

CITY OF SIMPSONVILLE
CITY MEETING MINUTES
CITY MEETING ROOM
FEBRUARY 17, 2026
6 PM

Present: Mayor Sowder, Commissioners Dupre, Garland, Hesse & McDowell, City Attorney Brammell, City Administrator Eden, City Clerk Miller.

Mayor Sowder called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Pledge

Mayor Sowder presented, for approval, the minutes from February 5, 2026 special called meeting and the regular city meeting. After review, **Commissioner Dupre made the motion to accept the minutes as presented. Commissioner McDowell seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mayor Sowder recognized the Commissioner's Report:

Commissioner McDowell (Road) -

Commissioner McDowell shared the following: All snow removal equipment is operational and on standby; Special recipe soil for hanging baskets is set to arrive tomorrow by semi-truck; Final phase of the playground has been ordered and scheduled to be completed this spring, includes swings, spinner, and teeter totter; American flag light pole banners have been secured and are on site. They will be installed on Flag Day and remain up through July 4th, replacing the traditional streetscape flags.

Commissioner Dupre (Sewer) - No Report

Commissioner Garland (Police/Parks) -

Commissioner Garland shared the following: Winter basketball and cheer to wrap up this month; Registration now open for Spring sports and adult Tai Chi; Farmers' Market to open May 9th with 25 vendors currently; Finalizing details with the school system to continue Bobcat Farms despite the school losing its grant funding; The BOOM! is on July 4th at the Outlet Shoppes of the Bluegrass; All sport field aluminum bleachers, which are on site, are to be replaced this season and installed on concrete pads.

Commissioner Garland, on behalf of Police Chief Brummer, presented to the Commission, for approval, the resignation letter from Police Recruit Corbin O'Bryan, effective February 16, 2026. **Commissioner Garland made the motion to accept the resignation of Police Recruit O'Bryan, effective February 16, 2026. Commissioner Dupre seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Commissioner Hesse (Finance) -

Commissioner Hesse presented the January Expenditure Reports. No discussion. **Commissioner Hesse made the motion to approve the January expenditure reports as presented. Commissioner Dupre seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Commissioner Hesse presented the January Financial Reports. No discussion. **Commissioner Hesse made the motion to accept January financial reports as presented. Commissioner Garland seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mayor's Report: No Report

Mayor Sowder recognized Cardinal Club HOA President, Chris Squires, who addressed the Commission with a letter of concern regarding the rezoning of the Just A Mere Lane property located behind Cardinal Club residents.

Mayor Sowder requested a ten minute recess. **Commissioner Hesse made a motion to enter into a ten minute recess at 6:30 pm. Commissioner Garland seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Commissioner McDowell made a motion to return from the ten minute recess at 6:40 pm. Commissioner Hesse seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Sowder recognized the City Attorney's Report:

City Attorney Brammell presented to the Commission Ordinance #2026-002 pertaining to a zone change of 54 Just A Mere Lane from Residential Urban Neighborhood (RU-5) to Commercial Neighborhood (CN) with binding elements as spelled out under Item #17 on page 4 of 5 of the Findings of Fact. City Attorney Brammell read the ordinance in its entirety. **Commissioner McDowell made the motion to accept Ordinance #2026-002 for the first reading. Commissioner Garland seconded. Ordinance #2026-002 will be placed on the March 3,2026 meeting agenda for the second reading and possible adoption.**

City Attorney Brammell presented to the Commission Ordinance #2026-003 pertaining to a Local State of Emergency Employee Compensation for non-exempt and exempt employees. City Attorney Brammell read the ordinance in its entirety. **Commissioner Garland made the motion to accept Ordinance #2026-003 for the first reading. Commissioner McDowell seconded. Ordinance #2026-003 will be placed on the March 3,2026 meeting agenda for the second reading and possible adoption.**

City Attorney Brammell presented to the Commission Ordinance #2026-005 regarding the nonpartisan Election Procedure. City Attorney Brammell read the ordinance in its entirety. **Commissioner McDowell made the motion to accept Ordinance #2026-005 for the first reading. Commissioner Dupre seconded. Ordinance #2026-003 will be placed on the March 3, 2026 meeting agenda for the second reading and possible adoption.**

City Attorney Brammell presented to the Commission Ordinance #2026-004 pertaining to the City of Simpsonville Legislative Body Compensation. City Attorney Brammell read the ordinance in its entirety. **Commissioner Garland made the motion to accept Ordinance #2026-004 for the first reading. Commissioner McDowell seconded. Ordinance #2026-004 will be placed on the March 3,2026 meeting agenda for the second reading and possible adoption.**

Mayor Sowder recognized the City Clerk's Report:

City Clerk Miller shared 38 property tax bills remain unpaid for 2025, totaling \$12,800.84.

Bills not paid by May will then be turned over to the City Attorney.

Mayor Sowder recognized the City Administrator's Report:

City Administrator Eden presented to the Commission, for approval, the Request For Qualification (RFQ) for the 2-story building. Commissioner Hesse made the motion to approve and authorize the City Administrator to proceed with advertising. Commissioner Dupre seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

City Administrator Eden shared the City's website must be ADA compliant by April 2027 and plans to meet with Civic Plus for quote for 2026-2027 budget.

Commissioner McDowell made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Dupre seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned 7:05 pm.

ATTEST:


Denise Miller/City Clerk

APPROVED:

 3/3/2026
Ronnie Sowder/Mayor