence residents.

Community Value of Tennis

- The value of tennis extends far beyond the dollars and cents it brings into our community. It is demonstrably America's best health and fitness sport, providing both physical conditioning and cardiovascular exercise, and players tend to be healthier than their contemporaries. On average they live 9.7 years longer than other American adults, and significantly longer than people who play any other popular sport.
- Tennis can be played into and well past middle age. In fact, for most players, it is a "sport for a lifetime".
- With its focus on friendly competition and team play, tennis makes it easy to meet new people and make lifelong friends. Its social aspects make it great for relaxation, stress-relief, and quick decompression.
- Everyone is welcome. Lessons are readily available for beginners and there are tennis programs for people of all ages and all levels of ability, including those who are mentally or physically challenged.
- Compared to most sports, the equipment is inexpensive and there are plenty of public courts. In fact, some 80% of American tennis is played in public parks.
- Tennis emphasizes fair play and good sportsmanship. Young players are trained to treat teammates and opponents with respect and "in your face" behavior is not tolerated.
- Students who play tennis regularly, including those from disadvantaged backgrounds, are healthier, do better socially and academically, and have better high school graduation and college acceptance rates than their peers.
- All of these factors explain why tennis is growing steadily across the country and in Florence. End of year 2022 statistics show a 33% increase in play since 2019, with a total of 23.6 million players in the United States. Estimates of 2023 and early 2024 growth, based on equipment sales and court construction, suggest that this boom is continuing.



FLORENCE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

RON JAMES YOUTH TENNIS PROGRAM

NATIONAL JUNIOR TENNIS & LEARNING



**BACKGROUND INFORMATION
FOR THE FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 12, 2024**



Ron James Youth Tennis Program

Program Structure

- The Ron James Youth Tennis Program was created in 2021 to provide tennis instruction and academic assistance to under-served youth in Florence, South Carolina and the surrounding communities. To date, over 800 children between the ages of 6 and 18 have taken part in the program.
- The RJYTP is currently a subsidiary of the all-volunteer, 501(c)3 Florence Tennis Association (FTA) and a member of the United States Tennis Association (USTA) National Junior Tennis and Learning (NJTL) network.
- Within three years we hope to convert the program into a separate non-profit organization. As a first step in this direction, the RJYTP will form its own community-based Board of Directors in November of 2023. This Board will assume all normal Board functions, including governance, fiscal oversight and representational responsibility, while relying on the FTA for continued support.
- The program is funded by grants and local donations. Over the past three years, the RJYTP has received grants from the USTA Foundation, USTA Southern, and the South Carolina Tennis Patrons Foundation. It has also benefited from annual contributions from the FTA and the City of Florence Athletics and Sports Tourism Department, and from the work of its volunteer Fundraising Committee, which is made up of Florence area business leaders. It receives significant pro bono support from the Florence Tennis Center in the form of court usage, meeting space, equipment, and

technical assistance. To date, grants have totaled over \$60,000 and donations over \$17,300.

- The most significant expense is staffing, with smaller amounts for equipment and supplies. We pay part-time tennis pros and a part-time Administrative Coordinator at the prevailing local hourly rates. Of course, we use as many volunteers as possible, and we have put several of them through USTA Community Coaches Courses. Three of us recently completed Level 1 Coaches training and are certified by the Professional Tennis Registry (PTR) to work with children. Over the first three years, incomes have outpaced expenses, allowing us to build a small reserve fund.
- The RJYTP is named for Ron James, a retired educator and tennis professional who managed youth tennis programs for the City of Florence and the FTA and coached the Wilson High School tennis teams. Mr. James, who was loved and respected by everyone in the tennis community, died unexpectedly in 2019.

Tennis

- The RJYTP began on-court tennis instruction during the summer of 2021 and has since provided over 50 after-school, weekend and summer programs. Teaching is done in small-group clinics conducted by certified tennis professionals and trained volunteers using USTA-approved, age-appropriate curricula and equipment. Adults who work directly with children must pass the USTA Safe Play course and background check.
- Clinics are provided to participating youth without cost. We also provide youth racquets and all other necessary equipment.
- Initially, clinics were held at the Dr. Eddie Floyd Florence Tennis Center. However, Covid made that difficult. The RJYTP worked initially with the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Pee Dee and Girls University, but Girls University was forced out of business by the pandemic and the Florence Boys and Girls Club has been unable to provide transportation for months. The Boys and Girls Club and the City of Florence After-School Centers want to resume

lessons at the Tennis Center as soon as their current transportation issues are resolved.

- In April of 2022, the RJYTP began a partnership with Florence School District 1's Extended Day Academy, which serves approximately 560 youngsters at 14 middle and elementary schools. This collaborative program, which features both after-school and summer sessions, is ongoing and has already impacted 11 elementary schools—typically with 16 clinics per school spread over four to eight weeks.
- We also have a partnership with the City of Florence Parks and Recreation Division, which manages after-school youth programs at a number of City Parks. This past summer, we conducted tennis sessions as part of their summer camp. In addition, we worked with the City of Florence, the Florence Tennis Association, and USTA SC to erect fencing around two courts at Levy Park so we can teach after-school clinics at that site. We are pushing for courts at Iola Jones Park or the old Williams Middle School to give us access to another high-density, low-income neighborhood.
- In September 2022, the RJYTP initiated its first regional program with the Hartsville, SC Boys and Girls Club, which is part of the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Pee Dee. Since that time, we have conducted regular training at several other locations in Hartsville and Darlington, including YMCAs, the Darlington Boys and Girls Club and Butler Academy, typically using mini-nets in gyms. We would like to reach out to other Pee Dee Region communities, and are looking for teaching pros in to represent us their home towns.
- In the fall of 2022, we began to hold periodic Saturday Fun Days at the Tennis Center. These are 150-minute trainings that feature drills. Competition, games, and a refreshment break—with the emphasis on fun. Several months ago, when we noticed parents sitting around watching their kids, we began to include adult beginner training, a move that has produced quite a few new players, including some Tennis 101 and league participants. Not coincidentally, some of our most committed kids come from these new tennis families.

- Even though we provide youth racquets for all program participants, we recently started selling new racquets at cost (\$10) to children or other family members. We do this because we know that a family with its own racquets is more likely to stick with the sport. One long-term goal is to give each child a racquet as a graduation gift when he or she completes a course. In addition, we make sure participating families know that they are welcome at all public tennis courts and that the Tennis Center staff will give them loaner racquets and balls on request.

Florence Tennis Association

- The program's parent organization, the FTA, has worked with the City of Florence, Florence County, local tennis pros, businesses, and schools on many projects over the years. An all-volunteer entity managed by a volunteer Board of Directors, the FTA is a registered Community Tennis Association (CTA) chartered as a 501(c)3 organization. As a parent organization, the FTA has given the RJYTP strong and experienced oversight, reliable financial management, enhanced media and social media capacity, D&O and liability insurance and 501(c)3 status.
- One of the nation's strongest Community Tennis Associations, the FTA was national CTA of the Year in 2007 and Southern CTA of the Year in 2021, and has been South Carolina CTA of the year three times since 2004. It won the USTA SC Community Service Award in 2008 and the Southern Community Service Award in 2009, and has been recognized for community service by the SC Recreation and Parks Association and the Florence Athletic Hall of Fame. In March of 2021, the Florence City Council issued a Resolution supporting the Ron James Youth Tennis Program.
- Many FTA members have been tennis volunteers at the state, southern and national levels. In fact, the founders of the RJYTP, Ernie James and Paul Pittman, are FTA Board members and Past Presidents, who have also served as USTA South Carolina Presidents and on the USTA Southern Board and USTA Committees.

- Through its tournaments, training programs, and other activities. The FTA has brought the Florence area nationwide recognition, millions of dollars in tourism revenues and over \$300,000 in tennis facility and program grants.

National Junior Tennis and Learning

- NJTL is a national program founded over 50 years ago by Arthur Ashe and his friends to help children by using tennis to spur academic improvement. Shortly after it was founded the RJYTP sought and obtained membership in the USTA's National Junior Tennis and Learning Network, which oversees and supports over 300 chapters across the country.
- The hallmark of NJTL programs is blending tennis and education to improve academic outcomes. Each of our Florence area partner organizations has an academic enrichment program, but plans call for the RJYTP to develop its own teaching assets within three years. Funds have been set aside for part-time teachers, computers, and online curricula (STEM, English Language, Health and Wellness, and SEL), which will be selected in collaboration with partner organizations.
- Longitudinal studies of NJTL chapters across the country indicate that linking tennis and academic work produces improved academic outcomes in grades K-12 and boosts high school graduation and college acceptance rates. In addition, tennis is an exceptional vehicle for teaching sportsmanship and teamwork. It has been rated the healthiest recreational activity in America, is relatively inexpensive, and can be enjoyed for a lifetime.

Additional Information is available on Request

- Contact Ernie James at ej.tennis@outlook.com or Paul Pittman at pmpittman@gmail.com or 843-667-9804.

LONG LIVE TENNIS

FOR THOSE WHO TENNIS LIVE LONGER

TENNIS INDUSTRY UNITED



HEALTHY HEART

Playing just 3 hours/week will reduce your risk of cardiovascular disease by 56%.



SMASH STRESS

Playing Tennis promotes physical, mental, social, and emotional health which can help with managing stress.



STAY SOCIAL

Tennis helps build and keep friendships and social interactions that enhance well-being and happiness.



IMPROVE YOUR COORDINATION

Playing tennis uses skills that all contribute to good hand-eye coordination and reaction time. Plus, improve your agility and balance.



GET FIT

Playing tennis 150 minutes a week meets global exercise recommendations and increases fitness levels.

To learn more about the amazing benefits of tennis, visit

[TENNISINDUSTRYUNITED.COM/HEALTHBENEFITS](https://tennisindustryunited.com/healthbenefits)

Endorsed by the USTA Sports Science Committee.

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SMASHING BENEFITS OF TENNIS!



THE AMAZING HEALTH BENEFITS OF TENNIS



GOOD GRADES

Tennis requires alertness and tactical thinking, which may generate new connections between nerves in the brain, promoting a lifetime of continued brain development. 48% of youth tennis players have an "A" average and spend more time studying.



COLLEGE BOUND

81% of youth tennis players say they will attend college.



LESS RISKY BEHAVIORS

Youth players report less drinking and cigarette smoking.



PHYSICALLY ACTIVE

Kids who play tennis are less likely to be overweight. They are more likely to gain physical skills that can keep them active for a lifetime.



STRATEGIC PROBLEM SOLVING

Tennis players use geometry and physics principles to evaluate angles to get the best result. This application of knowledge improves problem-solving off the court.



SELF-CONFIDENCE

Tennis players exhibit higher self-esteem and optimism than other athletes or non-athletes. Tennis players show lower tension, anger, and depression, too.

To learn more about the amazing benefits of tennis, visit

[TENNISINDUSTRYUNITED.COM/HEALTHBENEFITS](https://tennisindustryunited.com/healthbenefits)

TENNIS INDUSTRY UNITED



Endorsed by the USTA Sports Science Committee.

2013 USTA Study-Foundation

Pluim, B. M., Staal, J. B., Marks, B. L., Miller, S., & Miley, D. (2007). Health benefits of tennis. *British journal of sports medicine*, 41(11), 760-768. <https://doi.org/10.1136/bjsm.2006.034967>

Kovacs, M., Pluim, B., Groppe, J., Crespo, M., Roeter, E.P., Hainline, B. et al. (2016). *Journal of Medicine and Science in Tennis*. December.

FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: February 12, 2024
AGENDA ITEM: Ordinance
DEPARTMENT/DIVISION: City Council

I. ISSUE UNDER CONSIDERATION:

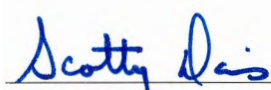
An Ordinance to amend the City of Florence Code of Ordinances Chapter 1.7 and add a new subsection providing that a person who violates any section of the City's Code of Ordinances with the intent to intimidate another person or persons in whole or in part because of the action or perceived race, color, creed, religion, ancestry, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental disability or national origin is guilty of the separate offense of hate intimidation.

II. POINTS TO CONSIDER:

1. South Carolina and Wyoming are the only two states currently without a statewide hate crime statute.
2. The hate intimidation ordinance will create a separate offense and, if found guilty, can be punished by a fine of no more than \$500.00 or by imprisonment for no more than 30 days.
3. Other municipalities, to include Charleston, Columbia and Greenville, have adopted local ordinances that provide some protection against hate intimidation, hate bias, or similar language.

III. ATTACHMENTS:

1. Proposed Ordinance



Scotty Davis

Interim City Manager

ORDINANCE NO. 2023 - _____

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY OF FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA, CHAPTER 1.7, TO ADD A NEW SUBSECTION PROVIDING THAT A PERSON WHO VIOLATES ANY SECTION OF THE CITY'S CODE OF ORDINANCES WITH THE INTENT TO INTIMIDATE ANOTHER PERSON OR PERSONS IN WHOLE OR IN PART BECAUSE OF THE ACTION OR PERCEIVED RACE, COLOR, CREED, RELIGION, ANCESTRY, GENDER, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY, PHYSICAL OR MENTAL DISABILITY OR NATIONAL ORIGIN OF THE OTHER PERSON OR PERSONS IS GUILTY OF THE SEPARATE OFFENSE OF HATE INTIMIDATION AND SHALL BE PUNISHED AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 1.7.

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Florence in meeting duly assembled that:

- a. SECTION 1.7 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Florence, South Carolina, is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows:

Sec. 1-7. - General penalty; continuing violations; hate intimidation

(1) Wherever in this Code, or in any ordinance of the city, or rule, regulation or order promulgated by any officer or agency of the city under authority duly vested in such officer or agency, any act is required, or the failure to do any act is declared to be unlawful or an offense or a misdemeanor, and no specific penalty is provided for the violation thereof, the violator of any such provisions of this Code, or any such ordinance, rule, regulation or order shall be punished by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or by imprisonment for not more than thirty (30) days. Each day any violation of this Code, or any such ordinance, rule, regulation or order shall continue shall constitute, except where otherwise provided, a separate offense.

(2) A person who violates another section of this chapter with the intent to intimidate another person or persons in whole or in part because of the action or perceived race, color, creed, religion, ancestry, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental disability or national origin of the other person or persons is guilty of the separate offense of hate intimidation and shall be punished as provided in Section 1.7(1). The sentences shall run consecutive to one another unless the Court specifies on the record the reason why they should run concurrent.

ENACTED this __ day of _____, 2024.

Approved as to form:

BENJAMIN T. ZEIGLER
CITY ATTORNEY

TERESA MYERS ERVIN
MAYOR

ATTEST:

CASEY C. MOORE
MUNICIPAL CLERK

FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: March 18, 2024
AGENDA ITEM: An ordinance amending the FY 2023-24 budget
DEPARTMENT/DIVISION: Finance

I. ISSUE UNDER CONSIDERATION

For City Council consideration is an ordinance to amend the FY 2023-24 City of Florence Budget.

II. CURRENT STATUS/PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN

No previous action has been taken on this ordinance.

III. POINTS TO CONSIDER

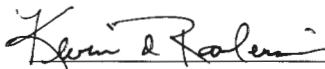
1. The objective of the proposed ordinance is to make one-time capital purchases from funds available from Unassigned Fund Balance of the General Fund. City Council has determined that it wishes to maintain an Unassigned Fund Balance calculated at 30% of total expenditures. For fiscal year 2023, the amount available over 30% is \$6,513,050.
2. Funds are being appropriated from fund balance to provide funding needed capital items. As these capital items are one-time expenditures, it is the best use of excess fund balance using the budget — savings and better than expected revenues to fund these much needed one-time purchases.

IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

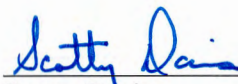
Approve and adopt the proposed ordinance.

V. ATTACHMENTS

A copy of the proposed ordinance is attached.



Kevin D. Rawlinson
Chief Financial Officer



Scotty Davis
Interim City Manager

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2023, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2024

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, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024, 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 \$6,515,000 from Assigned Fund Balance to appropriate monies 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.
- 100390-435100 From Roll Cart & Equipment Replacement Fund is increased in the amount of \$300,000 to fund the purchase of an additional residential sanitation truck.

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 (City Council) is increased in the amount of \$75,000 to recodify the City's Code of Ordinances.
- 10041300-58050 Facility Improvements (City Manager) is funded in the amount of \$40,000 to improve/expand the parking for the City Center Farmers' Market.
- 10042100-580040 Auto Equipment (Police) is increased by \$300,000 to purchase 5 police vehicles.
- 10042200-537000 Vehicle Repair & Maintenance (Fire) is increased in the amount of \$60,000 to refurbish 2 Fire Engines.
- 10042200-580040 Auto Equipment (Fire) is funded in the amount of \$3,090,000 to purchase 1 Ladder Truck (\$2,000,000), 1 Fire Engine (\$1,000,000), and 2 Command Staff Vehicles (\$90,000).
- 10043022-580040 Auto Equipment (Sanitation) is increased in the amount of \$1,100,000 to purchase 2 commercial sanitation trucks (\$800,000) and 1 residential Sanitation Truck (\$300,000).
- 10043024-580050 Facility Improvements (Parks & Recreation) is funded in the amount of \$450,000 to build two dog parks (\$200,000) and to construct an amphitheater at Dr. Iola Jones Park (\$250,000).
- 10043025-580050 Facility Improvements (Athletics) is increased by \$1,300,000 to replace the aged lighting at Freedom Florence with new LED lighting.

FY 2023-2024 Budget Amendment Ordinance (continued)

10046300-531000 Professional Services (Planning) is increased in the amount of \$400,000 to fund a housing study (\$200,000) and a Redevelopment Study (\$200,000).

Section 3. 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.

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

Teresa Myers Ervin
Mayor

Attest:

Casey C. Moore
Municipal Clerk

FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: March 18, 2024

AGENDA ITEM: Ordinance to Annex and Zone 3701 Bannockburn Road, TMN 00152-01-025.

DEPARTMENT/DIVISION: Department of Planning, Research & Development

I. ISSUE UNDER CONSIDERATION:

A request to annex Tax Map Number 00152-01-025 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 February 13, 2024, the Planning Commission held a public hearing regarding the annexation of this 137 acre parcel and voted unanimously, 7-0, 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 currently available. Sewer service is not currently available. The developer is required to extend sewer service to the property for development.
- (3) A Public Hearing for zoning was held at the February 13, 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 Petitions



Clint Moore
Assistant City Manager



Scotty Davis
Interim City Manager

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-_____

AN ORDINANCE TO ANNEX AND ZONE RG-3 THE PARCEL LOCATED AT 3701 BANNOCKBURN ROAD, TMN 00152-01-025.

WHEREAS, a Public Hearing was held in the Council Chambers February 13, 2024 at 6:00 P.M. before the City of Florence Planning Commission, and notice of said hearing was duly given;

WHEREAS, application by John L. Bruce Jr. and Elizabeth Bruce Box, owners of TMN 00152-01-025, 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 00152, block 01, parcel 025 (137.518557 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.**

EXECUTED ON ONE (1) ADDITIONAL PAGE

ADOPTED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2024

Approved as to form:

Benjamin T. Zeigler,
City Attorney

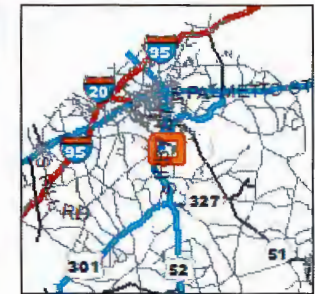
Teresa Myers Ervin,
Mayor

Attest:




Casey C. Moore,
Municipal Clerk

PC 2024-02

Vicinity Map - 3701 Bannockburn Road

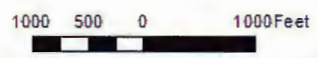


Legend

-  City Limits
-  Parcels
-  Proposed Parcel



DISCLAIMER:
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Date: 1/18/2024

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:
3701 Bannockburn Rd, Florence, SC 29505
Florence County Tax Map Number: 00152-01-025
3. Annexation is being sought for the following purposes:
Single Family Detached Residential Development
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): John L. Bruce, Jr.

Address: 1201 Madison Ave., Florence, SC 29501

Telephone Numbers: 843-992-4736 [work] _____ [home]

Email Address: jobruce2@earthlink.net

Signature *John L. Bruce Jr* Date 1/25/24

Certification as to ownership on the date of petition:	FOR OFFICAL USE ONLY
Date <u>1/18/24</u>	<u>AB</u>

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:
3701 Bannockburn Rd, Florence, SC 29505
Florence County Tax Map Number: 00152-01-025
3. Annexation is being sought for the following purposes:
Single Family Detached Residential Development
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): Elizabeth Bruce Box

Address: 5 Country Club Court, Columbia, SC 29206

Telephone Numbers: _____ [work] _____ [home]

Email Address: _____

Signature Elizabeth Bruce Box Date 1-25-2024

Certification as to ownership on the date of petition:	FOR OFFICAL USE ONLY
Date <u>1/18/24</u>	<u>AB</u>

FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: March 18, 2024

AGENDA ITEM: An Ordinance to annex and zone Neighborhood Conservation – 15 (NC-15) 2506 Parsons Gate, TMN 01221-01-285.

DEPARTMENT/DIVISION: Department of Planning, Research & Development

I. ISSUE UNDER CONSIDERATION:

Request to annex property located at 2506 Parsons Gate, Tax Map Number 01221-01-285, 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 February 13, 2024, the City of Florence Planning Commission held a public hearing on this matter, and voted unanimously, 6-0, to recommend the zoning request of NC-15, Neighborhood Conservation-15.

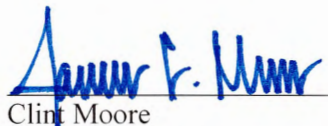
III. POINTS TO CONSIDER:

- (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 February 13, 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.

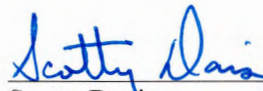
IV. PERSONAL NOTES:

V. ATTACHMENTS:

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



Clint Moore
Assistant City Manager



Scotty Davis
Interim City Manager

ORDINANCE NO. 2024 - _____

**AN ORDINANCE TO ANNEX AND ZONE NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION – 15 (NC-15)
2506 PARSONS GATE, TMN 01221-01-285.**

WHEREAS, a Public Hearing was held in the Council Chambers on February 13, 2024 at 6:00 P.M. before the City of Florence Planning Commission, and notice of said hearing was duly given;

WHEREAS, application by Alpeshkumar Patel, owner of TMN 01221-01-285, 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 285 (0.523395 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

Teresa Myers Ervin,
Mayor




Attest:

Casey C. Moore,
Municipal Clerk

PC 2024-03
Vicinity Map - 2506 Parsons Gate



Legend

-  City Limits
-  Parcels
-  Proposed Parcel



DISCLAIMER:
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0 30 60 Feet

DATE: 11/19/2024

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 01221-01-285

- 3. Annexation is being sought for the following purposes: - for 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
 Race
 Total 18 and Over
 Total Registered to Vote

* Date 01/19/2024

* Alpeesh Patel
Petitioner

Date _____

Petitioner

Certification as to ownership on the date of petition:	FOR OFFICAL USE ONLY
Date <u>1/19/24</u>	<u>AP</u>

FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: March 18, 2024

AGENDA ITEM: Ordinance to Rezone from NC-6.2 to NC-6.3 the two parcels located at 709 and 711 West Darlington Street, TMNs 90060-11-002 and 90060-11-017.

DEPARTMENT/DIVISION: Department of Planning, Research & Development

I. ISSUE UNDER CONSIDERATION:

A request to rezone from Neighborhood Conservation-6.2 (NC-6.2) to Neighborhood Conservation-6.3 (NC-6.3) the two parcels located at 709 and 711 West Darlington Street, said properties being specifically designated in the Florence County Tax Records as Tax Map Numbers 90060-11-002 and 90060-11-017. The request is being made by the owner, Lorenzo Edwards.

II. CURRENT STATUS/PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

On February 13, 2024, the City of Florence Planning Commission held a public hearing regarding the rezoning of these two parcels and voted unanimously (7-0) to approve the rezoning request.

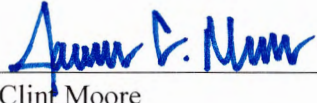
III. POINTS TO CONSIDER:

- (1) City water and sewer are available to the parcels.
- (2) The property is currently zoned Neighborhood Conservation-6.2 (NC-6.2). This zoning designation permits single-family detached, patio home, and duplex uses.
- (3) The owner requests the zoning designation of NC-6.3, Neighborhood Conservation-6.3 District. This zoning designation permits all uses within NC-6.2 as well as townhomes, multiplex, and multifamily with conditions.
- (4) The owner intends to combine the two lots for the development of one four-unit multiplex.
- (5) Section 6-21.7.12 of the *Unified Development Ordinance* requires within 14 days, City Council shall:
 - a. Approve the zone change by ordinance;
 - b. Approve the zone change by ordinance with modifications;
 - c. Deny the zone change; or
 - d. Refer the zone change back to the Planning Commission, the Director, to a committee of Council, or an ad hoc committee for further consideration.

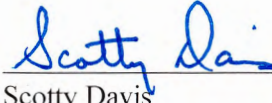
IV. PERSONAL NOTES:

V. ATTACHMENTS:

- A) Ordinance
- B) Vicinity Map
- C) Zoning Map
- D) Future Land Use Map



Clint Moore
Assistant City Manager



Scotty Davis
Interim City Manager

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-_____

AN ORDINANCE TO REZONE PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS 709 AND 711 WEST DARLINGTON STREET, TAX MAP NUMBERS 90060-11-002 AND 90060-11-017 FROM NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION-6.2 ZONING DISTRICT TO NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION-6.3 ZONING DISTRICT:

WHEREAS, a Public Hearing was held in City Council Chambers on February 13, 2024 at 6:00 P.M. before the City of Florence Planning Commission and notice of said hearing was duly given;

WHEREAS, Lorenzo Edwards made application to rezone from Neighborhood Conservation-6.2 to Neighborhood Conservation-6.3 Zoning District;

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 by amending the Zoning Atlas of the City of Florence for the aforesaid properties to Neighborhood Conservation-6.3;**
- 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

Teresa Myers Ervin,
Mayor



Attest:

Casey C. Moore,
Municipal Clerk

PC 2024-04
Vicinity Map - 709 & 711 W. Darlington St.

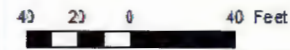


Legend

-  City Limits
-  Parcels



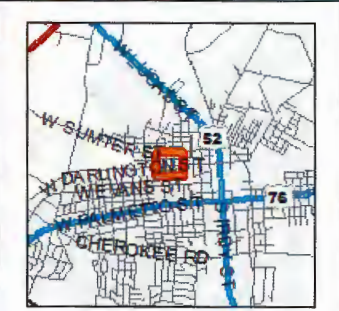
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Date: 1/29/2024

PC 2024-04

Zoning Map - 709 & 711 W. Darlington St.



Legend

- Parcels
- Zoning District**
- Residential Districts**

 - RU
 - PD

- Neighborhood Conservation Sub-Districts**

 - NC-6.2
 - NC-6.3
 - NC-4

- Business and Commercial Districts**

 - CR
 - CA

- Mixed-Use Districts**

 - DS

- Industrial Zoning Districts**

 - IL

- Proposed Parcel

40 20 0 40 Feet

Date: 1/29/2024

PC 2024-04

Future Land Use Map - 709 & 711 W. Darlington St.



Legend

- Parcels
- Proposed Parcel

Future Land Use and Character 2023

FLU_1

- Parks and Open Space
- Suburban Residential
- General Residential
- Urban Residential
- Neighborhood Conservation
- Suburban Commercial
- General Commercial
- Corridor Mixed Use
- Urban Downtown
- Suburban Campuses
- Industrial
- Utilities

40 20 0 40 Feet

Date: 1/29/2024

VII. a.
Resolution No.
2024-10

FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: March 18, 2024
AGENDA ITEM: Resolution
DEPARTMENT/DIVISION: City Council
Sponsored by Councilman Chaquez McCall

I. ISSUE UNDER CONSIDERATION:

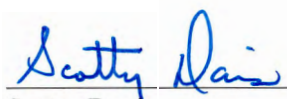
A Resolution to adopt the South Carolina Municipal Association 2024 Advocacy Initiatives.

II. POINTS TO CONSIDER:

1. The Municipal Association of South Carolina identified major challenges facing cities and towns in the state through an all-inclusive process involving hundreds of municipal officials.
2. The 2024 Advocacy Initiatives represent solutions to challenges that can be addressed through changes to state law.

III. ATTACHMENTS:

1. Proposed Resolution
2. 2024 Advocacy initiatives



Scotty Davis
Interim City Manager

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

Resolution No. 2024-10

A Resolution to adopt the South Carolina Municipal Association 2024 Advocacy Initiatives.

WHEREAS, cities and towns in South Carolina are the government closest to the people providing the core services residents and businesses demand for an exceptional quality of life; and

WHEREAS, local decisions affecting residents and local businesses should be made by local leaders; and

WHEREAS, cities and towns seek to make numerous small changes in current state law to support new and existing local industry and businesses, changes in public health and safety, and continuity of service delivery; and

WHEREAS, cities and towns seek to support legislation that adds more tools to the toolbox for local governments to expand and create programs to help residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, the City of Florence fully supports the 2024 advocacy initiatives set forth by the Municipal Association of SC board of directors for city and town councils to govern effectively and efficiently; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the City Council of the City of Florence affirms its support for the Municipal Association's 2024 advocacy initiatives for the benefit of all of South Carolina's 271 cities and towns.

RESOLVED THIS 18th DAY OF MARCH 2024.

Approved as to form:

BENJAMIN T. ZEIGLER
CITY ATTORNEY

TERESA MYERS ERVIN
MAYOR

ATTEST:

CASEY C. MOORE
MUNICIPAL CLERK

The Municipal Association's 2024-2025 advocacy initiatives include these items:

- Protect the authority of cities and towns to regulate short-term rentals within municipal boundaries.
- Support statewide hate crimes legislation.
- Allow cities and towns to close doughnut holes, or enclaves, in their municipal limits through a local annexation process.
- Allow cities and towns with no property millage to impose a millage with certain limitations.
- Support additional funding in the state budget and other resources for mental health services.

FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

VII. b.
Resolution No.
2024-11

DATE: March 18, 2024
AGENDA ITEM: Resolution
DEPARTMENT/DIVISION: City Council
Sponsored by Mayor Pro Tempore George Jebaily

I. ISSUE UNDER CONSIDERATION:

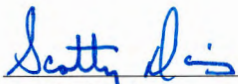
A Resolution of Appreciation for Chief Administrative Judge Debbie Jackson.

II. POINTS TO CONSIDER:

1. Debbie Jackson graduated from Francis Marion University and received her juris doctorate from the University of South Carolina School of Law.
2. Judge Jackson was sworn in as the City of Florence Municipal Judge in 2009.
3. Judge Jackson was instrumental in the creation of Homeless Court and Livability Court in the City of Florence. She also revamped the Municipal Court department to add part-time judges.
4. Judge Jackson will retire from the City of Florence on April 1, 2024.

III. ATTACHMENTS:

1. Proposed Resolution



Scotty Davis
Interim City Manager

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-11

**A RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR
ADMINISTRATIVE CHIEF JUDGE DEBRA JACKSON.**

WHEREAS, Judge Debra O. Jackson graduated from Wilson High School in 1976, graduated from Francis Marion University in 1980 and received her juris doctorate from the University of South Carolina School of Law in 1983; and

WHEREAS, Judge Jackson began her legal career serving as law clerk for the S.C Court of Appeals. Following clerkship, Judge Jackson served as city prosecutor and staff attorney for the City of Florence in 1984; Assistant Solicitor of Horry County from 1985 to 1988; and served as a part-time Chief Judge for the City of Florence in 1988; and

WHEREAS, in 1988, Judge Jackson transitioned to private law practice with a focus on criminal defense in State and Federal Court where she served for over twenty years until she was sworn in as the City of Florence Municipal Judge in 2009; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure as Administrative Chief Judge, Judge Jackson revamped the Municipal Court department to include several part-time judges, created Livability Court, created Homeless Court, coached the Wilson High School Mock Trial team, judged for the SC Mock Trial competitions, and organized and conducted seminars for the SC Summary Court Judges; and

WHEREAS, Judge Jackson is a distinguished jurist who is highly regarded by her peers in the legal community. She is the first woman to be named President of the Florence County Bar Association; a founding member and the first woman to be named President of the South Carolina Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers; Chairwoman of People’s Law School with the Florence County Bar; a member of the SC Supreme Court Commission on Continuing Legal Education; and a member of the SC Supreme Court Commission on Lawyer Conduct; and

WHEREAS, Judge Jackson has presided on the bench with integrity and wisdom during her tenure as Administrative Chief Judge working tirelessly to fulfill her commitment to justice in the City of Florence.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the City Council of the City of Florence, does hereby recognize and appreciate the passion and unwavering dedication that Judge Jackson has bestowed in her service as Administrative Chief Judge to the City of Florence.

RESOLVED THIS 18th DAY OF MARCH 2024.

Approved as to form:

BENJAMIN T. ZEIGLER
CITY ATTORNEY

TERESA MYERS ERVIN
MAYOR

ATTEST:

CASEY C. MOORE
MUNICIPAL CLERK

VIII. a.
Appts. to Boards
And Commissions

FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: March 18, 2024
AGENDA ITEM: Report to Council
DEPARTMENT/DIVISION: City Council

I. ISSUE UNDER CONSIDERATION:

Council will consider nominations for City Boards and/or Commissions.

II. CURRENT STATUS/PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

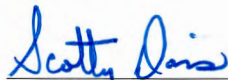
1. There is one (1) Board or Commission that has either a vacancy and/or expired term.

III. POINTS TO CONSIDER:

1. Each member of a City of Florence Board or Commission shall be either a resident of the city, a representative of a business or other organization located or operating within the city, or a non-resident having professional qualifications which are required for a position, and, in the council's opinion, there are no acceptable and qualified residents to fill the vacancy.
2. Members of the boards and commissions shall be appointed in consideration of their professional expertise, knowledge of the community, and concern for the future welfare of the total community and its citizens.

IV. ATTACHMENTS:

1. Spreadsheet of Council Nominations to Boards and Commissions.
2. Nomination Packet.



Scotty Davis
Interim City Manager

SCHEDULE OF COUNCIL NOMINATIONS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS - MARCH 2024

	District 1	District 2	District 3	At-Large 1	At-Large 2	At-Large-3	Mayor
	Jackson	Smith	Braddock	Jebaily	Barnes	McCall	Ervin
Housing Authority			X				

HOUSING AUTHORITY

I. NOMINATIONS:

There is one (1) vacancy* on the Housing Authority.

*Mr. Douglas Hawkins has resigned from his position on the Housing Authority. The unexpired term of Mr. Hawkins will expire on 6/30/2025.

II. APPOINTMENT REQUIREMENTS:

- Each member shall be either a resident of the city, a representative of a business or other organization located or operating within the city, or a non-resident having professional qualifications which are required for a position, and, in the council's opinion, there are no acceptable and qualified residents to fill the vacancy.

III. COUNCILMEMBER(S) TO MAKE NOMINATION:

- Councilman Braddock

IV. APPLICANT(S):

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| • Vanietta Armstrong | • Tatyana Lance |
| • Michelle Barr | • Terry Law |
| • Diamond Boatwright | • Terester McAlister-Kassa |
| • Connie Covington | • Marion McDowell |
| • Elizabeth Ellis | • Vanessa Murray |
| • Dalphanie Gamble | • Wanda Vereen |
| • Cassandra Jackson | • Shelby White |
| • Anjennette James | |

V. ATTACHMENTS:

- Letter of resignation
- Applications received

R. Douglas Hawkins
663 Malclay Lane
Florence, South Carolina 29505

November 27, 2023

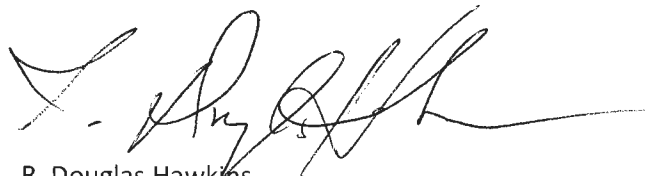
Casey Moore
Clerk of Council of Florence
324 W. Evans Street
Florence, SC 29501

Dear Ms. Moore,

I hereby give my resignation from the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of Florence, effective December 8, 2023.

It has been a honor to serve on the Board of Commissioners. Thank you for the opportunity and your support over the years.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Douglas Hawkins', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

R. Douglas Hawkins

Cc: Members of City Council

City of Florence Boards and Commissions Application

Form Status

Notes:

Board or Commission for which you are applying:

Housing Authority

Council District County

District 1

Florence

Your Name

vanietta armstrong

Email Address

Vanweb108@hotmail.com

Residential Address

✓1888 Sloane Lane, FLORENCE, SC, South Carolina
29501

Mailing Address

1888 Sloane Lane, FLORENCE, SC, South Carolina
29501

Your Occupation - Title

Supervisory Grants Management Specialist

Business Phone

(240) 505-2823

Residence Phone

(240) 505-2823

Employer Name

Veterans Administration

Employer Address

1888 Sloane Lane

City

FLORENCE

State

South Carolina

, SC

General Qualifications

Are you a resident of the City?

Yes

If so, how Long?

2

Why would you like to serve?

I think my experience as a manager and degrees in social sciences and business will be of benefit. Also, want to contribute positively to our community.

Do you presently serve on any Commissions/ Boards of the City/ County/ State? If so, please list:

No

Have you formerly served on any Commissions/ Boards of the City/ County/ State? If so, please list:

No

Are you currently in a position of responsibility with an organization or board that has received or is seeking funding from the City of Florence? Yes/No

No

If so, list the position and date:

Are you involved in any Community Activities?

Yes

If so, please list:

Member of my HOA landscaping committee

What are your goals and objectives if appointed to the Commission/Board?

I manage and lead in the development of my agency strategic planning framework to ensure compatibility of systems and processes that provide a seamless delivery of adaptive services for veterans, stakeholders and other partners with access/awareness of current programs and projects. In addition, as director I appraise prospective grant applications responding to Notice of Funding Opportunities. Moreover, I conduct case audits to ensure the individual program managers individual portfolios are in compliance. As a result, I am confident that the technical skills and applied knowledge I have gained from previous

experience renders me an ideal candidate so serve on the board.

I certify that the information above is true and correct.

Today's Date
9/16/2023

Yanietta Armstrong

Information on this form will be considered public.

Today's Date
9/16/2023

YA

City of Florence Boards and Commissions Application

Form Status

Notes:

Board or Commission for which you are applying:

Housing Authority

Council District County

District 1

Florence

Your Name

Dr. Michelle Barr

Email Address

michellebarr41@gmail.com

Residential Address

3328 Ballpark Rd, Effingham, South Carolina 29541

Mailing Address

3328 BALLPARK RD, Effingham, South Carolina 29541

Your Occupation - Title

Management

Business Phone

(843) 519-5200

Residence Phone

(843) 617-5848

✓ Employer Name

Staybridge

Employer Address

150 Westpark Dr

City

Florence

State

South Carolina

General Qualifications

Are you a resident of the City?

No

If so, how Long?

Why would you like to serve?

I want to put Love into Action. Galations 5:14 You shall love your neighbor as yourself. My main focus is to "reach" and "show" Godly Love to everyone. Improvement and community building.

Do you presently serve on any Commissions/ Boards of the City/ County/ State? If so, please list:

No

Have you formerly served on any Commissions/ Boards of the City/ County/ State? If so, please list:

No

Are you currently in a position of responsibility with an organization or board that has received or is seeking funding from the City of Florence? Yes/No

No

If so, list the position and date: Are you involved in any Community Activities? If so, please list:

No

What are your goals and objectives if appointed to the Commission/Board?

Change is my number one force. It's time to look out for the people needs, it's time to put our words to work. Doing small things with Godly love is my main objectives.

City of Florence Boards and Commissions Application

Form Status

Notes:

Board or Commission for which you are applying:
Housing Authority

Council District **County**
District 1 Florence

Your Name
Boatwright, Diamond

Email Address
hol@safe4families.com

Residential Address
201 HONEYSUCKLE LN, FLORENCE, South
Carolina 29506

Mailing Address
201 HONEYSUCKLE LN, FLORENCE, South
Carolina 29506

Your Occupation - Title
Business Service Consultant

Business Phone
(843) 799-7079

Residence Phone
(843) 799-7039

Employer Name
✓ SC Works (Eckerd)

Employer Address
1558 W Evans St

City
Florence

State
South Carolina

General Qualifications

Are you a resident of the City?
No

If so, how Long?

Why would you like to serve?

To serve the Florence community and build connections to support the residents.

Do you presently serve on any Commissions/ Boards of the City/ County/ State?
No

If so, please list:

Have you formerly served on any Commissions/ Boards of the City/ County/ State?
No

If so, please list:

Are you currently in a position of responsibility with an organization or board that has received or is seeking funding from the City of Florence? **Yes/No**
No

If so, list the position and date:

Are you involved in any Community Activities?

If so, please list:

No

What are your goals and objectives if appointed to the Commission/Board?

To help provide any needed assistance and equality housing to the Florence Community.

City of Florence Boards and Commissions Application

Form Status

Notes:

Board or Commission for which you are applying:
Housing Authority

Council District **County**
District 1 Florence

Your Name
Connie Covington

Email Address
connie_covington2000@yahoo.com

✓ **Residential Address**
1155 Annelle Dr Florence SC 29505, Florence,
South Carolina 29505

Mailing Address
1155 Annelle Dr Florence SC 29505, Florence,
South Carolina 29505

Your Occupation - Title
State Government (SCDSS Retired 2016)

Business Phone **Residence Phone**
 (843) 992-3802

Employer Name **Employer Address** **City** **State**
 South Carolina

General Qualifications

Are you a resident of the City? **If so, how Long?** **Why would you like to serve?**
Yes 47 I have the desire to study, learn and
interact with all to improve the Housing
situation in Florence.

Do you presently serve on any Commissions/ Boards of the City/ County/ State? **If so, please list:**
No

Have you formerly served on any Commissions/ Boards of the City/ County/ State? **If so, please list:**
No

Are you currently in a position of responsibility with an organization or board that has received or is seeking funding from the City of Florence? **Yes/No**
No

If so, list the position and date: **Are you involved in any Community Activities?** **If so, please list:**
No

What are your goals and objectives if appointed to the Commission/Board?

I have always been in a position of helping others nearly all my life. I review the vacancies once a year and this year I decided to apply for Housing Authority due to the deteriorating and delapidating homes which have increased in some neighborhoods.

City of Florence Boards and Commissions Application

Form Status

Notes:

Board or Commission for which you are applying:

Housing Authority

Council District County

District 1

Florence

Your Name

Elizabeth Ann Ellis

Email Address

elizabeth.ellis433@gmail.com

Residential Address

✓ 1216 Waverly Ave, Florence, South Carolina 29501

Mailing Address

1216 Waverly Ave, Florence, South Carolina 29501

Your Occupation - Title

RN-Retired

Business Phone

Residence Phone

(843) 468-6805

Employer Name

Employer Address

City

State

South Carolina

General Qualifications

Are you a resident of the City?

Yes

If so, how Long?

38

Why would you like to serve?

I believe a safe and stable home is the right of every American family and when this is not possible the family suffers additional complex challenges such as, interruption of education of children and breakdowns of relationships. I lived in Housing Authority apartments when in nursing school and rented apartments and houses in Florence until I was able to purchase my current home. I have experienced low income, lack of transportation, brought up my children alone after divorce and experienced the uncertainty and anxiety when dealing with agencies meant to help the poor. I am fair, objective, willing to listen to others and to speak up if policies or actions are not in the best interest of citizens who are in need of housing. I have empathy for those facing financial problems and know human beings can improve their lives when support agencies, such as the Housing Authority treat them with respect and honesty. As a retired professional I have the time to learn the responsibilities of being a Florence Housing Authority Council Member and have years of experience living and working in Florence and Darlington Countities. I am also familiar with surrounding counties of Marlboro, Chesterfield, Dillion, Lee and

Marion. I think I would be a valuable addition to the Council.

Do you presently serve on any Commissions/ Boards of the City/ County/ State? If so, please list:
No

Have you formerly served on any Commissions/ Boards of the City/ County/ State? If so, please list:
No

Are you currently in a position of responsibility with an organization or board that has received or is seeking funding from the City of Florence? Yes/No
No

If so, list the position and date:	Are you involved in any Community Activities? Yes	If so, please list: Service on the Mayors Youth Initiative, Member of the Support Team for the Community Empowerment Center, 1113 Oakland Ave, established a Junior Youth Empowerment Program group and a Baha'i Children's Class on Waverly Ave and hosted neighborhood interfaith prayer gatherings.
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What are your goals and objectives if appointed to the Commission/Board?

1. To understand the operational mandate of the Housing Authority.
2. To learn what policies and procedures ensure meeting the specific elements of the governing mandate.
3. To learn about the quality assurance program.
4. To learn how well the quality assurance program is implemented and what the results are over the last 5 years
5. To ensure decisions are clear, transparent and documented for public knowledge.
6. To ensure the well being of residents of Housing Authority is assessed regularly and documented in resident surveys.
7. To learn what the maintenance plan is for all Housing Authority complexes and if the maintenance is being completed effectively.
8. To review complaints, to learn how complaints are handled and to learn how long it is taking to effectively address each complaint.
9. To learn the financial status and budget of Housing Authority.
10. To meet the full time managers and employees and to understand each employee's job or role.

City of Florence Boards and Commissions Application

Form Status

Notes:

Board or Commission for which you are applying:

Housing Authority

Council District County

District 1

Florence

Your Name

Dalphanie Gamble

Email Address

dalphaniegamblerealtor@gmail.com

Residential Address

✓ 1603 Bellevue Drive, Florence, South Carolina
29501

Mailing Address

1603 Bellevue Drive, Florence, South Carolina
29501

Your Occupation - Title

Realtor

Business Phone

Residence Phone

(843) 615-6375

Employer Name

Self Employed

Employer Address

2011 Second Loop Road
Suite C

City

Florence

State

South Carolina

General Qualifications

Are you a resident of the City?

Yes

If so, how Long?

14

Why would you like to serve?

My desire to become a board member comes from my passion of helping and positively impacting others. I have worked as Paralegal over the past 14 years, as a local Realtor for past 6 years and I am currently finishing up my Bachelors of Psychology degree. I am a person of integrity and I know that the skills, knowledge and expertise that I possess will be an asset to the Board.

Do you presently serve on any Commissions/ Boards of the City/ County/ State? If so, please list:

No

Have you formerly served on any Commissions/ Boards of the City/ County/ State? If so, please list:

No

Are you currently in a position of responsibility with an organization or board that has received or is seeking funding from the City of Florence? Yes/No

No

If so, list the position and date:

Are you involved in any Community Activities?

If so, please list:

No

What are your goals and objectives if appointed to the Commission/Board?

My goal as a board member will be to strengthen professional skills, collaborate with others and contribute to the organizations strategic direction.

I certify that the information above is true and correct.

Today's Date
7/11/2023

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Dustin', written in a cursive style.

Information on this form will be considered public.

Today's Date
7/11/2023

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'W. J. ...', written in a cursive style.

City of Florence Boards and Commissions Application

Form Status

Notes:

Board or Commission for which you are applying:

Housing Authority

Council District County

District 1

Florence

Your Name

Cassandra R. Jackson

Email Address

caseyjackson127@gmail.com

Residential Address

1772 Williamsburg Circle, Florence, South Carolina
29506

Mailing Address

1772 Williamsburg Circle, Florence, South Carolina
29506

Your Occupation - Title

Senior Accountant/Fiscal Analyst

Business Phone

(843) 664-2741

Residence Phone

(843) 615-6726

Employer Name

✓ SCDDSN

Employer Address

714 National Cemetery Rd

City

Florence

State

South Carolina

General Qualifications

Are you a resident of the City?

No

If so, how Long?

Why would you like to serve?

Having once lived in public housing, I would like to give back by using my education, knowledge and skills to help my community.

Do you presently serve on any Commissions/ Boards of the City/ County/ State? If so, please list:

No

Have you formerly served on any Commissions/ Boards of the City/ County/ State? If so, please list:

No

Are you currently in a position of responsibility with an organization or board that has received or is seeking funding from the City of Florence? Yes/No

Yes

If so, list the position and date:

Treasurer of WHSAA 2018 -
current

Are you involved in any Community Activities?

Yes

If so, please list:

Active member of Alpha Kappa Alpha, Inc., Order of Eastern Star, NCNW, WHSAA and various organizations that serve the Florence community as a whole.

What are your goals and objectives if appointed to the Commission/Board?

To help ensure the residents of Florence have safe, affordable, accessible and adequate public housing that would be beneficial to them becoming productive citizens of their community.

City of Florence Boards and Commissions Application

Form Status

Notes:

Board or Commission for which you are applying:

Housing Authority

Council District County

District 1

Florence

Your Name

Terester McAlister-Kassa

Email Address

Sisters4thefuture@gmail.com

Residential Address

2100 Rosemary Ave., Florence, South Carolina
29505

Mailing Address

same, South Carolina

Your Occupation - Title

Clinician Counselors MS

Business Phone

(843) 317-4073

Cell Phone

(843) 610-4549

Employer Name

Department Mental
Health

✓ Employer Address

125 E. Cheves Street

City

Florence

State

South Carolina

General Qualifications

Are you a resident of the City?

Yes

If so, how Long?

3

Why would you like to serve?

I would like to serve on housing to hold elderly, and disabilities families together. I want to see more workshops within the community to discussed various topics related to financial self-sufficiency, disaster preparedness for program participants so families can get knowledge to move on from poverty to be independently.

Do you presently serve on any Commissions/ Boards of the City/ If so, please list:

County/ State?

No

Have you formerly served on any Commissions/ Boards of the If so, please list:

City/ County/ State?

No

Are you currently in a position of responsibility with an organization or board Yes/No
that has received or is seeking funding from the City of Florence? No

If so, list the position and date:

Are you involved in any Community
Activities?

Yes

If so, please list:

Sisters4thefuture women helping womens.in the communities.

What are your goals and objectives if appointed to the Commission/Board?

I hope to support homeownership underserved families and to help the needs of harmlessness, promote self-sufficiency residents and other health and safety risks for families.

I certify that the information above is true and correct.

Todays Date
2/21/2024

Handwritten signature consisting of the letters 'T', 'M', and 'K' separated by dots.

Information on this form will be considered public.

Todays Date
2/21/2024

Handwritten signature consisting of the letters 'T', 'M', and 'K' separated by dots.

City of Florence Boards and Commissions Application

Form Status

Notes:

Board or Commission for which you are applying:

Housing Authority

Council District County

District 1

Florence

Your Name

James, Anjennette Moses

Email Address

Qmoses@sc.rr.com

Residential Address

✓ 3670 West Pointe Dr, Florence, South Carolina
29501

Mailing Address

3670 West Pointe Dr, Florence, South Carolina
29501

Your Occupation - Title

Director of School Counseling

Business Phone

(803) 420-4010

Residence Phone

(843) 495-6811

Employer Name

Lee County School
District

Employer Address

310 Roland St

City

Bishopville

State

South Carolina

General Qualifications

Are you a resident of the City?

Yes

If so, how Long?

1985

Why would you like to serve?

I was once a resident and used the housing authority system until I no longer needed them. I moved from subsidized housing to paying full rent in a house. My thoughts then lead me to gain the confidence to no longer want to pay rent but choose to own. I am still residing in the same home I purchased. I have been a home owner for 15 years. I want to model my example for others so they can gain the same confidence.

Do you presently serve on any Commissions/ Boards of the City/ County/ State? If so, please list:

No

Have you formerly served on any Commissions/ Boards of the City/ County/ State? If so, please list:

No

Are you currently in a position of responsibility with an organization or board that has received or is seeking funding from the City of Florence? Yes/No

No

If so, list the position and date:

Are you involved in any Community Activities?

No

If so, please list:

Not directly. I have a great friend who is actively involved and I try

to support her in all of her endeavors involving the community.

What are your goals and objectives if appointed to the Commission/Board?

My goal is to listen, help, and advocate for the residence that are part of the Housing Authority system. If possible, I would like to help initiate some initiatives that can help those that have a desire to progress to homeownership. This can be in the form of Budget workshops, Explaining the importance of maintaining Good Credit, etc.

I certify that the information above is true and correct.

Today's Date

6/22/2023

Anjennette Moses James

Information on this form will be considered public.

Today's Date

6/22/2023

Anjennette Moses James

City of Florence Boards and Commissions Application

Form Status

Notes:

Board or Commission for which you are applying:

Housing Authority

Council District County

District 3

Florence

Your Name

Lance, Tatyana G

Email Address

lancetatyana@hotmail.com

Residential Address

3815 Ervin Thomas Rd, Effingham, South Carolina
29541

Mailing Address

3815 Ervin Thomas Rd, Effingham, South Carolina
29541

Your Occupation - Title

Early Intervention Specialist

Business Phone

(843) 667-9414

Residence Phone

(843) 687-5438

✓ Employer Name

HopeHealth Inc

Employer Address

360 N Irby St

City

Florence

State

South Carolina

General Qualifications

Are you a resident of the City?

Yes

If so, how Long?

Why would you like to serve?

I will like to serve the citizens of Florence in this capacity because I can be a voice for the people. Through my professional experience, I have had the pleasure of meeting people who are housing authority tenants and hearing their compliments and concerns. By serving I will be able to make sure their voices are heard.

Do you presently serve on any Commissions/ Boards of the City/ County/ State? If so, please list:

No

Have you formerly served on any Commissions/ Boards of the City/ County/ State? If so, please list:

No

Are you currently in a position of responsibility with an organization or board that has received or is seeking funding from the City of Florence? Yes/No

No

If so, list the position and date:

Are you involved in any Community Activities?

Yes

If so, please list:

Junior League of Florence

What are your goals and objectives if appointed to the Commission/Board?

My goal if appointed is to use my educational and professional experience to help improve the quality of assisted housing and increase tenant's satisfaction. Also, help provide ways for self-sufficiency and create more ways to strengthen partnerships.

City of Florence Boards and Commissions Application

Form Status

Notes:

Board or Commission for which you are applying:

Housing Authority

Council District County

District 1

South Carolina

Your Name

Terry Law

Email Address

terryblaw@AOL.COM

Residential Address

3088 brandonwood RD, Florence, South Carolina
29505

Mailing Address

3088 BRANDWOOD RD, FLORENCE, South
Carolina 29506

Your Occupation - Title

CHAPLIN PASTOR EDUCATOR

Business Phone

(843) 629-8831

Cell Phone

(843) 618-4572

✓ Employer Name

Employer Address

City

State

SMITH FUNERAL HOME 307 JOHN STREET

South Carolina

General Qualifications

Are you a resident of the City?

No

If so, how Long?

63

Why would you like to serve?

Giving back to my Community beind an advocates trying to use my voice to make a differenceadvocating andmotivation and empowering to be the voicesand navigate the roleof laws and policy and legislation.

Do you presently serve on any Commissions/ Boards of the City/ If so, please list:

County/ State?

No

Have you formerly served on any Commissions/ Boards of the If so, please list:

City/ County/ State?

No

Are you currently in a position of responsibility with an organization or board Yes/No
that has received or is seeking funding from the City of Florence? No

If so, list the position and date:

N/A

Are you involved in any Community If so, pleae list:
Activities?

No

What are your goals and objectives if appointed to the Commission/Board?

To be a teamplayer to be a strong voices and advocate and development opportunity to share and see that the people voices be heard and valued to make a differencein the organization and to ensure the

policy are carried out.

**I certify that the information above is true
and correct.**

Today's Date
12/12/2023

Terry & Law

**Information on this form will be considered
public.**

Today's Date
12/12/2023

TERRY LAW

City of Florence Boards and Commissions Application

Form Status

Notes:

Board or Commission for which you are applying:

Housing Authority

Council District County

District 1

Florence

Your Name

Marion McDowell

Email Address

mm4sport@aol.com

Residential Address

1120 Elmgrove Ave, Florence, South Carolina
29506

Mailing Address

1120 Elmgrove Ave, Florence, South Carolina
29506

Your Occupation - Title

Retired

Business Phone

Cell Phone

(843) 617-3084

Employer Name

Employer Address

City

State

South Carolina

General Qualifications

Are you a resident of the City?

Yes

If so, how Long?

51

Why would you like to serve?

Because I feel I can be of service to this Board and the community

Do you presently serve on any Commissions/ Boards of the City/ County/ State? If so, please list:

No

Have you formerly served on any Commissions/ Boards of the City/ County/ State? If so, please list:

No

Are you currently in a position of responsibility with an organization or board that has received or is seeking funding from the City of Florence? Yes/No

No

If so, list the position and date:

Are you involved in any Community Activities? If so, please list:

No

What are your goals and objectives if appointed to the Commission/Board?

One is to work with the other members on the board and for the. Betterment of the Housing Authority program.

City of Florence Boards and Commissions Application

Form Status

Notes:

Board or Commission for which you are applying:

Housing Authority

Council District

District 1

County

Florence

Your Name

Vamessa Murray

Email Address

vanessa.murray@coker.edu

Residential Address

✓ 713 c Oakland ave, Florence, South Carolina 29506

Mailing Address

713 c Oakland ave, Florence, South Carolina 29506

Your Occupation - Title

Weldon Community Unity Foundation

Business Phone

(843) 206-2572

Residence Phone

(843) 206-2572

Employer Name

Employer Address

713 APT C OAKLAND AV,e

City

Florence

State

South Carolina

General Qualifications

Are you a resident of the City?

Yes

If so, how Long?

Why would you like to serve?

I am a Resident of Housing Authority and would like to offer my experience in serving residents.

Do you presently serve on any Commissions/ Boards of the City/ County/ State?

Yes

If so, please list:

Planning Commission

Have you formerly served on any Commissions/ Boards of the City/ County/ State?

Yes

If so, please list:

Housing Authority

Are you currently in a position of responsibility with an organization or board that has received or is seeking funding from the City of Florence?

Yes/No
No

If so, list the position and date:

Are you involved in any Community Activities?

Yes

If so, please list:

What are your goals and objectives if appointed to the Commission/Board?

As a resident of Housing Authority, I am able to offer insight and resources that are essential to all residents.

City of Florence Boards and Commissions Application

Form Status

Notes:

Board or Commission for which you are applying:

Housing Authority

Council District County

District 1

Florence

Your Name

Vereen, Wanda L

Email Address

wvereen@hofh.org

Residential Address

1011 S Hanover Road, Florence, South Carolina
29501

Mailing Address

1011 S Hanover Road, Florence, South Carolina
29501

Your Occupation - Title

VP Client Services

Business Phone

(843) 667-9000 x442

Residence Phone

(843) 245-0315

✓ **Employer Name**

House of Hope of the
Pee Dee

Employer Address

1020 W Darlington Street

City

Florence

State

South Carolina

General Qualifications

Are you a resident of the City?

No

If so, how Long?

Why would you like to serve?

I currently work in Florence County. I want to be a part of insuring affordable housing opportunities to those who meet the criteria.

Do you presently serve on any Commissions/ Boards of the City/ County/ State? If so, please list:

No

Have you formerly served on any Commissions/ Boards of the City/ County/ State? If so, please list:

No

Are you currently in a position of responsibility with an organization or board that has received or is seeking funding from the City of Florence? Yes/No

Yes

If so, list the position and date: Are you involved in any Community Activities? If so, please list:

No One Unsheltered (NOU) Board
for 2 years

No

What are your goals and objectives if appointed to the Commission/Board?

I want to be a part of insuring affordable housing opportunities to those who meet the criteria.

City of Florence Boards and Commissions Application

Form Status

Notes:

Board or Commission for which you are applying:

Housing Authority

Council District County

District 1

Florence

Your Name

Shelby White

Email Address

Sdeanwhite1@aol.com

Residential Address

✓ 8793 Panther Path, Timmons ville, South Carolina
29161

Mailing Address

Same, South Carolina

Your Occupation - Title

Chaplain

Business Phone

(803) 896-3100

Cell Phone

(803) 477-1378

Employer Name

South Carolina
Department of
Corrections

Employer Address

1579 Clarence Coker Hwy

City

Turbeville

State

South Carolina

General Qualifications

Are you a resident of the City?

Yes

If so, how Long?

3

Why would you like to serve?

I would like to serve to be a help to others.

Do you presently serve on any Commissions/ Boards of the City/ If so, please list:

County/ State?

No

Have you formerly served on any Commissions/ Boards of the If so, please list:

City/ County/ State?

No

Are you currently in a position of responsibility with an organization or board Yes/No
that has received or is seeking funding from the City of Florence? No

If so, list the position and date:

Are you involved in any Community
Activities?

If so, please list:

No

What are your goals and objectives if appointed to the Commission/Board?

To assist in helping make decisions to will help others.