



MINUTES

FORMAL MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL

City Hall, 206 S. Main Street, Council Chambers
Monday, July 13, 2026 - 5:30 p.m.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Knox H. White

2. **INVOCATION**

Councilmember DeWorken invited attendees to join in a moment of silence in memory of U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham.

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

4. **ROLL CALL**

The following members of City Council were in attendance: Mayor Knox White, John DeWorken, Lillian Flemming, Ken Gibson, Tina Belge, and Dorothy Dowe.

Absent: Councilmember Wil Brasington.

5. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

June 22, 2026; Approved as submitted

6. **COMMUNICATIONS / ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

None

7. **INDIVIDUALS WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

Eli Ryan, 122 Pleasant Ridge Avenue, spoke to express concern regarding automated license plate reader systems and requested legislation to deactivate such devices, stating that the cameras can be a violation of privacy and are cost ineffective.

Tim Sellers, 31 Windsor Drive, spoke representing One Community One Voice to express opposition to a proposed high density residential development on two parcels located on Avondale Drive. Mr. Sellers provided Councilmembers with a handout including the proposed development layout, a community impact map, and resident petition of opposition.

Ron Werntz, 32 Windsor Drive, spoke to express opposition regarding a proposed high density residential development on Avondale Drive. Mr. Werntz stated that he is supportive of development, but that the proposed seven houses would not fit the character of the North Main neighborhood. Mr. Werntz also expressed concern regarding stormwater and floodplain management and preserving the tree canopy in North Main Street.

Paul Kountz, 44 N. Avondale Drive, spoke to express opposition regarding a proposed high density residential development on Avondale Drive. Mr. Kountz expressed concern regarding the appropriateness of the property's zoning designation and stated that the development would go against the Urban Forest Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Kountz also expressed concern regarding similar development in the Overbrook neighborhood.

Samantha Mahoney, 219 E. Avondale Drive, spoke to express opposition regarding a proposed high density residential development on Avondale Drive, stating that this project goes against City Council's priority of neighborhood preservation as provided in the GVL2040 Comprehensive Plan. Ms. Mahoney also expressed concern regarding traffic mitigation and children and pedestrian safety.

Denise Corey, 226 E. Avondale Drive, spoke in opposition regarding a proposed high density residential development on Avondale Drive and asked for the City to protect the beauty and integrity of the neighborhood.

Anthony and Anna Gallo, The Gallo Company, spoke to express appreciation to the neighborhood residents for their feedback on the proposed Avondale Drive development and stated that they are working with the appropriate city staff to navigate the best outcome for the project.

Councilmember DeWorken commented on the need to protect the character of the North Main neighborhood and expressed interest in working with the neighbors and the developers to identify the best solution for developing the property. Councilmember DeWorken also commented that he would like to work with Council to identify and address vulnerabilities in the Development Code to keep developments of this nature from happening again.

Councilmember Dowe commented that the North Main neighborhood felt the burden of bad infill development under the old Land Management Ordinance. Councilmember Dowe stated that the City does have record of what the property used to look like and that conversations of future development of the property are still ongoing.

Councilmember Belge commented on the need to consider city priorities and projects, such as the Urban Forest Comprehensive Plan, while also addressing the need for housing and appropriate infill.

John Slipke, 43 Tindal Avenue, Co-Chair of Haynie-Sirrine Neighborhood Association, spoke in support of agenda item 15d, stating that it is an investment opportunity to provide transformational benefits for future generations. Mr. Slipke stated that the Haynie-Sirrine neighborhood will promote the referendum and asked for the City to provide more information on project descriptions and prioritization, to communicate these details, and seek neighborhood input.

8. PRESENTATION

None

9. PUBLIC HEARING

None

10. APPOINTMENTS – Boards and Commissions

None

CONSENT AGENDA

There will be no discussion of Consent Agenda items unless a Council member so requests in which event the item in question will be considered separately.

Councilmember DeWorken moved, seconded by Councilmember Gibson, to approve second and final reading of agenda items 11a and 11b of the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – (Ordinances – Second and Final Reading)

- a. Ordinance to abandon a portion of right-of-way on White Oak Road and Bradley Boulevard (AB-2-2026)
- b. Ordinance to appropriate \$55,211 in the Miscellaneous Grants Fund to reflect an award in the amount of \$27,605 from the Bureau of Justice Assistance Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program and \$27,606 in matching funds from the Law Enforcement Special Revenue Fund to purchase body armor for the Greenville Police Department

12. NEW BUSINESS – (Ordinance – First Reading)

None

13. NEW BUSINESS – (Resolutions – First and Final Reading)

None

REGULAR AGENDA

14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – (Ordinances – Second and Final Reading)

None

15. NEW BUSINESS – (Ordinances – First Reading)

- a. Ordinance to appropriate \$1,015,558 in the Miscellaneous Grants Fund for the state-funded School Resource Officer Program

Councilmember Dowe moved, seconded by Councilmember DeWorken, to approve first reading.

Councilmember Dowe asked if the appropriation is matched by the Greenville County School District as a cost share to support SROs in each school within the City. Chief Thompson stated that the City supports six officers, the School District supports six officers, and the remaining six officers are supported through state grants. Chief Thompson advised that there are currently 15 SROs covering 13 schools, with Greenville High and JL Mann having two officers, and that there is one grant funded position available for AJ Whittenburg.

After discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

- b. Ordinance to appropriate \$535,049 in the Opioid Grant Fund to reflect South Carolina Opioid Recovery Funds of \$515,049 and \$20,000 in interest earnings

Councilmember Gibson moved, seconded by Councilmember Dowe, to approve first reading.

Councilmember Dowe commented that since the Opioid Response Team was formed in 2023, it has received over \$2,000,000 in allocations for opioid response and community outreach initiatives.

After discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

- c. Ordinance to appropriate \$228,331 in the Miscellaneous Grants Fund for the FY 2026 SW Hurricane Helene Grant

Councilmember Gibson moved, seconded by Councilmember Dowe, to approve first reading. The motion carried unanimously.

- d. Ordinance enacted pursuant to the Municipal Tax Relief Act, Title 5, Chapter 41 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended, providing for the imposition of a one percent sales and use tax to provide property tax relief to owner-occupied homes and to finance certain projects upon referendum approval; the form of the ballot to be used in connection therewith; and other matters relating thereto

Councilmember Gibson moved, seconded by Councilmember Dowe, to approve first reading.

Mayor White commented that the City is mindful that the County and other county municipalities are exploring a one percent sales tax and stated that separate ordinances complement each other to address neighborhood infrastructure and public safety.

Councilmember Dowe commented on the experience the City has in communicating large projects throughout their planning, construction and completion, referencing projects supported by the Neighborhood Infrastructure Bond. Councilmember Dowe expressed confidence in city staff's prioritization of the proposed projects and commented on the creation of an interactive map to display where projects will be implemented. Councilmember Dowe also highlighted that this proposition would provide property tax relief to owner occupied homes.

Councilmember DeWorken thanked Senators Jason Elliott and Ross Turner as well as Representative Bruce Bannister for their assistance in shepherding this legislation through the General Assembly. Councilmember DeWorken recognized Rick and Suzanne Altizer of the University Park Neighborhood Association and commented on the approval of agenda item 11a and the Wade Hampton Boulevard Strategic Plan. Councilmember DeWorken advocated for the one percent sales tax as a means for the City to invest in the infrastructure and safety of our neighborhoods.

Councilmember Gibson commented on how city projects are identified and prioritized and stated that this proposition is imperative for the City to make improvements which have been discussed for years.

Councilmember Belge echoed the significance of the City's proposition and highlighted the importance of the County's ordinance, which includes transportation and open space, stating the City and County ordinances compliment each other and make the GVL2040 vision whole.

After discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

City Clerk Camilla Pitman advised of a public drop-in meeting to learn more and provide feedback on the proposed ordinance which will take place July 28 at the Civic Design Center.

16. NEW BUSINESS – (Resolution – First and Final Reading)

- a. Resolution to request removal of sections of Jenkins Street (S-1293) from the State Highway System and to accept the road sections into the City's Street System

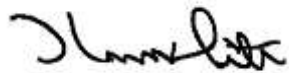
Councilmember Gibson moved, seconded by Councilmember Flemming, to approve first and final reading. The motion carried unanimously.

17. STAFF REPORTS

Deputy City Manager Brandon Madden provided information on the following items:

- a. Fireworks at Unity Park. Mr. Madden expressed appreciation to city staff, Greenville Symphony Orchestra, and Clemson University Singers for a successful celebration, stating that the event hosted an estimated 15,000 attendees at Unity Park.

18. ADJOURN. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:21 p.m.



KNOX H. WHITE, MAYOR

ATTEST:



CAMILLA G. PITMAN, MMC, Certified PLS
CITY CLERK

MEETING NOTICE POSTED AND MEDIA NOTIFIED ON JULY 10, 2026.