

March 18, 2020 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Shaun Greenwood sgreenwood@forestacres.net

## Forest Acres Suspends Late Fees for Hospitality Tax and Business License Tax

**Forest Acres, SC** – Forest Acres City Council has authorized the suspension of all late fees associated with Hospitality Tax Payment requirements and Business License Renewals. Starting March 18, 2020, businesses that are required to renew their annual business license or remit monthly hospitality tax payments will not incur late fees until June 1, 2020. City Council authorizes this relief in the hopes that the added time will ease the financial burden on local businesses during these difficult times. The June 1, 2020 extension coincides with the extension Governor Henry McMaster authorized for state taxes during his address on March 17, 2020.

Business Licenses in the City of Forest Acres expire April 30, 2020. Normally, penalties would begin accruing May 1, 2020. Hospitality Taxes are typically remitted by the 20<sup>th</sup> day of each month. Penalties begin accruing on the 21<sup>st</sup> day. With the approved suspension of penalties, no penalties will be assessed on payments received prior to June 1, 2020.

Mayor Frank Brunson stated, "This is a difficult time for the City of Forest Acres and our business community. We are constantly searching for ways to be responsive to the public and to ensure our services run as efficiently and effectively as possible. We recognize how important our business community is and we want to do everything we can to ensure we are adapting our processes as this situation continues to progress. We will continue to assess the impact the Corona Virus is having on the community and consider additional changes as more information becomes available."

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