



# PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2025 | 6 PM**

2nd Committee Meeting

The Committee will meet in Mauldin City Hall at 5 East Butler Road in the Council Chambers at 6 p.m.

The meeting will be available remotely through Zoom. Please visit the City's website at <https://cityofmauldin.org/your-government/meeting-minutes-agendas/> to access the meeting via audio and videoconferencing.  
A quorum of Council will be present.

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
MEETING OCTOBER 6, 2025  
CITY HALL - COUNCIL  
CHAMBERS 5 E. BUTLER  
ROAD**

**Committee Members:** Carol King (Chair), Frank Allgood, and Jason Kraeling

- |   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| <b>1. <u>Call to Order</u></b>  | Chairperson Carol King |
| <b>2. <u>Public Comment</u></b>   | Chairperson Carol King |
| <b>3. <u>Reading and Approval of Minutes</u></b>                                      | Chairperson Carol King |
| a. Public Safety Committee Meeting: September 2, 2025 [Pages 3-5]                     |                        |
| <b>4. <u>Reports or Communications from City Officers</u></b>                         | Chairperson Carol King |
| a. Fire Chief Brian McHone  |                        |
| b. Chief Administrative Judge Donna DeRado  |                        |
| c. Police Chief George Miller   |                        |
| <b>5. <u>Unfinished Business</u></b>  | Chairperson Carol King |
| There is no unfinished business.  |                        |
| <b>6. <u>New Business</u></b>   | Chairperson Carol King |
| a. Ordinance Amending Chapter 6- Animals [Pages 6-9]                                  |                        |
| b. Ordinance to Amend Chapter 38, Through Truck Routes [Pages 10-13]                  |                        |
| c. Ordinance Amending Chapter 28- Parades, Picketing and Demonstrations [Pages 14-19] |                        |
| <b>7. <u>Public Comment</u></b>   | Chairperson Carol King |
| <b>8. <u>Committee Concerns</u></b>   | Chairperson Carol King |
| <b>9. <u>Adjournment</u></b>  | Chairperson Carol King |

**MINUTES**  
**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**SEPTEMBER 2, 2025**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> committee meeting**

Committee Members present were Carol King (Chair), Frank Allgood, and Jason Kraeling

Others present were Police Chief George Miller, Fire Chief Brian McHone, Judicial Director/ Chief Municipal Judge Donna DeRado, City Administrator Seth Duncan, and Assistant City Administrator Greg Saxton.

**1. Call to Order-** Chairwoman King

**2. Public Comment-** None

**3. Reading and Approval of Minutes**

a. Public Safety Committee Meeting: August 4, 2025

**Motion:** Councilman Kraeling made a motion to accept the minutes with Councilman Allgood seconding.

**Vote:** The vote was unanimous (3-0).

**4. Reports or Communications from City Officers**

a. Fire Chief Brian McHone

Chief McHone reported total calls through this evening are 3768. 1128 hours of training were completed in the month of August. October will be Fire Prevention Month for the department.

b. Judicial Director/ Chief Municipal Judge Donna DeRado

Judge DeRado reported \$421,696.92 was collected in fines for 2024-2025. The City was able to keep \$169,775 of that money. The rest is submitted to the State.

Court debt collection letters will be sent out this month. If the amounts owed are not paid, the Department of Revenue will receive the information and withdraw the delinquent amount from the taxpayers' State income tax refund.

c. Police Chief George Miller

Chief Miller reported the Explorers will be present at the September council meeting for recognition of the awards they received at their last competition.

Chief Miller said the department passed the online CALEA assessment. The assessors will be on-site in October.

National Night Out will be held September 20<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m.

**5. Unfinished Business-** There is no unfinished business.

**6. New Business**

a. School Resource Officer Grant and Agreement with Green Charter

On July 29<sup>th</sup>, the City of Mauldin was informed that it had officially received the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 School Resource Officer Program Grant in an amount of \$775,457. The grant covers School Resource Officers (SROs) at a number of area schools within the Greenville County School District system and SC Public Charter school system. While the City had received this grant in previous years for area GCSD schools, this is the first time it has been received for SC Public Charter Schools – Green Charter Simpsonville and Green Charter High. The grant is funding 100 percent of the cost of expanding SRO coverage to the Green Charter schools in Mauldin including personnel expenses, equipment, and capital.

As part of the grant award, the City is required to enter into an Agreement with Green Charter.

**Motion:** Councilman Kraeling made a motion to send this item to Council with a recommendation of approval with Councilman Allgood seconding.

**Vote:** The vote was unanimous (3-0).

b. Mutual Aid Agreement with Clemson University Police Department

Mauldin Police Department has been supporting Clemson University Police Department (CUPD) with event security, especially for home football games, for approximately 18 years. This cooperative relationship has built a long-lasting rapport between Clemson, MPD and multiple other agencies that participate in similar activities.

This year, CUPD is requesting to codify this relationship into a Mutual Aid Agreement with participating jurisdictions to specifically outline duties, responsibilities, compensation terms, and more. CUPD will still be paying for officer time while engaged in activities with Clemson PD.

Additionally, with this Agreement, the Mauldin PD will be able to call upon the services of CUPD to aid with event security for our new stadium, and other activities.

**Motion:** Councilman Kraeling made a motion to send this item to Council with Councilman Allgood seconding.

This agreement will remain in effect until terminated.

**Vote:** The vote was unanimous (3-0).

c. Part-Time Administrative Judge Appointment

The City of Mauldin has several appointed part-time Administrative Judges who rotate on a weekend basis covering bond hearings, signing of warrants and executing surety bonds posted. These judges are paid on a set per-diem daily rate allotted for in our department budget and get paid for the days they are scheduled.

A part-time administrative judge position became vacant with the full-time hiring of Judge White, and a replacement is needed to fill that role for Judicial. The job was posted and S.C. Certified Municipal Judge Jonathan Smith applied and was interviewed for the position. Judge Smith currently holds positions with the City of Simpsonville and Travelers Rest in the same capacity. After interviewing, it is our belief he would be an asset to the Judicial department in that role. Judge Smith currently lives in Greenville County and is in good standing with SC Court Administration and SC Bar.

**Motion:** Councilman Kraeling made a motion to send this item to Council with Councilman Allgood seconding.

**Vote:** The vote was unanimous (3-0).

**7. Public Comment-** None

**8. Committee Concerns-** None

**9. Adjournment-** Chairwoman King adjourned the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cindy Miller  
Municipal Clerk

# PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

## AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

**MEETING DATE:** October 06, 2025

**AGENDA ITEM:** 6a

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**TO:** Public Safety Committee  
**FROM:** Chief George Miller  
**SUBJECT:** Ordinance Amending Chapter 6. Animals

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### REQUEST

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Staff is proposing an ordinance to Amend Chapter 6, Animals to add new definitions and clarify nuisance animal reporting requirements to more effectively address common animal complaints.

### HISTORY/BACKGROUND

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Mauldin Police Department is regularly asked to investigate animal complaints throughout the City. Investigations include complaints of nuisance animals, mistreatment, abandonment, and other violations. Through the course of various investigations, MPD's Code Enforcement Officer has found that certain deficiencies exist within the current code that, if changed, would increase the effectiveness of investigations. These changes include adding two definitions for clarity and conformity and updating reporting requirements to include participation in any judicial action by the complainant.

### ANALYSIS or STAFF FINDINGS

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The ordinance being presented seeks to address the deficiencies found in two sections and will enhance the department's ability to effectively pursue violators. First, City Ordinance Chapter 6 Section 1 there is no definition for Sustenance or Shelter. Adding these two definitions will make it easier in the future to definitively charge someone with Cruelty to Animals. As these two definitions are essential for the proper care of animals it is important to ensure they are clearly defined in ordinance. The proposed definitions below come directly from SC Code of laws in section 47-1-10.

*"Sustenance" means adequate food provided at suitable intervals of quantities of wholesome foodstuff suitable for the species and age, sufficient to maintain a reasonable level of nutrition to allow for proper growth and weight and adequate water provided with constant access to a supply of clean, fresh, and potable water provided in a suitable manner for the species.*

*"Shelter" means shelter that reasonably may be expected to protect the animal from physical suffering or impairment of health due to exposure to the elements or adverse weather.*

The second change put forward in the amendment relates to complaints about nuisance animals. Often individuals do not want to produce written complaints (only verbal), there lacks clear notification requirements to the offending animal owner, and there is no requirement for the complainant to appear and testify in court. These deficiencies lead to dropped charges, ineffective complaint follow-up, and ineffective prosecution.

Therefore, staff is proposing to adopt changes that will require a written complaint statement, notification to the offending animal owner, and require the complainant to testify in court. If the complainant fails to

appear in court, the case will be dismissed. These changes will increase the effectiveness of the City ordinance and are consistent with Greenville County's Animal Control Ordinance and relevant state codes. The sections below in red identify the specific changes requested.

**Section 6-13. - Nuisance animals; acts deemed a public nuisance.**

(b) Upon the receipt of two (2) detailed written and signed affidavits from individuals either residing in separate households or employed by separate businesses, in proximity of the offender that a person is violating the provisions of this section, the animal control officer or other appropriate law or codes enforcement officer shall notify the owner or keeper of the animal in question, that complaints have been received and will investigate the complaint. If the investigating officer determines that the complaint is justified, the animal control officer or other appropriate law or codes enforcement officer shall notify the owner or keeper of the animal, in writing, to correct the violation within ten days. The complainants will be required to appear and testify in court at the time the case is scheduled for trial. If the complainants fail to appear in court at the time the case is scheduled, the case will be dismissed. In addition to this procedure, the animal control officer shall have the discretion to investigate other types of complaints that an owner or keeper is violating this section and take action consistent with this section.

**RECOMMENDATION**

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Staff recommends adopting the ordinance as presented or with any requested modifications.

**ATTACHMENTS**

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- Ordinance Amending Chapter 6. Animals

ORDINANCE # \_\_\_\_\_

**AN AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 6, ANIMALS OF THE  
CITY OF MAULDIN CODE OF ORDINANCES UPDATE  
DEFINITIONS AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Mauldin finds it necessary to promote and protect the public health, safety, and welfare of the residents and visitors of the City by regulating the keeping of animals within the City; and

**WHEREAS**, City Council desires to provide clear definitions and establish standards for the prohibition of nuisance animals and related acts deemed detrimental to the community;

**WHEREAS**, City Council is engaged in ongoing efforts to update and refine the City's Municipal Code to reflect the current level and type of services offered.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED** by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Mauldin, South Carolina, in council assembled and by the authority thereof that the Mauldin Animal Ordinance be amended as follows:

**Section 1.** Amend Section 6-1 "Definitions" and 6-13, "Nuisance animals, acts deemed a public nuisance", as follows (the underlined language is language proposed to be added, language that is not ~~struck through~~ or underlined is not to be changed, and \*\*\* represents sections of the Animal Ordinance that have been skipped and remain unchanged):

**Section 6-1 Definitions.** (Add the following:)

"Sustenance" means adequate food provided at suitable intervals of quantities of wholesome foodstuff suitable for the species and age, sufficient to maintain a reasonable level of nutrition to allow for proper growth and weight and adequate water provided with constant access to a supply of clean, fresh, and potable water provided in a suitable manner for the species.

"Shelter" means shelter that reasonably may be expected to protect the animal from physical suffering or impairment of health due to exposure to the elements or adverse weather.

\*\*\*

**Section 6-13. - Nuisance animals; acts deemed a public nuisance.**

\*\*\*

(b) Upon the receipt of two (2) detailed written and signed affidavits from individuals either residing in separate households or employed by separate businesses, in proximity

of the offender that a person is violating the provisions of this section, the animal control officer or other appropriate law or codes enforcement officer shall notify the owner or keeper of the animal in question, that complaints have been received and will investigate the complaint. If the investigating officer determines that the complaint is justified, the animal control officer or other appropriate law or codes enforcement officer shall notify the owner or keeper of the animal, in writing, to correct the violation within ten days. The complainants will be required to appear and testify in court at the time the case is scheduled for trial. If the complainants fail to appear in court at the time the case is scheduled, the case will be dismissed. In addition to this procedure, the animal control officer shall have the discretion to investigate other types of complaints that an owner or keeper is violating this section and take action consistent with this section.

**Section 2. Severability.** The provisions of this ordinance are severable. If any part of this ordinance is found to be unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions shall continue in full force and effect.

**Section 3. Effective Date.** This ordinance will become effective upon second and final reading.

First Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

Second Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

Public Hearing: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY OF MAULDIN

\_\_\_\_\_  
Terry Merritt, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cindy Miller  
City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel Hughes  
City Attorney

# PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

## AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

**MEETING DATE:** October 6, 2025

**AGENDA ITEM:** 6b

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**TO:** Public Safety Committee  
**FROM:** Seth Duncan, City Administrator  
**SUBJECT:** Ordinance to Amend Chapter 38, Through Truck Routes

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### REQUEST

Staff is proposing an ordinance to Amend Chapter 38, *Traffic and Vehicles*, Article VI, *Through Truck Routes* to more accurately reflect Council's intention of protecting certain streets from through traffic by semi-trucks, 18-wheelers, and similar tractor-trailer types of trucks.

### HISTORY/BACKGROUND

Semi-trucks are a necessary part of our economic engine and travers every major roadway in the City daily. However, in recent years there has been an increase in semi-truck traffic on secondary, neighborhood, and residential streets representing a safety hazard to the public, other motorists, and the semi-trucks themselves.

To reduce the risk, Council adopted an ordinance in 2022 restricting semi-truck traffic on Hamby Drive. The ordinance adopted specifically limited through traffic for semi-trucks and similar vehicles along Hamby Drive between Miller Road and Forester Drive. Signs were installed at the intersection of Miller Road and Hamby Drive and Forester Drive and Hampy Drive to warn drivers and it allows Mauldin Police Department to issue citations for semi-truck drivers who violate the restriction.

While this roadway is specifically mentioned in code, there are No Thru Truck signs in other parts of the community, but without an accompanying ordinance. While these signs may deter many semi-truck drivers, without the accompanying ordinance, it leaves MPD in a precarious position when it comes to issuing citations.

### ANALYSIS or STAFF FINDINGS

To provide MPD with the best opportunity for enforcement, staff has drafted an ordinance that would specifically callout streets and No Thru Truck Routes. These routes are illustrated below and include:

- Ownes Lane to Ashmore Bridge Road by way of Maple Drive.
- Owens Lane to Ashmore Bridge Road by way of Crestwood Drive.
- Whatley Circle to Ashmore Bridge Road by way of Woodland Drive.



**ORDINANCE# \_\_\_\_\_**

AN AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 38, *TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES*, ARTICLE VI, *THROUGH TRUCK ROUTES*, OF THE MAULDIN CODE OF ORDINANCES TO CLARIFY NO THROUGH TRUCK ROUTES.

**WHEREAS**, Mauldin City Council finds it necessary to amend the Code of Ordinances to better reflect the regulation of certain types of vehicle traffic within the City and provide consistent language for penalties; and

**WHEREAS**, the current title of Section 38-173, *Observance of truck routes required; expectations*, does not adequately describe the provisions or intent of the regulations and which certain trucks are not allowed; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 38-175, *Penalty*, should be consistent with language in Chapter 1-6 of *General Provisions*; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council desires to provide clarity and provide detailed locations for designated *no through trucks* routes on designated streets and fines within the city.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED** by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Mauldin, South Carolina, in council assembled and by the authority thereof that Chapter 38, *Traffic and Vehicles*, Article VI, *Through Truck Routes*, be amended as follows:

**Section 1.** Amend **Section 38-173, Observance of truck routes required**, as follows (*language that is ~~struck through~~ is language proposed to be deleted, underlined language is language proposed to be added, language that is not ~~struck through~~ or underlined is not to be changed, and \*\*\* represents sections of the Ordinance that have been skipped and remain unchanged*):

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**Section 38-173. – Observance of truck routes required; exceptions**

(a) No person shall operate a truck over and along a no through truck route established pursuant to this article unless otherwise provided herein. The following routes shall be designated as no through truck routes:

- (1) SC Road S-325 (Hamby Drive) between Miller Road and Forester Drive as ~~shown on the map attached hereto as Exhibit "A" along with the location of the "thru trucks prohibited" signs designated as R5-2B-24 as shown on Exhibit "A".~~
- (2) Owens Lane to Ashmore Bridge Road by way of Maple Drive.
- (3) Owens Lane to Ashmore Bridge Road by way of Crestwood Drive.
- (4) Whatley Circle to Ashmore Bridge Road by way of Woodland Drive.

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**Section 38-175. Penalty.** ~~Violations of this article are punishable by a fine of not more than \$200.00 or imprisonment for not more than ten days or both.~~ Any person who violates any provision of this ordinance will be subject to penalties described in Section 1-6.

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**Section 2. Severability** The provisions of this ordinance are severable. If any part of this ordinance is found to be unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions shall continue in full force and effect.

**Section 3. Effective Date.** This ordinance shall become effective upon second and final reading.

First Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

Second Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

Public Hearing: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY OF MAULDIN, SOUTH CAROLINA

\_\_\_\_\_  
Terry Merritt, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cindy Miller, Municipal Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

REVIEWED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel Hughes, City Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
Seth Duncan, City Administrator

# PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

## AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

**MEETING DATE:** October 6, 2025

**AGENDA ITEM:** 6c

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**TO:** Public Safety Committee  
**FROM:** Seth Duncan, City Administrator  
**SUBJECT:** Ordinance Amending Chapter 28. Parades, Picketing and Demonstrations

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### REQUEST

Staff is proposing an ordinance to Amend Chapter 28, Parades, Picketing and Demonstrations to protect public safety and public property and establish regulations pertaining to demonstrations on public trails, bridges, and sidewalks.

### HISTORY/BACKGROUND

In 2024, construction was completed on the Mauldin GateWay Bridge, the only pedestrian purposed bridge across Interstate 385. Along with an accompanying trail, the Bridge connects both residents and visitors to BridgeWay Station and eventually to the Swamp Rabbit Trail. The iconic Bridge provides spectacular views of BridgeWay Station and is regularly used by recreational enthusiasts and many others.

Over the last few months, staff have begun to see greater interest from the public to conduct demonstrations on the Bridge or for events. One group specifically sought guidance and assurance from Mauldin Police Department that demonstrations were permitted on the structure prior to their use. MPD provided general guidance within the framework of existing ordinances, but was not able to pinpoint a specific ordinance for the group to follow.

Since that time, we have seen others (without first requesting permission) conducting demonstrations or received complaints from the public pertaining to individuals or groups protesting on the bridge. In each instance an MPD officer was dispatched to review the situation and determine if any violations were found. The main violations found included the following:

- Affixing signs/banners to the structure (Sec. 6:4 Signs, *Zoning Code*)
- Trash being left from demonstrations (Sec. 36-4. Littering)
- Interfering with users of the bridge (Sec. 28-71. *Permitted; Conditions.*)

### ANALYSIS or STAFF FINDINGS

In order to provide clear guidance to MPD and the public pertaining to demonstrations and protest on the bridge, staff has prepared an ordinance for consideration. This ordinance is not intended to regulate the content of speech or expression, but is a content-neutral regulation of the time, place and manner of such activities, narrowly tailored to address public safety concerns and the free use of public spaces by the public.

The ordinance specifically:

- Prohibits affixing permanent or temporary physical structure or display on any bridge, trail, or sidewalk without permission by the City.

- Requires demonstrations to leave a minimum of five (5) feet of unobstructed width on any public trail, three (3) feet for sidewalks, and one-half of the available width of a bridge walkway for the safe passage of users.
- Requires a permit for demonstrations that will involve groups of 20 people or more.
- Provides for an application process that cannot be reasonably withheld and is for the purpose of having a point of contact for those demonstrating and for scheduling purposes. The application will not require a statement of the purpose or content of the demonstration.
- If a permit is denied the City Administrator or designee will provide a written explanation and when possible, offer an alternative date/time.
- A permit is not required for spontaneous gatherings of individuals responding to recent news or events so long as it does not violate other provisions of the ordinance.
- Any person who violates any provision of the ordinance could be subject to fines or fees up to the City's max (\$500).

In addition, staff are working on bridge and trail rules signs to be installed near the bridge to remind users of the City's various rules and ordinances pertaining to using recreational infrastructure. These rules include common reminders like keeping dogs on leashes, no littering, permitted uses, keeping right, no motorized vehicles, etc.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

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Staff recommends adopting the ordinance as presented or with any requested modifications.

**ORDINANCE# \_\_\_\_\_**

AN AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 28 TO REGULATE DEMONSTRATIONS, ASSEMBLIES, AND EXERCISES OF EXPRESSIVE CONDUCT ON PUBLIC TRAILS, BRIDGES AND SIDEWALKS; TO PROMOTE AND PROTECT PUBLIC SAFETY AND PUBLIC PROPERTY; AND TO PROVIDE FOR ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES.

**WHEREAS**, the City of Mauldin has an interest in protecting the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens and visitors; and

**WHEREAS**, the public trails, bridges and sidewalks within the city are a valuable public resource used for recreation, exercise, commuting, and general transportation; and

**WHEREAS**, unregulated demonstrations, assemblies, or expressive conduct on these specific, limited-access public spaces may create significant hazards to public safety, impede emergency services, and disrupt the public's intended use of the trails, bridges and sidewalks; and

**WHEREAS**, this ordinance is not intended to regulate the content of speech or expression but is a content-neutral regulation of the time, place, and manner of such activities, narrowly tailored to address the aforementioned public safety concerns;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED** by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Mauldin, South Carolina, in council assembled and by the authority thereof that the Mauldin Municipal Court Judge Ordinance be amended as follows:

**Section 1. Amend Section 28, Parades, Picketing and Demonstrations** as follows (*language that is ~~struck through~~ is language proposed to be deleted, underlined language is language proposed to be added, language that is not ~~struck through~~ or underlined is not to be changed, and \*\*\* represents sections of the Ordinance that have been skipped and remain unchanged*):

ARTICLE V. DEMONSTRATIONS

SECTION. 28-200. DEFINITIONS.

For the purpose of this ordinance, the following terms shall have the meanings ascribed to them:

(a) "Demonstration" or "Expressive Conduct" will mean any demonstration, assembly, picketing, speechmaking, marching, protesting, vigil, or other like conduct that involves the communication of a message to the public.

(b) "Public Trail" will mean any paved or unpaved pathway or trail owned, leased, or maintained by the city that is primarily designated for pedestrian, bicycle, or other non-motorized vehicle traffic.

(c) "Public Bridge" will mean any structure owned, leased, or maintained by the city that provides a passage over an obstacle such as a waterway, roadway, or ravine, and which is part of a public trail system. This definition does not include bridges on public streets or highways primarily intended for motor vehicle traffic.

(d) "Public Property" will mean and include any property of the city, or agency thereof, including that owned entirely by such public body, or over which it holds a right-of-way or easement on any streets, roads, parks, malls or other public lands.

#### SECTION 28-201. REGULATION OF DEMONSTRATIONS.

(a) No person will engage in any Demonstration or Expressive Conduct on a Public Bridge that obstructs the free movement of pedestrians, bicycles, or emergency vehicles. Demonstrators on bridges will not occupy more than one-half of the available width of the bridge walkway, sidewalk, or trail surface.

(b) No person will engage in any Demonstration or Expressive Conduct on a Public Trail that blocks or impedes the free passage of other users. Demonstrators will leave a minimum of five (5) feet of unobstructed width on any Public Trail to allow for the safe passage of other users, including those on bicycles, wheelchairs, or with strollers.

(c) No person will engage in any Demonstration or Expressive Conduct on a public sidewalk that blocks or impedes the free passage of other users. Demonstrators will leave a minimum of three (3) feet of unobstructed width on a public sidewalk to allow for the safe passage of other users, including those using wheelchairs or with strollers.

(d) It will be unlawful to use amplified sound (e.g., bullhorns, speakers, etc.) on any Public Bridge, Public Trail, or sidewalk at a volume that is audible more than fifty (50) feet away, or that violates any other applicable city noise ordinance. This restriction is to prevent disturbances to nearby residential areas and to allow emergency personnel to be heard.

(d) The placement of any permanent or temporary physical structure or display, including but not limited to signs, tables, or canopies, on any Public Bridge, Public Trail, or sidewalk is prohibited without a specific permit issued by the City. This provision is intended to prevent obstructions and safety hazards.

#### SECTION 28-202. PERMITTING FOR LARGE DEMONSTRATIONS.

(a) A permit is required for any Demonstration consisting of more than twenty (20) persons on any Public Trail, Public Bridge, or Public Property.

(b) The purpose of the permit is for the City to ensure public safety, manage potential conflicts with other events or trail users, and to coordinate with emergency services.

(c) The application for a permit shall be submitted to the City Administrator or their designee no later than forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the planned Demonstration. The application will require only the name, contact information of the organizer(s), and the anticipated number of participants. The application will not require a statement of the purpose or content of the Demonstration.

(d) The City Administrator will approve or deny the permit application within twenty-four (24) hours of its submission, based solely on the following content-neutral criteria:

1. The proposed Demonstration would not impede emergency vehicles.
2. The proposed Demonstration would not block or unreasonably obstruct access to residential or commercial property.
3. The proposed Demonstration does not conflict with a previously permitted event or activity at the same location and time.

(e) If a permit is denied, the City Administrator will provide a written explanation of the denial and, where possible, offer an alternative time, place, or manner for the Demonstration that would be approved.

(f) This permitting requirement will not apply to a spontaneous gathering of individuals responding to recent news or events, so long as the gathering does not violate any other provision of this ordinance, particularly Section 28-201.

SECTION 28-203. ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES.

(a) Any person who violates any provision of this ordinance will be subject to fees and or fines according to Sec. 1-6 of for each offense.

(b) This ordinance shall not be construed to prevent law enforcement from dispersing any assembly, regardless of size or permit status, that is engaging in unlawful activity, such as inciting violence, engaging in assault, or destroying public or private property.

**Section 2. Severability.** The provisions of this ordinance are severable. If any part of this ordinance is found to be unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions shall continue in full force and effect.

**Section 3. Effective Date.** This ordinance will become effective upon second and final reading.

First Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

Second Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

Public Hearing: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY OF MAULDIN, SOUTH CAROLINA

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Terry Merritt, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Cindy Miller, Municipal Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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Daniel Hughes, City Attorney

REVIEWED:

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Seth Duncan, City Administrator