City Council Minutes
August 4, 2026

Orangeburg City Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, August 4, 2026, at 6:00 pm in Council Chambers, 933 Middleton Street with Mayor Butler presiding.

PRESENT:
Michael C. Butler, Mayor
Annette Dees Grevious
Jerry Hannah
Jordan E. Hawkins
Dr. Kalu Kalu, Mayor Pro Tem
L. Zimmerman Keitt
Sandra P. Knotts

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Kalu, seconded by Councilmember Keitt to approve June 16, 2026, City Council Minutes. The motion was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Councilmember Keitt, seconded by Councilmember Knotts to approve July 14, 2026, City Council Special Meeting Minutes. The motion was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Kalu, seconded by Councilmember Keitt to approve July 14, 2026, City Council Budget Workshop Minutes. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mayor Butler recognized Courage as the August Orangeburg County Community of Character Trait.

Council presented a resolution honoring the life, service, and legacy of United States Senator Lindsey Graham.

Council presented a resolution recognizing the Fearless Individuals Reaching Excellence Youth Coalition for being named 2026 National Group Youth Advocates of the Year by the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids.

City Administrator Evering addressed Council concerning an appointment to the Employee Grievance Committee. He stated, "We currently have a vacancy on the Employee Grievance Committee. For your consideration, Mr. Lashawn Shuler of the Service Department has been recommended to serve the unexpired term ending 06-04-2028."

A motion was made by Councilmember Keitt, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kalu to appoint Mr. Lashawn Shuler of the Service Department to serve the unexpired term ending 06-04-2028 on the Employee Grievance Committee. The motion was unanimously approved.

City Administrator Evering addressed Council concerning a resolution approving the City Administrator to negotiate and enter a contract with RSH Sign Group for the Stevenson Performing Arts Center Marquee. He stated, "As you may recall, the City received a $250,000 grant from the South Carolina Department of Commerce. Mr. Gilleon Frierson was instrumental in helping us receive the grant award. It was decided that the funds would be expended on a full-facade marquee that will help revitalize that area along with Stevenson Auditorium. We put out a request for proposals and received three qualifying bids. RSH Sign Group received the highest number of points based on evaluation criteria and it is our recommendation that the contract be awarded to RSH Sign Group."

Councilmember Hannah asked, "Is this a two-sided sign?"

City Administrator Evering stated, "It is a top of the line, LED digital, full façade sign. It will extend from one end of the building to the other end."

Councilmember Grevious asked, "The total amount is $239,000 for the sign. What happens to the remainder of the grant funds?"

City Administrator Evering stated, "I think it will go back to the Department of Commerce unless they give us permission for other uses which we can request. The marquee can be used for informational purposes for anything that is going on in the City not necessarily at Stevenson Auditorium."

A motion was made by Councilmember Keitt, seconded by Councilmember Grevious to approve a resolution approving the City Administrator to negotiate and enter a contract with RSH Sign Group for the Stevenson Performing Arts Center Marquee. The motion was unanimously approved.

City Administrator Evering addressed Council concerning first reading of an ordinance amending the budget for the City of Orangeburg for the Fiscal Year October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026. He stated, "This is our annual budget amendment. The current budget is $25,960,000. As of August 3, 2026, the City has spent approximately $20,100,000 which is 77% of the budget. Obviously, we still have 60 days left. The current estimate for the amended budget is $23,709,310. Of course, this is subject to change in the next 60 days and may change prior to third reading. For first reading purposes, we ask that it be amended for $25,960,000 to $23,709,310."

Councilmember Grevious asked, "I just want to reiterate, we are anticipating that we will come in under budget this year?"

City Administrator Evering stated, "Yes, as it currently stands, keeping our fingers crossed, we will be approximately $2 million under budget."

A motion was made by Councilmember Grevious, seconded by Councilmember Keitt to approve first reading of an ordinance amending the budget for the City of Orangeburg for the Fiscal Year October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026. The motion was unanimously approved.

City Administrator Evering addressed Council concerning first reading of an ordinance adopting the budget for the City of Orangeburg for fiscal year October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027; establishing the Hillcrest Golf Course Enterprise Fund and renaming the Service Department to the Maintenance Department. He stated, "I want to provide some highlights of the recommended budget proposal. We are suggesting that we add to the functions of the Service Department and rename to the Maintenance Department. Currently, I think there are some inefficiencies as it relates to the way the Service Department operates with other departments in the City for example both the Parks and Recreation and Service Departments are responsible for certain landscaping. We want to make the Maintenance Department responsible for all landscaping and building maintenance within the City. Again, it is a consolidation of services to be more efficient. As you may recall three or four years ago, the auditing firm we were using at the time, recommended that we put the Hillcrest Golf Course into the General Fund for accounting purposes. We are now recommending that we take it back out as an Enterprise Fund because of the new agreement that we have with South Carolina State (SCSU). It will make the accounting cleaner and easier to follow and it is better from an accounting standpoint based on the recommendation that we have internally."

Mayor Pro Tem Kalu asked, "The recommendations that you are making tonight are part of the audit last year of internal reorganization, correct?"

City Administrator Evering stated, "No, the Maintenance Department is something that we have observed and is an inefficiency that we can improve upon and is my personal recommendation to Council. As far as the Enterprise Fund is concerned, it is more of an internal recommendation by our Finance Department to be pulled out as a separate Enterprise Fund especially considering the agreement we made with SCSU last year."

Mayor Pro Tem Kalu asked, "Are we going to receive the results of the audit?"

City Administrator Evering stated, "Yes, we have plans for the auditor to present."

Mayor Butler stated, "At one time, the Service Department was under the Public Works Department. You all know, with the Service and Parks and Recreation Departments, we must buy some of the same equipment and to be more efficient, we are combining departments."

Councilmember Grevious asked, "To be clear, you said the Maintenance Department will handle all landscaping; however, we will still have an outside contractor for some landscaping?"

City Administrator Evering stated, "Yes, we are continuing to pursue that as we did an analysis of the outsourcing and thus far we have saved about $270,000. Next, I would like to point out some ongoing challenges. The assessment value for the City dropped 2.4% for 2026 which is the overall value of real property. With that drop, it cost us about $140,000 in lost property tax revenue. The property tax collection rate has been down from 95% to 90% thus far. It is slower to get that revenue in which is an ongoing conversation that I have been having with the County. The delays thus far are approximately costing us about $400,000. We hope that collection rate will increase. We have a challenge of deferred maintenance of aging infrastructure and capital needs such as replacing the HVAC systems in several buildings including this building and Stevenson Auditorium. The economic environment in terms of inflation continues to increase the cost of goods and services. We did an analysis that over the past five years, there has been a 22% cost increase in the Consumer Price Index, so inflation has certainly negatively impacted the City as it has all of us. We are proposing that we continue to work on the five-year financial plan. This would be year two. As part of the plan, we were proposing to reduce our overall number of employees through attrition from 180 in Fiscal Year 2026 to 170 in Fiscal Year 2027. However, after meeting with our directors and seeing their needs and ensuring we have enough employees to provide the services that our citizens deserve, we are recommending that decrease be from 180 to 175 instead of 170. We are also recommending a millage increase, so the current millage rate is 109 mills that included a rollback that was done a year or two ago. We are recommending 10 mills increase which would generate about $450,000 to go toward Public Safety needs and some of the infrastructure needs that I mentioned earlier. This property tax increase would amount to about $40 to $43 a year on $100,000. There are also several increases related to the Master Fee Schedule. For example, we are recommending an increase from $20 to $25 a month on residential sanitation which would still make us lower than the private sector and in the middle of comparable municipalities. We are not recommending any new debt for 2027. We talked about employee compensation program which would now be based more on a merit. We have allocated some funds to do the statutory required comprehensive plan. The total budget we are recommending is $26,734,984 that would include a total General Fund Operating cost which would be down by 2.1%. It would go down by half a million dollars. But most of that increase would be $1.3 million dollars which would go toward capital cost, capital improvements that we need. We are also looking at coming up with a plan to reduce overtime. We talked earlier about the restructuring. We are reducing a couple positions in Parks and Recreation. In DPS, we are adding a shift corporal and three patrol officers. We are continuing replacement and expansion of body cameras, police safety equipment, and ongoing vehicle replacements. We are recommending $38,000 for a kennel for rescue animals, $400,000 for patrol vehicles and equipment, and $74,000 for safety equipment which would include rifles, plate shields, and SWAT vests. In the Fire Department, we are recommending $800,000 toward refurbishment of two fire engines. In Public Works, we are recommending we hire an additional mechanic for the garage. Good mechanics, as you know, are difficult to come by and we have a large fleet, and our mechanics do an excellent job, but they need help. We recommend $220,000 for replacement of a grapple truck for Public Works, and $235,000 for IT systems that are end of life. These systems are mandatory and must be replaced. Some of them are related to sieges, which is a Federal requirement (FBI), so we do not really have the option of not replacing a lot of these IT requirements. Of course, IT changes almost daily and it is difficult to try to keep up but it is something that we must do. We recommend allocating $100,000 to replace the HVAC in Council Chambers and Stevenson Auditorium. Those are some of the general highlights that I wanted to point out. Again, we are recommending a total budget of $26,734,984. This is about a 3% increase over last year's budget but again most of that increase is going toward capital improvements."

Mayor Pro Tem Kalu asked, "Are you still working on hiring a CFO?"

City Administrator Evering stated, "Yes, we are in the process. We hired a consultant who is currently conducting interviews, and we are in the middle of that process."

Mayor Pro Tem Kalu asked, "What is the anticipation date of filling this position?"

City Administrator Evering stated, "Honestly when we get the right person. I do not want to lock us into a date, obviously, the sooner the better, but I want to make sure that we have the right person."

Mayor Pro Tem Kalu stated, "I was looking at the numbers and the impact the CFO will have on your new budget if we hire someone tomorrow."

City Administrator Evering stated, "Yes, I want to thank Daniel Driggers who is the budget analysis at DPU. He has done a tremendous job of helping the Finance Department and helping pull all this together. We want to thank other DPU employees as well, Josh Nexsen and Lauren Privett and Marishka Williams from our group."

Councilmember Grevious asked, "Of these 175 positions, does that include the CFO position?"

City Administrator Evering stated, "Yes, it does and it also includes the fire training officer position that was recommended by the DPS Fire Services as an important, needed position."

Councilmember Grevious asked, "Did we take a look at what it would look like if we did not increase the millage rate or did not increase it by 10 mills?"

City Administrator Evering stated, "The 10 mills is recommended because it is in line with our plan. It would provide approximately $450,000 toward Capital Improvements specifically related to DPS. However, if you all decided to go in another direction or less of an increase, we must find ways to make that up elsewhere either delay some capital improvements or make cuts elsewhere."

Councilmember Hannah asked, "How long have we been operating the Finance Department as it is right now?"

City Administrator Evering stated, "Two years."

Councilmember Hannah stated, "I do not know the day to day of it, but seemingly whatever we are doing now is working as we are coming up with numbers and things are changing. How would it benefit us to hire a CFO versus letting it stay like it is now?"

City Administrator Evering stated, "Like I said, we have gotten a lot of assistance from DPU employees Daniel, Josh and Lauren who have their own duties at DPU, but we have been relying on them to assist and help. As we continue to move forward, I do think it will be beneficial for us to have someone who is on the ground day to day whose sole job is to be responsible for the City's finances."

Councilmember Hannah asked, "Are we increasing the rates of sanitation? What are we doing with the increase? Are we increasing the sanitation workers? You must take time to go see the sanitation workers and pat them on the back."

City Administrator Evering stated, "We could use that money for new equipment as we are recommending $220,000 to replace a grapple truck. We recently purchased a sanitation vehicle a year or two ago and probably will need another one soon. Those funds are so we can continue to provide the services that we have been providing. Like I said earlier, the cost of living, CPI, all of that has gone up and that affects the City, our services, and what we must pay for it just like it affects anybody else."

Councilmember Hannah stated, "So true, but sanitation salaries are low, they work hard, and we want to keep them. If you lose workers in the sanitation department, can you imagine."

Mayor Pro Tem Kalu asked, "You stated a 3% increase in the overall budget. I will go back to the question I asked you before in terms of the audit. If you bring your recommendation ahead of time that can also help with our budgeting. I know this is first reading but the recommendation that was made by the group should also help us when we determine whether to pass the budget at the final stage or not. If we cut 3% or 4% in half, what impact would that have on the budget? I am thinking in terms of when the public sees the numbers, they may think the City is trying to tax them to the limit. We have completed an audit, and we have the recommendations made but we have not implemented that and there is no recommendation since we did the audit. I think we need to make a recommendation and move along with it anytime we talk in terms of money."

Councilmember Hawkins asked, "What was the total amount for riffle plates for Public Safety?"

City Administrator Evering stated, "It would include plates and SWAT vests for $74,000."

Councilmember Hawkins asked, "How many vests is that?"

City Administrator Evering stated, "Twelve."

Councilmember Hawkins asked, "Looking at this, I see the Forensics Lab is down to $70,000. What happened?"

City Administrator Evering stated, "I am glad you brought that up. We talked about the Forensics Lab in our budget discussions. Currently, we spend from $650,000 to $800,000 a year on the Forensics Lab. It is our recommendation that we transition the lab. When the Forensics Lab came into fruition, I think it was presented to Council and the public that it would be some type of revenue generation. Unfortunately, that has not occurred to this point. We do not expect that it would ever generate the revenue necessary to cover the operating cost. To this point, it has been low in terms of revenue. I know the folks over at the Forensics Lab are working hard to form relationships with other local governments, like SLED, to provide services that can generate some revenue. But at this point, I do not think that it would be significant enough to cover or make a dent in the operating cost."

Councilmember Hawkins asked, "What is the $70,000?"

City Administrator Evering stated, "It is to help with the transition."

Councilmember Grevious asked, "Is that reducing it down to one employee?"

City Administrator Evering stated, "Yes."

Councilmember Hawkins stated, "Public Safety is not something that is a revenue generator. It is for the public and the citizens. If it solves one crime a year, what is that worth to our citizens? Especially after reading the letters of support from Claflin, I feel it is not good for us to cut. With the surplus funds that we have in the current budget, could we use those funds to keep the lab open?"

City Administrator Evering stated, "It is my recommendation that we continue along the plan to grow our financials but that is ultimately a Council decision."

Councilmember Hawkins stated, "If we end up with a surplus, I think you could eliminate the 10 mills tax increase and keep the Forensics Service Unit going. I think that is a good thing with the partnership they have with the universities. There are several passionate letters people wrote about the lab."

Councilmember Hannah stated, "The Department of Public Safety is not and never will be a revenue generator, but the Forensic Lab was supposed to be. We just did not have the right people running it. As many people in the lab, we should have been the number one forensic lab in the country not the state of South Carolina. We had enough people there running it that got paid well, but they did not produce value to us. I can agree with you 75% in the Forensics Lab to hold tight, but we must have someone there who has the consciousness of knowing that it is a business. You must go out and generate and that never happened."

Mayor Butler asked, "When you analyze the budget and you are leaders of the City, you must look at cuts. Nobody likes cuts, but the City Administrator has studied this budget and has brought a recommendation. We must open our minds because we must have a balanced budget. When we established the Forensics Lab, it was a partnership. We cannot wait until now and want to do outreach. We should have done outreach all along to further this. The outreach has not been done. What is Claflin's part in the partnership?"

City Administrator Evering stated, "Claflin University provides the facility."

Mayor Butler stated, "We are at a point now that we must have a balanced budget. The Administrator has brought this to us. We cannot get in the weeds; we must stay focused so we can balance the budget."

Councilmember Hawkins asked, "On the Forensic Lab, what does the $70,000 cover? Is that one employee? What will that person be doing?"

City Administrator Evering stated, "Helping transition and make sure everything is taken care of in terms of closing the facility. There are employees that can go back into other positions at DPS."

Councilmember Hawkins asked, "How many employees will lose their jobs?"

City Administrator Evering stated, "Four."

Councilmember Hannah stated, "We need officers at Public Safety. Why not convert them over to Public Safety."

City Administrator Evering stated, "I do not know if they have the skill set to be an officer."

Mayor Pro Tem Kalu asked, "If we end up downsizing that department, what will it do to our criminal investigation area?"

Chief Austin stated, "If we eliminate the Forensic Unit, we will then revert to sending our evidence to SLED for analysis."

Councilmember Grevious asked, "What is the current backlog at SLED?"

Chief Austin stated, "About 2,500 criminal assault cases. It may be that they would ask us to do other analysis because we have three DNA analysts, one chemist and the officers who are assigned to the Forensics Unit. The crime scene investigator Lieutenant Dantzler who oversees the Lab and Ms. McCardle, the Evidence Technician."

Mayor Pro Tem Kalu asked, "I know MUSC is doing DNA free on anyone. Can we partner with the hospital? Has anyone reached out to them?"

Chief Austin stated, "We have not had that discussion, but it is something we could explore."

Councilmember Hawkins asked, "Is there is a current backlog on drug analysis or anything at SLED?"

Chief Austin stated, "No, I did not say that. What was discussed with us was whether we would be able to assist SLED with the criminal sexual assault cases backlog."

Councilmember Hawkins stated, "But if you shut the lab down and you have to start taking everything to SLED, I think maybe what Councilmember Grevious was asking is what is the time frame when you will get results from SLED?"

Chief Austin stated, "It ranges, it could be three months, six months, or it could be a year. A lot of times if it is an emergency or urgent case, either I or Colonel Conner will call Chief Keel and make an appeal for a case to be moved up in terms of priority."

Councilmember Keitt asked, "How many cases do we process a year? Is it a lot? We need to figure out how many cases we work to figure out how many employees are needed."

Chief Austin stated, "I will have to get that information. Our DNA analysts and chemists are very efficient. They handle the cases that we bring to them very quickly and when we receive other cases from other jurisdictions, they handle those efficiently. I have not heard of anyone complaining about a backlog with us."

Councilmember Grevious stated, "If we do not look at the Forensics Lab as a revenue generator but look at it as what it is doing for our community and our citizens, it is helping us in essence solve crimes. I think that is the true sense as to why the Forensics Lab is present. We need to look at grants that the Forensic Lab receives and can still be eligible to receive to help support this unit. When we talk about cutting the Forensic Lab, we must look at how that impacts our citizens, not just our dollars. I think it is worth our citizens having this Forensics Lab. Hopefully they will never need it but if it is a situation where they do, then I think it is worth having it where we are not filtered into a system where there are backlogs that we know exist with various crimes. I know it may help us in terms of our bottom line, but what is more important to me is our citizens and what it does for our community."

Councilmember Hawkins stated, "I want to echo what Councilmember Grevious stated. When a victim of a criminal sexual assault must wait years and years for results, you are revictimizing that person when you put them back in front of the judge and a jury. You want to get these crimes solved quickly and efficiently. "

Councilmember Grevious stated, "When we talk about bottom line in terms of the partnership, we would be remiss if we said that Claflin University is not giving anything because we know the Forensics Lab is housed at Claflin. Also, I do not think we are paying for any utilities. It may not have been the exact dollar amount that we had hoped, but they are giving something with the partnership."

Mayor Pro Tem Kalu stated, "The bottom line is that we are going to have a setback in investigations."

City Administrator Evering stated, "Obviously if Council wants us to look at other options, we can do that. If we must find the funds elsewhere, we can come back with other options."

Councilmember Hannah stated, "The quality of life for our citizens is what we are."

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Kalu, seconded by Councilmember Keitt to approve first reading of an ordinance adopting the budget of the City of Orangeburg for the Fiscal Year October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027; establishing the Hillcrest Golf Course Enterprise Fund; and renaming the Service Department as the Maintenance Department. The motion was approved 4-3. Councilmember Hawkins, Councilmember Hannah, and Councilmember Grevious opposed.

Mayor Pro Tem Kalu stated, "I want to let the public know that the public hearing and second reading of the budget will be held at the next meeting on August 18. This is where you can voice your opinion about the budget."

Assistant City Administrator Williams addressed Council concerning first reading of an ordinance to approve a change to the Zoning District Map from A-1 Residential, Single-Unit District to B-3, Neighborhood Business District for property belonging to Donald G. And Steven M Adkins located at 1374 St. Matthews Road TMS# 0174-18-09-005.000. She stated, "This item was discussed at the June Planning Commission meeting and there was a public hearing held. We sent out the required notices. Approximately 85 notices were sent to surrounding properties that were contiguous to this property. The developer spoke at the public hearing about his plans for a drive-thru coffee shop at that location. There was one member present from the community, but she chose not to speak. The Planning Commission voted to recommend the zoning district map change to City Council."

Councilmember Hawkins asked, "Is it drive-thru only? There will be no parking and walking in?"

Assistant City Administrator Williams stated, "Yes, drive-thru only."

Councilmember Knotts asked, "There is a house next to and one behind this property. Has someone or the person requesting this property be rezoned had conversations with the people around this property?"

Assistant City Administrator Williams stated, "I cannot speak to if they have spoken with them directly. I do know that we sent notices out to the people in that area to let them know what was taking place."

Councilmember Knotts stated, "From my perspective, if someone is coming to my front or back door, I would like to know who that is and what they are doing because I may not want them there. Speaking on behalf of property owners, I feel that they should have input as to who and what is coming there."

Assistant City Administrator Williams stated, "If this moves forward, the developer plans to be present at the second reading. There will be a public hearing at the next meeting, and the public will have a chance to voice their concerns."

Councilmember Grevious stated, "I want to know that the actual property owners were notified as I know what happened in a previous Planning Commission meeting. I just want to make sure that it was an updated list."

Assistant City Administrator Williams stated, "I can assure you that the updated list was used this time."

A motion was made by Councilmember Keitt, seconded by Councilmember Hannah to approve first reading of an ordinance to approve a change to the Zoning District Map from A-1 Residential, Single-Unit District to B-3, Neighborhood Business District for property belonging to Donald G. And Steven M Adkins located at 1374 St. Matthews Road TMS# 0174-18-09-005.000. The motion was approved 5-2. Councilmember Knotts and Councilmember Grevious opposed.

Public Works Director Epting addressed Council concerning the Building Codes Official Update – For Information Only. He stated, "The number of permits issued for June increased and we are tracking close to last year's numbers. The total amount invested back into the City with these renovations and new construction was $2,025,451. We have had 17 new single-family homes since October 1st permits which is approximately $3 million investment in the City. We have had two multifamily and one new commercial business developed for $9.5 million investment. We completed 60 building inspections in the month of June and most of those inspections were handled by one inspector not a team of inspectors. We sent out 81 Code Enforcement letters for violations to include weeds, abandoned vehicles, commercial vehicles parked in residential areas, and condemnations on substandard housing. Fifty-two of the owners of those properties have complied and we did not have to move forward with enforcement. We processed work orders and invoices to cut 16 lots that were not maintained by the owners totaling approximately $3,500. Fourteen citations were delivered to those that did not comply with our ordinances. We have four houses this month to be torn down by the City Service Department and we worked with the County to waive the landfill charges."

Administrative DPU Director Nexsen addressed Council concerning the SAG Award – Special Achievement in GIS 2026. He stated, "I am proud to announce the City of Orangeburg Department of Public Utilities has been honored with the prestigious award of 2026 Special Achievement NGIS award from EZRI. Selected from thousands of organizations worldwide, our core GIS team is Yamira Valles-Nevarez, Tarika Aziz, and Reese Myers were recognized as the Global ESRI user conference this past month. This award highlights DPU's innovative use of geospatial technologies to map, manage, and modernize utility infrastructure, directly improving service efficiency, and decision making for our entire community. This project is just one of the many examples in ways our talented staff are improving efficiency, raising the level of customer service, and improving safety throughout the department's operations."

DPU Manager Harley addressed Council concerning first reading of an ordinance to amend the Budget for the operation of the Department of Public Utilities for the Fiscal Year October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026. He stated, "As you know, the numbers in this ordinance could change. I will have firmer numbers before the third reading and will give you the details at that time. I ask that you give first reading tonight."

A motion was made by Councilmember Hannah, seconded by Councilmember Hawkins to approve first reading of an ordinance to amend the Budget for the operation of the Department of Public Utilities for the Fiscal Year October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026. The motion was unanimously approved.

DPU Manager Harley addressed Council concerning first reading of an ordinance to adopt the Budget for the operation of the Department of Public Utilities for the Fiscal Year October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027, (2) adopt amended Electric rates effective October 1 2026, (3) adopt amended Water rates effective October 1, 2026, and (4) adopt amended Wastewater rates effective October 1, 2026. He stated, "I would like to give you some background information and highlights. As you may recall, we had an in-depth discussion concerning all the projects. The recommended budget continues the position that DPU provides and delivers reliable and affordable power and services to our citizens that they require, demand and deserve. We work under certain priorities as outlined in our strategic plan, which will be updated again this year as I informed you before, but these priorities include investing in system modernization, which supports future growth. It also drives our goal to always be on; our reliability is so important. We understand that it may not always be possible because of events that occur outside of our hands, but we are investing in the system in a way that creates and builds resiliency and so if we are not on, if something takes us out, we want to be able to get back on as soon as possible. We invest in emergency preparedness throughout the year testing our skills and our systems to make sure that we are ready to respond to needs and emergencies as they arrive. I want to give Dave Durgin credit as he has helped to put together several incident responses. Chief Austin and his team participated as well as the County. We fund those projects so that we can make sure that we know how to coordinate with all the community partners. We are always planning so our financial planning and discipline to stick with that plan is so important which is why we bring to Council every year a projected revenue spend over a five-year period. We look at our revenue needs and our projects in a five-to-ten-year block, and we bring to you that five-year projection. Investing in our workforce is always going to be a priority. Also, I want to point out some of the ongoing challenges that we deal with in every division. We have an ageing infrastructure, our systems in some places are 100 years old or older. We must take care of those systems, upgrade them, and make sure they are available. Our capital spends we are projecting will be \$190 – \$200 million for the next five years. As you know we update those numbers on a yearly basis and we expect that to grow a little over time. In this current budget year, we anticipate a \$43 million spend on capital projects that are imminent and need to be addressed in the upcoming fiscal year and beyond. When you look at our overall financial picture and our reserve fund, that we watch very closely, we are healthy on paper. But when you look at the needs and what we have in the bank is projected to be \$67 million at the end of the year, what we have in the bank will not sustain us when we talk about \$200 million investment needed over the next years. We must be mindful about what it takes to take care of our system. In the Administrative Division, we will spend approximately \$1.3 million, in Electric Division \$10 million, Natural Gas Division, \$4.4 million, \$10 million for Water Division and Wastewater Division \$2.4 million. The Wastewater Division as you remember played a very integral role in being able to land Ferrara Candy. We were able to work with the South Carolina Department of Commerce to get a grant for \$28 million to upgrade our wastewater system to be able to manage what they are going to send our way. Without that grant and upgrade and the capable employees in our Wastewater Division, we would not have been able to land that group. Your DPU played a very vital role in making that happen. I want to point out in this current budget year, the transfer to the City was increased from \$6.1 million to \$9.1 million. As I pointed out to Council on prior occasions over the next five years, that is \$15 million that we have increased the transfer and over the next five years, if you take that whole \$9 million, that is \$45 million that comes out of the DPU net profit. When you add what we have to spend of \$200 million, it is a significant chunk that we need to be mindful of as we go forward and how we manage the transfer. It will, in a negative way, impact rates if we do not begin to manage that transfer in a more reasonable way. Also, I want to point out that \$9.1 million is about 37% of the net profit, that is a significant amount that comes out of the bottom line. We want to make sure we have a plan going forward when we are planning for our financial future. Other highlights, our operating income is planned to be about \$142 million for the upcoming fiscal year. We anticipate some rate increases built into the budget that we discussed. The rate increase for the Water and Wastewater for inside the City residents will increase 1.6%, which is \$4.70 per month. The outside City rate will increase 2.7% which is \$9.14 per month. It is a modest increase and is in line with what we projected last year. We work on this on an ongoing basis and every year we bring to you what we think those projections should look like. The overall increase will be about \$1.9 million for those two units. As a reminder, historically and currently, the DPU has always ran those two groups at about break even. The Gas Division does make a profit, but the primary revenue comes from the Electric Division."

Mayor Pro Tem Kalu asked, "County Council was recently entertaining the idea of approving a data center in Orangeburg County. If they had approved that, what impact would that have in the Wastewater and Water Divisions?"

DPU Manager Harley stated, "I have a plan to bring some information to Council to discuss. The groups we have talked to would be a great benefit to the City of Orangeburg governmental and utility sides. The impact that people are talking about is probably on systems that were built many years ago. If it is set up right, it can be a benefit to the community."

Councilmember Grevious asked, "You said traditionally, the Water and Wastewater Divisions do not make a profit. I understand at one time, the fees charged were not covering the costs of operation. With these increases, where does that put us?"
DPU Manager Harley stated, "The revenue generated would be approximately $1.9 million. It will not cause us to make a lot of money, but it will try to keep us at pace. If you look online and it appears we have made money in Water or Wastewater Divisions, it is due to State grants received. It is capital, but it will not be revenue every year that we can depend on. When you receive the audit, the auditors will point that out as well. It is contributed capital where we have grants and other revenue sources that have come in that we have used to build things and it is not indicative of a system that is making money at a rate to sustain its operation on its own."

Councilmember Grevious asked, "That revenue goes back into the system?"

DPU Manager Harley stated, "Yes, DPU is run as a combined system. Since I have been here ten years, I have encouraged that these divisions stand a little bit more on their own so that every division can cover their own cost."

A motion was made by Councilmember Grevious, seconded by Councilmember Hannah to approve first reading of an ordinance to adopt the Budget for the operation of the Department of Public Utilities for the Fiscal Year October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027, (2) adopt amended Electric rates effective October 1, 2026, (3) adopt amended Water rates effective October 1, 2026, and (4) adopt amended Wastewater rates effective October 1, 2026. The motion was unanimously approved.

DPU Manager Harley addressed Council concerning first reading of an ordinance amending Section IV. Department Installations, Subsection C. Water (2) Impact Fees, and Subsection D. Wastewater (2) Impact Fees of the General Terms and Conditions of the Department of Public Utilities. He stated, "As a reminder, I sent Council a memo dated July 29, 2026, on water and wastewater impact fees and for the public's benefit I want to explain it. Impact fees are one-time fees that we charge new developers or new customers to connect to our system. It is a way of passing on legitimate costs to those new customers so that they carry their fair share of the load on the system. If we do not do that, then the current customers will bear the burden of those costs. We evaluated the cost and brought you a recommendation. The current impact fees on water are $300 and wastewater $350. These fees are low as you see in your documentation. I want to point out that the City of Orangeburg DPU has not dealt with these rates since 2002. We need to address these as development picks up as we want to make sure that we pass on the right costs to the right people. We are recommending impact fees to increase water from $300 to $1,200 and from $350 to $2,670 on wastewater. We also recommend that we adjust our residential equivalent unit. That is a standard measure unit that we use to fairly allocate those calls when you talk about going from a residential to a business or industrial user. We recommend dropping those from 400 to 300 REUs. The standard is 300 but let me point out Mr. Odom has done a water model study that indicates that our system is using about 275 gallons per household. Being closer to that number helps more fairly distribute the cost again to where it needs to be."

Councilmember Keitt asked, "Are there payment plans for this?"

DPU Manager Harley stated, "We do work with our customers on how they can pay these. The majority of these will be paid by contractors and developers who are building homes in our community and the businesses that are coming will pay as well."

Councilmember Grevious asked, "Does this impact the budget that was just passed?"

DPU Manager Harley stated, "We do not really have a way of pinpointing it. We can look back and tell you what it might have been, but I will say yes, it will impact the budget. We will find a way to make a projection if that is something we need to do. We want to get fees to where they need to be and with the amount of industry coming online, we want to make sure we are ready in position to take care of it."

Councilmember Grevious stated, "Please bring Council those projections for the second reading. Perhaps a rate increase may not be needed."

DPU Manager Harley stated, "Yes, we can do that. The impact fees are dedicated for the capacity for the new plants and the new things that we must do. They are not for day-to-day operations. At the end of the day, we want to make sure folks pay for the available capacity that they have when they come on to our system."

Councilmember Hawkins asked, "To be clear, this is for new residents coming in and if we do not increase it, our residents will feel that impact? This is not a money-making thing, it is just covering your costs, correct?"

DPU Manager Harley stated, "Yes. I do want to mention that we are also looking at adjusting not only our impact but also our tap fees. That is the cost to us to make a tap for a resident. Again, mostly new customers in that case. We are going to increase those also on October 1 and the projected increase on the water tap fee $1,300 and the wastewater tap fee $2,875 impacting most of the same people. There can be a situation where a tap could be reworked on our system but if it is one of our taps that we install, customer would not have to pay anything. We track on average how much it cost to put a tap in."

Councilmember Hannah asked, "With these rates, we are lower on the scale, correct?"

DPU Manger Harley stated, "Yes."

Councilmember Hannah stated, "If we are low, middle is not a bad place to be. I suggest we increase what you presented so that we will still be competitive."

DPU Manager stated, "I appreciate that and thank you for your support. We plan to re-evaluate this number again next year and make a recommendation. Based on the current information, we are comfortable where we are and we understand that even though it is going to be on new customers and they pay it somewhere else, we want to make sure we can defend everything we put forth."

A motion was made by Councilmember Keitt, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kalu to approve first reading of an ordinance amending Section IV. Department Installations, Subsection C. Water (2) Impact Fees, and Subsection D. Wastewater (2) Impact Fees of the General Terms and Conditions of the Department of Public Utilities. The motion was passed 6-1. Councilmember Hannah opposed.

A motion was made by Councilmember Grevious, seconded by Councilmember Knotts to go into Executive Session concerning Discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline or release of an employee. SC Code Sec. 30-4-70 (a)(1) – Department of Public Safety and Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements and the receipt of legal advice SC Code Sec. 30-4-70 (a)(2) a) E-Bikes, b) Old City Gym, 1420 Broughton Street. The motion was unanimous.

Council did not return to open session. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda McDaniel

Linda McDaniel
City Clerk

CITY OF ORANGEBURG
INCORPORATED
DEC. 24
1883
SOUTH CAROLINA

VOID

VOID

VOID

VOID

RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE, SERVICE, AND LEGACY OF UNITED STATES SENATOR LINDSEY OLIN GRAHAM

WHEREAS, The City of Orangeburg joins the citizens of South Carolina and the Nation in mourning the passing of **Lindsey Olin Graham**, who devoted more than three decades to public service. Senator Graham passed away on July 11, 2026, at the age of 71 following a brief and sudden illness, leaving behind a legacy of dedicated service to the people of South Carolina and the United States; and

WHEREAS, a native of South Carolina, Senator Graham served in the United States Air Force and the Air Force Reserve as a Judge Advocate General (JAG) officer before embarking upon a distinguished career in public office. Senator Graham represented the people of South Carolina in the United States House of Representatives from 1995 to 2003 and subsequently served in the United States Senate from 2003 until his passing, becoming one of the State's most recognizable and influential leaders on matters of national security, foreign affairs, judicial appointments, and fiscal policy; and

WHEREAS, throughout his tenure in the Senate, Senator Graham served on numerous committees of national significance and worked tirelessly to advocate for the interests of South Carolina, including military installations, veterans, infrastructure investments, economic development opportunities, and the overall prosperity of the State. Regardless of political affiliation, Senator Graham earned the respect of colleagues and constituents through his unwavering commitment to public service, his willingness to engage in difficult policy debates, and his dedication to the institutions of representative government; and

WHEREAS, the City of Orangeburg recognizes Senator Graham's contributions to the advancement of South Carolina and acknowledges the many ways in which his advocacy and leadership impacted communities across the State. His passing marks the loss of a devoted public servant whose influence on South Carolina and the Nation will be remembered for generations to come;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the City of Orangeburg honors the life, service, and legacy of **United States Senator Lindsey Olin Graham** and expresses condolences to his family, friends, colleagues, and all those who mourn his passing. The City of Orangeburg extends its gratitude for Senator Graham's many years of dedicated service to the citizens of South Carolina and the United States of America.
ADOPTED this 4th day of August 2026.

Michael C. Butler
Mayor

Council Members

CITY OF ORANGEBURG · INCORPORATED · DEC. 24 · 1883 · SOUTH CAROLINA

Linda McDaniel City Clerk

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE FEARLESS INDIVIUALS REACHING EXCELLENCE YOUTH COALITION FOR BEING NAMED 2026 NATIONAL GROUP YOUTH ADVOCATES OF THE YEAR BY THE CAMPAIGN FOR TOBACCO-FREE KIDS

WHEREAS, The City of Orangeburg was pleased to learn that the Fearless Individuals Reaching Excellence (FIRE) Youth Coalition was named the 2026 National Group Youth Advocates of the Year by the Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids; and

WHEREAS, the Group Youth Advocates of the Year Award recognizes a leading United States-based youth coalition that works to protect their peers and community from tobacco use and nicotine addiction and demonstrates the collective power of youth working together to drive meaningful change; and

WHEREAS, led by Vincent Sanders, FIRE Squad is a dedicated group of youth advocates working to reduce tobacco use and its devasting consequences in all South Carolina communities. Having witnessed the impact of tobacco use and nicotine addiction on their schools and families, they are driven to create change; and

WHEREAS, alarmed by the widespread use of electronic cigarettes in their schools and an influx of tobacco and vape shops in their communities, FIRE Squad members strive to educate their communities about these problems, as well as advocate for local policymakers to act. Their efforts led the Orangeburg City Council to pass an ordinance restricting tobacco retailers near schools, childcare centers, recreation facilities, and other youth focused spaces; and

WHEREAS, they partnered with other organizations to host "Escape the Haze," the first statewide, youth led conference on vaping, which brought together one hundred and forty-two students from across South Carolina. Their efforts also generated media coverage about these issues and FIRE Squad's proposed solutions. The FIRE Squad also hosted school community events educating young people and parents about the dangers of electronic cigarettes and other tobacco products; and

WHEREAS, members Jeremiah Morgan, Synaya Thompson and PJ Hubbard represented the FIRE Squad at the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids 2026 Youth Advocates of year awards in May 2026; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the City of Orangeburg commends the FIRE Squad for their leadership, persistence, and creativity as they work to improve the health of their communities and free South Carolina youth from the grip of tobacco use and nicotine addiction. The City of Orangeburg, by this resolution, honor and recognize the **Fearless Individuals Reaching Excellence Youth Coalition for being named the 2026 National Group Youth Advocates of the year by the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids**.
ADOPTED this 4th day of August 2026.

Michael C. Butler
Mayor

Council Members

Linda McDaniel City Clerk

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER A CONTRACT WITH RSH SIGN GROUP FOR THE STEVENSON PERFORMING ARTS CENTER MARQUEE; AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER RELATED MATTERS

The City Council ("Council") of the City of Orangeburg ("City") finds:

WHEREAS, the City owns and operates Stevenson Auditorium as a municipal auditorium and is renovating and reimagining it as the Stevenson Performing Arts Center ("Stevenson");

WHEREAS, a critical component of the Stevenson reinvigoration is the creation of a signature, full-façade digital marquee—one that clearly and boldly redefines Stevenson as a destination for arts, culture, and entertainment (the "Marquee" or "Project");

WHEREAS, the City was awarded and has accepted a grant from the South Carolina Department of Commerce ("DOC") in the amount of $250,000 to support the construction of the Marquee;

WHEREAS, the City has engaged in a solicitation process related to the design, fabrication, and installation of the Marquee;

WHEREAS, the City received three (3) proposals, which the City scored according to the process outlined by the City in its memorandum, dated May 8, 2026, a copy of which is attached to this Resolution as Exhibit A;

WHEREAS, the City's score sheet is attached to this Resolution as Exhibit B;

WHEREAS, the City's Project Review Committee completed its evaluation of the proposals, and RSH Sign Group ("RSH") received the highest overall score;

WHEREAS, by letter dated June 30, 2026, the City notified RSH that it had received the highest overall score and that a recommendation would be made to the Council to award the Project to RSH;

WHEREAS, RSH's proposal is attached to this Resolution as Exhibit C ("Proposal");

WHEREAS, the total estimated cost of the Project under the Proposal is $239,829.26;

WHEREAS, the award of the Project and the City's obligations under this Resolution are contingent upon the approval of the DOC, which is providing funding assistance for the Project;

WHEREAS, the City now desires to approve the Proposal and to authorize the City Administrator to negotiate, execute, and deliver a contract with RSH for the Project (the "Contract") as described in this Resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Council resolves:

Section 1. Approval of Proposal; Authorization to Negotiate and Enter Contract. The Proposal is approved, and the Proposal is incorporated in this Resolution by reference as if the Proposal were set out in this Resolution in its entirety. The City Administrator is authorized, empowered, and directed to negotiate and finalize the Contract with RSH consistent with the Proposal, to execute, the City Clerk, if and as appropriate, to acknowledge, and the City Administrator to deliver the Contract in the name of and on behalf of the City, and to cause the executed Contract to be delivered to RSH. The authorizations in this Section are contingent upon the approval of the DOC. Prior to its execution; the Contract shall not be substantively changed in any way that would be materially adverse to the City.

Section 2. ***General Repealer.*** All orders, resolutions, and parts thereof in conflict herewith are, to the extent of such conflict, repealed, and this Resolution takes effect and be in full force from and after its approval.

ADOPTED BY the Council on August 4, 2026.

Mayor

____

Members of Council

____

____

____

____

____

____

Attest:______________________________

City Clerk

CITY OF ORANGEBURG
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

Design, Construction, and Installation of Marquee
for Stevenson Performing Arts Center

Issue Date: May 8, 2026 (Reopened)
Proposal Due Date: May 22, 2026

The City reserves the right to request interviews, clarifications, **and give additional consideration to qualified local contractors**.

1. Background and Project Overview

The City of Orangeburg, owner and operator of the Stevenson Performing Arts Center located at 979 Middleton St., Orangeburg, SC 29115, is seeking qualified vendors to design, construct, and install a custom full-façade marquee sign for the performing arts center.

The marquee will serve as a prominent visual landmark, enhancing the facade of the building while providing functional elements for event announcements, lighting, and digital displays.

The new marquee must align with the architectural style of the building, incorporate community and thematic elements, and meet all local building codes, safety standards, and accessibility requirements.

This RFP is based on conceptual designs and specifications derived from preliminary estimates and renderings. The selected vendor will be responsible for refining these into final production-ready plans, fabricating the marquee, and completing installation.

2. Scope of Work (Turnkey)

1. **Design**: Conceptual design, 3D renderings, scaled drawings, and production drawings; include facility name and LED video boards.
2. **Structure**: Internal skeleton steel tube welded framing; compliance with wind load, seismic, and structural code requirements.
3. **Ceiling**: Aluminum Composite Panel (ACP) router-cut soffit panels and sub-framing.
4. **Roof Deck**: Upper roof deck sub-frame with sheathing and downspout; coordinated rubber membrane/drainage.
5. **Support Rods**: Turnbuckle sag-rods and irons for attachment as required.
6. **Bulb Lighting**: Furnish, assemble, wire, test bulb lighting system with LED bulbs and approved layout.
7. **Optional Programmable Lighting (Add Alternate)**: Addressable RGB bulb system with DMX controller for chasing/animation effects.

8 **Lighted Letters**: Two sets of 'STEVENSON' in open-faced exposed neon channel letters; sub-text push-thru acrylic with internal LED illumination.

9 **Cladding and Capping**: Laser-cut 0.125-inch aluminum front cladding; decorative caps; etched/primed/painted finish.

10 **Digital Displays**: Two full-color digital displays, approx. 3' x 10', high resolution dot pitch preferred 5-year warranty; training included.

11 **Installation**: Field surveys, transportation, crane/platform installation; possible brick removal; exploratory survey to verify attachment details.

12 **Engineering**: Licensed engineer stamp for attachment and compliance.

---

3. Additional Notes

Primary power to the marquee will be supplied by the City. Final connection will be made if power is available at the time of installation.

Roof deck is included; rubber membrane and drainage will be completed by winning bidder.

Permitting and road closures will be coordinated with the City. Permit fees will be passed through at incurred cost.

All work must comply with applicable federal, state, and local laws, including ADA accessibility standards.

Vendor must provide proof of insurance including general liability, workers' compensation, and professional liability coverage.

---

4. Requirements and Specifications

Materials: Weather-resistant, high-quality materials suitable for South Carolina climate (humidity, UV exposure, wind).

Warranty: Minimum 1-year labor and materials warranty; digital components per manufacturer warranty (5-year required). Defective parts replaced within 90 days at no charge for materials and labor.

Sustainability: Preference for energy-efficient LED lighting.

Compliance: Designs stamped by a licensed engineer; installation must comply with OSHA safety standards.

Timeline: Design 4–6 weeks after award; fabrication 8–12 weeks after approval; installation 2–4 weeks (weather permitting); target completion August 15, 2026.

Budget: Proposals should not exceed $250,000 (including taxes and unforeseen contingencies). Provide itemized pricing aligned with the Scope of Work numbering.

---

5. PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

Proposals must include:

A. Cover Letter & Organizational Overview

- Legal name, address, and primary contact.
- Statement of interest and summary of qualifications.

B. Technical Proposal

- Project Plan
- Timeline
- Methodology
- Conceptual renderings/ mockups

- Proposed alternatives or value engineering options

C. Insurance & Bonding

- Proof of licensing, insurance, and bonding.

D. Cost Proposal

- Itemized cost breakdown.

E. References

- At least three references for similar projects.

---

7. EVALUATION CRITERIA

Proposals will be evaluated using the following weighted criteria:

Criteria	Weight
Technical Approach	20%
Qualifications & Relevant Experience	20%
Timeline and Feasibility	20%
Cost Competitiveness & Value	30%
Innovation & Sustainability	5%
Quality of references	5%

---

8. SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Proposals must be submitted electronically in PDF format to:

City Administrator, Sidney Evering II, Esq.
City of Orangeburg, South Carolina
Email: sidney.evering@orangeburg.sc.us

Administrative Coordinator, Kenith Salley
City of Orangeburg, South Carolina
Email: kenith.salley@orangeburg.sc.us

Business Development/ Public Information, Randy Etters
Department of Public Utilities, City of Orangeburg, South Carolina
Email: retters@orbgdpu.com

Subject Line: ***RFP Submission – Stevenson Performing Arts Center Marquee***
Deadline: **May 22, 2026**
Late submissions will not be accepted.

---

9. QUESTIONS

All questions must be submitted in writing to the City Administrator no later than **10 business days before the proposal deadline**. Responses will be shared publicly as an addendum.

---

10. RIGHTS RESERVED BY THE CITY

The City reserves the right to:

- Reject any or all proposals
- Request additional information
- Negotiate contract terms
- Award in whole or in part
- Cancel the RFP at any time

- Give additional consideration to local qualified contractors

---

END OF DOCUMENT

Design, Construction, and Installation of Marquee for Stevenson Performing Arts Center

Proposals Score Summary

	Proposal 1	**Proposal 2**	**Proposal 3**
Evaluator	**A1 Sign Co**	**Ace Sign Company**	**RHS Sign Co**
Randy Etters	65	85	97
David Epting	70	90	92
Tonya Lott	Non-responsive	80	90
Total	**135**	**255**	**279**

RSH SIGN GROUP
CONSULT ▪ PLAN ▪ DESIGN ▪ BUILD

CITY OF ORANGEBURG
INCORPORATED
DEC. 1824
1883
SOUTH CAROLINA

BID PROPOSAL

STEVENSON
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
MARQUEE

PREPARED BY:

RICH HEATON
MANAGING MEMBER - OWNER
RSH SIGN GROUP
PHONE 843.412.1891
EMAIL rich@rshsigngroup.com

TABLE OF CONTENTS

WHY US

We have proudly served the City of Orangeburg, along with the numerous businesses and industries all over the Southeast, for over 25 years with pride, commitment and dedication to ensuring that we provide the best value, the best customer service and the best products that can be found either locally or in the southeast while making sure to treat **every** client as they deserve to be treated - **the best**.

PERSONAL STATEMENT

"I grew up in Orangeburg, SC and raised a family here. My daughters had dance recitals at the Stevenson Auditorium. Our family have attended events at the Stevenson. I have attended business functions at the Stevenson Auditorium. My company has fabricated & installed signs for the Stevenson. I know the Stevenson Auditorium's history because I lived it by living in Orangeburg. As it transitions from the Stevenson Auditorium to the Stevenson Performing Arts Center, I can't think of a better person or company to lead the way for such a landmark sign."

- RICH HEATON

OWNER

CONTACT INFO

RICH HEATON

P.O. BOX 396, HOLLYWOOD, SC 29449

843.412.1891

RICH@RSHSIGNGROUP.COM

REQUIREMENTS & SPECIFICATIONS

All Requirements & Specifications are addressed throughout the provided documents either individually or in the project estimate.

Any additional questions or comments are always welcome and I'm available by phone or email any time to discuss.

PROJECT PLAN

CONSULT

We approached this project with the same thought and consideration as we do with all of our clients, namely how to best represent their wants and needs for a project in physical form. We looked at our history with the City of Orangeburg along with conversations that have been had over the years to determine what would be the best visual fit for this project.

PLAN

We proceeded to source quality materials that would potentially be used in the fabrication and construction of the project while ensuring that the best possible price could be offered and retained. We began looking forward and planning ahead for installation, software training and final release to customer.

DESIGN

Drawing on the many projects we've designed and developed for the varied business & industries alike over the years, in addition to utlizing our familiarity with the history of the city as a whole, we set out to create an iconic visual that would be the star of the show for years to come.

BUILD

Using quality materials, skilled craftsmanship & time tested fabrication methods, we intend to ensure that the final product will be low maintenance and worry free to allow for years of brilliant displays and visual presentation for all the attendants of the Stevenson Performing Arts Center.

PROJECT TIMELINE

DESIGN PHASE:

4-6 Weeks after project is awarded.

MARQUEE FABRICATION & PRODUCTION

8-12 Weeks after customer approval & sign-offs

INSTALLATION

Estimated two (2) days for installation
- Beginning two (2) weeks post fabrication and LED displays have been received.

METHODOLOGY

OUR BELIEF & COMMITMENT:

Using quality construction methods, high quality materials, state-of-the art lighting & LED displays allows us to provide longevity and reliability for an iconic sign, over a value engineered approach to save on costs by using non-top tier materials & methods in order to be the low bidder.

You want a sign that works and is not in continuous need of maintenance or repair.

Our intent is to keep you appraised of our progress at important milestones of the project, including (but not limited to):

- Arrival of LED Displays
- Phases of Fabrication & Construction
- Completion of Fabrication & Construction
- Scheduling of Installation

Any delays, either foreseeable or unforeseeable, will be communicated as soon as possible to ensure a smooth and efficient production process.

EASE-OF-USE

Our intent is to make the use of the illumination effects of the marquee is easy to use and available to all. All marquee lighting aspects, other than the LED Display, will be operable using a pre-programmed tablet with "click-to-play" icons that will allow for quick visual changes meant to be used for a variety of events and functions. This cutting edge technology means that it will alleviate the necessity of spending unnecessary amounts of time to prepare for special occasions by having the lighting effects available at the push of a button.

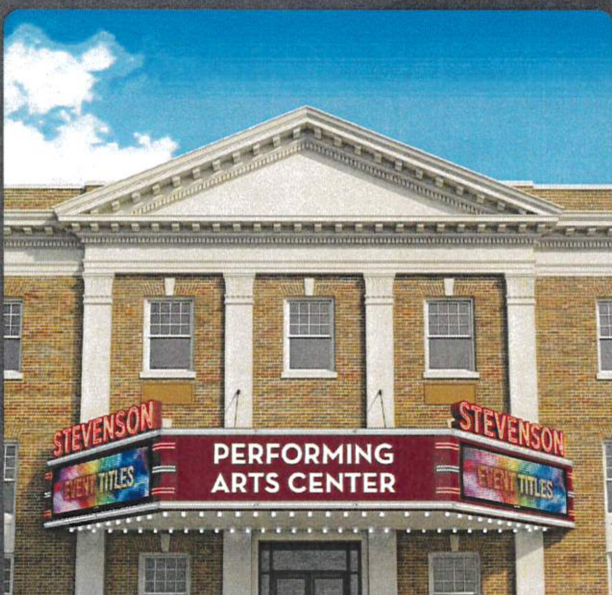
RSH SIGN GROUP
CONSULT ▪ PLAN ▪ DESIGN ▪ BUILD

STEVENSON

PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

MARQUEE

VER. 1 Main Identity Theater Marquee 07



CONCEPTUAL RENDERINGS SHOWN

PIECES & PARTS

Main Identity Theater Marquee: 4' (h) x30' (l) x8' (ext) fabricated marquee w/ (2) 3'x10' full color led message centers, 18" front illuminated channel letters w/ routed faces & faux neon push thru acrylic, 11" trim-less front illuminated channel letters, faux neon effects w/ LED illumination & LED bulbs w/ multi-color change & wireless remote

1 LENGTH: 30'
2 EXTENSION: 8'

4'x12' +/-
MARQUEE FACE

4'x12' +/-
MARQUEE WINGS

FABRICATED TRUSS

Fabricated internal metal truss w/ support bracing

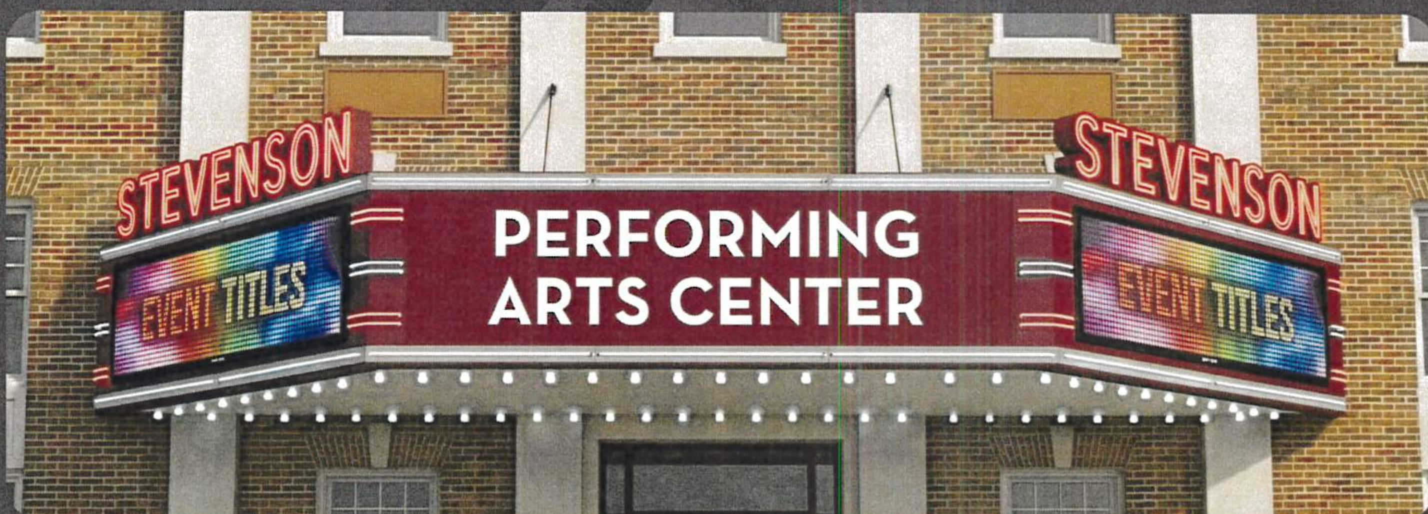
LED BULBS W/ MULTI-COLOR CHANGE & WIRELESS REMOTE INCLUDED

MARQUEE FACE

1. Aluminum face w/ 11" trim-less front illuminated channel letters
2. Faux neon effects w/ LED illumination

MARQUEE WINGS

1. Front illuminated channel letters w/ routed faces & faux neon push thru acrylic
2. 3'x10' (approx.) full color LED message center



THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY

INSURANCE & BONDING

All necessary insurance and bonding documents will be provided and updated within this document upon awarding of the bid.

ESTIMATE

RSH Partners, LLC

SIGN RSH GROUP

CONSULT ▪ PLAN ▪ DESIGN ▪ BUILD

DATE: 5/26/2026

EsTIMATE # 2444

CUSTOMER ID:

CLIENT	LOCATION OF PROJECT/SHIP TO	MAIL OR ACH TO:
City of Orangeburg c/o Sidney Evering P.O. Drawer 387 Orangeburg, SC 29116	Stevenson Performing Arts Center 979 Middleton St. Orangeburg, SC 29115	RSH Partners, LLC P.O. Box 396 Hollywood, SC 29449 - 0396
phone: 803-533-6000		Phone: 843-412-1891 Direct
email: sidney.evering@orangeburg.sc.us		Email: rich@rshsigngroupcom
ORDERED BY: Keli Koniver		PAYMENT TERMS
JOB / PROJECT: Stevenson Performing Arts Center Maquee Sign		TBD

DESCRIPTION	QTY	AMOUNT	EXT AMOUNT
PLANNING & DESIGN: Project Planning, Site Surveys, Creative Design Illustrations & Detailed Fabrication Drawings for Engineering, Fabrication and Permitting.	1	$2,250.00	$2,250.00
PERMIT PROCESSING: Administration & Processing of Required Documents to Secure Sign Permits	1	$350.00	$350.00
ENGINEERING: Municipality Required Structural Engineering w/ Sealed Drawings to Meet Current Building Code	1	$1,850.00	$1,850.00
SIGN PERMIT/S: Estimated Sign Permit Costs	1	$450.00	$450.00

DESCRIPTION	QTY	AMOUNT	EXT AMOUNT
THEATER MARQUEE SIGN w/ CUSTOM MARQUEE LIGHT SYSTEM - *CUSTOM FABRICATED MARQUEE SIGN / STRUCTURE* (3) 4'x12'x30' I 8' OAD Fabricated Sign Structure w/ Internal Structural / Skeleton Steel Tube w/ All Welded Framing & Engineered to Meet All Structural Code Requirements *ALUMINUM CLADDING/SKIN* .125" Aluminum Cladding / Skin *SIGNAGE/COPY* - (2) Sets of Open-Face Manufactured Neon Channel Letters (STEVENSON) - (1) Set of Trimless Channel Letters for Max Brightness - (PERFORMING ARTS CENTER) - Manufactured Neon Accent Elements *CEILING & ROOF* Ceiling Soffit Panels - Routed ACM Panel w/ Sub-Framing. Roof Deck - Fabricate Sub-Frame w/ Sheathing, Downspout(s) & Rubber Membrane for Drainage System *SUPPORT HANGING RODS* Turnbuckle Style Rod System for Structural Support of Marquee as Required by Engineering	1	$142,342.00	$142,342.00
Custom Marquee Light System - Designed for Stevenson Performing Arts Center - (492) Street Wrap Flex Back Bend, Custom Cut, RGB 24 @ 22.48 IN (8 SEGMENTS) 6 @ 140.55 IN (50 SEGMENTS - (30) Street Wrap Flex Back-Bend, 4` Aluminum Track (Outdoor) - (6) 96W 24V SUPERIOR DRVR IP68 - (6) Spectrum 3D FX, Strand of 25 Modules, Clear Flat Lens, Male Input, Female Output - (2) FX Flat Cable, 40 FT, Female - (6) Spectrum 3D FX, Diffused Round Lens w/ Clear Flat Lens - (3) 96W 24V SUPERIOR DRVR IP68 - (2) Spectrum 3D FX Flat Cable, 8 IN, Female - (2) Spectrum 3D FX Flat Cable, 8 IN, Male - (1) DMX INFINITY CONTROLLER / BOX: Includes DMX Controller, Wifi Access Point, Wireless Tablet, NEMA Enclosure - (2) DMX Decoders - (18) DMX 4 Channel Decoder - (1) DMX 4-Port Splitter			

DESCRIPTION	QTY	AMOUNT	EXT AMOUNT
Includes Custom Programs Written for Project to Include: - 9 Solid Colors – Red, Green, Blue, Cyan, Orange, Yellow, White, Purple and Pink - 5 Holidays (Valentine's Day, St Patrick's Day, Patriotic, Christmas, and Breast Cancer Awareness) - Up to 5 Custom Shows - Customer Specified - 2 Color Pickers (Uniform-Whole Feature/Project & Segmented) - Astronomical Clock On/Off - Comes w/ Wireless Tablet - Control w/ a Touch - (2) Days On Site Lighting Engineer Support, Technical Coordination, Programming, and Sign Commissioning - Provide Additional Remote Technical Support and Programming Services			
OPTEC FULL COLOR LED ELECTRONIC MESSAGE CENTER - MODEL: INF-6.6HB2-RGB-V-S-D-FV ***DISPLAY SPECIFICATIONS*** Product Line: Infinity LED Pixel Pitch: 6.667mm Matrix Size: 144 x 432 Viewing Area: 3' 1 13/16" x 9' 5 3/8" Cabinet Size: 3' 8 1/8" x 9' 11 11/16" x 7 7/8" Color: RGB Color Processing: RGB 281 Trillion Levels-M LED's per pixel: Red: 1 Green: 1 Blue: 1 Total # of LED's: 373,248 Character Size: 2.75 Inches # of Lines/Char. Line: 20 line(s), 72 characters Brightness: 9,500 Nits Max.,8000 Nits Calibrated (±5%) Viewing Angle: 160 Degrees Horizontal Display Configuration: Double Face: (2 Cabinets - Primary/Secondary) Maintenance Door: Front	1	$61,476.00	$61,476.00
Ventilation: Front Vent Display Net Weight: Approx. 376.00 lbs. per face (+/- 10%) ***STANDARD FEATURES*** Dimming Levels: 100 - Auto & Manual Dimming/Temp. Sensor: MeCloud Webservice Software: MeCloud Lifetime, up to 10 years. Software Upgrade: Lifetime Software Upgrades, up to 10 years. Software Training: Webinar ***ELECTRICAL & VENTING REQUIREMENTS*** AC Power Required: Single Phase 120V or 240V 50/60Hz Total Boot Up Amps* (120V): 31.1 Regular Operating Amps* (120V): 9.02 Venting Requirement*: 595.33 CFM Content Package: 1-Year Content Creation Package ***MANUFACTURER WARRANY*** 5 Year Parts Warranty 5 Year Cell Modem			

DESCRIPTION	QTY	AMOUNT	EXT AMOUNT
INSTALLATION: Labor & Equipment w/ (3) Mobilizations, Cranes & Aerial Lifts as Required 1.) Install Supporting Hanging Rods (Turnbuckle) Per Engineering 2.) Install Theater Marquee Sign Structure / Attach to Turnbuckle Hanging System 3.) Install (2) Sets of Open-Face Manufactured Neon Channel Letters (STEVENSON) 4.) Install (1) Set of Trimless Channel Letters (PERFORMING ARTS CENTER) 5.) Install (2) Optec LED Message Centers - 6.667mm w/ 144 x 432 Matrix 6.) Make All Neccesary Data & Power Connections for (2) LED Displays 7.) Run Diagostics & Testing on LED Display Center 8.) Make Electrical Connections for Marquee Lighting / Sign System 9.) Run Diagostics, Color Testing & Sequence Tests on Marquee Lighting System 10.) Set-Up / Program Tablet for Marquee Light System 11.) Provide Training for Marquee Lighting System & Tablet 12..) Clean Site of Debris Related to Signage Installation **NOTE* *1. Electrical Must Be at Sign Location for Connections to be Made* *2. The Above Does Not Include Running of Electrical (electrical must be available at sites)*	1	$16,844.00	$16,844.00
SERVICE AGREEMENT / WARRANTY: It Is The Best In The Industry. RSH Sign Group Warranties Material (Excluding Lighting Which Is Covered By The Manufacturer) & Labor For (3) Years. The Warranty Does Not Cover Acts Of Vandalism, Storm Damage, Wind Damage, Fire Or Any Other Circumstances Beyond RSH Sign Group's Control.			
PROJECT TIMELINE: **Design Phase:** 4–6 Weeks After Project Awarded **Marquee Fabrication & Production:** 8–12 Weeks After Customer Approvals & Sign-Offs **Installation: Est 2** Days for Installation - Beginning 2 Weeks Post Fabrication & LED Displays Have Been Received.			
Sub-Total			$225,562.00
Sales Tax - 7%	TAXABLE AMT	$203,818.00	$14,267.26
Total			$239,829.26
Make Check or ACH payable to: RSH Partners, LLC	*Thank You for Your Business!*		
RSH SIGN GROUP **P.O. Box 396 Hollywood, SC 29449**	**PHONE: 843-412-1891 Direct**		

WARRANTIES

OPTEC LED DISPLAYS

- Optec Displays provides a five (5) year parts warranty*.

  *an additional two (2) years can be added to the above warranty for an additional $4,895, for a total seven (7) year warranty.

MARQUEE LED RGB LIGHTING COMPONENTS

- Marquee LED RGB lighting components all carry the manufacturer's warranty which is not less than a one (1) year.

RSH SIGN GROUP

- RSH Sign Group warranties all signage components manufactured by RSH Sign Group for three (3) years.
- RSH Sign Group warranties all labor for three (3) years.

For additional details, please see the RSH Sign Group 3-Year Warranty Contract, provided for your convenience on the following page.

RSH SIGN GROUP

CONSULT • PLAN • DESIGN • BUILD

RSH Sign Group is proud to design, fabricate and install quality sign and graphic products that last for years. It is only because of our true commitment to quality in all phases of our operation that we can proudly offer a 3-Year Warranty to our customers. We often say *"our signs mean business"* and we mean it …. literally.

3-YEAR WARRANTY

MATERIALS: RSH Sign Group warranties all sign and graphic materials used in the fabrication and production of any sign product produced or sold by RSH Sign Group, with the exception of electrical sign components which would be covered under the manufacturer's warranty, for a period of three (3) years.

INSTALLATIONS: RSH Sign Group warranties sign, graphic, lighting and flagpole Installation for three (3) years from date of installation completion with the exception of outside 3rd parties, to include Owners, General Contractors and Architects instructing RSH Sign Group to install signage, graphics, lighting and/or flagpoles in a manner not consistent with traditional installation methods used by RSH Sign Group or not in compliance with building code.

WARRANTY LIMITATIONS: RSH Sign Group's 3-Year Warranty is expressly voided and does not cover any loss for any of the following:

- Damage and destruction from acts of violence to include, but not limited to rioting, vandalism, terrorism or theft.
- Damage from cleaning with a material not approved in the cleaning instructions.
- Severe weather events to include tornados, earthquakes, hurricanes, hail storms and lightning strikes.

RSH Sign Group should be notified as soon as possible if an act violence or severe weather event occurs in order for a company representative of RSH Sign Group to assess damage and assist with your filing of an insurance claim for coverage.

All Warranty issues can be communicated to RSH Sign Group in one of the following manners:

- Call: 843-412-1891
- Email: rich@RSHsigngroup.com   sonja@RSHsigngroup.com   ashley@RSHsigngroup.com
- Mail: RSH Sign Group
P.O. Box 396
Hollywood, SC 29449

Photo documentation of the defect or damage is always helpfl when submitting for a warranty claim.

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

CONTACT	CONTEXT
JR Horton **AVP Facilities Regional Operations Manager** **904.826.6162** **JR.Horton@Amerisbank.com**	**Length of Relationship -** 23 Years **Major Signage Projects - Multiple** **Planning, Design, Fabrication, Installation & Service for:** • Full Color LED Display Boards for twelve (12) locations. Project Value - $820,000 +/- • Acquisition of twenty-six (26) Bank of America locations throughout Georgia, Alabama & Florida. Project Value - $1.3mm • Acquisition of thirteen (13) Prosperity Bank locations in Florida. Project Value - $785,000 • Branding the top facades of Ameris Bank's Florida Headquarters on one of the tallest buildings in Jacksonville, FL Project Value - $750,000 +/-
Jim Polasis **Palas Hospitality** **888.539.3101** **mmkt500@gmail.com**	**Length of Relationship -** 20 Years **Major Signage Projects - Multiple** **Planning, Design, Fabrication, Installation & Service for:** • Fabricating Main Identity Sign & Implementing 6mm Full Color LED Display Boards for Town & Country Inn. Project Value - $138,000 +/-
Richard Hall **Calhoun County Administrator** **803.874.2435** **rhall@calhouncounty.sc.gov**	**Length of Relationship -** 25+ Years **Major Signage Projects - Multiple** **Municipal Building Interior Signage Redesign** • Project Value - $30,000 +/-

cont.

Rich Heaton / RSH Sign Group
P.O. Box 396, Hollywood, SC 29449
Phone: 843.412.1891 Email: rich@rshsigngroup.com

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

CONTACT	CONTEXT
Harold Young **Orangeburg County Administrator** **803.533.6101** **hyoung@orangeburgcounty.org**	**Length of Relationship -** 25+ Years **Major Signage Projects - Multiple** **Planning, Design, Fabrication, Installation & Service for:** • Civil Rights Museum Exterior Building Letters & Illuminated Canopy Signage Project Value - $100,000 +/-
Gregg Robinson **CEO of Florence County Economic Development Partnership** **843.496.6575** **grobinson@fcedp.com**	**Length of Relationship -** 4 Years **Major Signage Projects - Multiple** **FCEDP Building Interior Signage Redesign** • Project Value - $30,000 +/-
Richard Hall **Calhoun County Administrator** **803.874.2435** **rhall@calhouncounty.sc.gov**	**Length of Relationship -** 25 Years **Major Signage Projects - Multiple** **Municipal Building Interior Signage Redesign** • Project Value - $30,000 +/-
Dan Doyle **President & CEO** **The Beach Company** **843.670.0402** **ddoyle@thebeachcompany.com**	**Length of Relationship -** 25 Years **Major Signage Projects - Multiple** **The Sterling & Center Point Exterior Signage** • Project Value - $250,000 +/-
Pamela Young **Alpek Polyester** **803.206.6403** **pamela.young@alpekpolyester.com**	**Length of Relationship -** 3 Years **Major Signage Projects** **Main Identity Monument & Site Wide Wayfinding** • Project Value - $250,000 +/-