

**MINUTES OF THE
FOREST ACRES CITY COUNCIL
September 8, 2026**

Mayor Tom Andrews, Mayor Pro-tem Haskell Kibler, Council members David Black, Ryan Newton, and Stephen Oliver 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.

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

1. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Pro-tem Haskell Kibler asked for a moment of silence for City of Columbia fallen Officer Chris DeLong, led the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Hearing

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 E/S CHERRY LAUREL DRIVE (TMS R14010-07-20) FROM R-1 (LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL) TO C-1 (OFFICE & LIMITED COMMERCIAL DISTRICT).

City Attorney Will Dillard opened the hearing at 6:01 pm stating that the purpose of the public hearing is to entertain public comments on a proposed rezoning. Council member Oliver recused himself from the public hearing. Mr. Dillard stated that Planning Commission recommended the proposed rezoning with a vote of six to one. Mr. Greenwood added that per the Unified Development Ordinance townhouses are specifically defined as three or more connected housing units. Mr. Dillard opened the hearing for public comment. Residents Pete Balthazor, Sarah Turner, Carol Bell, Michelle Brazell, and Jessie Plumber voiced their concerns in the proposed rezoning, despite the plan to build townhomes. Property owner Elize Bidwell and her potential developer of the property, Jason Holiday, spoke on their plans for the property. Mr. Holliday added that the building of townhomes would have low-impact in the area. With there being no additional questions or concerns either in favor or opposition to the rezoning request from either Council or the public, Mr. Dillard closed the public hearing at 6:24 pm.

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. City Council Meeting August 11, 2026

On a motion by Mr. Black seconded by Mr. Kibler, Council unanimously approved the minutes.

3. Mayor's Issues & City Projects

- a. Follow up from Community Forum Discussion

- i. Roll carts left out at Richland County apartments on Valleybrook Road

Mr. Greenwood reported that he did pass the information on to the county.

4. Public Comment Related to Items on the Agenda

- a. Citizens that wish to speak about an item specifically listed on the agenda must call 803-782-9475 by 5 pm the day before the meeting to be added to the list of speakers.

5. New Business

On a motion by Mr. Oliver seconded by Mr. Black, Council unanimously agreed to amend the agenda to add a Proclamation honoring a resident.

- a. Proclamation honoring the 100th birthday of Janice Long Carlson

Mayor Andrews honored longtime resident Janice Long Carlson and her upcoming 100th birthday with a Proclamation in her name.

- b. Presentation by the Public Safety Foundation
Council member and Chair of the Public Safety Foundation Ryan Newton introduced Laura Long from Eastminster Presbyterian Church. Eastminster graciously donated \$5000.00 to the foundation. Ms. Long stated that the donation is in honor of the 25th anniversary of September 11th and all first responders.
 - c. Discussion and approval of a Memorandum of Agreement with Columbia Green
Mr. Greenwood stated that this program offers trees to residents as a green campaign. Residents sign up and the trees are delivered to their homes.
On a motion by Mr. Newton seconded by Mr. Oliver, Council unanimously approved the MOA.
 - d. 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 E/S CHERRY LAUREL DRIVE (TMS R14010-07-20) FROM R-1 (LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL) TO C-1 (OFFICE & LIMITED COMMERCIAL DISTRICT).
On a motion by Mr. Black seconded by Mr. Kibler, Council agreed to defer the ordinance to October's meeting. Mr. Oliver recused himself from the vote.
 - e. Htax Committee Recommendation:
 - a. Satchel Ford PTO – Freaky Friday Event \$2,500
On a motion by Mayor Andrews seconded by Mr. Oliver, Council unanimously approved the \$2500.00 request.
 - f. Appointments:
 - a. Planning Commission:
 - i. Reappointment: Kristin Hudson (September 2028)
On a motion by Mr. Kibler seconded by Mr. Black, Council unanimously reappointed Kristin Hudson to a two-year term.
 - b. Public Safety Foundation
 - i. Open Position: (March 2028)
- 6. Old Business**
- a. Second 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 4515 ARCADIA ROAD (TMS R16804-07-10 and R16804-07-19) FROM R-1 (LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL) TO R-1A (LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL)
On a motion by Mr. Oliver seconded by Mr. Newton, Council unanimously approved the ordinance.
- 7. City Administrator Report**
- a. Richland Mall Update
Mr. Greenwood said the project continues to move forward with site preparation. They are working on the timeline for the grocery store to open as planned.
 - b. Best of Columbia
Director of Communications Lynnsey Baker stated that the City of Forest Acres has won several awards this year and continues to be a favorite place to shop and live in the Midlands.
 - c. Parks
Mr. Greenwood stated that the parks are nearly complete with the exception of two picnic tables needed at Quinine Hill Park.

- d. **Vehicle Wraps**
Mrs. Baker has been working with various artists on quotes. We have an idea of what we would like to do and will bring to Council at the October 13, 2026, meeting.
- e. **SCORF Campaign**
Mrs. Baker said that as part of the grant we received from SCORF we used it as a multi-action plan. We used a portion to purchase Narcan kits and are going to be part of life-saving training in partnership with the Oliver Gospel Mission. We also initiated a marketing campaign with the slogan, "Small Pill Heavy Price" that will target all the social media platforms and billboards. We also will be applying with SCORF for another grant within the next two weeks.
- f. **Grants**
Assistant City Administrator Adams said that we have recently applied for the Southeast Aquatic Research Partnership (SARP), having to do with revitalization with the creek in association with our park.
- g. **Events**
Mr. Adams said we did host the Labor Day Run and have Therapalooza coming up at the fairgrounds. Mrs. Baker added that Therapalooza will be on September 25th and our sponsorship will be part of a leather branding promotion during the event. Mrs. Baker added that Lexington Health has agreed to be the title sponsor for Sweet Seasons on Tuesday, December 1, 2026. WISTV will also be a sponsor and will be present at the event. This year is expected to be incredibly attended and successful.

8. Finance Director Report: Monthly Financial Report

Mrs. Adams reported that we recognize \$332k of anticipated revenues and 10% regarding expenses for FY 26-27.

9. Police Chief's Report:

Chief Robinson reported the July 2026 crime statistics.

Chief stated that we are monitoring traffic at our school areas to try to mitigate the traffic flow and set the tone.

FAPD assisted City of Columbia PD during this last month as they were dealing with the loss of Officer Chris DeLong.

10. Community Forum:

Resident Francis Parker voiced a question about the proposed franchise fee for water and sewer service to be discussed in Executive Session. She stated she will be at the October Council meeting for answers.

Resident Carol Bell expressed her issue with orange cable lying on the sides of the road and in yards on Montclair Drive for the last couple of months. Mr. Greenwood said that a company called Lumos is working in Forest Acres and should be finishing their work and repairing any yards where they are laying the fiber. Mr. Greenwood said he would email his contact if the resident reached out to him via email.

11. Council Items:

No items to report.

12. Executive Session:

On a motion by Mr. Kibler seconded by Mr. Oliver, Council unanimously agreed to go into Executive Session at 7:30 pm.

Mr. Newton left Executive Session recusing himself from discussion on potential purchase of property.

- a. Receipt of legal advice related to claims and potential claims and other matters covered by Attorney Client Privilege:
 - i. Water and sewer franchise fee
- b. Discussion of proposed contractual matters and receipt of legal advice related to:
 - i. Naming rights related to public buildings and structures

- ii. The potential purchase of property
- iii. Network Support Services
- c. Discussion of personnel matters related to:
 - i. City Administrator's Annual Evaluation

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

On a motion by Mr. Kibler and seconded by Mr. Oliver, Council agreed to return to general session with a vote of 4 to 0.

On a motion by Mr. Oliver seconded by Mr. Black, Council approved the Facilities Study Contract with GMK Associates and authorized the City Administrator to execute the contract with a vote of 4 to 0.

On a motion by Mr. Black seconded by Mr. Kibler, Council authorized the City Administrator to negotiate a contract related to Network Support Services as discussed in Executive Session with a vote of 4 to 0.

13. Adjourn

On a motion by Mr. Oliver seconded by Mr. Black, Council unanimously agreed to adjourn at approximately 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Queen
Assistant City Clerk/HR Director
City of Forest Acres