

ORDINANCE NO. 2025- 18

**AN ORDINANCE TO RAISE REVENUE AND ADOPT A BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2025, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2026.**

**WHEREAS**, § 5-7-260 of the South Carolina Code of Laws (as amended) requires that a Municipal Council shall act by ordinance to adopt budgets and levy taxes pursuant to public notice.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of the City of Florence in Council duly assembled and by the authority of the same:

**Section 1**

- (a) There is hereby adopted a General Fund budget for the City of Florence for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, as filed in the office of the City Clerk which is hereby incorporated by reference as if set forth fully herein, providing for revenues and appropriations in a total amount of \$53,148,430.
- (b) Further, there is hereby adopted a General Fund Debt Service Fund budget for the City of Florence for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, as filed in the office of the City Clerk which is hereby incorporated by reference as if set forth fully herein, providing for revenues and appropriations in the total amount of \$694,000.
- (c) Further, there is hereby adopted a Water and Sewer Utilities Enterprise Fund budget for the City of Florence for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, as filed in the office of the City Clerk which is hereby incorporated by reference as if set forth fully herein, providing for revenues and appropriations in a total amount of \$49,359,700.
- (d) Further, there is hereby adopted a Stormwater Utility Enterprise Fund budget for the City of Florence for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, as filed in the office of the City Clerk which is hereby incorporated by reference as if set forth fully herein providing for revenues and appropriations in the total amount of \$1,799,600.
- (e) Further, there is hereby adopted a Water and Sewer Utilities Construction Fund budget for the City of Florence for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, as filed in the office of the City Clerk which is hereby incorporated by reference as if set forth fully herein, providing for revenues and appropriations in a total amount of \$30,725,000.
- (f) Further, there is hereby adopted a Stormwater Utility Construction budget for the City of Florence for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, as filed in the office of the City Clerk which is hereby incorporated by reference as if set forth fully herein, providing for revenues and appropriations in a total amount of \$574,200.

- (g) Further, there is hereby adopted a Water and Sewer Utilities Equipment Replacement Fund budget for the City of Florence for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, as filed in the office of the City Clerk which is hereby incorporated by reference as if set forth fully herein providing for revenues and appropriations in the total amount of \$1,860,000.
- (h) Further, there is hereby adopted a Stormwater Utility Equipment Replacement Fund budget for the City of Florence for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, as filed in the office of the City Clerk which is hereby incorporated by reference as if set forth fully herein providing for revenues and appropriations in the total amount of \$119,620.
- (i) Further, there is hereby adopted a Hospitality Fund budget for the City of Florence for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, as filed in the office of the City Clerk which is hereby incorporated by reference as if set forth fully herein providing for revenues and appropriations in the total amount of \$6,730,500. Authorized as part of this ordinance and incorporated into the Hospitality Fund budget is a commitment by the City of Florence to contribute to the operations and maintenance costs of the Florence County Museum for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding Between Florence County and the City of Florence dated April 25, 2013.

## **Section 2**

In accordance with § 6-1-320 of the South Carolina Code of Laws (as amended), a tax for general operating purposes for the period from July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, for the sums and in the amount hereinafter mentioned, is and shall be levied, collected, and paid into the treasury of the City of Florence for the operational use and service thereof. A tax of seventy one and six-tenths (71.6) mills upon each one dollar (\$1.00) in value of real estate and personal property of every description owned and used in the City of Florence, South Carolina, is and shall be levied and paid into the City treasury for the credit to the City of Florence for the corporate purposes, improvements, and for the purpose of paying current operating expenses of said municipality. Such tax, is composed of the existing rate of 64.1 mills plus an additional 7.5 mills, as allowed in § 6-1-320 (A)(1) and § 6-1-320 (A)(2) of the SC Code of Laws, and such tax is levied on property assessed for taxation for County and State purposes.

## **Section 3**

In accordance with of § 6-1-320 of the South Carolina Code of Laws (as amended), a tax for general obligation bond indebtedness for the period from July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, for the sums and in the amount hereinafter mentioned, is and shall be levied, collected, and paid into the treasury of the City of Florence for the purpose of meeting general obligation bond debt service requirements. A tax of up to, but not exceeding, four (4.0) mills upon each one dollar (\$1.00) in value of real estate and personal property of every description owned and used in the City of Florence, South Carolina, is and shall be levied and paid into the City treasury for the credit to the City of Florence for the purpose of providing and paying for general obligation bond debt of the municipality. Such tax is levied on property that is assessed for taxation for County and State purposes.

#### **Section 4**

In accordance with § 23-47-10 through § 23-47-80 of the South Carolina Code of Laws (as amended), and § 14-93 through § 14-98 of the City of Florence, SC Code of ordinances (as amended), funding is and shall be provided to allow for the operation, maintenance, and enhancements of the E-911 system through a monthly charge of seventy-seven cents (\$0.77) upon each local exchange access line in the area served by or which would be served by the E-911 service and/or system of the City. Such charges are specifically enforceable under § 23-47-50 (B) of the SC Code of Laws. E-911 fees collected by the City of Florence shall be used to fund the acquisition of Police and Fire communications equipment in compliance with § 23-47-40 (B) of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended.

#### **Section 5**

The City Manager shall administer the budget and may authorize the transfer of appropriate funds within and between departments as necessary to achieve the goals of the budget. The City Manager is authorized to assign fund balance intended to be used for specific purposes.

#### **Section 6**

The City Manager or his designee is authorized to execute all necessary documents relating to the lease-purchase financing of equipment specifically authorized in the budget as presented or amended by City Council for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026. This action further constitutes a resolution of City Council authorizing and approving such equipment for lease-purchase acquisition, and this ordinance shall serve as representation of this resolution.

#### **Section 7**

If for any reason, any sentence, clause, or provision of this Ordinance shall be declared invalid, such shall not affect the remaining provisions thereof.

#### **Section 8**

That all ordinances or parts of ordinances conflicting with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed, insofar as the same affect this Ordinance.



**Section 9**

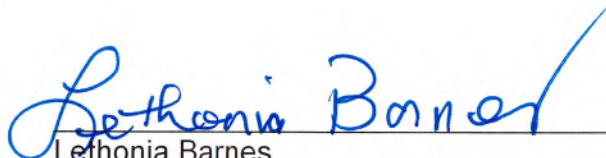
That this Ordinance shall become effective on July 1, 2025.

ADOPTED THIS 9 DAY OF June, 2025.

Approved as to form:

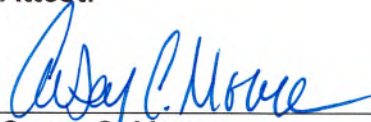


Benjamin T. Zeigler  
City Attorney



Lethonia Barnes  
Mayor

Attest:



Casey C. Moore  
Municipal Clerk