

MINUTES
FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
JANUARY 5, 2026, 6PM
CITY HALL - COUNCIL CHAMBERS 5 E. BUTLER ROAD
3rd and final committee meeting

Committee Members present: Michael Reynolds (Chair), Members Jason Kraeling and Taft Matney

Others present: City Administrator Seth Duncan, Finance Director Holly Abercrombie and HR Director Mark Putnam

1. Call to Order- Chairman Reynolds

2. Public Comment- None

3. Reading and Approval of Minutes

a. Finance Committee Minutes-December 1, 2025

Motion: Councilman Matney made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilman Kraeling is a new member of the Finance Committee and said he would abstain from voting. Chairman Reynolds seconded the motion.

Vote: The vote was unanimous (2-0).

4. Reports or Communications from City Officers

a. City Administrator Seth Duncan- Mr. Duncan reported a need for a budget goals meeting this month. He will email Council proposed dates and times to get a consensus.

b. Finance Director Holly Abercrombie- Ms. Abercrombie reported the City has been getting tax remittances from the County and will continue to do so up until January 15th. The City has received \$1.6 million so far. Budget preparation for the upcoming fiscal year has begun.

c. HR Director Mark Putnam- Mr. Putnam reported his department will start looking at budgetary staffing requests. The HR101 series will continue through 2026.

5. Unfinished Business- None

6. New Business-

a. Ordinance- Amend Chapter 10, Businesses, to Establish Chapter VIII, Stadium Facility Fee

The City is currently building a multipurpose entertainment venue and stadium at BridgeWay Station that will host professional soccer matches, concerts, public events, and

more. The total cost of the initial phase of the project is projected to be more than \$28 million with the City contributing approximately \$4.5 million for both infrastructure and premium seating.

In order to offset expenses related to the stadium and to support future capital improvements and infrastructure needs, staff is proposing the establishment of a Stadium Facility Fee. This fee, if enacted, would be derived from the ticket sales of commercial events held at the stadium and used exclusively for stadium-related capital improvements and infrastructure.

The fee suggested by staff would be \$2.00 on each ticket sold at all commercial events held at the stadium. The fee would not be applicable to city events, events that are governmental or charitable in nature when no ticket profit is realized by a commercial entity.

The ordinance establishes the fee (\$2.00), provides for administration and remittance processes and procedures, fee uses, and reporting/audit requirements. Funds collected will be segmented into a new Capital Fund – Stadium for the purpose of collection and future expenses.

Motion: Councilman Matney made a motion to forward this ordinance to Council with a recommendation of approval. Councilman Kraeling seconded the motion.

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

b. Rebranding Budget

In August, Council authorized \$500,000 of the previous year's surplus funds for the City's rebranding initiative. Staff is now presenting an allocation plan for these funds to achieve a successful brand rollout and deployment. The budget includes fund allocations for the reveal of the new brand, interior and exterior signage, a website refresh, marketing blitz, vehicle wraps/signage, uniforms and supplies, and contingency.

Motion: Councilman Matney made a motion to forward this ordinance to Council with a recommendation of approval. Councilman Kraeling seconded the motion.

Councilman Matney asked that staff make sure when the new logo is put on signage, the old logo is not visible, as it is on some of our current signage.

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

c. Discussion- Mauldin Election Commission

Every odd year, the City of Mauldin conducts municipal elections to elect members of City Council. Following a Greenville County Resolution in 1980, the City adopted a uniform election schedule (first Tuesday after the first Monday in odd years) to streamline the election process and for the purposes of uniformity. As part of this change, Greenville County agreed to cover the cost of the odd-year general elections.

Since that time, Greenville County's Election Commission has handled nearly all aspects of the election process including conducting the election, tabulation, and other administrative tasks. The City handles the announcement of forthcoming elections, maintains registration of candidates, fee collections, and appoints City Election Commission/Board members to perform specific duties following elections every two years.

City Code does not specify the creation of a City Election Commission or Board, but does reference its existence in sections 16-31, and 16-32. The current member's terms expire on December 31, 2026. Their primary function is to certify the election results after an election – something that occurs only once every two years (though they do have to certify runoff results if needed).

Staff would like discussion from Council considering transferring election results certification to the County and eliminating the City's Election Commission. The City Clerk will continue to announce upcoming elections, accept candidate registration forms and fee collection, but all other aspects of the election process will be conducted by the County.

Councilman Matney asked if other municipalities have their elections certified by the County. Staff answered they would check with the Municipal Association and have an answer by next meeting.

Councilman Reynolds asked if the current members could have an opportunity to serve on another commission if they desire and was answered that was possible.

This item will be held in committee.

7. Public Comment- None

8. Committee Concerns- None

9. Adjournment- Chairman Reynolds adjourned the meeting at 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy Miller
Municipal Clerk