

**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2026, 7:00 P.M.
CITY HALL - COUNCIL CHAMBERS
5 EAST BUTLER ROAD, MAULDIN, SC 29662**

Members present were Mayor Terry Merritt, Council members Taft Matney, Carol King, Jason Kraeling, Michael Reynolds, Frank Allgood and Mark Steenback.

City Attorney Daniel Hughes, City Administrator Seth Duncan, and Assistant City Administrator Greg Saxton were also present.

1. Call to Order- Mayor Merritt

- a. Welcome- Mayor Merritt
- b. Invocation- Councilwoman King
- c. Pledge of Allegiance- Councilwoman King

2. Proclamations and Presentations

- a. Recognition of Police Explorers- Sgt. Harley Sefcik spoke about the Explorers program and their achievements.
- b. Ann Huyler, South Carolina Forestry Commission- Ms. Huyler spoke about Forestry commission grants and the requirements for a Tree City, USA designation.
- c. MTC Federal Credit Union Proclamation- Mayor Merritt read the proclamation.

3. Reading and Approval of Minutes

- a. July 20, 2026
- b. Special Called City Council- August 3, 2026

The minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

4. Public Comment (Agenda Items)- None

5. Report from City Administrator

Mr. Duncan reported SCDOT has finished repairing and repaving Miller Road between Murray Drive and Corn Road. In addition to performing full-depth patch and resurfacing, SCDOT widened the shoulders of the roadway.

Staff are busy working on educational and information materials for the public ahead of the 1% sales tax referendum which will be included in the ballot this November.

Several new businesses have opened in Mauldin recently. Swig Drinks has opened its first location in South Carolina at 1534 Woodruff Road. Other new businesses include Associates in Wellness at 2 Owens Lane, and Vitality Health Collaborative at 300 Regent Park Court.

6. Report from Standing Committees

- a. Economic Planning and Development- No report
- b. Public Safety- Chairwoman King reported National Night Out went very well. The first week of school traffic went smoothly with no major problems.
- c. Public Works- Chairman Kraeling mentioned employee safety in the hot weather we have been experiencing.
- d. Finance and Policy- No report
- e. Recreation- The surveys were discussed in committee meetings. Chairman Allgood mentioned it was interesting to find out how many non-residents take advantage of the City's programs.
- f. Business and Development Services- No report

7. Unfinished Business

Ordinances 2nd Reading

None

8. New Business

Ordinances 1st Reading

None

Standing Committee Items

Economic Planning and Development Committee (Matney)

- a. Mauldin Art Trail

Motion: Chairman Matney made a motion to approve artist Melinda Hoffman's piece "A Gathering" for the 2026-2027 Public Art Trail at a price not to exceed \$15,000. Councilwoman King seconded the motion.

Vote: The vote was unanimous (7-0).

Recreation Committee (Allgood)

- b. Undiscovered South Carolina Grant Resolution

Motion: Chairman Allgood made a motion to give approval to apply for the SC PRT Undiscovered Grant. Councilman Reynolds seconded the motion.

Vote: The vote was unanimous (7-0).

9. Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items)

- a. Jason Pleakis of 106 Saddlebrook Lane commented on Flock cameras. He would like to know what the City will do to ensure the system is not being abused. Mr. Pleakis asked for accountability and transparency. He would like information on the Flock cameras added to the City website.
- b. Neil Pate of 307 Trimley Way advised Council that there are unhoused people living on City property behind Layton Hall Townhomes and they have been there for several months. He is concerned about the conditions as well as the possibility of confrontations with townhome residents. Mr. Pate asked if the City could check on the situation to determine if anything can be done.

10. Council Concerns- None

11. Call for Executive Session

Motion: Councilman Matney made a motion to adjourn into executive session for the items listed below. Councilman Steenback seconded the motion.

Vote: The vote was unanimous (7-0).

Executive Session to consider the following items as allowed by State Statute 30-4-70(a)(2)

- a. Mauldin Stadium at BridgeWay Station
- b. City Center Village Redevelopment
- c. Project Trailblazer

Immediately Following Executive Session

Mayor Merritt called the meeting back to order at 9:36 p.m. Councilman Reynolds left after executive session.

Councilman Matney reported no decisions were made and no action taken in executive session.

Possible action on items discussed in Executive Session

Motion: Councilman Matney made a motion to allocate \$150,000 from the general fund balance for pre-development activities at City Center. Councilwoman King seconded the motion.

Vote: The vote was unanimous (6-0) .

Motion: Councilman Matney made a motion to authorize the Mayor and City Administrator to issue a letter of intent to purchase 202 North Main under the terms discussed in executive session. Councilman Steenback seconded the motion.

Vote: The vote was unanimous (6-0).

12. Adjournment- Mayor Merritt adjourned the meeting at 9:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy Miller
Municipal Clerk