

**REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 18, 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 Pro Tempore Jim Clements
Mayor Carol Jayroe
Council Member Bruce Carl
Council Member Jimmy Morris

MEMBERS ABSENT

Council Member Jonathan Angner
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
Chief Charlie Cribb, Georgetown Fire Department
Chief William Pierce, Georgetown Police Department
Ms. Amy Skidmore, Georgetown Fire Department Office Manager
Mr. Ryan Call, Building Inspector
Mrs. Clarissa Tindall, Zoning Administrator
Mr. Orlando Arteaga, City Engineer
Mrs. Kathy Vermeland, Finance Director
Ms. Eliza Jagger, Assistant Finance Director
Mr. Ryan Courtemanche, Electric Utility Manager
Mrs. Natrona Simmons, Public Works Manager
Mrs. Pam Gaddy, Interim Water Utilities Manager

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

Council Member Morris rendered the invocation and Chief Cribb led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Jayroe recognized Ms. Cary Farrow. Ms. Farrow said she wanted to speak about agenda item 10. B. She requested that funds for this project include installing spigots in the park.

5. INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

None

6. PROCLAMATION

A. A Proclamation proclaiming October 5-11, 2025 as Fire Prevention Week in the City of Georgetown, South Carolina.

Mayor Jayroe announced the Fire Prevention Proclamation recognizes Fire Prevention Week in the City of Georgetown, South Carolina from October 5-11, 2025.

7. PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

A. Motion to approve second reading for an ordinance rezoning approximately .25 acres, located at 1224 Front St., owned by the City of Georgetown, from General Commercial (GC) to Public Service (PS).

Council Member Tamika Williams-Obeng moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	Council Member Tamika Williams-Obeng
SECONDER:	Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements
AYES:	Jim Clements, Carol Jayroe, Bruce Carl, Jimmy Morris, Tamika Williams-Obeng

B. Motion to approve second reading for an ordinance amending the City of Georgetown Zoning Ordinance Article XIII: Design Overlay Districts Section 1302 and II. Urban Core Overlay District (UCOD) Affected Properties to Clarify the Applicability of Design Standards to Existing Structures and Property Features.

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, Bruce Carl, Jimmy Morris, Tamika Williams-Obeng

- C. Motion to approve first reading for an ordinance rezoning approximately .21 acres, located at 1034 St. Martin St., owned by the City of Georgetown, from High Density Residential (R4) to Public Service (PS).**

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, Bruce Carl, Jimmy Morris, Tamika Williams-Obeng

- D. Motion to approve first reading for an ordinance amending the City of Georgetown Zoning Ordinance Article V: Application of Regulations Section 511, Article VIII: Provisions Governing Use Districts, and Article IX: Exceptions and Modifications regarding accessory structures, how they are classified, zoning districts in which they are allowed, setbacks, maximum square footage, and proper permitting.**

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, Bruce Carl, Jimmy Morris
NAYS:	Tamika Williams-Obeng

- E. Motion to approve first reading for an ordinance amending the City of Georgetown Zoning Ordinance Article IV: General Provisions Section 428, and Article VIII: Provisions Governing Use Districts, regarding the required fall zone of Communications Towers and the zoning districts in which they are allowed.**

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, Bruce Carl, Jimmy Morris, Tamika Williams-Obeng

F. Motion to approve first reading of an ordinance to add Certain Fees to the Schedule of Fees Maintained in the Clerk's Record of Planning and Zoning Fees and Charges.

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, Bruce Carl, Jimmy Morris
NAYS:	Tamika Williams-Obeng

8. FINANCE

A. Motion to approve first reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 1, Article II, "Business License" of the Code of Ordinance for the City of Georgetown by updating the Standardized Business License Class Schedule.

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, Bruce Carl, Jimmy Morris, Tamika Williams-Obeng

B. Motion to approve the Accommodations & Hospitality Tax Committee Disbursement Recommendation of FY 2024/2025 Accommodations & Hospitality Tax Funds to Twelve (12) applicants.

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, Bruce Carl, Jimmy Morris, Tamika Williams-Obeng

9. ELECTRIC UTILITIES

- A. Motion to approve a contract in the amount not to exceed \$473,335.00 to Sumter Utilities for distribution line contractor services.**

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, Bruce Carl, Jimmy Morris, Tamika Williams-Obeng

10. ENGINEERING

- A. Motion to approve the Historic District Stormwater Improvements construction change order No. 18 from Green Wave Contracting Inc. in the amount of \$83,490.45 and to extend the contract completion date to December 8, 2025.**

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, Bruce Carl, Jimmy Morris, Tamika Williams-Obeng

- B. Motion to approve submittal of an SC Rural Infrastructure Authority (RIA) grant application for the Willowbank Water Main Improvements project under the basic infrastructure category. The estimated construction cost is \$2,400,000. The total amount of grant funding requested is \$1,500,000.**

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, Bruce Carl, Jimmy Morris, Tamika Williams-Obeng

11. FIRE

A. Motion to Approve purchase and payment in the amount of \$129,821.04 to Motorola Solutions for Replacement of Radios.

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, Bruce Carl, Jimmy Morris, Tamika Williams-Obeng

12. WATER UTILITIES

A. Motion to approve second reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 22-Utilities, Article III, Division 6, Section 22-126 The Pretreatment Ordinance for the City of Georgetown, South Carolina to reflect updates as required by SCDES as a condition of the City's upcoming renewal of the NPDES Wastewater permit.

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, Bruce Carl, Jimmy Morris, Tamika Williams-Obeng

13. ADMINISTRATION

A. Motion to approve a Resolution authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding with Georgetown County for shared services (One to One Health) and to authorize the City Administrator to negotiate and execute a privacy agreement with One to One Health.

Council Member Tamika Williams-Obeng moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	Council Member Tamika Williams-Obeng
SECONDER:	Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements
AYES:	Jim Clements, Carol Jayroe, Bruce Carl, Jimmy Morris, Tamika Williams-Obeng

14. CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Whittier stated the sedimentation basin project is completed and the total cost was \$5.4M. The Cleland Street parking lot project will increase the lot by 28 parking spaces and provide solar lighting. The funds of \$330,000 for this project were through a CDBG grant. Mr. Whittier said the My Meter program will be available to residents within the next 6 months. He said this program will be used to monitor readings and usage for utility accounts.

15. MINUTES

A. Motion to approve minutes of the August 21, 2025 City Council meeting.

Council Member Tamika Williams-Obeng moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	Council Member Tamika Williams-Obeng
SECONDER:	Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements
AYES:	Jim Clements, Carol Jayroe, Bruce Carl, Jimmy Morris, Tamika Williams-Obeng

16. OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Pro Tempore Clements asked for a status on getting a grant to fund the wastewater treatment plant SBR replacement project. Mr. Whittier stated there have not been applications submitted for grants.

17. NEW BUSINESS

Council Member Williams-Obeng said she recently did a ride along with a city police officer and she appreciated the information she learned. She encouraged other city officials to do a ride along to keep informed on what is going on in the city. Mayor Pro Tempore Clements requested that staff review the non-conforming PUDs in throughout the city so that any issues can be resolved. Mayor Jayroe announced the Finance department made an announcement at the Community Meeting this week regarding a

billing error they found that effects some residents (primarily moved from one household to another household or new construction in the city) have not been paying for sewer water and trash pickup. She said this error goes back a few years and it is approximately \$2M that the city has lost in revenues. She said the city will not be back billing these residents, but the errors have been corrected going forward.

18. 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 August 2025**
- 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 Monthly Report**
- K. Public Works Monthly Report**
- L. Risk Management Monthly Report**
- M. Water Utilities Monthly Report**

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

Mayor Jayroe recognized Marilyn Hemmingway. Ms. Hemmingway stated she is concerned about a public post that was made on social media and endorsed by the Mayor and Chief of police regarding 9/11 and the passing of Charlie Kirk.

Mayor Jayroe recognized Wesley Gibson. Mr. Gibson said African Americans make up 50% of the city's population. He said there was a community prayer walk held last night to recognize the recent shootings that have occurred in the city, but no members of City Council attended.

Mayor Jayroe recognized Dr. Myrtle Brown Milton. Dr. Milton stated that except for Council Member Obeng, no other council members attended a community prayer walk

held last night. She stated she is offended by the lack of participation from city leadership.

Mayor Jayroe recognized Brittany Gibson. Ms. Gibson stated she is concerned with a recent comment that was made by a city official. She said city officials are supposed to represent the whole city and all the residents.

Mayor Jayroe recognized Joyce Linnen. Ms. Linnen announced that there will be a health fair this Saturday, September 20th at Bethel AME Church from 10am-2pm. She said their goal is to bring helpful information regarding health concerns and they will be offering free screenings.

20. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Motion to adjourn Regular Meeting and enter into Executive Session pursuant to Section 30-4-70(a)(1) to discuss appointments to the City of Georgetown Boards and Commissions.

Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements moved, seconded by Council Member Tamika Williams-Obeng

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Clements
SECONDER:	Council Member Tamika Williams-Obeng
AYES:	Jim Clements, Carol Jayroe, Bruce Carl, Jimmy Morris, Tamika Williams-Obeng

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm.

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

Council Member Tamika Williams-Obeng moved, seconded by Council Member Bruce Carl

Mayor Jayroe called for the vote.

RESULT:	Approved
MOVER:	Council Member Tamika Williams-Obeng
SECONDER:	Council Member Bruce Carl
AYES:	Jim Clements, Carol Jayroe, Bruce Carl, Jimmy Morris, Tamika Williams-Obeng

Executive Session adjourned and the Regular Meeting reconvened at 6:35pm.

C. NO FORMAL ACTION WAS TAKEN IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

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

21. 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, Bruce Carl, Jimmy Morris, Tamika Williams-Obeng

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 6:35pm.

Stephanie Buccione
City Clerk

Date Approved: 10/16/25