ORDINANCE NUMBER ____-2024

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTIONS 2-65 OF DIVISION 2 (MEETINGS) OF ARTICLE II (COUNCIL) OF CHAPTER 2 (ADMINISTRATION) OF THE CITY OF SIMPSONVILLE CODE OF ORDINANCES

WHEREAS, the City of Simpsonville City Council reviews its Ordinances at various times to make necessary improvements and/or changes; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Simpsonville desires to amend its existing ordinances to allow greater flexibility in the scheduling of council meetings subject to the requirements of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act, S.C. Code §30-4-10 *et seq.*.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Simpsonville as follows:

<u>Section 1</u>. <u>Amendment.</u> Amend Sections 2-65 of Division 2 (Meetings) of Article II (Council) of Chapter 2 (Administration) as follows:

Sec. 2-65. Meeting schedule.

- (a) All meetings of the council shall be open to the public. Notwithstanding, the council may hold executive sessions as permitted by the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act at such times and in such places as may be deemed necessary and in the public interest by a favorable vote of the council.
- (b) Regular meetings of the council shall generally be held on the second Tuesday of each month at such time and place designated by council. at 6:30 p.m. in the council chambers of City Hall. Committee of the whole meetings shall generally be held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at such time and place designated by council at 6:30 pm in the council chambers of City Hall except for the months of November and December.
- (c) The <u>mayor or council</u> may alter the schedule <u>and location</u> of meetings <u>pursuant to public</u> notice required by the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act, particularly when a regular meeting falls on a legal holiday, or if weather or other conditions make it hazardous for council members and the public to attend a meeting, or for other compelling reasons, provided that the city council meets regularly at least once a month, or with such other minimum frequency as is required by the general law of the state.
- (d) Special meetings or emergency meetings as specified under the SC FOIA may be called by the mayor when deemed necessary, or by a majority of council, provided at least 24 hours' notice is given to each member of the council and the time, place, and agenda of each special meeting is publicly announced at least 24 hours before the meeting.

- (e) Except in the case of an emergency, any member of the council who cannot attend a scheduled meeting shall notify the city clerk at the earliest possible opportunity and no later than 4:00 p.m. on the date of the meeting. The city clerk shall notify the city administrator and the mayor in the event that the projected absences threaten the ability to produce a quorum at the meeting.
- (f) All meetings of the council shall comply with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act, S.C. Code Ann. §30-4-10, et. seq.

<u>Section 2</u>. This ordinance shall be effective immediately upon second reading approval hereof.

	CITY OF SIMPSONVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA
	Paul Shewmaker, Mayor
ATTEST:	
Ashley Clark, Municipal Clerk	
First Reading:	, 2024
Second and Final Reading:	, 2024
Approved as to Form:	
Daniel R. Hughes, City Attorney	