CITY OF SIMPSONVILLE: CITY COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING
AGENDA

Council Chambers, Simpsonville City Hall | Jan. 13, 2026 | 6 p.m.

Swearing-In of Newly Elected Officials of Simpsonville City Council
Aaron Rupe – Ward 2
Sherry Roche – Ward 4
Jerry Tuso- Ward 6

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
   Presiding Officer: Paul Shewmaker, Mayor

2. **ROLL CALL**
   Recorder: Ashley Clark, Clerk of Council

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

4. **PRESENTATION**
   - **A.** RIZE Prevention Inc., Marine Helou-Allen Executive
   - **B.** Addressing the Feral Cat Population, Erin Bouchillon of Northwest Health Sciences at Greenville Technical College
   - **C.** Downtown Project, Jeff Hilderbran of CoTransCo

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
   December 09, 2025

6. **CITIZEN COMMENTS**
   (Code of Ordinances: *Chapter 2. Article II. Division 2. Sec. 2-69.b.1)* Citizens of the City or others who have standing in the City, such as business owners, shall be entitled to appear before council at regular meetings. Such persons may speak regarding matters that are within the jurisdiction of the City, except for personnel matters. At least 10 minutes prior to the time the meeting is scheduled to commence, such person wishing to appear before council must place his or her name, address, and topic to be addressed on the public comments sign-up list maintained by the City Clerk. Individual comments shall be limited to three minutes.

7. **BUSINESS**
   - **A.** **2nd Reading of Ordinance O-2025-13, Trespass Enforcement Authorization Program**
     Tee Coker, City Administrator

   - **B.** **Election of Mayor Pro Tempore**
     Mayor, Paul Shewmaker

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

A reception in recognition of the newly-elected Council members will be held immediately upon adjournment.

PLEASE NOTE CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDAS ARE ACCURATE AS OF THE FRIDAY PRIOR TO THE MEETING BUT IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE UP TO TWENTY-FOUR (24) HOURS PRIOR TO THE MEETING. PLEASE CONTACT SIMPSONVILLE CITY HALL THE DAY OF THE MEETING FOR AN UP-TO-DATE AGENDA AT 864-967-9526.

City of Simpsonville – Submission of Council Agenda Item

(Due at 12 p.m. on the Wednesday prior to the meeting)

To: Tee Coker, City Administrator

Copy: Ashley Clark, Clerk of Council; Justin Campbell, Community Relations Specialist

From: Justin Campbell

Department: Administration

Date Submitted: 01/06/2026

Please include the following item on the agenda for:

☐ Committee of the Whole Meeting (4th Tuesday of the month) Date

☑ Business Meeting (2nd Tuesday of the month) Date 01/13/2026

Agenda Item Title:

Presentation: Addressing the Feral Cat Population - Erin Bouchillon, Department Head of Northwest Health Sciences at Greenville Technical College

Summary of Item / Purpose:

Erin Bouchillon oversees the Veterinary Sciences program for Greenville Technical College. Ms. Bouchillon has agreed to provide guidance to the City in addressing the challenges of the growing feral cat population in Simpsonville. During a meeting with staff, Ms. Bouchillon offered multiple ideas and recommendations for slowing the growth of the feral cat population and attending to feral cats in a humane manner. Staff believes Ms. Bouchillon can offer valuable expert information to provide context and background for a problem the solution of which will require many stakeholders and strategies.

Action Requested of Council:

☑ Discussion Only

☐ First Reading (Business Meeting Only)

☐ Second Reading (Business Meeting Only)

☐ Move to Business Meeting

Are supporting documents attached?

☐ Yes ☑ No

FERAL CAT POPULATION IN SIMPSONVILLE

ISSUES THAT COULD ARISE



- Rabies spread to humans and other animals
- Increased numbers would mean increased disease within cat population
- Decreased food available to cats, starvation
- Parasites spread to humans and other animals
- Cats will search for food and shelter resources, property destruction possible
- Traffic accidents, people trying to avoid cats in roadways.

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

- Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR)
  - best solution based on research by National Feline Research Council (https://www.felineresearch.org/)

Allow community to continue small capture efforts

- Has not slowed population growth
- Cats can have more offspring in 1 litter than can be captured each month
- Cats breed year round

WHAT IS TNR?

- TNR is a process that allows cats to be captured then taken to a veterinarian for alteration.
- The cats are examined for health status, vaccinated.
- The cats are returned to a colony where they are monitored by volunteers.
- The colonies are fed daily and offered a shelter source to encourage them to stay
- Cats will live the rest of their lives without reproducing, therefore decreasing the population in time.
- This process can take several years to see a decline.

PROBLEMS WITH TNR

- This is a slow process
- It will take volunteers to accomplish each aspect
- Food and shelter costs will be ongoing until population declines

PLAN OF ACTION



- Animal related volunteers are easy to find!
- Approach area veterinarians regarding cat alteration donations (1-2 per month, ect.)
- Create spay/neuter events
  - This would allow large amounts (possibly 100) of cats to be altered at once
  - Greenville Technical College's Veterinary Assistant students can help to assist in surgeries and event coordination
  - Veterinary hospitals could donate their clinic 1 Sunday each year

BENEFITS OF THE PLANS

- Veterinarians want to be an active member of their community.
- This would allow them to get recognition if this was advertised
- They could use this to verify their brand with the community
- This could increase their clientele
- Eventually, this process will decrease the cat population naturally

ADDRESSING THE PUBLIC

- Asking the public to stop feeding cats around town could be difficult
- If they know cats will be cared for at the colonies, this will help
- Feeding cats in public settings will draw the cats away from their colony and into traffic where they are in danger.

THANK YOU!

QUESTIONS?

Erin Bouchillon, LVT

Greenville Technical College

Northwest Health Sciences' Department Head

CITY OF SIMPSONVILLE: CITY COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Council Chambers, Simpsonville City Hall | Dec. 09, 2025 | 6 p.m.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
   Presiding Officer: Paul Shewmaker, Mayor

2. **ROLL CALL**

Councilmember	Present	Absent
Ward 1 – Chad O'Rear	✓	
Ward 2 – Aaron Rupe		✓
Ward 3 – Shannon Williams	✓	
Ward 4 – Sherry Roche	✓	
Ward 5 – Tim Pinkerton	✓	
Ward 6 – Lou Hutchings	✓	
Mayor Paul Shewmaker	✓	

   ABSENT: Ward 2 Aaron Rupe

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
   Minutes from the Business Meeting November 19, 2025 were approved as written.

5. **CITIZEN COMMENTS**
   Perry Eichor who served as Mayor for the City of Simpsonville voiced concerns about a memorial tribute to Ed Brashier.

6. **POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE**
   Sherry Roche, Mayor Pro Tem, expressed a point of personal privilege to recognize and appreciate Councilmember Lou Hutchings who served Ward 6. She highlighted her gratitude for his contributions and shared her enjoyment in working with him throughout his tenure.

7. **BUSINESS ITEMS**
   A. **Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals Appointment**
      The following members were appointed for the Planning Commission:
      Mike Teal, Rick Tomlinson and Howard Lents

      The following members were appointed for the Board of Zoning Appeals:
      Emily Schwalbe and Amy St. John

B. 2nd Reading of Ordinance O-2025-11, Amending Code of Ordinances Sec. 8-41 and 8-42, Technical Codes
Motion by Councilmember Roche with a second by Councilmember Hutchings to approve 2nd reading of Ordinance O-2025-11, Amending Code of Ordinances Sec. 8-41 and 8-42, Technical Codes. Y-6 N-0. Motion carried.

C. 2nd Reading of AXZ-2025-03, Annexation of Property at 320 Tearose Lane
Motion by Councilmember Hutchings with a second by Councilmember O'Rear to approve 2nd Reading of AXZ-2025-03, Annexation of Property at 320 Tearose Lane. Y-6 N-0. Motion carried.

D. 2nd Reading of Ordinance O-2025-12, Amending Code of Ordinances Sec. 16-4 Wards and Boundaries
Motion by Councilmember Pinkerton with a second by Roche to approve 2nd reading of Ordinance O-2025-12, Amending Code of Ordinances Sec. 16-4 Wards and Boundaries. Y-6 N-0. Motion carried.

E. 1st Reading of Z-2025-02, Rezoning of Properties Located at 118 & 124 NE Main Street
Motion by Councilmember Hutchings with a second by Councilmember Roche to approve 1st reading of Z-2025-02, Rezoning of Properties Located at 118 & 124 NE Main Street. Y-5 N-1. Motion carried. Councilmember O'Rear voting no.

F. Resolution R-2025-05, Textile Rehabilitation Certification, Burdette Textile Factory
Motion by Councilmember Williams with a second by Councilmember Hutchings to approve Resolution R-2025-05, Textile Rehabilitation Certification, Burdette Textile Factory. Y-6 N-0. Motion carried.

G. Resolution R-2025-06, Conveyance of Garrett Property to the City of Simpsonville
Motion by Councilmember O'Rear with a 2nd by Councilmember Roche to approve Resolution R-2025-06, Conveyance of Garrett Property to the City of Simpsonville. Y-6 N-0. Motion carried.

H. 1st Reading of Ordinance O-2025-13, Trespass Enforcement Authorization Program
Motion by Councilmember Roche with a 2nd by Councilmember Williams to approve 1st reading of Ordinance O-2025-13, Trespass Enforcement Authorization.
Y-6 N-0. Motion carried.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION
Motion by Councilmember Roche with a 2nd by Councilmember Hutchings to enter executive session to discuss a contractual matter pertaining to CCNB Amphitheatre

at Heritage Park and to discuss a personnel matter pertaining to Administration department. Y-6 N-0. Motion carried.

Upon coming out of Executive Session, the following vote was taken:
Motion by Councilmember Roche with a 2nd by Councilmember Pinkerton to move to direct the City Administrator, working with the CCNB Amphitheatre Selection Committee, to enter contract negotiations for management of the Amphitheatre with the contractor discussed in Executive Session, and to return a proposed contract to the next possible City Council Committee of the Whole.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-_____

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF SIMPSONVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA, TO ADOPT SECTION 26-71 TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND ADOPTION OF THE TRESPASS ENFORCEMENT AUTHORIZATION PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the City of Simpsonville finds that the public interest of the City requires careful balancing of the protection of individual constitutional protections with the fair, humane, and effective enforcement of regulations protecting use and enjoyment of private property rights, as well as the public health, safety, and welfare; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Simpsonville, based on these interests, finds it desirable and appropriate to adopt and implement the trespass enforcement authorization program to promote public safety through more efficient enforcement of the state trespass statute found in S.C. Code Ann. §16-11-620 and Section 26-67 of the Simpsonville Code of Ordinances (collectively, the "trespass statute").

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Simpsonville to amend Article III (Offenses Against Property) of Chapter 26 (Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions) by adding Section 26-71 (Trespass enforcement authorization program) as follows:

Section 1.

Sec. 26-71. Trespass enforcement authorization program.

(a) A property owner, building owner, property manager or person having legal control of property or their legal representative can authorize the City of Simpsonville Police Department to enforce, in absolute police discretion, the trespass statute on their property. To have the possibility of enforcement pursuant to this section, the person must:

(1) Appear in person at the law enforcement center or contact the police department for an application and affidavit for the trespass enforcement authorization program; and

(2) Declare the application and affidavit to be a public record for the purposes of Rule 803(8) South Carolina Rules of Evidence and/or appear in municipal court if subpoenaed.

(b) The application and affidavit must be notarized. After receipt of the sworn document, a site visit will be conducted by the police. The police will determine if the location is appropriate for participation and will determine the number and placement of signs provided by the city. The person will be informed if the location is not suitable for enforcement, due to excessive undergrowth or other factors. If the location is suitable or then made suitable, the owner/representative will be notified and the authorized signs may be purchased by the participant from the city and will be placed by the city. The notice of participation in the program will be provided to appropriate law enforcement divisions.

(c) It shall be unlawful for any person knowingly to enter or remain upon the premises of another when the consent to enter or remain is either absent, denied, or withdrawn by the owner, occupant, or person having lawful control thereof.

(d) When property has been posted by City of Simpsonville with conspicuous signage of sufficient notice declaring the property to under the trespass enforcement authorization program, it shall be prima facie evidence that consent to enter or remain upon the premises of another is absent, denied, or withdrawn. A "conspicuous" sign shall mean a sign that is at least one square foot in size. "Sufficient notice" shall mean the lettering on a conspicuous sign is at least one inch in height and contains the following language or words of similar notice:

NO TRESPASS AT ANY TIME (OR AS TIMES SET FORTH)
THIS IS PRIVATE PROPERTY UNDER TRESPASS ENFORCEMENT AUTHORIZATION PROGRAM CITY OF SIMPSONVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

(e) It shall be unlawful to deface, damage or remove any sign placed under authority of this section.

Section 2. Severability. The provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable and if any section, phrase or provision shall for any reason be declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unenforceable, such declaration shall not affect the validity of the remainder of the sections, phrases and provisions hereunder.

Section 3. Suspension of Conflicting Ordinances, Rules, Orders or Resolutions. All ordinances, rules, orders, resolutions and parts thereof in conflict herewith are, to the extent of such conflict, hereby suspended for the duration of this ordinance.

Section 4. Savings Clause: Nothing in this ordinance hereby adopted shall be construed to affect any suit or proceeding in any court, or any rights acquired, or liability incurred, or any cause or causes of action acquired or existing, under any act or ordinance hereby repealed as stated in Section 2 of the ordinance; nor shall any just or legal right or remedy of any character be lost, impaired or affected by this ordinance.

Section 5. Effective Date of the Ordinance. This ordinance shall be effective immediately upon passage.

DONE in meeting duly assembled this ____ day of _____ 2025.

SIGNATURE OF MAYOR:

_____
Paul Shewmaker

ATTEST:

_____

Ashley Clark
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

_____

Daniel Hughes
City Attorney

First Reading: ** , 2025
Second Reading: ** , 2025

City of Simpsonville – Submission of Agenda Item

(Due at 12 p.m. on the Tuesday prior to the meeting)

To: Ashley Clark, Clerk of Council

From: Mayor Shewmaker

Department: City Council

Date Submitted: 12/18/2025

Please include the following item on the agenda for:

☐ Committee of the Whole Meeting (4th Tuesday of the month) **Date:**

☑ Business Meeting (2nd Tuesday of the month) **Date:** 01/13/2026

Agenda Item Title: Election of Mayor Pro Tempore

Summary of Item / Purpose:

Per the Code of Ordinances, Article II, Sec. 2-33. - Mayor pro tempore.
(a)At the first regular meeting of a newly constituted council following a general election for city council, the council shall elect from among its members a mayor pro tempore for a term of two years, as provided in section 2-63.
(Code 1995, § 2-37; Ord. No. 2015-03, 6-9-2015; Ord. No. 2016-05, § 1(attach.), 8-9-2016)

Action Requested of Council:

☐ Discussion Only

☐ First Reading

☐ Second Reading

☐ Approval / Vote

☑ Other: Election

Are supporting documents attached?

☐ Yes ☑ No