

**REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
MAY 15, 2025 — 5:30 PM
MUNICIPAL COURTROOM
2222 HIGHMARKET STREET
GEORGETOWN, SOUTH CAROLINA
AND LIVESTREAM:**



<https://www.facebook.com/cityoftown/>

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
Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements
Council Member Jonathan Angner
Council Member Bruce Carl
Council Member Jimmy Morris

MEMBERS ABSENT

Council Member Erin Ethridge
Council Member Tamika Williams-Obeng

ALSO PRESENT

Mr. Scott Whittier, City Administrator
Mrs. Elise Crosby, City Attorney
Ms. Stephanie Buccione, City Clerk
Mr. Braxton Walton, IT Technician
Mrs. Cindy Thompson, Public Information Officer
Chief William Pierce, Georgetown Police Department
Mr. Ryan Call, Building Inspector
Mr. Orlando Arteaga, City Engineer
Mrs. Kathy Vermeland, Finance Director
Mr. Ryan Courtemanche, Electric Utility Manager
Ms. Eliza Jagger, Assistant Finance Director
Mrs. Natrona Simmons, Public Works Manager
Mr. Isaac Williams, Fleet Superintendent

2. ANNOUNCEMENT CONCERNING ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Mayor Jayroe called the Regular Meeting of City Council to order at 5:30 pm 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

Mayor Jayroe introduced Pastor Ben Hill to render the invocation and Mr. Edwin Jayroe to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS

None

5. INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

None

6. FINANCE

A. Motion to approve first reading of an ordinance to amend the Residential Utility Round-Up Program.

Council Member Jonathan Angner moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	Council Member Jonathan Angner
SECONDER:	Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements
AYES:	Jim Clements, Carol Jayroe, Jonathan Angner, Bruce Carl, Jimmy Morris

B. Motion to approve first reading of an ordinance to adopt a budget and raise revenue for the City of Georgetown, South Carolina, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026 (FY 2026).

Council Member Jonathan Angner moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	Council Member Jonathan Angner
SECONDER:	Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements
AYES:	Jim Clements, Carol Jayroe, Jonathan Angner, Bruce Carl, Jimmy Morris

7. PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

A. Motion to approve first reading of an ordinance for the rezoning request for 2704 Highmarket Street.

Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements moved, seconded by Council Member Bruce Carl

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements
SECONDER:	Council Member Bruce Carl
AYES:	Jim Clements, Carol Jayroe, Jonathan Angner, Bruce Carl, Jimmy Morris

8. ENGINEERING

- A. Motion to approve construction bid and to make payments to Ben Cox, LLC for the new Cleland Street Parking Lot project in the amount of \$332,853.30.**

Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements moved, seconded by Council Member Jimmy Morris

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements
SECONDER:	Council Member Jimmy Morris
AYES:	Jim Clements, Carol Jayroe, Jonathan Angner, Bruce Carl, Jimmy Morris

9. PUBLIC WORKS

- A. A Proclamation proclaiming May 18-24, 2025 as National Public Works Week in the City of Georgetown, South Carolina.**

Mayor Jayroe recognized Mrs. Simmons and read the Proclamation proclaiming May 18-24, 2025 as National Public Works Week in the City of Georgetown, South Carolina.

10. ADMINISTRATION

- A. Motion to approve second reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 17, Article III, Section 17-34 of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Georgetown.**

Council Member Jonathan Angner moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements. Council Member Angner stated for the record "We have some input on whether we will grant these or not, but a lot of these stipulations come from the state department in Columbia."

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	Council Member Jonathan Angner
SECONDER:	Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements
AYES:	Jim Clements, Carol Jayroe, Jonathan Angner, Bruce Carl, Jimmy Morris

11. CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Whittier stated changing the hydrant flushing to evening hours was successful. He said it took less time to get the project done than it had in previous years and thanked the Fire and Water departments. He said the architect is finishing up the final design for the new city hall and the next step will be for Coastal Structures to submit a design cost for the new city hall building and new council chambers separately. He said the next update will be presented at a future council workshop meeting.

12. MINUTES

A. Motion to approve minutes of April 17 and April 24, 2025 City Council meetings.

Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements moved, seconded by Mayor Carol Jayroe

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements
SECONDER:	Mayor Carol Jayroe
AYES:	Jim Clements, Carol Jayroe, Jonathan Angner, Bruce Carl, Jimmy Morris

13. OLD BUSINESS

None

14. NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Pro Tempore Clements requested to have a Council workshop to discuss establishing standards and inspections for long-term rentals. He said he is concerned with having fair housing available in the city.

15. DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORTS

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

- A. Building Monthly Report**
- B. Electric Department Monthly Report**
- C. Engineering Department Monthly Report**
- D. Finance Department Monthly Report**
- E. Fire Department Monthly Report**
- F. Fleet Services Monthly Report**
- G. Human Resources Monthly Report**
- H. Municipal Court Monthly Report**
- I. Planning & Community Development Monthly Report**
- J. Police Department**
- K. Public Works Monthly Report**
- L. Risk Management Monthly Report**
- M. Water Utilities Monthly Report**

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

Mayor Jayroe recognized Mr. Sheldon Butts. Mr. Butts stated that he is in support of the city adopting a hate crime ordinance.

Mayor Jayroe recognized Ms. Sharon Melton Jones. Ms. Jones said residents that were overcharged on their utility bills were promised an audit and she wants to know the status. She said she is concerned with residents receiving two bills in one month and the effects it will have on senior citizens. She said the round-up program will not work for everybody and the city should refund or credit the accounts that have been overcharged.

Mayor Jayroe recognized Mr. Marvin Neal. Mr. Neal stated he is in support of the city adopting a hate crime ordinance.

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Motion to adjourn Regular Meeting and enter into Executive Session pursuant to Section 30-4-70(a) (1)(2) to discuss appointments to the Community Appearance Board and Georgetown Housing Authority Board of Directors; to discuss negotiations of wholesale electric power; to discuss building permit/business license violations and receive legal advice covered by the**

attorney-client privilege; and to receive quarterly legal update from the city attorney on pending cases and cases adjudicated since last update.

Council Member Jonathan Angner moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	Council Member Jonathan Angner
SECONDER:	Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements
AYES:	Jim Clements, Carol Jayroe, Jonathan Angner, Bruce Carl, Jimmy Morris

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 6:05pm.

B. Motion to adjourn Executive Session and reconvene Regular Meeting.

Council Member Jonathan Angner moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	Council Member Jonathan Angner
SECONDER:	Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements
AYES:	Jim Clements, Carol Jayroe, Jonathan Angner, Bruce Carl, Jimmy Morris

Executive Session adjourned and the Regular Meeting reconvened at 7:20pm.

C. NO FORMAL ACTION WAS TAKEN IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

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

18. APPOINTMENT

A. Motion to appoint Douglas Wendel, Jr. to the Community Appearance Board.

Council Member Bruce Carl moved, seconded by Council Member Jonathan Angner

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	Council Member Bruce Carl
SECONDER:	Council Member Jonathan Angner
AYES:	Jim Clements, Carol Jayroe, Jonathan Angner, Bruce Carl, Jimmy Morris

B. Motion to appoint J. Edwin Benton and Patrice Simmons to the Georgetown Housing Authority.

Council Member Bruce Carl moved, seconded by Council Member Jonathan Angner

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	Council Member Bruce Carl
SECONDER:	Council Member Jonathan Angner
AYES:	Jim Clements, Carol Jayroe, Jonathan Angner, Bruce Carl, Jimmy Morris

19. ADJOURNMENT

A. Motion to Adjourn the Regular Meeting of City Council.

Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements moved, seconded by Council Member Jimmy Morris

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements
SECONDER:	Council Member Jimmy Morris
AYES:	Jim Clements, Carol Jayroe, Jonathan Angner, Bruce Carl, Jimmy Morris

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 7:20pm.

Stephanie Buccione
City Clerk

Date Approved: 06/17/25