CITY OF SIMPSONVILLE: CITY COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING
—MINUTES—
Council Chambers, Simpsonville City Hall | June 9, 2026 | 6 p.m.

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1. **CALL TO ORDER**
   Mayor Paul Shewmaker called the meeting to order at 5:59 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**
   City Clerk Justin Campbell called the roll:

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 – Jerry Tuso	✓	
Mayor Paul Shewmaker	✓	

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
   Mayor Shewmaker led Council Chambers in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. **PUBLIC HEARING**
   A public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year 2026-2027 budget
   - Mayor Shewmaker opened the public hearing for the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Annual Budget.
   - Finance Director Maria Tooley gave a presentation on the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Annual Budget.
   - Mr. Rod Folk gave comments during the public hearing on the portions of the Annual Budget regarding the Downtown Simpsonville project and transparency about the project.
   - Mayor Shewmaker closed the public hearing for the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Annual Budget.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

   A. Special Business Meeting on May 12, 2026
   The minutes of the Special Business Meeting on May 12, 2026 were approved as submitted.

   B. Business Meeting on May 12, 2026
   The minutes of the Business Meeting on May 12, 2026 were approved as submitted.

6. **PROCLAMATION**
   Recognizing Juneteenth and City Holiday
   Mayor Shewmaker read the proclamation recognizing Juneteenth and its City holiday into the record.

7. **PRESENTATION**
   Greenville Together: A Home for All
   Director of Greenville Together Cody Carver gave a presentation on addressing the challenges of homelessness throughout Greenville County.

8. CITIZEN COMMENTS

- Mandy Splawn gave comments about traffic impact study recommendations relating to Business item 9.E. Ms. Splawn said she has proposed to Council speed humps to slow motorists and increased implementation of the traffic laws by patrols. Ms. Splawn said motorists fail to stop at old and new Stop signs. Ms. Splawn asked Council not to divert additional traffic through the neighborhood in which she resides.
- Rod Folk gave comments about what he described as the "solution" to the problem of homelessness in reference to item 7 and recommended partnering with Greenville Together to address the issue.
- Tripp Tuttle gave comments about the traffic impact study recommendations related to item 9.E., which he said needed to be done. Mr. Tuttle said he favored speed humps, specifically on Hunter Street. Mr. Tuttle said he does not favor the diverter because it moves more traffic to the back of the League Estates neighborhood where he resides, which will result in back-ups at the Stop sign.
- Jeff Blais gave comments about the traffic impact study recommendations related to item 9.E and thanked Council for considering efforts to address traffic volume and safety in the community. Mr. Blais said he favors speed humps as a traffic calming measure and added motorists ignore Stop signs and speed limits. Mr. Blais said cut-through traffic will increase during the Downtown project. Mr. Blais reiterated the effectiveness of speed humps and said he was not in favor of a diverter to Astor Drive.
- Amanda Lewis gave comments about the traffic impact study recommendations related to item 9.E. Ms. Lewis said she would like Council to support placing speed humps in the Poinsettia neighborhood to slow down traffic and added she would like the City to give her household the same consideration as a residence on Almond Drive. Ms. Lewis requested members of Council who oppose speed humps to explain their position.
- Dan Womack gave comments about the traffic impact study recommendations related to item 9.E. and said he agreed with Ms. Splawn's comments by gesturing to her.
- Steve Smith gave comments about the traffic impact study recommendations related to item 9.E. and said he wanted to "piggyback" off Mr. Tuttle's comments. Mr. Smith said he opposed diverting traffic in League Estates with the diverter. Mr. Smith expressed concerns about the safety of kids playing and traffic enforcement.
- Brian Curtis gave comments about the traffic impact study recommendations related to 9.E. and gestured to approximately 12 members of the audience described as residents and family members from the upper South Pliney Circle whom Mr. Curtis said he was representing in his remarks. Mr. Curtis said if family members of Council lived in League Estates, they would not have voted to reopen Hunter Street. Mr. Curtis said League Estates was not designed to handle the amount of traffic the neighborhood is about to experience due to the reopening of Hunter Street. Mr. Curtis said the next best option to keeping Hunter Street closed is a traffic diverter at the intersection of Hunter Street and South Pliney Circle with speed humps on North Pliney Circle and said implementing only speed humps does not address the volume of traffic.
- Donna Nelson gave comments about the traffic impact study recommendations related to 9.E. Ms. Nelson recommended to Council to oppose traffic diversion plans for Poinsettia neighborhood and support speed humps.

9. BUSINESS

A. Second Reading of Ordinance O-2026-04, to transfer $11,530,304.09 in bond proceeds to the Capital Projects account to fund the Downtown Simpsonville project

Maria Tooley, Finance Director

Motion by Councilmember Pinkerton with a second by Councilmember Roche to approve Second Reading of Ordinance O-2026-04 to transfer $11,530,304.09 in bond proceeds to the Capital Projects account to fund the Downtown Simpsonville project. Yes – 6. No – 0. Motion carried.

B. Second Reading of Ordinance O-2026-05, to authorize a vehicle master lease program to systematically replace the City of Simpsonville's light-duty fleet

Maria Tooley, Finance Director

A motion by Councilmember Roche with a second by Councilmember Williams to approve Ordinance O-2026-05 to authorize a vehicle master lease program to systematically replace the City of Simpsonville's light-duty fleet. Yes – 5. No – 1. Dissenting – Councilmember Aaron Rupe. Motion carried.

C. Second Reading of Ordinance O-2026-06, to adopt an annual budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 to take effect July 1, 2026

Maria Tooley, Finance Director

- Motion by Councilmember Williams with a second by Councilmember Rupe to adopt an annual budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 to take effect July 1, 2026.
- Motion to amend Ordinance O-2026-06 by Councilmember Pinkerton with a second by Councilmember Rupe to* [transfer] the $50,000 that is budgeted [for stormwater] from the General [Fund] into the Stormwater Initiative Fund when the [Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Annual] Budget takes effect.
- Motion to amend: Yes – 6. No – 0. Motion to amend carried.
- Main motion as amended: Yes – 4. No – 2. Dissenting – Councilmember Rupe and Councilmember Roche. Main motion as amended carried.

D. First Reading of Ordinance O-2026-07, to subject any future franchise agreement request for telecommunication services or otherwise to Council approval pursuant to an agreed upon franchise agreement

Charlene Carter, City Planner

Motion by Councilmember Roche with a second by Councilmember Williams to subject any future franchise agreement request for telecommunication services or otherwise to Council approval pursuant to an agreed upon franchise agreement. Yes – 6. No – 0. Motion carried.

E. Implementation of Traffic Impact Study Recommendations

Paul Shewmaker, Mayor

i. **League Estates**

- A motion by Councilmember Rupe with a second by Councilmember Roche to amend Option 2 by adding four speed humps. Yes – 1. No – 5. Dissenting – Councilmember Williams, Councilmember Roche, Councilmember Pinkerton, Councilmember Tusso, and Mayor Shewmaker. Motion failed.
- A motion by Mayor Shewmaker with a second by Councilmember Williams to implement the traffic impact study recommendation for League Estates Option 2 to a diagonal diverter at the South Pliney Circle and Hunter Street intersection with two speed humps on North Pliney Circle. Yes – 6. No – 0. Motion carried.
- A motion by Mayor Shewmaker with a second by Councilmember Roche to delay the opening of Hunter Street until the chosen traffic calming plan has been

implemented or until Aug. 8 [2026], whichever comes later. Yes – 5. No – 1. Dissenting – Councilmember Pinkerton. Motion carried.

- "League Estates: Option 2" is attached.

ii. **Hedge Street:**

- A motion by Mayor Shewmaker with a second by Councilmember Roche to implement the traffic impact study for Hedge Street, Option 1 to leave as is. Yes – 6. No – 0. Motion carried.
- "Hedge Street: Option 1" is attached.

iii. **Poinsettia:**

- A motion by Mayor Shewmaker with a second by Councilmember Roche to implement the traffic impact study recommendation for Poinsettia neighborhood, Option 3: three speed humps on Poinsettia [Drive], three speed humps on Fernwood [Drive], and two speed humps on Aster Drive. Yes – 6. No – 0.
- "Poinsettia: Option 3" is attached.

iv. **Jones Avenue**

- A motion by Mayor Shewmaker with a second by Councilmember Rupe to implement the traffic impact study recommendation for Jones Avenue, Option 4: three speed humps on Jones Avenue and one speed hump on Bramlett Lane. Yes – 6. No – 0.
- "Jones Avenue: Option 4" is attached.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Shewmaker adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

*Bracketed words are added for clarification based on Council's discussion of the subsidiary motion. The verbatim subsidiary motion was as follows: "to put the $50,000 that is budgeted from the General budget into the Stormwater Initiative Fund when the Budget takes effect."

Justin Lee Campbell, City Clerk

July 14, 2026

Date

LEAGUE ESTATES

Option 2



June 5, 2026

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Greenville County GI

Disclaimer: This Map is not a LAND SURVEY and is for reference purposes only. Data contained in this map are prepared for the inventory of Real Property found within this jurisdiction, and are compi

HEDGE STREET

Option 1



June 5, 2026

1:1,600

0 75 150 300 ft

0 20 40 80 m

Greenville County GIS, Greenville County GIS Division

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POINSETTIA

Option 3



June 5, 2026

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JONES AVENUE

Option 4



June 5, 2026

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Greenville County GI

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