

City Council Minutes
June 17, 2025

Orangeburg City Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, June 17, 2025, at 6:00 pm in Council Chambers, 933 Middleton Street with Mayor Butler presiding.

PRESENT:

Michael C. Butler, Mayor

Annette Dees Grevious

Dr. Kalu Kalu

L. Zimmerman Keitt, Mayor Pro Tem

Richard Stroman

PRESENT VIRTUALLY:

Jerry Hannah

Sandra P. Knotts

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Keitt, seconded by Councilmember Stroman to approve June 3, 2025, minutes. The motion was unanimously approved.

City Administrator Evering addressed Council concerning consideration of cancelation of July 15, 2025, meeting due to Budget Meetings. He stated, "Council has a regular Council meeting July 1st, budget workshop meeting July 8th, and Municipal Association of South Carolina Annual meeting the week of July 15th. With all of this going on, we ask you consider cancelling the July 15th Council meeting."

A motion was made by Councilmember Kalu, seconded by Councilmember Grevious to cancel the July 15, 2025, Council meeting due to Budget Meetings. The motion was unanimously approved.

DPU Manager Harley addressed Council concerning announcement of Wade Holmes as the newly elected President of the South Carolina Association of Municipal Power Systems (SCAMPS). He stated, "I wanted to take this opportunity to let Council, and the public know our Electric Division Director has been named the president of the South Carolina Association of Municipal Power Systems (SCAMPS). This is the organization that coordinates the mutual aid for the state between the municipal electric utilities and neighboring states. They also coordinate training for all the twenty-one electric cities across the state. He has been on the SCAMPS board for several years. We are very excited for Wade and this opportunity for him to assume the leadership role and show his peers what he can do and what we represent here at the DPU."

A motion was made by Councilmember Stroman, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Keitt to go into Executive Session concerning Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements and proposed sale or purchase of property, the receipt of legal advice or other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege S.C. Code 30-4-70(a)(2) a) Project Top Floor, b) Chapel and Chamber of Commerce building repairs, c) Annexation, d) Real Estate Covenants, Discussion of matters relating to the proposed location, expansion, or the provision of services encouraging location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the public body – Project Rhino S.C. Code Sec. 30-4-70(a)(5), Discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline or release of an employee, a student or a person regulated by a public body, or the appointment of a person to a public body S.C. Code Sec. 30-4-70(a)(1) – DPU Management. The motion was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Councilmember Stroman, seconded by Councilmember Grevious to Return to Open Session. The motion was approved 6-0. Councilmember Kalu was absent for the vote.

City Administrator Evering addressed Council concerning authorization to accept wining bid for repair of Chapel and Chamber of Commerce building. He stated, "As you may recall, on November 7, 2024, there was significant flooding in the Edisto Memorial Gardens. The Chamber of Commerce building and the Chapel sustained a great deal of damage. The Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued in April seeking proposals to repair the damage. We received five bids. The review team reviewed and scored the bids. The two top scoring bids were Trident Veteran

Construction from Charleston and the Paragon Group from Orangeburg. We are suggesting these two companies be awarded a contract to repair the Chamber building and the chapel.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Keitt, seconded by Councilmember Grevious to authorize the City Administrator to accept the winning bids of Trident Veteran Construction from Charleston and the Paragon Group from Orangeburg to repair the Chapel and Chamber of Commerce building. The motion was approved 6-0. Councilmember Kalu was not present for the vote.

DPU Manager addressed Council concerning a resolution authorizing an Economic Development Contribution to the County of Orangeburg in an amount not to exceed nine hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$950,000). He stated, "This is a resolution authorizing an Economic Development Contribution to the County of Orangeburg in an amount not to exceed nine hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$950,000). This would be taken from our economic development revolving fund. As you may recall, several years ago, we created an ordinance that would allow us to set aside funds that would support economic development in our community particularly as we try to encourage and attract prospects to our City and County. This fund currently has approximately \$1.5 million set aside for that purpose and we are asking that you allow me to use \$950,000 to assist the County in economic development efforts. The money would be sent back to the fund through a subsequent agreement that we will develop with the County. Once we get all the details, we will bring that back to you and tell you how those funds will be repaid."

A motion was made by Councilmember Grevious, seconded by Councilmember Hannah to approve a resolution authorizing an Economic Development Contribution to the County of Orangeburg in an amount not to exceed nine hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$950,000). The motion was approved 6-0. Councilmember Kalu was not present for the vote.

A motion was made by Councilmember Grevious, seconded by Councilmember Hannah to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved 6-0. Councilmember Kalu was not present for the vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Linda McDaniel
City Clerk





**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTION TO
THE COUNTY OF ORANGEBURG IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED NINE HUNDRED
FIFTY THOUSAND AND 00/100 (\$950,000.00) DOLLARS**

WHEREAS, the County of Orangeburg in partnership with an industrial prospect is in the process of development of an industrial park located in the service area of the City's Department of Public Utilities and being identified as Project Rhino, and

WHEREAS, the County has requested the City of Orangeburg assist it in said development by a monetary contribution for the purpose of purchasing property related to industrial development in said park, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Utilities has funds in its Economic Development Revolving Fund set aside for said purpose, and

WHEREAS, industrial development is a "public purpose" and the City of Orangeburg has the authority to expend public funds for said purpose, and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Orangeburg finds that the development of said industrial park within the service area of the Department of Public Utilities serves a public purpose.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council duly assembled that Warren T. Harley, Manager of the Department of Public Utilities is hereby authorized to make a contribution not to exceed Nine Hundred Fifty Thousand and 00/100 (\$950,000.00) Dollars from the Economic Development Revolving Fund of the Department of Public Utilities to the County of Orangeburg for the purpose of industrial development, specifically, for the purchase of property related to the industrial park being developed by the County of Orangeburg for an industrial prospect identified as Project Rhino.

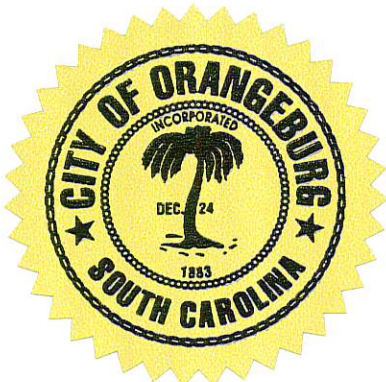
PASSED BY the City Council of the City of Orangeburg, South Carolina on this 17th day of June, 2025.

Mayor

Michael C. Butler

Members of Council

[Signature]
[Signature]
Richard J. Stone
[Signature]
[Signature]



Attest:

Linda McDaniel

City Clerk