



**PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL
JUNE 20, 2024 – 5:30 PM
MUNICIPAL COURTROOM
GEORGETOWN, SOUTH CAROLINA**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Notice of this meeting has been made in accordance with the South Carolina Code of Laws as amended.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Carol Jayroe
Council Member Jonathan Angner
Council Member Bruce Carl
Council Member Erin Ethridge
Council Member Jimmy Morris

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements
Council Member Tamika Williams-Obeng

ALSO PRESENT

Mrs. Elise Crosby, City Attorney
Mr. Scott Whittier, City Administrator
Ms. Stephanie Buccione, City Clerk
Mr. Nick Ard, IT Technician
Mrs. Cindy Thompson, Public Information Officer
Chief William Pierce, Georgetown Police Department
Mr. Ryan Call, Building Inspector
Mr. Peter Gaytan, Planning & Community Development
Ms. Kara Hamilton, Human Resources Manager
Mr. Ryan Courtemanche, Electric Utility Manager
Mrs. Kathy Vermeland, Finance Director
Mrs. Natrona Simmons, Public Works Manager
Mr. Chris Mullis, Water Utilities Manager
Mr. Al Joseph, Main Street Director

2. ANNOUNCEMENT CONCERNING ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Mayor Carol Jayroe called the Regular Meeting of City Council to order at 5:30pm and requested all cell phones or electronic devices be turned off or placed on mute, with the exception of first responders, so as to not interrupt the meeting.

3. INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Morris introduced Bishop Kory Johnson to render the invocation and Mr. Rodney Ward to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. PUBLIC HEARING

A. The purpose of the Public Hearing will be to receive citizen input concerning the following item.

An ordinance to adopt a budget and raise revenue for the City of Georgetown, South Carolina, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025 (FY 2025).

Mayor Jayroe recognized Ms. Cary Farrow. Ms. Farrow stated she researched several surrounding communities of similar size to Georgetown to compare electric utility rates. She said residents are unhappy with the rate increases and she wanted to see where the city compares to the neighboring communities. She shared her results and stated the city was the lowest compared to Horry County, Santee Cooper through direct customers, and Duke energy.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS

None

6. INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

Mr. Peter Gaytan introduced Ms. Clarissa Tuten as the Zoning Administrator for the Planning & Community Development department.

7. PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

A. Motion to approve first reading of an ordinance approving a lease agreement for the use of public property for a food truck vendor.

Council Member Angner moved, seconded by Council Member Morris.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] Next: 7/18/2024 5:30 PM
MOVER:	Jonathan Angner, Council Member
SECONDER:	Jimmy Morris, Council Member
AYES:	Angner, Morris, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe
ABSENT:	Clements, Obeng

B. Motion to approve a Designated Marketing Organization agreement between the City of Georgetown and the Georgetown Business Association for FY2025.

Council Member Ethridge moved, seconded by Council Member Morris.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Erin Ethridge, Council Member
SECONDER:	Jimmy Morris, Council Member
AYES:	Angner, Morris, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe
ABSENT:	Clements, Obeng

8. BUILDING

A. Motion to approve first reading of an ordinance Amending the City of Georgetown's Ordinance Chapter 5, Article I, Section 5-3, Expiration of Building Permits.

Council Member Angner moved, seconded by Council Member Morris.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] Next: 7/18/2024 5:30 PM
MOVER:	Jonathan Angner, Council Member
SECONDER:	Jimmy Morris, Council Member
AYES:	Angner, Morris, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe
ABSENT:	Clements, Obeng

9. FINANCE

Motion to amend the original FY2025 budget as presented for first reading and increase the budget by \$472, 437. to include additional revenues and expenditures in the General Fund, additional salary increases, Cleland Street parking lot, transfer policy calculation increases and expenses in the water fund as, as presented.

Council Member Angner moved, seconded by Council Member Carl. Mrs. Vermeland shared a handout with the Mayor and Council members that listed revisions to the budget from the first reading. She said the city received information from the South Carolina Revenue & Fiscal Affairs office that stated the city has received a growth population increase of 1.97% and CPI of 8% and allows a total allowable 9.7% millage rate increase for FY2025. This changed the total mills for FY2025 to 131.7 from 129.3. Mrs. Vermeland stated other revisions include additional salary increases and funds added for the SCDPS Body Armor Grant. She said funds have also been added for the SCMIT surplus for FY24 and Cleland Street parking lot. She said with all the revisions, the total FY2024-2025 budget is \$49,303, 255. She stated this is an increase of \$472,437. She stated Council will need to amend the motion to include the increase of \$472, 437. to the budget from the first reading.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jonathan Angner, Council Member
SECONDER:	Bruce Carl, Council Member
AYES:	Angner, Morris, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe
ABSENT:	Clements, Obeng

B. Motion to approve second reading of an ordinance to adopt a budget, as amended, and raise revenue for the City of Georgetown, South Carolina, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025 (FY 2025).

Council Member Angner moved, seconded by Council Member Morris. Council Member Angner stated for the record "In absence of our two Council Members that are on vacation, that was preplanned, and in the passage of the budget just now with a vote of 5-0. The first reading was passed, both of our missing Council Members voted to approve this. So, I think we collectively as an elective body owe a thank you to our department heads and City Administrator for putting something together that City Council unanimously voted for."

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	ADOPTED AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jonathan Angner, Council Member
SECONDER:	Jimmy Morris, Council Member
AYES:	Angner, Morris, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe
ABSENT:	Clements, Obeng

C. Motion to approve a Resolution authorizing discretionary allocation to the Capital Reserve Fund.

Council Member Angner moved, seconded by Council Member Morris.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jonathan Angner, Council Member
SECONDER:	Jimmy Morris, Council Member
AYES:	Angner, Morris, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe
ABSENT:	Clements, Obeng

D. Motion to approve an invoice for \$80,000.00 for a Kiminski House FY23 deferred project.

Council Member Angner moved, seconded by Council Member Carl.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jonathan Angner, Council Member
SECONDER:	Bruce Carl, Council Member
AYES:	Angner, Morris, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe
ABSENT:	Clements, Obeng

E. Swiftwater Strategies, Melisaa Harrill -Santee Cooper Distribution Update

Ms. Harrill stated the project has not been completed yet but it is close. She said the second settlement from the Santee Cooper lawsuit was just under \$520,000. She said Council had previously agreed to issue a credit to active accounts with the city and the inactive accounts credits would go towards the round up program. She said they received over a thousand emails from both active and inactive accounts stating if they wanted their money credited or put towards the round up program. She said after the credits are processed and administrative expenses are deducted, the city will receive approximately \$300,000 and this money will go towards the round up program. She said the goal is to have the credits posted by next week and residents would see it in the next billing.

10. WATER UTILITIES

A. Motion to approve a contract in the amount of \$864,000 for the Sanitary Sewer Manhole Replacement and Sewer Line Point Repairs Project #1818 and award contract to Green Wave Contracting, Inc.

Council Member Angner moved, seconded by Council Member Carl.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jonathan Angner, Council Member
SECONDER:	Bruce Carl, Council Member
AYES:	Angner, Morris, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe
ABSENT:	Clements, Obeng

11. PUBLIC WORKS

A. Motion to approve annual contract for fiscal year 2025 for janitorial services and make payment to Randolph Krazy Kleaning Services LLC in the amount of \$99,720.00.

Council Member Angner moved, seconded by Council Member Ethridge.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jimmy Morris, Council Member
SECONDER:	Erin Ethridge, Council Member
AYES:	Angner, Morris, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe
ABSENT:	Clements, Obeng

12. ADMINISTRATION

- A. Motion to approve the PEBA addendum so members of council shall be entitled to participate in the State Health Insurance Plan on the same terms and conditions as do regular employees of the municipality.**

Council Member Morris moved, seconded by Council Member Ethridge.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jimmy Morris, Council Member
SECONDER:	Erin Ethridge, Council Member
AYES:	Angner, Morris, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe
ABSENT:	Clements, Obeng

- B. Motion to approve the revised employee handbook as presented during the May 23rd workshop.**

Council Member Angner moved, seconded by Council Member Morris.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jonathan Angner, Council Member
SECONDER:	Jimmy Morris, Council Member
AYES:	Angner, Morris, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe
ABSENT:	Clements, Obeng

- C. Motion to approve a preliminary agreement in the amount of \$720,718 for design-build services (fees only) of the new City Hall project and award contract to Coastal Structures Corporation.**

Council Member Angner moved, seconded by Council Member Carl.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jonathan Angner, Council Member
SECONDER:	Bruce Carl, Council Member
AYES:	Angner, Morris, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe
ABSENT:	Clements, Obeng

13. CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Whittier stated DHEC has added some financial constraints with the city's permits for the Boyd Living Shoreline project. Mr. Whittier stated the city has a memorandum of understanding with The Nature Conservancy for this project. Both the city and The Nature Conservancy contacted DHEC requesting if an escrow account would be sufficient, and they agreed. Mr. Whittier stated he executed the escrow account with an amount of \$10,300. He said The Nature Conservancy will fund the account and it will not be any cost to the city. Mr. Whittier stated last month we received a letter from FEMA regarding the Flood Insurance Program. He said the city received a rating of 7. Mr. Whittier stated with this rating, residents are eligible for a 15% discount on flood insurance with FEMA until the next assessment is done in five years. Mr. Whittier stated the city received funding through a CDBG grant to offer Wi-Fi access in city parks for the next three years. He said the city will receive reports on how much the service is being utilized and will be able to determine after three years if it is something the city would want to consider funding and continue to offer. He confirmed the service is up and running. He stated certain websites will not be accessible and small signs will be put up regarding this service. Mr. Whittier thanked staff, council, and the community for their input on completing the new budget.

14. MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes of May 2, May 16, and May 23, 2024 Council Meetings.

Council Member Angner moved, seconded by Council Member Morris. Ms. Buccione stated there was a correction on the May 16, 2024 council meeting minutes. She said the correction is on item 7. B. for the first reading of the budget ordinance on the voting record. The voting record should read approved 5-1 with Council Members Angner, Obeng, Morris, Mayor Pro Tempore Clements, and Mayor Jayroe in favor and Council Member Carl opposing.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jonathan Angner, Council Member
SECONDER:	Jimmy Morris, Council Member
AYES:	Angner, Morris, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe
ABSENT:	Clements, Obeng

15. OLD BUSINESS

Council Member Angner requested an update on the processing of business licenses. Mayor Jayroe and Mrs. Vermeland confirmed a report will be sent to Council by the end of next week with this information. Mrs. Vermeland stated per our ordinance there is a 60-day grace period for business license renewals. She said the deadline is April 30th so the goal is to have the report to the business license enforcer by July 1 so they can follow up with businesses that are not in compliance.

16. NEW BUSINESS

None

17. DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORTS

Mayor Jayroe stated the department monthly reports are available for review in the agenda.

- A. Electric Department Monthly Report**
- B. Engineering Department Monthly Report**
- C. Fire Department Monthly Report**
- D. Fleet Service May Report**
- E. Municipal Court Monthly Report**
- F. Planning & Community Development Monthly Report**
- G. Police Department Monthly Report**
- H. Public Works Monthly Report**
- I. Risk Management Monthly Report**
- J. Water Utilities Monthly Report**
- K. Finance and IT Department Monthly Report**

18. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CITY SERVICES, BUSINESS, OR OTHER CITY MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None

19. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to adjourn Regular Meeting and enter into Executive Session pursuant to Section 30-4-70(a) (1)(2) to discuss appointments/reappointments to the City Boards/Commissions and the Georgetown Housing Authority Board of Directors and to discuss and receive legal advice relating to potential or threatened litigation.

Council Member Angner moved, seconded by Council Member Carl.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jonathan Angner, Council Member
SECONDER:	Bruce Carl, Council Member
AYES:	Angner, Morris, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe
ABSENT:	Clements, Obeng

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 6:20pm.

Motion to adjourn Executive Session and reconvene Regular Meeting.

Council Member Morris moved, seconded by Council Member Angner.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jimmy Morris, Council Member
SECONDER:	Jonathan Angner, Council Member
AYES:	Angner, Morris, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe
ABSENT:	Clements, Obeng

Executive Session adjourned and Regular Meeting reconvened at 6:45pm.

C. NO FORMAL ACTION WAS TAKEN IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

D. City Council may take action on items discussed in Executive Session.

Motion to authorize the City Administrator or designee to approve such documents and memorandum of understanding associated with a potential road closing in 2024-DP-22-0768, subject to Council approval after public hearing.

Council Member Angner moved, seconded by Council Member Morris.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jonathan Angner, Council Member
SECONDER:	Jimmy Morris, Council Member
AYES:	Angner, Morris, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe
ABSENT:	Clements, Obeng

20. APPOINTMENT

None

21. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting of City Council.

Council Member Ethridge moved, seconded by Council Member Morris.

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Erin Ethridge, Council Member
SECONDER:	Jimmy Morris, Council Member
AYES:	Angner, Morris, Ethridge, Carl, Jayroe
ABSENT:	Clements, Obeng

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 6:45pm.

Stephanie Buccione
City Clerk

Date Approved: 07/18/24