

Regular Council Meeting
July 21st, 2025
Council Chamber-Clemson City Hall

Call to Order: Mayor Robert Halfacre at 6:30 p.m.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: Council Member Fulmer

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

Absent: Council Members Scott and Sherrill.

Notification emailed: July 17th, 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 Halfacre presiding. Robert Lee, 113 Pressley Drive, regarding a former police chief. Gay Eitenmiller, 137 Honeycomb Lane in Central, regarding development. MyCivic comment from Steve Bynum, 136 Stanbury Drive, regarding meeting livestream issues.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the Regular Council Meeting July 7th, 2025 were approved as presented.

Reports/Discussion

Receive a report from organizers of this year's Red Hill Community Day event. – City Administrator Andy Blondeau deferred to event organizer Robert Crooks who presented that \$18,000 was raised. There were an estimated 1200 people at each day of the event with live entertainment, free food and inflatables. Mr. Crooks thanked the City and staff for their support.

Request Public Hearing date for RZNE-000439-2025 Cochran Road parcels. – Zoning and Codes Administrator Jacob Peabody presented. The public hearing was scheduled for September 15th at 5:30pm.

Request Public Hearing date for 2025-R-01 Proposed Text Amendment (Arterial Frontage Fences). – Zoning and Codes Administrator Jacob Peabody presented. The public hearing was scheduled for September 2nd at 5:30pm.

Request Public Hearing date - 2025-R-02 Proposed Text Amendment (Bufferyard Standards). – Zoning and Codes Administrator Jacob Peabody presented. The public hearing was scheduled for September 2nd at 5:30pm.

Discuss a recommendation from the Police Advisory Board to allow for the use of golf carts at night. – Police Chief Jorge Campos presented along with members of the Police Advisory Board. This change would account for recent state law changes. Some highlights include enhancing safety measures and also allowing golf carts to operate at night if they meet specific requirements. Clemson University is also working on updating their current golf cart rules.

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Discuss a proposed amendment to section 18-11 to disallow overnight parking in all public space unless otherwise posted. – Parking Services Manager Rebekah Wilbanks presented that this adjusts the language to be more broadly inclusive since more parking has been added. Mayor Halfacre requested to clarify the wording of this agenda item for future meetings to reduce confusion.

Discuss a proposed amendment to section 18-11 to include a fine for special event parking violations.

– Parking Services Manager Rebekah Wilbanks presented to create a new fee to address the issue of the fine for nonpayment being cheaper than the special event rate of \$40. The current fine is \$30, which would be reduced to \$15 if paid within 7 days. The proposed fine is \$100, which would be reduced to \$50 if paid within 7 days.

Discussion of PUD-000391-2025 Proposed Planned Development (Varsity 3). – Assistant City Administrator Nathan Woods deferred to Jon Silkworth to present. This plan had an increase in the number of 1 bedroom units following feedback from City Council. The parking ratio was estimated to be about a 1:1 ratio. Some key points were donating more than \$500,000 to the City's Community Development Fund, donating 1.7 acres of park land, adding additional infrastructure, and adding additional buffers. The total cost of all the improvements were estimated at \$1,000,000.

Staff Reports

City Administrator Andy Blondeau: Proposed moving the upcoming August 18th meeting to August 12th due to the Welcome Back Festival. The upcoming Council meeting was moved to August 12th at 6:30pm. The pumper fire truck was sold to Laurel County, Kentucky for \$200,000 to replace their truck which was damaged in a tornado. CAAAM Finalists drop in for Marquise Drayton on July 29th and for Jaquil Durham on July 31st, both from 5:30 to 6:30 at City Hall. The JCUAB Annual Kickoff Meeting will be held at the Alumni Center on August 7th from 8 am to 10 am. The Clemson Chamber Annual Meeting is tomorrow at the Best Western at 11:30am. The SCDOT quarterly meeting is on July 31st.

Policy Action

Other Policy Items

Consider awarding the Downtown ADA correction 2025 and the US 123 ADA safety negotiated additional work in the amount of \$381,411.00 to Trae's Clearing & Grading along with a 10% contingency of \$38,000.00. –City Engineer Nathan Hinkle presented that the contractor would be able to mobilize on Wednesday in an effort to try to complete the project before students return. Council Member Smith made a motion, seconded by Council Member Fulmer, to award the Downtown ADA correction 2025 and the US 123 ADA safety negotiated additional work in the amount of \$381,411.00

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to Trae's Clearing & Grading along with a 10% contingency of \$38,000.00. Vote on this motion was unanimous.

Consider authorizing the City Administrator to enter into a multi-year contract for Hazardous Tree Removal with Rock Solid Earthworks, LLC. – Procurement Director Brandon Burton presented that this will improve efficiency by not having to bid each individual item. This would still allow us to contract with other companies in case of natural disasters. Council Member Fulmer made a motion, seconded by Council Member Jones, to authorize the City Administrator to enter into a multi-year contract for Hazardous Tree Removal with Rock Solid Earthworks, LLC. Vote on this motion was unanimous.

Mayor-Council reports/comments/new business

Mayor Halfacre: Clemson Elementary has partnered with the Central Clemson Recreation Center to offer free swimming lessons for all second grade students.

There being no further business, a motion was made, duly seconded, and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved

Jeremiah Jackson, MBL

By: _____
G. Robert Halfacre, Mayor