

**MINUTES OF THE
FOREST ACRES CITY COUNCIL
May 12, 2026**

Mayor Tom Andrews, Mayor Pro-tem Haskell Kibler, Council members David Black and Ryan Newton were present, along with City Administrator Shaun Greenwood, Assistant City Administrator Kendall Adams, Finance Director Brittany Adams, Police Chief Don Robinson, and City Attorney Will Dillard. Council member Stephen Oliver was absent.

Mayor Tom Andrews called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Council member David Black led the invocation and Boy Scout Sims Harden (Troop 10) led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Approval of Minutes

- a. City Council Meeting April 14, 2026
On a motion by Mr. Black seconded by Mr. Kibler, Council unanimously approved the minutes as amended.
- b. Special City Council Meeting (Budget Workshop) April 21, 2026
On a motion by Mr. Black seconded by Mr. Kibler, Council unanimously approved the minutes.

2. Mayor's Issues & City Projects

- a. Follow up from Community Forum Discussion
No items to report.

3. New Business

- a. Presentation of Employee of the Quarter by the Public Safety Foundation
Mayor Tom Andrews and Council member Ryan Newton, Chair of the Public Safety Foundation, presented Dispatcher Susan Reeder with the Employee of the Quarter award.
- b. Presentation by FAPD of new officer
Police Chief Don Robinson introduced Officer Jacob Buckingham as our newest officer on staff.
- c. Resolution honoring the career and commitment of Keith Lindler
Mayor Tom Andrews honored Keith Lindler and his fourteen-year career at the City of Forest Acres as City Engineer and Building Official. Mr. Lindler thanked the city and council for the resolution and ascribed his success and contributions with Forest Acres to city employees Laura Boatright and Maria Queen.
- d. First Reading: AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF FOREST ACRES, STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, PROVIDING FOR THE RAISING OF REVENUE AND ADOPTION OF THE BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF FOREST ACRES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027; ADOPTING A MASTER FEE SCHEDULE; AND ESTABLISHING A FRANCHISE FEE ON WATER AND SEWER UTILITIES
On a motion by Mr. Kibler seconded by Mr. Newton, Council passed the ordinance with a vote of four to zero.
- e. First Reading: AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF FOREST ACRES, STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, PROVIDING THAT THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF FOREST ACRES, BE AMENDED BY REVISING SECTION 21.2.1.2 (ZONING MAP) OF SAID CODE; PROVIDING FOR A CHANGE IN THE DISTRICT BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY ZONING MAP FOR 1338 SUNNYSIDE DRIVE (TMS R13907-01-09) AND 1346 SUNNYSIDE DRIVE (TMS R13907-01-11) FROM PDD (PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT) TO R-1 (LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL)

A representative from the Wilson Company stated that part of the agreement with the property owners is to keep the development to ultra-low density so that the vegetation will be disturbed at a minimum.
On a motion by Mr. Kibler seconded by Mr. Black, Council passed the ordinance with a vote of three to zero.
Mr. Newton recused himself from the discussion and vote at 6:25 pm.

- f. First Reading: AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF FOREST ACRES, STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, PROVIDING THAT THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF FOREST ACRES, BE AMENDED BY REVISING CHAPTER 10, SECTION 10-11, RELATING TO NOISE VIOLATIONS

City Attorney Will Dillard stated that the proposed change regards noise that can be heard from inside a residence after 8:00 pm becomes a violation to the ordinance.

On a motion by Mr. Newton seconded by Mr. Kibler, Council passed the ordinance with a vote of four to zero.

- g. First Reading: AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF FOREST ACRES, STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, APPROVING EXTENSION AND AMENDMENT OF A CELLULAR TOWER OPTION AND LEASE AGREEMENT WITH ALLTEL CORPORATION D/B/A VERIZON WIRELESS REGARDING RICHLAND COUNTY TAX MAP NO. R14005-02-08 (S/S GROGGY LANE)

On a motion by Mr. Black seconded by Mr. Newton, Council agreed to defer the vote to after Executive Session.

- h. Staff Request for Htax:

- a. \$4,500 updated economic development profile from the Retail Coach

On a motion by Mr. Kibler seconded by Mr. Newton, Council agreed to defer the item pending additional discussion.

- i. Appointments:

- a. Public Safety Foundation

- i. Open Position (August 2027)

- ii. Open Position (March 2028)

- iii. Reappointment: Paul Truesdale (May 2027)

On a motion by Mr. Kibler seconded by Mr. Black Council reappointed Mr. Truesdale with a vote of four to zero.

4. Old Business

- a. Second Reading: AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF FOREST ACRES, STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, APPROVING A SEWER EASEMENT AGREEMENT WITH 5213 TRENHOLM, LLC (identified on First Reading as Wings Investments, LLC) REGARDING RICHLAND COUNTY TAX MAP NO. R14013-02-24 (5209 N. TRENHOLM ROAD)

On a motion by Mr. Kibler seconded by Mr. Black, Council voted to defer the vote to after Executive Session with a vote of 3-0. Mr. Newton abstained from the vote.

5. City Administrator Report

- a. Richland Mall Update

Mr. Greenwood said that we have transitioned from site demolition to site development. The grocery store and apartments completion date had now been moved by the developers from the Fall 2027 to Spring 2028.

- b. Grants

Assistant City Administrator Adams reported that we were denied an additional \$35,000 from FEMA and the grants we have recently applied for are still under review. Mr. Greenwood said that we will not be receiving any funds from the state for FY 26-27, but we do have a federal request pending.

- c. Forest Acres Festival

A record crowd of about 6,000 people attended the festival this year. The Rotary Club, the festival's sponsor, is pleased with the funds that were raised for various charitable organizations.

d. Willingham Speed Hump Request

Mr. Greenwood said that we have received a fully completed petition from the residents and the administrative process is under way. The FAPD completed a seven-day speed study on Willingham Dr. Mr. Adams and Chief Robinson are talking with SCDOT, and we should have this as an action item at the June 9, 2026, City Council meeting.

e. Elections Bill

Mr. Greenwood said that there is legislation that is likely to be passed this year regarding the mandate of city and county elections changing to April and November of the odd years. If this bill passes, Council will have to decide on either an April or November time-frame.

f. Lexington Heart & Sole Run

The run is set for Saturday, May 16, 2026.

6. **Finance Director Report: Monthly Financial Report**

Brittany Adams reported that as of the end of April 2026, we have received approximately 60% of our anticipated revenues and 76% regarding expenses for the year.

7. **Police Chief's Report:**

Chief Robinson reported the April 2026 crime statistics.

April was a busy month for distinct types of vital training sessions for the officers.

8. **Community Forum:**

Resident Joseph Powell voiced his concerns regarding the upcoming development and excessive deforestation on Sunnyside Drive.

Residents Kelly and Nick Touchstone voiced their reasons regarding the request for a speed hump on Willingham Drive. A discussion ensued with Mr. Greenwood, Mr. Adams, and Council.

Non-resident Earl Carr asked about business owners at 3400 Forest Drive and who would be responsible for parking lot repairs. He said the parking lot has portions of their lot that are in disrepair. Mr. Greenwood said that the property owners would be responsible for repairs.

Resident John Kososki stated he is the representative for Forest Aces on the East Richland County Public Service District. He asked Council to reconsider the increase on the franchise fee for sewer.

Resident Carol Kososki relayed her concerns regarding water bottles being discarded throughout residential neighborhoods during 5 and 10k runs. Mr. Greenwood said that he will make sure the routes are watched closer and we will have more roll carts put out during the runs.

Non-resident Amy Larkin voiced her concerns regarding the upcoming development and excessive deforestation on Sunnyside Drive.

Resident Bryan Willis voiced concerns about the water pressure in his neighborhood. He asked if Council would invite representatives from the City of Columbia to a Council meeting for a discussion. Mr. Greenwood said he did speak with the Assistant City Manager of Utilities at the City of Columbia involving this same issue and was told that there are two repairs that are on their radar. Mr. Greenwood asked Mr. Willis to contact him for further information.

Resident Mr. Fastineau asked for an update on the sinkhole at Spring Hill and Atascadero. Mr. Greenwood said he had a conversation with the water department concerning what the problem was and a solution. He was told a storm drain and water main were too close together and the repairs include the moving of the water main. The work will not begin for another month.

9. Council Items:

Council member Newton recognized the AC Flora Boys Tennis Team for winning and the Boys Lacrosse Team for winning runners-up in the State Championship this past weekend.

10. Executive Session:

On a motion by Mr. Black seconded by Mr. Kibler, Council agreed to go into Executive Session at 7:30 pm with a vote of four to zero.

a. Receipt of legal advice related to claims and potential claims and other matters covered by Attorney

Client Privilege:

- i. Officer involved shooting
- ii. Zoning matters re: vehicular rentals, restrictive covenants
- iii. Franchise Fee

b. Discussion of contractual matters and receipt of legal advice related to:

- i. Sewer easement on City property
- ii. Cell Tower Lease Renewal

NOTE: Items discussed in Executive Session may result in action by City Council upon its return to general session.

On a motion by Mr. Newton and seconded by Mr. Kibler, Council unanimously agreed to return to general session with a vote of four to zero.

On a motion by Mr. Kibler seconded by Mr. Black, Council authorized the City Administrator to finalize negotiations on a sewer easement as discussed in executive session with a vote of three to one. Mr. Newton abstained from voting on this item.

On a motion by Mr. Kibler seconded by Mr. Newton, Council authorized the City Administrator to negotiate and finalize a contract on a Cell Tower Lease renewal as discussed in executive session.

12. Adjourn

On a motion by Mr. Black seconded by Mr. Newton, Council unanimously agreed to adjourn at 9:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Queen
Asst. City Clerk/HR Director
City of Forest Acres