

Regular Council Meeting
March 17th, 2025
Council Chamber – Clemson City Hall

Public Hearing 5:30 PM: RZNE – 000406-2025 Hwy 93 Parcels (Rezoning)

Call to Order: Mayor Robert Halfacre at 6:13 p.m.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Halfacre

Proclamations: Women's History Month Nominees Lillian Boatwright, Maude Davis Chapman, and Lindsey Newton.

Members present: Mayor Halfacre presiding, Council Members Boatwright, Fulmer, Evans, Jones, and Sherrill.

Absent: Council Member Smith

Notification emailed: March 13th, 2025 to the *Greenville News*, the *Journal*, the *Independent Mail*, the *Post and Courier*, the *Pickens Sentinel*, the *Easley Progress*; WSNW Radio, WYFF, WSPA, and Fox Carolina.

Public Session: Mayor Pro Tem Boatwright presiding. MyCivic comment from Jasmine Sampson, 673 Old Greenville Highway, regarding vape vending machines at downtown bars.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the Public Comment Sub-Committee Meeting March 3rd, 2025, the Regular Council Meeting March 3rd, 2025, and the Special Called Meeting March 5th, 2025 were each approved as presented.

Reports/Discussion

Discuss enacting a City Ordinance to regulate the use of golf carts in the City. – Police Chief Jorge Campos stated this proposed ordinance is the product of meetings with residents. Two state laws regulate these types of vehicles: one for golf carts, and one for low speed vehicles. Some of the issues to be addressed are lack of identifiable tag, carts being driven on sidewalks and on the Green Crescent Trail as well as other prohibited areas, and taxi/shuttle service business attempts. Council Member Boatwright stated the requirements seemed reasonable. Council Member Jones asked about only parking one golf cart per space. Chief Campos suggested adjusting the language to clarify not impeding other spaces. Council Member Fulmer highlighted working with the university on this issue. This ordinance would require proof of residency for the City in order to receive a City Permit to operate. Residents would be allowed to rent golf carts, but the resident would be the one required to register it. MyCivic comment from Norman McGee, 249 Riggs Drive, in opposition to prohibiting night time driving of golf carts. Marni McGee, 249 Riggs Drive, requested having a public hearing to allow more residents to speak. A public hearing on the golf cart ordinance was scheduled for 5:30pm on 4/7/2025.

Discuss amendments to Chapter 2-44(c) regarding public comments at meetings. – Council Member Boatwright stated that they met as a sub-committee and highlighted the proposed changes including requiring sign up 30 minutes ahead of time, not speaking or yielding time on behalf of others, not reading

MyCivic comments if the person is present, and encouraging speakers to provide new comments. Council Member Jones suggested printing a copy of the public comment rules on the back of the agenda. Council Member Boatwright read emailed comments from Jenny Harmon and Jordan Harmon, 110 Karen Drive, in opposition to the changes. Language in the proposed ordinance allows Council to extend the public comment period if desired.

Staff Reports: City Administrator Andy Blondeau: The budget work session on governmental funds will be on 3/27 at City Hall and another budget meeting will be held later on enterprise funds.

Mayor-Council reports/comments/new business

Mayor Halfacre: The Trees Upstate tree canopy annual report had the City of Clemson with around 50% tree canopy coverage. The tree giveaway was a great success. Thanks to Tony Tidwell and his team for their work. Council Member Boatwright: Complimented the new public art on the control towers throughout the community.

Council Member Sherrill: Pickens Meals on Wheels is an amazing operation. She encouraged other Council Members to review the JCUAB committee assignments.

There being no further business, a motion was made, duly seconded, and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeremiah Jackson, MBL

Approved

By: _____
G. Robert Halfacre, Mayor