



**REGULAR MEETING OF FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL  
MONDAY, AUGUST 14, 2023 – 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. Randall S. Osterman, City Manager; Mr. Scotty Davis, Deputy City Manager; Mr. Benjamin T. Zeigler, 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. Michael Hemingway, Director of Utility Planning and Economic Development; Mr. Jerry Dudley, Director of Utilities; Mrs. Amanda Pope, Director of Marketing/Communications and Municipal Services; Mr. Adam Swindler, Director of Public Works and Mr. Kevin Rawlinson, Chief Financial Officer

**MEDIA PRESENT**

Mr. Christian Smith with the Florence Morning News and Mr. Seth Taylor along with Mr. Chris Day 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**

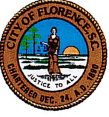
Mayor Ervin called the August 14, 2023 regular meeting of Florence City Council to order at 1:02 p.m.

**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 July 10, 2023 Regular Meeting and Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously adopted.



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**PUBLIC HEARING**

A Public Hearing will be held to receive input on a proposed water and sewer rate increase.

Mayor Ervin opened the public hearing at 1:03pm.

Mr. Kevin Rawlinson, Chief Financial Officer, reported this public hearing is related to the increase in water and sewer rates and the purpose for the rate increases is to support three separate bond issuances.

Ms. Debra Runion spoke, saying she read in the paper a report about the proposed rate hike and said the proposed rates are a lot for someone on a fixed income. In the last six months Duke Energy has increased their rates, the City's millage increased, Florence County millage increased, and the School Board initiated an increase. Individuals that are retired must change their standard of living when expenses go up and their income must be spent in different ways. Ms. Runion said water infrastructure has been neglected and questioned why improvements have not been made along the way. She asked Council to consider reclaiming funding from somewhere else so that it does not have such a large impact on people's lives.

Councilman McCall said the rates were already scheduled to increase in 2028, but recent growth and economic development projects have sped up the timeline for those increases and it is important that the City stay ahead of growth. He said he is also concerned on how the increases will affect those individuals with a fixed income and Council is looking into a potential round-up program to reduce that burden on those, as well as low income, individuals.

Ms. Runion asked if the percentage increase will be eliminated after 2028, to which Councilman McCall replied no; however, the bonding is based off an estimate and the rates will be adjusted if it is determined the City does not need to borrow as much. Ms. Runion asked if it were possible to redirect funds from other areas to finance this project and Mr. Rawlinson said no. The water and sewer system is not supported by tax dollars and it is fully supported by the revenues generated by the system.

Mayor Ervin clarified that the rates have historically been looked at and adjusted accordingly every ten years. Due to recent and the potential for future growth, it has made it necessary to increase the rates ahead of schedule. The City does not enter into these rates haphazardly; the City conducts studies and looks at all options before determining the rates.

Pro tem Jebaily asked Mr. Michael Hemingway, Director of Utility Planning and Economic Development, to clarify the projects to be completed with the bond issuance. Mr. Hemingway said there are three phases. Phase one is the planning and design of the surface water treatment plant expansion, phase two will consist of work to the collection and distribution system, and phase three will entail an expansion to the City's wastewater treatment facility from 22 million gallons per day (MGD) to 33 MGD. Mr. Hemingway further explained that conversations regarding expanding the surface water and wastewater treatment facilities began in 2018 at which point, based on considered growth, the surface water treatment facility would not need to be expanded until 2030 and the wastewater treatment plan would not need expanding until 2040. The timeline to start these projects was accelerated due to current industrial and residential growth and to ensure there is excess capacity for future growth.

Pro tem Jebaily spoke of his concern on water quality and asked if water quality is being addressed at the same time as increasing capacities. Mr. Hemingway said the City just received a grant to make necessary adjustments to the surface water treatment facility due to new EPA and DHEC requirements to remove emerging contaminants.



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Councilman Braddock spoke of other municipalities and their inability to have any control over their water due to other organizations having ownership of the water system. The City is fortunate to be in this position and Council will be mindful of the impacts to retirees but, they also must be mindful of the future of the community.

Ms. Martha Nance spoke and asked Council what they can do to mitigate these impacts. She spoke of the 8% increase in property taxes and asked Council if they could consider those funds to mitigate the rate increase. Mayor Ervin clarified that the utility is a separate fund. She also said that the City has a property tax credit so that the resident does not have to pay the full amount of their taxes and Council will always do what they can to keep rates at the lowest possible level.

There being no one else to speak, Mayor Ervin closed the public hearing at 1:30pm.

### APPEARANCES BEFORE COUNCIL

#### Mr. Stacey Belin

Mr. Stacey Belin, President of the Florence Pickleball Club, appeared before Council to formally introduce Pickleball to the City of Florence. Pickleball has had a presence in Florence since 2015 and they have accumulated over 300 members. Goals of the Florence Pickleball Club are to promote health and fitness, to create partnerships, offer clinics and camps, and to give back to the community to support local charities. Several Councilmembers spoke of their excitement and support of Pickleball.

### ORDINANCES IN POSITION

#### Bill No. 2023-25 – Second Reading

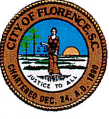
**An Ordinance to repeal and replace portions of Sections 3-2, 3-7, and 3-11 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Florence entitled “Definitions”, “Public Nuisance”, “Dangerous/Vicious Animal Enforcement”, and other matters relating thereto.**

Councilman McCall made a motion to adopt Bill No. 2023-25 on second reading and Councilwoman Barnes seconded the motion.

Mr. Ben Zeigler, City Attorney, reported a group of stakeholders met regarding this Bill and some revisions were agreed upon. Mr. Zeigler said the revisions are shown on the redline version attached to the ordinance and he highlighted the proposed changes. Highlights include changes to the determination of a dangerous animal and the distinguishing factors of a feral animal. Other proposed changes include simplifying the timeframes for animal noises, changes to the penalties to the public nuisance section and dangerous animal enforcement. All the redline changes are recommended by the stakeholder group.

Councilman Smith made a motion to amend Bill No. 2023-25 to reflect the changes as outlined in red; however, as part of this amendment, Councilman Smith said he'd also like to strike Section 3-7-9 and Councilman Braddock seconded the motion.

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson said she wants to be sure Council is allowing the framework in which policies and guidelines can be enforced and be fair for both parties. The purpose of the times in this section was to add the framework of when someone is able to complain. She said public safety includes dog safety and there are underlying reasons if a dog is consistently barking for an extended period time.



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Mayor Ervin acknowledged Mr. Lance Weldy, an individual that requested to speak on this item. Mr. Weldy said he has been keeping track of the current conversation regarding the ordinance pertaining to dangerous dogs. He spoke of Section 3-7-9 and how important it is to the community. Currently, City Code references animal noises in two different places and the language in both is vague, subjective and calls for negligible accountability on the part of the pet owners. He said he has been dealing with community members violating these ordinances for years. He decided to reach out to City Council and ask that the ordinance regarding noise and public nuisance be revised to include specific language from South Congaree's and West Columbia's ordinances. Section 3-7-9 is not saying a barking dog automatically violates the noise ordinance; however, it is saying that if a dog is barking for a specified amount of time, it is violating the noise ordinance. Mr. Weldy expressed concern on removing Section 3-7-9 from the ordinance and requested that the timeframe be kept in place with the ten minutes continuous and thirty minutes intermittent barking.

Councilman Smith said the referenced section currently resides in the public nuisance portion of the ordinance, where other municipalities have it in the noise ordinance. He said he does not feel good about having the language under public nuisance, but it could be looked at for the noise ordinance.

Councilman McCall agreed with Councilman Smith, saying this proposed ordinance pertains to public safety and perhaps the barking dog language can be addressed in the noise ordinance in the future.

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson said if the language needs to be added to the noise ordinance, it needs to be done now. Either way, the framework needs to be created so these issues can be addressed.

Mr. Zeigler said amending the noise ordinance would require a separate ordinance, so his recommendation is to take action on the motion on the floor and revisit the noise ordinance in a separate enactment.

Councilman Braddock expressed his support of removing the language from the public nuisance section and adding it to the noise ordinance.

Council voted 5-2 in favor the motion to amend, with Mayor Ervin and Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson voting against the amendment. The amendment passed.

Council voted 6-1 in favor of the motion to adopt Bill No. 2023-25 on second reading, as amended, with Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson voting against. Bill No. 2023-25 was adopted, as amended.

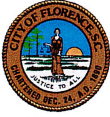
**Bill No. 2023-26 – Second Reading**

**An Ordinance providing for the issuance and sale of combined waterworks and sewerage system revenue bonds of the City of Florence, South Carolina, and other matters relating thereto.**

Councilman Braddock made a motion to adopt Bill No. 2023-26 and Pro tem Jebaily seconded the motion.

Mr. Rawlinson reported the projects outlined for this bond issuance include the AESC economic development project, utility engineering and master planning, surface water treatment plant planning and design, and automated water meters for billing.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Bill No. 2023-26 was adopted.



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**Bill No. 2023-27 – Second Reading**

**An Ordinance revising the water and sewer rate schedule for the City of Florence, South Carolina.**

Councilman Braddock made a motion to move Bill No. 2023-27 to Executive Session to receive legal advice covered by attorney-client privilege and Councilwoman Barnes seconded the motion. Without objection, Council moved Bill No. 2023-27 to Executive Session for the receipt of legal advice.

**Bill No. 2023-28 – Second Reading**

**An Ordinance to amend the budget for the City of Florence, South Carolina, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023**

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to adopt Bill No. 2023-28 on second reading and Councilman McCall seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Bill No. 2023-28 was adopted.

**Bill No. 2023-29 – Second Reading**

**An Ordinance to abandon a portion of sewer line and easement located on private property at 1411 Golf Terrace Boulevard, identified as Florence County Tax Map Number 000101-01-470.**

Councilman McCall made a motion to adopt Bill No. 2023-29 on second reading and Councilwoman Barnes seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Bill No. 2023-29 was adopted.

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**

**Bill No. 2023-16 – First Reading**

**An Ordinance adopting a redistricting plan for three single member districts of the City of Florence, South Carolina in accordance with the Federal Decennial Census of 2020.**

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson made a motion to discuss this item in Executive Session and Councilman McCall seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Bill No. 2023-16 will be discussed in Executive Session.

**Bill No. 2023-30 – First Reading**

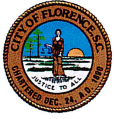
**An Ordinance to annex and zone NC-15 2488 Abbey Way, identified as Florence County Tax Map Number 01221-01-247.**

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to pass Bill No. 2023-30 on first reading and Councilman McCall seconded the motion.

Mr. Clint Moore, Assistant City Manager of Development, reported this is an existing, infill lot within the Windsor Forest Subdivision. Once annexed, a single-family residential home will be constructed.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Bill No. 2023-30 was passed on first reading.

**Bill No. 2023-31 – First Reading**



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**An Ordinance to rezone a portion of Florence County Tax Map Number 90030-02-007 from PDD to AC.**

Councilwoman Barnes made a motion to pass Bill No. 2023-31 on first reading and Councilman McCall seconded the motion.

Mr. Moore reported the lot is currently zoned both Planned Development District (PDD) and Activity Center (AC). This property has come before Planning Commission and Council previously. In February 2022, Planning Commission held a public hearing on this matter and voted to approve the request to rezone the parcel from PDD to AC, but the request was withdrawn by the applicant prior to Council action. In July 2022, Planning Commission held a public hearing on this matter and voted to deny the request to rezone the parcel from PDD to AC. On July 11, 2023 the Planning Commission held a public hearing on this matter and voted to approve the request to rezone the parcel from PDD to AC. This lot was two separate lots that were combined into one. No development standards for the PDD are on file with the City of Florence or Florence County. The owner wishes to rezone the portion that is currently zoned PDD to AC so that the single property maintains a consistent zoning designation. Since the building and use standards are not available for the PDD portion of the property, the property is currently unable to be developed.

Having signed up to speak, Mayor Ervin recognized Mr. Matt Scalise, agent for the owners of the property. Mr. Scalise said the property owners have owned the property for approximately twenty years and have been paying approximately \$22,000 a year in property taxes. When they purchased the property they were reassured the property would be able to go through the formality of rezoning for development. The owners want to clarify the zoning so that it makes sense to a potential buyer or developer. If zoned AC, the only uses that may be developed are those permitted in the AC district and the property will still be subject to City of Florence codes and regulations to include the bufferyard requirements where the lot abuts residential zoning districts. Mr. Scalise said the current status of the property is essentially holding the property hostage while the owners continue to pay property taxes.

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson asked what can be done since the PDD development standards have been lost. Mr. Moore replied the reason for the rezoning is to reclassify that portion of the property so that then there will be standards in place. Allowable uses in the AC zoning designation include some of the typical commercial uses seen around the City. Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson asked how many parcels the in the City currently have the PDD zoning where there are no development standards available. Mr. Moore responded there are several older PDDs, but PDDs are not regularly utilized anymore since the state recently clearly defined what constitutes a PDD. This parcel is unique in that it is a split zoning.

Councilman Braddock inquired on other zoning designation options for the property. Mr. Moore replied a request could be made for residential zoning, however, adjacent to the property is commercial zoning and residential zoning. Under the Unified Development Ordinance, large bufferyard requirements would be required between commercial and residential zoning.

Councilman Braddock said last time this property came before Council, there was great community concern surrounding a potential Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) project. He asked if this is zoned AC, what would then be left to protect the residents from projects they are not in favor of. Mr. Moore said much of the concerns regarding development of the property can be mitigated by the requirements of the Unified Development Ordinance. It's unavoidable to have connection between residential and commercial zoning districts, but the development standards implemented by the Unified Development Ordinance helps mitigate these concerns. Mr. Moore further elaborated that a benefit to the



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AC designation is that development is required to be drawn forward to the major thoroughfare, so that lighter uses occur between the residential and commercial zonings.

Pro tem Jebaily said traffic associated with a multi-use development was a concern expressed before and asked if there is anything that would require a traffic study prior to any residential, high-density development. Mr. Moore said the City has regulations and standards; if a development hits a certain threshold, the City requires that a traffic study be conducted. Also, the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) will review the project and will put in place requirements if they have concerns. Mr. Moore elaborated that a traffic study will be able to identify potential problems and if a problem exists or will be created due to the increase in volume that would occur with the development, the City will work with the SCDOT to mitigate the issue.

Mr. Scalise said under the current split zoning situation, any development seeking a permit would have to go through with a rezoning of the property. The density and traffic concerns don't really apply to this property, as the prior development that feel through was only for forty units. Mr. Scalise said the concerns from the residents seem to be a "not in my back yard" situation. The zoning laws and regulations already mentioned along with the density limitations in place should be safeguard enough to rezone the entirety of the property to AC.

Mr. Moore explained what is permitted in relation to density. How many units allowed will depend on the size of the property along with any bufferyard, stormwater and parking requirements.

Following additional discussion, Council voted unanimously (7-0) to deny the rezoning request.

**INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS**

**Resolution No. 2023-36**

**A Resolution to proclaim August 6-12, 2023 as National Health Center Week in the City of Florence.**

Councilman Braddock made a motion to pass Resolution No. 2023-36 and Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson seconded the motion.

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson presented the Resolution to Nicole Echols of HopeHealth and thanked them for their contributions to the community.

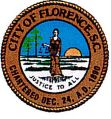
Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Resolution No. 2023-36 was passed.

**Resolution No. 2023-37**

**A Resolution to authorize the transfer of \$1,000,000 from American Rescue Plan Act funds to the General Fund.**

Councilman Braddock made a motion to send Resolution No. 2023-37 to the Finance, Audit and Budget Committee of City Council for review and Councilman Smith seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Resolution No. 2023-37 will go before the Finance, Audit and Budget Committee for review.



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**Resolution No. 2023-38**

**A Resolution authorizing the City Manager of the City of Florence to execute an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) stormwater infrastructure program subrecipient agreement between the City of Florence and the South Carolina Office of Resilience to fund a stormwater infrastructure improvement project that will mitigate the impact of future disasters.**

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to pass Resolution No. 2023-38 and Councilman Braddock seconded the motion.

Mr. Moore reported the grants were made available through the American Resuce Plan Act and are distributed through the South Carolina Office of Resilience, Disaster Recovery Division. The scope of the Pennsylvania Street Stormwater Mitigation Project involves the upgrade of stormwater infrastructure in the watershed that includes the Pennsylvania Street corridor.

Pro tem Jebaily asked when the project will start. Mr. Moore replied they are at 90% complete with the plans. Contractors should be procured by the end of the year with work to begin at the first of the year.

**Resolution No. 2023-39**

**A Resolution of City Council approving Downtown Redevelopment Grants for First Quarter, FY24.**

Mayor Ervin said this item may be heard in Executive Session. There being no objection, this item will be heard in Executive Session.

**REPORTS TO COUNCIL**

**Appointments to Boards and Commissions**

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

**Planning Commission**

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson deferred her nomination to the Board.

**Board of Zoning Appeals**

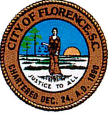
Councilman Smith made a motion to reappoint Deborah Moses to the Board of Zoning Appeals. Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Deborah Moses was reappointed to the Board of Zoning Appeals for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2026.

Councilman Braddock deferred his nomination to the Board.

**Civic Center Commission**

Councilwoman Barnes made a motion to reappoint Ron Roberts to the Civic Center Commission. Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Ron Roberts was reappointed to the Civic Center Commission for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2027.





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**Design Review Board**

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson deferred her nomination to the Board.

**Housing Authority**

Councilman Smith made a motion to appoint Calvin Robinson to the Housing Authority. Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Calvin Robinson was appointed to the Housing Authority for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2028.

Councilman Braddock made a motion to reappoint Jerrod Moultrie to the Housing Authority. Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Jerrod Moultrie was reappointed to the Housing Authority for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2028.

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to reappoint Linda Williams to the Housing Authority. Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Linda Williams was reappointed to the Housing Authority for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2028.

**Parks and Beautification Commission**

Councilwoman Barnes made a motion to reappoint Walter Sallenger to the Parks and Beautification Commission. Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Walter Sallenger was reappointed to the Parks and Beautification Commission for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2028.

Councilman McCall deferred his nomination to the Board.

**Aesthetics Advisory Committee**

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson made a motion to appoint William Thompson to the Aesthetics Advisory Committee. Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. William Thompson was appointed to the Aesthetics Advisory Committee for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2026.

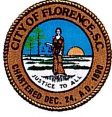
Councilman Smith made a motion to reappoint LaTisha Jackson to the Aesthetics Advisory Committee. Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. LaTisha Jackson was reappointed to the Aesthetics Advisory Committee for a term to begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2026.

**Public Safety Citizen's Review Board**

Mayor Ervin deferred her nomination to the Board.

**MAYORAL REPORT**

Mayor Ervin thanked Councilmembers for attending the Municipal Association's annual meeting in Greenville in July. Florence received many complements from Greenville's Mayor and others on the success of Florence's downtown and the many other things the City is working on for the residents. She spoke of several projects going on downtown to include the parking deck with the Urban Square Project, the Nofal building, the old pharmacy and the old theater. Mayor Ervin spoke of National Night Out that was celebrated throughout Florence and thanked the Police Department for their participation.



## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### **Business Development Committee, Chaired by Pro tem Jebaily**

Pro tem Jebaily said the Committee met at the Nofal building located at 127 West Evans Street. This project will be a mixed-use development with Air Bnbs located on the top floors and restaurants and other retail located on the bottom floor. They also received updates on other development and utility projects. At the next meeting, the Committee will be receiving information from staff regarding the gateways.

### **Community Development Committee, Chaired by Councilwoman Barnes**

Councilwoman Barnes announced the hiring of the new Community Services Department Manager. Currently, the City is working with new developers to build housing units in the target areas and there are three homes currently under construction.

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

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson said the Committee discussed awareness campaigns to keep the community engaged and motivated. The current campaign is focused around sharing information on the responsibilities and funding sources for roads and a pedestrian safety campaign will follow. The Request for Proposals for the communication tool has closed and a selection committee is reviewing the proposals. The next meeting will include updates on the communication tool and the results from the communication survey.

### **Finance, Audit and Budget Committee, Chaired by Councilman McCall**

Councilman McCall said the Committee had a robust discussion regarding the impact of the water and sewer rate adjustments and whether to provide city residents with a differentiated percentage compared to county residents. Councilman McCall mentioned that the City of Greenville just created an Economic Development office and the committee discussed the City's potential to create one in the City. Also discussed was the funding from the opioid settlement.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Ervin said Council will be entering into Executive Session to receive legal advice regarding a redistricting plan, for a discussion of matters related to a proposed economic development project, for a discussion related to a proposed economic development project, a personnel matter and to receive legal advice regarding water and sewer rates.

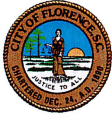
Councilman McCall made a motion to enter into Executive Session and Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously (7-0) to enter into Executive Session at 3:15 p.m.

Council resumed open session at 4:35 p.m. and took action on the following items:

### **Bill No. 2023-27 – Second Reading**

### **An Ordinance revising the water and sewer rate schedule for the City of Florence, South Carolina.**

Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson made a motion to adopt Bill No. 2023-27 on second reading and Pro tem Jebaily seconded the motion.



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Councilman McCall made a motion to amend the ordinance to increase the rate by 1% for County residents and decrease the rate by 1% for City residents and Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson seconded the motion.

Councilman McCall said he wants to do the right thing for the utility, but he also wants to take care of constituents with low and fixed incomes. Councilman McCall also said there is a need to look into the tap in fees and loosening that burden for county residents.

Council voted 6-1 in favor of the motion to amend, with Councilman Braddock voting nay. Bill No. 2023-27 was amended.

Council voted 6-1 in favor of the motion to adopt Bill No. 2023-27, as amended, with Councilman Braddock voting nay. Bill No. 2023-27 was adopted, as amended.

**Bill No. 2023-16 – First Reading**

**An Ordinance adopting a redistricting plan for three single member districts of the City of Florence, South Carolina in accordance with the federal Decennial Census of 2020.**

Councilman Smith made a motion to pass Bill No. 2023-16 and move forward with the map as illustrated in “Option 2” on first reading and Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson seconded the motion.

Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Bill No. 2023-16 was passed on first reading with the map as illustrated “Option 2”.

**Resolution No. 2023-39**

**A Resolution of City Council approving Downtown Redevelopment Grants for First Quarter, FY24**

Pro tem Jebaily made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2023-39 and Councilwoman NeSmith-Jackson seconded the motion.


Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of the motion. Resolution No. 2023-35 was adopted.

**ADJOURN**

Without objection, the August 14, 2023 Regular meeting of City Council was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Dated this 11<sup>th</sup> day of September 2023.

  
Casey C. Moore, Municipal Clerk

  
Teresa Myers Ervin, Mayor