A picture containing text, clipart

Description automatically generated

City of Easley

Work Session

September 8, 2025

1. **CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Lisa Talbert called the meeting to order at 5:00pm. All members were present.

**2. AGENDA ITEMS:**

1. Second reading of Ordinance 2025-07 to rezone approximately 0.844 acres of real property located at 715 N. A Street from Neighborhood Commercial to Residential 7.5 zoning. Councilwoman Denise Davidson said the picture doesn’t depict a median in front of the property. A recommendation by the Planning Commission to have shared driveways doesn’t require the driveways be shared and Councilwoman Davidson feels that the ordinance should be tabled until it can be addressed due to the traffic and the permanent median requiring residents to impede them. Councilwoman Donna Rainey asked if the current homes are affected by the median and Councilwoman Davidson said it begins at the property up for rezoning. Mayor Talbert asked if we knew the intentions and Mario DiPietro stated that he wants to build homes potentially 3-4.
2. Second reading of Ordinance 2025-08 to adopt a revised business license ordinance in accordance with the Business License Standardization Act. There was no discussion.
3. Second reading of Ordinance 2025-09 authorizing the conveyance of an easement across the Doodle Trail. There was no discussion.
4. First reading of Ordinance 2025-11 to repeal the City of Easley Zoning Ordinance and the Land Development Regulations and replace them with the City of Easley Unified Development Ordinance. Councilwoman Donna Rainey asked why this ordinance is on the agenda without discussion specifically when there were around twelve items for Council to debate. Mario DiPietro stated that there were six items. Councilwoman Davidson addressed concerns that Councilman Alexander posed online about density. Mr. DiPietro read the six items for discussion. Councilman Alexander said that he doesn’t feel like the document is ready to be voted on and was surprised to see it on the agenda. Councilman Alexander stated that he presented all members of council with two amendments that he would like to make for the proposed UDO. One amendment to reduce density by around 10% and a second amendment not to dictate the amount of produce stocked in convenience stores.
5. First reading of Ordinance 2025-12 to amend the FY25/26 Operating Budget to authorize the purchase of IT equipment for the police department. IT security issues need to be updated, and this amendment would allow for that. Councilwoman Rainey asked if any of the expenses would be recurring and IT Director stated that there would be recurring costs for software. Councilman Alexander said he heard from County Councilman Alex Saitta who said that it would be more costly. Councilman Tom O’Shields said Mr. Saitta wants the money to stay with the county and Councilman Alexander said that was his understanding.
6. Reading of Resolution 2025-14 authorizing the negotiation, execution, and delivery of a lease between the City of Easley and VGM Financial services. There was no discussion.
7. Reading of Resolution 2025-15 authorizing the negotiation, execution, and delivery of a lease between the City of Easley and VGM Financial services. There was no discussion.
8. Reading of Resolution 2025-16 calling on the State of South Carolina, Pickens County, and Anderson County to review and provide a remedy for the congestion occurring along the Brushy Creek Road corridor into Anderson County. There was no discussion.
9. **PROJECT UPDATES:**

Police Chief Brandon Liner spoke on a foundation that was established for the Police Department for donations to be tax-deductible. The foundation is independent of the city but will be beneficial to the department. Chief Liner announced that Easley Police Department will find out very soon if we have been awarded an over $8 million grant for opioid crisis and would be distributed at $500,000 per year.

Councilwoman Denise Davidson made a motion to enter Executive Session to receive legal advice relating to a pending claim regarding George Metz vs City of Easley (Section 30-4-70(a)(2)) at 6:16pm, seconded by Councilman David Jones.All members were in favor except for Councilman Justin Alexander who was absent from the vote.Councilman Alexander returned for the discussion. Councilman Tom O’Shields made a motion to exit Executive Session, seconded by Councilwoman Denise Davidson at 6:27pm. All members were in favor. No actions or votes were taken while in Executive Session.

With no other business, Councilman Tom O’Shields made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman David Jones. The meeting concluded at 6:28pm.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mayor Lisa Talbert

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Jennifer Bradley, City Clerk