

Regular Council Meeting
August 12th, 2025
Council Chamber-Clemson City Hall

5:30 PM Work Session: Abernathy Park Design

City Engineer Nathan Hinkle introduced Darren Meyer from MKSK who presented. Abernathy Park is located on Army Corps of Engineers property and they have been involved from the beginning on the project. The next public input meetings will be held on August 26th with two drop-in style sessions: one from 12:30pm – 2:00pm and the other at 5:30pm - 7:30pm. Council Members explained their individual ideas for the park including safety, lighting, handicap accessibility, and ease of maintenance.

Call to Order: Mayor Robert Halfacre at 6:32 p.m.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Halfacre

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

Absent: None

Notification emailed: August 8th, 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 Scott presiding. MyCivic comment from Susanna Schantz, 309 Oak Street, regarding development.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the Regular Council Meeting August 4th, 2025 were approved as presented.

Reports/Discussion

Receive a presentation about Clemson University's comprehensive parking overview and the Tigers Commute App. – Clemson University's Director of Parking and Transportation Services Dan Hoffman presented. The new 1200 space parking garage is scheduled for completion in fall of 2027. Around 50% of freshman bring their cars to campus. Catbus is key to the university's transportation needs and helped develop the Gold route. The university has thousands of new parking sensors that cover all spots on campus showing real-time space availability as well as a new ride sharing program accessible through the Tigers Commute app.

Discuss a recommendation from the Sustainability Committee to include considerations for energy efficient appliances when making purchases for city buildings. – Sustainability Committee Vice Chairperson Eunice Lehmacher presented the recommendation to add to our procurement policy the ability to choose a potentially more expensive option (up to 25%) if it improves energy efficiency.

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Discuss a recommendation from the Sustainability Committee to prioritize construction work in 2025 on two Green Crescent Trail segments. – Sustainability Committee Vice Chairperson Eunice Lehmacher requested to prioritize sections of the trail including Berkeley Drive and Nettles Park to Totties Place. City Engineer Nathan Hinkle explained that both sections are currently in process and will be bid out in phases. This will also be done in conjunction with SCDOT paving Berkely Drive.

Discuss the installation of a low-cost traffic calming device along Azalea Dr. – City Engineer Nathan Hinkle presented using 2 traffic chokers at an estimated cost of \$3,796 due to the original request not meeting the requirements for speed humps after a traffic study.

Staff Reports

City Administrator Andy Blondeau: We have been working with the Army Corps of Engineers all along regarding the Abernathy Park project.

Municipal Clerk Jeremiah Jackson: We are scheduling a public hearing for the next City Council meeting on 9/2 for the 398 College project. This hearing will begin at 5:30 following the other two previously scheduled public hearings regarding arterial frontage fences and bufferyard standards. The next PCMA meeting is 8/26 at 6:45 pm in Pickens.

Policy Action

Ordinances

Consider 2nd reading of a new City ordinance to regulate the use of Golf Carts in the City. – Police Chief Jorge Campos presented no changes since the last meeting. Comment from Elaine Masceri, 204 Wren Street, in opposition to the ordinance. Council Member Fulmer made a motion, seconded by Council Member Scott, to approve 2nd reading of a new City ordinance to regulate the use of Golf Carts in the City. Council Members Fulmer, Scott, Sherrill, Smith, and Mayor Halfacre in support. Council Member Evans in opposition. Motion passed 6 to 1 in favor.

Consider 2nd reading of an ordinance change for the overnight parking locations to include all public parking spaces in section 18-11.1 of the City Code of Ordinance. – Assistant City Administrator Nathan Woods presented no changes since the last meeting. Council Member Scott made a motion, seconded by Council Member Fulmer, to approve 2nd reading of an ordinance change for the overnight parking locations to include all public parking spaces in section 18-11.1 of the City Code of Ordinance. Vote on this motion was unanimous.

Consider 2nd reading of an ordinance change to establish a new parking violation in section 18-17 (Special Event Parking) of the City Code of Ordinances. – Assistant City Administrator Nathan Woods presented no changes since the last meeting. Council Member Scott made a motion, seconded by Council Member Fulmer, to approve 2nd reading of an ordinance change to establish a new parking

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violation in section 18-17 (Special Event Parking) of the City Code of Ordinances. Vote on this motion was unanimous.

Consider 1st reading of an ordinance amending the business license ordinance class schedule as required by Act 176 of 2020. – Business License Administrator Connie Standridge presented no changes since the last meeting. Council Member Fulmer made a motion, seconded by Council Member Scott, to approve 1st reading of an ordinance amending the business license ordinance class schedule as required by Act 176 of 2020. Vote on this motion was unanimous.

Consider 1st reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 6 (Court and Criminal Procedure), specifically Section 6-2 (Appointment of Municipal Judges) and Section 6-4 (Court Clerk) of the City Code. – City Administrator Andy Blondeau presented no changes since the last meeting. Council Member Fulmer made a motion, seconded by Council Member Scott, to approve 1st reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 6 (Court and Criminal Procedure), specifically Section 6-2 (Appointment of Municipal Judges) and Section 6-4 (Court Clerk) of the City Code. Vote on this motion was unanimous.

Consider 1st Reading of PUD-000391-2025 Proposed Planned Development (Varsity 3). – Zoning and Codes Administrator Jacob Peabody presented that this was unanimously passed by Planning Commission. Developer Jon Silkworth explained the process of the development getting to this point. He highlighted that 43% of the units are 1 bedroom and the plan includes a contribution to the Community Action Fund of \$524,000. Council Member Fulmer made a motion, seconded by Council Member Scott, to approve 1st Reading of PUD-000391-2025 Proposed Planned Development (Varsity 3). Vote on this motion was unanimous.

Other Policy Items

Consider awarding the Clemson Park Phase 2 (ITB 2025-06-006) project in the amount of \$2,398,116.00 to New Terrain Grading. – City Engineer Nathan Hinkle presented that this will include a new building, splash pad, parking lot, sewer line work and extensive grading. The number increased from the original agenda item by \$87,000 due to necessary sewer work. Council Member Evans filed a recusal form for this item. Council Member Fulmer made a motion, seconded by Council Member Scott, to approve awarding the Clemson Park Phase 2 (ITB 2025-06-006) project in the amount of \$2,474,456.00 to New Terrain Grading. Vote on this motion was unanimous.

Executive Session

Council Member Fulmer made a motion, seconded by Council Member Smith, to enter into executive session to review the City Administrator's goals.; SC Code Section 30-4-70(a)(1); SC Code Section 30-4-70(a)(1) Vote on this motion was unanimous.

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After discussion, motion was made, duly seconded, and unanimously voted to exit Executive Session and return to the open session.

Following the Executive Session, there was nothing to report.

Mayor-Council reports/comments/new business

Mayor Halfacre: Kudos to Sonya Morton, first responders, and New Hope Baptist Church for their work on the recent Unity for Law Enforcement Fun Day at Dawson Park on August 9th.

Council Member Sherrill: JCUAB had their yearly kickoff meeting on August 7th.

There being no further business, a motion was made, duly seconded, and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeremiah Jackson, MBL

Approved

By: _____
G. Robert Halfacre, Mayor